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1903.



THE HEREFORD MAPPA MUNDI.

TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

WOOLHOPE

NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

[ESTABLISHED 1851.]

1900-1901 TO APRIL, 1902.



"HOPE ON"

"HOPE EVER"

HEREFORD:

PRINTED BY JAKEMAN AND CARVER, 4 & 5, HIGH TOWN.

1903.

TRANSACTIONS

FOR THE YEARS 1900, 1901, TO APRIL, 1902.

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Assistant Secretary :—MR. JAMES B. PILLEY.

WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

PRESIDENTS

FROM ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1851.

1851	Club formed in the winter months.
1852	Lingwood, Mr. R. M.
1853	Lewis, Rev. T. T.
1854	Symonds, Rev. Wm. S., F.G.S.
1855	Crouch, Rev. J. F.
1856	Wheatley, Mr. Hewitt.
1857	Lingen, Mr. Charles.
1858	Brown, G. P., M.D.
1859	Crouch, Rev. J. F.
1860	Banks, Mr. R. W.
1861	Lightbody, Mr. Robert
1862	Hoskyns, Mr. Chandos Wren.
1863	Hoskyns, Mr. Chandos Wren.
1864	Crouch, Rev. J. F.
1865	Steele, Mr. Elmes Y.
1866	Bull, H. G., M.D.
1867	Hoskyns, Mr. Chandos Wren.
1868	McCullough, D.M., M.D.
1869	Rankin, Mr. James.
1870	Cooper-Key, Rev. H.
1871	Cam, Mr. Thomas
1872	Steele, Mr. Elmes Y.
1873	Davies, Rev. James.
1874	Davies, Rev. James.
1875	Robinson, Rev. C. J.
1876	Chapman, T. A., M.D.
1877	Morris, Mr. J. Griffith.
1878	Phillott, Rev. H. W.
1879	Armitage, Mr. Arthur.
1880	Knight, Mr. J. H.
1881	Ley, Rev. Augustin.
1882	Blashill, Mr. Thomas, F.R.I.B.A.
1883	Piper, Mr. George H., F.G.S.
1884	Burrough, Rev. Charles.
1885	Martin, Mr. C. G.
1886	Piper, Mr. George H., F.G.S.
1887	Elliot, Rev. William.
1888	Elliot, Rev. William.
1889	Southall, Mr. H., F.R. Met. Soc.
1890	Croft, Sir Herbert, Bart.
1891	Cornewall, Rev. Sir George H., Bart.
1892	Barneby, Mr. William Henry.
1893	Lambert, Rev. Preb. William H.
1894	Davies, Mr. James.
1895	Watkins, Rev. M. G.
1896	Moore, Mr. H. Cecil.
1897	Moore, Mr. H. Cecil.
1898	Marshall, Rev. H. B. D.
1899	Beddoe, Mr. H. C.
1900	Leigh, The Very Rev. The Hon. J. W., D.D.
1901	Blashill, Mr. Thomas, F.R.I.B.A.
1902	Cornewall, Rev. Sir George H., Bart.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

APRIL, 1902.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

- Bevan, Ven. W. Latham, M.A., Archdeacon of Brecon, Hay.
 Callaway, Charles, D.Sc., F.G.S., 16, Montpelier Villas, Cheltenham.
 Cooke, M. C., A.L.S., LL.D., 53, Castle Road, Kentish Town, N.W.
 Groom, Theo. T., D.Sc., F.G.S., M.A., The Poplars, South Bank Road, Hereford.
 Haverfield, Mr. F., M.A., F.S.A., Christ Church, Oxford.
 Howse, Mr. T., F.L.S., Glebefields, Edgeborough Road, Guildford.
 Percival, Mr. Cecil H. Sp., Henbury, near Clifton, Bristol.
 Phillips, Mr. Wm., F.L.S., Canonbury, Shrewsbury.
 Phillips, Mr. E. Cambridge, F.L.S., Member of the Permanent International Ornithological Committee, The Rock, Bwlch, Breconshire.
 Plowright, C. B., M.D., F.R.C.S., F.L.S., King's Lynn, Norfolk.
 Purchas, Rev. W. H., Alstonfield Vicarage, Ashbourne.
 Smith, Mr. Worthington G., F.L.S., 121, High Street South, Dunstable.
 Sorby, H. C., LL.D., F.R.S., &c., Broomfield, Sheffield.
 Vize, Rev. J. E., M.A., F.R.M.S., Forden Vicarage, Welshpool.
 With, Mr. G. H., F.R.A.S., F.C.S., Wallington House, Ross Road, Hereford.
 Wood, Mr. James G., M.A., LL.B., F.G.S., F.R.Met.Soc., 7, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.
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 Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club—President: Callaway, Charles, D.Sc., F.G.S., 16, Montpelier Villas, Cheltenham. Hon. Secretary: Buckman, Mr. S. S., F.G.S., Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. Assistant Secretary: Richardson, Mr. L., F.G.S., 10, Oxford Parade, Cheltenham.
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 Malvern Naturalists' Field Club—President: Clarke, Rev. F. R., Malvern Wells. Hon. Secretary: Edwards, Mr. W. Alni, Malvern.
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1902.

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 Lloyd, Mr. W. G., Bodenham Road, Hereford.
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 Marshall, Mr. George, The Batch, Weobley.
 Marshall, Mr. H. J., Gayton Hall, Ross.
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 Masefield, Mr. J. Basil, The Knapp, Ledbury.
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 McLaughlin, Rev. A. H., Much Birch, Hereford.
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 Moffatt, Mr. H. C., Goodrich Court, Ross.
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 Money-Kyrle, Rev. C. A., Much Marcle, Dymock.
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 Moore, Mr. Charles E. A., Fairlawn, Leominster.
 Moore, Mr. H. Cecil, 26, Broad Street, Hereford, *Co-Honorary Secretary* (*Ex-President*).
 Morgan, Captain T. L., Oakfield, Hay.
 Morgan, Mr. T. D., The Close, Hereford.
 Morgan, Rev. W. E. T., Llanigon, Hay, R.S.O.
 Morris, Mr. Edgar F., St. Owen Street, Hereford.
 Morris, Mr. T. W., Woraston Lodge, Coleford.
 Morrison, Mr. C. S., Firbank, Hereford.
 Oldham, Capt. C. Dansey, Bellamour Lodge, Colton, Staffordshire.
 O'Neill, Rev. K., Mansel Lacy, Hereford.
 Parker, Mr. Alfred, Kington.
 Parker, Mr. H. J., 6, St. John Street, Hereford.
 Parker, Mr. John, Nelson Street, Hereford.
 Paris, Mr. T. C., Hampton Lodge, Hereford.
 Parry, Mr. J. H., Harewood Park, Ross.
 Phillott, Mr. G. H., Plas Trevor, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.
 Pilley, Mr. James B., 2, High Town, Hereford (*Assistant Secretary*).
 Pilley, Mr. Walter, Barton Villas, Hereford.
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Popert, Mr. E. P., Braceland, Coleford.
 Powell, Rev. T. Prosser, M.A., Dorstone, Hereford.
 Powell, Scudamore, M.D., Fairfield, Peterchurch.
 Prescott, Mr. Charles Warre, King's Pyn House, Weobley, R.S.O.
 Price, Wm. Elliott, M.B., Chepstow House, Ross.
 Probert, Mr. John, High View, Hereford.
 Pulley, Colonel Charles, commanding 2nd Ghorkas.
 Pumphrey, Mr. Henry, High Street, Bromyard.
 Purchas, Mr. H. Morris, Broad Street, Ross.
 Purser, Colonel T. H., Birdseye, Bromyard.
 Ragg, Rev. W. H. Murray, Cathedral School, Hereford.
 Rankin, Sir James, Bart., M.P., M.A., Bryngwyn, Hereford, and 35, Ennismore Gardens, Princes Gate, London, S.W. (*Ex-President*).
 Reade, Mr. George, Wilton Hall, Ross.
 Riley, Mr. John, Putley Court, Ledbury.
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 Robinson, Mr. Stephen, Lynhales, Kington.
 Robinson, Mr. W. W., King Street, Hereford.
 Rootes, Mr. Charles, St. Owen Street, Hereford.
 Scobie, Mr. M. J. G., Armadale, Hereford.
 Scudamore, Col. E. S. Lucas, Kentchurch, Hereford.
 Shepherd, Rev. W. R., Preston-on-Wye, Hereford.
 Sinclair, G. Robertson, Mus. Doc., The Close, Hereford.
 Small, Mr. A. P., St. Mary Street, Ross.
 Southall, Mr. Henry, F.R. Met. Soc., The Graig, Ashfield, Ross (*Ex-President*).
 Sparrow, Mr. A., Ashfield, Ross.
 Spencer, Rev. G. Leigh, The Priory, Clifford, Hay.
 St. John, Rev. H. F., Dinmore Manor, Leominster.
 Stanhope, The Ven. The Hon. B. L. S., M.A., Byford, Archdeacon of Hereford.
 Stephens, Mr. Edwin, Carlton Villa, Whitecross, Hereford.
 Steward, Mr. Walter H., Pontrilas, R.S.O., Herefordshire.
 Stooke, Mr. Edwin, Aylstone Hill, Hereford.
 Stooke-Vaughan, Rev. F. S., M.A., Wellington Heath, Ledbury.
 Sugden, Mr. J. P., The Cottage, Ledbury.
 Symonds, Mr. J. F., Broomey Hill, Hereford.
 Symonds, Mr. J. Reginald, 15, Bridge Street, Hereford.
 Symonds-Tayler, Captain, Beechwood, Hereford.
 Thomas, Lieut.-Colonel Evan, Over Ross, Ross.
 Thorpe, Mr. William, Ross.
 Trafford, Mr. Guy R., Michaelchurch Court, Hereford.
 Treherne, Rev. C. A., All Saints' Vicarage, Hereford.
 Turner, Mr. Thomas, F.R.C.S., St. Owen Street, Hereford.
 Wadworth, Mr. H. A., Breinton Court, Hereford.
 Walker, Mr. Philip, F.G.S., Belmont, Hereford, and 36, Princes Gardens, S.W.
 Wallis, Mr. E. L., Hampton Park, Hereford.

Warner, Rev. R. Hyett, M.A., Almeley, Eardisley, R.S.O.
Watkins, Mr. Alfred, Hampton Park, Hereford.
Watkins, Rev. Morgan G., M.A., Kentchurch, Hereford (*Ex-President*).
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Weyman, Mr. Arthur W., 54, Mill Street, Ludlow.
Wheeler, Mr. G. W., Shrub Hill Villas, Tupsley, Hereford.
Williamson, Rev. H. Trevor, Bredwardine, Hereford.
Winnington-Ingram, Rev. Preb. E. H., Ross.
Winterbourn, Mr. T. H., Broad Street, Leominster.
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Wood, Rev. R., Colley Batch, Tenbury.
Woodward, Mr. Ernest T., Daffaluke, Ross.

MEMBERS ELECTED.

1900.

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Caldicott, Mr. J. U., Netherwood, Hereford.
Cotterell, Sir John Geers, Bart., Garnons, Hereford.
Craddock, Col. E. W., Thinghill, Hereford.
Currey, Lieut.-Col. C. H., Weston Lodge, Ross.
Dryland, Mr. A., The Poplars, Hereford.
Edwards, Mr. Harry H., 18, High Town, Hereford.
Fricker, Mr. C. J., Carlton House, Abergavenny.
Hereford, Mr. J. Tudor, Sufiton Court, Hereford.
Jackson, Mr. J. J., Broad Street, Hereford.
Johnson, Mr. Arthur, Broomey Hill, Hereford.
McLaughlin, Rev. A. H., Much Birch, Hereford.
Masefield, Mr. J. Basil, The Knapp, Ledbury.
O'Neill, Rev. K., Mansel Lacy, Hereford.
Parker, Mr. John, Nelson Street, Hereford.
Ragg, Rev. W. H. Murray, Cathedral School, Hereford.
Robinson, Rev. G. H., Whitchurch, Ross.
Robinson, Mr. W. W., King Street, Hereford.
Small, Mr. A. P., St. Mary Street, Ross.
Walker, Mr. Philip, F.G.S., Belmont, Hereford.

1901.

Abbott, Rev. D. Wigley, Hatfield, Leominster.
Auchmuty, Rev. A. C., Lucton, Kingsland, R.S.O.
Black, Dr. A. C., Much Birch, Hereford.
Caldicott, Rev. C. B., Church House, Ledbury.
Davies, Mr. John E. P., Beech Grove, Titley, R.S.O.
Hovill, Mr. F. Saunders, Grafton Lodge, Hereford.
Hutchinson, General A. H., Wythall, Ross.
Jones, Mr. Herbert, Hafod Road, Hereford.
La Touche, Rev. W. M. D., Stokesay Vicarage, Craven Arms.
Lighton, Rev. Claud, Mordiford Rectory, Hereford.
Marshall, Mr. George, The Batch, Weobley.
Morris, Mr. T. W., Woraston Lodge, Coleford.
Popert, Mr. E. P., Braceland, Coleford.
Reade, Mr. George, Wilton Hall, Ross.
St. John, Rev. H. F., Dinmore Manor, Leominster.
Sparrow, Mr. Alexander, Ashfield, Ross.
Spencer, Rev. G. Leigh, The Priory, Clifford, Hay.
Treherne, Rev. C. A., All Saints' Vicarage, Hereford.
Weare, Mr. Edwin, Hampton Bishop, Hereford.

OBITUARY.

1900.

- Nov. 21.—Lewis, Mr. Richard.
 Oct. 18.—Severn, Mr. J. P.
 Feb. 1.—Sturges, Rev. H. C.
 May 21.—Warner, Rev. Preb. Charles.

1901.

- Dec. 26.—Barker, Rev. Joseph.
 Aug. 25.—Pulley, Sir Joseph, Bart.
 Dec. 3.—Purchas, Mr. Alfred J.
 April 5.—Vevers, Mr. Henry.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

- Cornu, Mons. Maxime, Paris.
 du Port, Rev. Canon, Denver Rectory, Downham, Norfolk.

THE WOOLHOPPE CLUB.

The Account of Henry Child Beddoe, Hon. Treasurer, for the Year ended 31st December, 1900.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1900		
To Balance in hand brought from last Account	90 3 9	
" Entrance Fees	9 0 0	
" Subscriptions for 1900	104 11 0	
" Arrears of Subscription	0 10 0	
		January, By paid Archibald Constable & Co.
		for Archaeological Index for 1898
		Dec. 15th, By Cheque Book
		By Mr. H. C. Moore, Hon. Sec., for Editorial
		Expenses and Secretary's Disbursements
		" Jakeman & Carver, for Printing
		" Jos. Jones, for Stationery, &c.
		" J. B. Pilley, Assist. Secretary, 1 year's
		Salary
		Postages and Sundry Expenses at Field
		Meetings
		Balance in hands of Treasurer—
		In Bank
		In hand
		£ 204 4 9
		£ 204 4 9
		xvii.

Examined and found correct, this 21st day of March, 1901.

JAMES DAVIES, *Hon. Auditor.*

THE WOOLHOPE CLUB.

The Account of Henry Child Beddoe, Hon. Treasurer, for the Year ended 31st December, 1901.

1901.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To balance in hand brought from last Account	161	4	11	Mar. 11.—By paid Jakeman & Carver for		
Entrance Fees received	..	9	10	Printing Transactions, &c. ...	153	2
" Subscriptions for 1901	..	114	0	" Do. for Portrait of Hon Sec... 1	15	0
" Arrears of ditto	..	8	0	Mar. 28.—, British Mycological Society,		
" Volumes of Transactions sold per Hon.	5	0	0	Subs. for Season 1900—1 ..	0	10
Secretary	..	..	..	April 4 —, Mr. T. Hutchinson, for expenses		
				of Lecture by Mr. Forrest ...	2	16
				Sept. 5.—, Jakeman & Carver, General		
				Account for Printing, &c., &c. ...	30	12
				Oct. 2.—, Congress of Archaeological		
				Societies Subs. for 1901—2..	1	0
				Dec. 11.—, Hon. Secretary, Editorial and		
				other Expenses ...	8	16
				" 12.—, Joseph Jones, for Stationery ...	1	14
				" " Jakeman & Carver, for Print-	2	
				ing, &c. ...	7	17
				" 23.—, Mr. J. B. Pilley, Assist. Sec., I	10	0
				year's salary ...	..
				" 31.—, Do. sundry Expenses at Field	7	0
				Meetings, Postages, &c., &c. ...	7	0
				By Balance in hands of Treasurer 73	0	9
				Less Mr. C. Warre Prescott's Sub-		
				scription for 1902 ..	0	10
					5	
					72	10
					9	
					£297	15
					5	

Examined and found correct, JAMES DAVIES, Honorary Auditor.

RULES

OF THE

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

I.—That a Society be formed under the name of the "WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB," for the practical study, in all its branches, of the Natural History and Archaeology of Herefordshire, and the districts immediately adjacent.

II.—That the Club consist of Ordinary Members with such Honorary Members as may be admitted from time to time; from whom a President, four Vice-Presidents, a Central Committee, Treasurer, and Honorary Secretary be appointed at the Annual Meeting to be held at Hereford in the early part of each year. The President and Vice-Presidents to change annually.

III.—The Central Committee shall consist of Five Members, resident in the city or in its immediate vicinity, with the President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Auditor, and Honorary Secretary, *ex-officio*. It shall be empowered to appoint an Assistant Secretary; and its duties shall be to make all the necessary arrangements for the meetings of the year, and take the management of the Club during the intervals of the meetings.

IV.—That the Members of the Club shall hold not less than three Field Meetings during the year, in the most interesting localities for investigating the Natural History and Archaeology of the district. That the days and places of such regular meetings be selected at the Annual Meeting, and that ten clear days' notice of each be communicated to the Members by a circular from the Secretary; but that the Central Committee be empowered, upon urgent occasions, to alter the days of such regular Field Meetings, and also to fix special or extra Field Meetings during the year.

V.—That an Entrance Fee of Ten Shillings shall be paid by all Members on election, and that the Annual Subscription be Ten Shillings, payable on the 1st of January in each year to the Treasurer, or Assistant Secretary. Each Member may have the privilege of introducing a friend on any of the Field days of the Club.

VI.—That the Reports of the several meetings and the papers read to the Club during the year, be forwarded, at the discretion of the Central Committee, to the *Hereford Times* newspaper for publication as ordinary news, in preparation for the *Transactions* of the Club.

VII.—That the cost of any lithographic or other illustrations be defrayed by the author of the paper for which they may be required, unless the subject has been taken up at the request of the Club, and in that case, the cost of such illustration, to be paid for from the Club funds, must be specially sanctioned at one of the general meetings.

VIII.—That the President for the year arrange for an address to be given in the field at each meeting, and for papers to be read after dinner; and that he be requested to favour the Club with an address at the Annual Meeting on the proceedings of the year, together with such observations as he may deem conducive to the welfare of the Club, and the promotion of its objects.

IX.—That all candidates for Membership shall be proposed and seconded by existing Members, either verbally or in writing, at any meeting of the Club, and shall be eligible to be balloted for at the next meeting, provided there be FIVE Members present; one black ball in three to exclude.

X.—That Members finding rare or interesting specimens, or observing any remarkable phenomenon relating to any branch of Natural History, shall immediately forward a statement thereof to the Hon. Secretary, or to any member of the Central Committee.

XI.—That the Club undertake the formation and publication of correct lists of the various natural productions of the County of Hereford, with such observations as their respective authors may deem necessary.

XII.—That Members, whose Annual Subscription is twelve months in arrear, shall not be entitled to any of the rights and privileges of Membership; and that any Member whose Annual Subscriptions are two years in arrear may be removed from the Club by the Central Committee.

XIII.—That the Assistant Secretary do send out circulars, ten days at least before the Annual Meeting, to all Members who have not paid their subscriptions, and draw their particular attention to Rule XII.

XIV.—That these Rules be printed annually with the *Transactions*, for general distribution to the Members.

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1900.

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Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26th, 1900.

THE Annual Meeting of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club was held at the Free Library, Hereford, on Thursday, April 26, when there were present the retiring President (Mr. H. C. Beddoe) in the chair, the President (the Dean), Sir J. Rankin, M.P., Rev. H. B. D. Marshall, Rev. A. Ley, Rev. A. W. Horton, Rev. M. G. Watkins, Mr. H. C. Moore, Mr. T. Hutchinson, Mr. R. Clarke, Mr. J. Davies, Mr. H. Southall, Mr. Ballard, Mr. Spencer Bickham, Mr. Lewis, Mr. T. Llanwarne, Col. Purser, Mr. J. B. Pilley, and others. Several apologies were read.

Mr. BEDDOE presented the financial statement which showed that there was a balance in hand of £90 3s. 9d.

The ASSISTANT SECRETARY (Mr. James B. Pilley) presented his past year's report, which, financially and numerically, was, he said, one of the most satisfactory yet presented. The number of members on the books during the year was 218, and although this number had been slightly exceeded on two occasions, it was a decided advance on the numbers of the two previous years. As many as 20 new members were elected during the year. The attendances at the field meetings were large, being respectively 55, 60, 90, and 135.

Mr. T. HUTCHINSON, on behalf of the Committee, reported their suggestions as to the field days for this year. The dates for the various meetings were fixed as follows :—

Welsh Newton (from Monmouth, returning via Symonds Yat),
Thursday, May 31st.

Dormington Quarries, Tuesday, June 26th.

Hereford City, Thursday, July 19th.

Kenilworth, Thursday, August 2nd.

Ivington Camp, Thursday, August 30th.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the club :—
Lieut.-Col. C. H. Currey, Ross ; Mr. J. J. Jackson, Hereford ; and Mr. Arthur Johnson, Hereford.

Dr. H. C. Sorby, F.R.S., of Sheffield, was elected an honorary member of the club.

The retiring PRESIDENT then delivered the following address :—

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

Gentlemen,—Now that we have considered the accounts and the financial position of the Club, together with the Annual Report of the Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. B. Pilley, it becomes my duty to make some statement of the proceedings of the past year and also in pursuance of Rule viii., to make "such further observations as the outgoing President may deem conducive to the welfare of the Club and the promotion of its objects," and, in the first instance, I will make some short reference to the four Field Meetings which have been held during the year.

The First Field Meeting was held on the 25th May, 1899, the object being to visit Much Marcle, Putley, the site of the Landslip of 1571, and thence by Devereux Pool, through Stoke Edith Park to Tarrington.

On this occasion the members went by Railway to Ledbury and thence drove to Preston Church, in Gloucestershire, lying on the borders of Herefordshire.

Close to Preston Church is Preston Court, a fine lofty black and white timbered building of six gables.

The members then proceeded to the Residence of Mr. C. W. Radcliffe Cooke, (M.P. for the City of Hereford), known as "Hellenes," portions of which residence date back to the time of Henry VII., and afterwards visited the fine Church of Much Marcle, over which they were conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. C. L. Moneys Kyrle. This Church contains several monuments to the Mortimer family, and a remarkable wooden life-sized Effigy.

In the Churchyard is a very fine Yew tree, measuring 28ft. 9in. Just outside the Churchyard is an ancient Encampment and moated mound called Mortimer's Castle.

The Members then proceeded to the parish Church of Putley. In the Churchyard is a 13th Century Preaching Cross, and fragments of Norman masonry appear in the north walls of the Church. These interesting features were explained by Mr. John Riley, who afterwards conducted the members through his adjoining fruit farm, and after providing refreshments directed them to the site of the Landslip of 1571, known as the "Wonder." The Members were then conducted by Mr. Riley to the Cockshoot No. 1, one of the four Cockshoots within the range of the Woolhope Valley; thence the walk was made across Stoke Edith Park to Devereux Pool, near where is a very fine Oak.

The Luncheon was served at the Foley Arms Hotel, Tarrington, at 5-30, at which Meeting five new Members were elected, and the names of four gentlemen were proposed to be balloted for at the next Meeting.

The Second Field Meeting was held on Tuesday, the 27th June, 1899, to visit Coldwell Rocks, Symonds Yat, the Caves, and the Doward Hills.

This Field Meeting embraced in its programme a walk of two miles from Lydbrook Junction Railway Station, along the summit of the Coldwell Rocks to Symonds Yat. A trip in boats beyond the Seven Sisters Rocks to the lower end of Martin's Pool, inspecting in passing the Caves in Lady Park Wood, an ascent of the Little Doward Hill, a walk thence over the Great Doward Hill to King Arthur's Cave in Lord's Wood, and thence to the Rocklea Hotel at Symonds Yat. Sixty-two Members attended. Mr. H. C. Moore explained the Geological features of the neighbourhood when the party were assembled at the top of Symonds Yat, where a few of the rare botanical plants of the district were exhibited. In this locality are numerous specimens of the White Beam, with its conspicuous silvery leaf. After luncheon a paper was read by Mr. J. Powles Brown, of Hereford, Land Agent, on "Notes of the District," he having been born in the immediate neighbourhood and been very well acquainted with it all his life. He referred to many interesting particulars in reference to the history of the Forest of Dean, and gave anecdotes with reference to the destruction of the deer which was ordered by the Government of the day to be carried out in consequence of the lawlessness of some of the inhabitants of the Forest, and their poaching proclivities. Mr. Thomas Hutchinson, of Hereford, also read a paper on "British Snakes," giving the names of gentlemen who professed that they, as eye witnesses of the occurrence, could prove that vipers did swallow their young.

The Third Field Meeting was held on Thursday, the 27th July, 1899, to visit Cusop Church, Cusop Dingle, and the Black Mountain. The members were conveyed by train to Hay, at which Station they were met by Archdeacon Bevan, Mr. Chas. J. Lilwall, and others. The members proceeded to Cusop Church, over which they were shown by the Rector, the Rev. G. D. Pagden. Adjoining the Church is the site of the old Castle. A paper was read at this spot by Mr. Lilwall, on "Cusop : Its Church and Castles."

The Rev. J. Barker also read a paper on the Wergin Stone (situate in a field known as "The Wergins," about three miles from Hereford), and upon the Hoar-stones generally; and Miss Thomas, of Cusop, also gave a few details as to the death of William Seward, the martyr, whose remains lie in Cusop Churchyard. From the site of the old Castle at Cusop the members proceeded along the Dulas Brook, which here forms a boundary between Herefordshire and Brecknockshire, to the Artillery Camping Ground. Here the business of the Club was transacted; some members were elected, other candidates proposed, and luncheon served in the Artillery Mess Room. After luncheon most of the members proceeded to the summit of the Northern Ridge of the Black Mountain, from which position the Rev. W. E. T. Morgan pointed out the geographical outlines of neighbouring counties. The distance from the town of Hay to the summit of the Black Mountain is about five miles. I think I am correct in saying that the Rev. Prebendary Warner, one of our Members, walked the whole distance from Hay

Station to the top of the Black Mountain and back without absolute fatigue, and considering that this was our reverend friend's 80th birthday I think it should be recorded, and the members do, I am sure, very heartily congratulate the Rev. Prebendary Warner, and express a hope that many years are still before him to enjoy the meets of the Woolhope Club. On the return from the Black Mountain many members partook of the very kind hospitality provided by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Griffiths, at their residence in Cusop Dingle, and others were kindly entertained by Mrs. and Miss Bevan on the lawn of Hay Castle, where Archdeacon Bevan pointed out the various alterations which had been made there since the Club visited it in 1897. Hereford was reached about 8 o'clock. This being the ladies' day the Club was honoured by the presence of many visitors and ladies.

The fourth Field Meeting was held on Tuesday, the 29th August, 1899, to visit the Works of the Birmingham Water Supply from the Elan Valley. To meet the arrangements of the officials at the Birmingham Waterworks in the Elan Valley the members had to leave Hereford at 7-25 a.m., and on reaching Rhayader at 9-20 were conveyed to the Waterworks in open trucks which had been placed at their disposal by the Chairman of the Birmingham Waterworks, and by Mr. Yourdi, Resident Superintendent Engineer. The last-named gentleman had considerably arranged so that the members had an interval of half-an-hour at each of the four dams, at each of which points Mr. C. A. Cooke acted as Director and kindly gave every information in his power, and answered the numerous questions which were from time to time asked him by the members. The River Wye itself was very low, and it is a question whether the oldest inhabitant ever remembered it so low as it was on this particular occasion. A very large number of the members attended, and the visitors, both ladies and gentlemen, were on this occasion very numerous.

Having given a very short outline of the different proceedings which took place at the four several field meetings which have been held during the past year (1899), I have thought it unnecessary to dwell at greater length because the proceedings, together with the papers read at these different meetings, have not only been very fully reported in our local papers, but they will also re-appear in the Volume of the Transactions of the Club at present in course of publication. As I cannot claim to be either a Botanist or Geologist, and as it is customary for the retiring President to give a retiring address, I have thought it better to treat upon a subject with which I am more familiar, and which I hope may prove to be of interest to the Members of the Club, and I therefore propose to conclude my observations by reading a paper having reference to the Manorial customs of the various Manors in the county of Hereford, of which Manors customary estates are holden.

MANORIAL CUSTOMS IN THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

By H. C. BEDDOE,

President of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

I should mention that there were and are in this County a great many Manors of which customary Estates were and are holden, but owing to the numerous enfranchisements which have during the last 40 years taken place of the copyhold or customary estates some of the Manors exist only in name. I will commence first with those Manors which formerly belonged to the See of Hereford, as being I think the most extensive, but which now under the provisions of the Statute, 3 and 4 Victoria, c. 113, are vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

The Bishops of Hereford were Lords at one time of the following Manors, all in the County of Hereford, viz.:—Barton and Tupsley, Barton in the Fee, Eaton Bishop, Holmer and Shelwick, Hampton Bishop, Whitbourne, Bromyard and Bromyard Foreign, Froome Bishop, Bosbury Colwall and Coddington, Eastnor and Ledbury. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners are still Lords of all the before-mentioned Manors except Eastnor and Ledbury, the Manor of Eastnor having been exchanged in or about the year 1750 in pursuance of an Act of Parliament for lands in the parish of Little Marcle, and the Manor of Ledbury having apparently many years ago been alienated, but in what way I have been unable to ascertain. In addition to the Manors of which the Bishops of Hereford were Lords, the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Hereford were and are Lords of the following Manors, viz.: Woolhope, Canon Pyon, Preston-on-Wye, Norton Canon, and Newton. Attached to each Prebend in the Cathedral of Hereford was a Manor, but the whole of the copyholds held of these Manors, of which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners also became the Lords, have now been enfranchised.

There are several other Manors in this County of which customary estates are holden, and amongst them are the following:—English Huntingdon, Cradley, the Rectory of Cradley, Orleton, Ledbury, Eardisley Borough and Eardisley Foreign, Fownhope, Winforton, Putley, Clifford, Kentchurch cum Llanhithog, Kenderchurch with Howton, Llancillow with Rollston, Llangua, Marden, otherwise Mawardine, Lugwardine, Pembridge, and Ross.

MANORS OF THE SEE OF HEREFORD.

The customs and law of descent in the various Manors differ very much and in some instances are rather peculiar. In the Manors which formerly belonged to the Bishops of Hereford, and of which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners are now Lords, viz.:—Barton and Tupsley, Bromyard and Bromyard Foreign, Bosbury Colwall and Coddington, Eaton Bishop, Froome Bishop, Hampton Bishop, Holmer and Shelwick, and Whitbourne, the law of descent is as follows:—In the Manors of Barton and Tupsley, Hampton Bishop, and Holmer and Shelwick, the

youngest son is the customary heir, and in default of issue male the youngest daughter is the customary heir, and in like manner in default of children, the youngest brother might become the customary heir or the youngest sister. In the other five Manors, viz.:—Bosbury Colwall and Coddington, Bromyard and Bromyard Foreign, Eaton Bishop, Froome Bishop, and Whitbourne, the eldest son is the customary heir, and in default of issue male the eldest daughter is the customary heir. There is no co-heiress-ship in either of the above-mentioned eight Manors. The customary estates in these several Manors are of inheritance, the fines are arbitrary but limited to two years' value. The lords are entitled to a heriot of the best beast or best chattel on the death of every customary tenant who dies seized of a customary messuage or meese place. These heriots are usually compounded for, the sums varying from one guinea to twenty-five guineas. The lords are also entitled in these Manors to the timber and the minerals. A customary tenant has no power to demise his customary lands for more than one year without license from the lord. The widow of a deceased copyholder or customary tenant is entitled to be admitted to her freebench for the whole of the customary property of which her husband died seized on payment of 1d. fine, provided she claims her freebench within a year and a day from the death of her husband. She holds her freebench so long as she remains chaste, sole and unmarried. I have, however, found instances where the Lord of the Manor has granted licenses to a widow to marry again without losing her freebench. It should be mentioned that the freebench would entitle her to receive the whole of the annual income of the customary lands of which her husband died seized.

MANORS OF THE DEAN AND CHAPTER OF HEREFORD.

In the following Manors, viz.:—Woolhope, Canon Pyon, Preston-on-Wye, Norton Canon, and Newton, of which the Dean and Chapter are the lords, the copyholds are of inheritance and the fines arbitrary. The common law of descent prevails, except that where there is no male heir the customary lands descend to the eldest daughter in exclusion of her sisters, there being in these Manors no co-heiress-ship. The lords are entitled to heriots on the death of a tenant of £1 6s. 8d. or the best beast at the election of the lords, and these heriots are also due on alienation of the property. The lords also are entitled to the mines and minerals, and the tenant has no power to demise his lands for more than one year without license from the lord, but no fine is payable to the lords on the grant of the license. The widow of a deceased copyholder in these Manors is not entitled to freebench.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL PREBENDAL MANORS.

In the different Manors formerly held under the different Prebendaries of Hereford Cathedral the copyholds were of inheritance, the fines arbitrary. A heriot of the best beast or chattel was also due on the death of a tenant seized of a messuage or meese place. The common

law of descent prevailed except that when there was no male heir, the eldest daughter then became entitled to the exclusion of her sisters, assuming there were any, there being no co-heiress-ship in these Manors. The lords of these various Manors also claimed the timber and the minerals. The widow of a deceased copyholder was not entitled to freebench.

MANOR OF ENGLISH HUNTINGDON.

In the Manor of English Huntingdon, of which Mrs. Clara Homfray is now the lady, the copyholds are of inheritance, and the fines are fixed. The lord is entitled to a heriot of the best beast or best chattel on the death of a tenant. The common law of descent prevails, and the lord does not claim either the timber or minerals, and there is no restriction as to the tenant demising his lands. The widow of a deceased copyholder is also entitled to her freebench, but pays no fine on her admission.

MANOR OF CRADLEY.

In the Manor of Cradley, of which the Trustees of the late Mr. Richard Yapp are now the lords, the copyholds are of inheritance, the fines are arbitrary, but the lord is not entitled to heriots. The common law of descent prevails. The lord does not claim either timber or minerals, and no restriction is on the tenant as to demising his lands. The widow of a deceased copyholder is entitled to her freebench, the fine on admission being nominal.

MANOR OF EARDISLEY.

In the Manor of Eardisley Borough and Eardisley Foreign, of which Mrs. Sophia Perry Herrick is now the lady, the copyholds are of inheritance. The fines are fixed at various amounts, but cannot exceed two years' value. The lord is not entitled to a heriot on the death of a tenant in Eardisley Borough, but is entitled to a heriot in Eardisley Foreign on the death of a tenant, but this heriot is usually compounded for at from three to five guineas. The common law of descent prevails. The lord claims the timber upon the waste or common lands of the Manor, but does not claim the timber on the customary lands held by the tenants, nor does he claim the mines and minerals lying under the copyhold lands. There is no restriction as to the power of a tenant to demise his lands. The widow of a deceased copyholder is not entitled to freebench.

MANOR OF FOWNHOPE.

In the Manor of Fownhope, of which Messrs. Underwood and Steel are the lords, the copyholds are of inheritance, and the fines arbitrary. The lords also are entitled to heriots of £1 6s. 8d. or the best beast at the election of the lords, and these heriots are due both on death and on alienation. The common law of descent prevails except that where there is no male heir the eldest daughter is entitled to the

copyholds to the exclusion of her sisters, there being no co-heiress-ship. The lords also claim timber and minerals, and a tenant has no power to demise his lands for more than one year without license from the lords. In this Manor the widow of a copyholder is not entitled to freebench.

MANOR OF LEDBURY FOREIGN.

In the Manor of Ledbury Foreign, of which Lady Henry Somerset, Mr. Michael Biddulph, Mr. James Saville Henry Miles, Mr. W. A. H. Martin and the Rev. George Woodyatt are lords, the copyholds are of inheritance, but no fine is paid on admission. The lords are not entitled to heriots, nor do they claim timber or minerals. The common law of descent prevails. The widow of a copyholder is entitled to her freebench, and there is no restriction as to the power of a tenant to demise the copyhold lands.

MANOR OF ORLETON.

In the Manor of Orleton, of which Mr. Archibald Henry Blount is lord, the copyholds are of inheritance, the fines are not arbitrary, but are practically fixed, the customary heir on his admission paying one year's copyhold rent only as a fine, but on other admissions three years' copyhold rent is paid as a fine. The lord is entitled to a heriot on the death of a tenant of the best beast or chattel which can be taken anywhere, either within or without the manor, and a heriot is due in respect of every separate copyhold holding. The law of descent is in accordance with the common law. The lord does not claim either timber, mines or minerals, and the tenants can demise their copyhold lands without license from the lord. The first wife of a deceased copyholder is entitled to her freebench on payment of 1d. as a fine, holding the lands for her life, provided she continues chaste and unmarried; but the second wife of a deceased copyholder is only entitled to her freebench in the event of her deceased husband leaving no issue by his first wife. In this manor the first husband of a deceased customary tenant is entitled to hold the copyholds of which she dies seized as tenant by the courtesy and on payment of a penny fine and of a heriot on his admission. In the event of a customary tenant, being a widow, marrying again, her second husband would be entitled on her death to be tenant by the courtesy provided she had no issue by her first husband, and on payment of one penny fine on his admission, and of a heriot.

MANOR OF WINFORTON.

In the Manor of Winferton, of which Mrs. Margaret Jane Dew is lady of the manor, the copyholds are of inheritance, the fines arbitrary and the lord is entitled to heriots. The custom of descent is as at common law, and the widow of a copyholder is entitled to her freebench. The lord claims timber, mines, and minerals.

MANOR OF TITLEY.

In the Manor of Titley, of which Mr. E. H. Greenly is lord, the copyholds are of inheritance, the fines fixed. The lord is also entitled to a heriot of the best beast on death, which is usually compounded for. The law of descent is as at common law, except that there is no co heiress-ship, the eldest female becoming entitled to the copyhold property in the event of there being no male heir. It does not appear that a widow is entitled to her freebench in this manor.

MANOR OF CUBLINGTON.

In the Manor of Cublington, of which Mr. Chandos Brydges Lee Warner is lord, the copyholds are of inheritance, the fines arbitrary, and the lord is entitled to a heriot where there is an ancient messuage and buildings. The law of descent is in accordance with the common law. A tenant is unable to demise his lands without license from the lord, and the widow of a copyholder does not appear to be entitled to her freebench. The lord claims both timber, mines and minerals.

MANOR OF KINGSLAND.

In the Manor of Kingsland, of which the Right Honourable Lord Bateman is lord, the copyholds are of inheritance, the fines fixed being 1d. less than the annual quit rent in respect of the property, and heriots of the two best beasts are due on the death of a customary tenant in respect of some of the customary estates, and in one instance the court rolls show that the bailiff seized two red bulls as heriots, and in another instance that a black and brindle bull had been seized in satisfaction of one heriot. The law of descent appears to be in accordance with the common law. The lord claims the timber, mines, and minerals, and the tenant would appear to have power to demise his lands without license. The widow of a copyholder is entitled to her freebench, paying a fine of 1d. on her admission to each separate tenement, and holding the copyhold lands so long as she remains chaste and unmarried.

MANOR OF LUGWARDINE.

In the Manor of Lugwardine, of which Mrs. Burdon, of Newcourt, is the lady of the manor, the copyholds are of inheritance, the fines, which are small, are fixed. A heriot is due on the death of every customary tenant dying seized of a messuage or meese place. The heriot is the second best beast, or for want thereof the second best moveable. The common law of descent prevails. The widow of a deceased copyholder is entitled to her freebench on payment of a fine of one penny. The lord claims timber, mines, and minerals, and the tenants cannot demise their lands for more than a year without license.

MANOR OF MARDEN.

In the Manor of Marden, otherwise Mawardine, of which Mrs. Harriett Abiah Hill is now the lady of the manor, the copyholds are of inheritance and the fines fixed, being about 2s. 3d. a customary acre. There are no heriots. The common law of descent prevails, except that there is no co-heiress-ship, the eldest daughter inheriting in the event of there being no male heir. A widow of a deceased copyholder is entitled to her freebench, and on payment of 1d. fine on her admission. There is no restriction on the demise of the copyhold.

MANOR OF LLANCILLOW WITH ROLLSTON.

In this Manor the customary estates appear to be of inheritance. There also appear to have been freehold tenants, and that on the death of any one of these freehold tenants there became due to the Lord of the Manor as a heriot the second best beast, but if the freehold tenant did not possess any animal then the lord was entitled to a sum of money called the relief, being double the amount of chief rent paid in respect of the property, and that on the freehold tenant alienating his property a like relief became due to the lord. There seemed to be an objection on the part of the homage to any person keeping goats, as certain persons were presented for keeping goats, and were fined and amerced in the sum of 2d., and at a Court held in 1801 the homage presented that a certain footbridge was out of repair, and as there appeared to be a doubt who was liable to repair it, they required the parties, Messrs. Gilbert and Jenkins, to try such question at law. The common law of descent appears to have prevailed. A widow would not appear to be entitled to claim her freebench.

MANOR OF KENDERCHURCH WITH HOWTON.

The custom of this manor appears to have been for the lord to grant the customary estates for the term of 99 years at a small quit rent, taking a fine on every fresh grant. There appear to have been disputes from time to time as to the terms on which these fresh grants should be made, but these were eventually settled on the terms of a payment of five years' value as a fine, over and above all chief rents, heriots, and other accustomed services. The lord claims the timber, except such as is required for the repair of the copyhold or customary premises. The lord is entitled to a heriot on the death or surrender of every tenant of the second best beast, but these appear to have been compounded for in various sums. In some instances a heriot appears to have been due on the decease of the tenant of certain of the copyhold estates of the best beast, or 10s., at the election of the lord, upon the decease, recease, or surrender, and certain freehold properties also appear to have been liable to a small chief or quit rent. In one case a heriot was payable of the best beast, or £5 in money in lieu thereof, at the election of the lord on the death, recease, or surrender of the copyhold tenant. Licenses to demise copyholds were granted by the lord but no fine appears to have been paid for these licenses.

MANOR OF LLANGUA.

The custom of this Manor appears to have been to demise the customary estates for a term of 99 years, on the same terms and conditions as the last-mentioned Manor of Kenderchurch and Howton. At a court held in 1650, the homage, according to the custom of the Manor, made an equal division between two ladies—co-heiresses of customary estates which had descended to them. The homage assigned a certain portion of the dwelling-house, buildings, and land to one of them, and the remaining portion of the house and buildings and land to the other, the result being that each of these ladies obtained possession of the entirety of the property so apportioned to her. The common law of descent prevails in this Manor. The lord is entitled to a heriot of the best beast (or in some cases £5 in lieu thereof) on the death of any customary tenant, and in one case it is stated that a brown ox was taken as the heriot. In this Manor the lord appears to have been entitled to the timber on the lord's waste, as in the year 1708, John Sanders having fallen two timber trees on the lord's waste, was ordered to make full satisfaction and payment to the lord for the worth of such trees. The lord granted licenses to demise the copyholds, but without receiving any fine for such grant.

MANOR OF KENTCHURCH CUM LLANITHOG.

The common law of descent appears to prevail in this Manor. The freehold tenants of the Manor appear to have paid a yearly chief rent and a heriot became due to the lord on the death of every such tenant of the second best beast. The customary estates appear to have been granted for a term of 99 years on payment of five years' value as a fine and subject to a small reserve rent and to a heriot of the second best beast on the death of every customary tenant. The lord of this Manor is entitled to the timber on the customary estates as is shown by the presentment of the homage at a court held in 1780, that if a copyhold tenant falls timber or cuts off or lops the head of any timber tree it is a forfeiture of his copyholds, unless such timber be used in repairing the buildings belonging to his copyhold estate and taken by assignment of the lord. The lord granted licenses to demise the copyhold lands. The widow of a deceased copyholder is not entitled to freebench.

MANOR OF Ewyas Lacy.

In this Manor the customary estates were of inheritance. The fines on admission were to be reasonable. The law of descent was in accordance with the common law. The lord is entitled on the death of a tenant dying seized of a customary messuage to a heriot of the second best beast, or if there is no beast there to 5s. in lieu thereof—and on the death of a freehold tenant to 5s. only in lieu of a heriot, except within the Borough of Longtown, where 4d. only is paid in lieu of a heriot.

INCIDENTS OF CUSTOMARY ESTATES.

At the various courts leet and courts baron held for the manors of which the Bishops of Hereford were formerly lords, the homage took many matters into their consideration, and made presentments accordingly. For instance, at Courts Leet held for the manor of Bromyard they laid a pain of 39s. upon all victuallers and innholders that did not sell full measure, and also a pain of 39s. on any person washing or brushing clothes in the street. They also appear to have acted as sanitary inspectors, as they presented people for washing sheep skins in the brook running by the town and presented "all butchers that keep unwholesome meat or blow the same, and lay a pain of 10s. on them," and also they presented a man for laying "a miskin" in the street. They also appointed searchers and sealers of leather and ale tasters, and also constables. They appear also to have acted as the road surveyors, as I find an instance where they presented a man for erecting a sash window in the front of his dwelling house, causing the same to encroach about 9 inches into the street and being a public nuisance, and they laid him under a pain of 39s. 1^d. if he did not remove the encroachment within 40 days.

The customary tenants of the manors belonging to the See of Hereford appear to have been liable to forfeit their estates under various circumstances, such as falling timber without license, opening quarries and taking the stone without license; and some instances occur where they forfeited their estates "for wearing the liveries of gentlemen, contrary to the ordinance made in all the manors at the law days holden in the first year of King Richard the Third." The customary estates also became escheated to the lord on the death of a customary tenant without leaving any known heir, and in the case of a customary tenant being illegitimate dying intestate and without leaving lawful issue. In one case the property was escheated for "that the tenant was a natural fool," and in another case "for that the tenant hanged himself," and also where the tenant was convicted of felony. In the case of a man rescuing cattle in distress for the lord or breaking open the pound he was liable to a penalty of £3 os. 1^d. The cases of escheat to the lords have been very few in recent years.

My experience extends for more than 50 years, and during that time I am only aware of two instances where property has escheated to the lords for want of a tenant—the one case was that of a bastard dying intestate and without leaving any lawful heir, and the other case was where a tenant died intestate without issue, but leaving a widow who claimed her freebench, which she held for many years, and at her death the husband's heir could not be discovered.

At a Court Leet held for the manor of Clifford in 1679, the homage commanded that the inhabitants of the manor should within one month after that court make and provide a ducking stool; and in 1683 presented Samuel Thomas for a badger for badging oats, buying

and selling them against the statute; and in 1685 they presented the township of Clifford for want of a stocks in good order and also for want of a whipping post, and they commanded the said township to put the said stocks and whipping post in sufficient order before the 1st day of August then next under pain of 39s. 1^d.

There are probably other manors in the county of which customary estates are holden, but I think I have dealt with all the principal manors in the foregoing observations.

In conclusion I must thank you very heartily for the honour you did me in electing me as the President of your Club for the past year and for the kindness and consideration shown me during my year of office. I must also express my great obligations to your Honorary Secretaries, Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. H. Cecil Moore, for the ready help they have always afforded me, and to Mr. James B. Pilley, the Assistant Secretary.

On the motion of the DEAN, seconded by Sir JAMES RANKIN, the Retiring President was heartily thanked for his services during the year and his able address.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

FIRST FIELD MEETING, THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1900.

WELSH NEWTON, PEMBRIDGE CASTLE, LEWSON, AND
WHITCHURCH.

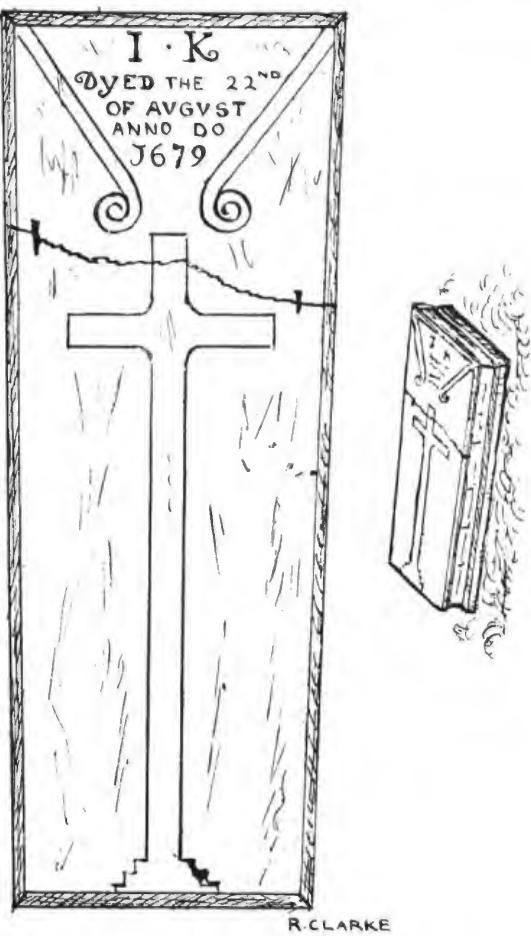
THE Members travelled from Hereford to Monmouth (May Hill Station) by train, whence they travelled in five brakes through the hamlet of Buckholt, which appeared to consist mainly of masonry cottages, an uphill journey of about four miles, until they dismounted at the Church of Welsh Newton in Herefordshire.

The President, the Dean of Hereford, led the way to the grave of Father John Kemble, and from the steps of the preaching cross in the churchyard, in close proximity to Father Kemble's monumental slab, made the following remarks on—

THE KEMBLE FAMILY.

Perhaps they were aware that for about 200 years it had been the habit of a number of pilgrims belonging to the Roman Catholic persuasion to journey to that tombstone every year. He proposed to say a few words upon the subject for that reason, and also because the name of Kemble was associated with his wife's family, who had had a great deal to do with Herefordshire. He was indebted to Mr. W. Pilley and Mr. R. Clarke for kindly assisting him in obtaining some of the information relating to John Kemble, whose remains were deposited beneath the stone which was engaging their attention. John Kemble, continued the Dean, is believed to be of the same family as the celebrated actor of that name, and (though this is disputed by some), is said to have been a Franciscan Friar. In the manuscript giving the pedigrees of families in Herefordshire—1575-1632—there is Richard Kemble, armiger, who married Jane, daughter of Joannes Skorye. In the diary of the English College, Douay, it says that John Kemble, of the Diocese of Hereford, was ordained priest February 23rd (1624-25), singing his first Mass on the 2nd of March in that year. In the same year he was sent on an English mission to his own country, where his residence was mainly at Pembridge Castle. The Kembles seem to have belonged to Hereford. Roger, a citizen, married a Miss Ward, of Leominster, whose father's and mother's tomb is to be seen in the churchyard there. We have a most

HEREFORD
Woolhope Trans
1900.



TOMB OF FATHER JOHN KEMBLE
WELSH NEWTON CHURCH
HEREFORDSHIRE.

Drawn by R. Clarke.

No. 1.—Between pages 14 and 15. To face No. 2.



CHURCHYARD CROSS, WELSH NEWTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

Slab on the right to the memory of Father John Kemble, inscribed I.K., dyed the 22nd of Avgust, Anno Do. 1679. On the left a large slab with date 1717, and age 55, to one of the Seudamore family.

Photo by R. Clarke.

No. 2.—Between pages 14 and 15. To face No. 1.

beautiful picture of Mrs. Roger Kemble at the Deanery, which is one of the finest works of Sir Thomas Lawrence. Their family consisted of John, Charles, and Mrs. Sarah Siddons, and others well known in the theatrical world. Father Kemble was born at Rhydecar Farm, in the parish of St. Weonards, in 1600, and for 54 years exercised his office in Herefordshire—no doubt at Pembridge Castle close by, the castle being the property of his relative, Captain Kemble. He probably also officiated at Cwm and elsewhere in the neighbourhood. He was remarkable for piety and gentleness of character. In 1679, the 55th year of his priesthood and the 80th of his age, he was arrested by Captain Scudamore at Pembridge Castle on pretence of being implicated in the Popish plot. He was apprized of his pursuer, but he refused to abscond, saying that in the course of nature he must die ere long, and that it would be better for him to die for his religion. Both Oates and Bedloe, with whom he was confronted, however, declined to identify him with the alleged plot. Having been taken to London he was afterwards hurried back to take his trial at Hereford, travelling part of the way on foot, being unable, through his infirmities, to ride. There, having been condemned as a recusant, he was sentenced to be hanged and beheaded on Widemarsh Common. After his return to Hereford Gaol he was visited by Captain Scudamore's children, whom he treated to whatever dainties were sent him by his friends, and when asked why he so petted his captor's children, he said it was because their father was his best friend. The story is told, I do not know with what truth, that when the under-sheriff, Mr. Digges, appeared to take him to execution, he requested to have time given him to complete his prayers, and then to be allowed a pipe of tobacco—a request readily granted by Mr. Digges, who joined him in the pipe if not in the prayers. When Father Kemble had finished, he took a cup of sack and declared himself ready to go, but Mr. Digges, whose pipe was not quite finished, requested him to wait until it was. This incident gave rise to a custom, once common in Herefordshire, of calling the parting smoke "a Kemble pipe." The Protestants who witnessed his death declared that "They never saw one die so like a gentleman and so like a Christian." Father Kemble's head and body were given to his friends, and by them were buried in this churchyard, near which his nephew, Captain George Kemble, resided. A stone slab, inscribed with a cross and with the following inscription, was laid on his grave:—"I.K., died August 22nd, Ann. Dom. 1679." Adjoining the Kemble stone is a slab of a Scudamore, dated 1709; Mr. Scudamore, of Kentchurch, and Mr. J. Arnold, M.P., were his prosecutors. For upwards of 200 years a large number of pilgrims had been in the habit of visiting his grave, and his hand is still preserved in a beautiful reliquary or shrine at St. Francis Xavier's Church in Hereford. It has been shown to me by Canon Dolman. We cannot believe that Bishop Herbert Croft, who then occupied the See of Hereford, had any share in this atrocious act of judicial assassination. Bishop Croft had, however, something to do with another matter

which took place in this immediate neighbourhood at Cwm, or Coombe, in the parish of Llanrothal, for, in 1615, one Father John Salisbury, who was connected with the Jesuits in North Wales, resided at Raglan Castle, took a lease of Upper Cwm as a meeting place for the district, and established a Jesuit college there in 1622. Father Salisbury dying in 1625, was succeeded by Father Charles Brown. By a deed dated November 10th, 1637, Cwm was leased by the Marquess of Worcester to Father Morgan. In St. Michael's Priory, Belmont, is preserved among the Phillipps' manuscripts the original letter or warrant sent to Bishop Croft by the House of Lords, dated "die Sabbathi," 1678, authorising him to search the Jesuit College at Cwm, with the assistance of the Justices of the Peace, evidence having been taken before the House of Commons Committee, the chief witnesses being Mr. Arnold and Captain Scudamore. The inmates occupied two houses connected by a secret passage. Roman Catholic services were continually celebrated there and many converts made from the Church of England. The place was searched under the Bishop's authority and many proofs obtained of the purpose to which it was applied, in books, ornaments, and vestments. A large number of the books taken by Bishop Croft are now in the Cathedral Library—mostly small manuals of devotion, printed abroad. Bishop Croft was a son of Sir Herbert Croft, of Croft Castle, and was himself brought up at Douay College. The ancient family of Croft is now represented by the present Sir Herbert.

LAST WORDS OF FATHER KEMBLE.

From "The life of Mrs. Siddons," by Thomas Campbell, printed in 1839, we find that Father Kemble suffered death at Widemarsh, Hereford, and that his last words were as follows:—"It will be expected I should say something; but, as I am an old man, it cannot be much. I have no concern in the plot, neither, indeed, do I believe there is any. Oates and Bedloe not being able to charge me with anything when I was brought up to London, makes it evident that I die only for professing the old Roman Catholic religion, which was the religion that first made this kingdom Christian, and whoever intends to be saved must die in that religion. I beg of all whom I have offended, either by thought, word, or deed, to forgive me, as I do heartily forgive all that have been instrumental or desirous of my death."

He then turned to the executioner, and said, "Honest friend Anthony, do thine office; thou wilt do me a greater kindness than discourtesy."

He was hanged for the interval of nearly half-an-hour on Widemarsh common, on the locality traditionally handed down, as by the trees near the "Bull" Tavern. When his corpse was taken down it was beheaded, but, in response to the demands of the people, and out of respect to his old age, 79 years and 21 weeks, his body was spared other indignities.

WELSH NEWTON CHURCH.

By R. CLARKE.



WELSH NEWTON CHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE—INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST.

Photo by R. Clarke.

No. 3.—To face page 17.

The Church is an ancient structure, consisting of a nave, chancel of the same width, a small tower and spire at the west, a south porch, and modern vestry at the north. A stone screen of three arches in the Decorated Period divides the nave from the chancel, the centre arch being narrower than the side ones. The pillars are octagonal, with moulded bases and capitals, with ball-flower ornament in the arches and cornice. The height of this screen is about twelve feet, and it may have supported a rood loft. A dormer window of two lights in the nave roof lights this part. The nave and chancel are covered with a barrel shaped roof of one design throughout, divided into panels with moulded ribs. The carved bosses at the intersections are gone. The cornice and tie beams are all well moulded. Some of the latter have been cut away—one over the stone screen, and also at the east and west ends. The windows in the nave and chancel are Early English lancets, with rather wide openings. The chancel east window is modern. At the east end and on the north side of the altar is placed an old stone seat, but it is not known whether it is in situ, also the early piscina inserted in the splay of the south-east chancel window. The old Norman font, a plain circular drum tapering downwards, stands on a short circular pillar and square base. There are several interesting stone coffin lids or slabs preserved in the floors of the chancel and tower, and in the stone seats in the porch. A mutilated matrix of a brass lies in the chancel. The porch is Early, like the rest of the building, and there is a projecting stone water stoup on the right hand of the nave doorway. In the south wall of the chancel, below the eaves of the roof, is a plain projecting course of stone work, on plain square corbels. The bottom plain ashlar course of stone continues through the walling to the west end of the nave. This work is not very clear unless it is part of a cornice supporting an earlier and lower pitch of roof to the nave and chancel. No remains like it are on the north side. The tower is placed in the centre and at the west end of the nave and is a very small structure. It projects partly beyond the west front. The tower part is lighted by a very narrow oblong chamfered slit, and the belfry stage above by plain square headed windows. The spire is very short on a plain chamfered parapet. There are two lancet windows in the west end of the nave, which, with the small tower and spire between, give a genuine west front to the church. The weather course on the west side of the tower is much steeper than the present nave roof, and may have belonged to an earlier roof than the present one. The remains of the old churchyard cross consists of the old chamfered base, on three stone steps, the bottom one being 7ft. 4in. square. The shaft and cross above are modern. In front of the bottom step facing west is the low altar tomb covering the grave of Father Kemble. On a plain chamfered base is a course of

ashlar stone supporting the upper slab, which is a plain chamfered stone, 6ft. 3in. long by 2ft 4in. wide, tapering slightly to the foot. On the upper surface is incised "I.K., dyed the 22nd of August, 1679." A plain incised cross fills in the rest of the surface. In a line with this tomb and a few feet apart is a large slab to one of the Scudamores; the inscription cannot be deciphered, but the date, 1717, and the age, 55, are discernible.

LLANROTHAL, UPPER CWM, &c.

By ROBERT CLARKE.

To the west of Welsh Newton is situated the parish of Llanrothal, which extends down to the river Monnow, which here defines the boundary between Herefordshire and Monmouthshire. The road bearing down the hill from Welsh Newton Church in a south westerly direction conducts by Upper Cwm and Lower Cwm in the parish of Llanrothal to the Monnow about two miles distant.

The UPPER Cwm, now a farm house, has been altered in its upper part, but the lower portion represents its original plan, and has some 15th century moulded plinths and string courses. A secret passage is said to exist between this house and the Lower Cwm; a raised ridge along the fields is traditionally said to mark its track.

The LOWER Cwm, about half a mile further west, is situated closer to the rocky woods and was the principal college of the Priests.

It retained its old features, dormitories, &c., to within forty years ago, when the greater part was taken down and a modern mansion erected on its site. There are some portions of the old kitchen remaining, and also some of the walls of the old cellars. In the walls of the latter are two very small well-built ovens with flues complete, the smaller one only about 8in in diameter, traditionally stated to have been used for baking their consecrated bread.

Secret passages are known to have continued from this house to the rocky woods behind, and are stated to continue down to Llanrothal Church, which is situated near the river Monnow, about a quarter of a mile below.

LLANROTHAL CHURCH consists of a nave, chancel, south porch, a modern vestry on the north side of the chancel, and a stone bell turret for two bells at the west end, with additional wood framing to make it into a turret.

The chancel is divided from the nave by an Early pointed arch in tufa stone (travertine), having two singular recessed pointed arches on each side. The idea of the latter is not very clear, unless the chancel arch is a later insertion to the side arches, as the latter are encroached on. There is a small Norman window in the north wall of

nave, and perhaps more may be found when the exterior walls are denuded of their present thick coat of plaster. The church appears to have been altered in the Early English period, as the present single lancet windows are like those in Welsh Newton Church.

The east window is an Early English example of two lights, and there are four walled-up lancet windows in the chancel.

On the south side of the chancel is a very fine four-light Early Perpendicular window inserted; a portion of the upper arch thereof has been cut off, and a square stone lintel inserted under the wood wall plate. This window evidently has been taken from some other building and inserted here. The nave and chancel roof are barrel shaped, plastered underneath, and probably had moulded ribs and bosses. During the recent reseating of the nave and chancel, the old stone altar slab, with the five crosses incised, was found in the floor. It is 7ft. 8in. long, 2ft. 10in. wide, and 9in. thick. The old doorway leading to the rood-loft was found plastered over; it is now opened up. Two Early coffin lids have been built into the bell turret. There are also remains of the old churchyard cross.

LLANROTHAL COURT, a couple of hundred yards from the Church, now used as a farmhouse, is a fine old mansion. It contains a good Elizabethan carved oak chimney piece, with arms on the upper panel.

On the hill above the Lower Cwm, about half a mile north-west of it, is a decayed mansion called Skenchill, built about the year 1820 to look like an old house. There is a very fine and lofty four light Early Perpendicular window inserted in the house, stated to have been in Llanrothal Church before being erected here; it is very similar to the one in the south wall of Llanrothal chancel.

On an elevated Knoll, overlooking the river Monnow, and about half a mile south-west of The Cwm, is Tregate Castle, a fine old mansion built in the Tudor and Elizabethan period; it is now a farmhouse. It stands within a well entrenched embankment, probably the site of an ancient camp or castle, on the road between Monmouth and Skenfrith Castle, and about two miles and a half distant from the latter.

Re-entering the carriages just before one o'clock, a ten minutes' drive brought the party to the most interesting structure in the whole village, Pembridge Castle, which lies some little distance off the main road. It is a quaint old place, and part of it is now occupied as a farmhouse. It is surrounded by a moat, only one part of which is filled in—at the gateway where the drawbridge used to be. The Rev. P. J. Oliver Minos informs us that Pembridge Castle was once in Garway parish.

The following notes were prepared by the Dean :—

PEMBRIDGE CASTLE.

The Castle at Pembridge owes its name to its original founders—the family of Pembridge or Pembrugge, Lords of the town of that name as early as the reign of Henry I. In the reign of Henry III., William, Lord Cantilupe, was governor of the Castle, and this Lord Cantilupe must have been the father of Thomas de Cantilupe, our canonised Bishop. At the beginning of the 13th Century Ralph de Pembridge was settled at Welsh Newton, and gave to his residence the name of Pembridge Castle. Ralph de Pembridge died before the year 1219. Pembridge has been in one place named as belonging to the Brydges' family, but I have been unable to trace any connection between them. There seem to have been several branches of the Pembridges, the most important in Herefordshire being those of Clehonger and Mansel Gamage. Richard de Pembridge founded a chauncry at Clehonger in the time of Edward III., and his death took place in 1346, in which year his wife, Petronilla, had a license for an Oratory at Clehonger. Their son Richard was the gallant K.G., whose handsome monument is to be seen in the nave of the Cathedral at Hereford. This Richard was present at the battle of Cressy and the siege of Calais, and was amongst the more renowned Knights who fought at Poictiers. For some time he held the wardenship of the Cinque Ports. He died in 1375, and was buried at Hereford, and a fine alabaster effigy was brought from the Blackfriars to the Cathedral at the dissolution of the monasteries. Over the monument was formerly hung his jousting helmet and shield, the latter of which seems to have been stolen, and the former to have been given or sold to Sir S. R. Meyrick. Two years ago I saw it amongst a valuable collection of ancient armoury and metal work exhibited in London, and I ascertained from the catalogue that it was in the possession of Sir Noel Paton, of Edinburgh. I wrote to him and received an answer to the effect that it was purchased at a sale of Meyrick armoury which took place at Goodrich Court. Sir Richard's son Henry dying early, the property passed to his two married sisters' sons, Sir Richard Burley and Sir Thomas Barre. The former, who had Pembridge, was a K.G. and a distinguished soldier. He was succeeded by his brother William, who died in 1388. The property afterwards passed into the hands of Thomas Beaufort, Duke of York, third son of John O'Gaunt. In the 16th Century it belonged to the Baynham family, and later on was sold to Walter Pye, Kt., and during the Civil War was an outpost to the Royalist garrisons of Monmouth, and suffered greatly in the campaign of 1644. From Sir Walter Pye, jun., the Castle was purchased by George Kemble, who repaired the ruins and made the place habitable. In 1650, George Kemble being dead, the premises were sequestered for the recusancy of Anne Kemble, his widow, but upon representation of the case the Commissioners were satisfied and dis-

PEMBRIDGE CASTLE, IN THE PARISH OF WELSH NEWTON, HEREFORDSHIRE,
NEAR MONMOUTH.
Photo by A. Watkins.



No. 4.—To face page 20.

charged the sequestration accordingly. The following description is taken mainly from Robinson's "Castles of Herefordshire." The fortress is in fair condition : the quadrangle structure measures 45 yards from north to south, and 35 yards from east to west ; the entrance being on the south side and defended by two towers. Access to the courtyard is gained through a dark vaulted passage 33 feet long, in which two, if not three, gates may be traced and grooves of portcullises. The drawbridge, which, when drawn, filled exactly the space between the entrance towers, no longer exists, the moat being here filled up. In the courtyard, on the left side, a door, between two square headed windows, leads to what must have been the kitchen. Adjoining this, at the south-west angle, is the keep tower, the basement of which is used as a cellar. Three floors originally above it have wholly disappeared. The farmer's kitchen and parlour was once the great hall. On ascending the stairs the seat of John Kemble was pointed out on one of the landings, and his bedroom opposite to it with a small cross cut in the woodwork above the doorway. The staircase in the projecting square tower is formed of blocks of solid oak. Originally the north-west angle was supported by a very singular turret like a circular buttress about 7ft. in diameter—perhaps a campanile to the Castle chapel. The tower at the opposite angle is more curious still. The ground plan is a quarter of a circle of 11 feet radius, with straight sides projecting at right angles from north and east respectively, seven feet. This structure was carried up above the roof ridge of the adjoining buildings and probably was used as a watch tower. The loop holes in the north curtain wall were evidently made at the time of Massey's seige, and these are the only two features in the building to which we can assign an unquestionable date—i.e., 1644.

In the time of Henry VII. the castle was held by the Knights Hospitallers of Dinmore and Garway, and afterwards by the Countess of Richmond and Derby.

Re-entering the carriages the party pursued tortuous bye-roads until they dismounted at the entrance to Welsh Newton Common, whence the walk, under the guidance of Mr. J. P. Brown, led through lanes, woods, and over fields to the site of St. Wolstan's Church in the middle of a wood.

On the way one of the chief landmarks of the neighbourhood was passed which consisted of six birch trees growing close together, presenting from some aspects the semblance of a single large tree.

Nothing beyond a few scattered stones could be found to mark the site of St. Wolstan's Church, although our member, Mr. Brown, bears witness to having seen the old ruined walls at least two feet high.

The Rev. P. J. Oliver Minos sends us the following extract :—
“Garewy cum Membres Harewoode, Lamadock, Keimeys, et Sanctus Wolstanus.”

Proceeding through the fields alongside an old Roman Road the party reached, opposite a fine old yew tree whose roots appeared to be embedded in a foundation of solid rock and whose boughs overhung the road, a picturesque building, Lewson, the property of our guide, Mr. J. P. Brown, at present in the occupation of Mr. Hoddell, who received the Members with hospitality.

The house is overgrown with ivy on the one side, while inside there are many curious objects to be seen. One is a cosy low-roofed room, in which is a remarkable old iron fireback, with an ornamental border of bells ; it bears the date “1637,” and the letters “T.F.” The exact date of the building is lost to posterity, but from the figures in the fire-place and other data it is presumed that it was erected about 1600. Some of the oldest windows are mullioned.

Quitting Lewson, the locality was pointed out, in a field at the bottom of the hill, of the discovery of some Roman tessellated pavement, and still nearer to Whitchurch the site of an ancient Bloomery, as testified by discoveries of smelted iron ore.

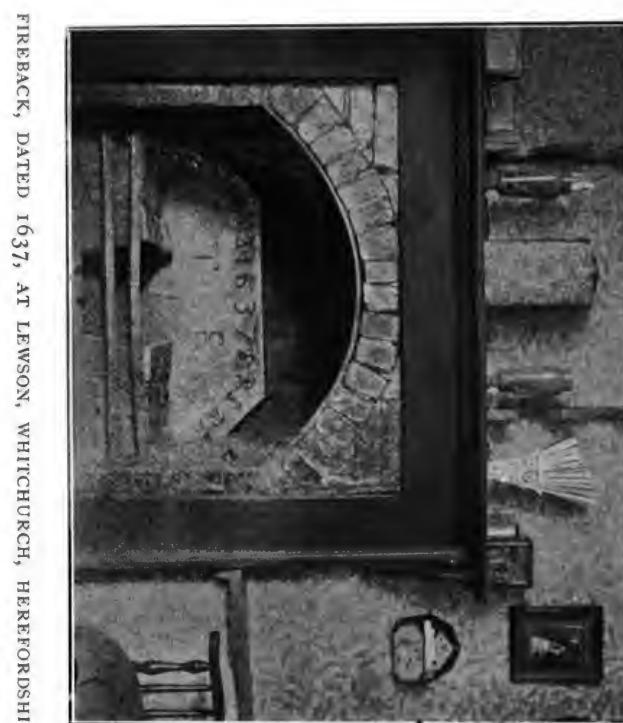
After a short walk through the village of Whitchurch the members assembled for the inspection of the Church, under the guidance of the Rector, Rev. G. H. Robinson.

This edifice is dedicated to St. Dubricius, whom the Welsh antiquaries place as Archbishop of Caerleon, and Bishop of Llandaff at the end of the 5th or the beginning of the 6th century. It is built in the Early English style of architecture and is furnished with pews of recent date, having been restored and enlarged in 1861, at a cost of £800. In the churchyard is a restored cross ; also a handsome tomb, enclosed with iron railings, to the memory of the ancient family of Gwilym.

Crossing the River Wye the day's proceedings terminated with luncheon at the Rocklea Hotel, close to Symond's Yat Railway Station.

Of the muster of sixty-seven who attended, the following names were all that could be obtained :—The Hon. Very Reverend the Dean of Hereford, President ; Mr. W. J. Humfrys, Mayor ; Judge R. W. Ingham, Mr. T. S. Aldis, Mr. Philip Baylis, Mr. G. M. Brierley, Mr. Wm. Brown, Mr. J. P. Brown, Rev. Charles Burrough, Rev. W. S. Clarke, Mr. R. Clarke, Dr. A. J. H. Crespi, Mr. James Davies, Mr. Luther Davis, Rev. R. H. Evans, Mr. Harold Easton, Rev. P. H. Fernandez, Mr. Iltyd Gardner, Mr. E. A. Gowring, Rev. E. Harris, D.D. ; Rev. E. J. Holloway, Rev. Preb. W. H. Lambert, Dr. Gerald Leighton, Mr. C. E. Lilwall, Rev. H. B. D. Marshall, Mr. H. J. Marshall, Mr. Norman H. Matthews, Capt. F. R. Morgan, Mr. Walter Pilley, Mr. G. H. Phillott, Dr. Scudamore Powell, Dr. Wm. Elliott Price,

No. 5.—To face page 22.



FIREBACK, DATED 1637, AT LEWSON, WHITCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE.

Photo by A. Watkins.

Col. M. J. G. Scobie, Mr. Henry Southall, Mr. Edwin Stephens, Mr. W. H. Steward, Rev. F. S. Stooke-Vaughan, Mr. H. A. Wadworth, Rev. Morgan G. Watkins, Mr. Alfred Watkins, Rev. H. Trevor Williamson, Dr. John H. Wood, Mr. T. Hutchinson, Hon. Sec.; Mr. James B. Pilley, Assist. Sec. Visitors:—Lieut. Allen, R.N.; Mr. F. C. Brown (Gloucester), Mr. W. S. Charles (Abergavenny), Rev. D. L. Davies (Llangarren), Mr. Wm. Davis (Malvern), Rev. R. Dew, Mr. C. J. Fricker (Abergavenny), Mr. A. J. Garstone, Mr. T. Howse (Guildford), Mr. C. H. Derham Marshall, Mr. F. W. Morris (Coleford); Rev. R. M. S. Onslow (Bedstone), Rev. K. O'Neill (Mansel Lacy), Rev. G. D. Pagden (Cusop), Mr. E. P. Popert, F.G.S.; Mr. F. Prothero (Newport), Mr. H. A. Prothero (Cheltenham), Rev. L. W. Richings, Rev. G. H. Robinson (Whitchurch), Dr. H. Lyon Smell (Dorchester), Mr. H. C. Smith, Mr. J. S. Stooke-Vaughan, Mr. S. P. Tagart, &c.

NOTES ON THE SUPPRESSED COLLEGE OF JESUITS
AT COMBE, IN THE PARISH OF
LLANROTHAL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

BY WALTER PILLEY.

In the Phillipps's Library, at St. Michael's Priory, Hereford, is the original warrant addressed by the House of Lords to Dr. Croft, dated

" Die Sabbathi,
" Decembris, 1678.

" Upon information given to this House of a place in Herefordshire called Combe, that the said house and three hundred pounds (per annum) belongeth to the Church of Rome, and that five or six Jesuits commonly reside there, and that in the chapel there mass is said constantly, and that the place is commonly called and known by the name of the Jesuits' College by the Papists. Upon consideration had thereof, it is ordered by the Lords, spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled that it be, and is hereby recommended to the Lord Bishop of Hereford, calling to his assistance such Justices of the Peace of the said county as his lordship shall think fit, to inquire into the information aforesaid, and to send for and examine such persons as his lordship or assistants shall think necessary for finding out the truth of the matter concerning the said place called Combe, and give this House a full account thereof as soon as his lordship conveniently can.

" Jo. BROWNE,
" Cleric-Parliamentor."

Bishop Croft appointed Captain J. Scudamore to inquire into the affair, and the latter wrote subsequently to Mr. J. Arnold, Llanvihangel, J.P. The original letter is amongst the Lansdowne MSS. B.M., No. 846, and is as follows:—

" A copy of Mr. Scudamore's letter to Mr. Arnold, concerning Combe, in Herefordshire, dated Kentchurch, December 24, 1678.

The Combe, in Herefordshire, hath about £500 per annum belonging to it. All the neighbourhood testify that it is a place to which Popish recusants and priests do often resort, but cannot tell who is proprietor or owner of it. Its situation without, and appartments within, argue it is a place of habitation of such as are fearful of being discovered. It hath fair chambers, to which belongs a study, and in some were found chairs, tables, and standishes, as is usual in colledges. We found a very fair library of books, which may be compared with some of them in the halls and colledges in either of the Universities. We found about thirty folios, some manuscripts lately written, many English books against Protestant writers, as Laud, Chillingworth, Stillingfleet, &c., &c., not yet bound, and a bundle of Popish Catechisms.

The Library was concealed with so much skill, that it was very difficult to discover it; and though they had time enough to remove it, yet we found December 19th when this discovery was made, many papers that mentioned their Society, the Society of Jesus, and the colledge of St. Navarius in England. Some instructions for Jesuitical Mission, some memorials left of St. Navarius, his colledge in England in the visitation. We found in the frontispiece of ten folios " St. Navarius's Colledge." Among other books there was one very fair folio, printed at St. Omer's, 1660, entitled " Historia Anglicanæ Provinciæ Societatis Jesu Collectore Henrico Maco Ejusdem Societatis Sacerdote." The author hath confidence to affirme, p. 446, that there are three colledges of the Society of Jesus in England, one of Ignatius in London, Navarius in Wales, and of St. Abbysms in Staffordshire or Lancashire, with various houses, and rents belonging to them, which seem to make plain that Combe, in Herefordshire, is St. Navarius's Colledge. We found one paper that was a list of the benefactors of the present yeare; also a curious picture of St. Navarius, to whose honour this colledge is instituted; many other pictures, also crucifixes, and bottles of oyle, reliques, an incense pot, a mass bell, surplices, and other habits; boxes of white wafers, stamps with Jesuitical devices. There is scarce any Jesuitical writers whose works are not here, and scarce an eminent author but Jesuits, as Cardinal Bellarmine, Cardinal Collet, Gregory de Valentia, Gabriel Vasquer, etc., above thirty printed books, containing only orders and decrees, and rules of the Society, whereof fifteen are new, and fairly printed in one volume. We met with the Life of Ignatius Loyola, the founder of their order, not only written with the Lives of Navarius, Quoiles, and the like, famous in the Society, but also the pretended miracles reported by Rebodenira; the like of Ignatius Loyola are set forth in about twenty sheets of curious pictures. Among the papers we found three letters from Rome, from Jo Paulus de Oliva, General of the Jesuit there, upon Jesuitical subjects; and one directed to John Draycott, who is every where in this country reported a Jesuit. Some from Mr. Edward Courtnay, that seem to be their provintiale, at London; and one paper writ to him, in obedience to his order, for admittance of some Noviciate into the Society, subscribed by Draycott, Evans, and two other reported Jesuits, whereas, by the rules of their order, all the incomes are administered by the father-rector of the Colledge; we find many papers of accounts for cloking, travelling, &c. Whereas they are to give annual account to the General at Rome of all they baptize and pervert, we find a paper that is a draught of such an account; thus, 34 baptized, 130 reconciliati: by all of which may easily be judged that St. Navarius Colledge in England is no other than Combe in Herefordshire."

The above letter was evidently forwarded to Bishop Croft, who in the beginning of January, 1679, sent a short narrative of the discovery of the College of Jesuits at Combe to the Lords assembled in Parliament. I give extracts from this narrative printed in a scarce pamphlet as follows:—

"A short narrative of the discovery of a College of Jesuits, at a place called Combe, in the County of Hereford, which was sent up unto the Right Honourable the Lords assembled in Parliament, at the end of the last sessions, by the Right Reverend Father in God, Herbert, Lord Bishop of Hereford, according to an order sent unto him by the said lords, to make diligent search and return an account thereof, &c.

"London : Printed by T. N. for Charles Harper, at the Flower-de-luce, against St. Dunstan's Church, in Fleet-street, 1679."

"In the parish of Llanrothal, in the County of Hereford, there are two houses called The Upper and Lower Comes, or Middle and Lower Comes, with a walled court before each of them, having lands belonging to them worth about threescore pounds per annum (they pay taxes at eight and fifty pounds per annum).

One of these houses is a fair gentile house, wherein there are six lodging chambers ; each one a convenient study to it, with a standish left in them, besides several other lodging rooms.

The other house is also a good countrey house, with several chambers, and studies to some of them, all in very good repair. But the furniture now removed, we cannot yet find whither.

The remaining dwellers in the houses, who were but under servants, will not confess : they are apparently perjured ; for they flatly denied, upon oath, several things, which were made out by others, and then they confessed them.

There are one and twenty chimnies in both houses, and a great many doors to go in and out at ; and likewise many private passages from one room to the other.

These houses are seated at the bottom of a thick woody and rocky hill, with several hollow places in the rocks, wherein men may conceal themselves ; and there is a very private passage from one of the houses into this wood.

In one of these houses there was a study found, the door thereof very hardly to be discovered, being placed behind a bed, and plastered over like the wall adjoining, in which was found great store of Divinity books, and others, in folio and quarto, and many other lesser books, several horseloads, many whereof are written by the principal learned Jesuits.

There are several books lately written and printed against the Protestant religion, and many small Popish catechisms printed and tyed up in a bundle, and some Welsh Popish books lately printed, and some Popish manuscripts fairly and lately written.

Likewise there is a picture of Ignatius Loiola, the founder of the Society, and the most remarkable actions and pretended miracles of his life, not only written in printed books, but in pictures in several sheets, which pictures refer to Ribadeneira's book of Loiola's life.

One letter seems written by the Provincial to them of this House, wherein complaint is made. 'That there was not care enough taken to send young men to Rome to be there bred up in the English College, and for which, he saith, the Pope was much displeased, and threatened to take away their College there, and fill it up with scholars of some other nation and Order.'

Two vestments, with some other small matters, were found in two boxes hid in the wood above specified (it seems the other things were but newly removed ; and they had begun also to remove the Library, for they had carried out and hid in a pigscot adjoining, about two horse loads of books). —

A large number of books in the Cathedral Library, Hereford, are from the suppressed College of Jesuits at Combe, and can easily be identified by the name of Father William Morgan, who wrote his name in German Characters. He held the lease of Combe from the Marquis of Worcester.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

SECOND FIELD MEETING, TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 1900.

STOKE EDITH, PERTON, AND DORMINGTON.

"And this our life, exempt from public haunt,
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones, and good in everything."

"As you like it."—Act II., Scene I.

How pregnant with meaning is the above homely and time-honoured quotation! Yet with how much meaning the writer had failed to appreciate until, fortunately, he was numbered among the visitors to the meeting of the Woolhope Club, over the range of hills overlooking the valley of Woolhope. The selected places for visitation were Stoke Edith Park, Perton, and Dormington Quarries, Backbury, and the neighbourhood, and though the outing at first thought does not perhaps appear to be so attractive as many of the Woolhope Field Meetings undoubtedly are, it furnished us with a very interesting day in what I must be excused calling "fossildom." Facts and conjectures as to earthquakes, seismic upheavals, landslips and the like—and all disturbances to which this terrestrial globe of ours is subject in the course of ages—were brought to light and related for our edification, and, I may add, education—for is not every outing of the Woolhope Club of a distinctly educative character? Geology is the gateway of science, and furnishes us with some data from which the history of the world can to a very large extent be read, leaving us at the same time doubtful on many points.

We started from Barr's Court Station by the 9.45 a.m. ordinary, and alighted 20 minutes later at Stoke Edith Station. The early morning had been dull, and in trusting to fine weather favouring us we were apparently hoping against hope, but happily we had a beautiful day and a clear atmosphere, which enabled us to enjoy to the full several beautiful panoramic views.

From the station we walked to Stoke Edith, and by the kind permission of Mr. Paul Foley, inspected the gardens and everything else of interest in the grounds. The beautiful flower gardens, of which our late County Queen—Lady Emily Foley—was so fond, drew forth much admiration, and after a glimpse at them, and at the sun dial, bearing the motto "Horas non numero nisi serenas," Mr. H. C. Moore, who acted as our guide, led us to the front of the mansion and pointed out a peculiarity in the fabric of the building. This peculiarity consisted of some very remarkable brickwork. The bricks are of a special size, being much smaller than the ordinary brick, and of an unusually fine texture. In only one other place in the county are similar bricks known to exist, viz., the Mansion House, in Widemarsh Street, Hereford.

The gardener here met us and conducted us round the kitchen garden, thence into the fig-tree house and flourishing vineyards, one of the houses being filled by a single vine.

A hurried glance at the little Church of Stoke Edith was had by a few of those interested in ecclesiastical architecture, and then a move was made through the park towards the little hamlet of Perton. The geology of the district was here described by Mr. Moore, who showed us several specimens of fossils found in the neighbourhood. These, in a sense, gave us a clue as to what we were going to look for, and helped the uninitiated to understand what was being talked about.

We walked up Perton Lane for some distance and turned into Perton Quarry, where the majority of us became stone-breakers for the time being. It was highly amusing to see us all engaged in this back-aching occupation, the object of our quest being fossils. But with or without hammers, we all kept tapping away, sometimes at the stones and sometimes, alas! at our own thumbs, for we were not used to cracking such hard nuts, and had to put up with the consequences. Perton Quarry is composed of Aymestrey Limestone, and it was stated that near here a landslip occurred in the forties. Geologists were of course in their glory, and a good deal of time was spent in Perton Quarry, whence we proceeded up the lane right to the summit of the hill. A lovely view of the celebrated Woolhope Valley was had from here, and then, under the guidance of Mr. D. Greatorex, Mr. Foley's head gamekeeper, we descended the other side of the elevation to the far-famed Dormington Quarries of Wenlock Limestone—an excellent exposure loaded with varieties of fossil corals peculiar to that formation. Botanists here, too, were able to find something to interest them: the district is rich in floral and entomological specimens. In the Quarries fossils were very plentiful, so plentiful indeed that one seemed to stand in an ancient bed of the sea surrounded by coral reefs. These quarries were long extensively worked and the limestone was burnt in the kilns, which we passed en route for Backbury Camp, and supplied lime to the country, not only for building, but also for agricultural purposes. It is probable that half the City of Hereford, including the Cathedral itself, was built with the

lime taken from this stone. The limestone, however, yields only an inferior quality of lime, and on the formation of the railways in the district and the introduction of lime from Howle Hill, near Ross, and more recently from Pontypool and Gilwern Mountain, near Abergavenny, these quarries were abandoned.

We are told that the Woolhope district, in which Dormington Quarries are situate, is one of the most remarkable geological districts in Great Britain. It is an example of the elevation of a large tract of underlying strata, the Upper Silurian strata, through the overlying Old Red strata by earthquake action, while all those rocks were beneath the waves of an ocean. The whole of this district may be described as a mass of Upper Silurian strata elevated in the shape of a pear, and extending from Mordiford, on the north, to Gorsley, near Newent, on the south. It is believed that there was a time when the high hills of Seager Hill, Stoke Edith Park, Backbury Camp, and Cherry Hill, near Fownhope, were horizontally stratified Aymestrey rocks, overlaid by the Old Red sandstone and overlying and surmounting the Wenlock rock of Dormington quarries, Hollinghill Wood, and Limekiln Bank, near Fownhope. The Wenlock rocks also overlaid the Woolhope limestone of Woolhope, Littlehope, and Scutterdine; and this limestone again surmounted the Llandovery rocks of the dome-like wood of Haughwood. The valley between Dormington Quarries and Haughwood is of denuded Wenlock shale.

From these quarries our guide led us on through beautiful sylvan glades, first down and then up, past the old lime kilns, to the old camp on the eminence known as Adam's Rocks, on the further side of Backbury.

The camp appears to have been doubly entrenched upon the north side, and is oblong rather than circular in shape. The landslip occurred upon its southern side and at the south-easterly angle, whilst the area of the camp is about four acres. Tradition says that Ethelbert, King of the East Angles, proceeded from this camp to that of "Offa the Terrible," King of Mercia, at Sutton Walls, when, courting his daughter Etheldrida, he was murdered in the year 792 at the instigation of his Queen, Quendritha.

From the rocks a grand view of the country as far as the Cotswolds in Gloucestershire was to be had, and a few steps from here—from the other side of the hill—the grandest view of the day was enjoyed. It was a remarkably clear day, and the view was therefore such as is seldom seen by the most ardent hill-climber. Hereford lay at our feet. The hills about Ross, on the verge of and beyond the Forest of Dean, were distinctly visible. On the Welsh border rose the long line of Black Mountains, to the left of which the mountains about Abergavenny, distinguished by their curiously abrupt and pointed outline, were in full view. Far away in the dim distance rose the hills of Shropshire on one hand, and Breconshire and Radnorshire on the other—in fact the whole scene spread out before us for our delectation was magnificent.



DORMINGTON QUARRY.

Photo by A. Watkins.

No. 6.—Between pages 30 and 31. To face No. 7.



MEDIEVAL BRONZE KNOCKER, WITH AN IRON RING, ON THE SOUTH DOOR OF DORMINGTON CHURCH.

Photo by A. Watkins.

No. 7.—Between pages 30 and 31. To face No. 6.

Backbury Hill was descended by a picturesque path, which ran past Prior's Court, by another quarry, to Dormington Court, the residence of Mr. H. Scott Hall, who had generously invited the club to luncheon.

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VESTIGES OF THE CITY WALLS,
SITES OF GATEWAYS, AND OTHER OBJECTS OF INTEREST
IN THE CITY OF HEREFORD.

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The remains of the earliest architecture, Norman, are visible, exteriorly, in the foundation walls East of the South Transept, and interiorly, in the sturdy Norman pillars of the nave of eight bays, of the choir of three bays, in the aisles of the choir, and in the South transept. Whilst the successive styles of architecture were demonstrated, the Dean did not fail to draw attention to the monuments, memorial and other stained glass windows, brasses, and other objects which were rendered more intelligible by the consultation of a ground plan with references, liberally distributed amongst his audience.

A visitor to the Cathedral cannot do better than supply himself with the above referred to ground plan in order to render himself readily acquainted with the monuments, memorial and other stained glass windows, brasses, and miscellaneous objects of interest, which plan can be obtained from the verger in charge.

To the numerous books on this Cathedral which have been published we must add the following of recent date: "Hereford Cathedral;" by the Hon. the Very Rev. James Wentworth Leigh, D.D., Dean of Hereford, illustrated by Hedley Fitton; also "Records of the Ancient Chapter House;" by the same author, delineated by Edward Burrow, and showing a ground plan of the Ancient Chapter House, by Sir Arthur Blomfield, with the proposed elevation of the restored Chapter House.

In the Cathedral Series of *The Builder*, a view of the Cathedral, and a ground plan on a large scale, will be found in the issue of February 8th, 1892; and in *Architecture*, Vol. 2, No. 17, of June, 1897, are numerous beautiful prints of the interior.

The few remains of the Chapter House were visited, and various fragments of stone upon its site testified to its original beauty of architectural decoration. On the way to the Library the site was passed of the Ancient Chapels of which a fragment only now remains, part of one of the walls with a Norman light. Of these two Chapels the lower was dedicated to St. Catherine, the upper to St. Mary Magdalen. The Dean then conducted through the Bishop's Cloister to the Cathedral Library where the valuable collection of ecclesiastical chained and illuminated books were exhibited.

THE HEREFORD MAPPA MUNDI.

A long halt was made over the inspection of the curious "Mappa Mundi" in the South Choir Aisle, concerning which the Dean has recently written in *The Times*:—"The Map was discovered under the wooden floor of a chantry in the Cathedral. It was, in 1813, utterly neglected, torn, and covered with dust and dirt. In 1830 it was removed from the Lady Chapel to the Treasury room. In 1855 it was sent to the British Museum, where, under the care of Sir F. Madden, Keeper of MSS., it was repaired and cleaned with great skill and judgment. In 1862 it was exhibited at the South Kensington Temporary Museum of Works and Arts. In 1863 it was fixed in its present position in the

south choir aisle; a sheet of plate glass and oak doors were provided for its protection. Its condition has since remained the same, except that a certain amount of dust has worked its way between the plate glass and the map. This can easily be wiped off, by removing the glass, but nothing more should be done to the map. The public may rest assured that under the guardianship of the present custodians everything will be done to preserve such a curious and much prized treasure, whilst at the same time rendering it accessible to all comers."

The following references are given in the *Transactions of the Woolhope Club*, on the subject of the Mappa Mundi:—

1867, page 108. "On the proposal to copy and publish the Hereford Map of the World," by Thos. Blashill.

1868, page 238. Discussion on the proposed publication of this ancient map.

1869, page 152. Report by the Rev. F. T. Havergal, and issue of prospectus to receive names of subscribers.

1870, page 253. Further report by Rev. F. T. Havergal.

1873, pages 134 and 142. Further remarks on the completion of the publication of the Map, and of the volume entitled "Mediæval Geography;" an essay in illustration of the Hereford Mappa Mundi, by the Rev. W. L. Bevan, and Rev. H. W. Phillott, printed by E. Stanford, Charing Cross, London.

An excellent photograph on a large scale, with an annexed Key, has been made by Ladmore and Sons, Photographers, Hereford.

At a meeting of the British Archaeological Association, at Hereford, on September 7th, 1870, an Address on the Hereford "Mappa Mundi" was delivered by the Rev. W. L. Bevan.

In connection with this map Archdeacon Bevan added the following remarks:—He called the attention of the members to the new interest imparted to Mediæval Geography by the publication of Dr. Conrad Miller's great work entitled "Die Ältesten Weltkarten," (Stuttgart). This consists of six thin volumes, one of which is devoted to a description of the Hereford Map, another to the Ebstorf Map, so called from the place near Hanover, where it was re-discovered in 1833; and the remaining four volumes deal with a large number of existing maps, and a certain number of non-existing maps, which Dr. Miller has with infinite labour and ingenuity re-constructed from the writings of early geographical authors. Photographic representations of more than 80 of the above maps are scattered over these volumes.

The leading object of Dr. Miller's work is not so much to give a description of all these maps (though he does this very thoroughly) as to establish the relationships between them, to trace out their pedigrees, and so discover the prototypes whence they are descended.

As a sample of his treatment, Archdeacon Bevan exhibited copies of the Hereford and Ebstorf Maps, between which there are marked resemblances both in general character and in contents, together with marked differences, whence Dr. Miller infers that they are descended

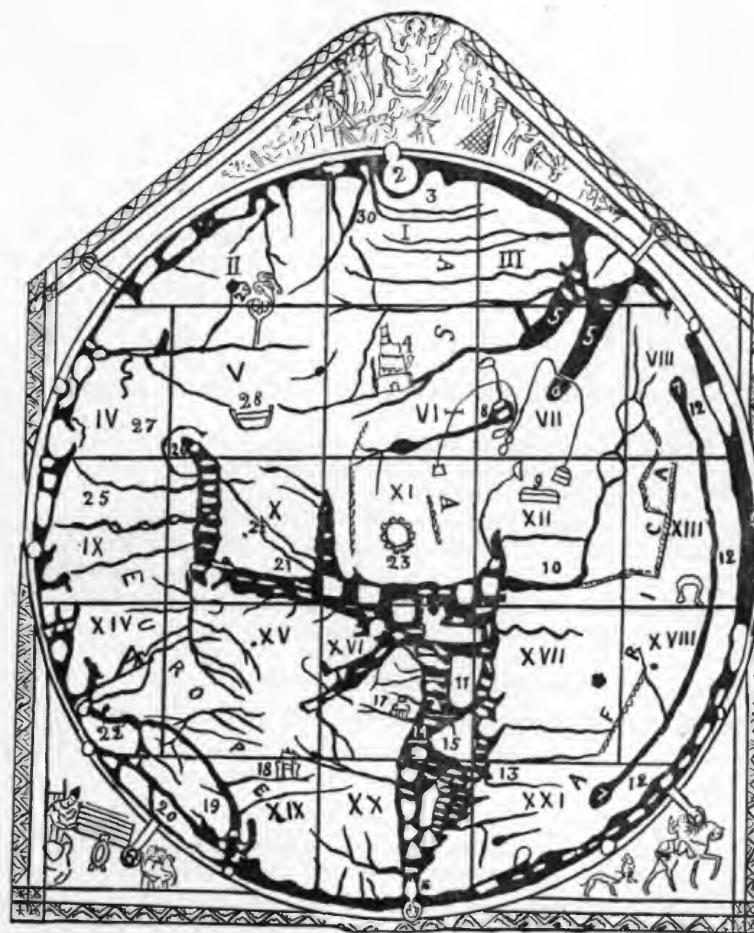
from a common ancestor, no longer existing, but which he supposes to have been executed in the eleventh century, some 200 years earlier than the two existing maps. During this interval other maps were drawn, which show affinities with these two, viz.: the map of Henry of Mainz, preserved in the library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, which is closely related to the Hereford map, as an elder to a younger brother; and the small Psalter map preserved in the British Museum, which has features in common with the Ebstorf map. Photographic copies of these two smaller maps were exhibited, and the maps themselves are described in the introduction to the "Essay on Mediæval Geography," written in illustration of the Hereford map, by the late Canon Phillott and Arch-deacon Bevan.

The final upshot of Dr. Miller's investigations is to show that such maps as this at Hereford owe their distinctive character, not as has been generally supposed, to the fancies of ecclesiastical writers of the middle ages, but to the maps of the Roman Empire, and probably to the one drawn up by Agricella at the command of the Emperor Augustus. Whether this conclusion will meet with acceptance at the hands of scientific geographers remains to be seen, but at all events there can be no question as to the immense value of Dr. Miller's investigations.

Those who wish for further information on the subject may find it in an article entitled: "New light on some Mediæval Maps," by Mr. C. Raymond Beazley, M.A., in the *Geographical Journal*, for February, 1900, Vol. xv., No. 2.

At 2.30 the tour of inspection of the City began, under the guidance of Mr. Walter Pilley, who has made the local antiquities of the City his special study. Mr. Pilley conducted the party from the Cathedral Library down Gwynne Street, and pointing out on the walls of the Bishop's Palace grounds the brass plate indicating the traditional site of the birthplace of Nell Gwynne, remarked that it is recorded that her grandson Lord James Beauclerk, who was Bishop 1746—1787, testified the identity to his private friends. Mr. Pilley informed them that her father was a captain in the Royal Army of Charles I., and that his troop was sometime quartered in Hereford where his wife re-joined him, afterwards giving birth to "Poor Nellie."

Wye Bridge was next visited, and its history and probable date of erection given. Thence the South-west corner of the City Walls, where the longest portion of the old walls remains, the sites of the Grey Friars' Church, and of the former St. Nicholas Church were pointed out, and the direction of the walls with the situation and names of the City Gates were fully and clearly explained. The old preaching cross and buildings at Blackfriars, and the Coningsby, or Red Coat, Hospital were inspected, and the route thence was continued by Bysters Gate and St. Owen's Gate to the Castle Green. This was once the encamped station of the Silures, the English, and later, the Saxons, and by them made into a stronghold of the first importance to guard the ford. The downfall of the Castle was at the end of the Civil War in 1645. It was dismantled, the keep



KEY TO THE PHOTOGRAPH OF THE ANCIENT MAP OF THE WORLD,
PRESERVED IN HEREFORD CATHEDRAL.

No. 9.—Between pages 36 and 37.

Photo by Ladmore & Son, Hereford.

THE ANCIENT MAPPA MUNDI IN HEREFORD
CATHEDRAL.

This, as the Map itself testifies, is the work of Richard de Haldingham and de Lafford (Haldingham and Sleaford in Lincolnshire). His real name was Richard de Bello or de la Battayle, and he held the Prebend of Lafford, in Lincoln Cathedral, up to A.D. 1283, after which he held the stall of Norton in Hereford Cathedral. He was afterwards made Archdeacon of Reading. As he held the stall at Hereford in the year 1305, and as it is probable the Map was executed during his tenure of it, its date would be about A.D. 1300. Mons. D'Avezac, President of the Geographical Society of Paris, who has minutely examined the Map, fixes it at A.D. 1314.

The Map is executed on a single sheet of Vellum, 54 in. in breadth, by 63 in. in extreme height. It is fixed on a strong framework of Oak. At the top (fig. 1) is a representation of the Last Judgment. Our Saviour is represented in glory, and below is the Virgin Mary interceding for mankind in the following verses which are written by her side—

Veici beau fiz mon piz : dedenz la quele cher preistes :
Cys mamelettes : dent leit de urigin quiestes :
Eyez merci de tous : si com nos memes deistes :
Ke m'ont seru : haut Sauveresse me feistes.

Of which the following is a translation from the Gentleman's Magazine in 1863,

Regard, my son, the flesh of which Thou'rt made :
Behold the breasts on which thou once wast laid :
On all who worship us pray pity take :
Who me revere, me their Saviouress make.

The scroll from the angel on the right of our Saviour has on it—

Leuez-si-uendrez a joie pardurable.
Rise, and come to eternal joy.

And the one from the angel on his left—

Leuez si alez in fu de enfer estable.
Rise, and go into the everlasting fire of hell.

In the lower left hand corner is a representation of the Emperor Augustus, who is crowned with the Papal Tiara, giving a commission to the three Philosophers, Nichodoxus, Theodosius, and Pollicitus, to survey the world. Underneath the deed held by the Emperor are the following verses—

Tuz ki cest estorie out
Ou oyrant ou liront ou ueront
Prient a ihesu en deyte
De Richard de Haldingham e de Lafford eyt pite
Ki lat fet e compasse
Ki ioie en cel li seit doue.

Of which the following translation is given by the Rev. G. F. Townsend, late Vicar of Leominster—

May all who this fair historie
Shall either hear, or read, or see,
Pray to Jesus Christ in Deity,
Richard of Haldingham and Lafford to pity ;
That to him for aye be given,
The joy and happiness of heaven.

In the right hand corner the author is shown on horseback, attended by a page and two greyhounds.

There are inscriptions on the extreme edge of the Map. The upper one commencing at sq. iv. of the Key Map, and continuing round the top to sq. viii., is as follows—

A : JULIO : CESARE : ORBIS : TERRARUM :
METIRE : CEPIT :

A : NICODOXO : OMNIS : ORIENS :
DIMENSUS : EST :

The lower one, beginning at sq. xiv. and going round the lower part to sq. xviii., reads thus—

A : TEODOCO : SEPTEMTRION : ET :
OCCIDENS : DIMENS - EST :

A : POLICLITO : MERIDIANA : PARS :
DIMENSUS : EST :

With reference to the Map proper, the earth is represented as round, and surrounded by the ocean. The upper part is the East. Rather more than half is taken up by the continent of Asia. Europe is at the left hand of the lower half, Africa at the right hand. By a singular error the words 'Europa' and 'Affrica' are transposed on the Map, Europa being placed on the continent of Africa and vice versa.

For convenience of reference the Key Map is divided into squares marked by Roman Capitals, with the more prominent objects in figures.

I.—Commencing with sq. i. the circle marked by fig. 2 represents the Garden of Eden, with the four rivers, and Adam and Eve eating the forbidden fruit. The remainder of the square, as also ii. and iii., is occupied by India. At fig. 3 is shown the Expulsion of Adam and Eve, to the right of which is shown a race of Giants, and to the left the City of Enoch, and still further the Golden Mountains guarded by Dragons. Below these mountains are shown a race of pygmies. In a space bounded by two rivers is placed a crocodile, and immediately below a female warrior. To the left of the latter are a pair of birds called in the Map Alerions. The large river to the left is the Ganges.

II.—Shows one of the inhabitants of this part of India who are said to have but one foot, which is sufficiently large to serve as an umbrella to shelter themselves from the sun. The city in the centre is Samarcand.

III.—In which is seen an Elephant, to the left a Parrot. A part of the Red Sea is also shown with the Island of Taprobana (Ceylon), on which are shown two Dragons. It also bears an inscription denoting that dragons and elephants are found there. The small Islands shown are Crise, Argire, Ophir, and Frondisia (Aphrodisia).

IV.—Contains the Caspian Sea, below which is a figure holding its tail in his hand, and which the author calls the Minautor. To the left is shown one of the Albani, who are said to see better at night than in the daytime. Below are two warriors in combat with a Griffin (fig. 27).

V.—In the upper part are Bokhara and Thrace, in the latter of which (fig. 29) is shown the Pelican feeding its young, to the left a singular figure representing the Cicones, and to the right the Camel, in Bactria. Below to the left is the Tiger, and on the right an animal with a human head and the body of a lion, called the Mantichora. Still lower is seen Noah's Ark (fig. 28), in which are shown three human figures, with beasts, birds, and serpents. In the lower corner, at fig. 26, is the Golden Fleece.

VI.—The upper part contains Babylonia, with the City of Babylon (fig. 4) on the river Euphrates, below which is the City of Damascus, which has on its right an unknown animal called the Marsok. To the right is Lot's wife turned into a pillar of salt (fig. 8). Decapolis and the River Jordan are near the bottom of the square. Above the River Euphrates is a figure in a frame representing the Patriarch Abraham's residence at Ur of the Chaldees.

VII.—The Red Sea (figs. 5, 5) is the most conspicuous object here. In the fork formed by it is shown the giving of the Tables of the Law on Mount Sinai. Below, and touching the line (fig. 6) showing the wanderings of the Israelites, is seen the worship of the Golden Calf. The Dead Sea and submerged Cities are shown lower down to the left, and between this and the Red Sea is the Phenix. At the bottom is a mythical animal with long horns, called the Eale.

VIII.—In the upper part is the Monastery of St. Anthony in Ethiopia. The river to the left is the Nile, between which and the great interior lake (figs. 7, 7,) is a figure of a Satyr. Beyond the lake, and extending a distance down the Map (figs. 12, 12, 12,) are various singular figures, supposed to represent the races dwelling there. In a circular island to the left (Meroe) is a man riding a Crocodile, and at the bottom left hand corner is a centaur.

IX.—The upper part is Scythia, and shows some cannibals, below which (fig. 25) are two Scythians in combat. Under this again is a man leading a horse with a human skin thrown over it, and to the right of the latter is placed the Ostrich.

X.—Asia Minor with the Black Sea (fig. 24). Many cities are shown prominent, among which is Troy (fig. 21), described as "Troja civitas bellicosissima." Near the bottom to the left is Constantinople. The Lynx is shown near the centre.

XI.—Is nearly filled by the Holy Land. In the centre is Jerusalem (fig. 23), the supposed centre of the world, surrounded by a high wall, and above is the Crucifixion. Below Jerusalem to the right is Bethlehem with the manger. Near a circular place to the right, called "Puteus Juramenti" (well of the oath), is an unknown bird, called on the Map Avis Cireneus.

XII.—Egypt with the Nile. At the upper part (fig. 9) are Joseph's granaries, i.e., the Pyramids, immediately below which is the Salamander, and to the right of that the Mandrake. Fig 10 denotes the Delta with its cities. On the other side of the Nile, and partly in sq. xiii., is the Rhinoceros, and below it the Unicorn.

XIII.—Is Ethiopia. In the upper left hand corner is the Sphinx, and near the bottom the Temple of Jupiter Ammon, represented by a singular horse-shoe-shaped figure. The camp of Alexander the Great is in the bottom left hand corner, immediately above which is the boundary line between Asia and Africa.

XIV.—At the top to the left is Norway, in which the author has placed the Monkey, the middle is filled by Russia. The small circular islands on the left are the Orkneys, immediately below which is an inscription relating to the Seven Sleepers. Scotland and part of England are shown in the lower part, but the British Isles will be described in sq. xix. The singular triangular figure in the centre of this square cannot be identified.

XV.—Germany with part of Greece in the upper part to the right. The Danube and its tributaries are seen in the upper part, in the lower is the Rhine. On the banks of the latter the Scorpion is placed; Venice is shown on the right.

XVI.—Contains Italy and a great part of the Mediterranean Sea. (fig. 14). About the centre (fig. 17) is Rome, which bears the inscription "Roma caput mundi tenet orbis frena rotundi." In the upper part of the Mediterranean Sea is seen a Mermaid, below (fig. 11) is the island of Crete with its famous labyrinth, to the left of which is the rock Scylla. Below Crete is Sicily (fig. 15), on which Mount Etna is shown; close to Sicily is the whirlpool Charybdis.

XVII.—Part of Africa, in the lower part to the left on a promontory is seen Carthage; on the right the Leopard is shown.

XVIII.—Also part of Africa. The upper part is Fezzan, below is shown the basilisk, and still lower some Troglodytes or dwellers in caves.

XIX.—On the left hand are the British Isles (figs. 19, 20, 22,) on the right France. Great Britain (figs. 19, 20, 22) is very fully laid down, but of Ireland the author seemed to know but little. In England twenty-six cities and towns are delineated, among which Hereford (H'ford) is conspicuous. Twenty rivers are also seen, but the only mountains shown are the Clee Hills. In Wales, Snowdon is seen, and the towns of Carnarvon, Conway, and St. David's. In Ireland four towns, Armagh, Bangor, Dublin, and Kildare, with two rivers, the Banne, which, as shown, divides the island in two, and the Shannon. In Scotland there are six towns. In France the City of Paris (fig. 18) is conspicuous.

XX.—The upper part is Provence, the lower Spain. In the Mediterranean Sea are laid down, among others, the Islands of Corsica, Sardinia, Majorca, and Minorca. At the bottom are (fig. 16) the Pillars of Hercules (Gibraltar), which were considered the extreme western limits of the world.

XXI.—At the top to the left (fig. 13) is St. Augustine of Hippo, in his pontifical habit. And at the opposite corner the Lion, below which are the Agriophagi, a one-eyed people who live on the flesh of lions and other beasts. The kingdoms on the shore of the Mediterranean are Algiers, Setif, and Tangier.

C. J. L.

razed to the ground, and the materials used to make the walks and other improvements. On the opposite bank are to be seen the remains of the trench thrown up by the Scotch army in 1645, from which the bombardment of the bridge and castle took place. The guns surrounding the monument are those used in the defence of the City by Lord Scudamore, a memorial of the bitter strife. Mr. Pilley pointed out the sites of the various parts of the old castle, as shown by a copy of an old map, dated 1716, kindly supplied to him by the Rev. Prior Raynal, O.S.B., of Belmont.

This plan showed successively, commencing from the south-west corner of the defences, the following five gates : Fryars, Eigne, Wydmarsh, Byster, and St. Owen. Exclusive of the towers at the gates there were sixteen semicircular towers of defence projecting from the general contour of the walls. The Citadel or Castle was of a pentagonal form, surrounded by a pentagonal defensive wall, and on the site, now levelled, at the bottom of Quay street. The stone building with walls of enormous thickness, now occupied as a residence under the title of Castle Cliff, adjoining the School of Art, at the western entrance into the Castle Green, is considered by Mr. Pilley to have been the Residence of the Governor.

During the course of the day the following objects of local interest were on view, by the kind invitation and permission of their respective proprietors :—The chained library in the Vestry of All Saints' Church ; the ancient stalls in St. Peter's Church ; "The Old House" in the High Town, now occupied by Lloyds Banking Company ; the Roman Catholic Church of St. Xavier in Broad street ; the old mantel-piece in Mr. Sam Farmer's residence at No. 16, Widemarsh street ; the frescoes in the hall of the Free Library ; and the frescoes in the offices of Mr. Wallis at 133, St. Owen street ; concerning which Mr. Wallis writes :—"I think there is no doubt that the other six muses are behind the book cases covered, as these were, by paper. The outlines and the face of Euterpe were put in by Mrs. Wallis. We had some difficulty in christening *Urania*. The carving in this and the Clerk's office was much valued by the late Dr. Cam."

Shortly after 5 o'clock the Woolhope Club Room was reached, where the City insignia and some of the old charters were on view, and were explained by Mr. Carless, the Town Clerk, who contributed the following paper. Here also some rare and valuable books of local interest were exhibited by Mr. Walter Pilley their owner, and some Bishops' Acts Books under the charge of Mr. Beddoe were exhibited by him.

HEREFORD CITY INSIGNIA AND PLATE.

BY MR. JOSEPH CARLESS, TOWN CLERK OF HEREFORD.

This account of the Insignia and Plate of the City is partly taken from "Jewitt and Hope's Work on Corporation Plate and Insignia of Office of Cities and Corporate Towns of England and Wales," which was supplied by myself to the editors.

I propose to take the various pieces in the order of date of adoption and presentation instead of the order in which they are placed by Messrs. Jewitt and Hope.

THE STAVES AND BADGES.

Now supposing that we had asked permission in bygone days to see the plate and insignia in their proper resting place, and in conjunction with the governing body of which they were representative of power and government, we should approach a doorway under the old Townhall which stood in the middle of the High Town, before which doorway we should find standing, one on the right and the other on the left, two porters, each holding one of the silver-headed ebonized staves that you see here; each porter holding his staff crossways so as to prevent entry into the sacred precincts. Each porter was in uniform, and wore on one arm one of the silver badges now produced. These are, as will be seen, in shape of a shield, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches, having the arms (ancient) of the City in bold relief, but not being hall-marked no date can be absolutely specified.

There is, however, engraved on the back of the one the following words, "1583 Ex dono Majoris Thomas Davis," which at all events shows that one of them was presented during the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

The staves have the arms of the City engraved upon them, but there is no date mark. They are now borne before the Mace Bearers when the Corporation appear in procession.

Having succeeded in passing the porters and got into the room and the presence of the Council and their insignia, we will take the latter in the order of date.

THE SILVER MACES.

The four Silver Maces. These are all exactly alike, and are 25 inches in length. On the cushioned flat plate on the top of each, which is decorated with acanthus leaves in relief, are also in relief the Royal Arms, etc. Round the heads in four compartments, divided from each other by rude demi-figures terminating in foliage, are respectively the rose, thistle, harp, and fleur-de-lis, severally crowned, and between the initials "C. H. R." The shafts divided into two lengths by central knobs, are plain, and beneath the mace-heads are open work brackets. On the foot-knobs are engraved sprays of rose and thistle, and, on the bottom of all, the arms of the City on a plain shield. These four maces are said to have been presented to the City in the reign of Charles II. by the then Lord Chandos. The only mark is that of the maker, F.G., in a shield with a cinquefoil in base.

THE LARGER STATE SWORD.

The Larger Sword of State is known as the "Silver Sword," and is of very fine character. It is 52 inches in length, with a cross-guard of 12 inches and blade 37 inches. The hilt, pommel, and guard are of silver gilt, richly decorated. On the pommel are emblematical figures of Law and Justice in repoussé. The hilt is of spiral form; the guard with lion head terminations is richly foliated, and bears a rose on either side of each quillon. On each side of the blade, extending 10 inches upwards from the guard, was gilt damascened work, now almost obliterated, with date 1677; there are also roughly cut the letters S.A.H. A.C.V.M.

The sheath is of crimson velvet with silver gilt mountings in repoussé. On the locket at the mouth are on each side the Royal Arms within the garter, and crowned with supporters and motto; on the chape is acanthus foliage; and on the three intermediate bands are Tudor roses. This sword is said to have been given to the City by Mr. Paul Foley, M.P. for the City, and afterwards speaker of the House of Commons, but another version is that it was presented by the Duke of Beaufort in 1682.

THE STEEL SWORD.

The smaller sword is known as the "Steel Sword," and was formerly used on occasion of mourning. It is called the steel sword from the hilt and pommel being supposed to be of that metal; they are actually however of bronze or latten, with traces of the original gilding. The blade, which is $31\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, is not original, but may be Elizabethan. The quillons are flat and curved with curved ends. On one side is engraved "Maior Civitatis Herefordiae." The other side has a guilloche pattern. The pommel is heart-shaped, with on one side a shield of the Royal Arms, France Modern and England quarterly, and on the other side a shield of the old City Arms, "gules three lions passant gardant in pale argent." Both these shields have the spandrels filled with a rose and foliage, and were originally enamelled; slight traces of the colouring still remain. The rounded edges of the pommel have a guilloche pattern as on the quillons. The grip is of ebony, with a silver gilt scolloped and beaded band at each end of Elizabethan date. The pommel and hilt were until recently japanned black, thus obscuring much of the detail and workmanship. The sheath is covered with modern black velvet with gold lace bands, and has a silver gilt chape of Elizabethan date ending in scroll work, and engraved on one side with the City Arms, and on the other side with a Royal Arms. This sword appears to be of late fifteenth century date.

THE TOMLINS CUP.

The Tomlins silver Cup is a massive silver standing cup 13 inches in height without its cover, and weighing $7\frac{1}{2}$ ounces. It holds nearly a gallon. It is covered with acanthus foliage in repoussé, and bears in a medallion on one side the donor's arms and crest, and on the other side

the arms, etc., of the City of Hereford. Around the rim is engraved "Ex dono Thomas Tomlins Armigeri Civitati de Hereford, Anno Dom 1675." (The original cover is lost; the present one was purchased by subscription in 1882.) Hall marks on the cup 1675-76, maker's mark I.B. M.A., shield with a crescent between two pellets in base.

THE TWO GARDNER CANDLESTICKS.

The two massive silver Candlesticks are remarkable not only for their general form but for the size of their bases and sconces. They are of hexagonal form throughout. The base of each is no less than 9½ inches (from point to point), that of the sconces 5½ inches, and the entire height is 10 inches; the hole for the candle, like the rest, is hexagonal, and about 1½ inches in diameter. On the rim of the sconce of each candlestick are the initials "x. C. x H. x." On one side of the upper surface of the base is engraved: "The Guift of the Lord Fitz-Harding to Richard Gardner, D.D., Oxon," and on the opposite side: "The Guift of R. G. to the table of the Maior of ye City of Hereford successively." At one point of the hexagon, between these two inscriptions, are engraved on a plain shield, between conventional palm branches, the City Arms, and on the opposite point "A.D., 1609." Each of these fine old candlesticks weighs 30 ounces (Hall marks: London, 1666-7; maker's mark a crowned S. The sconces bear the London Hall marks for 1670-1; maker's mark W. H., in a shaped shield with cinquefoil in base). Dr. Gardner, the donor of the candlesticks to the City, was headmaster of the Cathedral School, and a classical author. The two ebony and silver-mounted pedestals for the candlesticks were presented to the Corporation by the present Mayor (Mr. W. J. Humfrys), on October 5th, 1895, during his first mayoralty.

THE CITY SEAL.

The City Seal is of silver, and is stated to have been given by Thomas Geers, Serjeant-at-Law. It is circular, 2¾ inches in diameter, and bears, within a wreath of laurel, the City Arms—gules three lions passant gardant in pale argent, within a bordure azure, charged with ten silver saltires. Crest, a lion passant gardant argent, holding in his dexter paw a sword erect proper, hilt and pommel or. Supporters, two lions rampant gardant argent, each gorged with a collar azure, charged with three buckles or. Motto: *Invictæ fidelitatis præmium*. The arms, crest, and supporters were granted to the City by Sir Edward Walker, Garter, in 1645.

It has always been stated that the seal is of the date of James II.'s reign, but I do not think so—I think it is a seal ordered to be cut in connection with the Charter of William and Mary. There was no need for one to be provided in the reign of James II. In that reign the enforced Charter of Charles II. was ignored, and the City governed under the provisions of the old Charter of James I. This view is emphasized by a resolution passed by the Council on July 15th, 1697,

which is as follows, viz., "That Mr. James Price on paying his fine of £25 presently shall have his lease sealed *as soon as ever the seal comes down*, which said £25 is to be returned to Mr. Mayor to help to defray his charges at London in soliciting a confirmation of the Charter." The Charter had in 1697 been granted, and in the natural course the seal would follow.

THE GOLD BADGE AND CHAIN.

The articles I have described constituted the only plate and insignia of the Corporation until the year 1876, when the Mayor's Gold Chain and Badge were presented to the then Mayor. The badge was given by Mr. Alderman Bosley, while the fifteen circular gold medallions and links were given by as many different gentlemen officially connected with the city and diocese. Each medallion has engraved on the back the name of the special donor. The medallions have crenelated edges, and each link is charged with an upright cross bar with trefoil termination. The cost of each medallion with connecting link was £9 9s. The central medallion imprint bears the city crest, a lion passant guardant with sword erection dexter paw. The medallions on either side bear the shield of the See of Hereford and the shield of the Dean and Chapter of Hereford. The remaining twelve medallions have modelled representations of the six distinctive products of the district, viz.:—The apple, the hop, the mistletoe, the pear (blossom), wheat, and the oak (acorn).

It is suggested that two more medallions should be added, one bearing the modelled head of an ox or bull, representative of our celebrated Herefordshire breed of cattle, and the other the model of a salmon, in affectionate memory of a good food once much appreciated by the citizens, but now almost extinct as far as the local supply is concerned.

THE CAM CUP.

The "Cam Cup" is a two-handled silver standing cup presented on October 27th, 1882, by the late Mr. Alderman Cam to the Corporation through the then Mayor, Mr. Alderman Llanwarne. Its ornamentation consists of six compartments, terminating in fleur-de-lis, four of which are filled with arabesque decoration and the other two—the central one on each side—with respectively the City Arms and those of the donor. The cup is 13 inches in height, and weighs 58 ounces, holding about 3 quarts. The cup was originally presented to Mr. Alderman Cam by Mr. G. W. S. Wyllie, who was returned as member for the city on November 17th, 1868, along with Mr. George Clive, after a most severe and prolonged political campaign. There was a connection between the Cam and Wyllie families, and Alderman Cam was Mr. Wyllie's chief supporter and nominator. Mr. Wyllie was a distinguished Indian civil servant, and was appointed Under-Secretary to the Indian Government in 1866. Messrs. Clive and Wyllie were unseated in the following March, and when Mr. Wyllie died in Paris twelve months afterwards, it was said at the time that his bad state of health was much aggravated by disappointment at the loss of the seat.

36TH HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT CUP.

On December 11th, 1894, the Colours of the old Herefordshire Regiment, late 36th, now, and then represented by the 2nd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment, were laid up in Hereford Cathedral with an appropriate ceremonial, and subsequently the Mayor (Mr. Humfrys), entertained the Officers of the Regiment at luncheon, and invited the Officers of the Herefordshire Militia Regiment and of the Volunteers, as well as the members of the Corporation, and a large number of representative guests from the City and County to meet them. Some time afterwards a silver two-handled cup was presented to the Corporation, through the Mayor, bearing the City Arms and the following inscription: "Presented to the Mayor and Corporation of the City of Hereford by the officers 2nd Worcestershire Regiment (late 36th Herefordshire Regiment) on the occasion of the laying up of the old Colours in the Cathedral on December 11th, 1894."

THE ROSE WATER DISH AND EWER.

The year 1897 was the Diamond Jubilee year of Queen Victoria, and Mr. Alderman Llanwarne was the "Diamond Jubilee" Mayor, and on July 30th, 1897, he presented to the Corporation a most elegant silver gilt and chased rose water dish and ewer. On the ewer is engraved the City Arms, and on the dish the City Crest and the donor's crest. The following inscription is engraved on the dish: "Presented to the Corporation of the City of Hereford by Alderman Thomas Llanwarne. Mayor 1871 - 1882 - 1897 — Diamond Jubilee (60th) year of Queen Victoria." The Hall marks date of the cover is 1795, and that of the rose water dish 1797. Accompanying the presentation was a letter, of which the following is a copy:—"Norfolk Place, Hereford. Dear Mr. Town Clerk,—I am writing to offer through you to the Corporation of Hereford for their acceptance and use the accompanying silver gilt rose water dish and ewer. I should be sorry if amongst our City Plate we possessed nothing to remind us of this record year of our monarchy and its institutions, the Diamond Jubilee Year of the reign of our much loved Queen Victoria, and as we have on two somewhat recent occasions been presented with extra tankards to pass the flowing bowl, it seems only fair that the present addition to our plate should take the form of a vessel appropriated for the circulation of water though it may only be intended for our finger tips and not for our palates.—Believe me, yours very truly, Thomas Llanwarne. July 30th, 1897."

HEREFORD FRIENDLY SOCIETY'S CUP.

A Three-handled Silver Cup was presented through Mr. Alderman Bosley to the Corporation on February 6th, 1900. It was formerly the property of the Hereford Friendly Society, which was constituted on March 25th, 1766, and dissolved in the year 1899. The membership was limited to 81 in number, and to householders resident in the City

or within seven miles thereof. No person could be admitted a member under the age of 21 years or above 40 years. The cup has decorations representing apples, pears, hops, and wheat, and was subscribed for by the members in commemoration of the Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign.

The Corporation thus possess amongst their plate a memorial both of the Jubilee and Diamond Jubilee of her Most Gracious Majesty.

I have now completed a description of the whole of the plate at present belonging to the City. There are, however, two silver seals in my possession which formerly belonged to the late Mr. E. G. Wright, the owner of the "Hereford Journal," and passed from him to the late Mr. Alderman Cam, from whose widow they came into my hands.

STATUTE MERCHANT SEAL.

The first is a Silver Seal of the reign of Edward I. called the "Statute Merchant Seal." It is of the same type as those of Bristol, Lincoln, etc. It is $1\frac{11}{16}$ inch diameter, and bears the King's crest with a lion of England in base between two triple towered castles, the one surmounted by a star and the other by a crescent. Legend:—* S'EDW REG' ANGL' AD RECOGN' DEBITOR' APD' Hereford. The affixing of this seal of the Sovereign to a bond of record under the hand of the debtor made such bond indefeasible on default, and execution could be awarded thereon without any further process.

BAILIFFS' SEAL.

The other circular silver seal is that of the Bailiffs of the City (the chief citizens before the constitution of a Mayor, the first Mayor being in 1382). The seal is $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, an early example of the 14th century. It bears the shield of the old City Arms within an octofoil and incurved sides. * S' BALLIOUORUM CIVITATIS HEREFORDIÆ.

CHARTERS.

I have had a few of the larger Charters here for inspection. They are chiefly interesting in respect of illumination lettering and engrossment.

There are several Charters granting rights and privileges to the City, and granted in the reigns of the following monarchs, viz.:—Richard I. in 1189. John, Henry III., Edward II., Richard II., Henry IV., Edward IV., Elizabeth, James I., Charles II., William and Mary, and William III.

The last named but one, viz.:—A grant to hold an Easter fair, made in the time of William and Mary, is the most interesting owing to the rarity and perfection of the seal.

Some years ago Mr. Allen Wyon, the Chief Engraver of her Majesty's Seals, visited this City and inspected the seal I have referred to. Mr. Wyon says in a letter to me:—"It is the earliest good impression of this particular seal that I have met with, the impressions

of which are comparatively rare, although I have met with others at Gloucester, and in the Diocesan Registry of your City since seeing you. Your impression is by far the most perfect, and hence the most valuable." The following is Mr. Wyon's description of this valuable possession of Hereford:—

"Description of Great Seal attached to a Royal Charter dated April 5th, 1690, in the possession of the City of Hereford.—The King and Queen both seated, the former on the dexter side, and the latter on the sinister; front view of both figures, which are both turned slightly outwards, but the heads of both slightly inwards. Both are crowned, and both rest their feet upon tasseled cushions. The left hand of the King and the right hand of the Queen both rest upon a large orb surmounted by a cross which is placed upon a pedestal in the centre. The King wears the Collar of the Garter, and holds in his right hand a sword. In the left hand of the Queen is a sceptre. In the upper centre (between the heads of the King and Queen) within a scroll, is a shield bearing the Royal Arms, surrounded by the Garter, and ensigned with the Royal Crown. The Crown is in front of a fringed canopy from which curtains fall, expanding on either side above the heads of the two Sovereigns. On the dexter side of the King is a lion sejant rampant guardant supporting a spear from the top of which flows a long pennant in many folds, on the front fold of which is the Cross of St. George. On the sinister side of the Queen is another lion holding spear bearing pennant similar to that by the side of the King, but the position of the lion and that of the pennant is reversed. This lion is crowned. Legend—**GULIELMUS III. ET MARY II. DEI GRA. ANG FRA ET HIB REX ET REGINA FIDEI DEFENSORES**, etc. Counterseal. The King and Queen on horseback prancing to the right. The King in Roman armour, his face in profile, head uncovered, with long hair flowing down his back; holding in his right hand a short sword, inclined downwards. The horse has saddlecloth and straps passing over its hind quarters, one along the middle of its back, another half-way down its flanks, both meeting at the tail. From the back strap hang three long straps flying to the rear. The Queen, slightly in advance of the King, has her head turned three-quarters backwards, looking towards the King. In base below the bodies of the horses is a view of London, the Thames, Southwark, and the bridge crossing the river. Legend—**GULIELM III. ET MARIA II. DEI GRA ANG FRA ET HIB REX ET REGINA FIDEI DEFENSORES**, etc."

SOME INCIDENTS IN HEREFORD LIFE TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

BY MR. JOSEPH CARLESS, TOWN CLERK.

A short time ago I was looking through some of the old City papers, and in doing so came across a draft Corporation Minute Book, commencing January 24th, 1693, being the fifth year of the reign of William and Mary.

A large number of the earlier records of City proceedings previous to the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1835, are wanting, owing to the fact that the old unreformed Corporation—there being then no Historical MSS. Commission to jog them up to their duties—allowed the city documents to be left at the disposal of a caretaker, named Esther Garnstone, who, considering that her private interests were of more importance than those attaching to her official position, took such particular care of the documents that she disposed of a large number of them to William Benians, a grocer in the City, to be used by him for wrapping up his sales of soap, bacon, and other business commodities. However, at the Hereford Spring Assizes in 1830 Baron Bolland seems to have failed to appreciate the zeal shown by Mrs. Garnstone in the discharge of her duties, and sentenced her to two months' imprisonment.

I made a good many extracts from this book, and thought that perhaps a paper embracing a few of them might not be unsuitable for reading to the members of the Woolhope Club at this meeting in our ancient city.

CALENDAR.

In starting upon this search, and finding the date of the first entry January 24th, 1693, I was surprised to find that at meetings in April and thereafter, inclusive of the following March, the date of the year was stated to be 1694. At first I was puzzled about this, but then it occurred to me that before the existing calendar the year began on March 25th, and on reference I found that this old reckoning existed till the year 1752, an Act having been passed in 1751 (24 Geo. II.) for regulating the commencement of the year and for correcting the calendar then in use.

By this Act the year 1751 was shortened by nearly three months, and the commencement of the year 1752 and all subsequent years was fixed according to our present calendar on January 1st.

The great mass of the entries in the transactions of the old Corporation are (1) the granting of leases of lands and houses and (2) the admission of Freemen.

Most of the property which belonged to the Corporation in the old days has now been disposed of, and the admission of Freeman has been a reducing quantity since the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1835.

CITY PLATE.

The first resolution to which I wish to call your attention is dated November 8th, 1694, and refers to a custom which still exists, viz., that of a new Mayor on entering office taking over the custody from the retiring Mayor of the city silver and valuables which were to be retained by him during his term of office.

The City plate in 1694 consisted of—

The embossed loving cup, now in use at Mayor's banquets, presented by Thomas Tomlins in the year 1675.

Four silver maces, presented by Lord Chandos, Chief Steward of the city.

Two silver candlesticks, presented in 1669 by Dr. Richard Gardiner (headmaster of the Cathedral School) which had previously been presented to him by Lord Fitzhardinge.

The large State sword now used in procession, which was no doubt presented in 1677 by Mr. Paul Foley, member for the city and afterwards Speaker of the House of Commons.

Another sword of the Early Tudor period, the history of which is unknown.

Two Silver Badges, with the Arms of the City, worn by the porters, of the date of Queen Elizabeth.

The above have been largely added to of recent years.

The resolution, as before stated, is dated November 8th, 1694, and is as follows, viz.:—

"That Mr. Mayor do send one of his assistants to demand and receive into his custody the City's goods which yet remain in Mr. John Williams's, jun., custody ever since he was Mayor and undelivered up."

Of course, these articles are very valuable, and the Mayors are very particular as to their being kept in safe custody. A short anecdote will illustrate this:—

The late lord Saye and Sele was a master of courtesy, and during his long residence in Hereford was very punctilious in his custom of calling upon the new Mayor as soon as possible after election.

Nearly 40 years ago his lordship was making one of these calls on a bachelor Mayor residing over the bridge. The noble lord's knock was answered by a middle-aged housekeeper and general domestic, who said that his worship was not at home, and on his lordship expressing regret, she asked him if he would like to come in and see the valuables. Lord Saye said that he would much like to, and was accordingly ushered into the sitting-room, and shortly afterwards the lady returned with the swords and silver, which were inspected by the visitor, who, after expressing admiration and saying how valuable the articles were, said "Of course, you have to be very careful about keeping such valuables," was answered "Oh, yes, to be sure: we keeps them under the master's bed."

SCAVENGERS.

In the good old days of William and Mary it is quite clear that the Corporation possessed no power to rate for sanitary purposes, and that apart from any arrangement that might be made between neighbouring citizens each man was to be his own scavenger, witness the following resolutions:—

"That there may be scavenger for this city at £8 per annum, and that the Common Councillors (under-mentioned) do solicit a subscription in their respective wards for the payment of the same."

The foregoing system does not, however, seem to have been a success, as in November, 1697, it was resolved:—

"That Mr. James Lane and Mr. Adam Wiggins" (two members of the Corporation) "undertaking to carry away all the dung and dirt out of all the streets within the walls of the City, they shall have £15 a year as scavengers for doing the same."

WARDS.

Mention was made in the past resolution about scavenging of the wards of the City, and it may be of interest to state that the names of the wards were "Wye Bridge," Widemarsh (spelt Wigmarsh), Bysters, and St. Owen.

SEATS IN CATHEDRAL.

The next subject of interest in the Minute Book is dated November 29th, 1694, and shows that our citizen predecessors had much the same weaknesses as we have now, as exhibited by a common desire to occupy the chief places in the synagogue. It seems that the Dean and Chapter then did what they now fail to do, viz., reserved for the members of the Corporation and their families seats in the Cathedral, the Corporation and their families being expected to attend service on Sunday mornings, and that outsiders aspired to the privileged enclosure or front seats. The resolution showing this runs: "That the porters take it by turns every Sunday to wait at Mr. Mayor's seat door in the minster church (to keep all people out but the Common Councillors' wives and children), and upon neglect thereof to be suspended."

The seats referred to must have been in the north or south transepts, the screen with the organ over it then including, as it does not now, both those transepts, and the nave never then being used for divine service.

DEATH OF MARY.

On December 28th, 1694, Queen Mary died, and at a meeting of the Council on January 21st, 1694, the following address was adopted, and ordered to be sent to Mr. Paul Foley "to take whom he please along with him to deliver the same to His Majesty."

The address reads as follows:—

"To His Most Serene Majesty William the Third, by the Grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, the true defender of the Christian faith.

"The humble address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of your Majesty's loyal City of Hereford.

"Great Sir,—We do most heartily condole the death of your Majesty's Royal Consort, our late dread Sovereign Lady, of ever blessed memory, the remembrance of whom still adds a weight to our loss, but that we know that her virtues are enumerated in your most sacred person, whom God preserve under the shadow of His wing in health and safety. We crave leave to assure your Majesty that we are ready to stake our lives and fortunes in support of your Majesty's Government against all your enemies whosoever, and that your Majesty's reign may be long and prosperous, your sword victorious, like the first of your Royal name, and may you also subdue the hearts of all your enemies, shall be the prayer of your Majesty's most obedient and loyal subjects and servants."

From this address we may adduce that whatever may have been the enthusiastic loyalty of the citizens to the Stuart cause, which earned for them the motto to their arms "Invictæ Fidelitatis Præmium," the experiences under Charles II., who took away their charter, granted by James I., and during the reign of James II. had transferred that loyalty to the new dynasty.

WATCHMEN.

An amusing resolution was passed on June 5th, 1695, which makes it quite clear that the Corporation rendered their officers summary justice, and in a manner which the present Council would hesitate to adopt towards their employés. What the beadle had done or left undone is not disclosed, but the punishment proposed was drastic, because it was decided "That the beadle be discharged and their clothes stripped off their backs if they do not do their duty better henceforth."

The beadles referred to were, I believe, the "Watchmen" appointed by the several wards to "keep watch and ward" throughout the city within the walls and who patrolled the streets at night, proclaiming the time and the state of the weather. They were the predecessors of the present police force. Watch and ward was first established in the City of London, on the principle that all districts must combine for their own protection. Several statutes extended the duties of the watchmen, which provided that they should carry rattles, staves, and lanterns, and that they should, as loudly and audibly as possible, proclaim the time of the night and morning on their beats, and see that all doors were safe and well secured, and apprehend all disorderly persons and deliver them to the proper authority. I have a coloured print of a watchman in my office, and one day Sir Edward Cockburn was up there, and looking at it said, "Hullo, you have got a picture of an old Charley." I said "I didn't know they were called Charlies. Of course, the nickname of Bobby and Peeler for our present policemen is historic after Sir Robert Peel." "Ah," said Sir Edward, "I know that, but the name Charley is prehistoric."

I see from Dr. Johnson that Lord Bacon refers to the watchman's duties when he says "Turn him into the London streets that the watchman might carry him before a justice," and that Swift, with reference to the monotonous way in which the time of night was proclaimed, refers to "The melancholy tone of a watchman at midnight."

By a local Act of Parliament (56 Geo. III., c. 23), passed in 1814, the Paving and Lighting Commissioners were authorised to appoint watchmen for the city, and to make a rate for watching not exceeding 6d. in the £. This rate continued until the passing of the M. C. A., 1835, under which latter Act a separate rate called a watch rate was made to meet the cost of the police force. Some few years ago it was found that the expenses of the police force could properly be made a charge on the borough fund or rate, and so the making of a separate watch rate was discontinued.

WATER SUPPLY.

It is astonishing how true is the statement that "history repeats itself," but that it does so is shown by the fact that in January, 1695, the Common Council were exercised in their minds about the water supply of the city, just as now the citizens are exercised on the pollution of the Wye; with the difference, however, that now we have a public water supply, while at that time the city was dependent upon the public pumps, and for domestic use most of the houses were provided with a supply from their own wells. The resolution of the Council on this subject is as follows, viz. :—

"That this House thinks that waterworks, as pipes, engines, cisterns, &c., may be erected or set up for conducting, conveying, carrying, or bringing up of the Wye water to the inhabitants of the said city for the common good and benefit of the same, which engine or waterworks is to be set up at the Castle Mills or other place where this House shall appoint, and that Mr. Ambrose Crowley and Mr. Edward Dyson, who are here present to undertake the same, have the offer of doing it before any other person, upon such terms, covenants, and agreements Mr. Dobbins (the Chief Steward's deputy) shall think convenient, for the term of one and twenty years, or three lives, to be renewed as often as the undertakers shall require at 6d. fine two shillings and sixpence and a couple of capons yearly rent; one cistern for the said works to be erected at St. Peter's Cross and any other cistern for the better carrying on the said works to be set up where this House shall appoint."

The above resolution seems never to have been acted upon, as I find no further reference to the subject, but two points as to places named in it occur to me. The first is that the Castle Mills occupied the site around the main entrance gates to the Infirmary, the Mill Pool occupied the space now taken into the Castle Green grounds facing Mill street nearly up to the end of the Castle Pool, and the other relates to the reference to St. Peter's Cross. This was an ancient cross opposite to

the Church. I suppose that the Cross itself fell into disrepair and its site was occupied as a guard house for watchmen, which guard house was afterwards removed, and in 1804 an octagonal building for the use of a public weighing machine was erected in its place. Shortly, however, after the completion of the existing cattle markets, it was found necessary to have the weighing machine in that neighbourhood, and so the last building on the site of the ancient cross disappeared. The site of the Cross may be taken to be near that of the gas lamp in the open space in front of St. Peter's Church and the Shirehall.

I have in my possession a picture of the Castle Mill, and also of the old machine house, both of which I well remember.

CURRENCY.

The subject of the next resolution is the state of the currency of the period which is very fully dealt with by Macaulay, and who explains the depreciation in the currency of the "old hammered coin" by clipping and the improper dealing with the new currency, established in 1695, and it was to meet the depreciation in value of the old currency that the "Window Tax" owed its origin. The Window Tax subsequently became a War Tax, and was continued as late as the year 1851, in which year the House Duty was imposed.

The resolution is dated November 10th, 1696, and resolves "That Mr. Lane do write a letter for Mr. Mayor to put his hand to our Parliament men for this City that the old unclipped hammered money may pass by tale until we have new money."

The state of the currency and the enormous proportion of the depreciation is further enforced by a resolution dated December 10th, 1696, which is as follows, viz. :—

"Whereas Mr. Bainham, senior Chamberlain of this City, the last year received the City's rent by tale (number), and there remaining in the said Chamberlain's hands the sum of £46 10s. 5d. as due to the City to balance his accounts, which sum by weight in silver and in guineas as they now go at 22s. each, and he having received eleven at 30s. each comes but to £38 1s. 7½d., the shortness of the silver by weight and loss of guineas, amounting to £8 8s. 9½d. which is allowed the said Chamberlain upon his accounts, and Mr. Lane now present senior Chamberlain, to be accountable for the said sum of £38 8s. 7½d. when delivered unto him by the said Mr. Bainham, who is hereby ordered so to do."

SALE OF BREAD.

The cause of the next resolution is rather obscure, but at all events it shows the paternal manner in which the City was governed and the control exercised by the Common Council. I presume that it is one which could be legally made, as I see no protests were made against it.

There existed in the City a "Bakers' Guild," whose Charter of Incorporation was dated March 1st, 44 Eliz.; and it is possible that the resolution was recommended to the Council by that Guild. Here is the resolution, viz. :—

"That the Bakers of this City shall make their household bread only in 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d. or 12d. loaves, which are to bear weight proportionately in size to the 1d. loaf, and to put the baker's name and price on each loaf."

Is it possible that this resolution with reference to the bakers' trade had in anticipation the principle with reference to grocers of a later period, when proceedings would be instituted to decide the legality of weighing the paper in with what was recognised as a half pound of tea?

THE FREE BUCKS.

It is a well-known fact that "civic fathers" are, rightfully or wrongfully, charged with a weakness for good living, and it appears that the same weakness prevailed in the reign of William III., just as it does (if true), now, the only difference between the civic fathers then and now being that while formerly the cost was payable out of the City chest it now comes out of the Mayor's pocket. What seems to have given rise to the official dinners of the old Common Council was the custom of the Chief Steward for the time being to present annually a buck to the Corporation, and hence the Corporate feasts were called by the name of "Free Bucks."

The following resolutions have reference to these dinners, viz. :— August 11th, 1697. "That the free buck be eaten on Monday next, at the TowlSEND, and the Chamberlain do provide the same at the City's charge, and none to be invited but my Lord Coningsby and two Parliament men of this city."

July 26th, 1698. "That the free buck be eaten at the Tolsey, and that the High Steward, the Lord Chandos and his son, Mr. Foley, Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Sergeant Geers be invited, and that no members of the Common Council invite or bring any other person along with him."

September 10th, 1700. "That the buck which the High Steward presented the City be eaten on Monday next, at Mr. Carwardine's house, that Mrs. Mayoress and the Common Councillors' wives be entertained likewise that day at Mr. Mayor's house. That Mr. Carwardine shall have £5 added to the Lord Coningsby's £5, besides the keeper's fee, and wine for making the entertainment and sending a pasty to Mrs. Mayoress."

July 15th, 1706. "That a free buck be eaten on the first Monday in August, at the election of the new Mayor, and that the Chamberlains take care to provide the same at the City's charge."

October 3rd, 1706. "That Mr. Jonah Taylor, Mr. Alderne, Mr. Lane, and Mr. Thomas Bayley, or any three of them do wait upon the Lord Coningsby (?) at Hampton Court) to return his lordship thanks for

his venison and wine at the eating of the free buck, and to acquaint his lordship of altering the markets, and to desire his lordship's assistance therein."

Reference is made in one of the resolutions to the "Tolsey." This was a stone building at the west end of Bye-street, opposite to where King and Sons' establishment now stands. Rees, in his Hereford Guide Book, says that "it had chambers above and a small dwelling-house at each end. The chest belonging to the Corporation used formerly to be kept there, but in consequence of its being stolen therefrom and the building being in a state of decay, it was taken down."

With reference to the above quoted resolutions, it may be observed that, at all events, on one occasion the Mayoress and the ladies of the Common Councillors families were not ignored in the festivities, and thereby an ancient precedent is provided for the occasional innovation of recent years of a "Mayor's Ball."

Although it does not come within the scope of what took place 200 years ago, I cannot help here quoting from portions of a report dated February 23rd, 1838, of a committee of the new Corporation, which in the budding authority and importance of that body, egotistically compares the then state of affairs with that which existed under the old regime. The style is rather Johnsonian. The report says as follows, viz.:-

"The Committee believe that the Town Council have no other object in the performance of their official duties than that of a faithful administration of those means which may appear to them as best calculated to promote the independence, the prosperity, and the happiness of all classes of their fellow-citizens; therefore, so far from shunning the light of publicity, the committee feel that the Council are desirous that their proceedings should be open to the public eye, not supposing that any person, except, indeed, the mere tool of party, will either misrepresent their deeds or calumniate their instructions." This last sentence refers to the meetings of the old Corporation having been held in secret.

The report then goes on:—"It remains, therefore, to inquire what sum is expended by the Town Council, and for what purposes, and this inquiry will afford data for the comparison between the operation of the old system under the Charter and that of the new system under the Municipal Corporations Act, when they (the Town Council) entered upon their duties on January 1st, 1836, and found a balance in their favour of 10s. 6d."

From further explanations in the report, this balance of 10s. 6d. was mortgaged to pay upwards of £50, which was subsequently met by the new Council. The report then goes on:—"Under the head of casual disbursements is a sum of £32 16s. 9d. paid to Mr. Dimery for a Sessions dinner, and here it may be well to observe the difference between the old and new Corporation dinner; the new Corporation have as strong a desire to meet their fellow-citizens at the convivial board on 'days of rejoicings' as had their predecessors, but on these occasions

the new body have defrayed their expenses from their own private purses, whereas it was the usage of the old body on 'days of rejoicing' to dine together at the expense of the borough fund."

MARKETS.

We Herefordians are naturally proud of our Markets in consequence of their size and importance, and for the substantial income that they bring into the city exchequer, but 200 years ago, when Hereford was, I suppose, proportionately, a more important place than it now is, the markets were nothing to be particularly proud of, as by a resolution passed on September 8th, 1697, it was resolved "That the tolls of the market be granted to William Snead, the present tenant, for the term of 21 years, at the annual rent of £45."

It seems that the tolls of the market so let only included tolls collectable in the streets, where the markets were then held, and so held up to the year 1856, viz.:—For cattle, sheep, and pigs, in King street and Aubrey street; and for poultry and butter, &c., at the west end of the old Townhall, known as the "High Cross." The tolls of the Market House, where the corn, hop, and grain market was held, were retained in the hands of the Council, as by a resolution dated December 20th, 1706, it was decided "That the toll gatherer do gather the toll throughout all the Market House for the time to come, and that Mr. Mayor do acquaint him thereof."

CITY WALLS.

I expect that only a few here to-day know anything about the old city walls. As an old border town, Hereford had to be defended against the raids of the Welsh, and though the statement that the walling was done by King Athelstan, and the subsequent rebuilding by King Harold in 1055 may be open to question, at all events the work was done, if not before, during the period shortly following the Norman conquest.

Quoting Mr. Rees, "They were when perfect 1,800 yards in extent and 16 feet in height, having 16 projecting semi-circular watch towers, with embrasures in the form of crosses, for observation and the discharge of arrows against assailants. The entrance into the city through the walls was by means of six gates, whose names and situations were Wye Bridge Gate, southward; Friars and Eign Gates, westward; Widemarsh Gate, northward; Bye Street and St. Owen's Gate, eastward."

The gates were all taken down, as it was then stated, in order to improve the thoroughfares, Wye Bridge and Friars Gates in 1782, St. Owen's in 1786, Eign in 1787, and Bye-street and Widemarsh in 1798. If the wall and gates had been allowed to stand for about another 80 or 100 years they would have come under the provisions of the "Ancient Monuments Protection Act, 1882," and been properly maintained for ever hereafter; at all events, if the existing Corporation, when they removed the hybrid rotten old plaster building called the

Town-hall and Market House in 1858, were entitled to be, as they freely were, charged with vandalism, the old Corporation who destroyed these old quaint stone structures should in justice have stronger language applied to them.

The foregoing few remarks are occasioned by reading a resolution dated July 18th, 1698, which resolves "That whosoever shall carry away any of the stone of the City wall shall pay for every stone so carried away 1s. and it be left to the judgment of this House whether he shall be disfranchised or not."

The last resolution seems to express the view of the Council more with reference to the value of the stone than the preservation of the walls, as shown by a resolution of September 10th, 1700, when it was resolved "That the pound at Eign Gate be forthwith repaired with stone of the City wall, as Mr. Mayor, Mr. Lane, Mr. Justice Wadeley, Mr. Price, Mr. Church, or any three of them, shall direct."

CITY POUND.

It is interesting to know where the old City Pound was situate. There is no information to be found when it was discontinued, but after its closure, I think I am right in saying, that the only pound in use was that of the Bishop, which was situate in Gwynne-street, and which was only done away with within the last thirty years.

At the present time traces of the old City wall may be seen in Wall-street, at the back of Cresswell's slaughter-houses, at the bottom of West-street, near Victoria-street, and at the back of some of the houses in Bridge-street; which last portion can be seen by those going from the Friars towards the Rowing Club Boat House.

COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS.

It is considered an honour to be a member of the governing body of the City, but at the same time, in modern instances the honour—if honour is equal to duty—sits rather lightly on some of the members, as may be seen by the annual record of attendances at meetings of the Council and Committees. This easy acceptance of honour, without corresponding work, was not 200 years ago approved by the governing body, as shown by the following resolution, viz. :—

October 6th, 1699. "That every Common Councillor that shall not appear at the Guildhall at such times as the Mayor shall appoint and notice given by the serjeants shall pay 2s. 6d. for each default, unless he can show some reasonable cause to be allowed by the Mayor."

September 13th, 1700. "That all and every person and persons of the Common Council that do not appear at Christmas next in their gowns, according to the ancient custom, or pay the sum of £5 to the sword bearer upon demand for the use of the city, be forthwith discharged from their said offices."

December 3rd, 1700. "That every Common Councilman attend Mr. Mayor in the Market House every Sunday in their gowns to church, or pay 1s. for such default, without a lawful excuse to be allowed by the Mayor."

September 3rd, 1703. "Memdem, that George Parry and John Went served Mr. John Phillips, the 2nd instant with a true copy of the bye-law in reference to elections of Common Councillors, and gave him notice of a Common Council meeting at the Guildhall this day, at two of the clock this afternoon, at which time and place he did not attend."

April 5th, 1705. "Mr. Philip Scandrett, a member of this House, appearing upon the call of this House, and withdrawing himself therefrom without leave, whereby this House could not proceed with any business for a considerable time for want of a sufficient number to make an House to act, and Mr. Mayor sending for the said Mr. Scandrett, upon his freeman's oath, to attend the House, and he, refusing or neglecting to come, ordered that the said Mr. Scandrett be fined 2s. 6d. for that his neglect or contempt, and that he pay it into the hands of the sword bearer for the Mayor's use."

That the old Corporation had a very good estimate of the dignity attaching to their position is found by the reverence in which apparently the official dress was held. In those days, and until the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1835, the Common Councillors and the Aldermen wore murrey gowns.

A resolution showing this, is dated February 21st, 1700, and resolves,—"That Mr. William Mathews, one of the members of this House, for refusing to obey an order of Common Council, requiring him, amongst others, to appear in a gown at Christmas last, and for refusing to pay the sum of £5, pursuant to the said order, and declaring that he never would wear a gown, and that he was contented to be discharged from the Common Council if he might be discharged as of his own request, be accordingly discharged."

It seems that after such discharge Mr. Mathews again appeared at a meeting held on August 1st, 1701, with the result of an entry on the minutes as follows, viz. :—"Whereas, Mr. William Mathews, by an order of Common Council on February 21st last, was discharged the Common Council, yet the said Mr. Mathews, without any summons, came into the Common Council, being the day for electing a new Mayor, and the freeman's oath being read over to him and the order whereby he was discharged, Mr. Mayor commanded him, upon his freeman's oath, to depart the Common Council, and Mr. Mathews thereupon declared that he would not depart. It is, therefore ordered that the serjeants of this City forthwith remove him out of the Council House for disobeying the said order."

Here is another instance of refusal of service, dated July 12th, 1702:—"Mr. John Ravenhill answered unto Mr. Hanbury when he demanded the sum of £20 for his refusal of being sworn a member of the Common Council, that he would not pay it, neither would he

impoverish his children to do it," thereupon it was resolved :—" That Mr. Dobyns, Mr. Wellington, and Mr. Lane inspect the Charter, and advise, if they think fit, upon it, about bringing an action against Mr. Ravenhill for refusing the Common Councilman's oath." On August 24th following it seems Mr. Ravenhill had to cave in, as in the minutes is entered " Memorandum, that Mr John Ravenhill, at his request, for refusing to accept the office of a Common Councilman, paid to the Chamberlain for the use of the city £10 in full discharge of his fine of £20."

BISHOP'S REGISTRAR.

By a resolution of June 3rd, 1700, we have a reference to the Bishop's Registrar, an office now held by Mr. Beresford Atlay with Mr. Beddoe as his Deputy, and by the resolution it was decided " That Mr. Gilbert Horne, Registrar to the Lord Bishop of this Diocese, be made free of this city, giving a treat to the Mayor and Common Council." I do not think that this resolution would have been passed had not the Corporation had a knowledge that the ecclesiastical officials had an equal appreciation with themselves of good living, but notwithstanding what we all know of Mr. Beddoe's hospitality, I doubt very much whether, however he may exercise it nowadays, it would be productive of the same results as in the case of Mr. Horne.

FLAX GROWING.

Flax growing is, I believe, discontinued in this county, but 200 years ago this was not so. Flax grown in the district seems to have been brought into the city for dressing, and this indiscriminate dressing, or drying, was evidently the cause of fires in the city, and the paternal government of the day very properly passed, on July 20th, 1700, a resolution to the effect : " That no flax or hemp shall for the future—the better to prevent the danger of fire—be dressed or dried within the walls of the city, except in such places as shall be allowed by the Mayor and Common Council, under the penalty of £5 for every offence."

PEACE OF RYSWICK.

Before coming to the conclusion of this paper, I wish to call your attention back to the year 1697. The war in the Low Countries was still continuing, and in the early part of that year William went over to Holland, and although no absolute advantage seems to have been gained by one side over the other, yet what advantages there were were probably in favour of France. However both sides had had enough of it, and possibly France was the more in need of rest, but, at all events, on September 20th, 1697, the war was terminated by the Peace of Ryswick. By it Louis XIV., who had been supporting the claims of King James, acknowledged those of King William. Another important event occurred in 1697, and that was the opening of St. Paul's Cathedral. I find no reference either to the Peace of Ryswick or the opening of St. Paul's

in the Minute Book, but I want to quote a letter which I think will interest you written to *The Times* of September 10th, 1897, which refers to the fact of that year being the bi-centenary of the Peace of Ryswick and of the opening of St. Paul's, as well as being the one of the glorious " Diamond Jubilee."

The letter is as follows :—

" During the present year the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the 1,300th anniversary of the landing of St. Augustine have been celebrated, and before 1897 closes we shall have passed the 200th anniversary of another event of national importance and specially interesting to Londoners. December 2nd will be the bicentenary of the opening of St. Paul's Cathedral for public worship. On September 16th, 1697, King William III. made a triumphant entry into London on his return from Holland after the conclusion of the peace of Ryswick, which put an end for a time to the struggle between England and France.

Macaulay has described the King's progress from Greenwich through Southwark and the City to Whitehall, in a passage worth reading as affording a parallel and a contrast to Queen Victoria's progress in a reverse direction last summer.

A few hours after the King's arrival at Whitehall, it was decided by the Council to set apart December 2nd as a day of thanksgiving for the peace, and the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's determined to use the occasion for opening their new Cathedral. King William proposed to be present, but when it was pointed out to him that if he went to St. Paul's the people would crowd the streets instead of the churches he gave up the idea, though his absence does not seem to have lessened the solemnity of the opening.

The attendance at St. Paul's was, in Macaulay's phrase, numerous and splendid. The Bishop (Henry Compton) preached. The sermon has been lost, but we know the text, 'I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the House of the Lord,' and from this text Macaulay has evolved a summary of the sermon probably more brilliant than the Bishop's discourse.

The coming anniversary will, we hope, be celebrated in a fitting manner, and the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's are no doubt making the necessary arrangements. It is an interesting coincidence that the present Bishop of Ely is a great-great-great-nephew of the Bishop of London of 1697."

The maintenance of the Peace of Ryswick was, however, not to be for long, as on September 16th, 1701, James II. died at St. Germains, and three days after Louis XIV. received the Pretender and recognised his claims to the throne of England. The action of Louis of course abrogated the treaty, and broke his solemn promise and undertaking. The news of this treacherous behaviour on the part of the French Monarch was received throughout the country with consternation and indignation. The Citizens of London at once addressed the King, expressing their resolution to stand by the King in the defence of his

person and just rights, and similar addresses soon poured in from all parts of the kingdom, and amongst others was one from our ancient city.

The address was adopted at a meeting of the Council held on November 4th, 1701, and the minute thereon is as follows, viz. :—

"That the address now agreed upon to be presented to his Majesty be sent to the Lord High Steward, with a request to him that he will take the city representatives in Parliament along with him when it is delivered to the King, and that the common seal of the city be affixed to it, which address followeth in these words, viz. :—

"To his Most Excellent Majesty William the Third, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith.

"The humble address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of the city of Hereford.

"Great Seigneur,—As all the late dangerous wars and calamities in Europe were owing to the boundless and restless ambition of Louis, the French King, so we did well hope that his illness and the desolate and miserable state whereto he has reduced France itself would have disposed him to rest quiet for the future and no longer to disturb the public peace and tranquility. We are sorry to find the same turbulent and aspiring humour still working, as sufficiently appears, among other instances, by his imposing his grandson for King of Spain and providing another pretended and dressed up Prince of Wales for a King of Great Britain, the first whereof was contrary to his own solemn renunciation, and the other to his solemn treaty at the Peace of Ryswick, wherein he publicly acknowledged your Majesty (as all other States and Princes have done long before) rightful King of Great Britain and Ireland. We hope that when your Majesty and your faithful but injured allies shall think fit to call him to an account for so notorious and perfidious a violation of his compacts and treaties the Great and Rightful King of Heaven and Earth will assist, and that as He has made your Majesty a very glorious instrument heretofore to dash to pieces his rash and proud projects, devised to enslave his neighbouring realms and states, so will He employ the great wisdom and courage He hath given you as a means to secure them for the future against the power of France, so exorbitant and abused to such evil and pernicious practices, and we humbly crave leave on this occasion that, as on the one hand, we have a grave and just aversion to French princes, and Governments, and politics, wherunto arbitrariness and oppression are essential, we think nothing too much to secure ourselves against them, so, on the other hand, we think ourselves most happy in living under the best King and best constituted monarchy in the world, and that no costs or charges, no fatigues or hazards, are too great to defend and maintain them.

"Whereof we assure your Majesty that we shall at all times be most ready to contribute our best endeavours to support your Majesty and assert your undoubted right to these your realms and dominions against the nominal Prince of Wales and all other invaders of your Crown

and dignity. Heartily congratulating your Majesty's safe return to your people, always praying for your Majesty's long life and reign as the great blessing of heaven, not only to ourselves but to the rest of Europe.

"In testimony whereof we have hereunto caused the common seal of our city to be affixed this 7th day of November, 1701, and in the 13th year of your Majesty's reign."

The King did not live long after this, dying on March 8th following, and there is no reference to his death in the Minute Book.

There are many other minutes of local interest during the reign of William and Mary, which I cannot refer to now, but amongst others may be mentioned some relating to freemen and their rights, the grant of the City Charter, under which the City was governed to the year 1835, the obtaining of an Act of Parliament for the navigation of the rivers Wye and Lugg, and interesting facts relating to Lord Scudamore's Charity, which, if they are of sufficient interest, I hope to deal with some day in another paper.

HEREFORD.—THE CIVIC OFFICES OF ESCHEATOR AND CUSTOMER.

BY MR. JOSEPH CARLESS, TOWN CLERK OF HEREFORD.

The "Escheatorship" was an office constituted by the Charter granted to the citizens by William III. in the year 1697.

Under the powers of this Charter the city was "municipally" governed until the passing of the Municipal Corporations' Act, 1835, as distinguished from the old statutory body of "Paving and Lighting Commissioners," the latter body being established in 1774.

The Paving and Lighting Commissioners were not abolished by the Municipal Corporations' Act, but continued in existence until their abolition as such, by the "Hereford Improvement Act, 1854."

The office of Escheator was constituted and its duties stated in paragraph XXX. of the Charter of William, which was as follows, viz. :—

"Furthermore we have granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs, and successors, of our like special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, do grant to the aforesaid Mayor, aldermen, and citizens of the city aforesaid, and their successors, that every Mayor of the city aforesaid, after that he shall be out of his office of Mayoralty of the city aforesaid be in all future times Escheator of us, our heirs and successors, within the city aforesaid, suburbs, liberties, and precincts of the same, to continue in the same office of Escheator of the city aforesaid, for one whole year then next ensuing, and further until the Mayor of the city aforesaid for the time being shall have quitted his office; and so in all future times. And that Philip Symonds, gentleman, who hath been the last Mayor of the city aforesaid, be the first present Escheator of us, our heirs and successors, of the city aforesaid, to remain in that office of Escheator until the present Mayor of the city aforesaid shall have quitted his office. And that the Escheator of the city aforesaid, for the time being, may and shall have full power and authority to do and execute within the city aforesaid, suburbs, liberties, and precincts of the same, all and singular which to the office of any Escheators, within any counties of this kingdom of England, by the laws, customs, and statutes of the kingdom of England, do belong or ought to belong to be done and executed. And that no further Escheator of us, our heirs or successors, do enter, or presume to enter, or in anywise meddle, to do anything which to the office of Escheator of the city aforesaid, or suburbs and liberties of the same, doth belong."

Wharton's Law Lexicon says :—

"Escheat arises from default of heirs when the tenant dies without any lawful and natural born relations on the part of any of his ancestors, or when he dies without any lawful or natural born relations on the part of those ancestors from whom the estate descended, or when the intestate tenant having been a bastard does not leave any lineal descendants since he cannot have any collateral descendants."

I have a copy of the oath of the Escheator (mutilated, I am sorry to say), but as far as I can I give it to you as follows, viz. :—

"OATH OF ESCHEATOR.

"You swear that well and truly you shall serve the King in the office of Escheator in the city of Hereford and liberties of the same, and do all the King's profits in all things that belong to you, by way of your office after your best wit and power and his right, and all that belongeth to the Crown you shall truly keep.

" You shall not assent to conceal the King's rights.

* * * * *

" You shall (instruct your bailiffs) to do right to every man as well to poor as to rich in that which belongeth to you so to do.

" You shall do no wrong to any man neither for loan, gift, promise, or hate, nor no man's right distrust.

" You shall nothing do whereby the King may lose or whereby right may be disturbed, letted, or delayed, and you shall truly and righteously return and serve the King's writs.

" You shall in your proper person make or cause to be made the extents of lands and other revenues after the yearly value and duly charge the same according to the inquest to be returned before you and receive the verdicts and return them into Chancery as oft as they shall be made unto you and that within a month next after such inquest taken.

" You shall take no bailiff into your service but such as you shall answer for.

" You shall cause your bailiffs to take such oaths as belongeth unto you to give them.

" You shall truly and righteously yield account to the King's exchequer of all the issues of your Bailiwick.

" You shall take your inquests in open places and not privily, and that by indenture after the effect of the statute thereof made.

" So help you God."

The office of Chief Steward was practically abolished by the Municipal Corporations' Act, but the title retained by the Corporation as a gift to one whom they desired to honour, the present title being worthily held by Sir James Rankin, M.P.; had the title of "Escheator" being similarly retained our ex-Mayor, Mr. Councillor James, would for the present year be "Mr. Escheator."

With reference to the appointment of a "Customer," I have looked through the William III. Charter and find no mention of any such officer, but it is probable that an officer of that title was authorised to be appointed by the Charter of 17 James I., the provisions of which were confirmed in the late Charter.

As, however, there is no notice in the last City Charter of a "Customer," I have looked into the "Liber Albus," compiled in 1419, by John Carpenter, Common Clerk of the City of London, during the Mayoralty of the celebrated Richard Whittington, and in that book I find that two "Customers" were appointed by the Corporation of

London, who were therein described as "Collectors of the Customs," and I take it that the "Customer" of this city would if any customs were collected therein occupy a similar position and perform similar duties.

I find that the word "Customer," as signifying a "municipal officer," is not referred to in either Wharton's Law Lexicon, Johnson's Dictionary, or the Encyclopædia Britannica.

By reference to Rees' Guide to Hereford I find "Customer" amongst the list of city officers for the year 1830 in the person of Mr. John Farmer (father of our fellow citizen Mr. Samuel Farmer), while no mention is made of a "Customer" in the list of city officers in the year 1819, set out in "Wright's Walk through Hereford." It is probable, therefore, at that time there were few if any duties incident to the office.

In the report from the "Commissioners on Municipal Corporations of England and Wales," dated 30th October, 1833, is the following paragraph, viz. :

"The office of Custumar (*sic.*) is not a Charters office. The Custumar is elected yearly by the Common Council from among themselves on the Charter Day" (*i.e.* the Monday next after the feast of St. Michael the Archangel). "No duties are now attached to the office. A piece of land (now called the Custumar's meadow) was devised many years ago for the benefit of the Custumar, and is worth about £5 a year."

I have made many searches amongst the Corporation papers and enquiries from old residents and others who would be likely to know something about this meadow, but without any success.

It is curious to note that as compared with the present day the old governing body under the Charter was a close co-opted Corporation, and that all the principal offices (including that of Customer) were held by members of the body.

SIR PETER DE LA MARE.

A LITTLE RECORDED HEREFORDSHIRE WORTHY.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BY MR. JOSEPH CARLESS, TOWN CLERK OF HEREFORD.

I HAVE just been reading a very able and wonderfully fascinating book written by Mr. G. M. Trevelyan entitled "England in the Age of Wycliffe," which throws what I may describe as a searchlight on that most interesting period in the history of our country.

Mr. Trevelyan commences by describing the miserable condition of the Kingdom in the later years of the reign of Edward III. as contrasted with the glories of the earlier portion of that reign, the latter half of which included not only the loss of all that we had gained in France, with the exception of Calais, Brest, Bordeaux, and a few smaller fortresses on the coast, but the complete destruction of our naval power by France and Spain, while the strain on the resources of the taxpayer had been unendurable.

In the early summer of 1376, our empty exchequer compelled the Privy Council to summon the "Good Parliament," which of course consisted of the two Houses of Lords and Commons as now; the House of Commons being constituted of two knights of the shire from each of 37 counties and two members from each of about 100 cities and towns.

The policy of the Commons in this Parliament was directed against (1) corruption of government and misuse of expenditure; (2) in aid of local order in the country districts as against the lawless retainers of the nobles; (3) not peace but better conduct of the war; (4) ecclesiastical abuses.

And these points bring me to the subject of this letter, viz., the reference to a Herefordshire worthy, Peter de la Mare, one of the members for the county.

Mr. Trevelyan says, on pp. 22 and 23, as follows, viz.—

"As the Commons had a policy and a purpose of their own, independent of their patrons, it was only natural that their leader should be, not Percy or March, but one of their own number. Such a man was found in Peter de la Mare, one of the two knights who represented the county of Hereford. He was seneschal to the Earl of March, a connection which intensified the animosity of his relations to the House of Lancaster without serving to protect him from the Duke's (John of Gaunt) vengeance. He was a man fearless of consequences in an age of violence, one whose spirit imprisonment could not bend nor threats overpower, and who long continued in faithful service to the Commons.

He was now for the first time elected to the honourable and dangerous office of Speaker. As in those days the communications with the King and Lords were the most important and arduous part of the business of the Lower House ; the Speaker who 'spoke' for his brother members before the princes of the land had need to be the foremost and best politician among the knights. He was not only an officer of highest dignity and an honoured judge between contending parties, for he was himself the leader of the party of the Commons. Peter de la Mare fulfilled the combined functions of Pym and Lenthall."

"As a result of debates in the Chapter House among themselves and the Lords whom they had associated with their counsels, the Commons determined to display the standard of revolt, and fixed on a method of attack. When they appeared in full Parliament with the Speaker at their head, the plan they had formed in secret was unfolded in public. Peter de la Mare's first duty was to answer the demand for money made by the Chancellor. To have made the grant would have been to invite instant dissolution, but the Speaker not only refused the money until the grievances of the nation were satisfied, but took the financial position as a text for the sermon on the required reforms. He declared that the reason why the King was impoverished was because his advisers absorbed his income themselves ; that if it were not for the 'privy friends of the King' the treasury would still be full, and that therefore to grant further taxes until the administration had been reformed would do no good to the King or kingdom. He proceeded to enumerate the principal ways by which the nation had been robbed, and requested the King to fix a time to hear these charges brought home against the guilty. Such was the request of Peter de la Mare before the Estates of the Realm, and for the time there was no one to gainsay him. That night, according to the report of his enemies, the Duke of Lancaster held consultation with his friends and determined to bow to the storm. Hoping to save himself by a temporary desertion of his subordinates, whom it was proposed to impeach, he next morning appeared among the members of the House of Commons, addressed them personally with encouraging and friendly words, and declared himself ready to correct whatever abuses they pointed out."

"But the central interest of Parliament, the real test of the strength of parties, was the trial of Lord Latimer, the biggest game at which the Commons dared to fly. Besides the financial speculations of which he had been guilty at home, he was charged by Peter de la Mare with the more serious treachery of receiving money from the national enemy in return for the betrayal of two strongholds in the north of France, named St. Sauveur and Becheral."

The Duke thought it necessary, in view of the popular feeling to pronounce sentence himself against Lord Latimer, the man who had trusted to him in committing the frauds ; he was condemned by the Lords to prison, he was deprived of all his perquisites and offices at the

petition of the Commons to the King, and his name was struck off the Privy Council. But it was rather a political disgrace than a judicial sentence of great severity ; for his goods were not confiscated, and his imprisonment was relaxed for bail.

Just at this period occurred the death of the Black Prince, whom Mr. Trevelyan describes as "the great supporter of the Commons."

On the death of the Black Prince, John of Gaunt, his younger brother, endeavoured to obtain the reversion of the Crown in case of his nephew's (Richard II, son of the Black Prince) death. He appeared among the Commons and asked them to provide for such a case by passing a Salic law, which would have prevented the accession of the Earl of March in case of the death of Richard II. and given the Duke possession of the Crown.

This, however, the Commons refused, and appointed counsellors for the King by whose advice he was to act, none of these were friends of the Duke, but the machinations of the latter undermined the actions of the Commons. He again succeeded in gaining supremacy, but as some of the members of the Council were too honest or too implacable to be conciliated, of whom the Earl of March was the most notable, the Earl was ordered across the seas and (says Mr. Trevelyan) p. 32. "The Earl's Seneschal, Peter de la Mare, the head of the Commons, was seized by those to whom he had brought justice and flung into prison without trial at Nottingham Castle. It is even reported that the Duke would have taken his life had not his new ally, Lord Percy intervened."

On January 27th, 1377, a new Parliament met, packed with the supporters of the Duke, who elected his Seneschal, Sir Thomas Hungerford, M.P., for Wiltshire, as Speaker, and after describing this, Mr. Trevelyan goes on, p. 37—"This proceeding seems to have aroused in the minds of the few veterans of the last assembly the thought of their old chief, Peter de la Mare, now lying in Nottingham Castle. They challenged his illegal imprisonment and demanded his trial ; but their voices were overborne by the majority and they were forced to be silent."

Edward III. died on June 21st, 1377, and the author (p. 37) describes the constitution of the first Parliament of Richard II., viz :—

"At a meeting of the Estates in the Autumn of 1377 the Commons were in a strong position, owing to the disasters and bankruptcy to which the Government had to confess. The members came up to Westminster prepared to revive the aggressive policy of the Good Parliament. It was at this time the unfortunate custom of the electors to send up new men almost every year. The county members in the fourteenth century were knights or franklins, who regarded Parliamentary duties as a burden. If they consented to take their turn once and again at doing the business of the country at Westminster some spring or autumn, they insisted on going back to spend the rest of their lives in war abroad or local affairs at home. Peter de la Mare himself never served in more

than three successive assemblies, and was returned for only half the Parliament of the years 1376 to 1384. Yet in October 1377, so great was the eagerness of the country to renew the policy of the Good Parliament, that, out of seventy-four knights of the shire elected, as many as twenty-three were veterans of that body. Their old Speaker, Peter de la Mare, who, during the servile Parliament of January, had been suffered to lie in Nottingham Castle, was again in his seat as member for Herefordshire. He was once more chosen to fill his old office and the part he had so manfully played eighteen months before."

The last paragraph ends all reference to the work of Peter de la Mare, but it seems that the Parliament of which he was then Speaker, carried on the work which he had at heart and for which he had made such sacrifices.

It will be observed that while Peter de la Mare was Seneschal to the Earl of March, his successor in the Speaker's chair was Sir Thomas Hungerford, Seneschal to John of Gaunt, the leader of the rival faction to that of the Earl of March.

Mr. Trevelyan comments on the enormous wealth and power of the two leaders, and helps to prove this by the number of castles belonging to each of them. John of Gaunt, he says—"Besides Kenilworth possessed more than a score of other castles, including such famous holds as Pontefract, Dunstanborough, Leicester, Pevensey, Monmouth, and Lancaster itself * * * * His rival, the Earl of March, had about ten."

It is clear that nobles of such importance must have had some responsible lieutenant under them to manage and control their estates and wealth, and in these cases the officer performing these duties was known as the "Seneschal." A "Seneschal" has been described as "a Steward ; also one who has the dispensing of justice."

I have written this in order to recall the memory of a Herefordian long ago devoted to his country and the liberties of his countrymen, and also to ascertain, if possible, if any of my readers may be able to throw additional light on the history of one of whom we should all locally be particularly proud.

I have looked at "Hutchinson's Herefordshire Biographies" and find no reference to Peter de la Mare, but I find in W. R. Williams's "Members for Herefordshire" that he is described as "supposed to have been the first regular Speaker of the House of Commons. He was mesne Lord of the Manor of Yatton and Seneschal of the Earl of March, who held the Manor in Capite."

I would ask those who are interested in such a subject to inquire for local information and to refer to any books or MSS. that may possibly throw light upon it.

It is a curious fact that Peter de la Mare was Speaker of the House of Commons and member for the county in the troubulous times of Edward III., in which reign the seal of our city's High Bailiffs (the

chief citizens before the Mayors, the first Mayor being appointed in 1382) was struck, and that our state sword, now carried before the Mayor, was presented by Mr. Paul Foley, member for the city in the equally troubulous times of the Revolution, and who was elected Speaker of the House in 1694.

Mr. John Hutchinson writes, under date March 7th, from the Middle Temple Library in the *Hereford Times* of March 10th :—I have read with much interest the communication in your columns from Mr. Joseph Carless on the subject of Sir Peter de la Mare, and am delighted to find that he has been able to add to the list of Herefordshire worthies. As regards, however, the fact that he finds no reference to this one in my "Herefordshire Biographies," I would be allowed to explain that, though Sir Peter was, as stated, "Mesne Lord of the Manor of Yatton," and the representative of the county in five successive Parliaments," there is no evidence, apart from this, that he was Herefordshire "born," and this must be my excuse for not including him in my catalogue. The Lemares, or Lamas, or Delamares (for the name is variously spelt) were a very widely diffused family, having homes and possessions in various parts of the kingdom, especially in Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Cheshire, and North Wales, and Peter may have been born in any of those counties, or elsewhere. It is true I might have included him amongst the names of distinguished "associates" of the county, given in the appendix to my book, and I am now sorry that I did not.

In response to Mr. Carless's desire for further information, I may say the chief particulars of Peter de la Mare's life are collected in the notice of him in the new Dictionary of National Biography. The original source of our knowledge of him is the contemporary "Chronicon Angliae" (1328—88) compiled in the Abbey of St. Albans, and the fact that the then Abbot of that house was a near relative of Peter has been taken by some to account in some measure for the very favourable light in which his character has come down to us. Mr. Trevelyan has well described the courageous action of De la Mare in leading the attack on the Duke of Lancaster's party ; but that which chiefly led to his popularity at the time was the part he took in the removal of Alice Perrers, the mistress, or "Abishag," as she was called, of the king, though it is not improbable she was but his sick nurse. In prosecuting this matter, the good Peter was, no doubt, influenced by motives at once patriotic and moral ; but it has been maliciously said that his animosity towards Alice was not lessened by the fact that there was a bitter feud between the Abbey of St. Albans and the Perrers family about property in the county of Hertford. The struggle between her and Peter continued during their lives, with varying fortunes, and she must indeed have been a remarkable woman, who, being, as the Chronicler informs us, "nether bewtfull nor fayre" could maintain

her favour with the king and others without those advantages. Peter continued to sit in Parliament till 1383, when he retired, and we hear no more of him, but he is supposed to have lived for many years after that. He was probably never married, for at his decease Yatton was inherited, as we learn from Cooke's Duncumb, by his great nephew, Roger Seymour, ancestor of the Dukes of Somerset.

The De la Mare family, though the name is sometimes written Delamere, is not to be confounded with the family of that name in Cheshire, who are a younger branch of the Venables family, seated at Mere in that county, nor with the family holding the title of Earl Delamere, whose family name is Cholmondeley. The only title apparently held by the De la Mares was that of Montalt, taken by one of them, according to Dugdale, from a little place in Flintshire, called "Wyddgrug" by the Welsh, but translated "Montalt" by the Normans, and now known as Mold. But the Barony was extinct in 1329, about the time, I should think, when Peter was born.

JOHN HUTCHINSON.

Middle Temple Library, London,

March 7th, 1900.

HEREFORDSHIRE TOKENS OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

TRANSACTIONS, 1884, PP. 183—209.

BY JAMES W. LLOYD.

Among the collection of Harley manuscripts preserved at Welbeck Abbey, containing a mass of deeply interesting and valuable matter connected with the history of the county of Hereford during the 17th and 18th centuries, and which is described and largely quoted from in the recently completed Report of the Historical MSS. Commission on the Manuscripts of His Grace the Duke of Portland, filling four thick octavo volumes, occurs the following letter referring to the subject of the paper read before the members of the Club at the Downton meeting on July 15th, 1884 (*Transactions*, 1884, page 183), which it is thought desirable to add to the *Transactions*:

JAMES LAWRENCE, Mayor of Hereford, to Sir EDWARD HARLEY.

"(16) 61 | (2), January 15. Hereford. I have acquainted the City with your great pains in relation to the weirs. We understand there is to be a farthings office erected, and that there is some one seeking for the uttering of them in this city. We had the farthings which private persons here set forth, presented as a grievance at the last Michaelmas Sessions and we intended to call them in and to set one piece in the Swordbearer's name, the profit whereof we intended for the poor, who multiply upon us this dear year. If there be any such office I presume it must be tolerated by Parliament; if so, we desire that the Sword-bearer may officiate here, being accountable to the officer in chief."

Signet.

The intended issue of Tokens by the Corporation in the name of the Swordbearer, Henry Jones, commenced shortly after the date of the Mayor's letter, three different varieties of a halfpenny and one farthing, bearing the dates of 1662 and 1663 (vid. *Transactions*, 1884, p. 186, for a description of the pieces).

It would appear that in spite of the issue of these official or Corporation Tokens the private Tradesmen still continued to put forth their own pieces, and were regularly *presented* before the Courts for so doing, as the following extracts from Court Rolls or Records, preserved among the City Archives, kindly made by Mr. Paterson, will shew:

"Court View, Octr., 1667.

"Wee present Hugh Rodd, Esq.; Thomas Mathews, Gt.; Thomas Seaborne, Gt.; Roger Boulcott, Mercer; John Hill, Gt.; Barnaby Jenkins, Glover; William Walsh (? Welsh); William Barnes; John Morse; Thomas Elton;

Edmond Hucke; Robert Watts; John Lane; and Samuell Saunders, for setting out halfpence to the great agrivance of the Citizens, and we desire that some speedy course may be taken for the calling them in—and one stamp for the future sett out by authority of the Maior and Comon Councill—into the hand of some one or more persons who shall be engaged to give some considerable sume therefor—to be employed yearly for some publique and charitable use within the City."

Court View, April, 1668.

Twelve or thirteen names of the above were presented "for setting out halfpence and farthings—and we doe humbly pray that an act of Common Councell may be made for the supresinge thereof—and that publique stamps of such like toakens may be made within this City—and that a very able and substantiall person, givinge security may have the settinge forth thereof—payinge and allowinge into the Chamber of the City a yearly summe of money to be employed to some good use for the benefit of the City."

The grievance arising from the issue of private tokens is explained by the following extract from the Court records for April, 1668 :—

" William Walsh presented for refusing to exchange his half-pence."

It is curious, however, that it should have been recommended in these later presentments that "publique stamps of such like toakens" should be provided after the issue of the Swordbearer's tokens in 1662 and 1663.

It may be well to give a description of a Ross token which has been discovered since the list was printed in 1884, viz. :—

O. THOMAS . RODD . OF . ROSS—The Apothecaries Arms.
R. APOTHECARY . 1666—T.B.R.

The issuer was probably a member of the same family as Hugh and John Rodd, who issued tokens at Hereford.

Lyson Thomas who issued tokens in Hereford in 1668 (see *Transactions* for 1884, p. 196) was probably a son of Lyson Thomas, whose name appears in a note of the contributions of the Justices of the Peace of the Hundreds of Herefordshire to the loan for the King and Queen of Bohemia, dated 3rd October, 1620, under Ewyas Historical MSS. Commission Report before quoted, part iii., p. 13.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

FOURTH FIELD MEETING (LADIES' DAY), THURSDAY,
AUGUST 2ND, 1900.

KENILWORTH CASTLE AND STONELEIGH.

ON Thursday, August 2nd, the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club had an outing to Kenilworth, and by the kind invitation of Lord and Lady Leigh, to Stoneleigh Abbey. The President of the club, the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Hereford, is brother of Lord Leigh, and the following ladies and gentlemen availed themselves of the kind invitation given through him :—The President, Mr. C. D. Andrews, Mr. E. J. Baker, Mr. J. Edy Ballard, Mr. H. C. Beddoe, Mr. J. P. Brown, Rev. Charles Burrough, Mr. R. Clarke, Mr. E. W. Colt, Dr. A. J. H. Crespi, Sir Herbert Croft, Mr. Luther Davis, Rev. T. Emmott, Mr. E. A. Gowring, Mr. H. Scott-Hall, Mr. E. J. Hatton, Mr. C. Hardwick, Rev. A. W. Horton, Mr. W. J. Humfrys, Rev. Preb. W. H. Lambert, Mr. C. E. Lilley, Mr. T. Llanwarne, Mr. C. J. Lilwall, Mr. J. W. Lloyd, Count L. Bodenham-Lubienski, Rev. A. H. McLaughlin, Rev. H. B. D. Marshall, Rev. Matthew Marshall, Mr. J. Basil Masefield, Mr. C. E. A. Moore, Mr. Walter Pilley, Mr. John Probert, Mr. W. H. Steward, Mr. Edwin Stooke, Mr. J. F. Symonds, Mr. J. Reginald Symonds, Rev. F. S. Stooke Vaughan, Rev. Morgan G. Watkins, Mr. H. Cecil Moore (hon. sec.), Mr. James B. Pilley (assistant sec.). Visitors—Ladies: Miss Allen, Miss Andrews, Miss Baker, Miss Kate Baker, Mrs. J. E. Ballard, Misses Baylis (2), Misses Bickham (2), Miss M. A. Boycott, Misses Bull (2), Mrs. Burrough, Miss A. G. Carless, Mrs. R. Clarke, Mrs. E. W. Colt, Mrs. Crespi, Miss Farmer, Mrs. H. Scott-Hall, Mrs. C. Hardwick, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Horton, Miss Levason, Mrs. C. E. Lilley, Mrs. Lilwall, Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Derham Marshall, Mrs. McLaughlin, Miss Moberly (Presteign), Mrs. H. Cecil Moore, Mrs. Pagden (Hay), Mrs. Walter Pilley, Miss Pilley, Mrs. Probert, Mrs. Stooke Vaughan, Miss Symonds, Miss Thomas, Miss Underwood. Gentlemen: Mr. David Blair (Manchester), Mr. William Boycott, Mr. A. G. Carless, Mr. William Davis (Malvern), Mr. A. C. Edwards, Mr. Harry H. Edwards, Captain Hunter (Bristol), Mr. E. A. Lovey, Rev. H. J. Marshall, Rev. G. D. Pagden, Mr. T. W. Whitley, C.E. (from Leamington).

The party left Hereford station on Thursday, August 2nd, at 8 a.m., and arrived at Warwick station at 11, where several carriages were waiting to convey the visitors to Kenilworth.

About a mile and a half on the road a short halt was made in order to obtain a view from the roadside up the avenue of lofty pines, of Guy's Cliff ; and the party alighted from their carriages to obtain another view from the old Norman Mill of this picturesque house built on the cliff overhanging the River Avon.

A little further on the road, the President pointed out Blacklow Hill on the left-hand side, the scene of the execution of Piers Gaveston, the unfortunate favourite of Edward II., by order of the Earl of Warwick and other barons.

Arrived at Kenilworth, the party divided into two sections, one conducted by Mr. T. W. Whitley, secretary of the Warwickshire Archaeological Society, and late honorary Secretary of the Warwickshire Field Club, who delivered an interesting address on the history of the grand ruins, the marvellous relics of a bygone age. The other section was directed by the President. The first object to attract attention was the general grandeur of the fine ruins ; and the massive thickness of the walls of the great Norman keep, known as Cæsar's tower, on the right when approaching through the visitors' entrance, compared with the more modern buildings on the left ; this tower was erected by Godfrey de Clinton (about 1122). Further on are the ancient foundations of the kitchens where are to be seen evident remains of the baker's ovens and fire-places. Beyond, Mervyn's Tower, of romantic interest, as here, according to Sir W. Scott (but not according to our learned archæologist), Amy Robsart, the unfortunate Countess of Leicester, was imprisoned.* Then came the great Banqueting Hall, built by John of Gaunt (about 1370). Beyond this are the Whitehall, the Presence Chamber, and the Priory Chambers, all of the same period as the Great Hall. At the extreme east succeed the buildings erected at great cost by Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester (1564).

When Queen Elizabeth honoured the Castle with her presence, she entered on the east side of the Courtyard, through the Tilting Yard by Mortimer's Tower. At that period a large lake of water surrounded the greater part of the walls, and beyond were the Chase Woods, where she went hunting. In less than 100 years from the time of her visit, the noble pile of buildings was given over to destruction. During the Civil Wars the Castle was dismantled, the roof taken away, and the lake drained. The only place kept as an habitation was the Gate House, which was occupied by one of Cromwell's officers, Hawksworth, who fitted it up and brought hither the old marble chimney piece and carved oak over-mantel from the Royal Chamber, which, by the courtesy of the present occupier, Mr. Middleton, was kindly shown to the party by Mrs. Middleton.

* "Historic Warwickshire," by J. T. Burgess, may be consulted for a good historical account of the Castle in 'The Great Siege of Kenilworth'; also for documents connected with the life, marriage, and somewhat mysterious death of Amy Robsart. The Jury returned a verdict of "Mis chance" at a period fifteen years before the brilliant festivities at Kenilworth in July, 1575, thus dispelling the romantic story and showing the historical inaccuracy of Sir Walter Scott in his charming novel of "Kenilworth."

Leaving the Castle at 1 p.m., a short stop was made at the Priory and parish church of St. Nicholas, where Mr. Whitley pointed out and explained the remains of the old Norman monastic buildings, chapter house of St. Mary's Abbey, and also the well-preserved Norman arch and doorway of the church. The party then proceeded to Stoneleigh, entering the park about a mile from Kenilworth, by what is known as the Thickthorne Lodge, driving through Thickthorne wood, then through the Grecian lodges, and crossing the river Avon over a fine stone bridge, when, after a drive of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles altogether from Kenilworth, Stoneleigh Abbey was reached.

The first object of interest is the ancient gate house, with hospitium and eleemosynary attached, where the monks of old were wont to distribute alms and food to needy travellers. This building was erected by Abbot Hochele, and over the pointed decorated window above the archway is an escutcheon bearing the arms of Henry II., the founder of the Abbey. Within the gateways are the old wooden massive doors and bars, and a curious ancient bench fixed against the wall, containing apertures, which may have been used for the purpose of holding lances, partizans, or other instruments of offensive warfare.

The principal approach to the mansion is through this gateway to the chief entrance on the northern side of the house. The large buildings consist of two distinct yet united blocks, one being a portion of the old monastery, now chiefly used as domestic offices, the other portion being the modern mansion, a palatial structure of classic design, with fluted pilasters and other details of Ionic order, erected early in the 18th century.

At the entrance the party received a hearty welcome from the noble proprietor, who had provided luncheon for about 100 persons in the long corridor or vestibule. This corridor is supposed to have been the south aisle of the monastic church, and unites the ancient building with the modern mansion.

At the conclusion of luncheon, the PRESIDENT proposed the usual loyal toast, and alluded to the visit of her Majesty to Stoneleigh, in company with the Prince Consort, in 1858.

The health of Lord and Lady Leigh having been proposed by Sir HERBERT CROFT, and responded to by his LORDSHIP, who heartily welcomed the members of the Woolhope Field Club, the members proceeded to examine the Abbey, some being conducted by Lord Leigh and his two daughters, and the others by Dean Leigh, over the ancient and modern buildings.

The PRESIDENT gave a brief sketch of the foundation of the Abbey, which originated with the order of Cistercian monks, who came from Radmore, in Staffordshire, owing to annoyances experienced from the Foresters of Needwood. On appeal to King Henry II. the Royal manor of Stoneleigh was granted to them, and the foundation stone of their church was laid in April, 1155. At the dissolution of the Monasteries,

the Abbey lands were granted to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, and were eventually purchased by Sir Thomas Leigh, who was Lord Mayor of London when Queen Elizabeth entered the city.

The President pointed out vestiges of the monastic structure erected in the 12th century, especially the semi-circular headed Norman doorways (some richly moulded) in the courtyard adjoining the corridor, and in various parts of the offices. The crypt, or vaulted basement, which was originally beneath the abbots' lodgings, was specially interesting, as well as the ancient massive buttresses at the south-east portion of the Abbey. Remains of the Chapter House were also pointed out, more particularly the massive cylindrical pier, which formed the central pillar for the support of the vaulted roof. Traces of 14th century work were also shown, and that portion of the mansion on the north and south side erected and altered in the 17th century out of the conventional structure. The present housekeeper's room, the presumed site of the south transept, attracted much attention, not only on account of its curious old stamped leather hangings on the wall, but as having been the supposed bedroom of Charles I. when he was received by the Lord of Stoneleigh, owing to the gates of Coventry being shut against him.

Having thoroughly examined the interesting architectural points of the ancient Abbey, the party was next conducted through the corridor up a wide flight of steps to the entrance hall of the modern mansion. In this hall were several old family portraits, some of them of special interest to Herefordshire people—for example, that of James Brydges, Lord Chandos of Wilton Castle and Aconbury, and of his fair daughter, Mary, who married Theophilus Leigh about 1700. Also James Brydges, 1st Duke of Chandos, who sat as member for the city of Hereford in seven Parliaments (from 1701 to 1715), and whose granddaughter, Lady Caroline Brydges, married James Leigh. From the entrance hall the members were conducted through a suite of rooms commencing with the library, in which was a fine picture of Lord Byron by Phillips, through the silk drawing-room and the velvet drawing-room, in which were portraits of Sir Thomas Leigh and Dame Alice by Hans Holbein. The saloon is a spacious apartment with steps leading down to the Italian gardens. The ceiling of the saloon in alto relievo and the medallions representing the labours of Hercules, the work of Cipriani, an Italian artist, are very fine. There are also paintings by Rembrandt, Cuyp, Snyders, and sculptures by Benzoni.

From the saloon the visitors pass into the dining-room, where there is a fine Vandyck of King Charles I., which was originally covered over with flowers, probably when Cromwell's troops were in the neighbourhood, King Charles, when the gates of Coventry were closed against him, was entertained by Thomas, Lord Leigh, whose portrait hangs near that of the King. There is also in this room a full length portrait of Lady Caroline Leigh, daughter of the 2nd Duke of Chandos, and one of Charles Brandon, to whom Henry VIII. presented the Abbey lands of Stoneleigh.

The last room of the suite is called the breakfast-room, from the windows of which is obtained a charming view of the Italian gardens, the Avon (of some breadth at this point), and the wooded banks beyond. Near the dining-room is the chapel, with fine altar piece, ceiling in alto relievo, marble sculptures, and old organ.

After visiting the museum of curious relics and stuffed animals and the billiard-room, situated in the old building, the party having concluded their exploring came out into the grounds, where Lord Leigh drew attention to the fine looking oak planted by the Queen and the Wellingtonia planted by the Prince Consort 42 years ago.

The members, having bidden a grateful farewell to Lord Leigh, then remounted the carriages and were driven through the beautiful deer park, with its magnificent old oaks (from 30ft. to 36ft. in circumference), its bracken fern, and the river Avon running through the middle of the park, and so out by the London Lodge to Leamington, a drive of fully five miles.

The carriages arrived at Leamington for the return journey only just in time to catch the train leaving at 4.20 p.m. for Hereford through Birmingham, Stourbridge, and Worcester.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

FIFTH FIELD MEETING, THURSDAY, AUGUST 30TH, 1900.

IVINGTON CAMP, BY GATTERTOP AND WINSLEY, TO DINMORE MANOR.

HEREFORDSHIRE is rich in places of interest which specially appeal to those who find pleasure in contemplating spots which in the old days were the scenes of lives or deeds, the memory of which still lovingly lingers with us; spots which bear undoubted indication of their use in that strife in which our forefathers so often were forced to indulge, spots which were the scenes of quiet, beneficent, and religious work through long periods of time, and spots dignified by that simple, upright family life which, with other influences, has helped to make England what she is. The Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club, in their fifth field meeting of the season, on Thursday, August 30th, paid a visit to a section of North Herefordshire, which afforded them subjects of contemplation, besides opening up a country side of picturesque beauty—Ivington Camp, Gattertop, Winsley House, and the site of Dinmore Preceptory were successively visited. Members and friends left Hereford by the 9.20 a.m. train, which stopped by previously arranged permission at Ford Bridge Station.

The company present included:—Members: The Dean of Hereford (President), Mr. C. D. Andrews, Mr. H. C. Beddoe, Mr. Spencer H. Bickham, Mr. T. Blashill, Mr. F. J. Boulton, Mr. J. W. Caldicott, Mr. R. Clarke, Sir Herbert Croft, Mr. James Davies, Mr. Luther Davis, Mr. Harry H. Edwards, Mr. M. J. Ellwood, Rev. P. H. Fernandez, Dr. J. B. Fitzsimons, Mr. G. H. Hadfield, Mr. J. Tudor Hereford, Rev. E. J. Holloway, Rev. A. W. Horton, Mr. John Lambe, Rev. Preb. W. H. Lambert, Rev. Augustin Ley, Mr. C. J. Lilwall, Mr. J. W. Lloyd, Mr. W. G. Lloyd, Rev. H. B. D. Marshall, Rev. A. H. McLaughlin, Mr. Walter Pilley, Dr. Scudamore Powell, Rev. A. Pope, Mr. John Probert, Rev. H. F. St. John, Messrs. A. P. Small, J. P. Sugden, P. J. Walker, H. A. Wadsworth, Alfred Watkins, T. H. Winterbourn. Honorary Secretaries: Messrs. T. Hutchinson and H. Cecil Moore, and the Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. B. Pilley; whilst among the visitors were Mr. J. S. Arkwright, Mr. M. Friende, Mr. C. E. Hadfield, Mr. B. Horton, Mr. H. B. Lambert, Dr. Macmichael, Mr. Denis Marshall, Rev. G. H. Pagden, Mr. C. Walker, &c.

In August, 1882, the club visited Ivington Camp by a difficult route from Marlbrook. To-day (August 30th), under the guidance of Messrs. James Smith, of Monkton, and W. A. Smith, of Gattertop, the

route of two miles in length was taken direct across country from Ford Bridge railway station, over Brierley-hill, by Purvin farm, to the camp at its south-eastern entrance. This opening into the camp is curved in accordance with the features of many ancient camps, and protected by an embankment which acts as a traverse for its better defence against attack. The rampart on the eastern side with its very steep slope was walked over by the party. At its northern extremity the outline of the camp bears in a south-westerly direction, and midway along the north-western line of defence an embankment, projected interiorly towards the middle of the south-western face, forms an inner camp. The plan of the camp is given in *Transactions*, 1882, facing page 214, which should be referred to. Its probable occupation in early days, and its certain occupation in later days, is to be found in the same volume, described by Dr. Bull's able pen. Coins dating from 1340-90, shortly previous to Owen Glendower's raids in Herefordshire, have been found in this camp, and as we read on page 213, over twenty graves were discovered in a limestone quarry at the north corner. The interior camp covers seven and a half acres, and the exterior 13 acres, making a total area exceeding 20 acres; these measurements do not include the ramparts and their slopes. The camp area is cultivated, and encloses a farmstead, and an excellent supply of water. The form of the camp is irregular, adapted to the contour of the hill, and its earthen ramparts may be considered formidable even in the present day. At the north-western angle a triangulation survey mark of 549 feet is given.

The camp of Risbury, one of the strongest and most perfect fortifications in Herefordshire, is situated about four miles to the east, and the River Lugg flows in the valley midway between the two camps. For the descriptions of Risbury Camp, with plan and sections, see *Transactions* 1885, p. 334.

From Ivington Camp the descent was made to Gattertop, a stone building charmingly situated, overlooking the valley on the south. It probably occupies the site of an ancient house. Flavell Edmunds gives the derivation as compounded of an old English or Anglo-Saxon name, Gatterde-hope, recorded in Domesday Book and in Dugdale's *Monasticon*, probably from Guthred, the name of the owner, and the British word hope, corrupted from hwpp, a sloping place between hills; e.g. Hopesay, Longhope, Woolhope, Westhope, Hope-under-Dinmore, etc. etc. The late Judge W. H. Cooke gives the Domesday Survey spelling as Gadredehope.

Mrs. Smith, of Gattertop, had very kindly offered light refreshments, but the large party of members, over forty, found a substantial luncheon prepared for them under her roof. The vasculums of the botanists were opened. Violet in fine blossom at this late period of the year, some specimens of the pretty ladies' tresses (*Spiranthes autumnalis*) and of the baneful parasite on clover, dodder (*Cuscuta trifolii*), with a specimen of the same parasite on the wild carrot, were exhibited. Of

this strange plant Threlkeld writes :—" After it has fastened its clasped or small tendrils upon a plant, like a coshering parasite, it lives upon another's trencher, and, like an ungrateful guest first starves and then kills its entertainer." Mrs. Smith's numerous guests, fortified by their repast, were called to attention by the President, who thanked their hostess for her hospitality, and the members resumed their walk under the guidance of her son, Mr. W. A. Smith, to their next destination. Winsley House, one mile south of Gattertop.

Mr. Robert Clarke, who is always ready to devote his time to helping us in various methods, has sent us the following extract from Blount's Manuscripts :—

" Winsley, antiently Windesley, in Edward III. time, Beryton, of Stoke Lacy, married the daughter and heir of Roland de Windesley, and had by her this antient seat with other lands which has continued in the family ever since, but in later times the name has been changed (*euphoniac gratia*) to Berrington.

The house lies in the parish of Hope-under-Dinmore, and, as a badge of its antiquity, there is carved in wood in old characters over the Porch a cross with these words " Per signum tau libera nos domine." Upon one of the cross beams of the Hall of this house, is carved an ancient coat of arms consisting of Bends of five pieces which perhaps were the arms of Windesley before the Berringtons were owners of the place."

Judge Cooke is of opinion that Winsley Manor is referred to in Domesday Book under the name Elburgelega. Winsley House is situated on high ground with park-like surroundings and some fine trees. The present farmhouse, occupied by Mr. Turner, contains some good examples of 15th century woodwork remaining in the gables and cross or tie beams at the back of the building, but elsewhere its exterior has been altered and modernised with brickwork. About thirty years ago portions of the panelling and carved work were removed to Hampton Court, and perhaps the carved shield of the Windesley family, described by Blount, may also have been removed at the same time. An inscription, carved in relief on one of the gables, is as follows :—On the left-hand side PER SIGNVM TAV, a cross in relief at the apex in the centre, and on the right side LIBERA NOS IHESV. This differs from the inscription given by Blount, unless the reading of DOMINE (as given by him) was on another gable which has been destroyed. This spelling IHESV is not unique. An excellent photograph of this gable was taken by Mr. Alfred Watkins.

The interior contains some of the ancient wood beams and some 17th century panelling in one room on the first floor. In one of the upper rooms, possibly fitted up as a chapel by the Berringtons, can be seen the ancient 15th century wood roof, with cusped braces and framing. An ancient stone chapel, it is stated, stood outside in the farm-yard. On a wood lintel on an outhouse, is cut the date 1610. Mr. Arkwright is the present proprietor of the estate.

WINSLEY HOUSE, IN THE PARISH OF HOPE-UNDER-DINMORE, WITH INSCRIPTION UPON A GABLE.

No. 10.—To face page 78.

Photo by A. Watkins.



About midway on the route from Winsley House to Dinmore Manor, near the eastern boundary of Westhope Common, and at a distance of between one and two hundred yards east of the footpath is a small moated island, called, on the Ordnance Map Herefordshire Sheet 26 N.W., **Moat**, on the property of Mr. Colebatch Clark, of Derndale. According to local traditions it covers the site of the buried town of Smethley, locally pronounced Smirley.

The discovery of some stone masonry upon the island may have given origin to this local tradition. There is also a tradition that this masonry was part of the chapel of some religious establishment which existed here.

From Winsley House the walk was continued over the eastern border of Westhope Common by Broomwell, and close by the ancient moated island above mentioned, thence through plantations of most luxuriantly growing gorse and blackberry, until, after a walk of two miles and a half, Dinmore Manor was reached, where the Rev. H. F. St. John welcomed the party. The plants in the garden gave evidence of being carefully tended under the hands of a horticulturist, whilst shrubs and trees exhibited a happy luxuriance of growth, more especially a glorious sumach on the lawn in perfection of foliage and blossom, and a magnificent fig tree loaded with prime fruit growing on the south side of the chapel. A very fine yew tree also grows on this same south side. The view from this spot is charming.

On the lawn between the house and the chapel the Rev. H. F. St. John read a paper descriptive of the Priory, &c., which was followed by a paper by Sir Herbert Croft on the escape of Prince Edward, afterwards King Edward I., from Hereford. The chapel and grounds were visited and explored—the ancient well-preserved roof was much admired—so also were the painted windows (the work of the owner), and the tones of the bells. The lid of a stone coffin was pointed out covering the hagioscope on the north wall, and another was found built in the staircase to the tower. On the two buttresses (one on each side of the south door) are two early sundials cut on the surface of the buttress; that on the left is apparently the earliest, judging from its more advanced stage of decay; it was reproduced exactly on the next buttress (probably when the growth of the great yew began to intercept the sunshine from the first dial), and a gnomon fixed to it.

A visit was paid to the small circular moated entrenchment referred to in Mr. St. John's paper as probably for use as a watch tower. In later years it may have been used for cattle. The same may be said of the similar circular moated island at Broomwell between Winsley and Dinmore, although possibly it may in earlier days have been used in religious rites. Dinmore Manor is supplied with a good spring of water carried down from the neighbouring hill, and this is supposed to have been the ancient supply for the Commandery. Dinmore Manor stands on an elevation of 545 feet, and at Upper Dinmore, a third of a mile to the north-west, there is an elevation of 748 feet.

Some remarkable manuscripts of Dr. Stukely were exhibited by Mr. St. John, which show the truly surprising versatility of the antiquary. The hand of the artist, the present owner, is visible throughout the Manor house, nor was the hospitality of Mrs. St. John and the ladies of the house less conspicuous. The members dared not abuse the indulgence here lavished upon them by lingering too long, for there was a walk of two miles and a half between them and the railway station, reduced to two miles by the direct cut south of Kipperknowle and through Burghope Wood, along which labyrinthine route Mr. St. John was kind enough to act as their guide.

The length of the day's walk was between eight and nine miles. This does not quite come up to the standard of an average day's work.*

The Ordnance Survey Maps, on the scale of six inches to one mile, for this district are 19 S.E., 19 S.W., 26 N.E., and 26 N.W.

THE PRECEPTORY OF DINMORE.

BY REV. H. F. ST. JOHN.

HISTORY

This Preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers of S. John of Jerusalem was founded in the latter half of the 12th century. King Henry II made a grant of land at Dinmore in the royal forest of Marden to one Friar Thomas, a brother of the Order who erected the Preceptory. This grant was confirmed in more ample terms by King Richard I. and King John, and the manor seems to have become of great extent in those reigns. So far as I can ascertain, it was attached to a Priory of the Order at Hereford, which stood on the site of the Coningsby Hospital, but it soon became the chief seat of the Order in this part of England. So it continued until the seizure of monasteries and priories in the reign of Henry VIII., when this manor together with all the others became vested in the Crown. In the reign of Edward VI. it was leased to Richard Darmine. It was then granted to Sir Thomas Palmer, Knight, who, taking part in the rebellion in favour of Lady Jane Grey, was attainted and beheaded in 1553. It was then granted by Queen Mary to Jane Russell and her son, at whose death it reverted to the Crown; and was then granted by Queen Elizabeth in consideration of £225 to John Woolwrych, of Dudmaston, County Salop. The manor remained in this family until 1739, when, the then owner having got into difficulties, it was sold to Richard Fleming, of Sibdon Castle, Salop, whose grandson, Richard Stukely Fleming, devised it to his sister Frances, wife of the Rev. J. F. St. John, Prebendary of Worcester. From her it came to her eldest son, and from him to his youngest brother, and then to his nephew, the present owner.

BUILDINGS.

It would seem that probably temp. Queen Elizabeth, the ancient buildings of the Priory were pulled down, and the present house erected on the site. They must have been very extensive, as foundations have been found in many directions. The present arched entrance to the house is no doubt part of the old building; and probably part of the cellars, where there are some rough and massive arches. There is an old picture of 1796 which shows a large building towards the chapel which was subsequently pulled down. There is a tradition of a gateway which was called S. John's gate, which is said to have stood across the old road to the Preceptory, just below the house, and there is a curious circular earthwork on the edge of the hill on which there may have been some kind of watch-tower. This earthwork was used later by the squires around as a cock-pit, and it still bears that name. There was also a columbarium, or dove-cot, which stood somewhere in front of the present house, but which has unfortunately disappeared. There was one of these on almost every manor of the Hospitallers, forming a source of

* From *The Times* of Monday, October 15th, 1900, in an article on the New Regulations as to the Diet in Workhouses we read "A walk of about 16 miles on the level at the rate of three miles an hour is usually regarded as the mechanical equivalent of an average day's work."

income. The names of some of the meadows still speak of their ancient owners. We have "Great S. John's meadow," and "Little S. John's meadow," and also a wood called "The Prior's Grove."

CHAPEL.

The chapel remains in its original state, and is the only part of the original buildings which has not been interfered with. It will be noticed that there are no windows on the north side, as no doubt it was connected formerly with the other buildings; the squint in the north wall probably belonged to the infirmary, through which the sick could hear the service at the altar. There are also traces of a door on the tower stairs, which must have led into the other buildings. When they were removed, the two massive buttresses were built to support the north wall. For some reason unknown, the greater part of the chapel was rebuilt about 1370. The Decorated masonry of this period is far better than that of the Norman period which was left, which consists of rubble walls, and when the chapel was restored liquid cement had to be poured in to consolidate them. It is a strange thing that many of the grave-stones or coffin lids with the Cross of the Order upon them, were cut up and used in the re-building. Some of them are visible among the masonry. The original Norman door is still visible, and there is also a trace of one of the Norman windows. The Holy Water Stoup and Piscina seem to be of Early English design, the only specimens of that period. An oak screen, forming an ante-chapel, of the Decorated period, was removed long before my time, and a portion of it now forms the altar. The chapel was used for service long after the dissolution—I have a silver chalice, given in 1727 by two of the Woolwrych family, which was subsequently turned into a granary or farm building. When the Rev. J. F. St. John (uncle) came into the estate, he restored it after a fashion, and it was again used for Divine service, and has continued to be so used to the present time.

In 1866 the chapel was completely restored by the present owner of the estate, being placed in the hands of Mr. Piers S. Aubyn, architect of the Temple. At that time the walls were covered with many coats of plaster and whitewash, which bore traces of figures very roughly painted in distemper, of late date, but impossible to preserve; the window sills were filled in with brick, the oak roof was ceiled over, and the floor filled in with earth to the depth of 13 inches. All this was removed, and the chapel carefully restored to its original condition. Fragments of the ancient stained glass were found outside, but too shattered to be of any use. The windows were now all filled with new glass (the work of the present owner). Many members of the family of Woolwrych, who so long owned the estate, are buried in the chapel, and also some of the Berringtons of Winsley. When the excavation was made for the warming apparatus, a skeleton was found lying between stones placed edgeways all round, evidently a brother of the Order, and a similar one was also found outside. There is a tradition that there were horns upon the altar, and that those who held them could claim the right of sanctuary.

ECCLESIASTICAL POSITION.

The ecclesiastical position of the Manor remains exactly as it was in the Hospitallers' days, the whole of the Dinmore estate proper, some 570 acres, being extra-parochial, and not subject to the Bishop's jurisdiction, consequently it is not in any archdeaconry or rural deanery. This is no doubt the result of some Papal Bull conferring this immunity. Formerly it was exempt from all rates and taxes, but this was put an end to by an Act of the present reign. The chapel is still a private one, which the owner of the estate can deal with as he chooses.

COUNTRY ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE ORDER.

Some account of the domestic economy of the country establishments of this great military Order may be interesting. They were scattered all over England in considerable numbers, all of them subject to the great Priory at Clerkenwell, which was the headquarters of the Order in England. One or two of the Priors of Dinmore became Grand Priors of England at Clerkenwell. Of these Sir T. Docwra, who went from here, became Grand Prior in 1502, the last Prior but one before the dissolution. He built the great gate of the Priory at Clerkenwell, which still exists—that and the crypt of St. John's church are the only portions of the great Priory which remain. His arms may still be seen on the gate, and there used to be beneath, the motto, which is also said to have been outside this house, about the meaning of which there has been much dispute—"Sans Roro," which some have said to be a corruption of "Sane Baro"—a Baron indeed. I have introduced a figure of Sir T. Docwra as a memorial, into the east window of the chapel. The habit of the Order for all members alike was a black mantle with a white eight-pointed cross upon it, except in time of war, when the knights and esquires wore a red mantle with a straight white cross. At first the Order adopted for their patron Saint S. John of Jerusalem, or the Almoner, about whom very little is known except that he founded the first hospital for pilgrims at Jerusalem. Afterwards, when the Order became military, and their chief object to fight against the infidel, they changed their patron Saint to S. John Baptist. At the dissolution, the documents and records of the Order seem to have been removed to Malta. A few years ago a document was discovered in the library at Valetta which gives the income and the expenses in great detail of every Priory of the Order throughout England for the year 1338. It was transcribed, and published by the Cambridge Camden Society in 1857. A most interesting introduction was written by John Kemble, a member of the gifted family of that name. It is called "The Report of Philip de Thame, Prior of the Hospital of S. John of Jerusalem in England, to Elyan de Villanova, the Grand Master of the Order for the year 1338." It gives a most interesting picture of the internal economy of the Order at that date. We see there the price of corn and all kinds of provisions; the value of live stock, and of land,

for the brethren were great farmers ; also the wages which labourers of various callings received. Wheat in Herefordshire was 3s. per quarter, a fat ox 6s. 8d., a fat sheep 8d., a goose 2d., a chicken 1d. The bailiff *here* got 10s. per annum, the cook 10s., the other servants 6s. 8d. As to the usual establishment in each Preceptory, I will only speak of Dinmore, which is a fair example of the rest. In 1338 there was here one Preceptor and two brethren, who managed all the affairs of the manor. These might either be chosen from the military knights or esquires, or from the chaplains of the Order. In this year they were esquires. The other members were a paid chaplain, a steward, a cook, a woodreave, four clerks, a dispenser, a chamberlain, a baker, a bailiff, tiler, swineherd, a gardener, and a washerwoman, with other servants and pages. There were also five corrodaries,* or fellow commoners, who, for various reasons, had a right to board and lodging. It was the rule of the Order to offer hospitality to all comers, and probably to entertain them for three days. In every Priory this forms a heavy item of expenditure. They also relieved the poor, and tended the sick and suffering, receiving them into the house. We find from this document that their hospitality was sometimes greatly abused. Complaints go up to Clerkenwell both from here and another Priory in Pembrokeshire of the many Welsh strangers who quartered themselves upon them, and who are described as "great devourers, and very burdensome," and elsewhere as being "fierce and truculent." The entertainment, I suppose, was so good that they could not get rid of them. The Preceptory of Dinmore had several other dependencies and properties in the county. Sutton, Rowlstone, and Wormbridge were all members of Dinmore, and I believe that when the Order of the Knights Templars was dissolved, and their property given to the Hospitallers, Garway, Harewood, and Upleadon became dependents of Dinmore. But I must conclude this imperfect sketch of the great military Order of S. John of Jerusalem, which for many centuries played no unimportant part in the world's history. We have no need now for such institutions, and I am afraid that as time went on they degenerated from their original high purpose, left their first love, and became proud and worldly. Yet in their day, when the times were rough and rude and cruel, the world was much benefited by them, and could not well have got on without them till their work was done.

* Corrodarium seems to be mediæval Latin for a "Commons" or board and lodging.

PRINCE EDWARD'S ESCAPE FROM HEREFORD.

BY SIR HERBERT CROFT.

We all know about the beginnings of the escape of Prince Edward from Widemarsh Common, but a few words on what followed may interest the Woolhope Club.

Between Widemarsh and Leominster there rises the steep Dinmore Hill, under which now run two railway tunnels. The escape of Prince Edward was planned, no doubt, by Mortimer, Earl of March, who gave, says the historian, a present, by a third hand, of a very swift horse, having many friends in Hereford, and withal, acquainted Prince Edward with the use he was to make of it, and the design for the recovery of his liberty ; and at that time, it shculd be remembered, that both the King—Henry III.—and his son, Prince Edward, were prisoners of Simon de Montford, Earl of Leicester, and a foreigner. Edward galloped away from his gaolers, and by the time he arrived at the top of Dinmore Hill, he had need of a remount, which was there afforded him by Roger de Croft, of Croft Castle, and his friends. Thence they escorted Prince Edward through the town of Leominster, amidst great rejoicings, says the chronicler, on to Croft Castle, where he stayed the night, and next day was escorted to Wigmore Castle, the seat of the Mortimers, his firm allies.

Then there was a move to Shrewsbury, and Prince Edward, having rallied a sufficient force, proceeded to Evesham, to try and rescue his father—Henry III.—from the clutches of Simon Montford, the Earl of Leicester, in 1265, who had been Leicester's prisoner since the battle of Lewes, and who was often made by Leicester to act against his own interests, under colour that it was for the good of the public.

Matters were then getting into a rather complicated state, for the Barons, who had taken up arms against King Henry III., purely, it is said, on account of the power the King would have affirmed, could not but be jealous of the Earl of Leicester's, which was no less absolute. The Earl of Gloucester, above all, was highly displeased, especially because Leicester had taken to his own use the profits and revenues of the kingdom, and all the money which was paid for the ransom of the prisoners, which, by agreement, was to have been divided between Leicester and the Earl of Gloucester. Gloucester also looked upon Leicester as taking large steps towards the throne, under the specious pretence of the public good. The disgrace at this time of Robert de Ferrars, Earl of Derby, also gave Gloucester alarm, and he feared for his own safety. For Derby, who was certainly no friend to Leicester, was sent to the Tower of London; not so much, as we read, for a punishment for the crime laid to his charge as for an example to those who should dare to censure the conduct of the principal Governour (Leicester).

The Earl of Leicester, who a little before—as is stated—had all the forces of the kingdom pretty well at his disposal, could not prevent Prince Edward from becoming master of the city of Gloucester, and several other places. He was even forced to give ground to the young Prince (Edward), who followed him from place to place, and to use all his policy and experience to avoid a battle.

Meanwhile, Leicester sent repeated orders to his son, Simon, to quit the siege of Pevensey, which detained him in Kent, and to come and reinforce him (Leicester).

Simon obeyed, and with his little army marched with great expedition to join his father, the Earl of Leicester. But as he drew near Evesham, where his father was encamped, Prince Edward, having notice of his coming, suddenly fell upon him with all his forces, and cut in pieces this little body of troops, which could not resist him.

A chronicler states that Prince Edward, marching all night, came by daybreak to Kenilworth, and set upon the younger Simon and his men, who were then in their beds, and killed and took prisoners of most of them, but Simon, the leader, escaped into Kenilworth Castle, about our recent visit to which, and to Stoneleigh Abbey, we still entertain such very pleasant recollections.

This skirmish led to the battle of Evesham, which was fought on August 4th, 1265, fourteen months after the battle of Lewes. And Leicester actually had his prisoner—King Henry III.—on the battlefield, who had a narrow escape from a soldier, to whom he cried out, “I am Henry of Winchester, thy Sovereign.” Edward ran to his father’s help, and gave him to the care of a strong guard, and then returned to the battle, which ended in the defeat and death of Simon de Montford. His body was, it is said, cruelly mangled by Roger de Mortimer, who cut off his head, and sent it to Leicester’s wife, as a certain token of his having been revenged on his enemy.

The death of Simon de Montford, Earl of Leicester, and Prince Edward’s victory at Evesham, probably saved England from a civil war; but the readiness wherewith the Barons, in league against the King (John), returned to the obedience of their young Sovereign, Henry III., the moment they thought their privileges out of danger, is remarkable, and it is also to be observed that to the troubles which distracted this long reign the English are indebted for the liberties and privileges they still enjoy at this day. And if the barons of those days had been more passive, it may be very justly supposed that the two charters of King John would have been buried in eternal oblivion. And the historian I have before me points out:—“Let the Earl of Leicester (de Montford) be exclaimed against ever so much, let him be called impious and wicked for daring to take arms against his Sovereign, at least it must be confessed that his ambition has produced happy effects for the whole English nation.”

Prince Edward succeeded his father, Henry III. (of Winchester), who was then 66 years of age, and had reigned 56 years and 20 days. Edward was absent at his father’s death, but Leicester’s party was so humbled that they were no longer able to give trouble, and the nation’s good opinion of Edward would have rendered their rebellious projects impracticable. Edward I. had shone with great lustre during the latter part of his father’s reign, nor was he ungrateful to those who assisted him to escape with a fresh mount, which, family tradition says, was a white horse, for not only did he knight Sir Roger de Croft, of Croft Castle, but soon after his (Edward’s) accession to the throne he allowed him to add to his shield in the first quarter a lion passant guardant or.

The old shield, like all Saxon shields, is a very simple one, viz., quarterly per fesse indented, azure and argent, but, of course, the family shield has, since Edward’s gift, borne also the lion passant guardant or.

Sir Roger de Croft was then made sub-escheator of the County of Hereford, the King himself being escheator.

These few notes, hurriedly, at short notice, put together, may, I hope, interest you. To me it seems remarkable that I, the lineal descendant of Sir Roger de Croft, should to-day, August 30th, 1900, read on Dinmore Hill of his there remounting Prince Edward, and carrying him safely away from his pursuers to Leominster and Croft Castle.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

ANNUAL MEETING, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 1900.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND OFFICERS FOR 1901.

THE Annual Committee Meeting of this Society for the passing of accounts for the year and other business was held on Tuesday, December 11th, in the Woolhope Club Room, Hereford, and was followed by the Annual Meeting of Members for the election of President and Officers for the ensuing year. Exceptional interest was taken in this event, 1901 being the Jubilee Year of the Club. The following attended:—The Dean of Hereford (president), Sir Herbert Croft, Rev. E. J. Holloway, Prebendary W. H. Lambert, Rev. H. B. D. Marshall, Dr. G. Leighton, Messrs. W. Henry Barneby, C. P. Bird, J. P. Brown, J. Carless, R. Clarke, James Davies, T. Llanwarne, H. Southall, J. P. Sugden, and the Joint Honorary Secretaries, Messrs. T. Hutchinson and H. Cecil Moore.

Mr. Thomas Blashill, ex-superintending architect to the London County Council, a member of 48 years standing in the Club, having been proposed in 1852 and elected in 1853, who also held the office of President in the year 1882, was elected President for the Jubilee Year 1901. The following were elected Vice-Presidents: The Dean of Hereford (retiring president), Mr. W. J. Humfrys (the ex-Mayor), Mr. H. Scott Hall (Dormington), and Mr. A. E. Boycott. No change was made in the constitution of the Central Committee and other Honorary Officers. The three candidates balloted for were elected. Professor Charles Callaway, D.Sc., F.G.S., of Cheltenham, and Professor Theodore T. Groom, D.Sc., F.G.S., of the Poplars, South Bank Road, Hereford, were elected Honorary Members.

The volume of *Transactions*, 1898-1899 was exhibited ready for binding, with the promise of the binder that it would be ready for issue before Christmas, except to those members who, in accordance with rule xii., have lost all rights and privileges of membership by falling into arrears with their annual subscriptions. The list of defaulters was placed upon the table. The volume of *Transactions* is beautifully illustrated. It commences with 104 pages in the same type as used in previous volumes on the Mollusca of Herefordshire, which paper was printed in the year 1899, and very favourably reviewed in "Science Gossip," Vol. 6, New Series, page 253. Following this paper the *Transactions* are printed in a bolder type, as generally adopted by learned Societies in their journals and magazines. The volume contains an excellent paper by Mr. W. J. Humfrys under the heading "Lammas Lands," affording a

glance at rural England before the Black Death in 1347, which exhibits in a lucid condensed form the results of careful and varied research into the laws and customs of that early period. The revised summary of Herefordshire Lepidoptera is brought up to date by Mr. Hutchinson with the additions and notes of capture by Dr. J. H. Wood of 74 species new to the county since 1892, bringing the total of county species to 1,332 out of 2,073. Botany is represented by occasional notes from the pen of Rev. A. Ley, including "Two new Hieracium forms" and "Some Welsh Hawkweeds." An excellent map of the geology in detail of the southern end of the Malvern range, between Mid-summer Hill and Chase End Hill, executed with infinite labour by Dr. Theodore Groom, faces a paper by Dr. Callaway on the origin of the Gneisses and Schists of the Malvern Hills. The illustrations, thirty in number, contain views of some of the remarkable trees in Herefordshire hitherto unrecorded; floods of the Wye at Hereford on January 22nd, 1899; seven views of the Birmingham Water Supply Works in progress in the Elan Valley; the Wergin Stone near Hereford, and other objects. The volume concludes with a list of Herefordshire birds brought up to date by Mr. Hutchinson, who has had the advantages of the local knowledge of the Rev. M. G. Watkins and others, and the revision of the proof by Mr. Howard Saunders, whose book on "British Birds" is a standard work. The volume contains pages xxii., 104, 256, 14, or a total of 396 pages.

With reference to the connection of the Woolhope Club with the British Association through the corresponding Societies, our delegate, Rev. J. O. Bevan, who attended the Congress, again reverts to the subject of geological photographs of our county, of which various localities are given on page 17 of the President's address at the end of the volume 1895, 1896, 1897; he also thinks that some start should be made on the ethnographic survey of the county, embracing—1, physical types of the inhabitants; 2, current traditions and beliefs; 3, peculiarities of dialect; 4, monuments and other remains of ancient culture; and 5, historical evidence as to the continuity of race. On this subject reference should be made to page 22 of the address above referred to. A paper was read to the delegates on the subject of Dew Ponds by Professor Miall, and the delegates were requested to obtain any information they could about them: e.g., do they occur anywhere in Herefordshire? Mr. Bevan writes: "Ethnography and ethnology are subjects needing present attention, inasmuch as the transfer of population and the spread of general education are rapidly tending to obliterate racial peculiarities of physiognomy and speech." In this connection the gramophone might be brought into operation with some effect! Photography at all events could be readily employed if proper judgment in the choice of types could be secured. Mr. Bevan concludes his letter by saying he is always ready to render what help he can to cement the relations of the club to the central body of the British Association.

Thanks to the Honorary Secretaries terminated the meeting.

ERRATUM.

INSCRIPTIONS ON THE CHURCH BELLS AT ROWLESTONE.

Members are requested to make corrections in their Volume of *Transactions*, 1891, page 248, in the last paragraph but one, as follows:—Another bell reads—*Christus est via veritas et vita*, distinctly a post-reformation inscription. A third—“C.W., 1683. God save the King. x John Prichard.”

Mr. W. J. L'Amie, writing from Rowlestone, in the “Hereford Times,” of September 8th, 1900, gives his reason for assuming that the letters C.W. commence the inscription, because of the large interval of eight to ten inches between “Prichard” and “C.W.” From this we may conjecture that John Prichard may be the bell-founder, and not the churchwarden at that period.

It will be interesting to learn whether the name of John Prichard occurs upon any other local church bells.

RECORDS OF EVENTS—1900.

TINTERN ABBEY PURCHASED BY GOVERNMENT.

The following remarks are extracted from our local newspaper, the “Hereford Times,” September 29th, 1900:—

A genuine bit of Old England has just been secured by the Government as a heritage for the people. This consists of the magnificent ruins of Tintern Abbey, together with several thousand acres of land adjoining, in the beautiful valley of the Wye, all of which have been purchased from the Duke of Beaufort.

The property will, as at present, be maintained for the enjoyment of visitors. The Abbey, which will be vested in the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, is to be taken over to-day (Saturday).

This will be welcome news to all true lovers of the picturesque, for there are few finer sites in all England than that of the famous Cistercian Abbey of Tintern, embowered as it is amid the lofty wooded hills of Monmouthshire, and overlooking a bend of the Wye.

An aroma of antiquity pervades the place. The Abbey was founded by Walter de Clare in those merry monkish days when monastic visions were wont to have a solid substratum of “fat pullets and clouted cream.”

The extreme beauty of its position and its inherent picturesqueness have attracted visitors from far and near; but it is no less famous for its architectural character, which belongs to a transition between the Early English and Decorated periods, and which for excellence of composition and delicacy of execution is pronounced by experts to be rivalled by few similar structures in the kingdom.

The church, begun in 1287, remains nearly complete, with the exception of the northern arcade of the nave.

To enter the church is like taking a step straight into the thirteenth century. One expects to be surrounded with fatted friars and pious pilgrims, and to see great visions of wallets and wassail. On the east side of the cloister are the aumbry, the parlour and sacristy, and the chapter-house with three alleys. On the north side are the postern and river gate, with the abbot's lodge over. In the vicinity of the abbot's lodge one naturally looks for the buttery, the refectory, and the kitchen, for, look you, your real abbot was no ascetic.

The sacred rites of hospitality were duly observed, as is testified by the guest house, built over an undercroft. The church had at one time the distinction of giving sanctuary to the person of Edward II. At the time of the suppression of the abbey there were thirteen monks. After the dissolution the site of the monastery was granted to the Earl of Worcester, with whose descendants it has remained until the present day.

BRITISH SNAKES.—REPTILES OF THE MONNOW VALLEY.

THE RED VIPER.

At the Annual Meeting of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club on 11th December, Dr. Gerald Leighton exhibited a small “Red Viper,” which he believes is the first recorded specimen from this part of the country. This variety occurs in Herts, Somerset, Devon, near Hastings, and in Kent. Dr. Leighton says—“This variety of the adder *Pelias berus*, is not regarded as a distinct species; why, I never could make out.” The specimen exhibited measured 9½ inches in length, and is of the usual copper colour of this variety of adder. It was taken on August 1st on the summit of the Graig Hill, in the parish of Grosmont. He had twice before seen this variety of snake on Garway Hill, but had never succeeded in taking it until August 1st of the present year 1900.

DATE OF FIRST APPEARANCE IN THE SPRING OF THE ADDER.

Dr. Gerald Leighton, in a letter to Mr. Moore on the subject of the earliest appearance of the Adder in the spring, writes:—“They are said to appear about the middle of April, or even in March. No doubt much depends upon the mean temperature in the particular season. I am inclined to think that our large adder in the Monnow Valley rarely rouses himself before May. In 1898, the date was May 16th; in 1899, May 7th; this year, 1900, I saw the first adder on Friday, May 4th, a very cold late spring. It was a large adder, 26½ inches long. I captured it at Kentchurch.”

CAPTURE OF ADDERS OF REMARKABLE SIZE.

Mr. Moore has received the following letter from Dr. Gerald Leighton :—“In accordance with Rule 10 I beg leave to draw your attention to a remarkable series of Adders I took on July 23rd.

In one of their haunts in the Monnow Valley, well known to me, I captured four within 200 yards of each other. Their respective measurements being :—

Female in young	...	...	$26\frac{9}{16}$	inches.
”	”	...	$26\frac{1}{2}$	”
” Male	”	...	$25\frac{1}{2}$	”

I have never before taken four in succession of such large size, even in this valley, where the average size is (as I have previously shown) $24\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

I have dissected one of the females; it contained 18 embryos, so that the three would have probably brought forth 40 or 50 young during the following few weeks.”

THE REPTILIA OF THE MONNOW VALLEY.

By GERALD LEIGHTON, M.D.

EXPLANATION OF DISTRIBUTION.

In the last Volume of our *Transactions*, 1898-1899, I briefly indicated the general results of three years' work regarding the distribution of British Reptiles in the Monnow Valley (pp 129-132).

I now wish, also briefly, to endeavour to throw a little light on that distribution, as it is rather peculiar, and the process of elucidation is similar to that to be employed in the solution of any like problem in Natural History.

The first result I noted in my previous paper was; “That in the Monnow Valley, from Pontrilas to Skenfrith, the adder is relatively common.” This is simply because the environment is suitable. The food supply is abundant, consisting mainly of the smaller mammals, mice, voles, etc., and also of slow-worms (*Anguis fragilis*), all these being easily obtained. Amphibian food is somewhat rare here, but the adder is not nearly so partial to frogs as is the harmless ring snake (*Tropidonotus natrix*). Secondly, the chances of extermination are here reduced to a minimum, as the population is scanty, and the venomous reptile in this country has few enemies except man. Thirdly, there is excellent cover for the adders amid the thick woods of Garway Hill and the Graig, and in the bracken and old quarries studded here and there on these hill sides. The next conclusion stated was “That the average size of the adder in this area was 2 feet long.”

Now adders vary in average length in England from 18 to 25 inches according to the locality, the larger figure referring to females. So that here we have a district which shows the maximum average length. Why the same species should grow larger in one locality than in another not far distant, is not very easy of explanation, and here one leaves the realm of absolute fact for that of scientific speculation and opinion. We must presume that we have to deal with one species only; that being the recognised view. I am not referring here to the small red viper at all. Many theories are put forward to explain these various sizes, but only one seems to me to have any real significance, and therefore I shall only mention that one. I believe the whole point is one of “mature age.” I have never seen an adder of 18 inches long which appeared to me to be fully grown and developed to its full extent. But as adders are invariably killed whenever seen, a large number of young specimens are thus recorded as measurements of ordinary adders. Where the population is numerous it follows that the reptiles have but little opportunity of attaining their full growth, the reason being that they are long-lived creatures, and grow but slowly after the first three years of their life. Those districts which show a high average length will be

found to be precisely in localities where the adders are but little disturbed. The Monnow Valley is such a district. Here they may live and grow with a minimum risk of destruction, and consequently, in my opinion, are found to attain the maximum length known for the species. Adders of 18 and 20 inches, could they be compared with their parents and grandparents, would no doubt be found to be smaller than their forefathers, because younger. The explanation then of the large average length in the Monnow Valley is that the death rate among adders here is low and the average age great.

Next I noted that the ring snake "is extremely rare in this area, not breeding here."

The explanation of this is to be found in the habits of this serpent. It is a water-loving snake, mainly amphibian in its diet though not exclusively so, and requiring manure heaps or other suitable warmth for the development of its eggs. All these conditions are against it in the Monnow Valley. There are but few ponds, and little or no bog land, such as frogs congregate in. The hill sides are steep and exposed, and unsuitable for the reproduction of an oviparous reptile. A few miles away, towards Abergavenny, where the land becomes undulating and well watered, the ring snake finds its natural requirements fulfilled, and is found there in abundant numbers. In a word, the very fact that the valley is so well adapted to the adder, is the reason why the ring snake is not so well suited.

Next, "The smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*) is not found at all." The distribution of this species is most peculiar, being found only in Dorset, Hants, and Surrey. This points to the explanation being climatic, the southern counties being the only habitat suitable.

These, very briefly, are the main points which explain the curious distribution of the Reptilia in the Monnow Valley. I have dealt more fully with the question in my book on "British Serpents," this short paper being intended simply to complete the remarks I made in the previous volume of *Transactions of the Woolhope Club*.

ENTOMOLOGY.

COLIAS EDUSA.

The following records of the appearance of *Colias edusa* (the clouded yellow) have been reported:—

By Mr. A. E. Boycott: a specimen seen on August 17th at Aymestrey, and another on 31st August at Portway, Staunton-on-Wye.

By Mr. Thomas Hutchinson: several specimens on September 16th, at each end of the Ledbury Tunnel. Half-a-dozen altogether.

"Science Gossip" for September reports that it is generally common this year in many places.

ORNITHOLOGY.

Mr. Hutchinson writes:—On Saturday, November 3rd, my sister was in Kimbolton Church, arranging it for the Services next day. She found a bird there, which she tried to drive out, but it flew up among the rafters. She went to the lectern to look out the Lessons, while she was so doing the bird, a common house sparrow, came and settled on the Bible and allowed her to catch it. She took it into the churchyard, and it flew briskly away. An attendant in the church at the time was witness of the transaction.

BLACKCOCK.

On the authority of the Rev. T. P. Powell, of Dorstone Rectory, we have the record of a blackcock and a grey hen, on Cusop Hill, on September 10th.

RICHARDSON'S SKUA.

Mr. Babstock, 3, Portland Street, Hereford, brought to Mr. Moore, on September 28th, a bird, alive, which had been picked up near Hereford by some children. The bird was identified by Mr. James B. Pilley as an immature Richardson's Skua. It did not live many days in captivity, and is now set up in our Museum.

NUTCRACKER.

Mr. William Blake, writing from 2, Acacia Villas, Ross, gives information of the occurrence, in Herefordshire, of this rare straggler to the British Isles. It was shot in a parish near Hereford, on November 19th, 1900.

It was sent for preservation to a taxidermist at Cardiff. Mr. Proger of the Cardiff Museum was consulted, and he identified it as *Nucifraga caryocatactes* (Lin.), which was verified by Mr. R. Drane, Mr. T. H. Thomas, D. R. Paterson and others interested in ornithology. The universal decision was that the bird had been recently killed and that there were no signs of its having been kept in confinement. On dissection it proved to be a male bird, in perfect plumage.

Our thanks are due to Mr. T. W. Prozer for supplying us with the information, thus enabling us to place such a rare and interesting visitor on our county list.

Whilst we regret the destruction of the bird, we hope that the owner will atone by presenting the bird to the County Museum.*

* We have been informed that the Nutcracker is now set up in the Cardiff Museum.

BOTANY.

JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE (*HELIANTHUS TUBEROSUS*) IN BLOSSOM.

Mr. H. Cecil Moore observed on 4th November, three fine full-blossoms of this plant in a garden on the roadside at the bottom of Broomy Hill, Hereford. For previous records of the efflorescence in our climate of this plant see *Transactions* 1898, page 76 (not 26 as erroneously given in the Index) and 1895, page 102.

METEOROLOGY.

HOT SUMMERS OF THE CENTURY.

Mr. Sowerby Wallis has told us in the "Times" of 24th July, 1900, of a temperature record unprecedented in the 42½ years over which the observations at Camden Square, N.W., have extended.

The *minimum* temperature for the night of Sunday, 23rd inst., which occurred in the early hours of Monday, 24th, was 67·7 degrees on the Glaisher stand, and rather higher—68·1 degrees—in the Stevenson screen.

In the 42 years ended 1899 there were only five nights on which the temperature did not fall below 65 degrees—three in July and two in August.

Maximum temperature of 65 degrees or upwards at Camden Square, N.W., from 1858 to 1900.

1900	July 23	... 67·7 degrees	1876	Aug. 18	... 65·8 degrees
1872	July 26	... 66·3 degrees	1868	July 23	... 65·7 degrees
1899	July 12	... 66·0 degrees	1898	Aug. 15	... 65·1 degrees

The following maxima above 90 degrees have been recorded during the current year 1900, up to 24th July:—

July 16	... 95·2 degrees	July 20	... 92·9 degrees
July 19	... 93·4 degrees	June 11	... 90·1 degrees

The only other years in which as many as four days with temperature above 90 degrees were recorded are: 1868, in which there were four such days and one in September, and 1893, when there were three in August, one in July, and one in June.

The Greenwich record of heat is 97·1 degrees, which occurred on 15th July, 1881. The maximum attained at Greenwich in 1900 was 94·0 degrees in July. This is on the authority of a long letter from Mr. W. Arnold Burgess, Constitutional Club, London, which appeared in the "Times," of December 4th, 1900, from which letter the subjoined records of hot summers at Greenwich Observatory during 60 years, as published by the authority of the Astronomer Royal since 1841 are given.

Year and Month.	Mean Maxima.		Mean Min.	Mean Temp.	Absolute Maxima.		Maxima above 80° deg.
	Sun.	Shade.			Sun.	Shade.	
August, 1842	...	Deg.	78·1	56·3	65·4	—	90·5 11
June, 1846	...	—	80·4	55·1	65·4	—	91·1 16
July, 1847	...	—	78·2	54·7	65·2	—	89·4 11
July, 1852	...	—	80·6	55·7	66·6	—	90·3 19
August, 1857	...	—	78·0	56·4	65·4	—	88·0 12
June, 1858	...	—	79·5	53·9	64·9	—	94·5 13
July, 1859	...	—	81·8	57·1	68·1	—	93·0 21
July, 1868	...	147·6	82·0	55·7	67·5	168·0	96·6 20
July, 1870	...	128·8	78·1	56·0	65·4	153·0	89·7 13
August, 1871	...	133·9	78·1	53·8	64·8	151·0	89·2 10
July, 1872	...	137·3	78·2	54·8	65·0	158·1	90·9 14
July, 1876	...	135·2	80·0	55·1	65·9	155·0	94·0 14
July, 1881	...	130·2	77·7	54·9	65·5	156·5	97·1 12
August, 1884	...	133·4	78·7	53·6	65·3	152·1	94·2 15
July, 1887	...	142·8	80·5	54·1	66·5	155·8	92·2 16
August, 1893	...	126·7	77·7	55·2	65·5	146·2	95·1 14
July, 1896	...	133·5	77·6	54·8	65·2	157·5	91·1 11
July, 1900	...	137·2	78·3	56·6	66·8	156·1	94·0 14

From the same letter of 4th December, we also extract the subjoined:—

The following table of observations has been compiled from the "Climate of London," published by Luke Howard, F.R.S., a recognised authority on meteorology early in the century, and assisted by Miss Caroline Molesworth's "Cobham Journals," edited by Miss E. A. Ormerod, F.M.S., and the mean temperatures, except that of 1808, have been obtained from Greenwich Observatory records since 1814, published by J. Glaisher, Fellow of the Royal Society.

Year and Month.	Mean Shade Maxima.	Mean Shade Minima.	Mean Temperature.	Records above 80° deg.	Minima above 60·0 deg.	Absolute Shade Maxima.
July, 1808	77·8	56·5	67·1	12	7	96·0
July, 1818	80·3	54·6	67·3	17	4	93·0
August, 1819	77·0	54·1	64·5	11	3	86·0
June, 1822	79·8	49·5	63·8	14	1	92·0
July, 1825	82·5	51·3	65·5	19	2	97·0
July, 1826	79·4	54·8	66·4	12	7	89·0
July, 1827	78·9	53·0	63·7	14	4	88·0
July, 1834	79·9	51·0	63·5	—	2	98·0
July, 1835	81·6	50·4	64·3	13	—	96·0

The letter should be referred to by anyone interested; it is a long letter, and treats of the subjects seriatim in great detail.

From a letter by the same writer in the "Times," of 7th December, 1900, we read that the *mean* temperature of July 24th, 1818, was $79^{\circ}2$ degrees, the highest recorded at Greenwich during the century, and that June, July, and August, 1872, showed a mean *maximum* sun heat of $131^{\circ}7$ degrees, coming between the records of 1887 and 1876.

THE MILD DECEMBER, 1900.

Frost occurred on only two days during December, and there was an exceptional number of mild days, rather than a few days of remarkably high temperature.

It is clear, from a letter by H. Sowerby Wallis, dated 62, Camden Square, January 1st, in the "Times," of January 2nd, 1901, that December, 1900, while it ranks with the mildest of the last half century, was equalled in mildness by December, 1898, and exceeded by December, 1868.

The columns are treated seriatim in the letter, to which reference should be made by Meteorologists.

TEMPERATURE AT CAMDEN SQUARE, LONDON, N.W., DECEMBER, 1900.

	9 a.m.	9 p.m.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mean temperature	deg. 45°0	deg. 46°0	deg. 50°1	deg. 40°6	deg. 45°4
Difference from the average of 40 years	+6°0	+6°4	+6°1	+6°2	+6°2
Highest in 1900	53°6	55°7	56°5	51°1	53°1
No. of days above 50 deg. ...	6	8	19	3	5

TEMPERATURE OF DECEMBER AT CAMDEN SQUARE, LONDON N.W.

—	9 a.m.		9 p.m.		Maximum.		Minimum.		Mean temp.
	Mean	Highest.	Mean.	Highest.	Mean.	Highest.	Mean.	Highest.	
1868	deg. 46°1	deg. 53°5	deg. 46°4	deg. 56°2	deg. 50°7	deg. 58°2	deg. 41°0	deg. 50°8	deg. 46°0
1898	45°4	54°8	45°7	55°1	49°8	57°1	40°8	53°9	45°4
1900	45°0	53°6	46°0	55°7	50°1	56°5	40°6	51°1	45°4

BRILLIANT METEOR.

On Sunday last the 21st October, at 8-40 p.m., as I was entering the gate at Aylstone Cottage, I was startled by a sudden flood of light, and on looking up through the trees observed a meteor falling. As I stood by the gate it was to my left, about W.N.W., and the direction taken appeared to me to be nearly vertical, but slightly oblique towards N.E. The trees prevented my having a full view of it. It was by far the most brilliant meteor I have ever seen. It threw my shadow and that of the trees on the ground. It was observable while one might tell five moderately. I am told by others who also saw it that three or four minutes afterwards, an explosion or rumbling sound was heard, but I had gone indoors, and did not hear this. Two other small meteors were seen the same night. T. Hutchinson, Aylstone Hill, Hereford. 25th October, 1900.

A writer in the "Birmingham Daily Post" of October 29th, 1900, writes as follows, under the heading of "The Recent Meteor":—"It may interest your correspondents to know that the path of the above meteor has been traced out. It extended from thirty-seven miles west-north-west of Hereford to twenty-five miles north-west of Bridgnorth, and was also visible at Leeds, London, and Bridgwater. Its length of path was about thirty-nine miles, and its velocity ten miles per second.—W. Arthur Smith, Edgbaston. October 27th."

FLOOD OF THE RIVER WYE AT HEREFORD.

DECEMBER 31ST, 1900.

1900. On December 29th, the River Wye at Hereford, rose 13 feet above Summer level as indicated by Kent's Automatic Gauge, and on December 31st, it rose 13·3 feet. For the three days the average height of the river was about 12 feet.

On visiting the new Gauge in the yard of the Veterinary Surgeon Mr. Carless, at the bottom of Gwynne Street, the line of the water mark left by the flood was apparently about 6 inches below the bottom of the Gauge.

FLOOD OF THE RIVER WYE AT HEREFORD.

JANUARY 28TH, 1901.

1901. On Monday, January 28th, at 5 a.m., the maximum of the flood reached 13 feet 9 inches as indicated by Kent's Automatic Gauge.

At 4 a.m. on Sunday, the Gauge marked 3 feet. From this hour the river rose gradually to the above maximum, during a period of 25 hours.

The line of the water mark left by the flood was apparently about 1 or 2 inches below the bottom of the Gauge in Gwynne Street, or in other words, about 11 or 12 inches below the mark of the flood of 1st January, 1892, which is given in *Transactions 1899*, page 78, as a rise of 14 feet $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

ANNUAL MEETING, FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND, 1901.

THE annual general meeting was held in the Woolhope Club Room on March 22nd. There were present: the Dean of Hereford (the retiring president), Mr. Thomas Blashill (president-elect), the Revs. A. W. Horton, Preb. W. H. Lambert, M. G. Watkins, and H. T. Williamson, Dr. Leighton, and Messrs. H. C. Beddoe, C. P. Bird, J. Carless, R. Clarke, G. Davies, J. Davies, E. A. Gowring, H. Scott Hall, T. Llanwarne, N. H. Matthews, W. Pilley, H. Southall, E. Stephens, J. P. Sugden, A. Watkins, with T. Hutchinson and H. Cecil Moore (hon. secs.), and J. B. Pilley (assistant sec.).

The minutes of the previous corresponding meeting were read and confirmed.

The general financial statement for the year ending December 31st, 1900, was presented by Mr. H. C. Beddoe (hon. treasurer). It showed a good balance in hand, but not more than sufficient to defray the expenses of publication of the Volume 1898-1899, and other contingent bills. The statement was approved and adopted.

The Assistant-Secretary's report gave the number of members on the books 231, including 20 elected during the year. The income showed a decrease compared with the previous year, due to unpaid arrears of members' subscriptions. The obituary list includes the names of Mr. R. Lewis, Mr. J. P. Severn, Rev. H. C. Sturges, and the Rev. Prebendary C. Warner. The attendance at the field meetings was as follows:—Welsh Newton 67, Dormington 50, Hereford City 65, Kenilworth and Stoneleigh Abbey 93, Ivington 51. Mr. James B. Pilley continued his report by calling attention to the want of a list of the beetles, dragon flies, bees, etc., of the county. He concluded by stating that a few specimens of British birds were required in the Museum, and would be glad to supply a list of such as were wanted to anyone who applied to him.

Dates and places of field meetings were fixed as follows:—Tuesday, May 28th, from Pembridge Railway Station, via Rowe Ditch and Moor Court, thence by Luntley Court back to Pembridge. Thursday, June 27th, Woofferton to Ludlow, via Richard's Castle, the High Vinnals, and Mary Knowl. Thursday, July 25th (ladies' day), Abbeydore to Merbage, via Arthur's Stone (provided the train service is afforded by the Golden Valley Railway Company). Tuesday, August 27th, The Chase and Penyard Hills, from Ross.

The Rev. J. O. Bevan sent a communication on the subject of the affiliation of the Woolhope Club with the British Association, by means of the corresponding societies.

Before delivering his retiring address, the Dean made a few preliminary remarks as to the year of his presidency. He said he had been fortunately enabled to attend the meetings, and had derived great pleasure therefrom. He alluded in commendatory terms to the excellent "Volume of *Transactions*, 1898-1899," which had been recently issued, illustrated as it was with superb reproductions from photographs. In connection with the photographs the Dean mentioned the name of Mr. Alfred Watkins, and thanked the Editorial Committee for their work. In feeling terms, he referred to the loss which he had individually sustained through the death of the Rev. Prebendary C. Warner. The Dean delivered his address as retiring president, under the title of "Notes on Seals and Archives of the Hereford Cathedral." The discourse was rendered more interesting by the exhibition of the seals and the documents themselves, representing various types of palaeography, some of the earlier writings about the date of William the Conqueror being clearly written, and more easily deciphered than those of later date after the introduction of various styles of abbreviation.

At the conclusion of the lecture the Dean introduced the President-Elect, Mr. Thomas Blashill, who, it may be remarked, was elected a member of the Woolhope Club about 49 years ago, and who has recently resigned his long held office of superintendent engineer of the London County Council. Mr. Blashill, who, on rising, was received with applause, said he had held the office of President once before, and he had great pleasure in accepting the office again. His interest had always been concerned with the Club, although, by the nature of his duties out of the county, he had not been able to attend the meetings so frequently as he would have liked to do. He called upon the members to assist him in his duties. He had in view a project for enlisting a love of nature among the young people in the county. His project was nearly matured in his own mind, but he would like to consult with the Rev. Augustin Ley and managers of schools on the subject before he placed his scheme thoroughly before the Club.

A vote of thanks to the Dean for his devoted interest in the Club during his presidency, proposed by the Rev. Preb. Lambert, seconded by Mr. James Davies, brought the meeting to a close.

LECTURE ON "CORALS AND CORAL REEFS."

Members of the Club and invited friends assembled in St. Peter's Church House in the evening to hear a lecture by Mr. H. E. Forrest, of Shrewsbury, hon. secretary of the Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club. The subject was "Corals and Coral Reefs," illustrated by specimens and series of views of the great barrier reef of Australia. These lantern slides had been kindly lent by Mr. T. V. Hodgson, naturalist to the New Antarctic Expedition, and were extremely realistic. Many parts of the coral reef in question, which extends for 1,200 miles along the north-east cost of Australia, were exhibited representing brilliant colour-

ations of varieties of coral in their native habitat. The lecturer reminded his audience of the fallacious teaching that corals were built up by insects, and referring to the beautiful sea-anemones, specimens of which are to be seen in most aquariums, said they were really a type of the order of animals that construct the coral reefs. He explained how these animals were continuously building upon their cast skeletons until killed by storms or some other violence. The formation of our limestones was traced to a similar origin. The Dean of Hereford, in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Forrest, said he had been struck by the wonderful variety of colour exhibited by these coral structures. He recollects seeing some in a little bay in the Gulf of Suez. Looking through blue crystal water, he saw what seemed to be a wonderful parterre of beautiful flowers of every form and colour, with apparently butterflies fluttering about, which, on closer inspection, proved to be coloured fishes swimming among the corals. Diving down he brought up a piece of coral, but next day the beautiful colours had vanished. The Dean added a complimentary vote of thanks to Mr. E. Horth for the use of his lantern, and for manipulating the slides as expertly as if he had been accustomed to them.—Mr. T. Hutchinson seconded.—The Lecturer, in response, drew attention to a footnote which had been kindly printed on the circular, asking for a collection in aid of the Shrewsbury Museum. The library rate in Shrewsbury was absorbed by the library, and unless it were for the exertions of a committee the collections in their Museum would never be complete. Upwards of 50s. was collected by the audience for the Shrewsbury Museum Improvement Fund.

USE OF CORAL.

Coral is useful as well as ornamental. The whole of the mortar used in the construction of the Lighthouse on the summit of Perim Island at the mouth of the Red Sea, the light of which was exhibited on 1st of April 1861, was made from Coral dredged out of the harbour. A simple kiln was made by excavating a large circular cavity in the sand into which layers were piled alternately of Coral, and of firewood obtained either from Africa or from Arabia.

ROMAN COINS.

The following addition has been recently made to the list of Roman Coins found in the neighbourhood of Kenchester. They have been presented by Mr. Wm. Bulmer, through the Woolhope Club, to the local museum :—

1. *Obv.* IMP DIOCLETIANVS AVG. Radiated bust with paludamentum, holding eagle-headed sceptre.
Rev. VIRTVS AVGG. Figure standing to left with olive branch and long hasta. A.D. 284. Abdicated A.D. 305. Died A.D. 313.

2. *Obv.* IMP C. ALLECTVS PF AVG. Radiated bust to right with paludamentum.
Rev. PROVIDENTIA AVG. Providence seated to left holding globe on right, and cornucopia in left hand. S.P. in field. Secunda officina, Prima Officina. Died A.D. 296.
3. *Obv.* CONSTANTINVS AVG.
Rev. PROVIDENTIA AVGG. Gate of Prætorium winter camp. P L G first office of Lugdunum. A.D. 306 to 337.
4. *Obv.* CONSTANTINVS AVG.
Rev. TRANQILITAS. VOTIS XX on Cippus. Mint mark destroyed. A.D. 306 to 337.
5. *Obv.* IMP. CONSTANTINVS AVG. Laureated bust to right with paludamentum.
Rev. MARTI CONSERVATORI. Mars standing to right holding shield and standard. P T R first mint office of Treves. A.D. 306 to 337.
6. *Obv.* IMP LICINIVS PF AVGG. Laureated head to right.
Rev. GEN POP ROM. Figure of Genius of the Roman People standing to the left with patera and cornucopia. P L N S F? in field. First mint office of London. A.D. 307 to 323.
7. *Obv.* CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C.
Rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS TR—P. Treves first mint office. A.D. 317 to 340.
8. *Obv.* Query? CONSTANS?
Rev. VICTORIÆ DD AVGG QNN (quinque nostrum). A.D. 333 to 350.
9. *Obv.* CONSTANTIVS II.
Rev. VICTORIÆ DD AVGCG NN.

THE BURNING OF THE BUSH.

By J. W. LLOYD.

I have been much interested in reading in the volume of *The Woolhope Transactions*, 1898-1899, p. 5, the contributions of Mr. E. L. Cave and the Rev. M. G. Watkins on the old Herefordshire custom of Burning the Bush, and as the descriptions of the manner in which the ceremony is performed as quoted by the above named gentlemen differ from each other and from that followed in this part of the county, I have been led to look up such references to the custom as are to be found in local histories and works dealing with such subjects to which I have access, and to make inquiry from persons who have taken part in the performance of the custom.

In the "Hereford Times" of the 5th January, 1901, a paragraph appeared under the local news heading of Kinnersley as follows:—"Burning the Bush. On New Year's morning, Mr. Davies, Lower Ailey Farm, Kinnersley, and Mr. Davies, Almeley Wootton, in company with a few friends spent an enjoyable time on this occasion. It may be interesting to some to know that this old custom of burning the bush has lived in this family upwards of one hundred years. Mr. Lilwall, Logaston, also renewed the old custom."

Strange to say Duncumb, in his History of the County of Hereford, does not allude to the custom at all, nor is it mentioned in the Gentleman's Magazine Library, volume "Manners and Customs," edited by Mr. George Lawrence Gomme, F.S.A., in which several pages are devoted to the "Manners, Customs and Superstitions in Herefordshire." Parry, in his History of Kington, describes the custom much the same as it is still carried out in this part of the county; while the late Rev. Francis T. Havergal, in his valuable little work on "Herefordshire Words and Phrases," gives under "Superstitions and Customs" an account of the custom as performed at Eardisland about the year 1877, and, as I am informed by the Rev. Joseph Barker, as it is continued to the present day.* These two accounts I have copied in full, and it will be observed that the Eardisland celebration agrees in some measure with those described by Mr. Cave and the Rev. M. G. Watkins. It is evident that the manner of performing the custom in these instances is either mixed up or confused with a kindred custom which formerly prevailed in the county and is described by Duncumb. Fosbroke and other writers, mostly quoting from Brand's Popular Antiquities, viz., "Twelfth day" celebration when fires are made of straw on twelve ridges of wheat, with a larger one on the thirteenth ridge.

The "Bush" is well described in the account quoted by the Rev. M. G. Watkins, and within the writer's memory it was quite usual to see one of them hanging in the farmhouse kitchens. I think Mr. Cave is in error in saying the *old* Bush was burnt and carried across a number of

*Mr. W. Langston, of Marston, near Pembridge, informs us that it is also still performed occasionally in that district.—EDITOR.

ridges as so fragile an article after twelve months drying would be consumed in a few seconds.

The "Burning," as described to me by Mr. Lilwall, of Logaston, who took part in the ceremony last New Year's Day, consists of scorching the hawthorn or blackthorn bush in the fire either before or after the four branches have been plaited into the form of two rings, one within the other, and at right angles, and takes place on the "piece" (field) of wheat first sown. After "Old Cider" repeated several times, and the health of the farmer on whose land the burning takes place has been drunk, the people adjourn to the house, where they are entertained with further supplies of cider and plum cake.

LOCAL CUSTOMS.

"It is the custom in this neighbourhood on the morning of New Year's Day for the servants of farmers and labourers to assemble in great numbers at their masters' houses to "Burn the Bush." Having received refreshment, and being furnished with straw, candle and lanthorn, and bottles of cider or beer, they visit each field on the farm sown with wheat, on one corner of the largest of which they kindle a fire, having provided themselves with a piece of thorn bush, which they hold over the fire for a few minutes to burn it, but not so as to destroy it completely, they all then partake of the cider or beer they brought with them, and in a monotonous disagreeable chant, sing "Old Cider," repeating the words several times. They then proceed to another field, where another fire is kindled, the hawthorn again held in it, or a new bush if it be on another farm, and more cider or beer drunk, and so on till having gone over the whole farm; they then proceed to other farms and make new fires and repeat the same strains. These pieces of hawthorn, bent in the shape of a crown, are carefully hung up in the farm houses till the next New Year's Day, when they give place to newly burnt ones.

A gentleman in this neighbourhood, a few years ago, was asked if he intended to burn the bush on a piece of land sown with wheat; he replied, "Certainly not"! "Well then," said the person who made the inquiry, "Depend upon it, sir, you will have no crop if you do not." But, contrary to his prophesying, the crop was a very good one.

So numerous are these fires on the morning of New Year's Day, that a medical gentleman going to attend a patient some distance from the town, remarked on entering the house that he had had plenty of light all the way from his residence from the fires burning the bush.

The very Rev. the Dean of Hereford (J. Merewether, D.D.) says that this custom, like others prevalent in the county of Hereford, is to be traced to an ancient heathen superstition; and, melancholy as might be the reflection it suggested, was nothing else than the remnant of the accustomed votive offering to Ceres, the goddess of corn, in whose worship the burning of a torch was a prominent feature."—*The History of Kington, 1845.*

New Year's Day Custom at Eardisland as late as ten years ago (1877).

"The people at Eardisland, and throughout Herefordshire, it is said, are still wont to usher in the New Year with an ancient and curious custom. On the 1st of January, very early in the morning, between five and six o'clock, or even sooner, the labouring men and boys employed at the different farmhouses meet together on some field on the farm, and having tied some bundles of straw together on a high pole, set the straw on fire, and while it is in full blaze the bystanders shout aloud, 'Old Cider ! Old Cider !! Old Cider !!! Three times three, hurrah !' A man then runs over twelve lands of growing wheat with the pole and stops on the thirteenth ; cider is then drunk. Should the straw cease burning before the man who runs with it reaches the thirteenth ridge of land it would be considered a bad omen for the crop. It is also customary the same morning to take down the mistletoe bough and hawthorn bush which have hung in the farmhouses during the last year, and put fresh branches of each to remain for the next twelve months. Care is always taken in procuring and preparing the mistletoe, and the hawthorn branch is made round by being burnt in the fire. Of course men and boys are afterwards entertained at breakfast, and no work is usually done on that day."—*Havergal's "Herefordshire Words and Phrases."*

LOCAL CUSTOMS.

The burning of the bush is now rare in the County. Rev. W. S. Clarke writes from Marston, Ross, that it was observed in that parish till between twenty and thirty years ago. He writes: "Our senior churchwarden used to burn the bush on his farm on twelfth night. Our sexton remembers helping to light the fires. Having covered the bush with straw and lighted it they made twelve fires, drunk cider, and went to the farm for supper. It was supposed to bring a good crop of wheat. They called it "the old mother and her little children."

He also records the two following customs:—

1.—Bread is made on Good Friday, cut up into fragments and mixed with milk, as good for various complaints of man and beast, and preserved. A loaf of this bread was shown to me by an old woman one year during Lent. She had a sheep ill, and told me she would give it some good Friday bread. She did so and the sheep recovered, consequently her faith in the bread was firmer than ever.

2.—A sure protection for children from convulsions. Get a piece of silk about one inch in width, and long enough to fasten round the child's neck. Go out and find some one else's donkey, not your own. Take enough hairs from its back, where the cross is, to stretch all along the silk, sew it within the silk, and tie round the child's neck.

SOME ARCHIVES AND SEALS OF HEREFORD CATHEDRAL.

ADDRESS BY THE DEAN OF HEREFORD TO THE WOOLHOPE CLUB.

I do not propose to give you a dissertation on what is known at "Palaeography," or the history of ancient writing, because it would occupy too much of the time I wish to devote to an account of some of the ancient records and seals which belong to the archive room attached to the Cathedral ; and because I am not qualified to speak upon a subject of which I have but a very slight acquaintance.

I have been lately much interested in the matter, owing to my examination of many ancient documents connected with the history of the Diocese and neighbourhood, and have been fortunate in securing the assistance of a gentleman well versed in the deciphering of such documents as you see before you—Mr. James G. Wood, F.G.S., without whose valuable aid my researches would have been fruitless, although I have worked hard in making a sort of classification of a selection from the very numerous papers to be found among our archives, and have chosen, for the most part, those having seals attached to them. Of course, there are a vast number without seals, many of which, in past days, must have been cut off, and many of which have fallen to pieces. I believe I have selected the best sealed documents that are to be found, and I propose to give you a description of them, and in a few instances a brief, and I trust, interesting history of the records attached.

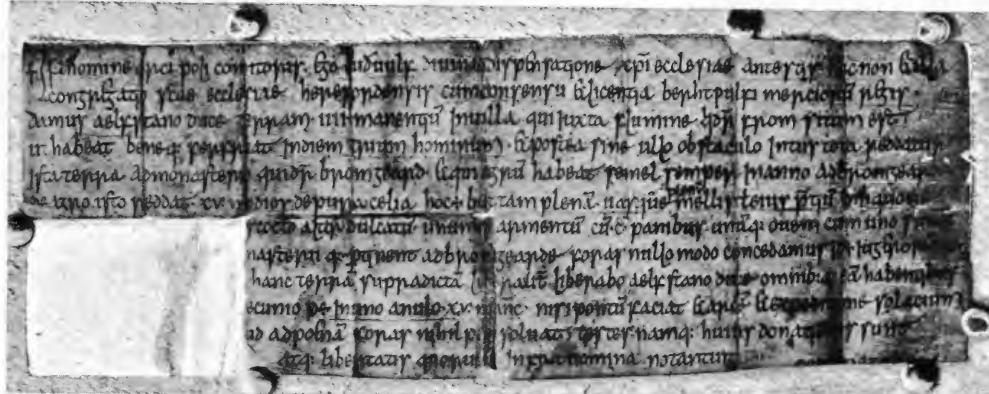
The brief introductory remarks I shall make on the early history of writing and materials used are gathered from a voluminous French work by M. Maurice Prau (recommended to me by M. Paul Meyer, Directeur de l'Ecole des Chartres, who lately visited our Library). The most ancient materials used to receive writing were leaves, bark, clay, pottery, metals, lead, bronze, wood, wax tablets, papyrus, skins, parchment, vellum, and paper. We need not now dwell upon the greater part of these materials, only mentioning papyrus as being the origin of paper, and supplied by the plant of that name, for the writing material of the ancient world, and which was widely cultivated in the Delta of Egypt. Lord Llangattock has a plant growing in his conservatory at Hendre, near Monmouth. Papyrus was employed in Egypt from the earliest times ; rolls of it are represented on the sculptural walls of Egypt, and rolls themselves still exist of very great antiquity, e.g., one at Paris which contains the copy of a work composed in the reign of a king of the fifth dynasty—i.e., about 2500 B.C. Papyrus continued as the ordinary writing material in Egypt to a comparatively late period. It was also used occasionally for purely Latin literature in the early middle ages Examples made up in book form, sometimes with a few vellum

leaves inserted to give stability, are found in different libraries in Europe; sermons of St. Augustine, 6th and 7th century, at Paris and Genoa; works of Hilary, 6th century, at Vienna; of Josephus, 7th century, Milan; a register of the Church of Ravenna, 10th century. A few papal bulls of this material have survived, one of the year 757, another 1011 A.D. The skins of animals were in use among the Egyptians early in the 4th dynasty. Actual specimens of skin rolls from Egypt still exist. In the British Museum is a ritual on white leather of about the year 2000 B.C. The Jews followed the same custom, and to the present day continue it in their synagogue rolls. From skins it was an easy transition to parchment or vellum—*i.e.*, skins prepared in such a way that they could be written upon on both sides. The common story, as told by Pliny, runs:—that Eumenes II., of Pergamum (B.C. 197-158), wishing to extend the library in his capital, was opposed by the jealousy of the Ptolemies, who forbade the export of papyrus, hoping thereby to check the growth of a rival library. The Pergamene King, thus thwarted, was forced to fall back again upon skins, and thus came about the manufacture of vellum. Whatever may be the historical value of this tradition, at least it points to the fact that Pergamum was the chief centre of the vellum trade. The durability of vellum recommended it to be used in preference to the fragile papyrus. When Constantine required copies of the Scriptures for his new churches he ordered 50 MSS. on vellum to be prepared, and St. Jerome refers to the replacement of damaged volumes in the library at Caesarea by MSS. on vellum.

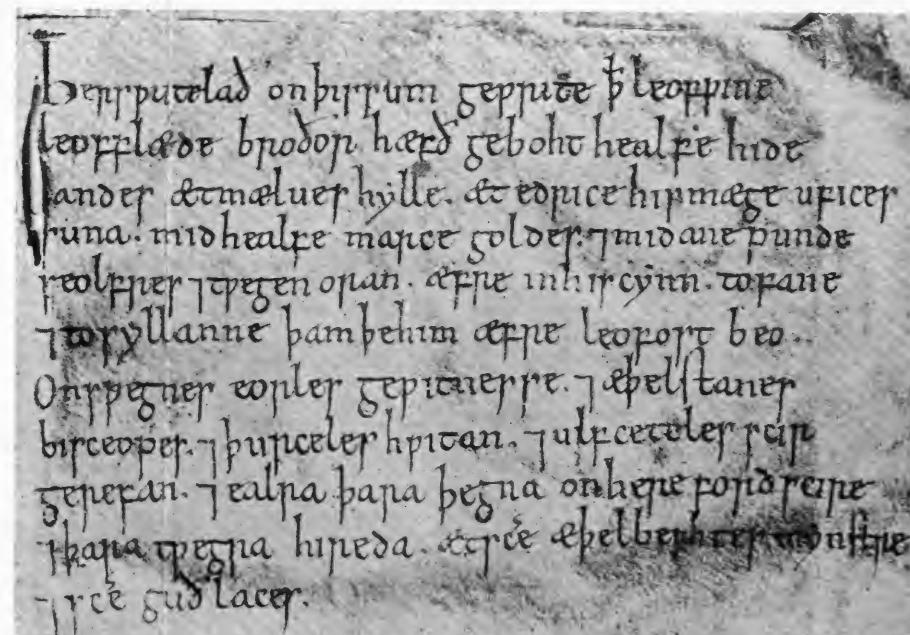
We have in our Cathedral library a great variety of MSS.; some of great antiquity, such as the MS. of the four gospels in Latin, which was said to have been bequeathed by Ethelstan, our last Anglo-Saxon Bishop, and is supposed to be more than 1000 years old. It seems to be of a rougher—*i.e.*, less polished—material than that used later, but the writing on it is just as distinct.

It will not be necessary for my present purpose to say anything with regard to our own material, paper, beyond stating that its manufacture from fibrous substances appears to have been known to the Chinese at a most remote period, and that it was first introduced into Europe through the agency of the Arabs. The scribes of old, probably owing to a desire to economise time or to save papyrus or parchment, had recourse, in order to reduce the amount of writing, to various processes which constitute “Brachygraphy,” or art of abbreviating. Previous to the 9th century not much was done in the way of abbreviating, and indeed in the 11th century, as may be seen from the record of William the Conqueror, manuscripts are much easier to read than those of much later date, for later on abbreviations multiplied so, that without explanation writings would be incomprehensible.

Want of space prevents me from dwelling upon the different modes of abbreviating, but I would recommend those who feel interested in the subject to study the work of M. Prau, or the useful handbook by Mr. Maunde Thompson.



ORIGINAL CHARTER OF CUTHWULF, BISHOP OF HEREFORD, A.D. 840.

PORTION OF ANCIENT INSTRUMENT RECORDING A SUIT IN COUNTY COURT
IN REIGN OF CANUTE.

The most ancient record we possess is the original Charter of Cuthwulf, Bishop of Hereford, A.D. 840.* It is the earliest known document relating to the see of Hereford, and is a grant by the Saxon Bishop and the congregation of the Church of Hereford, with the consent of Berthwulf, † King of the Mercians, to Aelfstan, Duke, of certain lands for three lives, and afterwards to the Monastery of Bromyard. The Manor of Bromyard belonged to the Canons of Hereford at the time of the Doomsday Survey.

Another most interesting record is to be found at the end of the Book of the Gospels of the 8th or 9th century. It is an ancient instrument recording a suit in the County Court, under the reign of Canute, of which the following is a translation :—

"Here is made known that a Shire-mote sat at Ægelnoth's Stone ‡ in the days of King Cnut, at which sat the Bishop Athelstan, and Rany the Alderman and Edwin the (son) of the Alderman; and Leofwine son of Wulsey, and Thurcill the White and Tofy Pruda came on the King's business. There were also the Sheriff Bruning, and Ægelgeard of Frome, and Leofwine of Frome, and Godric of Stoke, and all the Thanes of Herefordshire. To which assembly came Edwine, son of Enneawne and made complaint against his own mother concerning a certain share of lands at Wellintone and Cyrdeslea; then the Bishop asked who should answer for his mother; then answered Thurkill the White and said that he would if he knew what the defence was; but as he did not know what the defence was they chose three Thanes of the moot to go to where she was; and that was at Feligley (Fawley); these were Leofwine of Frome, Ægelwig the Red, and Winsy the Danish Captain; and when they were come to her they enquired of her what defence she had as to the lands which her son claimed. She said that she had no land which belonged to him, and was very greatly incensed against her son, and called for Leoflæd her kinswoman, the wife of Thurkill, and, in their presence, spake to her thus :—‘Here sits Leoflæd my kinswoman to whom I give all my lands, money, clothes, robes, and all that I have after my days,’ and she then said to the Thanes ‘Do nobly and well and announce my message to the Moot before all the good men and tell them to whom I have given my lands and all my property, and never anything at all to my own son,’ and of this bid them all by witness. This they did and they rode to the Moot and told all the good men what she had laid upon them. Then Thurkill the White stood up in the moot and requested all the Thanes to deliver free to his wife all the lands that her kinswoman had given to her, and this they so did.

* This Charter was discovered in about 1873, and restored to this Cathedral in 1875, by the Rev. J. Lee Warner.

It is printed in Birch's Cartul. Saxon, vol. ii., 3, and in Earle's Land Charters, p. 118. See also facsimile in Archaeol. Journal, vol. xxx., p. 174, where the history of the MS. is given. It has apparently been much more mutilated since 1873, when the facsimile was made.

† Beortwulf was King of Mercia 838 to 852.

‡ Ægelnoth's Stone is probably Aylstone Hill at Hereford.

And after this Thirkill rode to St. Ethelbert's Minster, and by leave and witness of all the folk caused the transaction to be set in a Christ's book."

This record is printed in Kemble's Cod. Dipl. No DCCLV, and in Thorpe's Diplom. Angl. at p. 336. Both give Hickes' Dissert. Epist. as their authority for it.

Following this record and on the last membrane of the book of the Gospels is another Saxon document. This has no connection with the transaction mentioned in the preceding record, and is in a slightly different hand; but as some of the persons named in it are the same, it is practically contemporaneous. It is a conveyance of lands at Mansel Gamage. The following is a translation:—

"Here is made known by this writing that Leofwine, the brother of Leoflaed, has bought half a hide of land at Mansel Gamage (Malveshyll), from Edric his kinsman, the son of Ufice, for half a marc of gold, one pound of silver, and two oras, to keep for ever in his family or transfer it to whom at any time he thinks best. On the witness of Earl Sweyn, Bishop Athelstan, Thurkel White, and Sheriff Ulfketel, and all the Thanes in Herefordshire, and the two Brotherhoods of St. Ethelbert's Minster and St. Guthlac's."

This document is No. DCCCII. in Kemble Cod. Dipl., there printed from Hickes.

Of the persons named Sweyn (Godwin's son), was in Herefordshire in 1046, see the A.S. Chr. under that year. In consequence of his misconduct with the Abbess of Leominster, he soon left England, and though he returned once more before his final banishment, he does not appear to have come into the West. (See Flor. Wig. and Wendover). This fixes the date at 1046.

Of the others, Athelstan was Bishop, 1012-1056. Thirkill is mentioned in Doomsday twice as having held lands at Credenhill, &c., before the Conquest. In each case the word "Wita" is interlined over his name. This raises a doubt whether his name was not properly Thurcel Wita, *i.e.* Thurkel the member of the Witenagemote (equivalent to our M.P.) and not Thurcel hwita as written in these documents.

Ulfketel is also named in Domesday as a former holder of lands in Herefordshire.

As to the date and origin of the "Book of the Gospels" in which these two documents are inscribed, see Bishop Westcott's article on the Vulgate, in Smith's Dict. of the Bible.

Who the Enneawne mentioned in the first of these two documents was, it is probably impossible to discover. The name indicates a Welsh origin, for the Welsh Eynon appears in the several forms of Ennanwin, Eneawn, and Enniaun, and we have here probably a fourth form. See Birch's Margam Abbey, 47, 109, 147, 168; where also the beautiful "Cross of Enniaun" at Margam is figured.



SEAL OF ELIAS DE BRISTOL.

No. 12.—Between pages 110 and 111. To face No. 13.

XIII. CENTURY.



7.—GRANT BY CITY OF HEREFORD OF TOLLS OF ST. DENY'S FAIR.
SEAL OF THE CITY.

LIST OF OTHER ARCHIVES, SEALS, ETC.

1. 1070.—Writ under seal from William the Conqueror to Wulstan, Bishop of Worcester, for restitution of certain lands by the Archbishop of York to Abbey of Gloucester.
2. 13th Century.—Circa 1230.—Grants by Elias de Bristol * of lands in Wynston bought from Margareta de Brute and from Sibilla filia Petri to Church of St. Mary and St. Ethelbert, Hereford. Two seals—(Legend) Sigill: Helie Decani de Pencr: et Tetehall—(Penkridge and Tettenhall).
3. 12th Century.—Very early seal of Malvern Priory, Inscription “Marie—Malverni”—Mother and child. Reverse “Sigillum—Set—HAEEL” (Angel and Palm).
4. 1157 to 1162.—Temp: Henry II., addressed to Hugh, surnamed Kyvelioc, Earl of Chester, who died 1181. Seal of King Henry II. Thomas à Becket tests as Chancellor.
5. 1162 to 1171.—Complaint from Roger de Berkeley to Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury, as to right of presentation to St. Leonard's, Stanley. Roger de Berkeley gave to the Prior and Monastery of St. Peter's, Gloucester, the Church of St. Leonards, Stanley, and all pertaining thereto. Gilbert was Abbot there, afterwards Bishop of Hereford.
6. 1186 to 1199.—Seal of William de Vere, Bishop of Hereford. No document.
7. Circa 1230.—Grant by City of Hereford, to Hospital next St. Ethelbert's Cemetery (situate within fee of William Marshall), of one-tenth of Tolls of St. Deny's fair. Temp: Henry III. and William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke—Witnesses: Maurice de Gour, Robert de Laxington, Ralph Mussard (Justices of the King), Reginald de Brausia, Walter de Clifford, Roger Pithard, Walter de Baskerville, Walter de Furches, John de Ebroico, Robert de Whittenei, Ralph de Baskerville. Seal of City.
8. 1219.—Hugh Foliot, Bishop, Founder of St. Katherine's Hospital, Ledbury. His seal.
9. 1223.—Hugh Foliot grants land at Selwiche to Thomas de Gaystone.
10. 1223.—Hugh Foliot. Annus post mortem.
11. 1223.—Hugh Foliot. Seal of St. Katherine's.
12. 1236.—Ordinance of Ralph de Maydestone, Bishop of Hereford, June, 1236, as to income of Church at Diddlebury, made at request of Abbey of Seez in Normandy. Seal—obverse—Bishop with staff in right hand in Benediction. Legend—Radulvus dei gratia—densis Episcopus Small heads of the Blessed Virgin Mary and S. Ethelbert on either side of principal figure. Reverse—Blessed Virgin

* There was another Elias de Bristol who was Treasurer of Hereford Cathedral, 1145. The Treasurer of Hereford at the date of these Documents was Elias de Radnor who had been a Monk of Margam and was afterwards Bishop of Llandaff. He witnesses one of these documents.

Mary with holy Child standing, cloud holding lower part of figure. Half length figure below in adoration. Legend "Ave Maria Græ-plena Dominus Tec." An "inspeximus" copy of this document is printed in Madox's *Formulare*.

13. Before 1236.—Document in Latin to Ralph, Bishop of Hereford, from Abbot of St Martin's, Seez, with reference to the matter of transfer of lands at Diddlebury, etc. (mentioned above). Seal of Abbot of Seez.

14. 1237.—Bond of Henry de Trublevill (Turberville), Lord of Ogmore, to Prior of Eweni.

15. 1240.—Johannes Foliot, Rector of Boclinthorn (?), was Archdeacon of Salop, 1242. "Sigillum Johannes Foliot." Device, Blessed Virgin Mary with Child, figure in act of adoration.

16. 1244 to 1260.—Lease of lands at Ebley under Privy Seal of John, Abbot of St. Peter's, Gloucester. Legend on Seal "Secretū Abbatis Sci Petri Gloucester." Date somewhat uncertain as there were two Johns, Abbots John de Felda, 1243-1263, and John de Gamages, 1284-1306.

17. 1245.—Pope Innocent IV. (Leaden Bulla), giving the Canons power to levy monies for the restoration of Cathedral.

18. 1248.—Seal of Dean and Chapter (Confirmation).

18A. Circa 1209.—Grant of Robert de Berkeley (son of Maurice) to the Church of St Leonard, Stanley (near Stroud), of his Woodland of Cowley. Note—This Robert was 3rd Lord Berkeley, 1190-1220. Almost all the witnesses to this document occur in the Berkeley Charters (vide Cart., Glouc. i, p. 113.) Seal of Granlor.

19. 1273.—Letters patent of Edward I. granting to his valet, Richard de Munemuth (Monmouth) the custody of the castle of Criccieth, dated at Nottingham, October 26th, 1273.

20. 1316.—John XXII. Pope (Leaden Bulla) Charge to Abbots of Wiggemore de Ledbury Hospital.

21. 1349.—Indenture (in French) between Dean and Chapter of Hereford and Abbot of Reading. Seal of Leominster Priory. Very fine. Note—Leominster was a Priory under Abbey of Reading.

22. 1364.—Deed under seal of Osbert Fitzhugh, as chief Lord of the fee, confirming grant by Richard de Landa to Dean and Chapter of Hereford.

23. 1364.—Composition as to tithes between the Master and Brethren of St. Katherine's Hospital, Ledbury, and St. Guthlac's Priory, with consent of Dean and Chapter. Seal of Hereford Cathedral, Counterpart being sealed by Ledbury (latter missing).

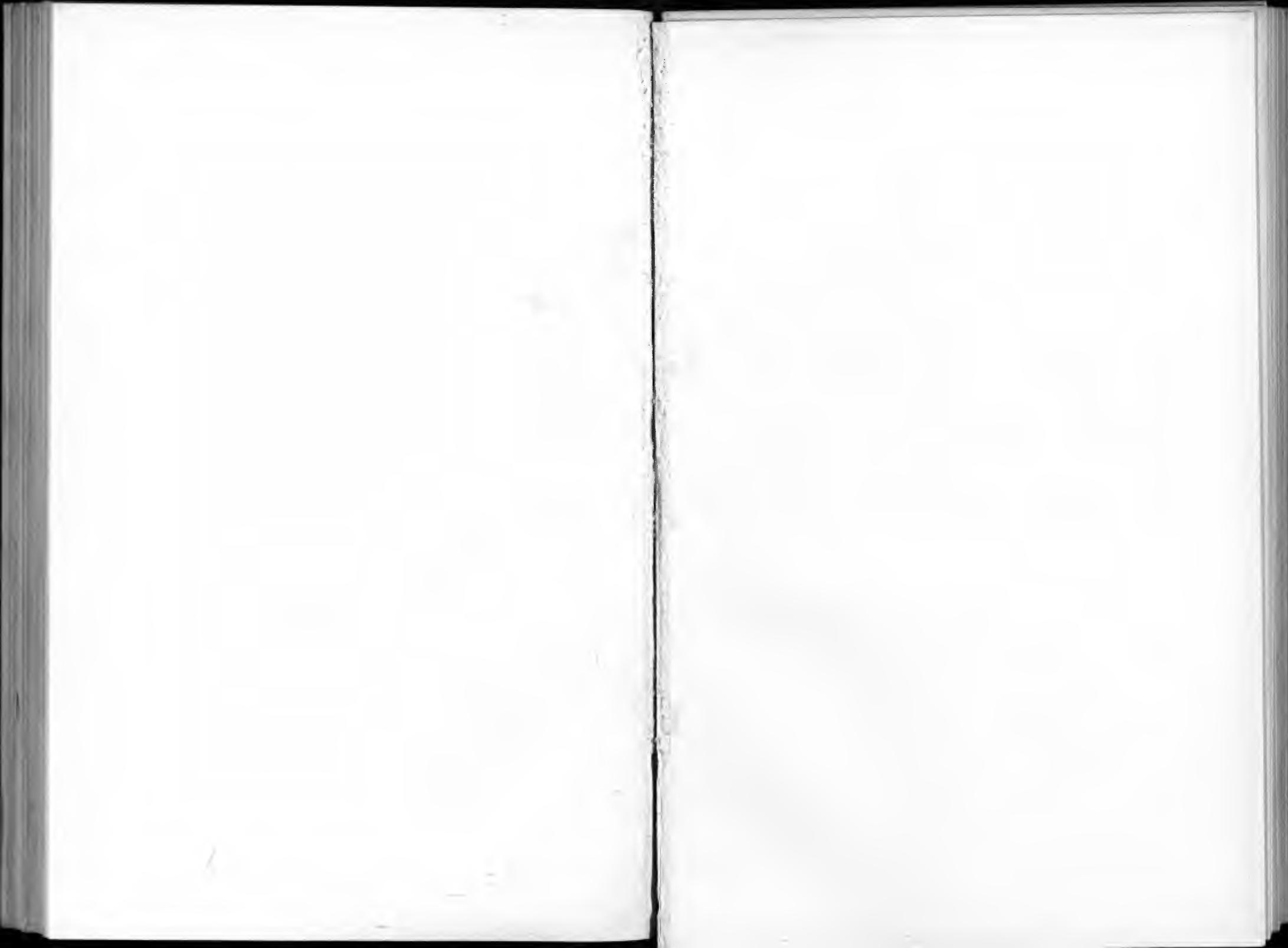
24. 1371.—Deed between Abbey of Malmesbury and Abbey of Gloucester, granting latter right to build a chamber within Priory of former, in Stockwell Street, Oxford—dates St. Nicholas and St. Thomas, 45, Edward III. (1371). Seal of Abbot of Malmesbury with Legend "Hoc Aldemus ago quod præsens signat imago."

XIII. CENTURY.



ALFRED WATKINS
PHOTO.

8.—SEAL OF HUGH FOLIOT, BISHOP OF HEREFORD.



XIV. CENTURY.



21.—SEAL OF LEOMINSTER PRIORY.

XIV. CENTURY.



21.—SEAL OF LEOMINSTER PRIORY.

ALFRED WATKINS
PHOTO.

25. 1367.—Quit claim or release from Ellen, widow of John Sylling, of land held from Vicar of Longhope, etc. Somewhat unusual handwriting for that period. "Datum die Sabat. proxima post festum Purificationis Beate Marie Virginis, anno regis Edwardi tertii post conquestum quadragesimo primo"

26. 1316.—Seal of Prior of Llanthony. Grant of land at the Moors, to St. Katherine's, Ledbury. From John de Kingestun, Prior of Llanthony. Very curious seal—baptism of Our Lord.

27. 1320.—Deed with seals of Rogers de Mortwallis, Bishop of Salisbury, and Adam de Orleton, Bishop of Hereford, relating to the condition of Hereford Cathedral—an important document (Dean Merewether's book, p. 71).

27A. 1323.—Receipt from William Sprot of London for Metal Work for the Shrine of St. Thomas, of Cantilupe.

28. 1330.—Indulgence from Pope John XXII., for St. Katherine's Hospital, Ledbury.

29. 1316.—Commission from Richard, Bishop of Hereford, to Philip, his official principal, dated from Bosbury, relating to disputes between Ecclesiastical Authorities and City of Hereford.

30. 1378.—Transcript of Bull of Gregory XI., with seal of William Pallisey (orbor) (auditor).

30A. 1380.—Urbanus VI. to Dean and Chapter of Hereford, re sisters and brothers of St. Katherine's, Ledbury, confirming certain rights made by their predecessors.

30B. 1400 (?).—Letters patent of Henry (IV. ?), under seal of Exchequer, 24th January (year obliterated), recites inspection of divers accounts of stewards of the Barton at Gloucester assigned (among other lands) to Eleanor, late Queen of England, Mother of Edward, late King of England, son of King Henry of England—"Our progenitors" as her dower—and particulars of the land, etc., at the request of John, Abbot of Gloucester, and the farmers of the Barton. Fine seal

31. 1426.—Release by John, Prior of Wormsley, to Chapter of Hereford, of £70 due for rent of Hereford Mill to preceding Michaelmas. Seal, "Si Johannis, Prior de Wormsley."

32. 1426.—Thomas Spofford, Bishop of Hereford.

33. 1445.—Seal of Dean and Chapter.

34. 1451.—Settlement by Sir Thomas Pembrugge on his son and daughter-in-law, Katerina, daughter of Sir Thomas Bromwyche, and their heirs of the Manor of Mansell Gamage, and lands and rents in Staunton, Bishopstone, and Brinsop. Seal, coarse impression of Pembridge Arms, similar to arms on monument of Sir Richard Pembridge in Cathedral.

35. 1509.—Authorities of St. Mary of Winchester College, Oxford, ordain Obit for Richard Mayew, Bishop of Hereford. The Bishop did not die until 1516. He had been Warden of Magdalen College, Oxford, and was educated at Winchester. His handsome monument is in S. Choir Aisle.

36. 1604.—James I., King of England, Scotland, and France.
 37. 1654.—Oliver Cromwell, large seal of the Commonwealth, with reference to dispute concerning lands.

HISTORY OF SOME OF THE ABOVE RECORDS.

1. Seal of William the Conqueror. "Willelmus Rex Anglorum, Wulstano Episcopo Wigorniae et Willelmo filio Osberni et omnibus Baronibus et ministris suis de Glocestria et de Wigrecestra scira Salutem."

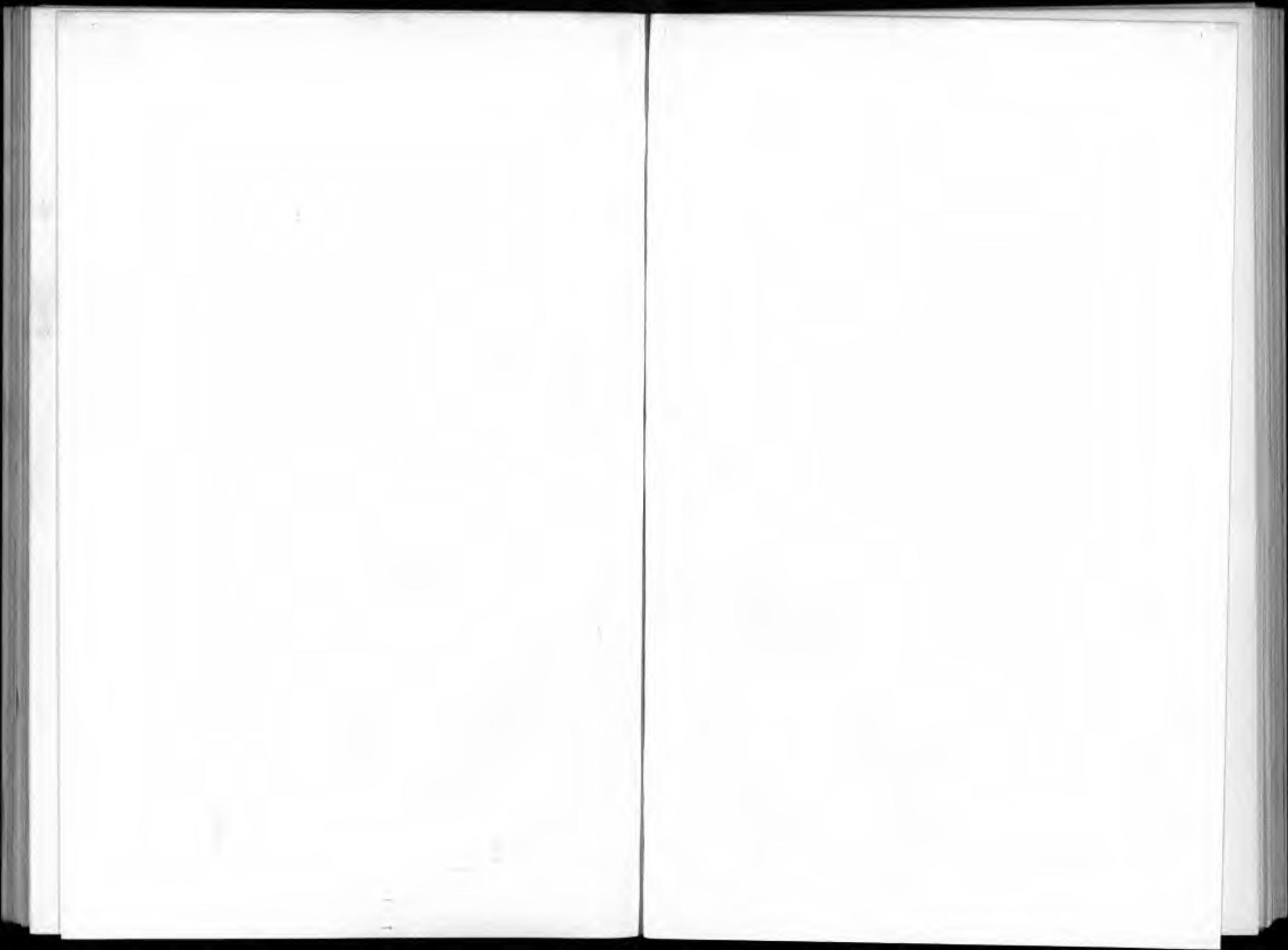
A clearly written document, in wonderful preservation, being an order from William, King of England, to Wulstan, etc., for restitution to the Abbey of Gloucester, of certain lands appropriated by Aldred. Translation:—"William, King of the English, to Wulstan, Bishop of Worcester, and William Fitzosbern and all his Barons and Officers of Gloucester and Worcester, Greeting. Know ye that I have granted, restored, and confirmed to God and St. Peter of Gloucester and to Serlo, Abbot, and to the Monks of the same Church, all their lands which Thomas, Archbishop of York, held without right, viz., Leach, Oddington, and Standish, with all their appurtenances as free and unencumbered as it has been admitted before me that the same lands belonged to the said Church of St. Peter of Gloucester from the foundation thereof, and that the same Archbishop had no title to those lands. Wherefore I ordain that the aforesaid Church of Gloucester do hold the lands above mentioned with all their appurtenances as well, peaceably, freely, and quietly, and as of right with "sac," "soc," "toll," "team," and "infangene theof," and with all rights, privileges, and customs, which I of my Royal Authority have granted to the same Church, and moreover I do forbid that anyone do cause or make any injury, exaction, or claim against the same under penalty of forfeiture to me." Witnesses: Llanfranc Archbishop, Geoffrey, Bishop of Coutance, and Robert, Earl of Moreton (or Mortain). Seal—somewhat broken—on the one side the King on his throne with sceptre and sword and letters "O Fateari—Eunde," and on reverse side King on horseback "Ormanorum Wille." The full legend on the Conqueror's seal is:—"Hoc Anglis Regem signo Fatearis Eudem," and "Hoc Normanorum Willemum Nosce Patronum."

Aldred, the predecessor of St. Wulstan as Bishop of Worcester, on his translation to York tried to retain also the Bishopric of Worcester. This Pope Nicholas declined to permit, and he confirmed Aldred's appointment to York only on condition that he resigned Worcester, which he eventually did in 1061; thereupon Wulstan was consecrated to the see of Worcester. Aldred, however, retained possession, until his death, of certain lands of the Diocese of Worcester, which happened just before the Council of Winchester at which Stigand was deposed (April, 1070) on which the temporalities of York fell during the vacancy into the hands of the King. Thereupon Wulstan claimed, as Bishop of Worcester, the lands which Aldred had wrongfully retained. The claim

XI. CENTURY



I.—SEAL OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.



ALFRED WATKINS
PHOTO.

27.—SEALS OF ADAM DE ORLETON, BISHOP OF HEREFORD, AND ROGER DE MORTWALLIS,
BISHOP OF SALISBURY, ATTACHED TO DOCUMENT RE CONDITION OF
HEREFORD CATHEDRAL.

was ordered by the King to stand over, until an appointment should be made to York. After the consecration of Thomas of York the claims came again before the King, Llanfranc, and others in the autumn of 1070, when Thomas was ordered to surrender to the Bishop of Worcester the lands of that see which were in dispute.

The present document has reference to a similar dispute as to lands of the Abbey of Gloucester which Aldred had possessed himself of and Thomas retained.

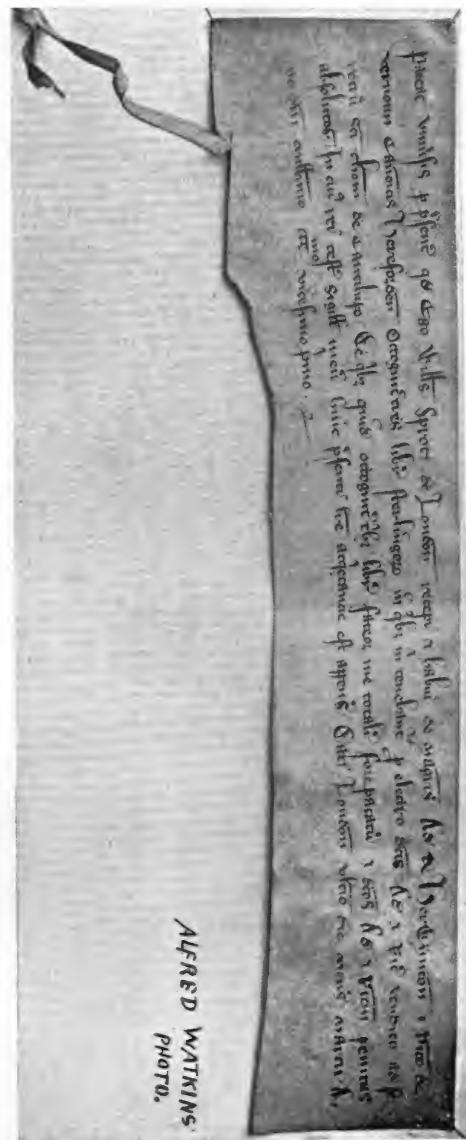
Personages named in record : St. Wulstan, Prior of Worcester, September, 1061, consecrated by Aldred, Archbishop of York, to succeed him as Bishop of Worcester. He died in 1095. William Fitzosbern, chief instigator of the Norman Invasion, built Chepstow Castle and restored Wigmore Castle ; became Earl of Hereford with considerable jurisdiction over the border counties. When William returned to Normandy in 1067, Fitzosbern remained in England, as joint Regent with the Conqueror's half-brother Odo of Bayeaux. Serlo, Abbot of Gloucester in succession to Abbot Wulstan. Robert, Earl of Mortain, half-brother of Conqueror, and brother of Odo, Bishop of Bayeaux. He was made Earl of Cornwall soon after the Conquest.

12. 1236.—Ordinance of R. de Maydestone as to income of Church at Diddlebury, at request of Abbot of Seez, in Normandy. Ralph de Maydestone presented to the College of Vicars Choral a charge of twenty marks on the revenues of the Church of Diddlebury, in Shropshire. There was a house here of Gradmontines subject to the Abbey of Seez in Normandy, having been transferred to that Community by the Abbey of Shrewsbury, circa 1147. The Abbot and Chapter finding the burden of providing an incumbent too great for them at so great a distance, requested the Bishop to relieve them of it, which he did by transferring the patronage of the benefice to the Dean and Chapter of Hereford, but reserving the pensions to the Abbey and to the College of Vicars, A.D. 1236.

13. Before 1236.—Document in Latin referring to the above. Translation : "To the Rev. Father and Lord—by the grace of God Bishop of Hereford, P—by divine blessing, Abbot in all humility of St. Martin's Seez, Salutation and reverence as due and given to my Father and Lord. Since owing to various and difficult obstacles we are unable to appear personally before you, we send you our beloved Monk J., Prior of Pembroke,* with sufficient instructions, by grace of God, to complete the business concerning which we spoke to you in London, we undertaking to ratify and confirm whatever he may think ought to be done before you in the same business. In testimony of which we send you our letters patent, farewell and blessing in the Lord, beloved Father."

27. 1319.—A parchment bearing two beautiful episcopal seals of Bishops, of Sarum, Roger le Poer, and Hereford, Adam de Orleton,

* The Priory of Pembroke was annexed to the Abbey of S. Martin at Seez; hence the name Castle Martin in Pembrokeshire, which was a Manor granted to the Priory by William Marshall.



RECEIPT FOR METAL WORK FOR SHRI NE OF ST. THOMAS DE CANTILUPE.

acknowledging and confirming the grant of the great tithes of Shenyngfeld and Swalefeld, to the sustentation of the fabric of the Church of Hereford, by the Bull of Pope John XXII., 1319. It seems that the Dean and Chapter had petitioned the Pope on the following grounds : That "they being desirous of re-building a portion of the fabric of the Church of Hereford, had caused much superstructure of sumptuous work to be built, to the adornment of the House of God, upon an ancient foundation ; which in the judgment of masons and architects, who were considered skilful in their art, was thought to be firm and sound, at a cost of 20,000 marcs sterling and more, and on that account of the weakness of the aforesaid foundation, the building which was placed upon it now, threatened such ruin, that by a similar judgment, no other remedy could be applied short of an entire renovation of the fabric from the foundation, which, on account of the expenses incurred in prosecution of the Canonization of Thomas de Cantilupe, Bishop of Hereford, of blessed memory, they were unable to undertake." Upon which the said tithes were appropriated to the sustentation of the fabric of the Cathedral Church, and they form to this day the fabric fund. It is perfectly evident then that the sumptuous work alluded to in this Bull was the central tower and the north transept, which latter was built for the purpose of receiving the remains and the shrine of Bishop Thomas de Cantilupe ; the translation of which took place, from the Ladye Chapel where they had first been deposited, a short time after. The document is very satisfactory as an evidence that great commotion and alarm were caused by the indications of failure in the structure soon after its erection ; and other documents since discovered fortify the same opinion, and show that for a long period great precautions and reparations were necessary.

27A. 1323.—Receipt for metal work for the shrine of St. Thomas of Cantilupe :—Translation : "Know all men by these presents that I, William Sprot, of London, have received of Masters Adam de Herwynton and Richard de Vernon, Canons of Hereford, £83 sterling, in which amount they were held bound to me for yellow metal sold to the said Adam and Richard, for the shrine of St. Thomas de Cantilupe, in respect of which £83 I acknowledge myself to be wholly satisfied, and the said Adam and Richard to be entirely discharged. In witness whereof my seal has been hereunto affixed, given at London, March 31st, 1323." Adam de Herewinton is mentioned as Prebendary of Moreton Magna, and Richard de Vernon Prebendary of Inkbarrow, 1318.

35. 1509.—"In the name of God. Amen. By the authority and decree of the venerable and learned William Porter, Warden of the College of Blessed Mary of Winchester in Oxford (commonly called "Saynt Mary College of Wynchester in Oxforth"), and with the consent of the thirteen seniors of the said College, it is ordained and decreed that whosoever, whether the Warden or other person, shall be appointed according to the direction of the Statute, to celebrate the Requiem Mass year by year in the terminal Obit for the quarter preceding Easter for

the noble founder and the Benefactors of the College, shall make remembrance, when saying his "Memento," for the soul of the worthy Richard Mayew, Lord Bishop of Hereford, some time Fellow of the said College, and for the souls of his parents and benefactors, and of those to whom he stood indebted whilst he lived on earth; and in the offices for the Dead to be performed on the day before, and in the Mass he shall specially pray for the souls aforesaid, with this Collect: "Deus, Indulgientiarum Domine, da, etc., both in his private prayer and in the Post Communion during the term and space of 100 years. And the person so celebrating and commemorating the souls aforesaid shall receive (by way of the proceeds year by year on that day from the sum of £10, liberally given by the Lord Bishop aforesaid to the College), by the hands of the Bursars, 12d., for his labour and service. And the Warden aforesaid and the Fellows from considerations of affection have granted (so far as in them lies), by reason of the benefits conferred on them and the College by the said reverend Prelate that the souls aforesaid shall have their part in each and every Mass and prayer henceforth to be said in the College with other works of Charity for evermore. In testimony whereof the Warden and Fellows of the College aforesaid have to these presents set their Common Seal. Given in the Great Hall of the College aforesaid the 9th day of August, 1509. (Seal extant).

29. 1316.—ABSTRACT OF COMMISSION from Richard, Bishop of Hereford, to Philip, his Official Principal (*officiali suo*), dated at Bosbury, 5th May, 1316.

This Commission has reference to the long standing disputes between the Cathedral and City Authorities, as to their respective jurisdictions in civil matters within the City.

It begins by setting out, at full length, a memorandum of Agreement made on Tuesday in Easter week, 1260, between Peter (Acquablanca), the Bishop and the Dean and Chapter on the one part, and the Citizens of the other part.

That agreement recites that there had been a controversy between the parties as to divers rights and privileges, but they had agreed to a compromise of the litigation on the following terms:—

(1) The Bishop and the Dean and Chapter to have "assize of bread and ale" that is, a jurisdiction corresponding to the modern regulation of weights and measures and adulteration, over all their tenants, and the residents on their lands within the city and the suburb.

(2) The City not to enter upon lands of the Bishop or Chapter to execute distresses or attachments.

(3) If any tenant of the Bishop or Chapter should be attached for breach of the assize of bread, etc., he should be returned to the Cathedral Bailiffs, with the particulars of his misdemeanour, and receive judgment and sentence in the Bishop's Court.

(4) The Bishop and Chapter to have the right to use the King's Pillory and Tumbrell, the appropriate instruments of punishment for

breach of assize within the City, both during the time of the Bishop's Fair and at other times, in order to execute the sentences of the Bishop's Court by their own bailiffs.

(5) The Bishop and Chapter to restore to the King's Court the Pillory and Tumbrell which they had taken down, and not to remove it again.

(6) All tenants of the Bishop and Chapter resident on their lands within the City to have freedom to buy and sell and dispose of their wares, and to be free of toll and all exactions with the exception of certain tenants called "advocarii."

(7) All tenants of the Bishop and Chapter living without the City (both freehold and customary), except merchants disposing of their wares, to have freedom to buy victuals in the City for their own use; and also to sell their corn, animals, and all other goods at their pleasure, excepting the sale of cloths by the ell, and they should be free of toll and exactions. Any question whether a man were a merchant or no to be settled by his oath without more ado.

(8). The tenants of the Bishop and Chapter resident in Bromyard, Ledbury, Ross, and Preston, being merchants, to be at liberty to buy in the City as before the compromise, and to be free of toll and other exactions.

(9) The Bishop and Chapter on their part concede that they will not execute distress or attachments on land held of the Crown.

(10) If any citizen or out-resident should bequeath to the Cathedral any rent charged on lands held of the Crown, they are to have no further rights in the lands except to receipt of the rent-charge, and that is not to give them title to any other privilege in the lands.

(11) The skin market to be removed and set up in a more convenient place as the parties may agree.

(12) If the City walls require repairs, and the parties cannot agree to do it jointly, part is to be allotted to the tenants of the Bishop and Chapter, according to the proportion of their holdings in the City.

(13) The market at Preston to remain as before, but it may be held on Friday or Tuesday as the citizens elect.

(14) The Bishop and Chapter to have the right of attachment in respect of "Infangene-theof" according to the King's grant.

(15) All gates of the City to be for the common use of the Bishop and Chapter and their tenants for free ingress and egress, without hindrance on the part of the citizens or their Bailiffs.

(16) The agreement to be enrolled in the King's Court.

This Agreement of Compromise (of 1260) was signed in the presence of Robert Waleron and Nicholas de Turri, the King's Justices.

It is partially set out and (in some respects incorrectly) translated in Johnson's "Customs of Hereford," at p. 68 and following. On p. 70 reference is made to a somewhat similar dispute in 1290; but there is no reference in that book to the matter that gave rise to the above proceedings in 1316. Later on the disputes were revived, in 1520, by

reason of the City Sergeant having distrained a pewter pot (probably for breach of the assize of ale) within the Canon's fee; which affair was compromised in amusing fashion, as set out in Johnson, pp. 100 seq.

The Commission before us then proceeds as follows:—

"It has nevertheless come to our ears that certain sons of iniquity, forgetful of their own salvation and the compromise aforesaid, on this Tuesday on the morrow of the Feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross, entered upon our lands in the suburb of Hereford, and took distresses of measures within the following Mills, Yeyene (Eign) Mill, Stokette (Scut) Mill, Monks Mill, and Widemarsh Mill, which are known to be within our property, and are attempting to correct and punish whomsoever they found committing misdemeanour of this kind in respect of measures, contrary to the Agreement aforesaid by which such misdemeanants are to be corrected and punished in our Courts by our Bailiffs. And although the assize of bread and ale over all our tenants belongs to our Court, we are given to understand that such sons of iniquity after last Easter took of a certain baker resident within our property two shillings for misdemeanour found in respect of assize of bread, to our prejudice and to the injury of the privileges of our Cathedral Church of Hereford thus reprehensibly incurring the sentence of greater excommunication decreed by English Bishops in their provincial Courts.

"Inasmuch, therefore, as it is more pressingly expedient that the disturbers of ecclesiastical liberties and rights should be restrained, for that their malice, if left unpunished, would redound to the detriment of Churches and ill repute of the clergy; WE desiring to provide to the extent of our powers for the immunity of our Church aforesaid; and, according to the duty imposed upon us by our office, to restrain by canonical penalties the evil deeds of delinquents, as their deserts require; by the tenor of these presents commit to and command you that within our said Cathedral Church, and in all the parish churches of our City of Hereford, on Sundays and Festivals during the Celebration of Mass at such times as the greater number of clergy and laity shall be present, the bells struck, the lights lit and extinguished, and the Cross held aloft, you do declare, and cause it to be declared by others, that all and singular those, of what condition or station soever they may be, who have perpetrated the aforesaid or other wrongs to the prejudice of us and our Church contrary to the Agreement aforesaid or any article thereof and all who afford to them favour, counsel, assistance, or consent have without distinction fallen under the aforesaid sentence of excommunication: You moreover giving warning, and causing warning to be given, to all and singular who know of any such invaders of ecclesiastical liberties, that before the feast of the Ascension now instant they do inform you or us of their names. And that otherwise we will that the same persons so lawfully warned be involved likewise in the sentence of excommunication. And what you shall have done in the premises you shall be careful to inform us before the Feast of the Ascension aforesaid."

"Given at Bosbury, 5th May, A.D., 1316, and in the 34th year of our ordination."

Further information as to these disputes may be found in the Bodleian MS. Herefordshire Charter No. 36.

The claim of the Cathedral to civil jurisdiction in respect of their own property suggests a possible origin in a Lordship Marcher held by the Bishop such as was certainly held by the Bishop of Llandaff in Netherwent, if not in other parts of that diocese. From the nature of the case the Jurisdiction of Llandaff was even less defined, and much more circumscribed, than the jurisdiction of the Lords of Strigil, Abergavenny, Powis, and others; and in the case of Hereford it may have grown up more as an usurped, than a conceded authority. Or again it may be a survival of the temporal power which Welsh Bishops certainly exercised before the Conquest. See for instance "The Privilege of St. Leilo" contained in the "Liber Llandavensis," and compare what Mr. Seebom has written in his "Tribal System in Wales." J.G.W.

The original of the Commission (in Latin) is in the possession of the Dean and Chapter of Hereford. Only a fragment of the Episcopal seal remains.

APPENDIX.

The subjoined list of documents relating to the fabric appears in an ancient catalogue, but the documents themselves have not yet been found. According to Dean Merewether, they may not improbably have fallen into the hands of Captain Silas Taylor, of the Republican Army, who, after the Siege of Hereford, took away many documents from the archives of the Cathedral. He had a taste for antiquarian research, and was the means, possibly, of preserving many documents which would otherwise have been destroyed.

1282.—John, Archbishop of Canterbury, gives indulgence of seventy days to him who should give forty days' work to the fabric.

1286.—Bishop of Rochester—indulgence to those who pray for St. Thomas de Cantilupe.

1289.—Bishop of Sarum—the same.

1316.—The King (Edward III.) grants his brief over all England and Wales—super negotio subsidii ad Feretrum St. Thomae et Ecclesiae Herefordensis.

1319.—John de Aquablanca's will, in which he desires to be buried near his uncle, Bishop Peter de Aquablanca, who lies buried under a beautiful canopied monument in the arch between the north aisle of the choir and the north transept, which contains the Shrine of St. Thomas, "in novo opere."

1319.—Petition of the Dean and Chapter for Shinfield and Swallowfield, in Berkshire, for the Church was RUINOSA.

1319.—The Pope's grant by Bull, fourth year of John XXII.

1320.—Pope John XXII., obliges all the Prebendaries to contribute to the repairs of the fabric.

1320.—Grants indulgence in usum fabricae.

1320.—Archbishop Walter's brief for translating the remains of St. Thomas de Cantilupe from the Ladye Chapel to the new work of the north transept.

1323.—Sequestration of John de Ross in usum fabricae.

1329.—Shinfield lease renewed by order of the Pope, on an advanced rent, in consideration of the ruinous state of the fabric.

1360.—John de Evesham, mason, enters into indentures for doing the work of the fabric.

1364.—Thomas de Cantabrag, another mason, enters into the like.

ST. MICHAEL'S PRIORY, BELMONT, HEREFORD.

In the General Chapter held at Downside Abbey early last February the Right Reverend Wilfrid Raynal having resigned the Cathedral Priorship of Newport, which he has held for twenty-eight years, was appointed Procurator "in curia Romana," with the abbatial title of St. Alban's. To fill the vacancy at Belmont the Fathers of the Chapter elected Ildephonsus Cummins, who for some time past has been Superior at St. Anne's Priory, Liverpool, and who twenty-five years ago was Professor at Belmont and Canon of Newport and Menevia. The new Cathedral Prior was at once installed in his Church by Canon Woods, the senior member of the Diocesan Chapter, and on Thursday, St. Benedict's Day, made profession of faith before the Lord Bishop of Newport, who had come to celebrate the Feast in his Cathedral Monastery.

Another matter of comment for St. Michael's was also decided at the General Chapter. Since its foundation in 1858 St. Michael's, Belmont, has been the Common Novitiate and General House of Studies for all English Benedictines; its Community has been composed of the Canons of Newport diocese and the junior members of the three other monasteries; but it has never received novices for its own Community. This restriction has been removed. The Cathedral Priory of Newport becomes "sui juris"; and whilst continuing to profess and train novices for the rest of the Congregation, it has now the right to accept subjects for itself. As vocations accrue St. Michael's will ultimately become an independent, self-supporting Community—a position due to it in consideration of its well-appointed buildings, its beautiful church, its traditions of observance, and the prestige of its Cathedral rank.



THE OLD MARKET HALL, OPPOSITE THE NEW INN, PEMBRIDGE.

Photo by T. H. Winterbourne.

No. 20.—To face page 123.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

FIRST FIELD MEETING, TUESDAY, MAY 28TH, 1901.

PEMBRIDGE, FOR THE ROWE DITCH, MOOR COURT
NUNSLANDS, GRIMSDITCH, AND LUNTLEY COURT.

HEADED by Mr. Thomas Blashill, father of the Club, nominated in 1852, President in 1882, again President in this the Jubilee Year, 1901, of this Club, the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club held their first meeting of the year on Tuesday, May 28th.

The President, hale and hearty as any, often set the pace during the day, notwithstanding its oppressive closeness and heat, and welcomed the following members and visitors:—Revs. J. Barker, W. S. Clarke, P. H. Fernandez, J. E. Grasett, E. Harris, D.D., W. Ireland, Prebendary W. H. Lambert, Claud Lighton, A. Ley, A. H. McLaughlin, H. B. D. Marshall, D. Basil Martin, A. Pope, F. S. Stooke-Vaughan, R. Hyett Warner, M. G. Watkins, H. T. Williamson, Dr. A. J. H. Crespi, Captain T. L. Morgan, Messrs. H. C. Beddoe, C. P. Bird, J. U. Caldicott, R. Clarke, C. W. Radcliffe Cooke, J. Davies, L. Davis, H. Easton, J. T. Hereford, J. W. Lloyd, J. B. Masefield, H. J. Parker, W. W. Robinson, E. Stephens, W. H. Steward, with the honorary secretaries, T. Hutchinson and H. Cecil Moore, and James B. Pilley, assistant secretary.

The visitors included the Revs. A. C. Auchmuty, C. B. Caldicott, J. G. Easton, C. P. Lee, F. Whitehead, Messrs. C. E. Clive, A. J. Dillow, F. S. Hood, Donald Matthews (from Redditch), H. Peel, F. S. Prosser, F. Shuttleworth, A. T. Southall, W. Whitehead (from Shipley, Yorkshire), and James G. Wood (from Lincoln's Inn).

The party left Hereford by the 9.20 train, and arrived at Pembridge at 10.13 a.m. Proceeding through the village as far as the church, taking the road to Kington on the right, the advanced party took a footpath at the distance of about one mile from the railway station across the Park and over Curl Brook, to Bylett's, where, in the lower grounds, the Rowe Ditch was inspected. Other members of the party continued along the Kington Road, and explored the portions of the ditch going northwards from its southern extremity near the main road. Measurements and photographs were taken, and all who were familiar with parts of Offa's Dyke pronounced the Rowe Ditch to be similar in proportions and in character. The Rowe Ditch has been already treated of in *Transactions*, 1897, page 253.

Moor Court, about one and a half miles further westwards on the Kington Road, was next visited. Moor Court, now tenanted by Mr. John Kenworthy, was formerly the residence of the late Rev. Prebendary James Davies, a classical scholar of reputation, who was President of the Woolhope Club in 1873 and 1874.

References to Moor Court will be found in *Transactions*, 1870, p.p. 292 to 299. A photograph of a fine Wych Elm in the grounds appears between pages 66 and 67 of *Transactions*, 1873, and Botanical Notes of the District will be found on pages 67 and following pages.

The Wych Elm measured 19 feet in circumference at 5 feet from the ground, in 1873. At the present date the girth is 22 feet 4 inches. The columnar buttresses of the trunk form a conspicuous feature. Its height, taken by Mr. Winterbourn's sextant, was found to be 130 feet, the same height as the elm tree near Leominster, which appears as No. 6 of the trees illustrated in *Transactions*, 1899.

The Silver Fir, which in 1873 (see *Transactions*, 1873, p. 70), was estimated at 120 feet, in height, with a fine bole 11 feet 8 inches at 5 feet from the ground, lost its leader many years ago, and is now strangled by ivy and exhibits signs of decay. By Mr. Winterbourn's sextant it was calculated as only 100 feet high.

A Cedrus deodar which, in 1870, after 30 years of growth, was 30 feet high, with a girth of 3 feet 2 inches at 5 feet from the ground, see *Transactions*, 1870, p. 294, is now 45 feet high, with a girth of 7 feet 6 inches.

Amongst other trees are an Ilex, a Sumach, an old Mulberry Tree, a fine Wellingtonia, an avenue of old Walnut trees, and the remnants of the celebrated avenue of Elm trees, which were sadly damaged in a gale three years ago.

No solution was forthcoming from any of the party explanatory of the extraordinary angular markings which persist on the lawn.

Mrs. Kenworthy kindly provided refreshments for the party. Some fine wood panelling was exhibited in the house; and upon the staircase were exhibited four life size portraits, oil paintings, framed in massive Venetian style, which had been discovered in a barn by an ancestor of the late Prebendary Davies. It is not known whom the portraits represent, but it is presumed that they represent members of the Vaughan family, of Bredwardine, and Hergest (not the Vaughans, of Courtfield), who owned this property in the 17th century.

Leaving Moor Court a long walk was taken across the fields by Lower Broxwood, thence traversing a portion of Messrs. Bulmer's Fruit Farm, at Wetton, to Nunslands.

About 70 acres are planted, chiefly with the most approved French vintage varieties, 25 feet apart. In some of the plantations are fine healthy black currant and other bush fruit between the young apple trees. Shoddy was observed at the roots of the apple trees, and upon enquiry from Messrs. Bulmer as to its object, we are informed that they manured the apple trees with shoddy both as a fertilizer and



WYCH ELM IN THE PADDOCK AT MOOR COURT, PEMBRIDGE.

Photo by T. H. Winterbourn.

No. 21.—To face page 124.

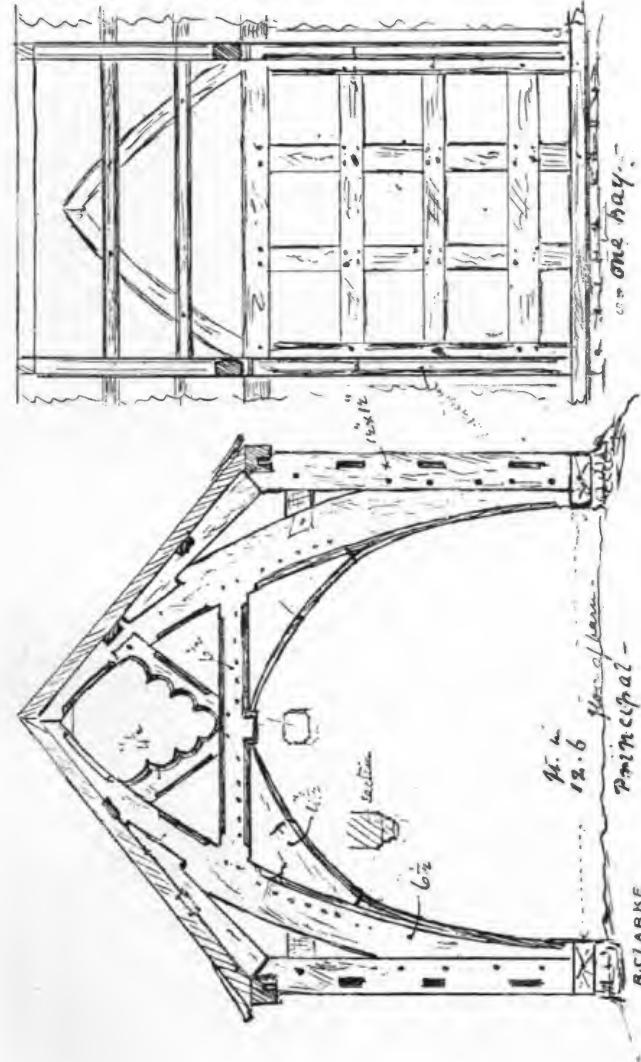


PIGEON HOUSE, DATED 1673, AT LUNTLEY COURT, PEMBRIDGE, WITH NESTING PLACES FOR
560 PAIRS OF PIGEONS.

Photo by T. H. Winterbourne.

No. 22.—Between pages 124 and 125. To face No. 23.

HEREFORD
Woolhope Trans.
1901.
Luntley. Court. Herefordshire
Ancient remains in Barn.



MEDIEVAL PRINCIPAL IN A BARN NEAR LUNTLEY COURT.

No. 23.—Between pages 124 and 125. To face No. 22.

Drawn by R. Clarke.

also because the mechanical effect of ground rags is excellent upon such heavy soil, lightening it up so as to enable the young roots to run freely. Moreover, the greater part of the planting was done in such wet weather that had it not been for the agency of shoddy they would not have been able to continue the work. The first planting of about 14 acres imported from Lefevre, a nurseryman at St. Brielle, and from Andre Leroy, nurseryman of Angers, consisted of varieties of Médaille d'or, Bramtot, Joly rouge, and Cimetière. Other acres were planted with standard trees obtained from Letellier, nurseryman, of Caen.

Nunslands was reached after a walk of about two miles from Moor Court. Portions of a surrounding moat, an old well, and remnants of masonry indicate the site of Nunslands, now occupied by an uninteresting looking structure of red brick. The interest lies in its historical associations which are treated in a paper, given below, by Rev. J. Barker.

From Nunslands the walk was continued, first across ploughed land and then along a good road to the boundary stone at Grimsditch, indicating by the letters inscribed upon it, P.D.E., the boundaries of the parishes of Pembridge, Dilwyn, and Eardisland. There are a few other large stones of similar character, conglomerate, in the immediate neighbourhood.

Luntley Court was reached after a walk of about 1½ miles from Nunslands. This is one of the best specimens of a timber-framed manor house to be found in Herefordshire. It bears the date 1674. Close by is a fine four-gabled old Pigeon-House, or Columbarium, with nesting places for about 500 pigeons, tier above tier, the nesting places in each tier being entered alternately from the right hand in one tier and from the left on the upper tier. Photographs were taken of the Court and of the Pigeon-House. The Pigeon-House bears the date 1673.

In an adjoining barn, separated from Luntley Court by Tippett's Brook, is a fine specimen of an oak roof truss or pair of roof principals; there are also remains of another principal; these are apparently of the 14th or 15th century. Mr. Robert Clarke's sketch shows how the arched piece, starting from the floor level, is continued up to the apex of the roof. The barn is 82 feet in length. Mr. Blashill is of opinion that it may have been part of the Hall of a mansion earlier than Luntley Court.

Pembridge Church and its quaint detached Belfry was reached after a walk of nearly two miles from Luntley Court. They were inspected and photographs were taken. They are treated in papers by the Rev. F. Whitehead, the present rector, and the Rev. J. B. Hewitt, formerly curate of Pembridge.

Detached Belfries of Parochial Churches are found in other counties, and in Herefordshire there are no less than seven:—Bosbury, Garway, Holmer, Ledbury, Pembridge, Richard's Castle, and Yarpole. Pembridge and Yarpole are somewhat similar in character. At Pembridge the ground storey consists of an irregular octagon of which "the

cardinal sides measure 25 feet and the shorter or diagonal sides 14 feet in length. From the walls slopes a long roof to the second stage, which is square in plan and constructed entirely of timber. This is again connected by another roof with a similar but smaller stage, capped by the usual pyramidal roof"—*J. Severn Walker.*

Eight roughly hewn timbers supporting the whole superstructure of five bells and their frames, rise from the ground about 22 inches square, and taper towards the top of the second stage. They are connected by massive horizontal and diagonal ties. Struts are carried from the uprights to the external walls, and additional cross-shaped braces have been added on the inner face of each side of the framework.

At Yarpole the wooden framing consists of four massive timbers, strongly braced together, resting on the ground, rectangular in plan, and entirely unconnected with the walls.

At four o'clock luncheon was partaken of at the New Inn. The President, in giving the health of the King, took the opportunity of paying a graceful tribute to the memory of the late Queen Victoria.

The President, again rising, said that he could not let pass this meeting of the Club, the first in its Jubilee Year, without expressing his heartfelt thanks for the kindness with which he had been treated in being again made president after nineteen years. He was the last remaining member of the small band that in 1852, before there was a railway in the county, had to set out from Hereford in a single coach before breakfast in order to reach such a place as this. The recollection of those days had its melancholy aspect, but it enabled him to hand down in the Club some of the lessons by which the older generation had been trained. It was a severe school, in which everyone was expected to be a worker and was taught to rely principally upon himself. Some old letters of those days would make this evident. In 1866 in writing to Dr. Bull, he had ventured to suggest that "the Club" might very fitly take up a particular subject and work it out—and this was how that enthusiastic and indefatigable worker served him, writing thus—"Take it up yourself forthwith, only don't expect 'the Club' to help you, it is all very well to talk of this, but it is moonshine; 'the Club' and its members hardly help anybody to anything." Other letters written, as far back as 1853, were from the Rev. W. H. Purchas, one of the founders of the Club, still surviving as an honorary member, and, so far as his strength would permit, increasing his botanical collection in his quiet Staffordshire parsonage. They were full of discriminating observations on that most difficult class of plants the water Ranunculi, and they enclosed typical specimens helpful to one who was taking up that subject. The fruit of his studies, always carried on with painstaking accuracy, might be tasted in our Herefordshire Flora in which he was joined by our member, happily here present, the Rev. A. Ley. In this old town we could not forget another of our original members, the Rev. Preb. J. F. Crouch, late of Pembridge, who in 1852 took the first prize at the Hereford Horticultural Show, offered by the newly formed Woolhope Club, for a herbarium of

Herefordshire plants. It was your present President who took the second prize. In a very yellow letter, dated 1866, Mr. Crouch writes about the puzzling forms of *Ranunculus fluitans* and *R. aquatilis*, an interesting form of which he discovered here in the Arrow.*

Leaving these old memories the President said he would beg of the younger members not to think that the time for new discovery was past, or the process difficult. How often had he and others wondered by what power the climbing plant found the pole, which might be at some little distance away. If they had only watched one of these plants for a few hours it would have soon revealed the secret. It was not until a friend brought a hop plant into the sick room of Charles Darwin that the power of twisting and turning round which resides in the tender shoot was discovered and the mystery was solved. He hoped they would have a year of research, which would no doubt be rewarded by discoveries valuable to science and creditable to the Club.

* We are indebted to the Rev. Prebendary Crouch for many of the geological specimens in our Museum. For a list of his collection of Lichens, Mosses, and Hepaticæ bequeathed to the Museum, see *Transactions*, 1890, p. 144.

THE WHOLESALE DESTRUCTION OF THE FERNS AT SYMONDS YAT.

On the conclusion of the papers, Mr. Thomas Hutchinson took the opportunity of remarking that he was at Symonds Yat on Bank Holiday, and was struck by the way the ferns were grubbed up and taken away by trippers. On that day there must have been hundreds of roots carried off, and if that went on what must be the result throughout the year. It is lamentable that the beauty of the woods at Symonds Yat—the most beautiful part on the southern boundary of Herefordshire—should thus be destroyed. His suggestion was that they should appeal to the Verderer of the Forest and ask him to put a stop to this wholesale vandalism. He suggested that Mr. Philip Baylis be asked by the Club to intimate that people who took plants away should be prosecuted according to law.

The Rev. Morgan Watkins agreed with what had been said, adding that nothing could be more grievous than to follow in the track of the trippers and see them carrying the plants a short distance, as they did, and then throwing them away. In Switzerland it was a highly penal offence to gather the Edelweiss, although he did not want such a law to be imposed on English people.

The President placed the matter before the Club, and Mr. Hutchinson's suggestion was agreed to.

Accordingly the following resolution was forwarded to Mr. Philip Baylis, Deputy Surveyor and Crown Receiver, Forest of Dean, White-mead, Coleford, Gloucestershire.

"That the Honorary Secretaries report to Mr. Philip Baylis the destruction in the woods near Symonds Yat caused by visitors rooting up ferns and other plants, with the request that he should if possible, by notice or otherwise, prohibit such wanton destruction."

From the reply of the Deputy Surveyor of the Crown Woods, it was evident that every endeavour was made by him to prevent such destruction by means of notices threatening prosecution of offenders. The Crown Woods extend over an enormous tract of country, and with the total force of employés it is difficult to catch offenders in the act.

The Deputy Surveyor looks for assistance from such clubs as the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club and kindred societies, and is glad of their support. He naturally, but we fear in vain, expects the public to take care of what is, with a parental solicitude, provided for the benefit of the public.

The Ordnance Maps, on the scale of 6 inches to one mile required for the district traversed to-day are—Herefordshire, Sheets xi. s.e., xi. s.w., xviii. n.e., xviii. s.e., xviii. n.w., and xviii. s.w.

On the scale of one inch to one mile, Maps 197 and 198 of the New Series are required.

NOTES ON MOOR COURT, NUNSLAND, LUNTLEY COURT, AND GRIMSDITCH.

BY REV. JOSEPH BARKER, VICAR OF EARDISLAND.

Before coming to The Nunslands, to which the paper I venture to read to you to-day will chiefly have reference, as being lands of some historic interest in connection with Lymebrooke Priory, and with Williams's Hospital in our Cathedral city, I feel in duty bound to say something about Moor Court and its former owner and occupant, the Rev. Prebendary Davies, a true Herefordshire worthy and Woolhopean; whose memory I feel certain is warmly cherished by all who had the privilege and pleasure of his friendship. Most of us will no doubt know that to-day is not the first time our Club have met at that interesting country mansion with its beautiful surroundings, which by the courtesy and kindness of Mr. Kenworthy we have been allowed to visit again: for, twenty-eight years ago, on May 15th, 1873, the Woolhope Club, under the presidency of Mr. Davies, held their first meeting of that year at Wapley Camp, and then came on to Moor Court. A paper on Wapley Camp and its connection with the resistance of Caractacus to the Romans was read by Mr. Davies (*Transactions*, 1873), "in a nook," it is said, "at the eastern corner of the camp which afforded an agreeable shelter from the wind, and where the Club assembled to listen to the President's paper."

In passing I may say, what a very pleasant remembrance I have of Mr. Davies reading a paper on "Wigmore Castle and the Mortimers," in a nook also beneath the keep of that historic fortress, and with what great interest it was listened to, although the day, June 17th, 1881, was by no means genial for summer time, and we had to shelter as we could from cheerless wind and rain. At the conclusion of the President's paper at Wapley, after a discussion on the first scene of the encounter between Ostorius and the British Chieftain Caractacus, and some official business had been transacted, the party descended the hillside and were conveyed to Moor Court, where through the hospitality and kindness of Mr. Davies a hearty and substantial welcome was accorded them. After lunch a paper on "Botanical Notes on the neighbourhood of Moor Court," by Mr. James H. Davies, was read by Dr. Bull, which may have been useful to some of our party to-day. In his address as retiring president, referring to that first meeting to Moor Court, he says, "I cannot quit the remembrance of the Club's visit without an expression of personal satisfaction that so goodly a number of members were there to see and examine the Wych Elm, the Silver Fir, and the Elm Avenue, which, in the *Transactions* of 1870, the Woolhope Commissioner has commemorated in his 'Incidental Notes of Remarkable Trees in Herefordshire.'"

Of the Wych Elm, which you have seen this morning, the Club in their 1873 volume already possess a photograph, which was kindly presented by Mr. Davies, with a full description of it likewise given, and I

hope other pictures of that famous tree with its present girth and calculated height, as well as some others of its neighbours in the woodland, have been taken to-day and put down for future record. Besides the papers I have named which Mr. Davies contributed to the annals of the Woolhope Club, and his retiring addresses as President, you know that in connection with the history of our county he has given to the "Quarterly Review" (No. 295, July, 1879) a scholarly article on "Herefordshire," and in "Blackwood's Magazine" (No. 758, December, 1878) another on "The Fruit and Vintage of Herefordshire," besides other literary compositions which it is always a pleasure to return to and read again. "Forsan et haec olim meminisse juvabit."

But we must go on to "The Nunslands." Some have thought that on the site of the farm buildings at the Nunslands, called also "Broxwood Byrches," over which you walked on the way to Luntley Court House, there stood formerly a nunnery or Nun's House; some remnants of old walls, portions of a moat, and a curious old well, which I remember seeing, but which is now filled up, might favour the opinion; but the Nunslands obtained their name from being before the Dissolution of such religious houses part of the possessions of Lymebrook Priory,* as was also the Manor of Marston, which was passed on the right hand side of the highway from the Byletts to Moor Court. By whom these lands were bestowed on the Priory, whether by a Mortimer or a De Lingen we do not know for certain, neither indeed is it quite clear to whom that religious house owes its foundation; those who care to look into the Volume of Transactions 1898-99, page 18, will find "Notes from Dugdale's Monasticon," and references in other books which tell us most that is known about the Nunnery. I have myself consulted the Monasticon, new edition, 1823, and what I believe relates to the Nunslands is the following extract:—"All that Dugdale himself found of this Monastery was confined to an Inquisition 'ad quod damnum' of the 24th of Edward III, by which it appeared that no detriment to the Crown seemed likely to arise should the King permit Adam Esgar to bestow his Manor of Brokkeswode Power on the Prioress and convent of Lingebroke, to be held by them to keep the anniversary of the said Adam yearly." This Manor of Brokkeswode Power comprised the Nunslands and perhaps others adjacent. Lilian Barbor, the only Prioress whose name has occurred to the editors of the Monasticon, surrendered the house to the King, December 28th, 1539 (31 Henry VIII.), when she had a pension granted to her for life of £6. Tanner says at the Dissolution there were six nuns; but four only, beside the Prioress, appear to have had pensions. We may form conjectures why these two nuns did not receive like treatment with the other four, but so the history runs.

Now, to whom the Nunslands were granted, or who became their owners in the first fifty years or so after the Dissolution, I have no certain knowledge, but about the year 1610 they became the property

* For Lymebook Priory—see Transactions 1898, page 18.

by purchase of the hospital founded by Mr. Richard Williams, and so begins their connection with that institution.

We find in "The History of the Mansions and Manors of Herefordshire," by the Rev. C. J. Robinson, under Dilwyn, that two-thirds of the manor there belonged in the sixteenth century to the family of Touchet, alias Awdsley, and that by a fine levied in 1548 this portion (which included Luntley) was granted by James Touchet to James Tompkins or Tomkyns, of Monington, and that he died seized of the manor 25 Dec., 1561, and his son John Tomkyns inherited it, and that it continued in that family until 1729. This, I believe, is the John Tomkyns who, with Elizabeth, his wife, sold the Nunslands, the rents whereof are paid to Williams's Hospital. In a letter also which I had from Sir Herbert Croft he kindly informed me that, "as to Sir Herbert Croft in James First's time, he was eldest grandson of Sir James Croft, of Croft Castle, was born about 1571, and was knight of the shire for the county of Hereford in 1592, 1601, 1603, and 1614, and he was knighted at Theobalds (Herts) on 7th May, 1603." This is taken from the family history of Sir James Croft, who was Comptroller of Queen Elizabeth's household, and of whom Sir Herbert has a picture. But I may not tax your kind attention any further; and pardon me for dwelling so long on such simple fragments of parish history, and yet may I express a hope that the time be not far off, though some of us here will not be permitted to see it, when such fragments (numberless they will be found in our country districts) and many already recorded in the *Transactions* of the Club, may be gathered together, arranged and improved by more able hands, and help towards forming the much desired volume of a full, true, and particular account and complete History of Herefordshire.

I add the following computus, or account of the places in this county, and several others, from which Lymbrook Priory revenues were derived, and showing the names by which they were known in olden times and now. It is from the Monasticon, Comput. Ministrorum Domini Regis temp. Hen. VIII.

(ABSTRACT OF ROLL, 33 HEN. VIII. AUGMENTATION OFFICE).

Lymbroke nuper Prioratus.

	£ s. d.
Com. Heref	
Bembridge—Redd. in Marsto...	... ... 2 5 0
Ereslande—Redd. in Barrow ...	... ... 0 11 4
Broxwood Byrches—Redd. ...	... ... 0 12 0
Roslen-Nonne House, etc. ...	... ... 2 0 0
Broxwood—Maner' ...	... ... 3 0 0
Broxwood—Herbage' de Powers Wood	... ... 0 6 8
Marson—Perquis' cur' ...	... ... 0 1 4
Dilwyn—Lib'redd ...	... ... 0 3 6
Boddenham—Lib'redd ...	... ... 1 8 5

			£	s.	d.
Hereford Civ—Lib'redd	...	...	0	3	4
Leynthal Erles—Lib'redd	...	...	0	2	4
Eyton—Lib'redd	...	...	0	4	0
Letton—Lib'redd	...	...	0	3	4
Morton—Lib'redd	...	...	0	11	0
Shyrley—Ten, etc.	...	...	1	0	0
Amestrey—Prat. voc. Pungall	...	...	0	13	4
Cowarne Magna—Ten 'et terr'	...	...	0	10	0
Esbroke—Prat.	...	...	0	2	8
Shobdon—Terr	...	...	0	1	6
Bodyngton—Prat.	...	...	0	13	4
Leyngyn Mers ...	...	...	0	6	8
Stoke Bliss—Al'Xmæ	...	...	1	0	0
Lymbroke—Molend'	...	...	0	10	0
Darvalde—Capella St. Leonard	...	...	2	0	0
Lymbroke—Scil'prior', etc.	...	...	5	12	11
Com. Salop.					
Ludlow—Lib'redd	...	...	0	12	0
Com. Radnor.					
Prestene—Redd'	...	...	0	3	3
Com. Wigorn.					
Nun Upton—Mers'	...	...	1	6	8
Clifton Mers'	...	...	0	7	0
Clifton—Xmæ	...	...	1	5	8
Clifton—Al'Xmæ	...	...	2	13	4

Nunslands (also called "Broxwood Byrches"), in the parish of Eardisland. Rents thereof now paid to Williams's Hospital, in the city of Hereford.

Extracts from arranged reports of the Commissioners on Charities and Education with indexes, 1815 to 1839. Vol. xiii. Hereford.

WILLIAMS'S HOSPITAL.

Richard Williams, by his will, bearing date the 22nd May, 1601, directed and appointed that his executors, within twelve months after his decease, should deliver as of his gift to the Mayor and Aldermen of the city of Hereford the sum of £1,000, to the intent that they with the same should erect, within the said city, a hospital for six poor people, to have continuance for ever; and that they, by good and sufficient conveyance, should procure a convenient house for the said hospital, and lands and tenements of the yearly value of £50, above all charges and reprises, and that of a good estate in fee simple to be conveyed and insured for the maintenance of the said six poor people for ever. . . . And that the said hospital should for ever be called Williams's Hospital.

By a deed of feoffment, in Latin, date 14th June, 1602, Sir John Scudamore, of Hom Lacy, in the county of Hereford, and Sir James Scudamore, his son, gave to the Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of Hereford, a piece of land in the parish of St. Audoen (now called St. Owen), containing in length 150 feet, and in breadth 87 feet, to hold the same of the chief lord of the fee, in trust, to erect thereon a house or hospital for the poor of the city aforesaid, and for other uses specified in the will of Richard Williams, then late of London, deceased.

On this piece of ground the hospital was erected.

The money which was left by Mr. Williams was laid out in the purchase of two estates, one of which is called Nunsland and the other Tremorithic. The following deed relates to the former of these purchases; and it is to be presumed that the fine and recovery therein mentioned were duly carried into effect, although no further document was produced, or could be discovered at the time of our Enquiry.

By indenture tripartite, bearing date 28th October, 7 Jac., and made between John Tomkins, of Lintley (? Luntley), in the county of Hereford, gentleman, and Elizabeth, his wife. John Tomkins, of Mornington, in the said county of Hereford, aforesaid, Esq., of the first part, the Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of the city of Hereford, of the second part, and Sir Herbert Croft, Knt., Anthony Pembridge, Esq., John Hoskins, Esq., and James Smith, of the third part—it was witnessed that the said John Tomkins, in consideration of the sum of £405, covenanted, promised, and granted, to and with the said Mayor, Alderman, and citizens, and their successors, in manner and form following, that is to say, that the said John Tomkins, and Elizabeth, his wife, should at the cost and charges of the said Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens, by fine sur conuzance de droit, etc., to be duly levied upon a preeipe, or writ of covenant, between the said Sir Herbert Croft and James Smith, and them the said John Tomkins, and Elizabeth, his wife, recognise and confess all that manor of Broxwood Birches, otherwise Nunlandes, sometime belonging or appertaining to the late dissolved priory of Lundbroke (Lymbroke), in the said county of Hereford, and parcel of the possessions thereof; and also all that the capital messuage or tenements, lands, tenements, meadows, and leasows, known by the name of Nunsland, situate, lying, and being in the parish of Eardisland, or elsewhere, in the said county of Hereford, with the appurtenances, sometime to the said dissolved priory belonging or appertaining and porcal of the possessions thereof; and also all houses, barns, buildings, woods, and hereditaments whatsoever, to the said manor, capital messuage, or tenement belonging or appertaining or therewith usually occupied or enjoyed, to be the right of them, the said Sir Herbert Croft and James Smith, as tenants to a preeipe for the recovery thereof to be suffered and executed; and it was futher granted, concluded and agreed by and between the parties, that they the said Anthony Pembridge and John Hoskins, should with convenient time after the fine so levied, sue forth and prosecute the writ of entre sur disseisin against the said Sir Herbert Croft and James Smith; by which writ they, the said Anthony

Pembridge and John Hoskins, should demand the said manor and premises with the appurtenances against the said Sir Herbert Croft and James Smith ; to which writ they, the said Sir Herbert Croft and James Smith, in person, or by their sufficient attorneys, should appear and make a common defence thereunto ; and further, that every of the parties thereto should do and suffer to be done, every act which should be necessary and expedient for the suffering and executing of a good and sufficient common recovery, with vouchers, as aforesaid, of the said manor and premises with the appurtenances, and that thereupon there should be a good, perfect, and sufficient common recovery in law of the said manor and premises, to the use and behoof of the said Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of the city of Hereford, and their successors for ever, and to none other intent or purpose ; and the said John Tomkins further covenanted, promised, and granted to him, his heir, executors, administrators, and assigns, and every of them, that the said manor and premises, and every part thereof, with the appurtenances, were held of our sovereign lord the King, as of his manor of East Greenwich, in the county of Kent, by free and common socage, and not by knights services, or socage in chief, and might lawfully be aliened, enfeoffed, and confirmed as aforesaid, without any forfeiture or title of any lord or lords thereof or thereunto, and that the premises there were, and for ever should continue to be, the said Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of the yearly value of £25 a year above all charges and reprises.

The following deeds relate to the Tremorithic estate, which was purchased with the residue of the money.

By indenture quadrapartite bearing date the 26th November, 5 Charles I., and made between Elizabeth Vaughan, alias Davenport, and Catherine Vaughan, daughters of Rowland Vaughan, deceased, of the first part, John Hoskins, of Moorhampton, serjeant-at-law, of the second part, Epiphane Howorth, Esq., of the third part, and the Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of Hereford of the fourth part.

The Nusland estate, in the parish of Eardisland, consists of 213a. 3r. 14p., and is valued by Mr. Fosbrooke at £102 per annum. At the time of our inquiry it was in the occupation of Mr. James Owen, was held under a lease of 14 years dated May 25th, 1822, at the rent of £126.

LUNTLEY COURT.

Luntley gave its name to a family of respectability which has survived to the present time. The chief manor appears to have formed part of the purchase of James Tomkyns, who died seised of it in 1561 ; his second son, John Tomkyns, inherited it, and it passed with the rest of the property to the Capels and Whitmores, who sold it to Ferrar, through whose eventual heiress it came to the late Thomas Davies, of Leominster. His daughters (one of whom is wife of Thomas Burlton

No. 24.—To face page 134.

LUNTLEY COURT, DATED 1674, IN THE PARISH OF DILWYN.

Photo by R. Clarke.



of Leominster) now enjoy it, as well as the chief property in the township which was for many centuries in the hands of the Bowyer family. Blount says:—"The chief mansion appertaines to Thomas Bowyer, gent., the son of John, the son of Henry. The name is of good antiquity in this parish (Dilwyn), for I find Thomas de Bowyer a benefactor to Wormesley Priory about Edw. III. This Thomas Bowyer lately married Dorothy, dau. of Harnage, of Belgardine, in com. Salop, Esq." He married, secondly, in 1675, Eleanor Carpenter, and had issue a son, of his own name, who married Mary Williams (Title Deeds). The present representatives of the family are the Rev. T. K. Bowyer, of Harbledown, co. Kent, and Captain G. L. Bowyer, R N., C.B. The old Court still preserves some of its ancient features, and is a good specimen of a timber mansion of the sixteenth or seventeenth century.

Blount says:—"William Devereux held half a Knight's fee of Walter Boskerville, who holds ovar of the Honor of Dilwyn." One John Luntley, was returned in 1433 as a gentleman of Herefordshire, and perhaps is identical with John Luntley, steward of the manor of Leominster, by the appointment of the Abbot of Reading, in the reign of Henry VI. We find also a Thomas Luntley elected Fellow of St. John's, Oxford, as kin to the founder—his mother being a daughter of Gregory Seward, of Leominster, descended from the Herefords and Kibblewhites.

Edward Bowyer held Luntley in 1540. The register records the baptism of Edward (1714), and the burial of Thomas (1722), children of George Blount (grandson of Sir Walter Blount, of Sodington, Bart.), by Elizabeth Bowyer. The last remnants of their property in Dilwyn was sold by the Bowyers a few years ago.—From "Mansions and Manors of Herefordshire."

GRIMSDITCH.

In addition to the boundary stone, a conglomerate, there are a few other large stones of similar character interspersed in neighbouring fields. The boundary stone on the road side at Grimsditch has inscribed upon it the letters P.D.E., indicating the junction of the three parishes of Pembridge, Dilwyn, and Eardisland. As to meaning of the name. From Dr. Adam Littleton's Latin Dictionary 1735. *Grimini*, in *Plin lege grumi vel grumuli vel grumili*. Gloss. *Landmarks*. *Grumus*, mi ; m. *Col à Gero* ; *congeries terræ*, *Perot*. *Terræ collectio*, minor tumulo. *Vel a Gr. Thrombos*. *An hillock of earth, a lump : a clot, clotter or cluster of anything ; clotted blood* *Grumulus*, li, m. dim. *Plin. Thrombion*. *A little hillock, an hop hill, mole-hill, or ant-hill ; a bed in a garden*. *Landmark*, *Terminus*, *Lapis Terminalis*, id.

Grimsby (of one *Grimus*, who built it), a town in Lincolnshire. Grimstead, Grimston, Grimsthorpe, Grimstoke Hill. (Old Dictionary).

Grim (Sax.) *fierce and crabbed of countenance, rugged, ghastly*. (Old Dictionary).

ADDITIONAL NOTE ON GRIMSDITCH.

BY JAMES G. WOOD, M.A., LL.B., F.G.S.

I regret that I missed seeing this and the erratic blocks of stone mentioned by Mr. Barker. The direction suggests that the continuation of the Rowe Ditch would be found here. It is therefore worth noting that on Offa's Dyke at Buttington Tump, in Tidenham, is a collection of large blocks of Old Red Conglomerate; one being erect and supported by the others. It is impossible to say whether they were so placed by the makers of the Dyke or subsequently. But they are similarly erratic; and must have travelled at least 12 miles down the River; on which there is a fine section of the same conglomerate near Bigsweir Station. Buttington itself is on the New Red. Like its namesake on the Dyke in Montgomery it takes its name from *Botontinus*, which Maigne d'Arnus explains as "tumor aggesta terra excitatus ad agrorum fines."

I am unable to agree with the suggested derivation of "Grim's Ditch":—There are several Grim's Ditches or Dykes in England; and they all seem to me analogous to the Wansdykes and Wodensdykes; Grimir being one of the many names of the Odin of Scandinavia and the Woden of Germany. When the Saxon or Noresman found works he could not account for (probably Roman or British) he attributed them to Woden; just as their successors gave names such as the Devil's Dyke, or Pulpit or Punchbowl; and the Welsh have their "Carreg-y-bwg."

The name next became generic; and it is quite possible that what has come to be called a "Grim's Ditch" was in fact Saxon work; and so the name is not evidence against its being part of the Dyke.

As to the derivation of Grimsby and similar names on the East Coast (as to which there has been much confusion) see Streatfields, Lincolnshire, page 63 and following.

PEMBRIDGE CHURCH AND BELFRY.

BY REV. F. WHITEHEAD, RECTOR OF PEMBRIDGE.

I much regret that someone better qualified than myself was not asked to read a paper on the highly interesting subject o Pembridge Church with its detached belfry, as I cannot lay the slightest claim to any knowledge of an archæological or architectural nature. I feel the disadvantage under which I in consequence labour, all the more acutely because history seems to be entirely silent on this interesting subject, and for what reason no one seems able to explain. Everything, therefore must be left to conjecture, and so only archæologists and architects can really help us to solve the mystery concerning these sacred buildings. I advisedly say the mystery because one can hardly believe that so noble a building as this, seating from 800 to 900 people, was erected simply for the devotional purposes of a country village.

Some have conjectured in consequence that it was in connection with a monastery of some kind either in the place or in the neighbourhood, and there is a rumour of an underground passage from the Church under the moat to the Court House, but I imagine this only to be legendary. Others that the parish must at one time have been very much larger and more important than it is now, but so far as I can gather from the registers, which date from the year 1564, the population does not seem to have been very much bigger than of recent years. I am more inclined myself to the monastical theory, though there are no traces to be found of it now. No one, however (at any rate at present), can speak for certain on that subject. We do not know who its founder was, but architects place the date of its building in the fourteenth century from its decorated style, but in the chancel you will find the remains of some arches and a priest's door of a probably older date. It certainly looks as if the chancel had been lengthened when the nave was built, which seems to point to there having been one or more ancient churches of smaller size.

The chancel was restored and partly rebuilt and the roof raised to the old pitch in the year 1871 by the Rev. J. Crouch, the then rector, and I may add that a year or two ago in removing an old fernery in the rectory garden I came upon the buried remains of an old window which was evidently taken out of the chancel and replaced by a new one when the so-called restoration took place. I tried to piece it together, but so much was wanting that it was impossible to do so with any effect. On the chancel walls are monuments to some former rectors, and on the south side of the chancel there is an altar tomb, under the canopy of which at one time the monuments which are now at the bottom of the church, and which properly belong to the Marston Chapel, were, I believe, wrongly placed. The oak which forms the reredos is in three separate pieces,

Photo by T. H. Winterbottom.

PEMBRIDGE CHURCH AND ITS DETACHED BELFRY TOWER.

No. 25.—To face page 137.



which are supposed to have belonged at one time to some transept screens, and which I have tried to preserve and utilise in this way. The altar rails, evidently, too, came from elsewhere, as they are pieced and spliced, and I have found other odd bits of the same work stored away, so that it must not be supposed that they were the original altar rails. The east window was put in, I fancy, when the chancel was restored by members of Mr. Crouch's family.

In the nave, in the north-east angle of the southern transept, called the Byletts Chapel, there is (now hidden by the organ), I believe a very perfect staircase leading up to the old rood loft, the turret which contains the staircase being very visible from the outside. The clerestory windows are a noticeable feature in the church. The font is evidently a very old one, and of a very quaint shape, and it is a pity that it cannot be properly used; the drain refuses to act, and it seems impossible at present to make it do so. The monuments at the end of the church rightly belong to the Marston Chapel or north transept, and though no inscription is to be found on them, they are supposed to belong to an ancient family of Gower, formerly Lords of Marston, who probably lived in Henry VI.'s reign. The first two figures on the right hand side are evidently man and wife, and the other two (it is supposed) are a priest and a nun, probably of the same family, perhaps connected with the local one or the monastery at Lymebrook. The centre west window was erected by public subscription in 1871, and is the work of Messrs. Heaton, Butler, and Baines. In the two side west windows at the top are the remains of some old coloured glass windows, the colouring of which was evidently very rich. Symonds sketched, I believe, these windows, which depicted the arms of Mortimer, Genevill, and Grandison, and an unassigned coat —vair, azure, and ermine, two bars gules. On the south wall of the nave is a coat of arms, I believe belonging to the Pembridge family. Formerly the nave was filled with square oak pews handsomely carved, but these were removed about 60 years ago, I fancy, when the nave was (so-called) restored, and their places taken by deal pews of a most uncomfortable and common appearance, the oak having been sold to decorate the rooms in private houses. The pulpit was originally a three-decker, but was cut down, and part of it worked up to form the present lectern by a local tradesman. The porch has a splendid stone vaulted roof, well worth noticing, and under the handle of the big door is the remains of some skin, which has been analysed and pronounced to be human skin, so that possibly it is the relic of a poor wretch who was flayed alive for some misdemeanour. The church is lighted with Defries' lamps, 100 candle power, which were placed there in 1889.

Some one told me that the stone of which the church is built is not to be found in the neighbourhood, and that the nearest quarry of similar stone is in Yorkshire, but it seems incredible that all this amount of stone could be brought all that distance. I have been told, too, that



DETACHED BELFRY TOWER, PEMBRIDGE, AS IT APPEARED DURING THE RESTORATION
IN 1898. EAST VIEW.

Photo by H. C. Moore.

No. 26.—Between pages 138 and 139. To face No. 27.



DETACHED BELFRY TOWER, PEMBRIDGE, AS IT APPEARED DURING ITS
RESTORATION IN 1898. WEST VIEW.

Photo by F. G. Savory.

No. 27.—Between pages 138 and 139. To face No. 26.

the fact of the four crosses on the roof of the chancel, nave, and transepts all facing east and west (if that is the right expression to use) is somewhat unusual.

This is all, I am afraid, I can tell you of possible interest with regard to the church itself, except that the exterior is in great want of repairs, which will cost from £300 to £500, and that the interior wants re-seating and re-roofing besides other improvements.

To pass on to the belfry, which is almost unique of its kind, this is detached, and stands 48 feet to the north of the chancel. It was erected, so architects say, about the middle of the fourteenth century—that is about the same time as the church itself. Mr. Jethro A. Cossins, the architect under whose supervision it was restored in 1898, in his report to the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, gives this opinion about it : “There are,” he writes, “no mouldings or other architectural details about it from which one can pronounce with confidence on its age. It was probably built just after the church, i.e., the latter part of the fourteenth century. It then consisted of the central intermediate part of the building only. The raking braces and intermediate post on each side are now missing, but the empty housings point out that there must have been such.” He fancied, too, I think, that the outside of it very possibly was wattled and plastered.

The stone walls and lean-to roof were probably added in the seventeenth century, and then the clumsy arrangement of rails and braces now remaining was substituted for the original system. The upper turret-like storey may have been added at the same time, but I am inclined to think that it is a still later addition because of the more recent look of the wood work. The moulded jambs of the door-way, apparently of the fifteenth century, were obviously brought from some other building and built in here since the walls were first erected. The stone of the walls has also been previously used in some building of importance, as there are fragments of moulding, etc. The ground storey is lighted by square-headed windows of seventeenth century character. Under the sympathetic professional advice of Mr. Cossins the belfry was repaired in 1898. The roofs were stripped, strong sawn oak laths were substituted for the then split oak laths: stone tiles were procured to match those already on, and were fastened with nails in place of the wooden pegs previously used. The timber frame work was examined, new timbers put where needed, the four oak corner posts sawn off underneath where decayed, and a bed of concrete put under them ; the spreading timbers were forced back into place and secured, and four pitch-pine posts placed at the corners to strengthen the structure. All the old wood work was preserved where possible, and the original character of the building maintained. The floor was paved with bricks, and a new ladder to go to the bell loft was provided, with the result that the belfry still remains a very excellent example of a detached belfry tower of the fourteenth century.

The bells are five in number, and were re-hung, and three of them, the second, third, and tenor bell, were recast under the supervision of Mr. Greenleaf, of Hereford. The inscriptions on the bells are :

"*Assit principio sancta Maria vocata.*"
 "All Glory be to God on Hy, 1658."
 "Soli Deo Gloria. Pax Hominibus, 1658."
 "William Wall, Havard Rogres, Churchwardens, 1658."
 "Stephen Smith and Rowland Stead, Churchwardens, 1735."

The old inscriptions were preserved when the bells were recast, and replaced upon them, and the particulars of their recasting suitably inscribed upon them also.

The tenor bell is 43 inches in diameter.

The present clock, chiming the quarters on four bells, was given by the relations of the late rector, Rev. J. Crouch, and his wife, as a memorial. The old clock, which was then removed, had a solid sheet of copper for its face. The works, too, were very curious, as a sort of arrangement like lazy tongs struck the hour on the big bell. Whilst the workmen were digging a hole in the floor of the belfry for the weights of the new clock they found, about a yard beneath the surface, traces of a furnace, which make it appear that one or more of the bells were cast on the spot. The cost of the repairs amounted to about £480. I may add as a matter of interest that when Mr. Langston, an old resident, first started practice as a medical man in Pembridge, over 50 years ago, he lodged with an old man named Howells, who used to ring the curfew, and Mr. Langston thinks that it was still rung in his time.

I am afraid that I have put together these notes about the church and belfry very crudely, and I am largely indebted to others for most of the information. They are longer than I meant them to be, though I have tried to write as briefly as possible. I can only, then, in conclusion, apologise for my deficiencies and thank you for your kind attention.

We have received an additional paper on Pembridge Church from the Rev. J. B. Hewitt, Rector of Upper Sapey, Worcestershire, who was formerly Curate of Pembridge, which we have great pleasure in publishing.

PEMBRIDGE CHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE.

BY REV. J. B. HEWITT, RECTOR OF UPPER SAPEY,
WORCESTERSHIRE.

IT is one of the results of modern education and means of travel that tradition is dying out in our country districts. People no longer spend their whole lives in one neighbourhood, and therefore feel less interest in it and its past history ; and what they are taught at school appears to leave no room for the traditions, which in former times were passed down from mouth to mouth and were of great historical value. This being the case, and there being very little written history to take its place, the records of the past which exist in our churches, and in other handiwork of former generations, supply a subject worthy of a careful study. The march of modern improvements is rapidly destroying these ancient evidences, but enough remains to call up visions of times very different to our own, and incidents which if they could happen now would make a stir through the whole country.

Plenty of material for such a study is to be found in the neighbourhood of Pembridge, a village in the West of Herefordshire, half way between Leominster and Kington. Down the valley of the Arrow came the Welsh raiders, and the precautions taken against their inroads are seen in the Signal Mound at Staunton and the Great Embankment (known as the Rowe Ditch) stretching across the valley. But the most striking evidence of these troubled times is to be found in the beautiful parish church, where side by side with its message of peace and goodwill we hear the clash of arms and the tale of grim border strife.

The church itself is a fine example of 14th century work, and is, for a parish church, of exceptional size, showing traces of an earlier and smaller edifice in the north and south walls of the chancel. Apart from it, and standing by itself to the north, is the belfry—a remarkable structure of timber with an octagonal stone wall round the base, rising in three stages of diminishing width to a height of about 60 feet. The main fabric is supported by four massive beams planted in the ground, 36 feet in length and 24 inches square, reaching to the eaves of the second stage. The excellence of the workmanship is shown by the fact that it carries a peal of five bells, the heaviest measuring 43 inches at the mouth. This bell is of date prior to the Reformation, and bears the inscription "*Assit Principio Sancta Maria Vocata.*" Three others bear the date 1658 with the founder's mark. One has the names of the churchwardens in that year, and the other two have the following inscription : GLORY BE TO GOD ON HY, and SOLI DEO GLORIA PAX HOMINIBVS. The fifth bell bears the date 1735 and the churchwardens' names. As the frame work was originally made for the full peal, it seems probable that the four bells were recast in 1658 and 1735. The survivor has unfortunately been chipped, for until com-

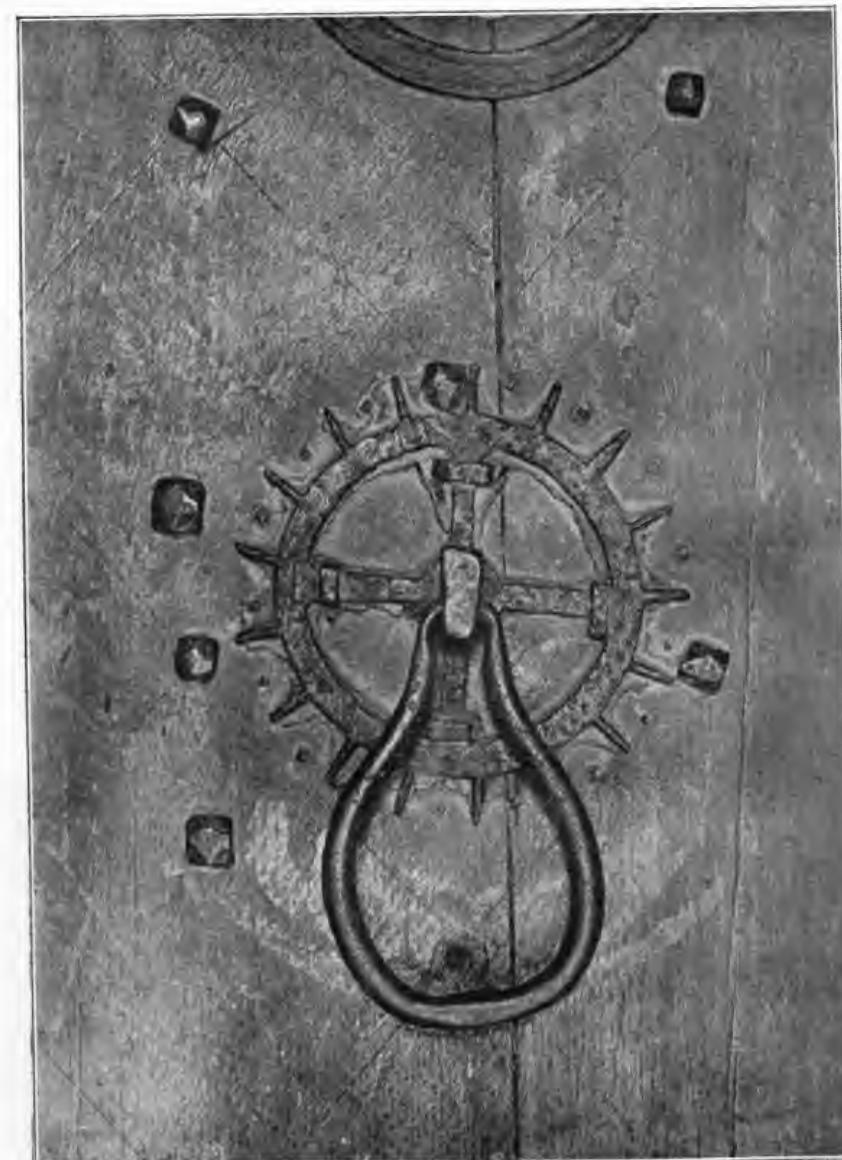
paratively recently it was the custom on occasions of festivity to use the blacksmith's hammer as producing more noise than the clapper. It has been suggested that the octagonal wall is of later date than the timber work, but as the belfry was probably placed by itself in order that it might be used as a fortress, it is unlikely that it would not have been surrounded with masonry in the first instance. It bears no characteristic style to fix its date, but a similar tower at Yarpole (about eight miles distant) has an ogee window and a row of quatrefoil openings indicating the 14th century. It may be worthy of note that fragments of the earlier church are used in the wall.

That it was intended as a place of defence is evident from the narrow loopholes in every wall except that facing the church, and that it has actually been used as such is proved by the door being pierced by bullets in several places, and by the fact that shot may still be picked out of the oak with the point of a knife. This probably takes us back to the days of the great Rebellion, but one may well believe that a stronghold of this kind would find plenty of use during the wars of the Roses, and when the signal was given from Staunton that the raiders were coming down from Radnorshire.

But not only in the belfry do we see evidence of these troubled times. In the thickness of the wall behind the great north door of the church is the cavity in which lay the oak bar, to be drawn across the door in time of need, such as is seen in all ancient fortresses. The south and west doorways have been blocked up, but doubtless would have had the same means of defence.

Upon the north door itself is the Ancient Sanctuary ring or knocker, and we may picture the fugitive clinging to it and claiming the protecting arm of Mother Church. Behind the iron work of the knocker is a leathery substance—much decayed and covered with paint, but suggesting the awful fate reserved for Danes and those caught red-handed in sacrilege. A portion of this has been submitted to examination under the microscope by an expert, who expresses a strong opinion that it is human. It may, therefore, be fairly added to the known instances of human skin upon church doors. The church being of 14th century date may appear to be a difficulty, but it was in 1303 that the robbery was committed in the Treasury of Westminster, which led to the offenders' skin being nailed to the doors of the Abbey. The skin at Pembridge is probably, however, of an earlier date. It appears only under the iron work of the knocker, being held in place by it and by a nail between each of the points projecting from the ring. We may, therefore, assume that it was removed with the knocker from the door of the earlier church. It will be seen that the skin remains perfect in only one of the four divisions of the ring.

The church contains four very interesting sepulchral effigies, but they have fared badly at the hands of restorers in the past, being all huddled together in the north-west corner. This seems to have been done during a "restoration" carried out in 1842, when a quantity of beauti-



ANCIENT SANCTUARY RING ON THE NORTH DOOR OF PEMBRIDGE CHURCH.

Photo by A. Watkins.

No. 28.—To face page 142.

ful carved oak was turned out of the church, much of which has found its way into the neighbouring houses. Their present position has led to the local idea that they are the effigies of a man and his three wives, but an examination of them at once dispels this notion. Two of them represent a man and woman in the dress of the 14th century, and as it was very unusual for a man of position to be depicted in his civilian dress, and not in armour, this effigy is of great and exceptional interest. He wears a short tunic, with sleeves buttoning close round the wrists, a coat with somewhat shorter sleeves, and a long flowing cloak fastened at the right shoulder and thrown back. Low shoes fasten across the instep with a narrow strap. His only weapon is a short sword hanging from a jewelled belt. He wears a moustache and divided beard.

These effigies are the only ones of which there is any record. They are mentioned in an old document as representing one Gower, of Marston, and his wife, and as being then in the north transept, known as the Marston Chapel. It would be interesting to know more of him, and one is inclined to conjecture whether he may not have been the builder of the church. His attire would seem to point to his being a man of peace, and the existence of so large a church at a place where there is no record of any monastic establishment leads one to think that it must have been the work of some private individual.

The dress of the lady is very carefully executed, showing the sleeve of one garment buttoned closely to the arm, that of the outer one lying open, but having buttons and button-holes throughout the entire length. She wears the square head dress of the period, and the veil round the throat and chin.

Another effigy is that of a woman in the dress of a nun, which being the same as the mourning habit, was sometimes given to a widow dying within a year of her husband; so it is possible that the popular idea of these figures may be so far right that this lady was the second wife of Gower, having survived him a few months.

The fourth effigy is that of a priest in the robes of one of canonical rank. He wears the "Toga talaris" or ancient cassock, the skirt not being visible, but the sleeves appearing buttoned tightly to the wrists. Over this is the alb, with its close-fitting sleeves shorter than those of the cassock, and over all the short tippet with bands, but showing no sign of fur. Upon the head is the close-fitting cap fastened under the chin. The upper lip bears the moustache, but the chin is clean shaven. Upon the right side is what appears to be a cord, passing through the robes, and carrying some article which has unfortunately been broken away. This figure measures only 5ft. 4in. It is interesting to find that one Thomas de Penebrugge (the old name of Pembridge) was Prebendary of Bartonsham, and treasurer of Hereford Cathedral in 1317. This date would seem to throw a difficulty in the way of assigning the effigy in question to him, as the church was probably not built till towards the end of the 14th century; but here again the existence

of the earlier building may give a solution to the difficulty. If the effigy be that of Thomas de Pembridge, the cord at the side may have carried the keys or possibly the purse to signify his office, and it may well have been removed from the earlier church to the present one, where a sepulchral arch (now empty) in the south wall of the chancel was probably its resting place.

Of ancient glass there is unfortunately very little remaining, though the document above referred to mentions two windows as having survived the ravages of the Civil Wars. Of the one only the merest fragment remains, but of the other (the west window of the south aisle) the glass in the tracery is still perfect. It represents S. Christopher carrying the child on his shoulder, S. Lawrence with his gridiron, and another figure clad like that of S. Lawrence in the garb of a priest and wearing the Amice, Alb and Dalmatic, and carrying what appears to be a veiled chalice in the left hand. Both figures have the tonsure. There is nothing whatever to show what has become of the rest of these windows, but it is only too likely that they have been the victims of a lawlessness, which for generations seems to have been an inherited instinct in the inhabitants of the Welsh Marches.*

The old bell above referred to has unfortunately been recast, sharing after nearly 250 years the fate of his three brethren.

* The following notes are from Page 4 of an old manuscript dated 1736 by P. Snell, in the possession of Mr. Walter Pilley, of Hereford :—Referring to the capture of Edmund Lord Mortimer, who was thrown into a prison now (1736) a stable in Church street, Leominster, opposite the Schoolhouse, and to that church being stripped of its richest ornaments by the forces under Owen Glendower, and the large Priory there being placed under a heavy contribution, the writer continues:—"They destroyed and plundered the church at Pembridge; two windows with curiously painted glass escaped their fury which were adorned with a variety of inscriptions in old Saxon characters. But the Cross on the Church porch was not so fortunate, it being shot down by a soldier."—Editor.



THE ROWE DITCH AT THE BYLETTS, PEMBRIDGE. OUTER OR WESTERN SIDE OF
EMBANKMENT.

Photo by R. Clarke.

No. 29.—Between pages 144 and 145. To face No. 30.



THE ROWE DITCH—OUTER OR WESTERN SIDE—BETWEEN THE BYLETTS AND THE HIGH ROAD,
PEMBRIDGE TO KINGTON.

Photo by T. H. Winterbourne.

No. 30.—Between pages 144 and 145. To face No. 29.

OFFA'S DYKE AND ROWE DITCH.

By H. CECIL MOORE.

The subject of Offa's Dyke is exceedingly interesting and never without attractions for antiquaries. Any new light that can be thrown upon it is warmly welcomed, but at the same time it should be criticised closely. When the traveller from Hereford passes along the main road to Hay, he crosses Offa's Dyke, not, as has been often erroneously stated, at the deep gully leading down to the river Wye, near the Russian Cottage, Bridge Sollars, but at a spot about 250 yards further west, about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Hereford, where in the present day it forms the boundary between the parishes of Bridge Sollars and Byford. After being crossed by the road the Dyke is readily traced in the wood, passing between Bishopstone Hill and Byford Hill. On the summit of the hill traces are lost, but it is again traceable on the lower ground, thence, after being crossed by the railway, about half a mile on the Hereford side of Moorhampton Station, it is visible again at Upperton Farm, on the left of the lane leading to the Clay Pitts, at the base of Lady Lift Hill, and through Yazor Wood on the western slope of Lady Lift to emerge into the road to Weobley about a quarter of a mile south of Shoals Bank, and about two miles South of Weobley. (See Ordnance Maps, Herefordshire Sheets xxv. S.E. and xxv. N.E.)

From this point no traces of the Dyke have been satisfactorily traced until we reach the neighbourhood three miles westward of Lyonshall and Titley, visible from the Titley Railway Station, thence by Rushock and Knill Garraway to enter Radnorshire under the name of Clawdd Offa.

As pointed out in *Transactions*, 1897, page 251, a prolongation of the Dyke northwards from the Clay Pitts would pass successively through the parishes of Yazor, Weobley, Dilwyn, Eardisland, Pembridge, Shobdon, Aymestrey, Wigmore, possibly along the eastern fringes of Letton and Walford, Adforton, and would have left Herefordshire in the parish of Leintwardine.

On Tuesday, May 28th, 1901, the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club visited Pembridge, and made an inspection of what is known there as THE ROWE DITCH, a work of similar proportions to Offa's Dyke, commencing near to the Pembridge-to-Kington road, and traceable across the country northwards for a distance of two miles, assuming alternately the character of an embankment and of a ditch or cutting. After crossing Curl Brook it proceeds between Byletts and Moseley Common, is crossed by the Leominster and Kington Railway, terminates south of the river Arrow, reappears at the Leen Farm, thence extending into the parish of Staunton-on-Arrow, and terminates in the character of a deep ditch near Milton Cross.

At Byletts the embankment is six feet wide at the top. On its inner eastern, or Mercian, side it has an almost vertical parapet three feet high, whence a rampart eighteen feet long slopes gradually to the

ground level. On the outer western, or Silurian, side the exterior face, twenty feet in length, terminates in a ditch four feet below the ground level.

If the Rowe Ditch were prolonged from its southern extremity, as visible at Pembridge, it would conduct to Shoals Bank, distant about four and a half miles, through a place called Grim's Ditch, at a locality where an old boundary stone on the road bank denotes the junction of the three parishes of Pembridge, Dilwyn, and Eardisland. This boundary stone was visited, but no traces of either excavation or embankment suggestive of Offa's Dyke were found. (Sheet xviii., S.W.).

With reference to the portion of Offa's Dyke at Titley above referred to, its position is $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of the Rowe Ditch. My opinion is that the Rowe Ditch at Pembridge is a portion of the original Offa's Dyke, and that the more westerly portion was an addition when King Offa, who reigned about forty years, * may have extended his boundary line westwards.

Mr. James G. Wood, who has been for many years a careful student of Offa's Dyke from its southern extremity near Chepstow, claims to have discovered traces of it in Herefordshire north of Welsh Bicknor, near Lydbrook Junction Station of the Severn and Wye Railway, namely, from Ross, through Perrystone, Much Marcle Hill, Devereux Park, possibly by a place named "Clouds," in the parish of Mordiford, and thence to Hereford City.

It must be recorded that after his inspection of the Rowe Ditch at Pembridge he had no hesitation in pronouncing it an absolute replica of many bits of the Dyke, e.g. on Buttington Tump, near Chepstow, and elsewhere.

The conclusions of a scholar and keen observer like Mr. Wood are deserving of careful attention. He is at present engaged on working out the early history of Dean Forest, the Lordship of Strigil, and the Abbey of Tintern, into which it is hoped he will be able to incorporate the result of his careful and scholarly observations upon Offa's Dyke.

Mr. Wood is too experienced and cautious to consider himself on safe ground until he has added local knowledge to the investigation of documents and place names. We must patiently abide his further contributions.

In anticipation, however, we advise those interested in the matter to explore for traces of Offa's Dyke southwards of Ross, between Ross and Welsh Bicknor, and to follow Mr. Wood's tracks in the following Ordnance Maps on the scale of 6 inches to 1 mile:—51 N.E. at Over-Ross; 46 S.E. on the western side of the road near Park Farm; 47 S.W. at Old Gore; 47 N.W. along the Fir Walk, the ridge of Perrystone Hill, the *Holly Wood*, and the old *Yew Trees* near the Barrel Farm, Yatton; 41 S.W. at Oldbury Camp, and the Ridge Hill, Much Marcle; 41 N.W. the south-eastern part of Park Coppice in Devereux Park; 40

N.E. south-western part of Park Coppice, and Clouds in Mordiford; and finally 40 N.W., 34 S.W., and 33 S.E. through Hampton Bishop and Tupsley to Hereford.

Mr. Wood informs us that the Saxon word "raew," whence Rowe may be derived, has survived in Kent. We have also the authority of our Romano-British scholar, Mr. F. Haverfield, of its survival elsewhere—as in Sussex, Hants, &c. Reference to one book alone, "Sutton-in-Holderness, the Manor, the Berewick, and the Village Community," by our President, Mr. Thomas Blashill, confirms its survival in Yorkshire, under such spellings as Raw or Row, Rawe, West Rawe, Rowbanks or Roebank; a wild place half-a-mile and once quite a mile in length. In the 13th century Sayer de Sutton II. cut two navigable canals and raised the space between them for a road. There is, or was, in Sutton parish also an "East Raw," three miles distant.

* Offa succeeded Ethelbald in A.D. 755. The date of his death is variously given by chroniclers as A.D. 794, 796, and 797. See footnote *Transactions*, 1897, page 255.

NOTES ON THE PORTIONS OF OFFA'S DYKE CALLED
THE STONE ROW AND ROW DITCH.

BY JAMES G. WOOD, M.A., LL.B., F.G.S.

The Saxon word "raew," meaning a row, line, or bank, occurs frequently in the boundaries given in the Saxon Charters. In the simple form it indicates an ordinary hedge-row; but it is frequently found in composition. In the form "rew" it has survived in many parts of England. In Kent it indicates a division between two fields formed by a belt of underwood on a bank or slope.

In the parish of Tidenham (Gloucestershire) the Dyke presents not only its southern termination, but its well known features in the most typical form. The long, unbroken portion of it which exists on what was Tidenham Chase is described, in King Edwy's Grant of Tidenham to the Abbey of Bath (circa 956; Parker MS. C.C.Coll., Cam, C.XI., p. 57), as the "stan-raewe." Those who are familiar with this part of the Dyke will remember how it is formed throughout of fragments of limestone filled in with soil.

This name prevailed there for some centuries, for in the confirmation of William Marshall the Younger, dated 22nd March, 1223, of earlier grants to the Abbey of Tintern (see *Inspeximus Charter*, 35 Ed. I., N. 21) we find a grant of certain rights to be exercised in the Chase "de Stanrewe usque ad Brocwere"; i.e. between the Stone Row (or Offa's Dyke) and Brockweir on the Wye. I have been unable to trace the use of the name later at this place.

On the south side of the City of Hereford a ditch exists from a point near Bartonsham Farm to near the Railway Bridge over Eign Road, outside the site of St. Owen's Gate. This has been marked by the Ordnance Survey on the six inch map (Hereford XXXIII. S.E.) as "Rowe Ditch (Intrenchment) constructed by the Scotch Army A.D. 1645." A bank on the opposite, or western, side of the Wye, near the new suspension bridge, has been similarly marked. I carefully examined both last year many times. There is no similarity whatever between the two works. It is obvious that the ditch on the city side could not have been constructed as a siege work, for the excavated soil was thrown away from, and not towards, the city. On enquiry of the officers of the Ordnance Survey Department, and others, I found that there was nothing but supposition to connect this ditch with the siege works. Webb in his "Civil Wars" has a picturesque account of its excavation; but he fails to give any authority for it, and was here evidently drawing on his imagination, or the conjectures of others. But what is conclusive against it is that we find that one Neville was in the reign of Henry VIII. summoned for enclosing a piece of common in the suburbs "without the gate of St. Audoen between the lane called Frog Lane and the ditch called Rowe Ditch, and imperilling the King's Wall near the Gate" (Johnson, *Customs of Hereford*, p. 80.) And to go still further back we find from John le Gaunter's Book of Customs, that one of the five annual

city inquests was held in the time of Edward I. "at a tree nigh unto the Rough Ditch" (*ibid.* p. 29). It is therefore certain that this ditch is centuries older than the siege, and I have no hesitation in saying that it is part of Offa's Dyke.

It is also almost certain that the operations of the Scotch Army were not conducted on that (the city) side of the river at all; but I do not suggest, or believe, that the earthworks on even the west side should be attributed to them. The similar work outside Monnow Bridge, at Monmouth, suggests the contrary. I should be extremely surprised to find any evidence justifying the application of the name "Rowe Ditch" to these works.

The recommencement of the Dyke on the east bank of the Wye at Bartonsham Farm is plainly recognisable, notwithstanding the alterations by buildings and other causes. It extends eastwards about 250 yards to the commencement of the "Rowe Ditch." At that point is a clump of yew trees, which to those who have noted the "marks" of Offa's Dyke is extremely eloquent. I have no doubt they are the children of "the tree at the Rough Ritch" spoken of by John le Gaunter.

From the other end of the Rowe Ditch I have traced the line of the Dyke (although much obscured and defaced) all the way to Mordiford, with all the usual notes and marks. But this is not the occasion to deal with that portion, or with its extension to Ross.

The termination of the northern part of the Dyke at Bridge Sollars, its recommencement at Bartonsham, and its taking the form, in places, of a ditch on the low ground between that point and Mordiford find an exact analogue at Ross. The Dyke again breaks off there at or near the railway bridge over the Rudhall Brook. It recommences at a point about a mile to the south-west, near Cleeve, on the high bank overlooking the Wye. From there (for about a mile) to the Vine Tree Inn, on the road from Ross to Kerne Bridge, a deep ditch can be traced. From its commencement to the road leading to Lincoln Hill it has (like many other parts of the Dyke, especially in the north) become in parts a lane and so been deepened and widened. But from there on it has retained much of its original form and features, though it is being gradually converted into a "kitchen midden." It is accompanied by holly trees most of the way. Near the crossing of the Ross and Monmouth railway these are very marked. It is plain that it was never a watercourse, and I should certainly recognise it as another "Rowe Ditch."

From the facts which I have thus briefly dealt with, it would seem to follow that there is at least an *a priori* probability of the Rowe Ditch across the Valley of the Arrow at Pembridge being a part of the Dyke. I assume that there is satisfactory evidence for attributing the name "Rowe" to it.

But the identification cannot be considered complete unless its northern extremity can be with reasonable certainty connected with the undoubtedly portion of the Dyke on Rushock Hill, south of Knill.

Without venturing at present on an opinion, further than that the following line of connection seems probable and deserving of close examination on the spot, I suggest that the Dyke took the following course. From the northern end of the Ditch direct north to the road from Pembridge to Kington; then along that road, with a short deviation at Staunton Lane, as far as the Railway Bridge at Bradford; the road having absorbed the Dyke. Those who have studied it in Shropshire and Denbighshire will remember many such instances, and I know of another near Ross. On this length the names "Yew Tree" Inn and "The Bank" may be deserving of consideration. From the railway bridge the line probably followed the path to "Weobley Ash," and then struck to the north of Burcher Wood at the parish boundary, which it then follows along Green Lane, and so south to near the Fishponds at Kennel Wood, where a very short length requires to be restored to connect with the end of the existing Dyke on Rushock Hill.

I am aware that in so tracing the hill I am entirely disregarding the identification which has been attempted, and in fact accepted by the Ordnance Survey (Herefordshire 6 inch xvii. S.E.), of some short broken lines of earthwork S.W. and N.W. of Lyonshall as parts of the Dyke. For the following reasons I think that identification erroneous.

It is a cardinal feature throughout of the Dyke that wherever it is carried on a hillside the slope is always from the Mercian towards the Welsh territory. In parts where the formation of the country did not permit of carrying it on a hill side, no doubt extensive views can be had from it in both directions. But while the Dyke was wherever possible constructed along a slope which would afford that visual command of the Welsh territory which was its main purpose, it is nowhere constructed on a slope so inclined that it would afford a view of Mercian territory while at the same time the view of the Welsh side would be shut out. It was the observance of this canon that, owing to the contour of the ground, compelled the sudden turn to the eastward near Knill, which some persons have found a difficulty in accounting for. Applying this test to the larger Lyonshall earthwork it will be seen that it cannot be part of the Dyke. It is drawn on a slope at about the 550 feet level, inclining towards Pembridge. The hill rises immediately behind it on the west some 150 feet higher. Thus standing on this earth-work one would have an uninterrupted view over the Arrow Valley (which on the hypothesis would be Mercian) as far as at least the Rowe Ditch. But in the Welsh direction there would be no view whatever.

The proximity of the Castle Moat at Lyonshall, of the "Garden" Wood close by, and the general position all indicate a totally different origin, and suggest that the earthwork was part of an outpost of observation on the side of the Welsh as against the Saxon, and that it was not within Saxon territory. If this larger earthwork be not proved to be part of the Dyke the shorter lengths of the work may be disregarded.

I am not pressed by the fact that the Survey has accepted it as part of the Dyke. I should be one of the last to criticise the work of

the Survey, but its officers would be ready, as they have been, to admit that in many antiquarian matters they have had largely to rely on insufficient local information. I have dealt with the mistake at Hereford. I will mention one other even more in point, as the evidence of it may in a few years be lost. In the Chapel House Grove, in Tidenham, the Survey have marked as part of the Dyke a bank which a quarryman, who himself gave me the particulars years ago, had cut up in clearing an outcrop of Farewell Rock which he worked for the building of St. Luke's Church, Tutshill, in 1850-2. This outcrop, by the way, has not been recognised by the Geological Survey, but I have verified it. The Dyke at that place was 300 yards further to the east almost on the brow of the hill; but it was to my knowledge cleared away to nearly opposite the so-called Folly Mill by a tenant of the farm while I was a resident in the parish.

Mr. James G. Wood, in revising his paper, sends these additional remarks :-

"The suggestion as to an alteration of the line of the Dyke is well worth considering; but I doubt whether Offa ever added to Mercia (as left by Penda) in this district. I find no evidence of his doing so. On the other hand he *did* extend it into the Dore district on the other side of the Wye, but that would not account for the shifting of the Dyke.

"If Offa had anything to do with the Lyonshall banks possibly he found he was getting on a wrong tack and abandoned it, and then turned North East and crossed the Arrow at the Rowe Ditch.

"I am very sorry I did not see Grimsditch. I suspect that is a continuation of the Rowe Ditch, and someone not perceiving this and knowing of Grimsditch elsewhere (e.g. at Wallingford) applied the name.

"The *true* Grim's Ditches are pre-Saxon. This one I see is on 'Rough Moor.' (Query). Is it a corruption of 'Rowe Moor'?"

"The name Byletts wants enquiring into. Query : Is the termination a form of 'Yat,' which takes numerous forms all along the Dyke? Thus between Chepstow and Hereford we have—

"Lyppiatt—Llyp geat.

"Madgettis—Mades-gata—mota geat.

"Langett—Lline geat.

"Wye gate (Wighiete in Doomsday)—Wayer geat.

"Stantonesgate (Dean Forest Peramb. of 1300: name nowlost).

"Symonds Yat.

"Gatsford, road through the Yat, where the Roman road from Ariconium cut the Dyke.

"Yatton.

"Gatchapen—the market at the Yat (on Marcle Hill—the hill of 'the land of the Mark,' i.e., the boundary of Mercia—the Mark-land.)"

OLD HEREFORDSHIRE RECTORIES AND TITHES.

BY JOHN LLOYD.

Value of the Rectories and Tithes in Herefordshire, formerly belonging to different Religious Houses.—Anno. 5 and 6 Phil. and Mary—A.D. 1558—as were answered to the Crown by the Collectors of Spiritualities for the County of Hereford.

The making of this annual account is described by the Auditor of the Crown Revenues as a very important branch of his work, the accounts being voluminous, and the receipts and expenses varying every year with regard to many of the items. It was an account that had constantly to be altered and adjusted, and in preparing the present figures the Auditor states that he had consulted "Magna Britannia," "Bacon's Liber Regis," "Spelman's Villare," and "Index Villaris."

The following was the value or rent for 1558:—

Land Revenue Office.

RELIGIOUS HOUSES, RECTORIES, AND TITHES, ETC.

No.	MONMOUTH PRIORY.	Value or Rent.	£ s. d.		
			£	s.	d.
1	Farm of Tithes in Wilton and Bridstowe p ann.	... 0 1 6			
2	Do. Cockeybrayne and Wilton	... 0 17 0			
3	A Pençon out of Tadington Vicarage	... 0 12 0			
4	Do. Mauncells, Hoope, and Lawthorwell	... 0 14 8			
5	Farm of the Rectory of Stretton	... 6 10 0			
6	Do. Rectory of Gooderiche	... 6 13 4			
	DOORE ABBEY OR MON.				
7	Farm of one Parcell of Tythes in Kevenbache	... 1 13 4			
8	Another Parcel of the same Rectory	... 0 8 0			
9	Farm of the Rectory of Doore	... 2 10 0			

CLIFFORD PRIORY.

10	The Farm of Tithes of a Mill in Dorston	... 0 3 4
11	Do. in Wominge	... 0 13 4
12	A Pençon out of Crissoppe Rectory	... 0 16 0
13	Farm of Tithes in Clifforde	... 0 10 0
14	Do. Casleton and Newton	... 3 6 8
15	Do. of Grain and Hay in Clifforde	... 3 0 0
16	Moiety of Tithes in Clifforde aforesaid	... 3 0 0
17	Farm of Tithes of Garb and Hay in le Bache	... 2 10 0
18	Do. of a Mill in Clifford	... 0 2 0
19	A Porçon of Tithes (Garb et ffeni) in Hardewicke	... 1 13 4

WIGMORE MONASTERY.

		£	s.	d.
20	Farm of Tithes of Hay in Marlowe	... ...	0 1 0	
21	Farm of the Rectory of Lentewarden	... ...	15 15 6	
22	Do. Tithes of Hay in Marlowe	... ...	1 0 0	
23	Do. Letton	... ...	0 1 0	
24	Do. Kings Hey	... ...	0 8 0	
25	Do. Walleforde	... ...	0 1 8	
26	Do. of Grain and Hay in Sowthorpe	... ...	2 8 8	
27	Do. in Overley and Netherley	... ...	3 2 0	
28	Do. of Grain in Adlawton	... ...	0 3 4	
29	Do. of Garbs in Lentall Starkes	... ...	4 0 0	
30	Do. of Grain of Wigeforde Rectory	... ...	3 6 8	
31	Do. of Grain and Hay in Elton	... ...	2 15 4	
32	Do. Tithes in Lentall	... ...	2 12 0	
33	Do. Bucketon	... ...	2 15 0	
34	Do. in Mouldeley and Stanton Waples	... ...	5 0 0	
35	Do. in Lingedayne and Burring	... ...	2 12 0	
36	Do. Rectory of Astowe	... ...	0 2 0	

WORMESLEY PRIORY.

37	Farm of the Rectory of Leonhall	... ...	1 6 8
38	Do. Tithes in the Par. of Leonhall	... ...	15 6 8
39	Do. Tithes in Delwinne	... ...	19 0 0
40	Do. Newton	... ...	3 0 0
41	Do. Overchabor and Netherchabor	... ...	6 0 0
42	Do. Grain and Hay in Delwinne	... ...	1 10 0
43	Do. Tithes in Lunteley	... ...	2 0 0
44	Do. The Rectory of Almley	... ...	13 0 0
45	A Pençon out of the Rectory of Kilmersleye	... ...	0 3 0

MALVERNE MAJOR PRIORY.

46	A Portion of Tithes in Hampton	... ...	0 9 0
47	Farm of Tithes in Hatfelde	... ...	0 11 0
48	Do. Ratherham and Dinder	... ...	0 7 0
49	Do. Netherbolington	... ...	0 13 4
50	A Pençon from the Rectory of Peterchurch	... ...	0 6 8
51	Do. Rectory of Thedstone	... ...	0 2 6

SHENE MONASTERY.

52	and 53 Farm of the Rectory of Grisland (£10), do. of Lenton (£2 13s. 4d.)	... ...	10 0 0
54	and 55 Do. of Tithes in Wotton (£5 6s. 8d.), do. of Bridstowe Rectory (£2 6s. 8d.)	... ...	2 13 4
55		... ...	5 6 8
56	Do. of Tithes in Whitleponde, Regigende, etc.	... ...	2 6 8
		... ...	3 6 8

	BRECKNOCHE PRIORY.	£	s..	d.
57	Divers Pençons from the Churches of Humber (10s.), Upton (2s), Haddonham (10s)	...	1	2 0
58	Farm of Brimsthorpe Rectory	...	2	13 4
	LANTHONIA MONASTEBY, OR PRIORY.			
59	Portion of Tithes in Egleton	...	2	0 0
60	Pençon out of Bradwode Vicarage	...	0	10 0
61	Pençon out of the Rectories of Stretton and Willingweke	...	0	10 0
62	Pençon out of Yoster (Yazor) Rectory	...	0	6 8
63	Farm of Kington Rectory	...	11	6 8
	Terra nuper Rici Deringe perquisit.			
64	Tithes of Grain and Hay in Shoulden	...	5	8 0
	LEMSTER MONASTERY.			
65	Tithes of Grain in the Libty of Westbarnes	...	13	0 0
66	Porçon of Tythes in Kymersley (6s. 8d.) and Humber (3s.)	...	0	9 8
	Parcella Hosp. Sancti Johannis Jerusalem.			
67	Tithes of Grain and Hay in Callowe	...	2	0 0
	Terra Seperate per Divisionem.			
68	Brekenoke Priory, Boddenham Rectory and Tithes	...	10	0 0
69	Llanthonie Monast., Webeley Rectory, etc.	...	11	8 8
70	Rent of 4 qrs. of corn and two quarters of oats	...	1	3 4
71	St. John of Jerusalem, Manor and Rectory of Wombridge	...	Non adhuc. certificet.	4 2 4
	Westanton Chapel...			
72	Lemster. Tithes in Westbarnes P. of the Manor of W. In Stagebach (£12 13s. 5d.), namely, Chorleston and Ivington (£1 3s. 9d.), Bradeford (£2 16s. 6d.), Stidhill, Abdon, and Winterrocks (£7 6s. 2d.), Marister (£2 2s. 9d.), in toto ...	...	26	2 7
74	Tithes in Ivington (13s.), Brereley (£3 7s. 1d.), Hope and Winsley (£5 16s. 2d.)	...	9	16 3
75	Tithes in Stoketon (£10 17s. 5½d.), Kimbalton and Overbach (£2 19s. 4d.), Town (£16 4s. 8d.), Middleton (14s. 3½d.), Milsoppe and Laisters (13s 5d.).	...	31	9 2
76	Tithes of Lands in Stoke	...	26	2 10

	77 Tithes in Luston (£13 7s. 9d.), Eyton (£5 os. 1d.),	£	s. d.
	Maristus de Leominster (13s. 10d.), Yarpoll (5s.).		
	Bircher (£6 17s. 9d.), et Linton (£3 19s 11d).		
	In toto	...	30 4 4
78	Tithes of Bennett's Farm	...	10 0 0
	Summa Totalis Omniu Exit et Revençon Com pred— £369 1s. 8d.		

The outgoings were as follows :—
Salaria Cura. et Vicar, Procr., Penson, et Sinod, et ad hugus modi Sod perpetuae de Rectriys et decimis pred exeunt :—

Various—Total, £52 8s. 9d.

Annuitates de pro termino vitæ, et anno nuper Solut. per clerum in comp. Coll. spirituali in com Hereford pred de anno finit. ad ffest Michis Archi 5 and 6 Ph. and Mary.

	DOORE PRIORY.	£	s. d.
	John Scudamore and three other annuitants	...	9 6 8

	ACONBURIE PRIORY.	£	s. d.
	John Scudamore and one other	...	10 13 4

	WIGMORE MONASTERY.	£	s. d.
	Thorne Minde and seven others	...	26 12 0

	CLIFFORD PRIORY.	£	s. d.
	Richard Whitney	...	1 0 0

	WORMESLEY PRIORY.	£	s. d.
	Jacob Bascallinli and three others Summa	...	26 13 4

	LUMBROKE ALS LYMBROKE.	£	s. d.
	Maria Sturney	...	2 13 4

	LORMER.	£	s. d.
	Thomas Packeridge, Thomas Plumtree	...	10 0 0

	CANTARISTA.	£	s. d.
	Humfridi Berkeley and 32 others	...	131 10 0
	Summa Totalis omnium feed, annons, Corrod, et pen in Com. pred	...	220 8 9

Alphabetical Index to the Religious Houses and Rectories and Tithes aforesaid.

Acornebury—A Priory of Austin Nuns (Tanner).

Brecknocke—A Benedictine Priory (Tanner).

Clifford—A Priory of Cluniac Monks (Tanner).

Doore—A Cistercian Abbey (Tanner).
 Jerusalem—Hospitalis of St. John of Jerusalem in England.
 Llanton or Llanthony, near Gloucester—A Priory of Austin Canons (Tanner).
 Leominster—A Benedictine College (Tanner).
 Limbroke, Lumbroke, or Lymbroke—Austin Nuns.
 Loomer—(Query Nomen—possibly Leominster).
 Malvern Major—A Benedictine Priory (Tanner).
 Monmouth—A Benedictine Priory (Tanner).
 Shene—A Carthusian Priory (Tanner).
 Wigmore—A Monastery of Austin Canons (Tanner).
 Wormesley—A Priory of Austin Canons.

RECTORIES AND TITHES.

Adlawton, Aldon, Almeley, Astowe, Bennett's Farm, Bircher, Boddenham, Bradford, Bradwode, Bremfeld, Brerely, Bridstowe, Brimsthorpe, Bucketon, Burrington, Callowe, Castleton, Chorlestree, Clifford, Crissope, Delwinne or Dilwinnie, Dineder or Dinedor, Dore, Dorston, Eaton and Linton, Egleton, Ellton, Eyton, Goodrich, Hampton, Hardewicke, Hatfeld, Hereford (see as to Bishop, Archdeacon, and Cathedral Church), Hidhill, Hope or Hoope, Humber, Ivington, Kevenbache, Kilmerley, Kimbolton, Kings Hay, Kingsland, Kington, Kynnersley, Lawthowell, Laisters, Lemster, Leominster, Lentall and Lentell Starkes, Lentwarden, Leonhall, Letton, Lingelayne, Linton, Luntley, Luston, Mancell, Marlowe, Miksoppe, Middeton, Monmouth, Nether Bolington, Nether Chabor, Newton, Over Bache, Over Chabor, Overley, Peterchurch, Ratherine or Ratherine, Rigigende (Shene), Shennefield, Shoubdon, Sowthorpe, Staye Bache, Stanton Wafer, Stoke or Stoketch, Stretton, Taddington, Thedstone, Towne (Leominster), Upton, Wallerforde, Webley, West Barnes, Westanton, Whittleforde, Wigeford, Wigmore, Wilton, Winsley, Winter Ocke, Winton, Wotton, Wormbridge, Wormesley, Wonninge, Yarpole, Yoster or Yazor.

It will be seen that the total value of the Rectories, Tithes, etc., was £369 1s. 8d., and the payments £272 17s. 6d., leaving a gross excess of value over outgoings of £96 3s. 2d.

The above accounts are taken from the Auditor's account for the county of Hereford for the year 1558, now deposited at the Land Revenue Office of the Crown.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

SECOND FIELD MEETING, THURSDAY JUNE 27TH, 1901.

LUDLOW FROM WOOFFERTON BY RICHARDS CASTLE, MARY KNOWL VALLEY (SUNNY DINGLE) AND WHITCLIFFE.

TRAINING to Woofferton the members commenced their walk of nine miles, according to the programme, by proceeding from the Station north-eastwards for 800 yards, where, at the Salwey Arms, they turned to the left over the Tenbury Railway Bridge for a distance of 300 yards, when another turn to the left in a north-westerly direction was taken into Park Lane, and pursued for 300 yards, as far as the bridge over the Shrewsbury Railway. By permission of the Railway authorities, the ballast hole here was visited by the botanists and entomologists, the approach to which was made through the small Coppice on the left of the road by the permission of Messrs. J. and J. W. Openshaw, agents for Lord Inchiquin, of Moor Park. Leaving the ballast hole the walk was continued along Park Lane for two miles until its emergence in the Ludlow and Leominster main road, where a turn to the right was taken leading to the new Church of Richard's Castle, situated close to the 3rd milestone from Ludlow.

This new parish church has been recently erected at Batchcott at the sole cost of Mrs. Johnston Foster, of Moor Park, and her two daughters.

The old Parish Church, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, is on a commanding situation on a hill three-quarters of a mile south-west, contiguous to the ancient Castle. A few of the party visited it, amongst them was Mr. Robert Clarke, who has forwarded the following particulars of

RICHARDS CASTLE.

A few fragments of stone walls upon the northern aspect of an earthen nearly circular embankment are all that remain of the old Norman Castle surrounded by a deep entrenchment or moat, and probably erected upon the site of an earlier British camp. Its situation is commanding on an elevation of about 550 feet.

We are indebted to Mr. Walter Pilley for the re-production of the following notes from the manuscript of Richard Snell, about the year 1736.

It appears that William the Conqueror upon that great divisions of lands which he made to his friends and followers gave that place with divers lands of great extent to Richard, a noble Norman ; for it appears by his general survey, begun about the 14th year of his reign, that Osborn, the son of that Richard, enjoyed it and made it his principal seat ; the Castle, having been first built by that Richard his father, for better awing the vanquished English, did afterwards retain his name, which it continues to this day.—*Doomsday*.

Hugo, the grandchild of this Osborn (when surnames began to grow in use) took upon him the surname of Say and was slain in Wales (temp. Rich. I), and Margery, his grandmother, and heiress married Robert de Mortuomari, who had issue Hugh de Mortuomari, and he William : for I have seen a deed of Sir William Mortuomari filius Domini Hugonis de Castro Ricardi, bearing date anno 1239 ; this deed had a seal with his arms, namely, Gules, six cross crosslets or betwixt two bars barry and the arms of Say (probably on account of his having been at the Holy Land), for this Mortimer being a branch of Wigmore quitted his own coat, and possessing Say's lands, bore his arms, adding the crosslets.—*MSS. Blount*.

This Sir William Mortimer had issue another Hugh, whose daughter and co-heir Joane married Sir R. Talbot in Ed. III. days, whereby this castle and manor came to that family.

This Sir Richard had issue Sir T. Talbot, of whom and Juliana his wife, I have seen a deed in French dated 23 Ed. III., wherein he writes himself—Signeur de Chastel Richard, and it had a curious seal at arms.

This Sir John Talbot had issue another Sir John, as appears by this Record :—Johannes Talbot Miles : filius et haeres Johis Talbot de Castro Ricardi Miliis et Julianæ uxoris suæ tenet manerium de Blithvagh et £.100 redditus in Lentwardyn in com. Salop de Rege in capite per servitium medietatis Barroniae de Burford quondam Roberti de Mortimer.

This last Sir John Talbot died without issue male, but by this female the inheritance was divided between Sir Guarin Archdeacon and Sir Matthew Garnege.—*Camden's Britannia*.

N.B.—By the register of the charter of Carisbrook Castle in the Isle of Wight, it appears that William, the son of Osborn, William the Conqueror's Marshal, who conquered the Isle of Wight at the same time that William beat Harold at Hastings, was the first Earl of Hereford ; that from him proceeded Richard the Marshal, from whom came Osborn, who gave the name to Richard's Castle and to Hampton Richard, now called Hampton Court.

That this was an ancient Honor, and had many knights both in this and other countries that held of it, appears by this record :—

Robertus de Mortuomari tenet 32 feoda in honore Castelli Ricardi, cum filia Hugonis de Say haerede Osberti filii Hugonis.

Afterwards this manor and rectory came (by what means I know not) to Sir Thomas Pope, Knight, and then to the Crown ; whence by King Henry VIII. it was granted to Sir John Dudley, Kt., and his heirs.

King Edward the VI. granted the manors of Richard's Castle, Holgate, Rushbury, and Long Staunton, in the counties of Salop and Hereford, with the advowsons of the rectories and churches of Richard's Castle, Rushbury, and with their appurtenances, and all messuages and lands in Richard's Castle, Holgate, Rushbury, Long Stanton, Overton, Wulferton, Houlton, Hall, More, Bashford, Batchicut, etc., to Nicolas, Bishop of Worcester, and his heirs

In the 15th century, Rowland Bradshaw, gent., possessed this manor by a long lease from the Bishop, and married the daughter of Arthur Salwey, Esq., by whom he had issue twenty children, whose grandson sold the lease of this manor to Richard Salwey, Esq., in whose family it still continues.

Thomas Wollascot, of Sutton, in the county of Berks, Esq., who held certain lands, etc., in this manor, had issue Martyn and Thomas.

Besides I find Queen Elizabeth granted the moiety of this manor with its appurtenances to Walter Copinger, Thomas Butler, and their heirs. Wollascot is now, I presume, Walcot, of which family were the Walcots of Walcot and Bitterley.

That William de Stuttevil was once owner of this castle in right of Margery de Say, his wife, appears by this deed (without date) :—Sciant qd Ego Willmus de Stuttevil assensis et voluntate Margaritae de Say uxoris meæ relaxavi et quietum clamavi pro me et hæredibus meis Roberto de Mappenor et hæredibus suis in perpetuum Gwaidam de Castro Ricardi, quam ibidem mihi solebat facere—scil de feodo duarum partium unius militis, nisi in tempore guerræ inter Dominum regem Angliae et Walliam, etc., his testibus.

Johanne de Artun, Johanne Carbonnel, Roberto de Longebr, Rogero de Middleton, Ada de Kingesmed, Waltero de Onulle, et multis aliis

Lib. : feod—anciently John Esturmy, Richard de Kynardesley and Jordan of Ludford, held lands here of this honor.

Sir HUGH MORTIMER, Kt. baron of King Richard's Castle in King Edw. II. tyme.

Joane the elder dau. mar. to Sir Richard Talbott, baron of Richard's Castle in right of his wife.

Margaret, the second dau., wife of Jeffery Cornewall, Sir Richard Cornewall, of Burford, Kent.

Hear what Leyland says of the town de temp. H. 8. ;—“Richard’s Castle standeth on the top of a very rocky hill well-wooded, and at the West-end of the parish church there; the keep, the walls, and the towers of it stand, but going to ruin. There is a poor house of timber in the castle-garth for a farmer, it belongeth now to the King; it belonged of late to the Lord Vaux, after to Pope. There is a park impaled, but no deer in it.”

Blount’s MSS. The town was anciently called Gayton, alias Boitane, till the lustre of the castle darkened that name, whereby at last the town was called by the Castle’s name, and both are in the county of Hereford. But there are certain villages in this parish that be in Shropshire, namely, Batchcot, Wulferton, Overton, and Whitebroke.

In the first of these was anciently a chapel (I suppose of ease), now converted into a barn, possessed in the year 1675 (vid. MSS. Blount) by Charles Town.

In the second there was an old oratorium sine capella, called Turford’s chapel, which belonged to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem at Dinmore, and the tenants at Turford owed suit to their court held at Friar’s Mill, near Wellington. (*Rot. Curie de Dinmore*).

Some time after the general dissolution (6 Ed. 6) this chapel, one toft and an half-a-yard land * called Mill Land, with the appurtenances in Turford, were granted by King Edward at XVd. fine, VIIIs. IXd. rent, suit of Court, etc., to Edward Butler, F. and T. Green and their heirs for ever, with licence to let the said oratorium or chapel, toft and half-yard land to farm to whom they pleased, so that the chapel was soon after converted into a barn, and so it continues in the possession (1671 temp. Blount) of John Blytheway. There were some other lands in this parish, and some pools in the lordship and parish of Orlton which appertained to the hospitallers at Dinmore as appears by an ancient rental.

King John granted to Robert de Mortimer a charter for holding both a market and fair at this place, but both have been so long disused that there is scarce any memory left of either, save that there is yet a place called the Toll Shop Green, near the Castle.

There is within this parish and county a farm called Bilbury, which King Henry 8th granted to John Bradshaw, gent., and his heirs, with certain rents of assize in the said parish, belonging once to the monastery of Wigmore (Pat. 85. H. VIII). The farm was in 1671 in the possession of William Grill, now the property of Mr. Pritchard.

In the church was heretofore a chantry endowed with fine messuages and their appurtenances in this parish, which was by King Edward 6th granted to Sir John Purient (?) and Thomas Rene, gent., and their heirs.

* A yard land :—Ten acres of land, according to the old custom, make a ferdell, and four ferdells make a yard land. Yard land is a quantity of land, different according to the place or country; in some of 15 acres, in others 20, in some 24, and in others 34 acres.

In this parish lies the Moor, a genteel habitation in the 16th century, belonging to William Littleton, Esq., who dying without issue it came to Dr. Littleton, his brother, but now belongs to John Salwey, Esq. Near the above on a rising ground is an elegant villa called the Lodge, the beautiful and picturesque seat of Theophilus Salwey, Esq.

Quoting from Doomsday as to the family of Say, Snell says the name Say had here but a short continuance, and Richard’s Castle had many lords in a few years.

Mr. Snell goes on to write:—“The church, which is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, had formerly a spire, till casually burnt, and stands by itself apart, at the east end of the chancell. In the west window of the church there are the remains of the story of Our Saviour’s life and passion in painted glass, the three kings and star that conducteth them still visible, and at the top the arms of Say. In the north window of the chancell there is remaining a crucifix painted, and one kneeling at the foot of it with a shaven crown or tonsure. In the north side of the church is St. John’s chappell, and in one of its windows St. Elizabeth is curiously painted with her son and the Pascal lamb, and under it in Saxon characters—“Elizabeth mater beati Johannis Baptiste.” In another pane of the window, the executioner taking St. John out of prison, the portcullis and other ensigns in order to his decollation. And in a third pane, one holding his head in a platter after execution was done; over all a king and queen with crowns of gold in their hands, perhaps the founders of this chappell or donors of this window. In the wall there is a nyche where some monument has been placed, but nothing left of it. Under the chancell is a vault like a charnel-house, which the inhabitants call St. Anthony’s bower, and it is probable that some devotion was heretofore paid to that saint in that place, for I find in an old account money paid—pro sustentatione unius Lampadis et unius Trindul in ecclesiâ Castri Ricardi coram Sancto Anthonio ex mandato Dominae, etc. In the chancell upon a flat stone is this inscription: 15 May, 1673. Here was laid the body of Henry Salwey, aged 17 years, youngest son of Richard Salwey, Esq., and Anne his wife, who having from his childhood eminently manifested piety towards God and obedience to his parents, was the 13th inst. graciously taken from the evil to come and his soul released unto glory. Upon another close adjoining, ‘Arthur Salwey, son of Arthur Salwey, son of Humfry Salwey, of Stanford, Esq., was here buried May 22nd, 1673.’”

The following notes are from Hill’s MSS., date about 1715, respecting the connections of the Tallbot or Talbot family, and the living of Riccard’s or Richard’s Castle from 1351 to 1362.

RICCARD'S OR RICHARD'S CASTLE.

John Talbot de Castro Rici. An. 49 Ed. 3 pl. m. p. nd 50 Rot.

Tarr.

Johanna Ux Nic. Talbot de Castro, Richard's Castri, Nic. R.T.

14 Ed. 3.

Dna Johanna Tallbot, Dna de Cast. Rici, present Johan de Wotton ad Ecclesiam de Burford, dat. apud. Sugwas, Ap. 9, 1331. Reg Th. Chorlton.

1351, Sep. 30. Admissio ad perpetuam Cantuarium Capella Stae Johis Baptiste in —— paroch de Cast. Rici ad præsent Rectoris de Eccla de Castro Rici vere ejusd Cantuaria hac vice Proni. Reg Trilleck.

1357. Admitt ad Eccl. Cast. Rici ad præsent Dne Juliane Talbots relicte Dni Joh. Talbot, Mil. Soc. Dec. de Lodil Ex eod. p. 56.

1362, March 23. Epus Heref. concess Rector Ecclie de Cast. Rici ut per annum posset p capitulanum z donum divina facere licite celebrari in Orater suo loco honesto infra Mans. habitationis suæ de *Blachecote.

It is recorded that in 1645 a Royalist body, 20,000 strong, under Sir Thomas Lumsford, were surprised by Colonel Birch and routed, with much slaughter, close to the Castle.

For further particulars of the early history of Richard's Castle, reference should be made to the address delivered by Mr. T. J. Salwey, at the Haye Park meeting of the Club, on July 11th, 1873, to be found in *Transactions, 1873*, page 83; also to *Castles of Herefordshire and their Lords*, by Rev. C. J. Robinson. A few remarks, with plan and section of the Castle, are to be found in *Medieval Military Architecture*, by Geo. T. Clark, Vol. II., pp. 401-404.

THE OLD CHURCH AT RICHARD'S CASTLE.

Mr. Robert Clarke, one of the few who visited the old church, informs us that it is worthy of a visit as well for its surroundings and its fine situation on the east of, and on a lower elevation than, the Castle embankment, as for its interesting tracery windows, ball-flower ornaments to the nave and transept capitals, and for various styles of architecture from the Norman to the Perpendicular period. It is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and consists of a nave, south aisle, north transept, and chancel, a small porch, and a detached tower distant about 20 feet from the east end of the chancel. The tower is a plain structure with some early windows and a doorway upon its west side. It is stated that it formerly had a spire (probably of timber) which was destroyed by fire.

The old church and the parish churchyard are preserved from decay, and divine service is held once or twice a year.

* Bachecote.



THE OLD CHURCH AT RICHARD'S CASTLE SHOWING THE DETACHED BELFRY TOWER.

Photo by R. Clarke.

No. 31.—Between pages 162 and 163. To face No. 32.



THE OLD CHURCH AT RICHARD'S CASTLE, WITH THE DETACHED BELFRY TOWER.

Photo by A. Watkins.

No. 32.—Between pages 162 and 163. To face No. 31.

At the adjacent court farm there is a picturesque old columbarium, a fine specimen of the early type of pigeon house, with dormer windows.

Photographs of the Church, Castle, and Columbarium were taken by Mr. Robert Clarke and Mr. Alfred Watkins, and are reproduced, accompanying our report of the day's proceedings. A representation of the columbarium has already appeared in Transactions, 1890, being one of the thirteen illustrations of Herefordshire Pigeon Houses illustrated in the paper on that subject by Mr. Alfred Watkins, see Trans. 1890, pp. 9 to 22.

THE DETACHED CHURCH BELFRIES OF HEREFORDSHIRE.

Detached belfries or campaniles though often met with on the continent are comparatively rare in England. Ordinary parish churches very rarely have detached campaniles, except in Norfolk and in Herefordshire. The latter county possesses seven of these structures, which may be divided into two classes—those which differ from ordinary church towers merely in being more or less separated from the main building, namely, Ledbury, Bosbury, Garway, Holmer, and Richard's Castle, and those which have a character peculiar to themselves—Pembridge and Yarpole.

S. BARTHOLOMEW'S, RICHARD'S CASTLE.

The extremely plain tower of this church differs in position from the other detached belfries of the county, being placed at the eastern extremity of the churchyard, eighteen feet from the end wall of the chancel, but not in a line with its centre. There is a two-light belfry window on the north, south, and east sides, and a simple pointed doorway to the west; but the walls are unbroken by either string-course or set-off, and the only buttresses are low ones projecting north and south at the eastern angles. The present slated roof is but a poor substitute for the wooden spire which formerly surmounted the tower, and was destroyed by fire many years ago.

See *Hereford Diocesan Church Calendar, 1872*.—There is, besides descriptions of the detached church towers, a chart with drawings of them.*

Proceeding northwards from the modern church of Richard's Castle, the next halt was at the bottom of Batchcott Hill for the inspection of a large quarry of the Upper Ludlow rocks, about a quarter

* See a paper by J. Severn Walker on "Detached Church Belfries," during the Annual Congress of the Archaeological Associations, held at Hereford, September, 1870.

of a mile west of the main road, reached by following the cart road near across the fields, near the four cottages at the base of the hill. An extension of the walk along the main road from this point brought the party, shortly after passing the Black Pool, to a footpath over Overton Common at the base of Haye Park Wood through a plantation abounding in elegant birch trees to the Fish Ponds below the mansion called "The Lodge," Overton. Here the party was met by Mr. T. Salwey, the proprietor, and Mr. Mitchell, the tenant, who conducted to the retreat of the private grounds surrounding the pond, and to a deliciously cool and tempting old-time bath erected in the grounds.

At about a quarter of a mile up Mary Knowl Valley a halt was made for luncheon at a quarry of Aymestrey limestone capped with about four feet of Upper Ludlow rock near the keeper's cottage, whence the charming walk through the woods was continued for another mile and a half up the Sunny Dingle, known in the locality more familiarly under the term Sunny Gutter, by Mary Knowl Farm to enter the main road, Wigmore to Ludlow, on an elevation of close upon 900 feet at the distance of about two and a half miles from Ludlow.

The summit of Mary Knowl, 1,000 feet high, is half a mile east of the Farm. The summit of High Vinnals, 1,235 feet, is in a wood one mile S.S.W. of the Farm.

CAMP

One of the footpaths in Haye Park Wood from Overton to High Vinnals is crossed, on the elevation of about 700 to 800 feet, by a small rectangular encampment, about 120 yards long from north to south by 100 yards from east to west. Its situation is almost in the direct line east to west from the previously mentioned Fish Pond to the summit of High Vinnals. The situation of a Camp, one-third of the way up a hill, is unusual.

Some of the "cut and cover" work of the Birmingham Water Supply from the Elan Valley, at present in course of construction, was inspected on the road from Mary Knowl through Whitcliffe Wood to Ludlow, where the conduit is conducted in a tunnel underneath the road. The line of the supply is locally called "The Birmingham Pipe-track."

The majority of the party entered Ludlow by the Dinham Bridge near the Castle; a few crossed the river Teme by the Ludford Bridge, about half a mile lower down, near Ludford House. At about 3.30 p.m. the members assembled at the Museum.

Ludford parish is partly in Herefordshire, but mostly in Shropshire, the village being in the county of Hereford. The small church is on the top of a bank on the south of Ludlow, on the right bank of the river Teme.



No. 33.—Between pages 164 and 165. To face No. 34.

SITE OF RICHARD'S CASTLE.

Photo by A. Watkins.



MARY KNOWL ON THE LEFT AND HIGH VINNALS ON THE RIGHT, AS SEEN FROM THE HEAD OF MARY KNOWL DINGLE.

Photo by A. Watkins.

No. 34.—Between pages 164 and 165. To face No. 33.

Hill writes in his MSS. :—“ Ludford belonged to the Knights Templars of St. John of Jerusalem. The Church and Priory of St. John of Jerusalem was seated in Ludlow, by the Bridge. Johannes de Ludford gave his manor of Ludford to that Priory. After the Dissolution, &c., it came, as I think, to Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick, by him sold to Fox, by Fox to Charlton.”

In the church there are monuments to the memory of the families of Charlton and Lechmere. From the Fox family the estate passed into the family of Lechmere through the last heiress of the Charltons.

LUDFORD HOUSE, LUDLOW.

The following extract is from the *Shrewsbury Chronicle* of June 27th, 1902 :—

The *Builder* says :—The following description, together with the plan and the drawings reproduced in the lithograph, were communicated to us by the late Mr. Arthur Baker shortly before his death, some three or four years ago. That sad event led to their being put aside at the time ; but we now give them, with his description, as he left it :—“ Ludford is alike interesting architecturally and historically. It appears first in Domesday Book as being held by Osborne Fitz Richard of Richard's Castle. In 1185 Pair de Ludforde is mentioned as witness to a deed ; and in 1243 Pagar de Ludford, who held under Roger de Mortimer of Wigmore Castle, is witness to the charter of the hospital dedicated to Holy Trinity, St. Mary, and St. John the Baptist, which was founded by Peter Undergood on a site on the north side of the Teme near the bridge, which he purchased from Walter Fitz Nicholas ; and Leland states that he confirmed to the hospital his other purchases and possessions in London, Ludford, and elsewhere. From this time to the middle of the sixteenth century I can find no record of its owners, but the evidence of the house prior to this date is very considerable and sufficient to show that it must have been a very large house. I have shown this work on the plan with a black shade. Of the sixteenth century work there remains the hall, which was originally of one storey with a pointed roof. There is evidence, also, of some reconstruction of the south wing, which was no doubt necessary to adapt the building to the new fashioned Tudor plan. This was probably the work of Edmund Fox, to whom a lease of the hospital of St. John was granted in 1535. At the dissolution the hospital and the property belonging to it was seized and granted to John, Earl of Warwick, in 1547, from whom it was purchased by William Fox. The fact of Edmund Fox having taken a lease of the hospital lands in 1535, and William Fox buying the property from the Earl of Warwick, shows that the family were wealthy, and confirms the impression given by the character of the upper stage of the bay-window in the hall and the dormer window (which I discovered hidden in the modern roof of the south wing), that the house was considerably enlarged towards the close of the sixteenth century, either in the time of

William Fox or Sir Ed. Fox, who was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1608. Shortly after this the house again changed hands, passing by purchase into the family of Charlton, of Appley Castle. It is said to have been bought by Sir Job Charlton in 1609, but if this date is correct, his father, Job Charlton, must have been the purchaser. Sir Job Charlton was Chief Justice of Chester, then one of the Judges of the Common Pleas in the reign of Charles II., and afterwards Speaker of the House of Commons, and created a baronet in 1686. His great granddaughter and heiress, Elizabeth, married Edmund Lechmere, of Harley Castle, from whom the present owner, Captain Reginald Parkinson, is descended. Since the time of Sir Job Charlton many alterations and additions have been made, but enough happily remains to tell its history in the illustrations, in which I have endeavoured to show its possible condition in the time of Edmund Fox, 1535, and also when it came into the possession of Sir Job Charlton. A tradition exists at Ludford that the house is the site of the hospital of St. John, but this is contrary to the statements of Leland and Dugdale that the hospital was on the north side of the Teme. The tradition may have arisen from the fact of the hospital owning land at Ludford, and of Edmund Fox acquiring a lease of the hospital shortly before its dissolution."

At the Museum, in Mill-street, Mr. Charles Fortey, who had devoted many years labour to each and every section, demonstrated to the members upon the various branches of Natural History therein represented.

After visiting the Museum, members assembled, at 4 o'clock, for dinner, at the Feathers Hotel, where the opportunity was afforded of obtaining a correct list of the members attending :—The President, Mr T. Blashill, Mr. T. S. Aldis, Mr. C. P. Bird, Mr. F. J. Boulton, Mr. G. M. Brierley, Mr. J. U. Caldicott, Lieut.-Col. J. E. R. Campbell, Rev. W. S. Clarke, Mr. R. Clarke, Mr. J. Truman Cook, Mr. Gilbert Davies, Mr. E. W. Du Buisson, Mr. H. H. Edwards, Mr. H. Easton, Rev. P. H. Fernandez, Mr. Charles Fortey, Mr. E. A. Gouring, Rev. J. E. Grasett, Rev. R. Harington, Mr. E. J. Hatton, Mr. J. Tudor Hereford, Mr. John Lambe, Rev. Preb. W. H. Lambert, Rev. Claud Lighton, Dr. Scudamore Powell, Mr. John Riley, Rev. H. F. St. John, Mr. A. P. Small, Mr. J. P. Sugden, Rev. Morgan G. Watkins, Mr. Alfred Watkins, Mr. T. H. Winterbourn; Mr. T. Hutchinson, Mr. H. Cecil Moore, hon. secs.; Mr. James B. Pilley, assistant sec.

VISITORS.—Rev. D. W. Abbott, Rev. C. B. Caldicott, Capt. F. Carnegy, Mr. A. J. Garstone, Mr. R. B. Howorth, Mr. D. J. Liddell of Ashford Bowdler, Mr. F. S. Prosser, Mr. J. C. Riley, Capt. R. Stuart, Mr. Theo. Salwey, Mr. A. T. Southall, Rev. — Stark, China; Mr. Geo. Wallis, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.

During the course of the day Mr. Moore occasionally treated of the local geology, and Mr. Winterbourn contributed the following Lists of the Lepidoptera, and of the Ferns of the Mary Knowl Valley :

LEPIDOPTERA-DIURNI.

Leucophasia sinapis, *Satyrus hyperanthus*, *Apatura iris*, *Vanessa polychlorus*, *Vanessa C. album*, *Vanessa cardui*, *Argynnis paphia*, *Argynnis adippe*, *Argynnis egleia*, *Argynnis silene*, *Nemeobius lucina*, *Thecla W. album*, *Thecla rubi*, *Thymele alveolus*, *Thanos tages*, *Pamphila linea*, *Pamphila sylvanus*, and nearly all of the commoner sorts, 34 species in all.

FERNS.

Polypodium dryopteris, *Polypodium phegopteris*, *Polystichum aculeatum*, Var. *lobatum*, Var. *angulare*, *Lastrea oreopteris* (or *montana*), *Lastrea spinulosa*, *Lastrea dilatata* (varieties), *Athyrium filix-femina* (several varieties), *Asplenium Adiantum-nigrum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Cystopteris fragilis*, *Ophioglossum vulgatum*, and many of the more usual kinds, including varieties, about 21 species.

Mr. Winterbourn also exhibited a drawing of the very rare Orchid, *Epipogium aphyllum*, a drawing of which is given in the "Flora of Herefordshire," in Plate 1, and for which the only two British localities known are : a wood near Ludlow, and at Tedstone Delamere in Herefordshire, (see "Flora of Herefordshire," page 300).

After the toast of "The King," and some business of the Club, including the election of seven members, had been transacted, the following letter from Sir Roderick Murchison, dated 1832, presented by Mr. E. L. Wallis, was read :—

Aymestrey,

Sunday Evening, July 29th, 1832.

My dear Dr. Dugard,—The first act of the President "redivivus" ought to be a grace to the Restorer, and I have for two or three days been contemplating a letter, but having become frisky once more, so as to flourish my tail or hammer for 12 or 14 hours per diem as of old, I really have had no time to write to my best friends.

The cold day on which I travelled to Ludlow rather checked my convalescence, but the fine weather we have since enjoyed has placed all ducts in the "status ante bellum." I have cleared away the Titterstone and Brown Clee, made a distinct expedition to Larden, have gone up all along the Tugford Ridges of Old Red and their fine suberdinct *(sic) passes of crystalline limestone—Norton Camp and the View Edge with every flexure of the limestone of transition type have been ransacked, and I came hither yesterday by Leintwardine.

To-morrow I beat back to Oakly Park, where I intend to get this franked, and when I have mastered all the furcations of these formations I shall start for Presteign and Builth. How true a prophet you have proved. By letter from the Professor (an enormous double letter full of sections) I now learn that he was laid up with sore throat

*Query (?) subjacent. In *Siluria*, page 247, 4th edition, "subjacent" is used for these limestones.
—Editor.

and a touch of fever on the very same day on which I was mending under your medicaments and dear Mrs. Dugard's soothing kindness.

Is not this very sympathetic in my brother †Adam? I have written to him to meet me at Builth. My notes and coloured maps increase so rapidly on my hands that I must cut and run before the month of August is out, or my weak digestive powers will never master them. Offer my kindest regards to your amiable lady, and if I might request it, give each of your little girls a kiss from the old President. I almost am querulous at not having children when I envy you your engaging possessions.—Hoping to see you in the great city, believe me always your most obliged and very devoted friend.

ROCK. MURCHISON.

Ludlow, July 31st, 1832.

Dr. Dugard, M.D.,

Shrewsbury.

(franked by) Rob. Clive.

Mr. Hutchinson also read the following letter, in answer to a resolution which he proposed at the last meeting of the Club:—

Whitemead Park, Coleford,

June 13th, 1901.

Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Philip Baylis to acknowledge the receipt of and thank you for your communication of the 3rd instant, with copy of the resolution passed by the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club with reference to the destruction of ferns and other plants by visitors to the Crown Woods.

This wanton and wholesale destruction of ferns and plants is a matter to which Mr. Baylis has given very anxious consideration, and he desires to express his gratitude to the Club for the interest they have taken in it.

The matter is a difficult one. The Crown Woods extend over many thousand acres, and are intersected by many paths, and visited by great numbers of holiday people, some of whom wantonly and some through ignorance do considerable damage, and compared with the extent of the woods the staff on duty for their protection is small.

Notices, of which one is enclosed, have been tried with little or no effect, and from the dense nature of the woods and their extent it is difficult to catch offenders in the act of committing damage. As an instance of the damages done through ignorance or carelessness only a few days ago, Mr. Baylis saw at Speech House Road Station a lady and her husband and two children, and noticing some young spruce trees, 18 inches to 2 feet high, in a basket that they had, he asked where they had obtained "those spruce trees," and they protested they had no spruce trees. On Mr. Baylis pointing out to them what were spruce trees, they said they got those "things" in the wood, and did not know

^{† i.e.} Professor Adam Sedgwick.

they were "trees" or that they were doing any harm in taking them. These spruce were from amongst some planted two years ago, and were just beginning to start healthy growth. Whilst wishing to give every reasonable liberty for enjoyment to visitors to the Crown Woods, a watch as careful as the nature of the case will allow is kept, but it is to the spread of knowledge and an enlightened jealousy for the protection and preservation of the rare plants and natural beauty of these woods by Field Clubs of high standing like the Woolhope Field Club, that Mr. Baylis looks in great measure for the means of decreasing wanton destruction and mischief.

Your obedient servant,

ROWLAND HALL.

V.R.

Dean Forest and Highmeadow Woods.

NOTICE.

All persons found breaking or damaging the trees or doing any injury by rooting up plants or otherwise in these woods will be prosecuted.

PHILIP BAYLIS,

Deputy Surveyor.

The President humorously remarked that he was afraid the only way would be to put up "notices" stating that "man-traps and spring-guns are set here" (laughter, and hear! hear!).

A list was presented of the dates of the arrival of migratory birds in the neighbourhood of Leominster, which had been prepared by Rev. W. E. Thompson.

Mr. James Lilley read a paper on "The abundance of the Colias hyale in England in 1900."

On the motion of Mr. Hutchinson, seconded by Mr. Moore, a sub-committee of the hon. secs. and Mr. Alfred Watkins was appointed to obtain, if possible, photographs of the whole of the Presidents of the Club and copy them in the platinotype process, to add them to the album of photographs belonging to the Club, now deposited in the Free Library, the cost not to exceed £5.

Votes of thanks to Mr. Theophilus Salwey, Mr. Mitchell, and Mr. Fortey for acting as guides, produced an exceedingly interesting speech from Mr. Salwey, who referred to the "Masque of Comus."

It is said that Milton was inspired to write The "Masque of Comus," from the fact that in 1631, when the Earl of Bridgewater was appointed President of the Welsh Marches, the Lady Alice Egerton and her brothers, Lord Brackley, and Mr. Thomas Egerton, *en route* from Gloucester to Ludlow Castle,

"To attend their father's state, and new entrusted sceptre" lost their way and got benighted somewhere in the Sunny Dingle or in Whitcliffe Wood, or in some part of the Haye Park Wood.

"Through perplexed paths of this contrary wood."

Mr. Theophilus Salwey is unable to show any evidence that Milton himself ever visited Ludlow, but he gave us the interesting facts that he had obtained from the British Museum the original music *to the play, and that it had been reproduced a short time ago in Ludlow Castle.

A writer, Clifford Cordley, under date Byford, July 9th, 1901, in the *Hereford Times* of 13th July, considers the locality of the scene conjectural and immaterial. He writes: "Milton was accustomed to roam in the forests of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire," that the poet "left Cambridgeshire in 1632, in which year he wrote "Comus," spending five calm, delightful years in the country house of his father at Horton, in Buckinghamshire. The Masque was first acted at Ludlow Castle in 1634 by the children of the Earl of Bridgewater, then Lord President of the Welsh Marches."

ON THE ABUNDANCE OF THE PALE YELLOW CLOUDED BUTTERFLY (COLIAS HYALE) IN ENGLAND IN 1900.

BY JAMES B. PILLEY.

The last year of the 19th century will be remembered by entomologists for the very unusual abundance of the pale-coloured yellow butterfly, "Colias hyale"; the more common species of the family, *C. edusa*, found in the British Isles, being comparatively scarce.

It is also of interest to the members of the Woolhope Club, as its capture in the county is recorded after an interval of thirty-two years; the last and only known specimen was taken at Grantsfield in 1868 by Mr. Walter Hutchinson. It is a species very capricious in its appearance, some years appearing in considerable numbers, principally in the southern counties, and then for several years a specimen is rarely seen.

This butterfly used formerly to be a rarity even in the southern counties, but appears to have extended its range all over the British Isles, probably owing to the increased cultivation of clover, on which the larva feeds. It is double brooded, but is common in central Europe in autumn; in the south it may be found throughout the year, and has been seen in Malta in March. It is one of the most widely distributed of all butterflies, and is found in central and southern Europe, and Asia as far as Japan and the Himalayas, also North and South Africa. It is generally one of the commonest autumn butterflies in fields and meadows on the Continent. There are six species of the family found in Europe, two only in Britain. The earliest work on insects I have in my possession is styled "Synopsis of the Natural History of Great Britain and Ireland," by John Berkentrou, M.D., London, 1789. It is there called the "Saffron butterfly, *Papilio hyale*," and is thus described:—"Wings entire rounded and yellow. On the first wings a black, and on the second an orange spot, bordered with black. Antennæ and legs yellow. Breadth, two inches. In autumn but rare." It is strange no mention is made of *C. edusa*, which is much the more common species, and is found more or less every year. It would appear the species was very scarce, or the number of observers was very limited in the 18th century, or, which is much more probable, that the two species were at that period not separated. There is one butterfly mentioned in this synopsis which is now practically extinct, and must have been common at that period, the "Black-veined white" *Pieris crataegi*, to be found commonly in meadows in June.

There are only thirty-nine species of Diurni mentioned as inhabiting the British Isles. It was formerly considered that the visits of *C. hyale* were septennial, but reference to the Zoologist, Entomologist, and other periodicals hardly warrants this supposition.

Colias hyale appears to have been fairly common during the past century in the years 1821, 28, 35, 42, 43, 44; in 1851 one only is recorded, in 1857 it was common, in 1867 one was recorded, in 1868 it

* Composed by Lawes, who also composed the music to Milton's "Arcades."

was common in Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, and generally abundant in the southern counties. In the following year one only was noticed. In 1872, 75, 76 it appeared commonly; 1881, 89, one only recorded in each year; 1892, common; 1899, a few only observed. There is no record of the appearance of the insect in Ireland, Scotland, or Wales during the past year, but it appeared in the following English counties:—Gloucester, Leicester, and Wilts, very scarce; Norfolk, Northampton, Oxford, Somerset, Suffolk, and Worcester, not common; Berks, Bucks, Cambridge, Dorset, and Hants, common; Essex, Herts, Middlesex, Surrey, and Sussex, very common. In Kent it appeared in great profusion. Thinking it may have occurred in this county, as it had been seen near Malvern, I wrote to Mr. W. Edwards, the secretary of the Malvern Field Club, for information, and received the following reply:—“In reference to your inquiry as to the occurrence of *C. hyale*, I saw and captured it in the main road close to Eastnor Castle. *Edusa* occurred there and near Ledbury”

Various opinions have been expressed at different times as to the stage in which the species hibernates, some stating in the ova, others in the larvæ, and many thinking it did so in the imago stage. I have made extracts from two papers on the subject which have appeared in the Entomologist. Mr. Frohawk says:—“It is doubtful if *C. hyale* ever survives an English winter in a state of nature, excepting perhaps in the most sheltered spots on the southern coast, in whatever stage they undergo hibernation. My own opinion is that it passes the winter in the larval condition, and I feel positive that very few survive the climatic changes of our winter. Undoubtedly the first severe frost would be fatal to larvæ feeding in exposed places, which would account to a great extent for the general absence of the species through the country in ordinary years. When a year when it is plentiful occurs, it is occasioned by an invasion by the butterflies in the spring, which are the parents of the great flight in the following August, and as long as the weather remains favourable a succession of broods is produced.” He obtained eggs, and after describing the earlier stages he concludes:—“November 26th. Figured larva hibernating, it having now reached its 39th day of hibernation, and has remained in same position the whole time; it measures 3-16 of an inch, having decreased 1-16 of an inch. December 7th. The larvæ have now attained the 60th day of hibernation and are apparently in perfect health, and motionless. I think from the above, taking all into consideration, that without a doubt the species hibernates as a larva. Under artificial means in an unusual heat the larva could be forced, and in fact Mr. Herbert Williams showed a full fed larva and a pupa which he had reared by keeping them in a temperature reaching as much as 86 degrees.”

Mr. Herbert Williams also records his experience; after describing the earlier stages he proceeds:—“On November 2nd the larva appeared in the fourth and last skin. It was 1-16 inch long, dark green, velvety in appearance owing to the number of short hairs, and having

pinkish spots in a whitish yellow line very distinct. November 9th. The larva spun a few threads of silk across from the clover leaves to side of jar, and beneath this it turned to a green pupa on the 10th. The pupa is attached by the tail and is supported by a belt similar to *Pieris brassicæ*. November 19th. A slight change takes place, the wing cases appear more opaque and of a yellow tint, and the position of the antennæ can be traced; on the following day, 20th, the pink margin of the wings shows plainly; by the next morning the marking of the wings are more distinct, and on the 22nd the imago emerged a male. This was followed on the 25th by a second, also a male. I believe this is the first time that *Colias hyale* has been bred in captivity in England.”

There certainly appears every reason to believe on the authority of these two experienced Entomologists that the larvæ hibernate, and that we are indebted for this beautiful insect to a few specimens which visit the south coast from France in the spring.

The late Mr. Edward Newman, author of “British Butterflies and Moths,” was strongly in favour of what he called the “blow-over” theory. This he was of opinion accounted for several species of Lepidoptera which were comparatively common on the Continent, but scarce in Britain.

Mr. Pilley passed round for exhibition a box containing a male and female *Colias hyale*, a male and female *C. edusa*, and a female variety of the latter, *C. helice*.

Mr. Pilley remarked that two specimens of the variety *helice* had been met with in cop. This requires investigation and confirmation.

DATES OF ARRIVAL OF BIRDS IN THE
LEOMINSTER DISTRICT.

The Rev. W. E. Thompson, writing from the Tan House, Leominster, under date 7th June, 1901, gives the following information :—

LEOMINSTER—SPRING 1901.

- April 8th. *—Easter Monday. Many *Sandmartins* and several *Swallows*; all disappeared before the next day.
 " 17th. †—*Chiffchaff* and *Willow Wren*.
 " 18th—One solitary *Sandmartin*
 " 20th—A pair of *Swallows* } first since the 8th.
 " 21st—A pair of *Swifts* which did not stay.
 Very hot day } and several more *Swallows*, *Sandmartins*, and some *House-martins*.
 " 22nd—*Cuckoo* (21st last year).
 " 25th—*Blackcap* (probably arrived earlier).
 May 1st—More *Swifts*, and many more by the 4th.
 " 6th—*Woodwarbler*.
 " 7th—*Corncrake*.
 " 11th—*Blackheaded Bunting*.
 " 13th ‡—*Nightingale*.
 June. —*Flycatchers*, not observed till beginning of June.

* The earliest date I have ever observed for the arrival of Swallows and Sandmartins. They appear to have come with the gale of the previous night. After skimming the meadows near the Priory all Easter Monday they all disappeared, only one or another appeared after an interval of ten days until from the 21st to the end of the month.

† The Chiffchaff appeared on the same day and at the same place as last year, 1900. The Willow Wren appeared three days earlier.

‡ The Nightingale was heard at Stockton in the parish of Kimbolton; it is the only one I have heard about here. I know nothing about the distributions of the Nightingale in this county. I read in the newspapers that they are numerous this season at Torquay, and Devonshire is supposed to be out of this limit.

GEOLOGY OF THE DISTRICT.

By H. CECIL MOORE.

These notes are added to those already given of the Geology of the neighbourhood in *Transactions* 1873, p. 83, by Mr. T. J. Salwey.

The members travelled upon Old Red sandstone from Wooferton until reaching the third milestone from Ludlow near the new church at Richard's Castle, where they entered upon the Ludlow Rocks. At the cross roads at Batchcott they again traversed a few yards of Old Red sandstone, where the long Fault was crossed, which extends for the distance of twelve miles from between Sned Wood and Haven in the S.W., near Deerfold Forest, to Knowbury in the N.E., under Titterstone Clee Hill.

At Batchcott the Upper Ludlow quarry, found by following for the distance of a quarter of a mile the cart road on the left hand leading from the four cottages at the bottom of Batchcott Hill, was visited, and many of the characteristic fossils were found.

Aymestrey limestone forms the ridge on the north eastern side of Mary Knowl Valley, and in the Sunny Dingle the party halted for their luncheon, where, near the keeper's house, a vertical exposure is exhibited of Aymestrey limestone capped with, apparently, about four feet of Upper Ludlow. The symmetrical transverse jointing peculiar to these limestones was here pointed out. A fault, nearly at a right angle with the previously mentioned fault, runs along Mary Knowl Valley, and the Aymestrey limestone occurs on the opposite side of the valley.

The remainder of the walk was over the Upper Silurian beds which extend to Ludlow.

Ludlow Castle is built of masonry of the Upper Ludlow rock upon which it stands. Ludlow Church is built upon a bed of yellow gravel and clay with large boulders in the Downton sandstone which lies upon the Upper Ludlow rocks. Less than one mile further east, where the Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway is made in a cutting and through a tunnel, a narrow bed of Ledbury shales, composed of Olive shales and greenish sandstone, was cut through, surmounted by Lower Old Red sandstone, capped with gravel composed of fragments of Old Red sandstone.

The section across Ludlow given on Page 105 of the "The Geology of England and Wales," by Horace B. Woodward, 2nd Edition 1887, was drawn by our late City Surveyor, and member of our Club, Mr. Timothy Curley.

From three hundred to four hundred yards westwards of Richard's Castle is the Bone-well, so named because of bones of mice, frogs, &c., having been washed into the well out of the fissures of the impending Upper Ludlow rocks, here strikingly jointed transversely. A representation is given in *Siluria*, chap. vii., page 132, 5th edition, 1872. Old Drayton, in his "Polyolbion," considered they were bones of fishes—

"With strange and sundry tales
Of all their wondrous things; and, not the least in Wales,
Of that prodigious spring (him neighbouring as he past)
That little fishes' bones continually doth cast."

Concerning this Bone-well, Camden thus writes:—"Beneath Richard's Castle, Nature, which no where disporteth itself more in showing wonders, than in waters, hath brought forth a pretty well, which is always full of little fishbones, or as some think, of small frog bones, altho' they be from time to time drawn quite out of it, whence it is called bone well. But this must be contradicted, for many have been there and have not seen a bone in the well, and as I have been informed those bones are there only from June till October, and not at all in the winter. And because most people conceived them to be frogs' bones, which come out of the clefts of a rock adjoining to the well, that the coldness of the water kills them, and then dissolves the flesh from the bone, an ingenious person not long since took a live frog and tyed it for some time in the well, and found no such effect. Let the more learned naturalist determine it."

Those of the party who did not enter Ludlow over the modern bridge, termed Dinham Bridge, walked along the right bank of the Teme in the chasm of the Upper Ludlow rocks to enter Ludlow over the Ludford Bridge.

In Ludford Lane is to be found a very narrow layer of Bone-bed largely made up of remains of fishes, crustacea, and other fossils, as well as coprolites. The term Coprolites, literally signifying petrified dung, is often applied simply to phosphatic nodules. This Bone-bed, between the upper beds of the Upper Ludlow and the Downton sandstone, is called "gingerbread"; some of the fish remains are of a mahogany tint or a brilliant black, many of the mollusca are phosphatised. See Woodward's "Geology of England and Wales," 5th edition, page 104:

Local geology, as well as the geology of Shropshire, is well represented, and classified, in the Ludlow Museum. Outside the museum, in the passage leading to the building, there are fine specimens of Wenlock corals. On the landing leading up to the museum is a large sectional diagram of the anticlinal from Bringewood Chase, through Burrington Pool, Gatley Coppice, Poor Wood, Whiteway Head, to Yarpole, in which the Silurian Limestones form the elevated parts, and the Wenlock Shales, washed away from the lower ground, form what is called the Wigmore Lake, and the Burrington Pool.

To follow the sequence of geological history, the visitors should begin at the bottom of the room, farthest from the entrance door, thus commencing from the Cambrian rocks, to finish with The Coal Measures. Near the stove will be observed a large slab exhibiting ripple marks in Greensill Freestone.

Special attention is called to two excellent models, one showing the configuration of the Silurian country with Stokesay as the centre, executed by the late Rev. J. D. La Touche. The other is a model of the

Parallel Roads at Glen Roy, made by Mr. Charles Fortey; it is on the horizontal scale of 1 inch to 1 mile, and being about 3 feet long, represents a tract of country 36 miles in length; on the vertical scale Ben Nevis, 4,370 feet high, is represented about $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height. In making the various contours of the ground Mr. Fortey used about four thousand pins.

Under the fostering care of Mr. Fortey this museum has obtained wide reputation for its orderliness and classification of birds, shells, both foreign and British, minerals, &c., as well as for its excellent representation of palaeozoic life in its geological cases. It is a good school for the student of natural history who has to depend mainly upon self-aid.

Maps of the districts traversed to-day.
See *Transactions*, 1896. The Geological Map facing page 128 includes the whole of the district traversed during the day.
Ordnance Maps.—On the scale of 6 inches to 1 mile, see Herefordshire, sheets 3 N.E., 3 S.E., 7 N.E., and 7 N.W.
" " On the scale of 1 inch to the mile. Sheet 181 Geological Survey—55 N.W.

It will be remembered that, at the Annual Meeting in last March, our President referred to a project he had schemed for encouraging a love for the study of our beautiful wild country flowers. After consultation with our botanists and other members of the Club, the matured project, to which we wish every success, is divulged in the following letter and explanatory memoranda which have been circulated amongst all the Elementary Schools in our county :—

" 29, TAVISTOCK SQUARE,
LONDON, W.C.
April 30th, 1901.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

With the object of promoting an interest in one branch of Natural History, I am sending to all the Elementary Schools in Herefordshire the enclosed invitation, which is intended to be subject to the judgment of the Head Teachers in all cases.

The task set cannot, I think, interfere with School work, and I have tried to so arrange it that the trouble may be as light as possible.

I am sure that any Head Teacher who has taken an interest in the collection and preservation of Plants will be able to show the Pupils how to go to work in a better way than I have laid down. I had, however, to write something which might be understood without much verbal instruction, and carried out by the least competent, and I shall be very glad to see any improvement in matters of detail.

If you should see fit to encourage any of your Scholars to take up this work I shall be much obliged if you will—

- 1—Inform me of this by Post Card ;
- 2—Give any advice or assistance except actual collection and preservation of plants ; and
- 3—Send two or three of the best collections, by Parcel Post, to me, here, during October.

I would not willingly limit the numbers, but if very many should be sent it may be impossible to give them a useful examination. It may be hoped that, except as to the best, the local comparisons will be sufficient.

It is suggested that the invitation might be extended to girls, and I am willing to do this.

THOS. BLASHILL,

President Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

To the Head Teacher."

The President of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club invite those boys in any Elementary School in Herefordshire, whom the Head Teacher may think to be suitable, to make a dried collection of the following wild plants during the spring and summer of this year, 1901 :—

Eleven kinds of Yellow Wild Ranunculus or Buttercup or Crowfoot are found in Herefordshire. They may be described as follows :—

1.—COMMON BUTTERCUP.—The stem is upright, about a foot high. The only one with a swelling at the root like a marble. The blossoms half an inch to an inch across. Seeds smooth. Pastures. May to July. Very common.

2.—CREEPING CROWFOOT.—Stem not quite upright, about a foot long, with creeping branches. Blossoms nearly an inch across. Waste ground and shady places. February to November. Very common.

3.—UPRIGHT MEADOW CROWFOOT.—Stem upright, two to three feet high. Blossoms an inch across. Meadows and pastures. June and July. Very common.

4.—HAIRY CROWFOOT.—Of a pale green colour, stem upright, six to twelve inches high. Blossoms an inch across. Seeds rough with sharp projections. Waste or cultivated ground, clay or loam that is rather moist. June to October.

5.—SMALL FLOWERED CROWFOOT.—Stems and branches spreading on ground. Very small blossoms, usually imperfect. Seeds rough and with a hooked point. Dry banks. Rare, chiefly in the south of the county. May and June. If this is scarce take only a small spray.

6.—WOOD CROWFOOT ; GOLDILOCKS.—Stem upright, six to ten inches high. Flowers pale yellow, three-quarters of an inch across. Woods and shady places. April and May. Common.

7.—CORN CROWFOOT.—Stem upright, much branched, twelve inches high, more or less pale all over. Flowers rather small. Seeds covered with strong spines. Cornfields. June and July. Common. Very bitter, and may be poisonous. Avoid eating this or any other.

8.—CELERY-LEAVED CROWFOOT.—Stem upright, eight to twenty-four inches high, shining and juicy. Blossoms only a quarter of an inch across. Ditches and wet places. June to August. Common.

9.—LESSER SPEARWORT.—Stem inclining or creeping, four inches to twelves inches long. Leaves long, narrow, with stalks. Blossoms of medium size. Wet places. May to August. Rather common.

10.—GREAT SPEARWORT.—Stem upright, two to three feet high. Leaves long, narrow, without stalks. Blossoms may be two inches across. Marshes, ditches, and margin of pools. Uncommon.

11.—LESSER CELANDINE.—Stem short, branched close to ground ; root is a bunch of long knobs ; leaves heart-shaped, pointing, shining, Blossoms large, with about eight long narrow divisions. Damp, shady places. February to May. Common.

All these plants are related, as is shewn by nearly all their blossoms. They are related also to the white-flowered Water Crowfoot, several kinds of which grow everywhere in pools and streams. The leaves of those that are in the water are like threads ; those above the water are generally like ordinary leaves. These plants are not to be gathered.

It is best to gather the whole plant when it bears buds, blossoms, and fruits. Clean the root, and lay the plant on a few sheets of softish paper about the size of ordinary foolscap, so that the leaves and flowers are well displayed. Notice that the leaves near the roots mostly differ from the upper leaves. If the plant is too long for the paper, make two bends in the stem, something like this N. Put more paper on the plant, and place something heavy on the top. More plants may be added if enough paper is used between them. Look at the plant every day till it is dry, improving its arrangement, if necessary, and drying the paper when it is moist. Then lay it on a stout piece of white or grey paper of the same foolscap size, or the best you can get, fastening it down in six to twelve places by narrow pieces of gummed paper stuck across the stem—the waste pieces from a sheet of postage stamps may be cut up for this. If you cannot do this, stitches may be used, or it may be put loose in a folded sheet of twice the size.

Write beneath it the number and name as in my list, the name of the parish or place where gathered, and the date when found. Write in the right hand lower corner of the paper your name and age and the name of your school, and give the whole to your Head Teacher before the end of September.

A few small books will be given amongst the boys who are most successful.

You may get advice from anyone upon any part of the work, but the work must be done entirely by yourself.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

THIRD FIELD MEETING (LADIES' DAY), THURSDAY, JULY 25TH, 1901.

ABBEYDORE AND ARTHUR'S STONE, VIA HAY.

DARK lowering clouds on the early morning of Thursday, 25th July betokened an unfavourable forecast for the day's visit to Abbeydore and Merbach Hill. On arrival at Barr's Court Railway Station, Hereford, in time for the 9.22 a.m. train to Hay, there was a fair sprinkling of ladies amongst the visitors, and the numbers increased *en route*. There was a drizzling rain during the greater part of the day, and several heavy downpours; nevertheless Arthur's Stone was reached, but the extension of the walk to the summit of Merbach Hill was abandoned.

The train service was carried out with commendable punctuality. Leaving Hay, the journey was pursued along the Golden Valley Railway, which, a few months ago, commenced a new regime under the management of the Great Western Railway. The travelling afforded a great contrast to the amenities of the original company, under whose auspices, so we have been informed, a train has been stopped to pick up passengers at intermediate places, to view a cricket match or an otter-hunt. A quiet beauty and changes of scenery certainly invest the Golden Valley Railway with peculiar charms. The line passes close by Clifford Church, and the last dozen miles bring the traveller near the fine churches of Peterchurch and Abbeydore, and the interesting churches of Dorstone, Bacton, Vowchurch, and Turnastone.

Upon arrival at Abbeydore a visit to the church, close at hand, was made. Traces of the original nave are conspicuous by the foundations here and there in the churchyard of the bases of the pillars. The original church was cruciform, 250 feet in length. In 1634 a restoration was made by Viscount Scudamore. This was confined to the transepts and eastern limb, with the addition of a bell tower in the angle between the south transept and the choir; the crossing became the nave of the restored church. The congregation have now invaded the choir, which is separated from the nave by a Jacobean screen of massive construction with bold and effective carving.

The church, an interesting monument of a Laudian interior, has been for several years suffering from the decay of three centuries.

Lately it has been evident that it had assumed a condition amounting to dangerous. Repairs have been declared necessary to portions of the roofs, to the plaster ceiling, to some of the buttresses which have separated, to the parapet and upper part of the belfry stage, to the roof of the towers, &c. The accumulation of earth, in some places three feet in depth, covering the plinth and lower parts of the walls, has created a considerable degree of dampness in the interior of the building ; the accumulation must be removed, and the dampness must be remedied by the construction of a trench surrounding the walls. The necessary repairs require an outlay of £5,600, according to the estimate of a competent and sympathetic architect, Mr. Roland W. Paul, F.S.A., whose specification of the restoration is thoroughly conservative. To the above sum an addition must be made for details connected with interior fittings.

To encourage the interest of the public in the desirable restoration, a meeting was recently held in the Palace, Hereford, under the presidency of the Bishop, and a powerful committee was appointed. The architect's report was presented, and the following appeal was issued :—

"During the past few weeks an influential committee has been formed, under the presidency of the Bishop of Hereford, to raise a sum of £6,000 for the necessary repairs to the well-known and beautiful Abbey Church of Dore in Herefordshire. The provisional committee has consulted Mr. Roland W. Paul, F.S.A., and from his detailed report, which has been adopted by the committee, it appears that although the main walls are fortunately sound in most cases, there are some portions of the building that are in a very serious and dangerous state. The upper part of the tower is seriously out of position and requires immediate attention, the plaster ceiling is constantly falling, and the floor of the church is in a very damp state and unhealthy owing to the condition of the vaults. Much of the glazing requires repair, and the roof, covered with old stone tiles, requires to be re-laid, and boarding and felt provided.

"The church itself is a unique example of a Cistercian Presbytery still used for divine service, and forms the eastern half (transepts and Presbytery) of the abbey church, founded for white monks, in 1147, by Robert, Lord of Ewias Harold. After the Dissolution it fell into decay, and in 1634 the part now in use was restored by Lord Scudamore as a parish church. He re-roofed it and added some fittings, many of which remain. It is thus a very beautiful mediæval church, with highly interesting additions of the 17th century. The repairs, for which funds are urgently asked, consist of necessary repairs to the roof, walls, and glazing, the re-laying of the floor on a concrete bed, and the provision of choir stalls and other fittings, to put the church in a proper condition for divine service ; also suitable means for heating and lighting. Mr. Paul's report emphasises the fact that, in dealing with the building, all the beautiful early work, as also everything of Scudamore's date, should be carefully preserved, and it guarantees that everything will be done in a strictly conservative spirit. Some excavations recently carried out by

him have brought to light many very interesting features hitherto unknown, and the work proposed will, therefore, not only preserve what is now visible, but add immensely to the interest of the building as an architectural and archæological study. The committee therefore venture to appeal to you for a contribution in aid of their endeavour to preserve for many generations to come this peculiarly interesting national monument."

This church has been visited by our Club in August, 1863 (see *Transactions*, No. 5, page 54), again in May, 1882 (*Transactions*, 1882, page 168). The building is more fully treated in a paper by Mr. Thomas Blashill in *Transactions*, 1883, pages 5 to 10, "Abbeydore, its History and Architecture," illustrated with four plates. Other references are to be found in "Dore Abbey : A short account of its History, and an appeal for its Repair," by ROLAND W. PAUL, Architect ; with ground plan and illustrations ; price 6d. *To be purchased at Messrs. Jakeman & Carver's, Hereford.*

"The Builder," April 4th, 1896. Vol. LXX., No. 2,774, with illustrations, elevation, and plan, by R. W. PAUL.

Transactions of the Cardiff Naturalists' Society, 1893-94. Vol. XXVI., Part II., pp. 121-124. A paper read by the Rector, Rev. A. PHILLIPPS, on 27th June, 1894. (In the Library of the Woolhope Club).

We must now return to the proceedings of the day. When the members had taken their seats in the church, four excellent illustrations, presented by the President, were distributed, and the following paper was read on

THE 17TH CENTURY RESTORATION OF DORE ABBEY
CHURCH.

By THOMAS BLASHILL, F.R.I.B.A., PRESIDENT.

Between the date of the dissolution of the Monastery of Dore in 1534 and the restoration of the remains of the church there was an interval of a hundred years, during which the knowledge that can be gained about it is extremely slight. We can only picture it as in the main a ruin, the whole of the greater vaulted roofs thrown down, and those parts of the choir and aisles which retained any covering used in all probability by the tithe owner for the storage of farm produce, and the housing of cattle. The choir itself had an old wooden roof, but whether this was the ancient roof or one that had been put on after the Dissolution is not clear. We hear of the incumbent John Gyles, who for a stipend of fifty shillings per annum, used to read prayers standing under an arch to keep his book from the wet. It is a grim picture, but we shall see reason to think that matters were somewhat mended before the restoration took place.

The life of John, 1st. Viscount Scudamore, who inherited the Abbey and the tithes, and who carried out the restoration, may be read in the second part of the Herefordshire Pomona, and is an interesting item in English history. I need only now refer to some parts of his career to show the kind of man who conceived and carried out the idea of restoring the ruins of Dore Abbey as the church of the parish which he re-endowed.

Born in the first year of the 17th century, he used his time so well that when he was but twenty years old he had passed through a studious University course at Oxford, travelled for two years in foreign parts, had become a Captain of Horse and a Baronet, and begun to reside with his young wife near to Hom Lacy. At twenty-one he was member for the county of Hereford, and at twenty-three he came into possession of the family estates. Carrying out all his undertakings with the greatest credit he became the trusted friend of the highest persons in the kingdom. While quite a young man he was created a Viscount, and in the year following this restoration was sent as Ambassador to France. Milton, with whom on the great questions of the day he could have had little in common, records that Viscount Scudamore received him in Paris most courteously and greatly assisted him. We may read of his public welcome home after an absence of four years, and of his great Christmas feast in 1639, when the farmers of sixty parishes and his friends all over the county sent meat and wine and spices, which he largely increased from his own stores during the three weeks in which he kept open house at Hom Lacy. Then the troubles of the Civil War fell upon him, and although sorely afflicted by the premature loss of his

children and his wife, he seems to have occupied himself all the more, and to the extent of his narrowed means, in promoting the welfare of his neighbours, his country and his Church.

He was twenty-six years of age when, being in possession of the secularised tithes of several parishes which his ancestors had purchased, he began to feel that he could not consider himself the rightful owner of that which had belonged to the Church. His friend William Laud, then Bishop of Bath and Wells, confirmed him in this view, whereupon he set about restoring the church of Abbeydore, with others, and re-endowing them with their tithes. Owing to the legal forms that had to be gone through, this was a work of so much difficulty, that we may wonder how his patience held out through the eight years which the business occupied. Nevertheless all was at length accomplished in his usual spirit of splendid liberality.

The work done to Dore Abbey has often been called a rebuilding even in authoritative contemporary writings. What was actually done appears pretty clearly from a comparison of the documentary evidence with the structure. When Lord Scudamore took the work in hand the chancel or choir was actually covered with a roof whatever may have been its date. Divine service had for some time been publicly held in this part of the building. From the architectural character of the tower I have no doubt whatever that it had been erected before the Dissolution by one of the later Abbots. The building of high towers or the possession of more than one bell was prohibited by the constitutions of the Cistercian order, but in later times several of their abbeys disregarded this, and, as at Fountains, we see much later towers added to the original buildings. There were four bells here, but as all such properties had been taken to the King's use it is probable that Scudamore had provided these with other things suitable for the service of the church during the years in which he was delayed before he could obtain the necessary sanction for his work. None of these bells remain, the six now existing having been made at dates varying from 1710 to 1892. At the consecration there was a Rector, Mr. Turner, who does not appear to have been quite newly appointed, and clearly there was a great amendment since the time remembered by old people, when Sir Giles (so called because he was a Bachelor of Arts) came to read prayers under the sheltering arch.

The arrangements made by Viscount Scudamore for the re-edification of the church were such as were usual at that period and are not uncommon now. He made separate contracts with the carpenter and the plasterer, to whom he supplied such materials as a landed proprietor usually supplied from his own estates; the contractors found the remainder of the material and the labour for the execution of the work. The contracts of John Abell, of Sarnesfield, for the new roofs and the woodwork in the belfry, and of Francis Stretton, of Fownhope, who did the plastering, are among the Scudamore manuscripts in the British Museum. I have found no contract for mason's work, though

one is said to exist, but as the plastering was done by a mason, as is the old custom here, that may account for the statement. There would be plenty of stone in the ruined nave, and I have little doubt that masons were employed at day wages to do this before contractors were brought in to do the more difficult work. The carpenter, John Abell, is a name of considerable interest in Herefordshire biography; he has been credited with a very great deal of important work, and is indeed sometimes reckoned as one of the great English architects of the 17th century. The foundation for this reputation is somewhat slight, but it may be possible to increase it by careful study of the architectural works of that period. Blount, who wrote towards the end of the 17th century, gives a short account of him and of his tomb in Sarnesfield churchyard, but the original manuscript is lost and the tombstone was entirely recut in 1857. The only original and indisputable evidence about Abell, so far as I know, is contained in his contract with Viscount Scudamore for this work at Dore. In it he is styled "John Abell, of Sarnesfield, in the Countie of Hereff, carpenter." He contracts to fell in any appointed places in the county the necessary timber "for the buildinge or repairinge of that place and buildinge wch by the p'ishone's of Doore is now used and resorted unto for the comon and publique exercise of sacred and divine duties." The Viscount is to provide all carriage. Abell is to put a roof over that part of the church which is 100 feet in length, which must be the transept. He is to take down the timber work from that part which is 60 feet in length, which is the choir, and put thereon a new roof, using up at his discretion the old timber in any part of the building. He is to put roofs over the aisles, which measure 260 feet in compass. He is also to put the two floors in the tower and a roof that shall come down within the battlements, and shall have a spire for a weather-cock and a dormer for egress. He is besides to make the bell frame "for fower bells and to leave space for a frame for two more, about the size of the biggest bell which is there already or bigger," and to hang the four bells, the Viscount finding all necessary iron-work. He is to make over the choir and transept a ceiling suitable for boarding, plastering, or otherwise, with pendants and braces, "handsome, sufficient, and stronge," and a fair strong and decent door at the first entry of the church. He is besides to fall and have sufficient timber to make his ladders, windlasses, and engines for the work.

The contract was dated March 22nd, A.D. 1632, in the 8th year of Charles I., which would be 1633 according to modern reckoning, and all the roofs, buildings, lofts, and frames were to be finished by St. Bartholomew's day, August 24th, next ensuing. Thus there were only five months allowed for falling the timber, making the engines, and using the timber, unseasoned as it must have been. The contract price was one hundred and ten pounds, of which thirty pounds was to be paid on April 30th, twenty pounds on June 15th, twenty pounds on July 20th, twenty pounds on St. Bartholomew's day, by which time the work was to be completed, and the balance of twenty pounds when the building

was finished, which seems to contemplate some delay in completing the work beyond the contract term.

To this document the parties are therein said to have put their "hands and seals." Neither signatures nor seals now appear upon it but a part of the last page is missing, which may have contained them. It is witnessed by Gyles Bridges, John Abrahall, Thomas Manfeilde (who was the Viscount's agent, described as "Clarke" in Francis Stretton's contract), Jo. Wilcocks, and Christopher Barrow, jun. One of the endorsements calls it "John Abell's contract for ye *rebuilding* of Doores Church."

The contract, dated 26th August, 1634, of Francis Stretton, of Fownhope, mason (who would, no doubt, be the Viscount's ordinary mason for his house at Hom Lacy), is for the ceiling, plastering, and whiting the roofs and walls. Stretton is to be paid 5d. per superficial yard for the lath and plaster ceiling, the Viscount to set up the scaffolding, and Stretton to move it as might be necessary. He is to have payment on account out of the contract price at the rate of 4d. for every hundred of lath hewn by him. Thomas Manfeild is to settle how much he ought to receive besides for lime, hair, and nails used in repairs of plastering to walls. Richard Meeke enters into this contract on behalf of the Viscount. Stretton executes it with his mark. The witnesses are Thomas Manfeild and George Skippe.

The fittings put up by Lord Scudamore in the chancel and transept were handsome in proportion to the work which appears in the pendants of the roof, and in comparison with a very great deal of the work done in churches and manor houses of the seventeenth century. There is no evidence as to the person who did this seating and chancel screen and singing loft with the other fittings, but many persons will incline to the belief that they were the work of John Abell. There is no reason to doubt the statement on his tomb as to his having been the "architect"—which probably meant a designer and contractor—of important buildings, and this work would not be beyond his skill. If, as is possible, he erected an old market house at Leominster, it is of some importance to notice that the inscription upon this chancel screen and that at Leominster are the same, letter for letter, but this is a question which I hope to deal with more fully in a notice of his reputed works.

The screen is adorned with the coats of arms of the King, of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and of Viscount Scudamore; along the frieze runs in four compartments the lines—*VIVE DEO GRATUS—TOTI MONDO TUMULATUS—CRIMINE MUNDATUS—SEMPER TRANSIRE PARATUS*. The last letter in "CRIMINE" was originally I. There is a similar inscription in the hall at Monnington Court. Mr. R. Clarke has pointed out that the upright timbers in the lower part of the screen, as seen from the transept, look as if made out of the rafters from an old roof.

From a comparison of the dates on the two contracts, and the date of reconsecration, I conclude that the order of the works was as

follows:—Abell's contract was made March 22nd, 1632-3, to be completed on August 24th, 1633; Stretton's contract was made August 26th, 1634, to be completed May 20th, 1635. The reconsecration took place March 22nd, 1634-5, which was the anniversary of the Viscount's baptism. This was two months before the expiration of the contract time.

The day must have been a great day at Abbeydore. So far as possible all the offices of the Church were to be incorporated in the service at Morning or Evening Prayer, but it is noted in the document that there was no marriage. The communion plate now in use is said to have been purchased with a purse of gold given by Lord Scudamore at the offertory. The consecration service, drawn up with the most elaborate care, may be found in the registry of the diocese, and has been printed by the Rev. J. Fuller Russell, but is now out of print. [With happy forethought our member, Mr. James W. Lloyd, now produces his own copy.] It was important that the service should clearly mark the line which the Viscount's friend and adviser, Laud, took in matters of ritual. The order of the several acts, the positions and postures of those officiating and helping are minutely laid down, and afterwards, when the High Church party had fallen on evil days, these matters were brought up against them.

The previous state of the church appears clearly from the statement made by the Bishop's Registrar, Richard Brassiere. The parishioners were destitute of a place of divine service and the worship of God till "by private permission they began to assemble themselves in this place, not evidently known whether ever a consecrated place or no, but very ruinous," "and in former time before their assembly in it altogether profaned and applied to secular and base uses." This shows also in what way services had—probably to a limited extent—been permitted before the reconsecration.

The most important addition to the church since the re-opening is the tomb of Sergeant Hoskyns, member for the county from 1603 for many years, and an ancestor of our former President, the late Mr. Chandos Wren Hoskyns. He died in 1637, and his tomb is adorned with as many of the verses written in his praise by several of the poets and wits of the time as could be accommodated on its panels.

From an inspection of the building with its decayed ceilings and damaged floors, it is easy to see how much it is in need of judicious repairs. Our members will recollect that at our Pembridge meeting the Club expressed its sympathy with this work, and we may hope that the strong committee, under the presidency of the Bishop of the Diocese, will soon be enabled to do all that is needed to preserve a building so full of interest of various kinds.

On the conclusion of Mr. Blashill's address an inspection was made of the building, and it was evident that its repair was a matter of



ALTAR CLOTH OF WHITE SILK, SHOT WITH GOLD, ABOUT SEVEN FEET IN LENGTH.
Said to have been presented to Bacton Church by Blanche Parry, a Maid of Honour to Queen Elizabeth. Since its presentation it has apparently been cut down at some period in order to adapt it to a smaller Communion Table.

No. 35.—To face page 189.

Photo by T. H. Winterbourne.

urgency upon grounds of both sanitation and safety; and that the removal of numerous layers of whitewash would reveal many beauties of chiselling in the capitals of the pillars. In many places the flooring is dangerous.

The Gothic sculpture and foliage on some of the capitals are exquisite, and an object of curious interest is a small figure of a bishop which is thought, from an inscription, to have been placed over the burial place of the heart of John le Breton, Bishop of Hereford (1269 to 1275), who was buried in the Cathedral.

Near the entrance door, on the south end of the transept, is the poor-box of 1639, on which is rudely carved, "He that from ye poor his eyes wil turn away, The Lord wil turn His eyes from him in ye later day."

Before leaving the edifice the beautiful pre-Reformation Chalice and Paten of Bacton, kindly brought over by the Rector, Rev. J. G. Monro, were inspected, as also the elaborate and well-preserved needle-work with its curious designs, the work of Blanche Parry, who was a maid of honour to Queen Elizabeth, and whose monument is to be seen in Bacton Church.

For a description of the Bacton Chalice and Paten, by Mr. E. W. Colt (Williams), see *Woolhope Transactions*, 1888, with the excellent photograph facing page 232.

Here follow the dates and descriptions of the Bells:—

- 1st Bell. Recast by J. Rudhall, Gloucester. 1770.
- 2nd Bell. Recast by Llewellins and James, Bristol, in 1892. Rev. Alfred Phillips, Rector; Charles Wall, George Evans, Churchwardens. Prosperity to our Benefactors. Amen.
- 1712.
- 3rd Bell. Philip Williams and Thomas Lewis, Churchwardens. 1710.
- 4th Bell. John Rudhall, Gloucester, fecit. 1710.
- 5th Bell. Peace and good neighbourhood. H. R. 1710.
- 6th Bell. P. Lewis and J. Davies. C. W. 1782.

AN ANCIENT BURIED ROAD.

Under the grounds of Abbeydore Railway Station runs an old road, buried about 18 inches below the present ground level. By the courtesy of the railway authorities this was permitted to be excavated, and three or four yards were exposed to view. The road was laid with rough unhewn stones, set on edge; but there is an absence of the coping, as a border, as prevails with the Roman roads of our acquaintance in the Forest of Dean. The width of the road was 13 feet, and the prevalent gauge of the carriages of the period is evidenced by the deep ruts at the distance apart of 4 feet 8 inches, the ruts themselves having an average measurement in the hard stone of 8 inches in depth and nine inches in width.

The road is on low ground and liable to floods. If it dates from the period of the Roman occupation, the depth, averaging from 15 to 18 inches below the present ground level, would give the deposit of humus and vegetable mould at the average rate of about one inch in a century.

Abbeydore is situated in the direct line running north-east from Abergavenny (*Gobannium*) to the Roman place of occupation at Kenchester: the direction of the few yards of road exposed is almost north and south.

The accumulation of earth mould during a period of several centuries would vary with the nature of the soil, with the slope and configuration of the ground (the lower parts being subject to rain washings from the more elevated parts), and, amongst other causes, with the greater or less suitability of the soil to worm life. Charles Darwin, on "The Formation of Vegetable Mould through the Action of Worms," gives, as the accumulation of surface mould, averages varying from 1 inch in 4 years, in 5, 6, 10, and 12 years, and on page 145, octavo edition of 1881, he records an instance of a flag stone pavement laid in 1843 being covered by an inch of fine mould in 1877, a period of 34 years.

On page 180 sections are given of the vegetable mould covering a buried Roman villa at Abinger in Surrey. Amongst many records the following may be mentioned:—The discovery of a fragment of tile and a pig's jaw at 22 inches below the surface at a Roman villa at Chedworth in Gloucestershire; on page 200, the earth overlying a Roman villa at Brading, Isle of Wight, varied from 2 feet 6 inches to 4 feet in thickness; on page 203 a floor found 3 feet below the surface, and, on page 207, rubble and broken tiles at the depth of 20 inches at Silchester, in Hampshire. See also, on page 205, the section within a hall in the Basilica at Silchester, where undisturbed gravel was not reached until the depth of 4 feet 2 inches, overlain by rubble, charred wood, mortar with broken tiles, covered by 16 inches thickness of mould. At Wroxeter, the ancient Uriconium, the thickness of the mould varied from 9 inches where concrete was reached to the depth of 40 inches at the summit of the field.

On page 244 he informs us that the burrows of worms penetrate to a depth of 5 or 6, or even more, feet. The reader of the book will perhaps be surprised at the intelligence of the despised worm; the archæologist will be grateful to it for the preservation of many an ancient relic.

Abbeydore Station was left by the 1.16 train, and, after a heavy downfall of rain, Dorstone was reached at 1.50 p.m. The wet condition of the grass and the threatening persistence of the rain dictated the prudence of eliminating from the programme of the day the proposed ascent to the summit of Merbach Hill. For the tea at the cottage of Rev. T. P. Powell on Merbach were substituted the kind attention and generous hospitality of Mrs. Powell and members of the family under the shelter of the Rectory House, close to the station. The Church is immediately opposite the Rectory House and the following notes have been supplied by Mr. Robert Clarke.

DORSTONE CHURCH.

The ancient Church was taken down in 1827, and a poor structure was substituted; the latter was removed about fifteen years ago, and the recent restoration, Gothic in character, was completed about 1890. In 1827, on taking down a chapel upon the north side, separated from the nave, or chancel, by a row of columns, an inscribed stone was found resembling a window sill, bearing upon its face, *so it has been stated*, the following inscription:—"Hanc capellam ex voto ad Mariam Virginem Ricardus de Brito dedicavit."* In the recent restoration, on taking down the 1827 church, a stone was found in three separate pieces† which had been used as walling stones; these are now preserved in the chancel, and from a carefully made drawing, the inscription appears to be as follows:—

J O H S . B R L A M : I N : H O N
O R E : B E A M A R I S R ' E : M : C C : L V I

An example of a date as early as 1256 is rare. It is uncertain whether the stone was longer where a large fracture occurs. It is traditionally stated that de Brito, one of the murderers of Thomas à Becket, in expiation of his crime, founded a chapel in this neighbourhood. Perhaps one of Brito's descendants, or a relative, founded this chapel to clear the stigma on the family name.‡

* The above inscription, ascribing the dedication by one Ricardus de Brito, has found insertion in the transcript of Bishop Swinfield's visitation by Rev. J. Webb; also in the "Transactions of the Woolhope Club," 1882, p. 165, line 23, and 1888, p. 225, line 22. The fact is that the Rector of Dorstone was in India in 1826–1827, during the rebuilding of Dorstone Church, and gave the information as derived from neighbours who had seen the stone, and who gave the inscription from memory incorrectly, as subsequent discoveries have proved.—EDITOR.

† The three fragments were found respectively as follows:—One under the Tower, a second in the foundations of the Church, and the third in the wall of the Church.—EDITOR.

‡ The date of the death, by the hands of four Knights, of Thomas à Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, is given in history as 29th December, 1170, as many as 86 years previous to 1256. It is impossible from these broken incomplete fragments to identify the dedicator.—EDITOR.

A few examples of the ancient Church have been preserved by the present Rector, Rev. T. P. Powell, and inserted in the present chancel. The very beautiful Early English piscina, with the central corbel for figure or cross, has been carefully built in on the south side; also an arched monumental recess in which was discovered a latten chalice and paten four inches in height, now preserved in a glazed recess under the arch. These were found by the side of the skeleton of a tall man in a tomb which was accidentally broken into.

The lower part of the font is ancient, and also some portions of the east window.

A considerable quantity of travertine, in large unhewn blocks belonging to the old church, found in taking it down, has been re-worked into the present tower arch.

At the extreme end of the parish up the valley, in the township of Fowmine or Vowmine, are the remains of several lines of earthworks on the hill, not given in the Ordnance Survey Maps. It is the intention of the Rev. T. Powell to make a list of all the earthworks in the parish, including the Castle to which reference has been made in *Transactions*, 1888, p. 224.

In the course of the afternoon, during a short bright interval between the showers, a walk was taken up the hill to visit Arthur's Stone, situated on an elevation of about 900 feet, three-quarters of a mile north of Dorstone Railway Station. It is on the route to Merbach Hill, the summit of which, 1,044·9 feet, as given in the Ordnance Map, Herefordshire, Sheet xxxi., N.E., is distant from Arthur's Stone, less than one mile and a quarter north-west.

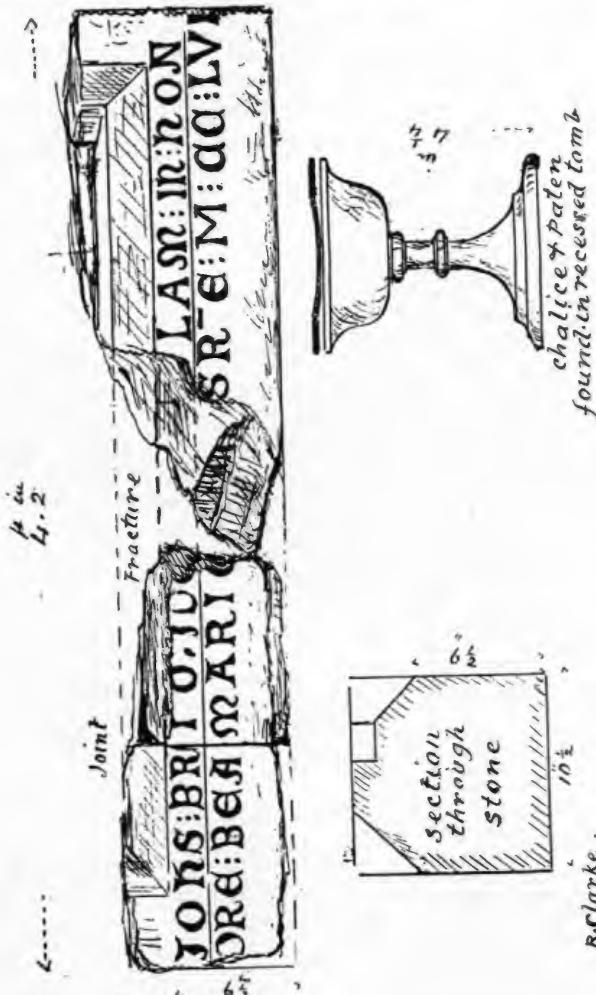
After examination of the ancient sepulchral like structure and its surroundings, extracts were read from Mr. Piper's paper (*Transactions*, 1882, page 175), soon to be abruptly interrupted by another downpour. The dispersed audience sought shelter under a neighbouring tree, finally descending the hill to bid adieu to the courteous family of the Rector in grateful recognition of the shelter and hospitality they had received under the roof of the Rectory.

On arrival at Hay the members were met by Archdeacon Bevan, who conducted them to his residence, The Castle. The sudden appearance of the Elizabethan side of the Castle, with its Norman annexe, recently rendered strikingly noble and imposing by the removal of a row of old cottages at the base of the grounds, came upon the party as an agreeable and quite unexpected surprise. The three-quarters of an hour interval before the departure of the train was profitably filled up in the pleasant society of the Archdeacon and his family.

The Ordnance Maps, on the scale of 6 inches to 1 mile, for this district are:—For Abbeydore, 44 N.E.; for Dorstone, 31 S.E.; and for Merbach Hill, 31 N.E.

HEREFORD
Woolhope Trans.
1901.

dorstone Church Herefordshire
Inscribed stone (John Brito 1256)



CHALICE AND PATEN.

INSCRIBED STONE IN DORSTONE CHURCH.

Here follows, so far as the names could be ascertained, a list of the members and their friends who were present :—Members : The President Mr. T. Blashill ; Mr. T. S. Aldis, Rev. A. C. Auchmuty, Mr. J. E. Ballard, Mr. W. M. Baylis, Mr. H. C. Beddoe, Mr. C. P. Bird, Mr. J. U. Caldicott, Rev. C. B. Caldicott, Mr. J. Truman Cook, Sir Herbert Croft, Mr. G. Davies, Mr. Ilyd Gardner, Mr. E. A. Gowring, Mr. H. Scott-Hall, Rev. H. Harington, Mr. E. J. Hatton, Mr. J. Tudor Hereford, Rev. A. G. Jones, Mr. F. R. Kempson, Rev. Preb. W. H. Lambart, Mr. J. W. Lloyd, Rev. H. B. D. Marshall, Rev. A. H. McLaughlin, Mr. J. Basil Masefield, Rev. W. E. T. Morgan, Capt. T. L. Morgan, Mr. G. H. Phillott, Rev. A. Pope, Rev. T. P. Powell, Rev. A. Relton, Mr. W. W. Robinson, Rev. F. S. Stooke-Vaughan, Mr. J. P. Sugden, Mr. G. R. Trafford, Mr. E. L. Wallis, Rev. M. G. Watkins, Rev. H. T. Williamson, with Messrs. T. Hutchinson and Mr. H. C. Moore, hon. secretaries, and James B. Pilley, assistant secretary. Visitors : Mesdames W. M. Baylis, C. P. Bird, Caldicott, Scott-Hall, T. Hutchinson, A. G. Jenkins, Alfred Phillips, Stooke-Vaughan, Wallis ; Miss Ballard, Miss Bird, Miss Caldicott, Miss Helen Dew, Miss Friend, Miss Griffiths, Miss Jones, Miss Kempson, Miss Derham Marshall, Miss Parham (from Salisbury), Miss Pope ; Misses Riley (2), and Miss Septch ; Misses Williams (2) and Miss Wharton. Gentlemen : Mr. Ballard, Mr. F. Gardner, Mr. J. D. Havard, Mr. J. Linaker, Rev. J. G. Munro, Rev. E. C. McLaughlin (Tenbury), Rev. Alfred Phillips, Mr. Riley, Mr. G. B. de Saumarez (Cheltenham), Rev. T. W. Walwyn Trumper, with others whose names were not ascertained.

ARTHUR'S STONE, DORSTONE.

By H. CECIL MOORE.

For previous remarks on Arthur's Stone, see the paper by Mr. Piper in *Transactions* 1882, page 175. Subsequently to the visit of our Club to Arthur's Stone, and whilst the Volume of our *Transactions* is in the press, circumstances have called more than usual attention to one of our most ancient megalithic monuments, viz., Stonehenge (Saxon—*Stán-henge*, the hanging stones). The dislodgment, in the latter part of December, 1900, of one of the capstones of a trilithon in the outer circle, has led to certain protective work being carried out and to the placing of the well-known "leaning stone" of one of the tallest separate trilithons in an upright and thoroughly secure position. This newly-erected colossus is about 21 feet in height, and the portion of stone underground measured 8 feet. In the work of excavation stone hammers, heavy mauls for rough dressing the stones, and chips were uncovered, and not a single metal tool of any kind was discovered, indicating so far that the stones were erected previous to the bronze age. From thousands of other finds in England the bronze age is placed between 1800 and 2000 B.C. Moreover the character of the mauls, heavy hand instruments, unpolished and not fixed in handles after the manner of neolithic instruments, is suggestive of Old Stone Age rather than Neolithic implements.

On the theory that Stonehenge was built and used by sun-worshippers, the fascinating problem of its age has been recently attempted by means of astronomy, by the orientation of an upright stone, known as the Friars' Heel Stone, as the rising sun is viewed over its summit on June 21st (the day on which the sun reaches its most northerly position), from the Altar Stone within the innermost elliptical enclosure. Sir Norman Lockyer, director of the Solar Physics Laboratory, South Kensington, and Mr. F. C. Penrose, antiquary, assisted by Mr. A. Fowler and Mr. Howard Payn, have given to the public the result of their calculations, allowing for the deflection of the sun in the present day at sunrise on 21st June from its old position, and based upon tables of the obliquity of the equinox. The number of years accounting for such shift of position amounts to 3,581 (with an admitted possibility of error in either direction of 200 years), which give the date of 1680 B.C. See *Nature*, November 21st, 1901, page 55; and for explanatory illustrations see *The Sphere*, July 6th, 1901, pages 14 and 15, and January 4th, 1902, pages 26 and 27.

History does not help us in any way towards the solution of the age of Stonehenge. The earliest direct allusion to it which I can find is given in "Wanderings of an Antiquary," by Thomas Wright, 1854, page 296: namely, in a Latin list of "The Wonders of Britain" (*De Mirabilibus Britanniae*), published by the historian Henry of Huntingdon, in the first half of the twelfth century. No definite mention of the remarkable area of great stones of Carnac in Brittany is made by Caesar or



ARTHUR'S STONE, DORSTONE.

Photo by A. C. Slatter.

No. 37.—Between pages 194 and 195. To face No. 38.



ARTHUR'S STONE, DORSTONE.

Photo by A. C. Slatter.

No. 38.—Between pages 194 and 195. To face No. 37.

his successors during the more than four hundred years Roman occupation of Gaul. The Via Badonica passed by Silbury Hill, close to Avebury, yet there appears no comment upon this artificial mound by Tacitus, the intimate friend of Agricola, the Roman Ruler of Britain. The deviation southwards at Silbury Hill of the ancient Roman road from Bath to Marlborough, indicates that the mound was constructed before the Roman occupation of our island. Silbury Hill is 130 feet in height, 552 feet in diameter, 1,657 feet, nearly one-third of a mile, in circumference, and covers an area of five acres. It is formed of chalk rubble, and is probably the largest artificial mound in Europe. In Asia Minor the tomb of Halyattes, about double the size of Silbury, is given as the largest artificial mound known.

Arthur's Stone is not recorded in the first English editions of Camden's *Britannia*, which was published in 1610, nor is it marked in Speed's Map, of that date, but it is described in Nathaniel Salmon's work, published in 1728-1729, under the title of "A New Survey of England, wherein the defects of Camden are supplied and the errors of his followers remarked." Consequently we entertain no hopes of ever learning its age, or its origin; moreover the cause of its nomenclature is purely a matter of conjecture. Its appearance suggests its being contemporaneous with other monuments in our island, such as Kit's Cott or Coity House, in Kent, near Aylesford; or with the standing stones at Avebury and elsewhere. It was probably erected centuries before the time of Arthur, and got subsequently named after the hero.

The name of Arthur has been so fully treated in legends that the distinction between the real Arthur and the legendary Arthur has been a long study. The hero Arthur was one of the last of the Celtic Chiefs in Great Britain, a leader of the Celtic tribes of the West of England against the Saxons, and the long resistance of these Western Celts was conducted under Aurelian Ambrosius and Arthur. He is said to have been slain in the battle called by historians the Victory of Mountbadon, near Bath, 520 A.D. Again, under the same period of the 6th century, he is considered as a leader of the northern Cymry of Cumbria and Strathclyde against the Saxons of the east coast (Bernicia) and the Picts and Scots from beyond the Forth and Clyde. Arthur figures in the poems of the Cymric Bards, Merlin, Taliessin, Aneurin, and Llywarch Hen, all connected with the north. He figures in five of the poems, not as a southern King, but as a Guledig or "Dux Bellorum," whose twelve battles are in the north. It is impossible to reconstruct a coherent historical picture of this hero of the Welsh Tales, from the chronicles of Geoffrey of Monmouth, and the Romance of the Round Table. Before his final French form in the Romance of the Round Table, he was a Celtic hero in the Breton, and more specifically still in the yet earlier Welsh legends. From the above summary of a long article in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 9th edition, 1875, we may consider the Arthur-land as extending from the Forth and Clyde, or rather, from the Grampians in Scotland to the Loire in France, and including, besides the South of

Scotland and the North of England, Wales, Somersetshire, Cornwall, and Brittany. This leads to the question : Was the migration of Arthurian traditions from the south to the north, or from the north to the south ?

The Welsh people, especially in earlier years, were well endowed with the powers of imagination and fancy, faculties which have played a great rôle when combined with a certain kind of faith. From this combination (see "The Welsh People," by John Rhys and David Brynmor, 1900, chapter xii., page 592,) "there sprang up among the Brythons of yore a spirit of romance, which held the Europe of the Middle Ages bound, as it were, under a spell. There is no great literature of the Continent which does not betray the influence of the Brythonic hero Arthur, whom his people as late as the time of Henry II. expected to see returning from the Isle of Avalon, hale and strong, and longing to lead his men and countrymen to triumph over the foe and the oppressor. So real was the sanguine expectation that it is supposed to have counted with the English King as one of the forces which he had to quell in order to obtain quiet from the Welsh. So the monks of Glastonbury proceeded to discover there the coffin of Arthur, his wife, and his son. This was to convince the Welsh, of the unreasonableness of their reckoning on the return of Arthur, who had been dead some six hundred years. The Welsh, however, went on believing here and there in the eventual return of Arthur ; and in modern times a shepherd is now and then related to have chanced on a cave where Arthur's men are sleeping in the midst of untold treasure, awaiting the signal for their sallying forth to battle. This is located in various spots in Wales, as also in the Eildon Hills, near Melrose, in South Scotland.

Similar expectations have been connected in Ireland with the names of several of the heroes of local stories current in that country. Take, for instance, the O'Donoghue, who is supposed to be sleeping with eyes and ears open beneath the lakes of Killarney, till called forth to right the wrongs of Erin, or of the unnamed King, who sleeps among his host of mighty spearmen in the stronghold of Greenan-Ely, in the highlands of Donegal, awaiting the peal of destiny to summon him and his men to fight for their country."

We are wont to call Arthur's Stone a Cromlech, a term exclusively employed in France, and on the Continent generally, for such monuments as we in this country use for the descriptive name of "stone circles," or "circles of standing stones," as at Avebury, Stonehenge, and elsewhere.

"The restricted sense in which the term has been applied in recent times in this country has given rise to the notion that a "Cromlech" or great stone supported on props of smaller size, is a species of structure complete in itself, and distinct from the "dolmen" or chambered cairn.

Mr. Ferguson in his recent work on "Rude Stone Monuments" has described the monuments usually known by the term cromlech as "free-standing dolmens," and maintains that they were never intended to be covered with a mound or cairn. It is evident that the removal of

the loose stones of the enveloping cairn would leave its megalithic chamber exposed as a cromlech, and undeniable that many of the examples adduced as "free-standing dolmens," in England, do exhibit traces of such removal.

"On the other hand the *steendysser* or "giants' graves" of Denmark and Sweden, which are perfectly analogous to the Cromlechs of this country, are never wholly hidden in the mounds which envelope their bases.

"The present tendency is towards the entire disuse of the term cromlech, and the adoption of the term dolmen for all the varieties of tombs with megalithic chambers, whether "free-standing," or partially, or wholly, enveloped in mounds of stones and earth."—*Encyclopædia Britannica*, 9th edition.)

The various kinds of ancient stone memorials are pleasantly treated on pages 159 to 173 of "A Book of the West," Devon, by Baring Gould, 1900, from which the following summary has been compiled :

Of Dolmens there are numerous fine specimens in Cornwall, a single good example is at Drewsteington ; and in Wales and Ireland they abound. The Dolmen belonged to the period before bodies were burnt, it has usually a remarkable footstone, or a cavity, at one end for the introduction of a fresh corpse when required.

The Kistvaen, or stone chest, is usually of later date than the Dolmen. When burning of bodies became customary the need of large mortuary chapels or tombs as the Dolmens ceased. Some Kistvaens may have been erected for single bodies. On Dartmoor there are hundreds of Kistvaens.

Cromlech is the name applied by the French to "Stone Circles." So far as excavations have been made on Dartmoor no interments have as yet been found in them ; but interments have been found at the foot of several of the monoliths in the great circle of Pen-maen-mawr.

The Stone-Row is almost invariably associated with Cairns and Kistvaens, and clearly had some relation to funeral rites. In Scotland they are confined to Caithness. The finest are at Carnac in Brittany. Dartmoor is rich in stone rows. The most remarkable row is near the Erme Valley, which, starting from a great circle of upright stones, extends for $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

The Menhir, or tall stone, is a rude unwrought obelisk. There are several on Dartmoor. The highest, 18 feet, weighing 6 tons, is at Drizzlecombe.

Cairns, or Carns, a mere pile of stones, are numerous on Dartmoor, but all the large ones have been opened and robbed at some unknown period. Cairns are common in Ireland.

Recently, and since our visit to Arthur's Stone, a work by T. Cato Worsfold, has been published under the title of "The French Stonehenge," with numerous illustrations of the principal megalithic remains in the Moslimah Archipelago, so wonderful for their variety and quantity, amounting to between six and seven thousand. There are

several illustrations of dolmens, where, similar to Arthur's Stone, a flat stone rests on several low upright stones : the Kistvaen, or coffin of stone slabs, is a kind of dolmen in miniature. The illustrations of the cromlechs are standing stones either circular, or in alignments, and one instance is given of a square cromlech. The alignments of marshalled stones, the grey granite of the region (Brittany), very rarely showing traces of the chisel, are very remarkable : the stones comprising them are of various sizes, but in one group rising about six yards above the ground, ten to thirteen in a row, they number altogether over two thousand seven hundred.

Our President, Mr. Blashill, had recently visited the locality, and he exhibited some photographs of some of the stupendous masses near Carnac. One photograph represented a prostrate broken stone, most probably a fallen menhir, 78 feet in length, 13 feet at the base, and weighing at least 240 tons.

For the sake of comparison as to size and weight :—Cleopatra's Needle on the Thames Embankment, London, imported from Egypt in 1878 by the late Sir Erasmus Wilson, is 68 feet $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches high. Its weight is 186 tons 7 cwt. 2 stones 11 lbs. One of the largest monoliths in our kingdom is to be seen in the churchyard at Rudstone, a little village in Yorkshire. It is a gritstone over 25 feet high : it has been traced into the ground to a depth of 16 feet without its base being reached. It is computed to weigh 46 tons. It is nearly twenty miles distant from the nearest quarry. An illustration is given in "The Sphere" of September 13th, 1902, on page 294.

The dolmens, no doubt, like the pyramids of Egypt, were constructed for tombs. The Menhirs, or standing stones, may have been monumental, sometimes religious emblems, sometimes memorials of other significance, like the pillar-stones of the Bible.

Weird ancient customs are still maintained amongst the more uneducated of the Bretons even in the present day, customs which the priests endeavour to associate with Christian worship ; very strange popular traditions cling about the megaliths of Brittany.

It is now generally accepted that chambered structures were erected as memorials of some great hero at a period when burial mounds of earth (barrows or tumuli) were wont to be raised over them : some oval or long in form, representing a race existing before the makers of the circular barrows, as inferred from the shape of the skulls found buried under the mounds. Who the Aborigines of our island were remains unsettled. Some believe that the Silures on the western portion were descended from the Iberians of Spain, and the population of the southern and south-eastern parts were derived from the people of the opposite coast of Gaul. A study of the subjects leads to the surmise that some five or six centuries before our era the southern part of Britain was overrun by Celtic ancestors of the Goidels, whose language is represented by the Gaelic dialects of Ireland, the Isle of Man, and Scotland. These were driven northwards in the 2nd or 3rd century B.C. by

another branch of the Celtic family, the Brythons, whose conquests are represented by the territory now covering Mid-Wales to the sea.

In the Appendix to the work above referred to, "The Welsh People," on page 640, we read :—"That the pre-Celtic inhabitants of Britain were an off-shoot of the North African race is shown by the cranial and physical similarity between the "long-barrow" man and the Berbers and Egyptians, and by the line of megalithic monuments which stretches from North Africa through Spain and the West of France to Britain, marking the routes of the tribes in their migration."

As a grand memorial of the work of a past race, the origin of which is lost in the mist of pre-historic ages, Arthur's stone still remains a problem for antiquaries ; its mystery and antiquity claim the same respect of visitors, which it possesses of the lord of the manor, Sir George Cornwall, and of the local inhabitants.

We are assured by a resident that the appearance of Arthur's Stone is the same as it has been for sixty years. "The flat superincumbent stone, in three pieces, but the sides of those pieces answering one another," &c., still corresponds with Salmon's description as he saw it about two hundred years ago.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

FOURTH FIELD MEETING, TUESDAY, AUGUST 27TH, 1901.

ROSS FOR THE CAMP ON CHASE HILL, WYTHALL COURT, THROUGH WALFORD TO GOODRICH COURT, CASTLE, AND CHURCH, AND FLANESFORD PRIORY.

THE fourth Field meeting of this year was held on Tuesday, 27th August, when a large party took train at 9.50 a.m. from Hereford to Ross, where they were met by the President (Mr. Thomas Blashill) and Mr. Henry Southall. The members at once walked to The Graig, the residence of Mr. Southall, where they found light refreshments awaiting them, and had, unfortunately, a too limited inspection of both his gardens, where they saw in healthy condition plants growing from all parts of the world, including plants from tropical climates, and plants from the Alpine regions. To describe them would require a chapter in itself: their variety and number were truly embarrassing in a superficial limited observation.

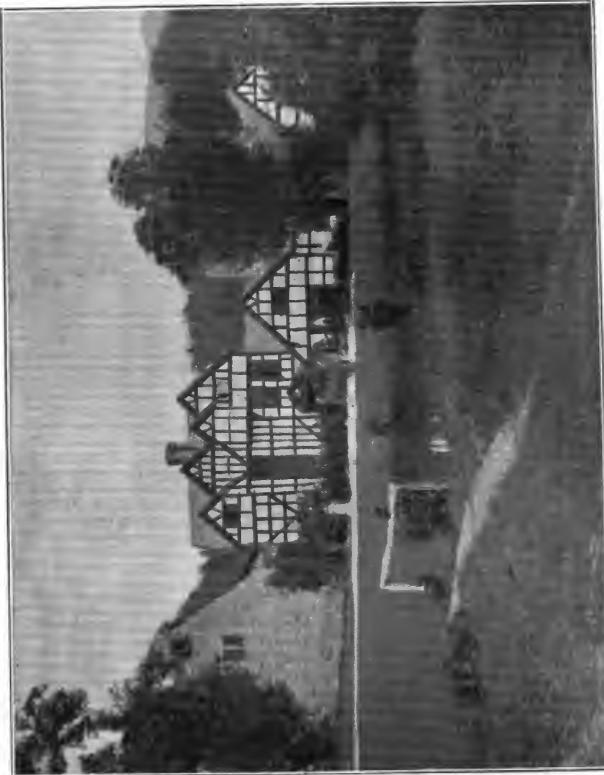
Shortly after eleven o'clock the members continued their walk by Fern Bank and the old Quarry at the base of Chase Wood to Hill Farm, the residence of Mr. Eckley, with the object of pursuing the course of the ancient road, the paving of which was still visible in places, buried several inches under the present surface as the road proceeded southwards to Gately Grove. The discovery of this ancient road proved of some importance and use to Mr. James G. Wood in his investigation of one of the ancient boundaries of the Forest of Dean. It will not be necessary to say anything more about the subject at present, because it will be fully treated in Mr. Wood's "Notes on the Chase and Penyard Park in relation to Dean Forest." In the course of the ascent of the hill called Chase Wood occasional outcrops of the Old Red conglomerate were conspicuous, in fact in one place the solid rock had been cut through in ancient times to a depth of at least 12 feet to conduct into the camp on the summit of Chase Wood. This extensive camp (it measures 20 acres) has to this day the embankments upon the south-eastern and southern sides very conspicuous. The embankments are absent upon the western side, where the declivity is most steep. The party assembled upon the site of the triangulation survey 665.4, marked



WYTHALL, IN THE PARISH OF WALFORD—FRONT VIEW.

Photo by General A. Hutchinson.

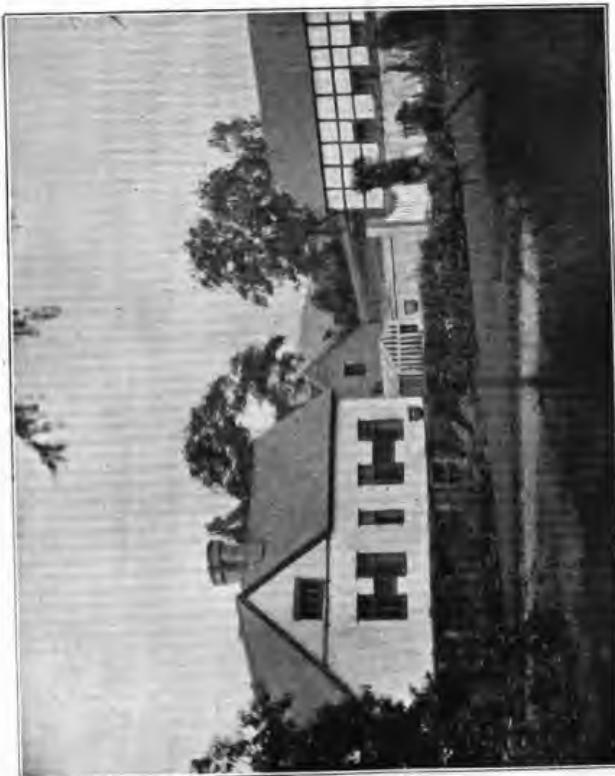
No. 39.—Between pages 200 and 201. To face No. 40.



WYTHALL, IN THE PARISH OF WALFORD—FRONT VIEW.

Photo by General A. Hutchinson.

No. 40.—Between pages 200 and 201. To face No. 39.



WYTHALL, IN THE PARISH OF WALFORD—BACK VIEW, SHOWING THE TWO "H" WINDOWS.

Photo by General A. Hutchinson.

No. 41.—To face page 201.

on the ordnance map 51 S.E., on the scale of six inches to the mile, as "Rowan Tree." From this elevated position Mr. Thomas Southall pointed out the distant objects, the atmosphere being fairly clear for the observation of the Clee Hills, Wyre Forest, Malvern Hills, the Lickey of the May Hill, Bredon Hill, the Cotteswold Hills on the opposite side Hills, Severn, and the outline of the Forest of Dean Hills. It is an excellent situation for a camp.

From the summit of the hill the supposed trace of Offa's Dyke was pointed out following a course, marked occasionally by holly bushes, from the Cleve Farm, past The Firs, to the Vine Tree Inn, whence it is supposed to have followed the line of the present Walford road above Purland Chase.

The descent from the hill commenced down a very steep declivity through the wood upon the western side; the gradient became more comfortable when the path was reached, which finally brought the party into the main road at Chase Wood Villa, whence the walk was continued for the distance of about a mile to Wythall Court, where the members were kindly welcomed in a humorous address by the occupier, General Alexander Hutchinson, F.R.G.S., F.G.S. This black and white timbered building, having undergone but little alteration, remains one of the most characteristic old mansions existing in this county. The members were allowed to make a thorough inspection of the house, one portion of which, from the beams in the ceiling, appeared to be as early as the 14th century, but another portion, (in which is a grand old wooden bedstead, carved and inlaid, dated 1621), of the 15th century. The house is said to possess (see Timmin's "Nooks and Corners of Herefordshire," page 149), an authentic portrait of Queen Elizabeth, given by her to a member of her Court, which subsequently came into possession of the Collins family. The mansion was erected by William Stratford in the 15th century, and at the present period is held by Colonel John Stratford Collins. One unusual feature of the house is a fine staircase with a central newel of oak, an upright pillar around which the stairs convey in winding fashion to each floor. The staircase is lighted by a window in which is some old stained glass. The back elevation of the house is less ornamental; here two windows of the upper floor are made to represent the letter "H." The mansion was erected in the reign of Henry VII. A sheet of water* stands on the west of the house, into which two hundred rainbow trout have been introduced, the growth of which is watched with interest. One of the

* It is, no doubt, to the brightness and purity of the spring that supplies this sheet of water that the place derives its name of Wythall. It is one of the many instances, in Herefordshire and in parts of other counties, in which the A. S. *wælla* or *wylla* (spring) has taken, by corruption, the form of "wall" or "hall" or "all." Thus we have Caerswall, i.e. *caer-wælla*, the spring where the cresses grow (often erroneously supposed to have something to do with 'caer' and *valum*); Nuttal, the spring among the nut trees; Rushall, the spring among the rushes; Colwall, the cool spring; Oxenhall, the spring where the oxen drink; Rudhall, the red spring; Horewall, the muddy spring. Clearwell in Gloucestershire was until well on to the 18th Century called Clowerwall: and the manor in which the ferruginous wells of Tunbridge in Kent rise is called Rusthall, or the rusty spring.

So Wythall, in some maps written Whitehall, is "hwit-wælla," or the white spring.—J.G.W.

algæ, a curious aquatic plant, grows luxuriantly in this pool. It is called stonewort (*chara*). It is entirely submerged, and the stem is often encrusted with calcareous matter derived from the water, which makes it exceedingly brittle. Its process of germination is an interesting object for examination under the microscope. It has a long thread-like stem giving off at intervals appendages ranged in whorls ending in a terminal bud. These whorl branches show some approach to the *Equisetum* family. The small detached building with Tudor windows and a wooden cross on the top of the gable is, at first sight, suggestive of a chapel. Examination of the building, however, by no means confirms the suggestion that it had been erected for a chapel. It was evidently built either for a dwelling or store house, and the wooden cross referred to is exceedingly modern. Photographs of the building were taken from different aspects.

At 1 p.m. Wythall was left, and a walk of about one mile brought the members to Walford Church, where they were welcomed by the Rev. Kentish Bache, the vicar, who pointed out the various interesting features in the edifice, which has five piers of the transition Norman style, the chancel arch being supported by two piers of early English architecture. The square tower is almost, but not quite, detached; originally it carried a spire. This was destroyed by lightning on Wednesday, 17th February, 1813.

The ecclesiastical-looking building conspicuous during this walk upon an adjoining hill, Howle Hill, is a chapel of ease erected by Miss Phillips, of Hazelhurst. Upon the eastern side of this hill is a small mound, or artificial military earthwork, which has been dignified with the title of "Camp," or "Tump." Howle Hill is capped with Millstone Grit overlying the Carboniferous Limestones and Shales.

From Walford Church a short walk over the meadows brought the party to Goodrich Ferry, of which we read in "Nooks and Corners of Herefordshire," page 150:—"It was while crossing at this ferry that Henry IV. first heard of the birth of his son, afterwards Harry of Monmouth. In honour of this event the Earl forthwith presented to the boatman the ferry and all perquisites therefrom, and the descendants of this fortunate ferryman continued in the enjoyment of the gift for several centuries." It took a long time for the large party of over 60 to be ferried across the river in two small ferry boats by small instalments. Mr. Moffatt, of Goodrich Court, kindly came to the rescue, and assisted with another boat. The party assembled under a beautifully-grown and regularly spreading oak tree on the bank of the river. Mr. Moffatt conducted the members up the steep hill to his mansion, Goodrich Court.

The party, glad to secure refuge from a heavy downpour of rain, were welcomed by Mrs. Moffatt, and at once introduced to a fine collection of works under the handsome roof of the Great Hall. This is a very handsome addition by Mr. Moffatt to the original building. The architecture of the roof has been carefully studied from that of



OAK TREE AT GOODRICH FERRY—BEAUTIFULLY GROWN AND REGULARLY SPREADING.

No. 42.—To face page 202.

Photo by H. C. Moore.

Hampton Court Palace. The walls are surrounded by high panelling, handsomely carved in the Renaissance style.

In the Great Hall the Rev. Prebendary Seaton, Vicar of Goodrich, read portions of a paper on "The History of Goodrich." The paper was illustrated by a fine collection of engravings, prints, and water-colours of various dates in connection with the locality.

Mr. and Mrs. Moffatt conducted the members in separate parties over the interior of the Court. The original building was built about 1831 by Sir S. Meyrick, probably as a sort of storehouse for his magnificent collection of armour. During the last twelve or fourteen years numerous additions and alterations have been made by Mr. Moffatt.

From Goodrich Court the party was conducted by Mr. Moffatt through his park to Goodrich Castle, situated upon an opposite eminence distant about half a mile. In the course of the route the old disused road from Monmouth to Ross leading to the Ferry was crossed. Along the bank leading to this road some small pieces of iron slag were picked up. On page 14 of "Wanderings of an Antiquary," by Thomas Wright, 1st edition, published 1854, we read "Cinders occur very abundantly about Whitchurch and Goodrich; they are strewed over the surface of the fields, and if we dig a very little depth we find in many places a thick and apparently deep bed of them. They are found in the fields on both sides of the road until we arrive at Weir End, in the parish of Bridstow, where they are abundant by the river side." On page 15 we learn that as late as about 1800 a remarkable deposit of them remained at Cinder Grove, in the neighbouring parish of Peterstow, from which many thousand tons were subsequently removed for the purpose of re-smelting. Thus we see that the locality was occupied by the ancient Forges and Furnaces, called "Glomerys" or "Bloomeries," established in wooded districts near Dean Forest, in which the ore was so imperfectly smelted that the slag was sold at a profit in the present day for re-smelting.

The persistence of rain prevented a leisurely examination of the Castle buildings with the assistance of the local guide-books of Goodrich Castle, of which the best has been recently collated by the Rev. Prebendary Seaton. The principal features of interest were pointed out by Mr. Moffatt, also by the custodian, Mr. P. Bennett.

From Goodrich Castle a short walk through fields brought the party assembled for luncheon at the Working Men's Institute. The business of the Club included an invitation to the British Mycological Society to make Hereford their headquarters for their annual Fungus Foray in 1902.

Dr. Gerald Leighton promised to exhibit to the Club his large collection of lantern slides of British Snakes. The hope was entertained that this would form the subject of a winter evening meeting of the Club. For his thesis for the M.D. degree Dr. Leighton obtained first-class honours, the subject of his thesis being "The Reptilia of the Monnow Valley."

An octavo of over 400 pages has recently been issued entitled "The life history of British Serpents and their local distribution in the British Isles," by Gerald Leighton, M.D. Although snakes themselves are not attractive objects to the general public, both curiosity and fascination will be aroused in the perusal of this volume, which treats the anatomical and scientific branches of the subject in a pleasant and attractive manner. The book is illustrated with 49 photographs from life—nearly all of them taken by the author.

The method of distinguishing the varieties of the few British snakes is delineated by diagrams in the text and by photographs. In Chapter XI., treating of the reproduction of the adder, the eggs are shown in various stages of development. Fig. 40 shows ten embryo adders fully developed. Chapter XII. is devoted to the theory stated of the adder swallowing its young for protection, the objections advanced, and the examination of their validity. It will be a more popular book on this subject than any previously written volume.

On the connection with Goodrich Castle of Wordsworth's "We are Seven," a few notes were contributed by Mr. T. Hutchinson.

Mr. James W. Lloyd, of Kington, exhibited a letter written by Wat Kyrle, father of the Man of Ross, from the collection of Thomas Bird, F.S.A., Clerk of the Peace for the County of Hereford. The letter, dated July, 1646, was addressed to William Scudamore, of Ballingham, and described the manner in which Sir Harry Lingan was to evacuate Goodrich Castle. We give a copy of the letter :—

"Sir Henry Lingan hath ended the business according to our presage at Hereford, he and his Souldiers are all to march forth this day att 12 of the clock, leaving all things behind them butt what they carry in theyr pocketts, they are to deliver up theyr armes att the Oulde Gore and continue all prisoners to the Governor at his pleasure, the Collonell here present presents his service to yr selfe my good Cosen and the like is really done by

Yr faithfull Kinsman and Servant,
WAT KYRLE.

Ross ult July (1646)."

An epitome of an elaborate paper of statistics of "The weather in Herefordshire in the 19th Century" was delivered by Mr. Henry Southall, F.R. Met. Soc.

In a tempestuous downfall of rain some of the party ventured to visit Goodrich Church, where the Vicar pointed out as much as could be seen in the gloom of an exceedingly wet evening.

Others of the party made for the railway station at Kerne Bridge, some few of whom inspected *en route* a large ecclesiastical-looking barn, the original Flanesford Priory, founded in 1347 by Sir Richard Talbot.

In the programme of the day attention had been drawn to the existence of a large isolated standing stone of Old Red Conglomerate, situated in the Huntsham peninsula about half a mile over Huntsham Bridge, about 200 yards distant from the river Wye, and a mile and a half above Symond's Yat Ferry, in a large meadow opposite the Old Forge. Locally the stone is called "The Queen Stone." Shortly after our field meeting at Goodrich the Queen Stone was inspected by Mr. James G. Wood, and notes have been contributed by him.

The Ordnance Maps, on the scale of 6 inches to one mile, for the district traversed in the course of the day are :—Herefordshire, 51 N.E., 51 S.E., and 54 N.E.

The Conglomerate standing stone on the Huntsham peninsula is to be found on 54 N.W.

Members present were :—The President (Mr. T. Blashill, F.R.I.B.A.), Rev. A. C. Auchmuty, Mr. H. C. Beddoe, Mr. C. P. Bird, Mr. J. A. Bradney, Rev. C. B. Caldicott, Mr. J. U. Caldicott, Lieut.-Col. J. E. R. Campbell, Mr. R. Clarke, Sir George H. Cornewall, Sir Herbert Croft, Mr. Luther Davis, Mr. E. W. Du Buisson, Mr. H. Edwards, Rev. T. Emmott, Rev. J. E. Grasett, Mr. G. H. Hadfield, Rev. Dr. Harris, Rev. R. Harington, Mr. E. J. Hatton, Rev. E. J. Holloway, Rev. A. W. Horton, Mr. F. S. Hovil, Mr. J. J. Jackson, Dr. Herbert Jones, Rev. Preb. W. H. Lambert, Dr. G. Leighton, Rev. A. Ley, the Hon. and Very Rev. J. W. Leigh (Dean), Mr. C. J. Lilwall, Canon Livingstone, Rev. H. B. D. Marshall, Mr. H. J. Marshall, Mr. J. B. Masefield, Mr. H. T. Morris, Mr. G. H. Phillott, Mr. E. P. Popert, Dr. Elliott Price, Rev. G. H. V. Robinson, Mr. C. Rootes, Rev. H. F. St. John, Mr. A. P. Small, Col. M. J. G. Scobie, Mr. H. Southall, Mr. W. H. Steward, Mr. J. P. Sugden, Mr. Alfred Watkins, Mr. G. W. Wheeler, Rev. H. T. Williamson, Dr. J. H. Wood, and Mr. T. Hutchinson and Mr. H. Cecil Moore, hon. secretaries. Visitors : Mr. W. Clarke, Mr. A. H. Coombes, Mr. W. Davis, Malvern ; Mr. C. F. Hadfield, Mr. J. D. Hatton, General Alex. H. Hutchinson, F.R.G.S., F.G.S., Mr. W. J. Kilner, Mr. T. W. Lindsay, Mr. R. W. Livingstone, Oxford ; Colonel McAusland, London ; Mr. H. D. Marshall, Mr. H. T. Morris, Lydney ; Mr. C. G. Richards, Mr. C. R. Ridley, Mr. H. J. K. Skipton, Mr. A. Sparrow, Commander E. G. Treherne, R.N., Mr. G. Wallis, Mr. J. N. Wilkes, and Mr. J. G. Wood.

WORDSWORTH AND GOODRICH CASTLE.

BY T. HUTCHINSON.

Having often heard it stated that Goodrich Castle was the scene of Wordsworth's poem, "We are Seven," and having also heard this disputed, I have got together a few notes of what Wordsworth himself says on the subject, taken from Professor Knight's "Life of Wordsworth." He visited Goodrich Castle twice, first of all in the year 1793 and again in 1841. With regard to the poem "We are Seven," he says : "I composed it while walking to and fro in the grove at Alfoxden, and if my friends will not think it too trifling to relate, I composed the last stanza first, beginning with the last line. When it was all but finished, I came in and recited it to my sister (Dorothy Wordsworth) and Mr. Coleridge, and said 'that a prefatory stanza must be added, and I should sit down to our little tea meal with greater pleasure if my task was finished.' I mentioned in substance what I wished to be expressed, and Coleridge immediately threw off the stanza thus, 'A little child, dear brother Jem,' etc., etc. I objected to the rhyme 'dear brother Jem' as being ludicrous, but we all enjoyed the joke of pitching in our friend James Tobin's name, who was familiarly called 'Jem.' He was the brother of the Dramatist, and this reminds me of an anecdote which it may be worth while here to notice. The said Jem got a sight of the 'Lyrical Ballads' as it was going through the press at Bristol, during which time I was residing in that city. One evening he came to me with a grave face and said, 'Wordsworth, I have seen the volume that you and Coleridge are about to publish. There is one poem in it which I earnestly entreat you will cancel, for, if published, it will make you everlastingly ridiculous.' I answered that I was much obliged at the interest he took in my good name as a writer, and begged to know what was the unfortunate piece he alluded to. He said 'It is called 'We are Seven.' 'Nay,' said I, 'that shall take its chance, however'; and he left me in despair. I have only to add that in the spring of 1841 I visited Goodrich Castle, not having seen that part of the Wye since I met the little girl there in 1793. It would have given me great pleasure to have found in the neighbouring hamlets traces of one who had interested me so much, but it was impossible, as unfortunately I did not even know her name. The ruin from its position and features is a most impressive object. I could not but deeply regret that its solemnity was impaired by a fantastic new castle set up on a projection of the same ridge as if to show how far modern art can go in surpassing all that could be done by antiquity and nature, by their united graces, remembrances, and associations. I could have almost wished for the power, so much did the contrast vex me, to blow away Sir Samuel Meyrick's impertinent structure, and all the possessions it contained."

Wordsworth's strictures must not be taken to apply to the present mansion, which we all know has been entirely remodelled by Mr. Moffatt.

NOTES ON THE CHACE AND PENYARD PARK
IN RELATION TO DEAN FOREST.

BY JAMES G. WOOD, M.A., LL.B.

(Author of "The Laws of the Dean Forest and Hundred
of St. Briavels.")

By the Charter of the Forest of 9th Henry 3rd (1225) all lands afforested since the commencement of the reign of Henry 2nd (A.D. 1154), except such as were demesne lands of the King, were ordered to be disafforested.

In consequence of this provision numerous Inquisitions were held to determine the true ancient limits of the Forests throughout the kingdom, and the dates of their afforestation.

As to Dean Forest we have the record of the verdict of the Jurors of Gloucestershire, on the inquiry as to what parts remained lawfully forest, and what parts ought to be disafforested. This is enrolled as on the 18th April, 1228 (Chancery Ancient Forest Proceedings No. 10; also Close Roll. 12 Hy. 3rd. m. 10. d).

The Jurors first found the ancient bounds of Dean Forest as they existed before Henry 2nd as follows (so far as we are at present concerned) :—

"A ponte Glovernæ ex parte occidentali per magnam stratam usque Newent et inde per eandem stratam usque ad rivulum de Gorstley et inde ascendendo eundem rivulum usque ad caput ejusdem rivuli et ita per viam usque ad Bromeshess et inde descendendo per eandem viam usque at Aleton * et inde eadem via usque ad Wayam, &c."

That is to say :—

"From Gloucester Bridge on the west side (of the city) along the Great Road, (*i.e.* the extension of the Ermine Street from Gloucester to Stretton Grandison, &c.) to Newent, and thence by the same road as far as Gorstley Brook; thence ascending the same brook to its head and then by a road to Broom's Ash; and thence going down by the same road to Alton; and thence by the same road to the Wye," and so down the Wye.

* 'Aleton,' as well as the form 'Aylton' which occurs in other parts of Herefordshire, has its origin from A. S. *eald-tun* 'or old-town; the 'e' being absorbed by the 'a'; and the 'd' by the 't.' In earlier maps Alton, near Ross, appears as Oldtown; while Aylton Chapel appears in the Charters of Llanthony as "Vetus Villa."

The name would indicate that the place was an old settlement in even Saxon times; and I should like to add that I feel no doubt that the road here mentioned between Goodrich ferry, Alton, and Brooms Ash, and so to Gloucester, is actually part of the "Iter" from Isca (Caerleon) to Calleva (Silchester), described in the Antonine Itinerary as passing through Blestium (near Monmouth), Ariconium (near Weston), to Gloucester.

I take it that the latter road was one leading from near Linton to Broom's Ash and so near Alton Court to Goodrich Ferry, skirting the Chace Wood; in fact, the British road referred to by Mr. Seaton in his paper on Goodrich Court and Castle.

The ancient Perambulation therefore (before 1154) included the whole of what is now known as the Chace and Penyard, together with the Bishop's Wood, as part of Dean Forest.

The Jurors (of 1228) proceed to say:—

"Episcopus autem Herefordiae habet chaciam suam ex antiquo in bosco quodam qui vocatur Laxpeinard infra praedictam forestam."

That is to say, "The Bishop of Hereford has his Chace by ancient title in a certain wood called Lax Penyard within the Forest aforesaid."

The meaning of "Lax" prefixed to Penyard I am unable at present to explain; but it is obviously corrupted from, or connected with, the original name of "Lea," which appears in the records as "Lacu"; for we shall presently see that the "Lea Bailey" or "Balliva de Lacu" included Penyard and a great deal more.

The ancient title of the Bishop to the Chace was founded no doubt on the entry in Domesday (Herefordshire, under the title of "Lands of the Church of Hereford"), "In Rosse . . . Silva est in defensu Regis"; which indicates that the right of coursing or hunting with dogs could not be then exercised in the Bishop's Wood of Ross without the King's license; and that it was therefore subject to the Forest Law.

But in the interval between the date of the Charter of the Forest and the verdict above set out, a Commission had issued on 28th January, 1227-8 to Hugh Nevill to proceed to the King's "forest of Penyard," and there set out by metes and bounds a division between the King's "fee of Penyard" and the Bishop's "fee of Ross" (Chancery Forest Proceedings No. 11).

The return to this Writ I have unfortunately been unable (so far) to discover.

The next document in order is a Survey of the several Bailiwick in Dean Forest made on Februry 11th, 1281-2 (Forest Proceedings Excheq. T.R., No. 31). In this the Lea Bailey (or Balliva de Lacu) is described as follows:—"This is a demesne wood of the King, and Nicholas of Lea (Nicholaus de Lacu) has it in charge. The bounds of this Bailiwick begin at Alton, and so proceed by Alton Brook to Lower Weston Cross (usque ad crucem de Netherewestune), and so by the highway to the Tree called 'Bolletree'; and so by the highway to the Ash called 'Bromesasse'; and so by the highway to the Cross called Lea Cross; and so by a path to a Cross called 'Holwardine's Croyce' (now Old Wharton), and by the highway to 'Birchoure' to Marlwell; and by a 'ride' which divides the bailiwicks of Mitchel Dean and Lea to 'Wynterwallethornes' (i.e. the Hawthorns at Drybrook, or the Winterspring);

and so over the hill to a white stone; and by a boundary path dividing the wood of the Abbot of Gloucester (Hope Mansel) from the Lea Bailey to the Purlieu; and on to Purlieu Thorn; and by a stream called Derkesford to Halwell; and so by the highway to the Cross of Koctere, and so by the highway to Alton."

The Cross of Koctere I take to be the place where the road from Bill Mill to Cobrey Park is cut by the continuation of the ancient paved road, a portion of which was, during the meeting, called to our attention by Mr. Southall, jun., and appears to have formed a direct route from Alton towards Ruardean and the Forest. This would be the highway (or altus vicus) last mentioned in the extract from the Survey of 1281-2, which thus differed from the perambulation of 1228 by excluding the Chace, which was probably the result of Hugh Nevill's Commission.

"Koctere" is (I apprehend) "Coch-tir," or red plough-land, which would suit the nature of the soil, being not far from the overlie of the Carboniferous shale; and Coughton has probably a common origin.

So at this date (1281-2) Penyard was still within the ambit of the Forest, and under the charge of its officers; but neither the Chace nor what is now called Bishop's Wood was included in the Lea Bailey, or any other of the Forest Bailiwick.

We next have a very detailed Perambulation of the Forest, dated on the Sunday after Ascension Day, 1300 (T.R. Forest Proceedings No. 255, 28th Ed., i.) Here we find the line of boundary of Dean Forest from Gloucester to the Wye very much altered. It is first stated as starting from the bridge over the Leadon near Over at Gloucester; proceeding thence by the same road as before (here called "regalis via" instead of "Magna Strata") to Newent, and on to Ellbridge and to "Gorstelyeforde" and thence "following the metes and bounds between the Counties of Gloucester and Hereford to a place where is a stream called the Bishop's Brook, which falls into the river Wye; and thence down the Wye, &c."

Then later on in the same document we find the Perambulation given in still further detail; but for the present purpose it is only necessary to notice that the source of the Bishop's Brook (about half mile N.E. of Ruardean) is called the "Ashwell."

This perambulation, as will be at once seen, excluded from the Forest not only Penyard Park and the Chace, but every part of Herefordshire included in the former limits, leaving the Bishopswood and the Chace as if disafforested.

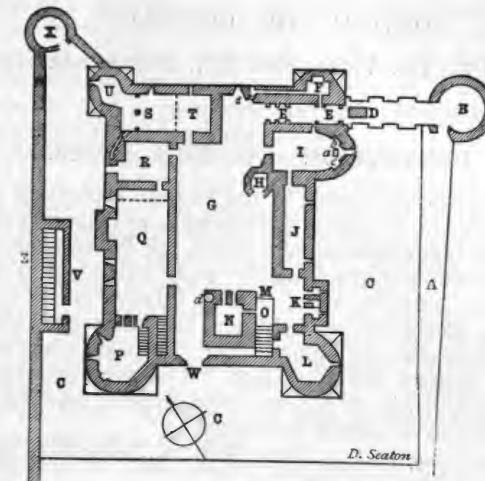
A document, attributed to this period, relating to the customs of Freeminers, of which a few copies printed in the 17th Century exist, and of which the Deputy Surveyor of the Forest (Ph. Baylis, Esq.) informs me he has recently discovered two early MS. copies, mentions the limits of the freedom as being from Gloucester Bridge through Newent, "Rosse Ashe," Monmouth Bridge, &c. I have no doubt that Rosse Ashe here mentioned is the Ash at the Ashwell named in the Perambulation of 1300 at the head of the Bishop's Brook which runs

into the Wye between Kerne Bridge and Lydbrook ; and the failure to recognise this has led to some false speculations as to the Forest boundary. The name "Rosse Ashe" would be due to the fact that it is on the line of the "fee of Ross," mentioned in the Commission to Hugh Nevill.

The conclusions I draw from the documents we have considered are these. The district from the "Chace"*, on the north down to Bishop's Brook was the "fee of Ross," the property of the Bishops of Hereford, but subject originally to Forest law as part of the Dean Forest, the Chace portion being included in the original limits of the Lea Bailey ; but as the result of the Commission to Hugh Nevill, or some other concession by the Crown (of which evidence may perhaps be found in the uncalendered documents in Hereford Cathedral) the Bishop's lands were disafforested ; Penyard became a "Park" instead of a "Forest," and the Forest Law ceased to be applicable in this part of Herefordshire before 1300.

I also infer that the town of Ross took its name from, and did not give its name to, the district in question. The uplands of the Chace and Bishopswood exactly represent the Welsh "Rhws" as contrasted with the lowlands to the westward. The same word occurs in Penhos near Kington being the converse of Pembridge, which has nothing whatever to do with "bridge" but is "Pen-bro-wg"—"the end of the lowlands"; two names which repeat themselves in Pembrokeshire as the early forms show.

* I venture to plead for the retention of the form of the word "Chace," which I have adopted throughout this paper, when it is used to express either the tract of unenclosed land over which limited forest rights were exercisable under feudal law, or the franchise itself of the exercise of such rights; and for the use of the form 'Chase' to express the pursuit of game or other objects apart from such feudal rights. The form "Chace" may be archaic ; but it is surely suitable to use an archaic form in connection with what has become a thing of the past. I agree that the distinction I have proposed has not been uniformly observed ; but I am indebted to Dr. Murray for the fact that as late as 1875 Bishop Stubbs wrote of "Enclosed parks and unenclosed chases." Fosbroke (1821) invariably wrote of "The Chace" of Ross. The Low Latin form "chacia" which is frequent in charters of the district points in the same direction.



SCALE 100 FEET TO AN INCH.

GROUND PLAN OF GOODRICH CASTLE.

The outside measurements of the Castle are 175 feet 8 inches by 152 feet 4 inches.

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HISTORY OF GOODRICH.

COMPILED BY THE VICAR, THE REV. PREBENDARY SEATON.

DERIVATION OF THE NAME.

The name of the parish in the earliest records is given thus, Godrich or Goderich. Various derivations have been suggested :—

1. From Gwy (pronounced Goo-ee), the Welsh name of the Wye, and "treich," winding of the river, or "reich", kingdom or territory.
2. From Goda, the sister of King Edward the Confessor. She married Walter Medantine or de Maunt, and their son Ralph raised an army in Herefordshire to suppress Earl Godwin, who had rebelled against King Edward the Confessor. The Normans found him in possession of this district or honour; they divested him of it, and placed William FitzOsborn of Crepon in command.
3. Speed mentions a Goda, Earl of Devonshire, who resisted the Danes in the West A.D. 989.
4. Also Goda, fourth daughter of King Ethelred and Queen Elgina. She married Walter de Marigne and afterwards Eustace, Earl of Boulogne, in Picardy.
5. Domesday.

Godric is mentioned as holding "Hulla," supposed by Mr. T. D. Fosbrooke to be Howle Hill, Walford.

Godricus is stated in the revenues of the Church of Hereford to hold in Wimundestre Hundred. "Hastes," "De isto Manerio tenuit Heraldus Comes unjuste unam hidam et Godricus de eo."

Freeman mentions "Godricus di Rossa."

William the Conqueror ejected Godric, Abbot of Winchcomb, from his Monastery, and imprisoned him at Gloucester. The Liber Niger de Scaccarii (published by Hearne) contains a Charter of the Abbot of Winchcomb, stating that William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, held inter alia and owed to the Abbot two Knight's Fees for Castle Godric.

In all the earliest records the Parish and Church are spoken of as the Parish or Church, of Castel Godrici, or Godrich. Hence it would seem that the Parish derived its name from the Castle or founder of the Castle.

CASTLE.

No record can be found of the first building of the Castle, but commanding, as it does, the ford which formed part of the highway from England into Wales, it may have been held as a stronghold from the earliest times.

Marks of British trackways are visible from Alton Court (Farm), near Ross and Merivale, to Arbor Hill Lane, behind Old Hill, Walford, and thence across Goodrich Ford to the Cross Keys Inn; therefore, in all probability, the Silures, who held this part of England before the Roman invasion, had a camp on this site. Traces of British camps exist on Penyard Hill, and on Doward Hill.

No mention is made in the Iter Antoninus of its being occupied by the Romans; still there can be little doubt that it was held by them as a military outpost to command the ford, which formed part of their line of communication between their stations at Ariconium (which was situated at Weston-under-Penyard) and Blestium, which occupied the site on which part of Monmouth is now built.

Roman coins have been found on the adjacent hill of Coppet Wood and at Bishoptwood, on the opposite side of the Wye; and the scoriae or ashes from ancient iron furnaces probably worked by the Romans are still to be found at Old Forge, near the junction of the Garron and the Wye. These are the only remnants that help to prove the Roman occupation of Godrich.

There can be little doubt that Godrich Castle was originally built to resist the incursions of the Welsh, who in the reign of Edward the Confessor devastated and made a powerful irruption into Herefordshire.

Godrich Castle was one of the chief castles in the Marches of Wales, which were originally divided into the Upper, Middle, and Lower Marches. It was also the Caput Baronie of the district of Archenfield (Leland).

The lower March comprised Herefordshire, that part of Gloucestershire which lies between the Severn and the Wye, together with portions of the right bank of the Wye conquered by the Saxons from the Princes of Wales, and this formed the Earldom of Hereford. The Lords Marchers seem to have originated in a tacit permission of the Sovereign to certain of the great barons or chiefs to make war on their own account against the Prince of Wales; and to hold whatever lands they could conquer as "tenants in capite" under the English Crown, and under the obligation of erecting and maintaining castles for the defence of the realm against their turbulent neighbours the Welsh. This accounts for there being no mention in Domesday or in any ancient record or charter of the building of Godrich Castle, and bears out the supposition that it was first founded in some period before the Conquest.

On reference to Dugdale we find that in 811 Ranulph, King of Mercia, amply endowed the Abbey of Winchcombe by charter with several possessions inter alia sixty-five knight's fees and a half in the Honour of Strigil and two knight's fees with the Castle of Godric—which two knight's fees were about 1,500 acres (modern) of land. We further find that from 1054 until after the Conquest Godric was its Abbot, and he it was who was probably called upon to erect this Castle.

Godric seems to have incurred William the Conqueror's displeasure, and was confined in Gloucester Castle, and the King committed the Abbey to the Abbot of Evesham, but retained the rents and profits in his own hands.

Thomas William King, Esq., F.S.A., "York Herald," who wrote an account of Goodrich Castle which appeared in Vol. xxxiv. of "Archæologia," 1852, and also a MS. (now in the possession of Mr. Walter Pilley, of Hereford), for Sir Samuel Meyrick, K.H., of Goodrich Court, is of the opinion that the Castle derives its name from the Abbot Godric. But the term "Castle" in his time had not the same meaning as it has now. We call a Castle now an erection or building that was not the meaning in former days.

Then a castle was more than a manor, and included a number of manors. The only word which we can apply to it now is a lordship, which might extend over a great number of manors or possessions.

In Saxon times the term castle was also used for an enclosure surrounded with palisades and a moat, with a central tower or keep.

Castles in the Marches were built without any special licence from the King, the Lord Marcher being more of a petty sovereign with sovereign rights.

By the name of a castle, says Coke, one or more manors may be conveyed and *vice versa*, by the name of a manor a castle may pass.

No great Baron was without a castle upon each of his principal estates, nor was any Abbot or Bishop secure of his domains or of his personal safety unless so provided. Goderich being situated in the lower or southern March, seems to have been held in the early period of the Normans by the De Clares.

The completed conquest and partition of England brought over a swarm of Normans, who, not having taken part in the original venture, and finding therefore but little share in the spoils, obtained licence to extend the sway of the Conqueror into Wales.

Among these was Richard FitzGilbert, called from his English possessions De Clare.

He married Rohaise, sister of Walter Giffard, Earl of Buckingham, and eventually heiress of his vast estates in England and Normandy, and had five children.

He was succeeded by Gilbert ii. De Clare, his second son, who invaded West Wales in 1107, reduced it to submission, and died about 1116.

He married Adeliza, a daughter of the Count of Clermont, and by her had four sons and a daughter :

1. Richard, Earl of Hertford.
2. Gilbert, Earl of Pembroke.
3. Walter, the founder of Tintern Abbey.
4. Baldwin.

Gilbert De Clare, Earl of Pembroke, surnamed Strongbow, also styled Earl of Striguil because he had his chief residence at Striguil Castle (Chepstow).

As early as 1113, though a younger son, he was a considerable proprietor of land in Wales and in the Marches—assigned to him by his father—these lordships being of little value then, as they were exposed to perpetual attacks from the Welsh, and required strongholds like Goderich to defend the property.

Gilbert De Clare was created Earl of Pembroke in 1138, and died on June 6th, 1148; he was buried at Tintern Abbey, where he had an obit.

He married Elizabeth, sister of Waleran, Earl of Mellint, and by her had two sons, i. Richard, his successor, ii. Baldwin.

Richard de Clare, Earl of Pembroke, also designated as of Striguil, where he resided. His principal fame is derived from his conquest of Ireland.

In the disturbances and conflicts in West Wales at this period, Earl Richard seems to have taken but a small personal part. He confined himself to strengthening his strongholds on the Marches, of which Goderich was one.

Tradition connects the keep at Goderich with this period, either by the confinement of an Irish Chieftain, Macbeth or MacMac, in the dungeon until his ransom was paid, or that the keep was built out of his ransom.

In 1165, 2 Hen. II., William Mareschal held Godric Castle. Earl Richard married Eva, only daughter of Dermot MacMurrough, King of Leinster, and had by her one daughter and heiress, who was born about 1170.

Earl Richard died in the latter part of 1176. The earldom of Pembroke became extinct. The wardship of the heiress and of her property passed to the Crown, but a claim to her estates and the revival of the Earldom were successfully advocated by her husband, William Mareschal.

William Mareschal, Earl Mareschal of England, Earl of Pembroke, and so called of Striguil, was grandson to Gilbert, Mareschal to Henry I., and thence deriving his surname, and son to John, Mareschal to Henry and Stephen. His mother's name appears from an obit at Tintern, June 3rd, to have been Sybil.

In 1184 he married Isabel, then 14 years old.

In a Charter Roll, I. Ric. I, November 13, 1189, it is stated that William Mareschal came and declared that our Lord the King, Henry II., restored to him all the lands and rights of Richard Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke and Striguil, on his marriage with Isabel, daughter and heiress of Earl Richard, and he was then created Earl of Pembroke by Richard I., and from this time he was actively engaged in the King's service, and became one of the largest proprietors and most powerful Barons of that

period. The Earl died at his manor at Caversham in April, 1219, and was buried in the Temple Church in London, where his recumbent effigy is still preserved.

By his will he left to the monks at Gloucester his mill at Castle Goderich.

In 1204 he had a grant from King John, which runs thus:—
"Know all men, that we have given and by this present charter confer on our beloved and faithful William Mareschal, Earl of Pembroke, the Castle of Godric, together with all rights pertaining thereto, to have and to hold from us and our heirs, and to him and his heirs in fee and by heirship, and by rendering to us and our heirs the service of two knights in every service, on which account the said Earl and his heirs are to have and to hold the said Castle peaceably, freely, quietly, and entirely, with pastures, water rights, mills, fisheries and fishponds, moors and marshes, and with all other places, rights, and free usages pertaining to the said Castle by the said service."

Given at Merleberg, April 1st, in the 5th year of our reign, A.D. 1204."

In 1205 he had a grant of a market in the town of Castle Godric.

In 1216 he claimed the presentation of advowsons of Castle Godrich against the Prior of Monmouth.

By Isabel de Clare the Earl, who died in 1219, left six sons and five daughters. Of the sons five became in succession Earls of Pembroke and Lords of Godrich Castle.

Sons: (1) William, (2) Richard, (3) Gilbert, (4) Walter, (5) Anselm, (6) John. Daughters: (1) Maud, (2) Joan (3) Isabel, (4) Eva, (5) Sybil.

I. William Mareschal, the younger, Earl Mareschal and Earl of Pembroke. He married first in 1203 Alice de Betune, daughter of Baldwin de Betune, Earl of Albermarle. She died childless. He married, secondly, Eleanor, second daughter to King John, and sister to King Henry III., in 1225. She also died childless, 1274. Earl William died on April 6th, 15 Hen. III., 1231, and was buried in the Temple Church, London.

II. Richard, Earl Mareschal and Earl of Pembroke, succeeded his brother 6th April, 1231. He had some difficulty in establishing his claim to the English and Welsh estates. The King (Hen. III.) interfered with his jurisdiction in Ireland, which led to a rupture, and for two years he opposed the Royal troops in Ireland, where he died April 16, 1234, unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother.

III. Gilbert, Earl Mareschal and Earl of Pembroke, succeeded to the titles on April 16, 1234, and did homage on May 25th, 1234, and received investiture of his estates. He married i. Maude de Lanvallei, who died in 1214; ii. Margaret, daughter of William (the Lion) King of Scotland. She died (childless) in 1244.

Earl Gilbert died in 1241, and left no issue. He was succeeded by his brother.

IV. Walter Mareschal, Earl Mareschal and Earl of Pembroke, succeeded to his brother in June, 1241, but was not formally admitted into his inheritance until October, 1241, when Goderich Castle was restored to him, it having been taken from the late Earl owing to his quarrels with the King. Earl Walter is said to have been twice married: i. Alice, daughter of Simon de Montfort; ii. Margaret, daughter of Robert Earl of Winchester.

He died (childless) at his Castle of Goderich; tradition says in the upper chamber of the Keep on 24th November, 1245, and was buried at Tintern. His seal was found in the ruins of Goodrich Castle in 1803. It is made of brass or mixed metal; in the centre are his arms, *i.e.*, a Sword in Pile, surmounted by a Horse Shoe, the former implying his command, and the latter his office in the King's Household, while round it is the following inscription.—"GAULTER LE MARECHAL D'MACIS," or Walter, Earl Marshal, Lord of the Marches. This seal up to some years ago was in the possession of the late Mr. Hooper, solicitor, Ross.

V. Anselm Mareschal, Earl Mareschal and Earl of Pembroke, succeeded to his brother, but (dying within 11 days after him on December 5th, 1245, at his Castle of Strigil) he probably never assumed the honours or was enfeoffed of the inheritance, as his sisters are described as heirs to Earl Walter. He was buried at Tintern, and had an obit on the 24th December.

VI. John Mareschal, 6th son of William Mareschal, married Margery, daughter of the Earl of Warwick, but as he died in 1241 childless, he did not succeed to the Earldom of Pembroke.

There being no male descendant of the sons of William Mareschal, a partition of their honours and estates was made between the five daughters. To Joan, second daughter of William Mareschal, who married Warine de Montchensy, was assigned the Castle of Goderich, together with the manors and estates in Herefordshire and the Lower March and the Lordship of Wexford.

The Montchenses, or Munchensy, were Barons of great power; their possessions lay chiefly in the south and east of England, in the west of Wales.

Sir Warine had three children by Joan Marshall, *i.e.*:

I. John de Montchense; died childless.

II. William de Montchense, who married Dionisia de Anesty.*

III. Joan de Montchense, who married William de Valence, third son of Hugh le Brun, Earl of March, and Isabel, daughter of Aylmer of Angouleme.

* Dionisia de Monchense—(daughter of William de Monchense and Dionisia de Anesty): married Hugo de Vere, son of Robert, Earl of Oxford. William de Valence and Joan his wife, endeavoured to bastardise her sons to seize her manors; the King, Edward I., disallowed their plea against his ward; and the Archbishop of Canterbury and Bishop of Worcester affirmed that William de Monchense always regarded her as legitimate and as his heir. The elder Dionisia came to Court with the younger in order to favour her cause.

The Earldom of Pembroke, which became extinct at the death of Anselm Mareschal, was revived and conferred upon William de Valence about 1247, when he married Joan, and was made Governor of Goderich Castle and knighted. They had six children.

1. John, died young ; 2, William, killed by the Welsh, 1281 ; 3, Aylmer, who succeeded to the Earldom of Pembroke and Lordship of Goderich Castle ; 4, Yves, died young ; 5, Margaret ; 6, Ann or Agnes.

Several records prove the possession of Goderich Castle and Manor by William de Valence and Joan his wife.

Sheriff of Hereford commanded to replevin the Castle of Goderich to William de Valence, the King's uncle, and to Joan his wife.

Claim by William de Valence and Joan his wife of free chace and warren on Doward and an assize of bread and ale.

William de Valence, at the assize. The Jurors found that William de Valence had not paid his fines for the Hundred of Wormelow, £40, and had withdrawn the five men of Castle Goderich who used to go in the King's army at every "laghe ferde" lawful expedition.

At the Inquisition held at the Castle of Goderich on June 29th, 1296, as to the possessions of William de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, the Jurors say that there is inter alia "a capital messuage with garden worth yearly 13s. 6d, and that the total annual value was £28 9s." He held the manor of the King in chief for two knight's fees. His heir, then of full age, was Adomarius (Aylmer).

Joan de Valence, Countess of Pembroke, survived her husband. She lived a good deal at the Castle, and her Household Roll (published by the Roxburgh Club, and also "Illustrations of Domestic Manners," during the reign of King Edward I.) contains many entries that throw light on the domestic economy and habits of the period.

In 1296 the Countess spent Christmas at Goderich Castle. She died in 1307. I. Edw. II.

Aylmer de Valence, third son of William and Joan, succeeded to the estates, both his brothers, John and William, having died in the lifetime of their father.

He was summoned to Parliament in 1297 as a Baron, but does not appear to have assumed the Earldom of Pembroke until 6th November, 1307.

Whether the extensive buildings which surround the Keep Tower were erected by his father or his mother, there exists no record to determine; but the style of architecture belongs to this period.

Earl Aylmer married three times. 1st, Beatrice, third daughter of Raoul de Clermont, Constable of France, who died in 1320 without issue ; 2nd, to a daughter of the Earl of Barre ; and 3rd, Marie de Castillon, daughter of Guy, Count of St. Pol, July 5, 1322, who died about 1376. The earl is said to have died on the day of his last marriage, so that Marie was maid, wife, and widow in one single day. He was buried in Westminster Abbey. He left no issue, and with him

terminated a name made notorious by his father, but illustrious by himself. After his death an inquisition was held in 1324 at Goderich, and a partition of his estates was made between his sisters and their heirs, and Goderich Castle and its appurtenances, together with the advowsons of Whitchurch, Ganarew, and the Vicarage of St. Giles the Abbot, Goderich were apportioned to Elizabeth de Comyn, daughter of Sir John de Comyn, of Badenoch, and Joan de Valence, sister of Earl Aylmer. Elizabeth de Comyn was 22 years of age when this inquisition was held.

The Records contain the assignment of other estates in Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Kent, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Wiltshire to Elizabeth de Comyn in virtue of her mother's share in Earl Aylmer's property, which was very extensive.

Hugh le De Spenser, Earl of Winchester, and his son, Hugh le De Spenser, Junior, seized Elizabeth de Comyn at her house in Kensington, and carried her off to Parfrith, in Surrey, where they compelled her by threats and by actual duress, imprisonment, and personal violence to convey her castle at Goderich to the said Hugh le De Spenser, Junior.

Hugh le De Spenser, Junior, married a daughter of Gilbert, 5th Earl of Hertford and 1st Earl of Gloucester, who married Isabella, daughter of William Mareschal and his wife Isabel de Clare.

He was hanged, drawn, and quartered at Hereford, 1326.

Elizabeth de Comyn married Sir Richard Talbot, Knt. (son of Sir Gilbert Talbot), about 1326 or 1327, as in 1328 a commission was issued to inquire into a petition of Richard Talbot and Elizabeth his wife touching the alienation of her rights and property by the De Spensers.

In 1328 King Edward confirms the right to hold the Castle to Elizabeth Talbot and her husband Sir Richard.

In 1338 Thomas Talbot, Rector of Ross and Prebendary of Preston Wynne, in Hereford Cathedral obtained judgment against Sir Richard and Lady Elizabeth Talbot to a claim he had made to the advowson to the Church of the vill of Castel Goderich.

In 1338 license was granted to Sir Richard Talbot to found a Chantry.

1340. A grant of free warren was made to Sir R. Talbot at Goderich.

1346. Commission issued by John Trellec, Bishop of Hereford, to Thomas Talbot and Roger de Breynton, Canons of Hereford, to lay and bless the first stone of a Monastery (Flanesford Priory).

1347. License granted by Edward III. to Sir Richard Talbot to found a Priory for Canons of the Regular Order of St. Augustine at Flanesford in honour of God, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. John the Baptist. He also obtained a grant of a prison in Goderich Castle for the punishment of malefactors.

1349. Sir Richard Talbot exchanged the Manor of Hertingfordbury with the King for the Manor of Wormelow and the Hundred of Irchenfield. He obtained license to make a prison at the Castle of Goodrich in 1349.

1351. The presentation to the advowson of the Vicarage of Castle Goderich was vested in the Prior and Brethren of Flanesford Priory.

Sir Richard Talbot was Steward of the Household to King Edward III. He served for a considerable time in France, where he was appointed one of the plenipotentiaries of peace, and is said to have amassed considerable wealth during the war.

During his tenure of the Castle certain additions and alterations were made in the buildings, of which vestiges remain in the sharp-headed arches without curve, which are peculiar to the reign of Edward III.

He founded a Chantry and also the Priory of Flanesford, which he endowed.

He is said to have embellished Goderich Church.

Sir Richard Talbot died in 1356. At the Inquisition held at his death, it was proved that in addition to the Manor and Castle of Goderich he held the Manor of Wormelow and the Hundred of Irchenfield of the King in chief by the service of one knight's fee, and worth yearly £24. The Manor of Eccleswall, also one messuage and 6 acres of land with appurtenances in Cleve, in the Manor of Wilton. His heir and son, Gilbert Talbot, Kt., of full age.

1372. Elizabeth Talbot, wife of Sir Richard Talbot, died in 1372. In the inquisition held at her death, it is stated that in addition to what her husband held, she was the owner of a park called Penyard. Her son and heir, Gilbert, aged 30.

Sir Gilbert Talbot, third Baron Talbot, was married twice, first to Petronella, daughter of James, Earl of Ormond, by whom he had an only son (Richard); and, secondly, Joan, daughter of Ralph, Earl of Stafford, by whom he is said to have had two daughters. He was summoned to Parliament as Lord Talbot, of Goderiche Castell, from 36 Edw. III. to 10 Rich. II., 1386. He died in 1387, leaving his only son, Richard, aged 26 years.

1387. Sir Richard Talbot, fourth Baron Talbot, married Ankareta, sister and sole heiress of John, Lord Le Strange of Blachmere, and assigned to her one third of his castle and manor as dower.

In 1388 Henry IV., then Earl of Derby (also called Harry of Hereford, Lancaster, and Derby), whilst crossing the Ferry of Goodrich, heard of the birth of his son (afterwards Henry V.) at Monmouth, and to commemorate his joy at this event, he presented the ferry with its rights to the ferryman, as it formed part of his possessions.

1396. Sir Richard Talbot died on September 9, 1396, leaving his wife, Ankareta (who subsequently married Sir Thomas Neville), and a son and heir, Gilbert, aged 13 years.

In the inquisition held at his death, 20 Rich. 2, mention is made of Honsom (Hunsham), in this parish, in the March of Wales, of the yearly value of £4 6s. 8d.

Ankareta Neville seems to have acted as guardian to her son, and retained the Castle until 1418, when she died. Son and heir, Gilbert Talbot, aged 24. In 1327 Sir John Scudamore, of Ewyas and Hom Lacy, was constable of Goodrich Castle during the minority of Gilbert.

1418. Sir Gilbert Talbot, Kt., fifth Baron Talbot, succeeded to the Castle on the death of his mother. He married twice, 1st Joanna, and had no issue by the first wife; 2nd, Beatrice, a Portuguese lady, said to be the natural daughter of John, King of Portugal. By her he had one daughter, Ankareta, aged 3 at her father's death.

1418. Sir Gilbert Talbot died on October 19th, 1418, and the Castle then went to the Ward of the King.

Ankareta died in 1421, aged 6, and then the Castle passed to her next relative and uncle, Sir John Talbot, * the younger brother of her father, who soon afterwards became Earl of Shrewsbury, in 1442. He died in 1453, July 20th, leaving a son and heir, John, aged 40.

1453. John Talbot, 2nd Earl of Shrewsbury, succeeded his father. He married Elizabeth, daughter of the Earl of Ormond, and left a son, George, who was under age at his father's death in 1460.

During the minority of George, third Earl of Shrewsbury, the Castle passed into the King's Ward.

According to Courthope, John Talbot was the third Earl of Shrewsbury. He married Katherine, daughter of Humphry, Duke of Buckingham, and resided at Goderich, and died 1473.

A grant was made in 1462 to William Herbert, Knight, for his services against Hen. VI. and his adherents . . . inter alia the Castle and Manor of Goderiche, and the Lordship and Manor of Urchenfeld, with all their rights, etc., in the March of Wales, and in the County of Hereford, which were late of James, Earl of Wiltshire, and came to the King's hands by an Act of Forfeiture lately passed in Parliament.

In 1474 the King (Edward IV.) commits to Katherine, Countess of Shrewsbury, the custodies of the Castle, Lordship, and Manor of Goderich, and of the Lordship or Manor of Irchenfeld, and of the Hundred of Wormelow, with the members' profits, nets, and all appurtenances, to hold during the minority of George (son of John, Earl of Shrewsbury), rendering yearly £56 6s. 3d., unless anyone will give more.

In 1475 William, Lord Hastings, had certain lands for the support of George (Earl of Shrewsbury), also the grant of the custody of the Castle, Lordship, and Manor of Goderich during the minority of the said George, rendering yearly £56 13s. 4d.

* Sir John Talbot, 1st Earl of Shrewsbury, married Margaret Nevill, daughter of Thomas, Lord Furnival.

In 1475 George, fourth Earl of Shrewsbury, came of age. He married Anne, daughter of Lord Hastings, and had a son, Francis, born 1500.

In 1538 George, Earl of Shrewsbury, had a grant of all appertaining to the Priory of Flanesford, yearly value of £14 11s. 4d., to hold of the King, Henry VIII., by a twentieth part of one knight's fee and the yearly rent of 29s. 3½d., by name of a tenth.

Also licence to found a Chantry of one Chaplain; also licence to convey the premises to the said Chaplain to hold of the Earl and his heirs in frank almoyn.

George, Earl of Shrewsbury, died in 1541, and left a son, Francis.

1541. Francis, 5th Earl of Shrewsbury, succeeded to the title and estates of his father. He married Mary, daughter of Lord Dacre. Earl Francis was born in 1500, and died in 1560. He left a son, George.

1560. George, 6th Earl of Shrewsbury and Lord Marshal, married, first, Gertrude, daughter of the Earl of Rutland; and, secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of Earl Hardwicke. He died November 18th, 1590, and left a son and heir, Gilbert, aged 37.

1590. Gilbert, 7th Earl of Shrewsbury, married as his second wife Mary, daughter of Sir William Cavendish. He left no male issue, but three daughters. 1, Mary, married William, Earl of Pembroke; 2, Elizabeth, married Henry, Earl of Kent; 3, Alathea, married Thomas, Earl of Arundel.

Earl Gilbert died in 1616.

1628. Elizabeth Talbot, 2nd daughter of Earl Gilbert, married Henry Grey, Earl of Kent, and by her he became possessed of Goodrich Castle and Manor, the Manor of Wormelow, and the Manor of Eccleswall.

Henry de Grey, 11th Earl of Kent, died in 1639. The Castle remained in the possession of his widow until 1659. There was no issue.

GOODRICH CASTLE DURING THE CIVIL WARS.

1642. In October, 1642, the Earl of Stamford, who then held Hereford, pillaged all that kept faith and allegiance to the King in Herefordshire.

Goodrich Castle was in the possession of the Parliamentary forces, and was held by Captain Kyrle (son of Colonel Kyrle, of Walford Court) with his troop of 70 Horse and 30 Foot.

The Rev. Thomas Swift, then Vicar of Goodrich, had incurred the displeasure of the Earl of Stamford and his party for two reasons:—

1st. It was alleged that he had bought arms and conveyed them into Monmouthshire.

2nd. Because he had preached a sermon in Ross Church upon the text "Render unto Cæsar the things that be Cæsar's," in which the Earl said he had spoken treason in endeavouring to give Cæsar more than his due.

Swift owned a small estate, and built a mansion called "New House" (which still remains), bearing the date of its erection, i.e. 1636, on an inscription over the porch.

His house was pillaged, during his absence, by the order of Captain Kyrle and Lieutenant Fleming, five times, and the Vicar was robbed of property to the value of £300, the homestead cleared of his horses, provender, and all available goods and chattels, and even the food and clothing of his ten children and servants.

On December 3, 1642, the garrison of Goodrich was withdrawn, and the Earl of Stamford abandoned Hereford.

1644. No mention is made of Goodrich Castle until 1644, when it was held by Henry Lingen, High Sheriff of Herefordshire, for the King.

1644. In 1644 Massy, with two pieces of ordnance, advanced upon Ross. He found the passage of the Wye at Wilton Bridge guarded by 30 musketeers from Goodrich Castle, under Captain Cassie, but forded the river below the bridge. In the "Perfect Occurrences," May 17—24, 1644, there is a marvellous statement, which is not worthy of credence, being evidently exaggerated, of Massy's exploits at Goodrich Castle, i.e. in an encounter with those who kept it. He slew 184 out of 200, and continued before it in daily expectation that the remaining 16 would surrender. Be this as it may, it shows that the Castle was then in the hands of the Royalists.

1645. During the siege of Hereford in 1645, the Scots pillaged almost every parish in Herefordshire, and Miles Hill states in his pamphlet that there was "Taken and plundered from the inhabitants of Gotheridge to the value of £38 3s. 6d."

1645. In March, 1645, Colonel Birch with 100 musketeers attacked the Castle one dark night, planted ladders, and surmounted the outer wall on the west side of the Castle, where the stables for the troopers' horses were kept, slew or seized five men, broke through the outer wall, and captured 80 horses. The stables, together with the hay and straw, were set on fire, and much damage done.

On the same night the out-guard at the Boat House protecting the Ferry was attacked, and, after two hours' stubborn defence, captured. The Major and 15 men received quarter.

1646. In June, 1646, the Castle was invested by Colonel Birch with a considerable force and several pieces of ordnance. He cast a mortar piece carrying a shell of 200lbs. in weight and mined the walls in various places.

A breach having been made, and nearly all their ammunition and supplies having been exhausted, Sir Henry Lingen, together with 50 gentlemen and 120 officers and soldiers, capitulated on July 31st, 1646.

Shortly afterwards the Castle was ordered to be slighted and the lead stripped off the roof.

1649. In 1649 the Countess of Kent was awarded £1,000 by the Council of State in compensation for the demolition of Goderich Castle, which has remained in a ruinous state ever since.

1651. In 1651 the Countess of Kent died, and the Castle then passed to Anthony, 12th Earl of Kent. At his death in 1702 it devolved upon his heir.

1702. Henry de Grey, Duke and Earl of Kent, Marquis Grey, Earl of Harold, Viscount Goodrich, Baron Grey, and Baron Crudwell, Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, Privy Councillor, K.G., chief of the ancient house of Grey. He died on June 3rd, 1740, without male issue, and according to the terms of his will the Manor and Castle of Goodrich were ordered to be sold, and were purchased by Admiral Griffin, of Hadnock.

From him it passed to George Griffin, Esq., and at his death to his daughter Catherine, who married Major Marriott, of Sellarsbrooke.

1876. Mrs. Catherine Marriott gave the Castle and Manor of Goodrich to her adopted daughter, Louisa Marriott, her husband's great niece, on her marriage with Edmund Fletcher Bosanquet, Esq.

This lady is the present possessor and Lady of the Manor of Goodrich.

WEATHER IN HEREFORDSHIRE DURING THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

By H. SOUTHALL.

Mr. H. Southall gave a *résumé* of a paper, primed with elaborate statistical Tables, on "The Weather in Herefordshire in the 19th Century." In the course of his remarks he said that meteorologists during the past century had made considerable progress in the power to forecast the weather, for although they could not accurately foresee what would happen on any given day, yet by strictly tabulating the records of the past, and reasoning upon them, there were certain conditions of weather which they could rely upon as being likely to produce other certain conditions. He had carefully prepared tables of the weather from his own observations for nearly 43 years, and as observations in the county went back some 42 years previous to that, we possess consecutive observations for 85 years, which was an ample period for attaining to something like an idea of what the English climate was like. But whilst we found that every year was unlike every previous year, we also found that a certain character of climate had a tendency to repeat itself for a number of years together. For instance, we would experience a cycle of wet years, or a cycle of dry years. But, unfortunately, there was no absolute rule as to this.

The variation of Temperature was not so great as many people supposed. It had a tendency to repeat itself, especially in our summers. We sometimes got four hot summers together, and sometimes four cold ones together : but no one could say that because we had two hot or two cold summers, that we would necessarily have three or four hot or cold summers.

The Tables of the Rainfall in Herefordshire had been almost all compiled in the neighbourhood of Ross. For 25 years they were compiled at Much Dewchurch ; by Judge Herbert, at the Rocklands, for another seven or eight years ; and by himself for 43 years. The other portion was compiled by the Rector of Titley, in the north of the county, so that they might fairly consider that their observations were pretty accurate and to be depended upon. The first ten years of the last century were very unfavourable for vegetation, and for the first 20 years there was a very small rainfall. From 1818 to the present time the variation in the rain was something like this—there were first of all 22 wet years, then we had a cycle of 21 dry years, then a cycle of 16 very wet years—from 1871 to 1886 the rainfall at Ross averaged 32·85 inches per year, and for the last 13 years, ending 1899, that quantity was reduced to 26·12 inches—a great reduction of nearly seven inches per year. Seven inches of rain on every acre of land in the county meant a prodigious quantity. But his own impression was that the rainfall was

not declining. It would only be a year or two before we should probably have the compensation which Nature so abundantly gives us, and we might therefore look forward to having a series of wet years.

He had ascertained as far as possible where the great difference lay between the wet years and the dry, and he had found that in the series of dry years there was a reduction of 6 inches of rain in the winter, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the spring, 4 inches in the summer, and $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the autumn. The principal reduction was therefore in the autumn months. The wet years corresponded very closely. He had compared the wet years of 1871 to 1866 (when the rainfall was 32·85 inches per annum) with the dry years from 1887 to 1899, and in the former case the winter had $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches more rain than in the dry years. In the spring there was less difference than in any other months. The greatest difference was in the autumn, when nearly 10 inches more rain fell.

The influence of the weather on the prosperity of the country, and on our pleasure and comfort was so great that it seemed to him that we could not be too much forewarned in order that we might be forearmed to meet the vicissitudes of climate that we meet with in these islands. He had been very much struck with the remark of an old traveller, who said that in his opinion there was no climate in the world equal to the British (applause). What we were so apt to complain about in the matter of cloudy and inclement weather, only prepared us the more to enjoy the really bright and not too hot weather which we have experienced this summer, and which we are so often privileged to do in our summers, in our springs, and very often till late autumn (applause).

THE OLD RED SANDSTONE CONGLOMERATE.

By H. CECIL MOORE.

The Old Red Sandstone forms a huge synclinal dipping from all directions underneath the Coal Beds of the Forest of Dean, which beds lie, as it were, in a saucer formed of the Old Red Sandstone.

The Old Red Sandstone Conglomerate is a bed of sedimentary material in the upper beds of the Old Red Sandstone, and engirdling the ridges of various hills in this district it is remarkably conspicuous. It is known locally under the familiar term of "Pudding Stone."

The Conglomerate is a type of aqueous or sedimentary rock originally laid down as an incoherent sediment, subsequently consolidated by intense pressure and by the deposition of some cementing material in solution, such as sand, mud, silica, carbonate of lime, oxide of iron, &c.

You will have observed on our sea coasts, and on the margins of lakes, at the affluent of a river into them, a collection of muddy, sandy, gravelly, or shingly material of various degrees of coarseness. After a heavy flood the stratified arrangement will be found in succession as follows:—The largest blocks will sink to the bottom, upon them will be superimposed smaller blocks, upon which again will be smaller particles of rounded sand, covered with a layer of mud deposited gradually at the termination of the flood from the water in which it has been held in solution.

The lower layer of the large rounded pebbles is called *shingle*; the material composed of smaller fragments, some angular, others more or less water worn, is known as *gravel*; and the minute rounded particles formed by the attrition of the deposited rocks is *sand*.

When the gravel, made up of fragments broken from other rocks, becomes a consolidated mass, agglutinated by any cementing material, it is a Conglomerate.

The Old Red Sandstone Conglomerate of our district appears on the summit of the high ground at Wentwood, in Monmouthshire. It is seen in the rocking stone,* "The Buckstone," opposite Monmouth, whence proceeding northerly fragments may be traced across the Forest of Dean until on the right bank of the river Wye it is elevated on the Great Doward Hill. Again crossing the river near the Whitchurch Ferry it is seen occupying the base of the hill on the Huntsham side below Symonds Yat. On Coppet Wood Hill it forms a conspicuous line, and is continued under the ridge of Huntsham Hill overlooking Goodrich. It is next met with on The Chase Hill, which it nearly engirdles; two spurs are conspicuous on the south of this hill, thence on

* The Buckstone was a Logan, or Rocking Stone, until it was overthrown by a party of trippers on June 10th, 1885. It has been restored to its original position, and the mass has been artificially secured; it is no longer a Rocking Stone. (See *Transactions*, 1895, page 50).

Penyard Hill. The contours of the Conglomerate on the south of the Chase Hill are marked on Herefordshire Sheet 51 S.E., on the scale of six inches to one mile.

It must be remembered that the Great Doward itself is capped by the Lower Limestone Shale and the Carboniferous Limestone, and that Symonds Yat Rocks, the Coldwell Rocks, and the rocks thence down the river Wye are constituted of the same Limestone.

As you travel from Ross along the railway to Gloucester, if you alight at Mitcheldean Road Station, an escarpment of Conglomerate will be seen on the right hand side (the south) forming a bend, a prominent feature on a hill half a mile distant from the station.

If the walk be continued another quarter of a mile up this hill, you will reach the Carboniferous Limestone. From Mitcheldean Road Station, a walk of about two miles south-westerly will bring you to what is known as the Deep Cutting, near the mansion called Euroclydon, where is exhibited a good section of the Transition Beds, from the Conglomerate of the Upper Old Red Sandstone in the form of yellow, red, grey sandstone strata passing upwards into the Shales and Lower Limestones of the Carboniferous deposits.

We are informed in Symonds' "Records of the Rocks" that there is another instructive section south of Cinderford, between the tunnel of the local line at Sudeley and a place called Ruspitch ; he advises that this locality can be best reached from Newnham. I have not visited this spot.

There is also a fine section of it close to Bigswear Station on the Wye Valley Railway.

From the above remarks it is obvious that the Old Red Sandstone Conglomerate in our neighbourhood engirdles, with an occasional loss of continuity, the Carboniferous Beds of the Forest of Dean, and that it exhibits in many places a well marked exposure, and forms a conspicuous feature in the landscape.



"THE QUEEN STONE," HUNTHAM, EAST SIDE.



"THE QUEEN STONE," HUNTHAM, FROM S.W.

THE "QUEEN STONE" AT HUNTSHAM.

BY JAMES G. WOOD, M.A., LL.B., F.G.S., F.R. MET. SOC.

On September 3, 1901, I visited this stone in company with Mr. Thomas Southall, of Ross.

Leaving the road from Goodrich, which leads over the new Bridge (on the site of the ancient Huntsham Ferry) towards Symonds Yat, at a gate about a quarter of a mile from the Bridge, I found the stone in a field, another quarter of a mile to the N.E. It stands erect about 7ft. 6in. above the level of the surrounding plain, within the horseshoe bend of the Wye, and is clearly visible from a considerable distance.

It is a block of Old Red Conglomerate, containing angular and sub-angular and rounded fragments of older rocks. From the comparatively small size of the pebbles, and their small proportion to the mass of the enclosing sand-rock, I should say that it had formed part of the lower, rather than the upper, beds of the conglomerate.

That it is not *in situ* so far as vertical position is concerned is manifest. It stands just 100 feet above Ordnance datum. The outcrops of the conglomerate on the faces of Symonds Yat in front, of Coppet Hill on the left, and of the Doward on the right, are all strongly marked, with a general dip to the S. or S.S.E., at elevations from which it is easy to calculate that at this spot, before the denudation, the conglomerate would have been at least 300 feet above our heads.

The stone stands in the alluvial portion of the plain which I have mentioned. How deep the alluvium is at that point, or whether the stone stands in fact on the alluvium or on the surface of the old denuded beds, I had no means of ascertaining; but from other considerations I infer that the latter is probably the case, and that the alluvium here is thin.

If that is the case, there is no necessity to resort to the theory of glacial transport to account for its position. It may very possibly be vertically below the point where it was originally *in situ*, and have gradually sunk with the denudation, as has been shown to be the case with "Grey-wethers" on the Downs.

There are altogether 13 nearly vertical groovings on its faces. The deepest and best defined and smoothest are on the eastern face, and so broad and deep as to be visible, in a strong light, from the road. There are three similar groovings down the western face; the others (less defined) are on the two end faces, the major axis of the stone being nearly N. and S. There are other incipient groovings and some very slight ones running into the main ones.

The grooves on the eastern face all run to the bottom, except the last to northward ; and this one demands particular attention, for I think it supplies the key to the origin of all. At about two feet from the ground the stone discloses, at the lower right hand corner of the eastern face, a section of a slab of very hard stone, sloping downwards to the left (or southward) at an angle of 45° . This slab the northernmost groove on the east face has failed to cut through; but from its lower end a gutter is formed along the upper side of this hard slab leading down (at a corresponding angle) into the end of the next groove.

All the grooves are continued over the shoulders of the stone towards the middle of the top, where a sort of neck rises.

The arrangement of the grooves appeared to me to be such that if water were poured in sufficient quantity on the top of the stone, it would flow thence down every groove to the bottom; except that water in the groove I have specially mentioned would be thrown off through the gutter into the next groove.

My opinion (for what it is worth) is this ; that at some time after the block was detached (as a shapeless mass) from its parent bed, it was for a considerable period subjected to a fall, on its upper surface, of water charged with sand and other grinding material which gradually shaped it and ultimately worked out the grooves on each of its sides. No other theory seems to me capable of accounting for the lateral sloping gutter connecting two grooves such as I have described. If it is suggested that the groovings are artificial, surely the hard slab could have been cut through and the groove completed like the others. Glacial action appears to me excluded, both by the fact that the groovings are on all sides, and by the angle and depth of the gutter, which was certainly cut contemporaneously with the grooves, but could not be so cut by any glacial movement which would produce the grooves.

The inner faces of the grooves are studded with the projections of the pebbles, which is against the theory of any friction except that of water ; and I do not think this fact is to be accounted for by sub-aerial disintegration after the groovings were made ; for these projections are more prominent in the grooves than on the outer faces of the stone ; which both excludes the theory of the action, in this respect, of such disintegration, and makes for the theory I have suggested.

When we consider the enormous work that water has effected in cutting out the gorges of the Wye, it is little to ask of it that it should cut the grooves in question.

It requires only a little imagination to carry the neck I have mentioned somewhat higher into the shape of a head, and then the stone in a dim light would present the form of a woman, the groovings supplying the folds of her drapery. Hence I imagine our Saxon forefathers named it the "Cwén-stán," or "Woman-stone."

In saying that it is not necessary to resort to the theory of glacial transport, I do not forget that many years ago I found a block of similar conglomerate, about 20 tons in weight, lodged in a notch in the limestone rocks near the Railway Bridge at Chepstow, 90 feet above high tide level. Nothing but glacial transport can account for this.

And as a further instance of the glaciation of the Wye Valley, evidence of which has sometimes been asserted to be wanting, I would suggest to our local geologists the investigation of the river bed near the Great Doward ; where Martin's Pool for a quarter of a mile has the extraordinary depth of 30 feet succeeded by one of the shallowest overfalls in that part of the Wye. This strongly suggests a "glacier-worn basin.

POSTSCRIPT.

Whilst the above was in the press, a paper (with illustrations) has appeared in "The Antiquary," vol. xxxix., p. 8, for January, 1903, by A. D. H. Leadman, F.S.A., on "The Devil's Arrows, near Boroughbridge, Yorkshire." There are three blocks of Millstone Grit, all vertically grooved, which grooving is attributed by the author to the action of water. One of the blocks bears a striking similarity to the Queen Stone at Huntsham.—[EDITOR.]

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS,
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 1901.

THE annual general meeting for the election of President and Officers for the ensuing year was held in the Woolhope Club Room, Hereford, on Tuesday, December 10th. At the committee meeting, preparatory to the general meeting, the usual annual bills were presented and passed and other business was despatched. The Rev. Sir George Cornewall was elected President for 1902. Four Vice-Presidents were elected, Mr. Blashill, F.Z.S., Dr. Crespi, Dr. Theodore Groom, D.Sc., F.G.S., etc., and Dr. Gerald Leighton. The Central Committee and other honorary officers were re-elected.

The Rev. J. O. Bevan and Mr. Blashill were appointed delegates to the Archaeological Congress, the Rev. J. O. Bevan was also appointed delegate to the British Association meeting to be held at Belfast, and Dr. T. A. Chapman corresponding member.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION, 1901, AT GLASGOW.

BY REV. J. O. BEVAN.

The late meeting at Glasgow was both interesting and successful. It coincided with the Exhibition, which was well managed and attracted crowds of people.

A new Department—Education. L.—was inaugurated. It was presided over by Sir John Gorst, and proved a popular and business-like section.

In the Mathematical Section, Lord Kelvin delivered an address on the cosmical elements, which opened out wide, almost infinite, possibilities, and which must have been heard to be appreciated.

The Botanical and Physiological Sections were the scenes of important discussion.

In connection with the Zoological Section, some hybrid Zebras were exhibited, exhibiting the results of crossing with the horse.

Attention was drawn to the results of Zoological dredging in the Clyde. The movement was advanced of surveying the Scotch Lakes to determine more accurately their origin. This work is to be financed by Mr. Pullar, whose son was largely concerned in the inception of the

subject. He, unfortunately, by a strange fate, lost his life in the beginning of the year in one of these lakes, in an unsuccessful attempt to rescue a woman from drowning.

I attended both meetings of the Delegates of Corresponding Societies, and had the honour of reading a paper embodying a scheme for systematic investigation in various directions on the part of Local Societies. This scheme was accepted by the delegates, and its details will soon be officially communicated to the constituent bodies. It seems likely to be productive of some further discussion, but I venture to hope that it will tend to stimulate and ultimately to popularise general and combined research on well-defined lines.

Full reports of the meetings and copies of the Presidential addresses have been transmitted to your honorary secretary.

The addresses of the Presidents of the various sections above referred to were placed upon the table; they will all be reproduced in the Volume of the British Association Report, when issued, of 1901. The Woolhope Club has upon the shelves of its Library a copy of each annual Report of the British Association since, and including, 1889.

In the early part of the year the Catalogue of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club Library was published, and a copy forwarded to each member. Additions have been made to the Library by interchange with kindred societies, and it has recently benefited by the receipt of the Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society for 1898, 1899, and 1900, and by the purchase, amongst other publications, of "British Rainfall in 1900," of "The Year Book of Learned Societies," and of "The Life History of British Serpents," by Gerald R. Leighton, M.D."

ARCHÆOLOGY.

The Woolhope Club has assisted with a small donation the Cardiff Naturalists' Society in uncovering a Roman fort at Gelligaer, thirteen miles north of Cardiff, which is situated high on a ridge between two long valleys, guarding a Roman road from the fort at Cardiff to that near Brecon. In a letter to "The Times" of August 15th our honorary member, a scholar on Romano-British subjects, Mr. F. Haverfield, informs us that it is about four acres in extent, that its foundations are singularly perfect, and that the visitor has the rare chance of seeing the complete plan of a small Roman fort.

BOTANY.

Rev. A. Ley has contributed "Notes on Welsh Hawkweeds," also "Two Fresh Rubus Forms," both papers reprinted from "The Journal of Botany" for reproduction in the Volume of *Transactions*.

METEOROLOGY.

A Table of Local Rainfall at Ledbury, Much Marcle, and Ross, for the past twenty years has been compiled by Mr. S. H. Bickham, of Ledbury.

ORNITHOLOGY.

A Phalarope (local) has been recently added to the Museum. The Nutcracker, a bird so rare that, according to Saunders, "altogether about twenty fairly authenticated occurrences in England and Wales are on record," which was shot in Herefordshire, is in the Cardiff Museum. The Club has become a subscriber to "The Birds of Yorkshire," which is to embody the manuscripts of the late Mr. John Cordeaux, the great authority on the migration of birds. Mr. E. Cambridge Phillips, of The Rock, Bwlch, Breconshire, has forwarded us a paper on "Llangorse Lake and its Bird Life."

ZOOLOGY.

The President, Mr. Blashill, presented to the Club for transference to the Museum a gift from Mr. Montagu Browne, F.G.S., F.Z.S., Curator of the Leicester Museum, of the skull of a dog, bisected to display both interior and exterior parts, exhibiting the separate bones by distinctive colours, thus enabling the student of comparative anatomy by comparing skulls of other animals, birds, etc., similarly treated, to readily distinguish the difference and to trace the process of development; a method more instructive than many pages of reading. The preparation is so neat, clear, and demonstrative, that it is hoped some students may be induced, in the study of the wonderful animal creation, to pursue this branch of work to their own benefit and the public good. Mr. Browne has set up an admirable series of these preparations in the fine Museum under his charge at Leicester.

The three candidates balloted for were elected. Mr. James G. Wood, M.A., LL.B., F.G.S., F.R.Met. Soc., of 7, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C., was elected an honorary member of the Club.

The following members were present at the meeting:—The Hon. Very Rev. the Dean, who acted as chairman in the absence of Mr. Thomas Blashill (the President), Mr. H. C. Beddoe, Mr. J. Carless, Mr. R. Clarke, Mr. James Davies, Dr. J. B. Fitzsimons, Mr. H. Scott-Hall, Dr. Herbert Jones, Dr. Gerald Leighton, Mr. T. Llanwarne, Rev. H. B. D. Marshall, Mr. G. W. Wheeler, with Messrs. T. Hutchinson and H. Cecil Moore, honorary secretaries, and Mr. James B. Pilley, assistant secretary.

* NOTES ON WELSH HAWKWEEDS.

BY REV. AUGUSTIN LEY, M.A.

Hieracium caledonicum F. J. Hanb. var. *platyphyllum* A. Ley. This plant, described by me in this Journal for 1898, p. 7, as a variety of *H. pollinatum* F. J. Hanb., apparently cannot be maintained under that species, but falls very well under *H. caledonicum* F. J. Hanb., where, therefore, I wish, with the concurrence of Mr. Hanbury and Rev. E. F. Linton, to place it. It is usually easily distinguished from the type by its leaves being much broader, the root-leaves often cordate at the base, and coarsely toothed; by its longer branches, forming a very acute angle with the stem; by its thicker peduncles, and by both peduncles and phyllaries being much more densely tomentose. Its ligules are usually, but not uniformly, stylose. It is a very much more abundant plant in South Wales than the type.

H. vulgatum Fr. var. *cacuminum* A. Ley ("Journal Botany," 1895, p. 86), described as a variety of *H. diaphanum* Fr., ought, I am now convinced, to fall under *H. vulgatum* Fr. I propose therefore to place it under this species, very near to var. *amphibolium* Lindeb., of which indeed it may be a mountain form. It is, however, a more slender, delicate plant, with narrower, less deeply dentate leaves and broader blunter phyllaries.

H. rigidum Hartm. var. nov. *strigosum*. Stem 1-3 ft., bearing abundant, stiff, white, black-based hairs usually throughout its whole length; with 5-10 long lanceolate acute leaves, the upper sessile, the lowest and the root-leaves decurrent into a rather long petiole; lower surface with stiff white hairs, edge shortly ciliate, bearing several deep acute teeth. Branches long, 1-2 flowered, confined to the upper third of the stem, forming an acute angle with the stem and ascending. Heads few, large, buds ovate-truncate. Outer phyllaries short, blunt, inner long, narrow, rather acute, with conspicuously dark green centre and light margin, etomentose, bearing abundant stiff white hairs, and very few long-stalked glands near the base. Peduncles with sparse loose tomentum, eglandular. Style yellow. Near var. *longiciliatum* F. J. Hanb., but distinguished, so far as the small amount of material I have seen of that plant enables me to judge, by its stem and phyllaries being much more hairy, the hair stiffer; by its larger heads, and longer, more closely ascending branches: by its longer leaves with less hairy upper surface, less ciliate edge, deeper coarser teeth, and longer petiole. Micro-glands in the present variety usually absent, or very inconspicuous. Original root-leaves blunt. Linton's Set of British Hieracia, No. 153.

Mountain glens, mostly on river-side rocks and near waterfalls; abundant in South Breconshire.

Localities. Glyn Tarell, 1883; Blaen Taf-fawr; Cwm Tafffechan. Hepste and Mellte Glens; Upper Nedd Glen; Upper Tawe Glen; Glen Collwng—all on river-side rocks. On mountain cliffs at Craig Gledsiau, Glyn Tarrell, and Llyn-y-fan-fawr. On dry limestone ledges at the head of Dyffryn Crawnon; on railway banks at Glyn Collwng, becoming stylose, with discoloured styles on dry railway ballast—all these localities are in South Breconshire. On the Yrfon near Abergwesyn, North Breconshire; I believe also on mountain cliffs at Llyn-y-fan-fechan, Carmarthenshire.

Plants gathered by me in Glyn Tarell first in 1883, and subsequently named by Dr. Lindeberg for Mr. F. J. Hanbury "*H. lapponicum* Fr., nov. var." (see "Journal of Botany," 1889, p. 73), differ from the variety of *H. rigidum* Hartm. here described, in having darker broader less hairy phyllaries; but as this slight difference seems due to the spray of a waterfall within the reach of which the plants named "*H. lapponicum* Fr." grow during wet seasons, and has been ascertained to disappear from the same plants during drier seasons, I am bound to express my conviction that these plants will have to be placed under the present variety of *H. rigidum* Hartm.

TWO FRESH RUBUS FORMS.*

BY REV. AUGUSTIN LEY, M.A.

I have the concurrence of Rev. W. M. Rogers in the advisability of giving names to the following forms of *Rubus fruticosus* L. :—

1. *Rubus acutifrons* A. Ley, var. *amplifrons*, nov. var. This recedes from the type in the following particulars:—Stem nearly glabrous. Prickles fewer, more slender, mostly declining; stalked glands and acicles very few, pricklets destitute of glands fairly numerous. Leaves nearly all ternate; leaflets large, subequal, the terminal ovate-rotund, not lobate, shortly cuspidate-acuminate; serration coarser, more open. Panicle much less interrupted, cylindrical, its upper branches subpatent; rachis straight, with fewer prickles, but with stalked glands and hair similar to type. Floral leaves broader, many simple ones extending nearly to the blunt top of the panicle. Sepals aciculate externally, reflexed in flower, soon ascending and embracing in fruit. Flowers small, petals often narrow, greenish white.

In the subglabrous stem bearing numerous prickles which are destitute of the terminal gland, this plant approaches *R. ochrodermis* A. Ley, in which, however, such organs are far more numerous.

Conjectured by Dr. Focke (*in litt.*) to be "allied to *R. fuscus* W. & N. and *R. Lahri* Wirtg."; but upon comparison of a pretty large series clearly coming near my *R. acutifrons*, under which it seems best to place it as a variety. I have endeavoured, in the choice of a varietal name, to express both its alliance to, and the most noticeable feature of its difference from, *R. acutifrons*.

Localities. Very abundant in a large tract of woodland called Big Wood and Treville Wood, Whitfield, Herefordshire. Near Pen Selwood, Somerset!; Rev. R. P. Murray, "Flora of Somerset," p. 117; a form connecting this with the type.

First noticed in 1896, and sent unnamed to the London Botanical Exchange Club in 1898 or 1899, but remaining unnoticed in the Club Reports for those years.

2. *Rubus dumetorum* Weihe, sp. coll., var. *triangularis*, nov. var. Near vars. *ferox* Weihe and *britannicus* Rogers, from the latter of which it differs in the crowded, unequal, very stout, straight thorns, and short-stalked glands of stem and rachis; in the leaves being nearly always ternate or ternate-lobate, not quinate; their leaflets shorter, broadly triangular-ovate, acute or shortly acuminate, with shallow crenate-lobate

* Reprinted from "The Journal of Botany" for February, 1902.

serration, and with their under surface more constantly felted ; in the panicle with long straight divaricate lower branches, often forming a triangular figure. Sepals broadly triangular, short, at length clasping.

Placed by Rev. W. M. Rogers (*in litt.*) under his var. *britannicus*, "going off towards var. *ferox*" ; but, after studying the living plant twice, I venture to think that it could not be confounded, in that state, with either of these varieties, and that therefore it merits distinction and recognition as a separate variety of *R. dumetorum*. The *triangular* aspect of the very numerous broad-based thorns, of the sepals, of the spaces between the panicle-branches, of the whole panicle ; and to a less degree of the leaves, their leaflets, and the leaf-serration, suggests the proposed varietal name as appropriate.

Localities. Very abundant in the valley of the Teme, both above and below Stanford Bridge, Worcestershire, in hedges and wood-borders ; and ascending from the Teme valley into Herefordshire at Upper Sapey.

"LLANGORSE LAKE AND ITS BIRD LIFE."

By E. CAMBRIDGE PHILLIPS, F.L.S.,

Member of the British Ornithologists' Union.

Forwarded for publication by the Author, and extracted from "The Brecon and Radnor Express," being a paper read at Llangorse Lake before the Members of the "Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club," 14th June, 1901.

This beautiful sheet of water, anciently called Llynsafedden, or the bottomless pool, is about two miles in length, one in breadth, and five in circumference ; its general depth is from nine to twelve feet, but in the deepest part it is as many yards. It is the largest natural lake not only in Breconshire, but in South Wales ; the waters of the Lynvi which flow into it at the lower end (that is the end nearest Bwlch), are said to pass through the middle of the lake without mixing with its waters (but whether this is true I know not), and so go out by the common at Llangorse, where, after a short course of six or seven miles, it flows into the Wye near Three Cocks Station.

Of the legendary lore of the lake I will say nothing, the legends being far from interesting, but near the south-east end of the lake, up the valley, somewhere between Middlewood Farm and the saw mills of Mr. Gwynne Holford, in the parish of Cathedine, formerly stood the castle of Blaenllyfni, of which some fragments are said to remain. "In sum auncient writings," says Leland, "this castel was called Everi Castel and Lleveni (whence Llynfi) water called Everi Brooke. The Honor of Blane Lleveni standing yn a valley ys in the Walsche Talgarth, where there is yet the shape of a very faire castel now dekeynge, and by was a Borow town, now also in decay, both longged to the Erle of Marche." Of this "Borow town," not a vestige remains to show where it stood ; it seems that the property of the lake was attached to this castle, for one of the Fitzherberts granted to the monks of Brecon the liberty of fishing in his mere with a boat three days in every week, and every day during Lent and Advent.

The island in the lake is a Crannoge, and a plan of the same was printed some years since by, I believe, the Cambrian Archaeological Society, and I have a copy of the same, which is unfortunately gummed in my Jones's "Breconshire."* It represents the island to be staked round with slab piles and round piles, and the section of the east side of the island discloses stones and mould for a considerable depth, then a layer of peat reeds and wood, and then the old bottom of the lake, which is shell marl ; further out near the piles there seems to be a considerable accumulation of charcoal deposit mingled with odd stakes and

* Lithographic illustrations of the Crannoge, with section and ground plan, are to be found opposite pages 101 and 102 of *Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club* 1870.

piles. Many people aver that the remains of lake dwellings are still to be seen at the bottom of the lake. I confess I have never been able to make them out myself; still authorities on the subject say that stakes and piles have been found at the bottom of the lake, which from their shape and size are exactly similar to the foundations of the lake dwellings, which are found in other lakes in this country and elsewhere.

With regard to the fish, pike are still plentiful. Theophilus Jones, the Breconshire historian, says in his time that they used to reach to between 30 and 40 lbs. in weight, but in these degenerate times the largest I ever saw killed here was one of 21 pounds, by the late Mr. Pritchard, the fisherman of Brecon, about thirty years since. Still there are undoubtedly some very big fish in the lake (only you have to catch them). Perch are innumerable, but mostly very small, but there are perch here of from 2 to 3 lbs.; also roach, and very fine eels. Otters also frequent the lake, and probably do a great deal of good in keeping the numbers of fish down. I should have said that although there are trout in the Llynfi, the pike in the lake pretty soon devour them, but the late Mr. Pritchard, who lived on the common some years since, killed a trout of $10\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. weight near the exodus of the Llynvi from the lake, and there is a representation of this fish cut in wood, with the weight on it, now in the possession of his niece at Llangorse Common.

But it is to the birds that frequent the lake that I wish to direct your special attention, and on which I feel more competent to address you than on any other subject, and as I have the pleasure of addressing a naturalist club, I shall not endeavour to describe any bird, but simply name those birds which have been observed at Llangorse lake during the past thirty years, with such facts relating thereto as may possibly be of interest to you as naturalists and ornithologists.

The Osprey formerly frequented the lake, one being seen in 1884, and another in 1886 by a naturalist friend of mine, who knew the bird well. Probably in bye-gone centuries it was common here, but I see no rock on which it could have bred. The Dipper, although common in Breconshire and on the Llynfi, does not seem to frequent the lake much. Probably it is too deep for this merry little bird, who prefers swift flowing shallow streams. It will, I am sure, be of great interest to you to mention that although not quite close to the lake, yet within two miles from this spot as the crow flies, Major Garnons Williams, of Tymawr, saw last April a beautiful cock Golden Oriole, and on the following day in the same spot, which shall be nameless, presumably the same bird with the hen. I have had this bird reported to me before in this locality. This makes the sixth cock I have had reported to me, and the only hen, but the dull brownish green plumage of the hen may account for this, the glorious yellow of the cock making it very conspicuous. The Starling assembles in the autumn and winter in thousands to roost in the reed beds. About four in the afternoon small flocks arrive and fly into the reeds, and this continues until all have arrived; then, with a roar like the sea, the whole flock rises in one solid mass, sweeping over the lake close

to the reeds as a black mourning cloud. Then they threaten to settle again, then round once more with a regularity and decision of movement that is marvellous to witness, until at length they settle for the night. When pitched they keep up a continual chattering, but are silent when on the wing.

The Reed Warbler is common at Llangorse, where they nest in the reeds. Capt. Swainson has some beautiful specimens of these nests, showing how they are fastened to the reeds. The Pied, the Grey, and the Yellow Wagtail may also be seen in their season frequenting the shores, whilst the Wheatear may often be observed on the common. I have not observed the Nightjar in the evenings myself, but as it is common in the county, I have no doubt it often drinks from the lake, as it does in the Usk, stooping repeatedly as it skims over the surface of the water and drinking after the manner of the Swallows. which habit of the Nightjar may possibly be new to some of the naturalists present. The Kingfisher is fairly plentiful, and in the season the Swifts, Swallows and Martins. A pure white Sand Martin was killed here some years since by one of my sons. This year Swallows are more scarce than usual. I fear that the absurd and senseless fashion of ladies wearing the bodies of birds in their hats may in some measure account for this. Sometimes, but rarely, in the fall, the Golden Plover may be observed on the pebbly beaches of the lake, and in the winter may be seen in large flocks on the common, but the Lapwing is here all the year round. I think it frequents the lake itself for the purpose of bathing and drinking, although it breeds in numbers in the adjoining swampy fields. The Ringed Plover occurs here occasionally, although it does not breed here. My son, J. V. Phillips, killed one on the 11th August, 1890; it is usually found on a little pebbly beach, but occurs nowhere else in the county.

The Turnstone, that beautiful little black and brown bird of the sea shore, sometimes pays Llangorse a visit. One was killed here by Mr. Gwynne Holford's keeper some years since. The Greenshank is a rare visitant, and usually in the fall of the year. A beautiful specimen was killed by my youngest son on 1st September, 1897, near the church at Llangasty, and is now in my possession. The Redshank, which I consider a very rare bird in this county, must have bred at the lake, as one young and one old one were observed here on the 16th August, 1890. The Common Sandpiper has also been noticed here from time to time, and the Dunlin very occasionally, one being killed here on 11th August, 1890, and which I identified. The Great Snipe has also been killed here by my naturalist friend, in August, 1896; and the Common Snipe occurs in numbers on the edges of the lake, where it breeds. The Jack Snipe is also fairly plentiful in winter.

The Curlew frequents the swampy fields around the lake in the breeding season, and as it has much increased of late years in the county, it no doubt breeds here, as it does in similar rushy places very near Brecon. The Common Crane is, like many another bird will be

in a few years, extinct, but the Heron is to be seen on the shores of the lake all the year ; probably in ancient times the Crane was here also, but as the Welsh invariably speak of the Heron nowadays as the Crane, it is somewhat uncertain when the last Crane was observed. The Bittern has always frequented the lake, and has been killed and observed here many times even within the last few years, and according to the excellent reports and Transactions of the Cardiff Naturalists' Society, a specimen of that very rare bird, the Little Bittern, was killed at this lake, and is now in their museum at Cardiff. This is the only specimen that I have ever heard of in this country. It is, however, so exceedingly shy, and its habits are so skulking and retiring that it may easily escape observation. The Water Rail, to whom the same remark as to shyness applies, is also fairly common around the lake, and that elegant little bird the Spotted Crake has been very occasionally observed here. I may add, however, that Breconshire is a very favourite place of this rare visitant, and that it breeds in several of the large bogs in the county, particularly near Onllwyn, close to its borders. The Moorhen and Coot are also very common, and require no comment, but the Wild Swan has not been observed here for some years, the last (six in number) being seen in 1891 at the same time three others were observed on the Wye near Builth. Of the Geese, I may mention that the common Grey Lag has been occasionally seen, and of the White-fronted Goose, three were killed by Mr. Adney, of Brecon, in the winter of 1888, and identified by me. In January, 1891, Captain Swainson kindly wrote me that he saw a small flock of Canada Geese on the lake, and that some Brent Geese were with them. He got to within 150 yards of them, so that he could see the white gorgets of the Canadas. Whether these birds had escaped from private waters or not I do not know, but it is singular that it is the only occurrence of the Canada Goose that I know of in this county.

Of the Ducks, the Sheldrake frequents the lake from time to time. The Wild duck is resident all the year round. The Wigeon occurs here in the winter in great numbers, and the Teal is common ; the Pochards may be seen here in the winter, and also the Scaup and Tufted Duck, one of the former, a drake, was killed on the 28th October, 1893, by Lieut. Armitage, D.S.O.. The Golden Eye, very curiously, does not seem to visit Llangorse so much as it does the Usk. Of that rare bird the Long-tailed Duck, one of a pair was killed by Lieut. Armitage, on 27th October, 1893, and identified by me. He informed me he had great difficulty in killing it. It was duly preserved. The Common Scoter often visits the lake, and very occasionally that beautiful bird the Smew. The Goosander, although never observed by me, occasionally visits this lake, and it is some years quite common on the Usk, near my house, about a mile distant as the crow flies. The Great Northern Diver has also occurred here, having been seen by a friend of mine, a practical-naturalist, and in the winter of 1881 one was killed here, and two others seen. The Black-throated Diver and the Red-throated Diver

also occasionally occur ; a cock bird of the former in immature plumage, but beginning to assume the black spots on the back, was killed here on the 27th February, 1892, by Lieut. Armitage, and examined by me. He told me there were a pair there, but he failed to get the other bird. A Red-throated Diver (immature) was also killed here in 1898 by Mr. Ashworth, and identified by me. He has it preserved at the present time. All the Divers and Grebes must do a great deal of good on the lake by keeping down the extraordinary number of small roach and perch that swarm there.

Llangorse lake may be considered as quite the home of the Great Crested Grebe, where it is common ; its shy and retiring habits, its wonderful diving powers, and keen sight, have alone preserved it from extinction. Howard Saunders says that the young repose on the back of the old bird just by the wing, and this would appear to be so, for my naturalist friend some years ago, noticing a commotion in the reeds, made by a grebe, fired at it, and on rowing up found he had killed the male and female Great Crested Grebe, and a young one, which must have been in the position referred to, and he had them all stuffed to commemorate the incident. The Little Grebe is also to be seen here, and is common and resident on the Usk. The Cormorant is also frequently to be observed, but not so often as one would suppose, it being a long way from the sea. Very occasionally a Gannet is blown in by a gale, and one, an immature bird by its plumage, in probably its second year, was killed by the late Captain Crawshay Ralston, a few years since. The Common Tern, that graceful bird so well named the Sea Swallow, is often to be seen skimming over the lake with its elegant and graceful flight, and in the year 1889, Mr. Nash, of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club (of which I have the honour to be an honorary member), killed here two specimens of the Black Tern, and Captain Swainson wrote me that he had two or three times seen the Lesser Tern. Of the Gulls, the Kittiwake, Common Gull, Black-headed Herring, and Lesser Black-backed, sometimes pay Llangorse lake a visit. Of course they are only storm-blown wanderers that have come inland to rest and find food. The Lesser Black-backed, however, visits us annually for some purpose or other, every spring.

I have now finished my list of the birds of the lake, and while admitting that it is a fairly good one, it would be much better if it were not for the constant shooting that takes place here from the 1st of August to the 1st of March in every year. If the lake had only quiet, it would be a very paradise for water birds. Whether this will ever take place I cannot say, but I am sure that every true bird-lover will join with me in the wish that the day may not be far distant when this may be accomplished.

HEREFORDSHIRE TOKENS OF THE 17TH CENTURY.

BY JAMES W. LLOYD.

ADDENDUM.

See Antea—page 69.

Kington 17th Century Token, found in garden at Kington in 1900.

O. THOMAS GIPPS. A HALFPENNY.—Arms of the Gipps family—az a fesse engrailed between six estoiles, or.

R. IN KIENTON, 1664—T.A.G.

On flyleaf of the earliest Parish Register of Kington are the signatures of Ambrose Everett and Tho. Gipps, Churchwardens, 1668, and the following entries in the Register relate to the family of the issuer, viz. :—

- 1668. April the xvi., William, the Sonne of Mr. Thomas Gipps was baptized.
- 1670. March 22, Gwynne, ye Son of Thomas Gipps, was baptized.
- 1674. June 11, Ales, ye daughter of Thomas Gipps, by Ales his wife, was baptized.
- November 1, William Collins and Lucie Gipps were married.
- 1676. August 8, James, ye Son of Thomas Gipps, by Ales his wife, was baptized.
- 1678. May 25, Sarah, ye daughter of Thomas Gipps, by Ales his wife was baptized.
- 1680. July 14, Sarah, ye daughter of Thomas Gipps, by Alice his wife, was buried.

LOCAL RAINFALL FOR THE PAST TWENTY YEARS.

BY S. H. BICKHAM.

The following comparative records of the rainfall for 20 years (1880—1899) at four stations within a distance of 12 miles may be of interest to those who register meteorological events.

The first table shows the rainfall for 20 years, and the second gives the number of days on which one inch or more rain fell in 24 hours.

The observers were—At Underdown : The late Captain Archdale and myself ; Orchardleigh : Dr. Miles A. Wood ; Ross : Mr. Henry Southall, F.R. Met. Soc. ; Much Marcle : Mr. T. Charles.

RAINFALL FOR 20 YEARS—1880—1899.

	Underdown, Ledbury.	Orchardleigh, Ledbury.	The Graig, Ross.	Caerswall, Much Marcle.
Height above Sea Level	307 feet. inches rain.	180 feet. inches rain.	213 feet. inches rain.	422 feet. inches rain.
1880	33'32	31'70	35'49	31'09
1881	26'38	25'13	28'83	27'27
1882	35'65	34'61	38'40	38'41
1883	29'16	27'62	31'52	30'57
1884	24'50	22'52	26'92	24'51
1885	28'73	28'06	28'24	27'88
1886	34'50	34'39	38'94	35'43
1887	20'35	17'98	22'57	19'52
1888	31'24	29'69	33'01	31'40
1889	26'33	23'51	27'91	28'72
1890	21'00	20'19	22'53	22'14
1891	33'12	29'27	33'57	32'66
1892	22'86	20'68	22'81	24'19
1893	19'42	18'22	20'13	21'17
1894	28'75	27'41	32'63	31'33
1895	24'55	24'08	25'96	25'80
1896	19'75	18'60	21'11	19'96
1897	29'62	25'08	30'51	29'84
1898	21'57	21'16	21'42	21'26
1899	25'98	24'64	25'44	29'52
Average	533'48	504'54	567'94	549'67
	26'67	25'25	28'40	27'48

FALLS OF 1'00 INCHES OR OVER IN 24 HOURS.

		Under-down.	Orchard-leigh.	Ross.	Much Marcle.
1880	July 24 ...	... 1'12	... 1'07	... —	... —
	October 4	... 1'78	... 1'83	... 2'10	... 1'75
	" 26	... 1'19	... 1'08	... 1'27	... —
	November 16	... 1'42	... 1'34	... —	... —
1881	August 23	... —	—	... 1'42	... —
	October 22	... —	—	... 1'22	... 1'12
	December 17	... —	—	... —	... 1'08
1882	January 8	... —	—	... 1'08	... 1'08
	February 28	... 1'12	... 1'10	... 1'06	... 1'16
	July 11 ...	... 1'28	... 1'25	... 1'12	... 1'52
	October 23	... —	—	... 1'12	... —
	" 24	... 1'45	... 1'40	... 1'06	... 1'31
	November 6	... —	—	... 1'17	... 1'06
1883	June 20 ...	... 1'03	... 1'09	... 1'11	... 1'01
	September 1	... —	—	... 1'07	... —
	" 10	... 1'13	... 1'06	... —	... —
	October 15	... 1'32	... 1'58	... —	... 1'32
1884	June 28 ...	... 1'30	... 1'20	... 1'62	... 1'13
1885	June 23 ...	... 1'04	—	—	—
1886	May 12 ...	... 1'97	... 2'07	... 1'70	... 1'75
	" 13 ...	... 1'74	... 1'73	... 1'40	... 1'57
	August 9 ...	... —	—	... —	... 1'02
	December 27	... 1'60	... 1'46	... 1'25	... 1'10
1887	June 2 ...	... 1'12	... 1'16	... —	... 1'03
	" 3 ...	... 1'30	... 1'30	... —	—
	October 29	... 1'03	—	... 1'23	... 1'16
1888	November 2	... 1'38	... 1'59	—	—
	" 8	... 1'05	—	—	—
	" 12	... 1'41	... 1'49	... 1'43	... 1'52
1889	March 8	... 1'31	... 1'38	... 1'53	... 1'34
	April 8 ...	... 1'23	... 1'32	... 1'56	... 1'68
	September 24	... 1'04	—	... 1'20	—
1892	July 12 ...	... 1'18	... 1'07	—	—
	" 16 ...	... —	—	... 1'00	... 1'77
	September 20	... —	—	—	... 1'12
1894	February 17	... 1'01	—	—	—
	August 25	... —	—	—	... 1'13
	September 7	... —	—	—	... 1'05
1896	September 8	... —	—	—	... 1'02
1897	June 8	... —	—	... 1'10	... 1'25
1898	May 20	... —	—	—	... 1'03
	October 17	... —	—	... 1'02	—
1899	October 1	... —	—	... 1'04	... 1'02

		Under-down.	Orchard-leigh.	Ross.	Much Marcle.
1900	February 15	... 1'13	—	... 1'26	... —
	October 4	... 1'00	—	... 1'04	—
	December 30	... 2'48	... 2'39	... 2'70	... 3'30
1901	June 30	... 1'03	—	—	... 1'17
	July 2	... 1'09	... 1'06	—	—
	" 4	... 1'17	... 1'46	... 1'28	... 1'12

The exceptionally heavy falls are as follows. From 1880 to 1901:—

May 12 and 13, 1886	... 3'71	inches fell in 40 hours.
June 2 and 3, 1887	... 2'42	" 48 "
March 7 and 8, 1889	... 2'30	" 48 "
April 7 and 8, "	... 2'33	" 48 "
December 30, 1900	... 2'48	" 24 "

Mr. Henry Southall, of Ross, states that prior to 1880 the heaviest falls he registered were:—

August 13, 1858	... 3'84	inches fell in 24 hours.
	2'75	inches of which fell in 50 minutes.
July 14 and 15, 1875	... 3'63	inches fell in 36 hours.
Aug. 22 and 23, 1878	... 3'76	" 16 "

It will be remembered by the members of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club who attended the meeting at Pembridge, on Tuesday, May 28th, 1901 (see *Transactions*, pages 123 to 156), that our respected friend and late member, Rev. Joseph Barker, in his reference to the late Rev. Prebendary James Davies (President of the Club in 1873 and 1874), expressed the hope that the Article on "Herefordshire," written by him in the *Quarterly Review*, No. 295, for July, 1879, might be reproduced, and, if possible, be printed in the *Transactions*. The matter having been mentioned to the publishers of the *Quarterly Review* and to Mr. J. H. Davies, the son and representative of the late Prebendary Davies, permission to reprint the Article has been given.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

Reprinted (by permission) from the "The Quarterly Review," No. 295, July 1879.

1. *Collections towards the History and Antiquities of Herefordshire.* By John Duncumb, M.A. Hereford, 1804—1812. Vols. I. and II. (Vol. III by W. H. Cooke, Esq., Q.C., in the press.)
2. *Introductory Sketches towards a Topographical History of Herefordshire.* By Rev. John Lodge, B.A. Kington, 1793.
3. *MS. Collections for a History of Herefordshire.* By Thomas Blount, of Orleton. Esq. Vol. II., 1678.
4. *The Town and Borough of Leominster.* By Rev. G. Fyler Townshend. Leominster, 1862.
5. *Military Memoir of Colonel John Birch, with Historical and Critical Commentary.* By the late Rev. John Webb, M.A., F.S.A. Edited by his Son, the Rev. T. W. Webb, M.A., F.R.A.S. Printed for the Camden Society, 1873.
6. *A History of the Castles of Herefordshire.* By the Rev. C. J. Robinson, M.A. London, 1869.
7. *A History of the Mansions and Manors of Herefordshire.* By the Same. London, 1873.
8. *The Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club for 1868-73.*
9. *A Glossary of Provincial Words used in Herefordshire.* By the late Sir George Cornwall Lewis. London, 1839.
10. *Fasti Herefordenses.* By the Rev. F. T. Havergal, M.A. Edinburgh: R. Clark.
11. *Handbook for Travellers in Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, and Worcestershire.* London, 1872.

'THE County,' writes Camden, 'which we call Herefordshire, and the Britons name "Ereinuc," lies in a compass round as it were in a circle. Besides that it is right pleasant, it is for yielding of corne and feeding of cattle in all places most fruitfull, and therewith passing well furnished with all things necessary for man's life, insomuch as it would scarce to be considered seconde to any other county throughout all England for fertilite of soile; and therefore says that for three W. W. W.—wheat, wool, water—it yieldeth to no shire in England. And verily it hath also divers notable rivers, Wye, Lug, and Munow, which, after they have watered the most flowering meadows and fruitful corn-fields, at length meet together, and in one channel passe on to the Severne Sea.' And not to multiply testimonies to the same tenor, it may suffice to note Speed's averment that 'the sweet rivers of Herefordshire running as veynes in the body do make the corne-bearing grounds in some of her parts rightly to be termed the Golden Vale; while for waters, wool, and wheat, she doth contend with Nilus, Colchos, and Egypt.' The natural features of the county are indeed such as to avouch and even enhance the evidence

of poets and chroniclers. The manufacture of cider and perry has been conducted from very remote times by the orchard-growers of Herefordshire and Worcestershire; but perhaps even before her famous apple-trees rendered Herefordshire an eye-service to luxuriate in, in its May blush of blossom and September blush of fruitage, the county was rich enough in herbs, flocks, smiling corn, and well-timbered woodlands, to invite continual inroads of marauders; whilst it tended to the maintenance of a bold stock of natives, that what they held was worthy of defence and preservation.

The fertility of her soil; the feeding properties of her pastures; the richness of the water-meadows of the Wye, Teme, Lug, and Arrow sides, must have been a special temptation to the hungry Welshmen to overleap the warning dyke of Offa, and incur the penalty ordained by Harold, son of Godwin—the loss of the right hand, if caught in arms; for are not hands or arms all to a thief, whose alternative is to starve? Hence it must have been that for some centuries the sleep of the dwellers in North and West Herefordshire, by the side of the 'beehive which they had stricken down,' was unrestful and interrupted, and that in the scant chronicles of the county's early history an exceptional number of notes concern the border. And though the hill-country and predatory neighbours must have made the north and west in some respects the least inviting regions, the student of Herefordshire history will find that in no respect did this circumstance affect the quality or eminence of the leaders and champions from those localities, whose deeds and dwellings, spirit and prowess, bespeak a Silurian origin and a constant warfare with reckless borderers, whose justification was a verse of the drinking-song in Peacock's 'Misfortunes of Elphin'—

'The mountain sheep are sweeter,
But the valley sheep are fatter;
We therefore thought it meeter
To carry off the latter.'

Herefordshire, topographically viewed, is of almost circular form, and stretches from Ludford, close to Ludlow, on the north to the Dowards and Dixton on the south; whilst its range from east to west is from Cradley, under the Malvern Hills, to Clifford, near Hay, at the entrance of the Golden Valley. In length, it measures about thirty-eight miles; in breadth some thirty-five, and its cathedral city is the approximate centre of the county. For boundaries it has Salop to the north, Brecknockshire and Radnorshire to the west, Monmouthshire to the south, and Worcestershire and Gloucestershire to the east; but these, it may be remarked, varied at different periods of earlier history, as may be seen in an inquisition of the boundaries of Herefordshire, bearing the date of Henry III. and examined at the Tower in 1655, by which it appears that Skenfrith, Grosmont, and Whitecastle, all in Monmouthshire—Gladestry, Elvel, and it would seem some place beyond Radnor, in Radnorshire—were at that period reckoned within the limits of Herefordshire. It is no idle vaunt which claims for this county a pre-eminence in arms, and in men to wield them, as well as in fertility of soil. Of its

earliest dwellers we have indeed less than ordinary vestiges, the almost sole prehistoric memorial of the county being the large and curious British cromlech which crowns the height of Meerbatch or Arthurstone Hill, between Bredwardine and the secluded Golden Valley, and is traditionally known as King Arthur's Table. The dimensions of this doubtless sepulchral pile of 'some great king without a name' bear witness to the thews and sinews of the followers who transported its giant materials to such a specular height; the capstone, now broken in the middle, being an elliptical mass 18 feet in length, 9 in breadth, and 2 in thickness, while of its original eleven supporters some lie scattered about, and one larger than its fellows is embedded in the hedge hard by. Though so exceptional in this county, a cromlech could not be in a likelier site, and, as we shall see later, its locality is invested with an historic interest, which has helped to keep it in men's minds. But not to speculate on this prehistoric vestige, and its date, enveloped in mystery, our first historic notices of Herefordshire antedate the inroads of the Welsh, and connect the county and its border-land with the struggles of the Briton against the Roman invaders.

To speak generally, the Silures stretched from South Wales into Gloucestershire, and at the period (A.D. 50) when in the reign of Claudius, Ostorius Scapula succeeded Aulus Plautius as general in Britain, they were strong in the leadership of Caractacus,* and in their connection with the Trinobantes of the south and centre of Britain both by kinship and common sovereignty. According to Tacitus, Caractacus had led his tribesmen through Herefordshire and the valley of the Wye, and laid waste the lands of the Roman settlers across the Severn and the Wiltshire Avon, when the Roman General gathered his contingents in the Cotswolds, and, crossing the Severn, pressed the Silures first to their outer defences on the Malvern Hills, and then, when driven from these with great loss of men and spirit, they fell back upon the camps, probably of Whitborne and Thornbury, both to the west of the Teme in the Bromyard district; and thence, it is fairly conjectured, on the West Herefordshire camps of Croft Ambrey and Wapley. Of the first of these, Whitborne, there is rather the 'constans opinio' than the positive evidence of a British camp, in the same line as Thornbury; and Silas Taylor speaks also of a Roman entrenchment. Scant vestiges of either have survived the lapse of ages, but on a high camp-like site on Poswick Farm, in the demesne of Whitborne Hall, is an orchard designated the 'Camp orchard,' with steep sides and a general aspect betokening defensive occupation. Upon this eminence Roman and British coins have been dug up within a generation; and there are symptoms, within a few hundred yards, of the Roman occupation, which, as every archaeologist knows, unerringly follows a British camp.

Thornbury, the second camp in this line, is a position of more undeniable purpose and distinctness. Situate on a hill reached from the

* Caractacus was the son of Cunobelin, king of the Trinobantes. For Tacitus's account of the campaigns of Ostorius and Caractacus's last battle, see 'Annals', book xii. 32-33, *seq.*

Leominster and Bromyard turnpike road by a bridle road, or by a short cut from the secluded but picturesque village of the same name, and approachable also from the banks of the Teme on the north through the wooded slopes of Netherwood, the British encampment of Thornbury encloses from twenty to thirty acres in a quasi-oval area of flat table land within a rampart for the most part single, and in some parts, as to the south and south-east, not less than forty feet high. The sides referred to are now planted with firs and larch. There are tokens of entrances on the south-west and north-east, and the tradition, though not the visible presence to modern eyes, of a copious spring to the west. It is impossible not to recognise in this camp a grander defensive position than either Bredenbury, in the same neighbourhood, Ivington near Leominster, or even Whitborne, which is some eight or nine miles distant to the east of Bromyard. Croft Ambrey may be described as crowning the heights above the ancient and ancestral demesne of Croft, for above seven centuries the residence of a family claiming Saxon origin. And yet before they were, a resolute and patriotic British chief had influenced his devoted Silures to raise for purposes of resistance the trenches, now encroached upon by magnificent ash and beeches, of a camp, which, preserving traces of its double ditch and rampart, and possessing an outlook over thirteen counties, was, with Wapley, one of the latest rallying-points of Caractacus's retreat. In Epping Forest* an early earthwork still bears the name of Ambresbury, as if both claimed to be the burial-place of the same British hero.

Croft Ambrey is some four miles to the north of Leominster; and three or four miles to the west, divided from it by the vale of Aymestrey and the slopes of Shobdon Court and Park, lies Wapley Hill, the site of one of the finest Herefordshire camps, of British type, and, according to a constant tradition, a stronghold of Caractacus. Its entrance appears to have been to the south, and not, like that of Croft Ambrey, to the north-west, and its form of entrenchment is nearly triangular, the parts facing south-east and west (just at the vertex of the triangle) being protected by a five-fold ditch; while to the north a single rampart surmounts the sharp sheer steep which frowns on the valley of Presteign beneath it. Within the enclosure at Wapley the land is mostly flat, and in the south of it is a perennial spring, almost without a parallel in Herefordshire camps of British type. It may or may not have been a permanent fortress, with the usual British huts within its barrier. More probably it was a place of resort and defence in case of sudden attack. From a map and measurements made in 1873 for the Woolhope Club, the camp is found to be 572 yards long by 330 yards at its broadest. The northern declivity is covered with woods, and at its base flows a tiny tributary of the Lug, without the faintest pretensions to be described as an 'annis vado incerto.' The gate out of which, in confused array, the Silures quitted Croft Ambrey, is just where it might

* See Thorne's 'Handbook of the Environs of London,' vol. i., p. 11, *a.*

be looked for, if the next point to make for was Wapley : and may be that, when Caractacus had to retreat precipitately from Wapley, he divided his force into two bands, one to proceed Knightonwards, in due course to a rendezvous by the valley of Teme, the other to find its destination more circuitously by the stream of the Lug. Within eyeshot almost of Wapley, are traces of British defensive works of more or less consequence ; Tomen Castle, Castle Ring near Discoed, Burva Bank, and others. And where, as we have already remarked, British camps can be traced, Roman camps never fail to mark the surrounding topography.

At each, no doubt, a gallant stand was made against the concentrated Roman warfare ; but the 'summa dies et ineluctabile fatum' was, we are persuaded, deferred with wonderful pertinacity until the site of the final arbitrament was selected somewhere on the heights that overlook the Severn, and not improbably, as Hartshorne has suggested, on the Breidden Hills, at the north-west base of which that river rolls. No other site which we have explored could have shown the 'amnis vado incerto,' the shifting ford, or occasionally difficult fording, of Tacitus's description ; no other site the unbroken retreat to still higher hills which assisted, according to the Roman historian, the Silurian fugitives. But the Breidden Hills are beyond our present boundary. Not so the country around Leintwardine in North Herefordshire, the nurse of a 'genus acre virum' laying claim to the possession, not only of warlike mettle, but also of rich and thriving tillage. A glance at its topography, illustrated by traditionary history, would prove that the ancient spirit of its natives outlived the memory of Silurian struggles, and re-enacted gallant fights and defences in later conflicts and epochs. It is certain that the Romans penetrated so far, no less from the traces of their roads than from such names of villages as Walford, on the Teme, betokening their footprints.

After the final surrender of Caractacus, there is little or no record of further resistance to the Roman invader in those parts of Britain with which our subject is concerned. The subjugation of the country was completed by Agricola, and the policy of the conquerors taught civilization, agriculture, commerce, and mining operations, instead of arms and ferocity, to the generally disarmed natives ; and marks of this are extant on the Gloucestershire border of Herefordshire, in the Roman iron district of the Forest of Dean. In various localities around Goodrich, Whitchurch, Ross, and the Dowards, are traces of ancient Roman iron mines, confirmed by the evidence of immense quantities of iron scoriae or 'cinders,' amidst which Roman coins and pottery have been frequently picked up. To these industries was doubtless due the building of the traditional Roman city of Ariconium, long confused with another Roman station at Magna or Kenchester, but now admitted to have stood about three miles from Ross, near Weston-under-Penyard, on the left of the road from Ross to Gloucester, and not far from the old mansion of Bollitree. The site of this Roman town, though at a

slight elevation, commands a splendid view eastward over the plains of Gloucestershire and Herefordshire, from north to south, as well as the Hill of Penyard and Dean Forest to the west ; and though there is no continuous tradition of many Roman relics, there is one of a 'beaten down Roman city,' and of Roman forges and smelting-furnaces, the ashes and cinders of which are still found in quantities just under the surface. As in the Roman Itineraries the chief road northward along the border began with (Glevum) Gloucester, and coming first to (Ariconium) Weston, went thence to Blestium (Monmouth), and so by Usk and Abergavenny to Herefordshire, Kenchester, and due north to Shrewsbury, so it is probable there was a direct and shorter 'cut,' from Weston to Kenchester under Caplar Hill, and by Fownhope and Mordiford.

'Magna' is perhaps the more notable evidence of the later Roman occupation. Situate some five miles north-west of Hereford, and overlooked by the double-ditched entrenchment and grand outlook (715 feet high) of the British camp of Credenhill, as well as flanked to the west by the classic plantations of Foxley—Kenchester, the Roman Magna, extorts a notice of its still traceable five-sided camp of thirty or forty acres, raised somewhat above the level of the surrounding valley, and having two entrances on the west, and as many on the north. It lies on the great Roman road from Caerleon, through Abergavenny, to Wroxeter or Uriconium, near the Wrekin, which it resembles in form, if not extent. Though not so dug about as Wroxeter, Corinium, or Silchester, still there have been found here, within or adjacent to the boundaries of this station, coins, pottery, herring-bone work cemented with mortar, leaden pipes, portions of a tessellated pavement and a hypocaust, personal ornaments of Roman wear, and, as at Lydney, in Gloucestershire, a Roman oculist's stamp. Another remaining feature in Leland's time was a mass of brickwork, niched or arched, presenting the semblance of a chair, which 'the foolish people calle the King of feyres chayre.' This was mischievously undermined and destroyed in consequence of a wager some sixty years ago.* Many of the relics found were given by the owner of the estate, Mr. Hardwick, to Dean Mereweather, and some are still in the hands of Mr. Hardwick's family.†

Such then, with the Roman roads which they consolidated and

* See Brayley and Britton's 'Beauties of England and Wales,' vol. vi. pp. 584-5. It is of the remains of Magna, near Bishopstone, that Wordsworth, a frequent visitor with Southey at Brinsop Court, near Credenhill, wrote

'Fresh and clear,
As if its hues were of the passing year,
Dawns this time-buried pavement. From that mound
Hoards may have come of Trajans, Maximus,
Shrunk into coins with all their warlike toil:
Or a fierce impress issues with its foil
Of tenderness : the wolf whose sucking twins
The unlettered ploughboy pities when he wins
The casual treasures from the furrowed soil.'

Much information about Magna and Ariconium may be derived from a pleasant little book of a quarter of a century ago. 'Wanderings of an Antiquary,' by the late Thomas Wright, M.A., chapters i. ii. J. B. Nichols and Sons, London, 1853.

† Many Roman coins, and a few other articles found at Kenchester, are preserved in the Hereford Museum, having been presented by Mr. Charles Hardwick and others. (H.C.M.)

trod, are the chief footprints of the first conquerors of the border-land, now known as Herefordshire. To them, when finally withdrawn early in the fifth century, succeeded in Britain, by the invitation of rulers such as Vortigern, the Saxons—called in at once against domestic and foreign foes. But of any distinct effects of this new rule upon a district so far inland there is scant evidence, at any rate until the later years of the Saxon Heptarchy, although it is probably to the sixth century that we must refer the connection with Herefordshire of the famous Dubricius, archbishop of Caerleon, perhaps as a native. Around Hentland and Llanfrother, between Hereford and Ross, and in the neighbourhood of the Wye, linger very ancient memories of this Saint and Bishop, to whom the ‘old church’ (Henllan) was dedicated, where he is said to have founded a college to unteach the Pelagian heresy. A little later he is found higher up the Wye at Mochros, supposed to be the present Moccas. But it is his early career only that affects the ‘origines’ of Herefordshire, and in particular the district of Erchenefield, where two churches are dedicated to him. A Bishop’s See was established at Hereford in 676. It was more than a century later that the county, which had been for one or two generations an independent kingdom, under the brothers of Ethelred of Mercia, was re-united with that sovereignty under the masterful sway of Offa, the vigorous repressor of the Welsh, and, what even more closely concerns the history of Saxon Herefordshire, the slayer and supplanter of Ethelbert of East Anglia.

Looking across the Lug from Dinmore Hill, which is justly described by Leland ‘as a specula to see all the country about,’ southward towards Hereford, over parishes rich in pastures, corn-lands, and orchards unsurpassed in this agricultural and fruit-bearing county, the eye must rest upon successive traditional souvenirs of Ethelbert’s murder in the village of Marden, memorable as the burial-place of Ethelbert, and the adjoining encampment of Sutton Walls. Of Marden Church, of Early English architecture, with square tower and spire, it need hardly be said that it cannot pretend to other than legendary association with the church which it was part of Offa’s penance for the murder of Ethelbert to build, where his body first found burial, a mile and a half from Sutton. A well, however, at the west end of the nave, defended by circular stonework and ten inches in diameter, encloses, below the pavement, a spring still known as St. Ethelbert’s, and said to have sprung up miraculously, where he was first interred. Opposite to this well is a niche in the west wall of the nave, said to have been designed for an effigy of the saint. Of Sutton Walls, a mile or so nearer Hereford, there is a probability that they represent the site of a British, and even afterwards a Roman camp, though the enclosure of thirty acres within an entrenchment, all table-land save one marked depression vulgarly called the “King’s Kitchen,” is now so overgrown with trees and brushwood at the bases, where alone it can be properly studied, that one would be loth to avouch the four entrances of a Roman camp. Far more certain are the tokens of a Saxon mound, at the end of the walls next Marden, and overlooking

the road to Hereford; and hereabouts, in the town to the south of the Roman camp, was the palace of Offa at Sutton, where Ethelbert was murdered, and by his death contributed to the rise of Hereford Cathedral. The tale is told by chroniclers with divers variations touching the manner and the perpetrator of the murder; but as Offa overran and annexed the kingdom of Ethelbert shortly after it, little heed need be given to those who saddle the sin on his queen Quendreda. Offa’s penance seems to acknowledge his personal guilt, which was purged by the translation of the saint’s remains to Hereford, where a minster was dedicated to him, and enriched by the offerings of Offa and his successor, the Peter’s pence of their subjects, and the gifts of pilgrims to the martyr’s shrine. The history of Marden as well as of Sutton in later times is neither inconspicuous nor unprofitable, as may be gathered from the ancient families connected with them; but the chief interest of both centres in Ethelbert and Offa, whose dyke passes six miles off to the west; and a charter of his successor in 799 mentions Hereford Cathedral. Sutton continued a Mercian palace till the union of the seven kingdoms in 827.

Of the famous dyke, called by the Welsh ‘Clawdd Offa,’ it will suffice to say that it stretched, as a line of demarcation not to be transgressed on penalty of mutilation, from near Chepstow on the Severn estuary, to Basingwerk on that of the Dee,—a military border drawn from the mouth of the Wye to the coast of Flintshire. Offa of Mercia died in A.D. 794, but traces of this, his work, survive in various parts of the county of Hereford, as at Moorhampton, beyond Credenhill; near Lyonshall, further to the north west; at Herrock, beyond Kington; and at Evancoed and elsewhere, in the adjoining county of Radnor. To the assumption that it offered an impassable barrier to the irrepressible Welshman, history gives a persistent negative, seeing that as late as 1055 and in the reign of Edward the Confessor, Ælfgar, the son of Leofric and Earl of the East Angles, being banished by the King, and having placed himself at the head of a force of Irish Danes, allied himself with Gruffydd, king of South Wales, and with him and his Welshmen entered the southern side of the county, and the district known as Archenfield; harried it with fire and sword; and, after defeating the royal forces in the field, some two miles from Hereford, through the cowardice or misjudgment of their commander, Ralph the Earl, penetrated to Hereford, burnt the city and minster, and slew seven of its canons at the very gates of the sanctuary. The aged prelate who had rebuilt the minster thus destroyed, Bishop Æthelstan, was non-resident, owing to blindness; but his *locum tenens*, a Welsh Bishop, by name Tremerin, succumbed within the twelve month to this terrible blow. The more militant priest, who was called to fill the see, Leofgar, a chaplain of the famous Earl Harold sped little the better for girding himself with carnal weapons, and fell in battle against the Welsh the next year, along with Elfneth, the shirreeve, and many good men.*

* See Freeman’s ‘Norman’s Conquest,’ vol. ii., pp. 385-95.

So much for the insecurity of the peace of this shire, arising at this period from the constant inroads of the Welsh, which made more than one prelate fain to prefer his summer palace at Bosbury (near Ledbury) to his more danger-fraught metropolis. The result of this Welsh inroad was the appointment of Earl Harold to the defence of the county and city and the chastisement of the rebels; and whether one of his immediate works was, or was not, to fortify the city with masonry and to rebuild the castle in a more solid fashion than a mound and dyke, there is reason for supposing that he did so at a later date. Mr. Freeman inclines to the conjecture that the fort or citadel of Hereford, destroyed in the general wreck by Gruffydd, was a Norman castle, such as had already its type in the stronghold of Earl Ralph's comrade in arms, at Richard's Castle, especially as it does not figure among the mounds, burgs, and kindred fortresses, which were raised in the Saxon or English period by Edward the Elder and his sister Æthelflæd. Of these there are numerous examples in Herefordshire, as might have been expected from its exposure to Danes and Welshmen. Such was probably the primitive appearance of the subsequent Norman castle of Wigmore, above the church and town of that name, and possessing an outlook in keeping with its importance in Herefordshire history. Here, on the eastern verge of a ravine, severing the east of the ridge from the higher and broader ground westward, stands the typical conical mound, 30 feet high above its rocky base, but as much as 100 feet from the bottom of the ravine, thrown up, like those at Kilpeck, Ewyas Harold and elsewhere, in the eighth century, by the Saxon or English colony against the Welsh. To the east of this, and 40 feet lower, is a roughly oval area (100 feet by 50 feet) encircled by a bank of earth, and surrounded by a ditch, which also included the mound. This, according to Mr. G. T. Clark, the eminent exponent of English castle-building, was King Edward's work, which held out so gallantly against the Danes. On its top stood the Norman keep. The mound and its appended oval stood within and on the verge of a larger area, including the slopes, extending nearly to the base of the hill, to the south and south-east, and protecting the citadel on those sides; whilst to the north and west such a second defence was needless, though this outer area, covered by a ditch from the south side of the mound, was by the Normans enclosed with a wall. For details, however, it must suffice to refer to the clear descriptions of Mr. Clark,* who considers that a Norman lord, at the end of the eleventh or early in the twelfth century, first superseded the timber palisades of the English mound by a polygonal keep, and the curtain walls of the inner ward. Judging from a survey which, though it stopped short of excavation, is by no means superficial, he holds that much of the extant masonry of Wigmore Castle, with the exception of the Norman tower and wall, is of Decorated date, it was for the most part built originally on the Norman outlines.

* 'Archæologia Cambrensis,' vol. v. ser. iv. p. p. 105-9.

Ewyas Harold, in the south-west of the county and not far from the south end of the Dore valley, retains in its name the token of Anglo-Saxon founders, and in its castle, so called, an utter dearth of stone fortifications, but a very pronounced conical mound, with the easily traceable outer and inner moats. Two or three miles to the east of Ewyas, and on the line of railway from Abergavenny to Hereford, one point of interest in the Norman Kilpeck is that its castle, as Mr. Clark determines, must have been originally an English moated mound, of flat top, conical shape, and with underlying base courts, one of which may possibly have been earlier still a British camp. When surmounted with other defences than earthworks, a stockade of wood, like a New Zealand pah, and such as is figured in the Bayeux Tapestry, was the form of this old English and by no means un-Norman fastness; Teutonic, not Celtic, in its type. In Norman days it must have received its stone fortifications, and also the lords, who took their name from the castle.

It were an easy task to multiply examples of the like English mounds, that have outlived the castles which were the special badge of the Conquest: but we must pass on to the contemplation of Norman Herefordshire, after Harold, son of Godwin, the fortifier of Hereford and the repressor of the Welsh, had met his Conqueror at the battle of Hastings. A speedy and wholesale deprivation of the Saxon holders of estates and fiefs, and the transference of broad lands and lordships to William's followers, would be inferred (even were history silent) from such distinctive names of Normans, as Mortimer, Lacy, Devereux, Carbonel, appended to Saxon parishes. But history is not wholly silent. It may be read, as relates to Herefordshire, partly in Domesday, which—though it mentions no Royal castles in Herefordshire, and omits the earliest and in some sense the most historically important of Norman castles in England, that of Richard son of Scrob at Richard's Castle—attributes Clifford, Wigmore, and Ewyas to Earl William FitzOsborne and those to whom his lands passed, after his death in Flanders in 1071: partly in the castles and churches of Norman architecture in the county: and partly in the annals of Norman families written in the roll of Herefordshire worthies, between the Conquest and the end of the Wars of the Roses. Other traces of the Norman Period, and the state of order and government under William the Conqueror and his successors, may be found in the remains and tradition of four Royal forests—Aconbury, Deerfold, Ewyas, and Haywood—of which the fourth lies to the south of Hereford, the third near the Golden Valley, while the second stretches to the west of Wigmore, and lay conveniently for so staunch a stronghold of the 'stark king who loved the high deer so sooth, as though he were their father' (Freeman, 'Norman Conquest,' vol. iv. 610). Deerfold indeed is still a forest in name, though within the last two centuries it has lost its wild nature. Its 2,500 acres consist chiefly of high ground; a valley sloping to the south-east. Its highest land to the north, with a steep descent to the plain, looks out over six counties, and has the remains of a circular camp and ditch. Though now mostly under culti-

vation, it retains traces of its forest character in straggling woodlands and belts of larch and fir, in marks of charcoal burning, and relics of a rough type of local pottery, such as are found also under Meerbatch, which overlooks the Wye and the Golder Valley.

Its narrow valleys and forest glens must have been of old as well adapted for hunting, as its marshy pools and streamlets about Haven for hawking and herons. Moreover, when we record that it lies to the north of the river Lug and of the village of Aymestrey, we are reminded that in the latter was preserved till the present century the custom, found in force at Presteign and Bromyard, of a Night Bell or Curfew Bell—an institution of King Alfred's, carried out with improved vigilance, and in the sense of a blessing not a curse, by William I. and his successors.

Of FitzOsborne's castles, however, the first named, Clifford, overlooks a bend of the Wye as it approaches the town of Hay; and is interesting in its own remains, as well as for its neighbourhood to the semi-Norman stronghold of Snodhill, and the English mound of Dorston in the Golden Valley. Built by William Fitz-Osborne, it was granted in 1078 to Ralph de Todeni, whose daughter Margaret carried it in dower to the grandsire of Fair Rosamond. Her brother, Walter de Clifford, and his descendants, the Clifffords and Giffords, were prominent characters in border warfare; and that the castle was strong and capacious, is seen from its remains to the north and east, and the distance of the outerward from the mound, which was the nucleus of the building.

Ewyas, the second of the Domesday castles, has already been named as retaining only its English mound; and the chief Norman interest in the locality is, that tradition and probability agree in ascribing the building of the Abbey of Dore, as well as Ewyas Church, to Robert de Ewyas, son of Harold the son of Ralph, whom the Conqueror displaced from the earldom of Hereford to make room for Fitz-Osborne. After the pacification of the border, the castle ceased to have a history, but the church of Ewyas Harold has still its Early English fabric, with its massive two-staged tower and the bowl of an ancient font. Within a mile and a half, at the southern extremity of the Dore Valley, is however a more pure relic of Norman days; Abbey Dore, to wit, the only church of a Cistercian convent in England still remaining in use. The style of the whole is a beautiful type of Early English, the foliage still assimilating to Norman. The most characteristic part of the church is on the east side of the choir, where an ambulatory is carried transversely across the whole of that part of the building. Of the nave one arch only remains, which is very fine; but the double aisle to the east of the choir, divided by four clustered columns, lighted by lancet-windows, and still vaulted, is the gem of the extant church. If the excavation begun two years ago is carried out, the discovery of fuller remnants of the conventional buildings will avouch the treasure-trove of a veritable Herefordshire Cistercian abbey, which albeit within narrower bounds asserts a solemn charm, not unlike to that of beautiful Tintern in the broader and more picturesque valley of the Wye.

Of Wigmore, too, where, as at Ewyas, the taste for castle-building was coincident with that for ecclesiastical architecture, the history from the Conquest for several centuries forward is that of a high-vaulting Norman family. It is expressly stated in Domesday, 'Radulphus de Mortimer tenet castellum de Wigemore'; and he, it would seem, after Fitz-Osborne's death at least, was the Conqueror's principal lieutenant in Herefordshire. The deeds of his descendants extend over a tolerably long page of history. One of them, Hugh de Mortimer, held Wigmore and other castles for King John, who is recorded to have visited Leominster from Wigmore, and to have confirmed its charter. In the Barons' wars, Roger, the sixth lord, was the planner, in concert with the Lord of Croft, of the escape of Prince Edward, the king's eldest son, who had been captured with his sire at the battle of Lewes, from the durance of Peter de Montfort, a son of Simon,* at Hereford Castle, May 28, 1265. More than one graphic version survives of the Prince's use of his licence to take horse-exercise, under escort, in the Widemarsh, a mile to the north of Hereford. He husbanded his own horse, while inciting his keepers to tax the mettle of theirs, until at a given signal, the appearance of a horseman on a white steed waving his bonnet from a neighbouring height, he gave his guards the slip, and rode at full speed to Dinmore Hill, and thence, with a relay of horses, to Wigmore. For this service Roger was given special privileges and honours on Edward's accession. At the decisive battle of Evesham, where in 1265 the power of the Barons was crushed and Simon de Montfort and one of his sons slain, this Roger held a divisional command, and was rewarded with the forfeited earldom of Oxford. Another Roger, his grandson, soared highest, though with the arrogance that foreruns a fall; and after his return from his flight to France, acquired many manors in England, Wales, and Ireland, through his intimacy with Isabella, the faithless wife of Edward II., 'the she-wolf of France.' He was made Earl of March in 1328, but in 1330 was seized at Nottingham, attainted, and hanged. It was he, presumably, who rebuilt Wigmore Castle in the Decorated style. His body, after remaining some days on the gibbet, was eventually carried to Wigmore for interment. His honours were revived in his grandson, another Roger, on the ground that the trial had been informal; and this Roger's son, Edmund, marrying Philippa, heiress of Lionel, Duke of Clarence, and granddaughter to Edward III., their son was declared by Parliament heir-presumptive to the Crown, failing issue of Richard II. He was slain, whilst Deputy for Ireland, in 1398; and his heir, Edmund, fifth and last Earl of March, in the male line, after a youth beset by conspiracies, became Lieutenant of Ireland, and died at the age of twenty-four, in 1425. When Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, succeeded, in the female line, to the Mortimers' inheritance, he made Wigmore little more than a place to retire upon after unsuccessful demonstrations. Victorious at St. Albans, he was

* Cf. A. Collins's 'Peerage of England,' ii. 41. See also Mr. Cooke's continuation of Duncumb, vol. ii. 380-1.

slain in 1460 in a sally from Sandal Castle, near Wakefield ; but his son, the young Duke, so soon to be Edward IV., avenged him in the following year at the battle of Mortimer's Cross. Strong in family alliances and in men's hearts, in talent, youth, and daring, young Edward lost no time in raising an army to march against Queen Margaret, and, when he had reached Shrewsbury for that purpose, he received tidings that Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke, half brother to Henry VI., and James Butler, Earl of Wiltshire, had raised a large army of Welsh and Irish to attack him. He hurried back to give them battle in Herefordshire, and on Candlemas Day, 1461, the armies met in the parish of Kingsland, between Wigmore and Leominster, near a junction of cross-roads, where doubtless, after the pious custom of early days, a cross had been erected by the dominant Mortimer. No village, nought but a wayside inn, remains to attest the name, about a mile and a quarter nearer Wigmore than the battle-field, and 'five miles north-west by west from Leominster,' as a stone pedestal *in situ* apprises the traveller. History and historic drama delight to tell of the prodigy which conspired with the favourite of fortune ; how on the two armies joining battle there was an appearance as of three suns at the same time in the firmament suddenly coalescing into one, by a rare natural phenomenon.* Edward had the tact to inspire his soldiers with the omen, and to husband its prestige, after victory, by the adoption of the badge suggested by it. In the battle-field, a natural one for a foe largely composed of Welsh levies, and not unreasonably reverted to by the Earl of March for the protection of his Wigmore lands, there is a noticeable ascent of road from Mortimer's Cross to the site marked by the pedestal, giving the Yorkists an advantage of ground. They faced westwards, while the Lancastrians fronted east. The battle, the last great one of the county, lasted from sunrise to sunset. The issue was, we know, complete defeat to the Lancastrians. The Earls of Pembroke and Wiltshire fled from the field, the former to live years of exile, and nurse the promise of a Tudor throne for his young nephew, the future Henry VII. Sir Owen Tudor, his sire, was taken prisoner, beheaded, and buried at Hereford in the chapel of Grey Friars Church, with Sir John Scudamore and other gentlemen of consideration ; whilst Edward, the Victor, pushed on to a junction with Warwick at Chipping Norton, and by the 3rd of March had established himself in London and on the throne. Bridle-bits, spear-heads, buckles, and sword-blades have at times been turned up at and near Kingsland ; but not, so far as we know, any of those customary weapons of the Marchers and border district—'the brown bills' with which, according to Drayton, the Yorkists 'mauled the Welshmen.'

* 'Three glorious suns, each one a perfect sun,
Not separated by the racking clouds,
But severed in a pale clear shining sky :
See, see ; they join, embrace, and seem to kiss,
As if they vowed a league inviolable.
Now are they but one lamp, one light, one sun.'

Henry VI., Part III., act i. sc. 1.

In reference to Edward's omen of the Three Suns, this may be a fitting place to cap it with another, from which a quarter of a century later Harry of Richmond found a telling answer to a question of topography and local prophecy. After traversing the vales of Pembridge and Eardisland, *en route* for Leominster and Bosworth, he had crossed the Herefordshire Arrow at its confluence with the Lug. Being told the river's name, and that an old prophecy promised victory, in a national strife, to him 'who should shoot the Arrow first,' Harry Tudor's rede was, that he had shot the Arrow * when he crossed the stream.

But to return to the survey of extant souvenirs of the companions of the Conqueror in Herefordshire—a survey which might be helped abundantly by a search such as Mr. Planché recommends into the families of the wives of these Norman nobles—there are traces of Norman possession both in the immediate neighbourhood of Wigmore and in other parts of the county. At the south entrance to the quaintly picturesque but dead-alive old town of Weobley is the moated mound whereon stood as late as Leland's day (1540) the ruins of a castle built by Roger de Lacy, son of Walter, a companion of William, and a comrade of FitzOsborne in the repression of the Welsh in 1069. His sons, Roger and Hugh, the founder of Llanthony Abbey, obtained rich lordships in Herefordshire and Gloucestershire, and it appears that Weobley Castle was held by the De Lacs and their connections during the reigns of Stephen and John, and passed by marriage through the Verdons to the Merburys and Devereuxes, and eventually in later days to the Thynnes. In the Domesday Survey, Lyonshall or Lenehalle, a village with the ruins of a Norman castle two miles south-east of Kington, was part of the possessions of Roger de Lacy, and passed by marriage (or otherwise) to a branch of the Norman house of Devereux or D'Ebroicis, the founder of which was another of the Conqueror's followers. So it was with other Herefordshire castles, as Huntington, Goodrich, Eccleswall, &c. ; which seem to have been first granted as rewards to faithful Norman followers, and by them to have passed for service done, or in marriage portion, to the De Bohuns, Talbots, and such-like noble and historic families. Three neighbouring North Herefordshire families, however, in the same district and with estates more or less bounded by the same river, may serve as typical examples of the ascendancy of the original Norman families, and of those perhaps earlier owners of the soil, who intermarried with them.

Originally perhaps a Silurian and afterwards a Saxon stronghold and right opposite Coxwall Knoll, across Buckton Bridge, Brampton Bryan Castle, with much of the surrounding lands and manors, was granted by the Conqueror to Ralph de Mortimer, and is so set down in Domesday ; but it passed into the family of Brampton as early as Henry I.'s reign, when Bernard Unspec of Kinlet took the designation of 'de Brampton.' His grandson Brian, in 1179, joined Sir Hugh de Mortimer in establishing Wigmore Abbey, the endowment of which his

* 'Arrow' is derived from Aarwy ; Brit. 'overflowing.'

son augmented with the advowson of Kinlet. After four generations, castle and manor passed by the marriage of a co-heiress into the Harley family, in the person of Robert de Harley, it being then described as "a tower with curtilage, garden, and vivary." Brian, Sir Robert's second son, a gallant soldier, destined by the Black Prince for the Knighthood of the Garter, became entitled to his mother's Herefordshire property, and in all likelihood built the castle, as his son and heir, Brian, an equally distinguished soldier, is named as of it; and the Decorated style of the most ancient part of the ruins, with the ball-flower of the Edwardian period above archway and windows, confirms this impression. Its site bespeaks the early design, like other neighbouring castles, of protection of the border against the Welsh; and from the building of Brian's castle till its fall, in 1644, Brampton was the chief seat of the Harleys, who in the Wars of the Roses clove through ties of blood and friendship to the Yorkist banner. The mention of its fall recalls the heroism of a mother of the house in a more advanced period, when it had exchanged tenets and principles, which justified harbouring Jesuits, for the straitest sect of the Puritans.*

In the war between Charles I. and his Parliament, Sir Robert Harley's espousal of the side of the Roundheads drew upon the castle the hostile forces of the Cavaliers, and its first siege in 1643 tested the gallantry and endurance of Brilliana, Lady Harley, in electing 'to stand it out, by God's help,' though her lord was absent on his parliamentary duties. Despite isolation and intimidations plied against her for a full year before the blow fell, the task of fortifying a castle which had assumed the form of a mansion in the piping times of peace, and the tedium of drilling and disciplining a small but spirited garrison by the help of a veteran sergeant and the family physician, she did not faint or fail when the siege commenced in July, 1643, with, first, Sir W. Vavassor, and then Colonel Lingen, a zealous Herefordshire Royalist, to conduct the assault. Though they burnt church and town, the castle sustained no serious hurt, and its garrison few casualties, in a siege of two months, at the end of which the Royal disaster at Gloucester drew off the assailants of this 'animi matrona virilis.' In broken health, but unfaltering spirit, she wrote in October to her son of rumours as to a fresh assault, and her hope of repelling it like the last. But she died on the day following, and the castle had rest till the next spring, when to Sir Michael Woodhouse, fresh from the capture of Hopton Castle, the now dispirited little garrison surrendered at discretion after three weeks' siege. 'There were taken 67 men, 100 arms, 2 barrels of powder, and a year's provisions.' Three of the younger children of Sir Robert were among the number. Their heroic mother was the second daughter of Sir Edward, afterwards Baron Conway, of Ragley and Conway, born when her sire was Lieutenant-Governor of the Brill: and her Holland breeding may

* John Harley, grandsire of Sir Robert, was a zealous Romanist, and is said to have harboured Parsons and Champion in Brampton Bryan Castle. See 'Introd. to Lady B. Harley's Letters,' p. xvi. Camden Society Publications.

account for her puritanic tone and universal familiarity with the Scriptures. Her name amongst Herefordshire heroines may explain why to Camden's 'three w's'—'water, wool, and wheat'—an Anglo-Latin elegiac chronicler adds *woman* as well as *wood*.* Her son, to whom chiefly are addressed the letters published by the Camden Society, became a convert to limited monarchy, and a consistent but tolerant Churchman.

The mention of Brilliana Harley has obliged us to digress; but it will be the more easily forgiven, as the mention of a neighbouring Norman family, the Lingens, involves an earlier and more romantic instance of womanly heroism. In the midst of Deerfold Forest, where, according to Blount's MSS., the Priory of Lynebrook owed its foundation to the Lingens rather than the Mortimers, about a mile to the north of the ruins of that priory, lies the village of Lingen, with what remains of its old castle, a deep moat, and a steep mound south of it. Of little pretensions ever to the rank of a stronghold, and now only a 'sleepy hollow,' Lingen, in the reign of Richard I., gave its name to a gallant house. In the fortieth year of Henry III., Sir John de Lingen had a grant of free warren in Lingen for himself and his heirs; in the thirty-fourth of Edward I. he or his son was knighted, at a great solemnity, before an expedition against the Scots. It was this Sir John's daughter Constantia, whose marriage in 1253 to Grimbald, son and heir of Sir Richard Pauncefort, suggests an example of wisely devotion quotable beside that of Brilliana Harley. In Blount's MS. collections the agreement is quoted, by which Constantia receives to her dower 630 marks, 12 beeves, 100 sheep, and the manor of Great Cowarne, the whole amounting to a portion befitting powerful and wealthy families. The Pauncefortes had acquired Cowarne from the Wigmore family, with which the Lingens were already connected by marriage. Tradition cherishes the belief that Grimbald, having been captured by the Moors, could only obtain his freedom by the production, as ransom, of a joint of his wife, the fame of whose beauty was doubtless as widespread as that of her lord's valour. The lady made no demur to these exorbitant terms, but cutting off her left arm above the wrist, conveyed it to her husband, and thus effected his release. History is apt to be *exigeant* as to the evidence for such sensational annals; but it should be some confirmation that in the parish church of Much Cowarne, in the east end of the south aisle, there was, in Silas Taylor's day, an altar-tomb with the effigies of Grimbald and Constantia. Grimbald was cross-legged and habited after Norman fashion, while the lady, whose name Constantia was legible, exhibited her left arm *coupled* above the wrist, in memory of her heroic conduct. Silas Taylor notes precisely 'that the woman's arm is somewhat elevated, as if to attract notice, and the hand and wrist, cut off, are carved close to his left side, with his right hand on his armour.'†

* Unda, et silva frequens, femina, lana, seges.

† The gist of the pretty tradition of the Knight's Ransom is the basis of a romantic story, by Mrs. Valentine, in 'Warne's Family Novels.' London: F. Warne and Co., 1870. It is commemorated also in blank verse, with other data of the church and parish, by the scholarly incumbent of Much Cowarne, the Rev. J. J. G. Graham, M.A. See 'A Memoir of Much Cowarne Church'; published by E. K. Jakeman, Hereford.

The third of these neighbouring Norman houses is Croft, the seat for seven centuries of a family very prominent in Herefordshire history, and one that claims indeed an earlier and Saxon origin, which the name seems to justify. In Domesday 'one Bernard held Croft under William de Scotries,' and with this Bernard the family claim relationship. A Croft is mentioned in the Harley pedigree, as attending Godfrey de Bouillon in the Crusades (1098): a Croft, so tradition runs, was chosen by the Marchers in 1265 to aid in the deliverance of Prince Edward from his durance at Hereford. What remains of the original castle at Croft is a quadrangular Edwardian structure, with circular towers at the corners of a courtyard, situate under and to the south of the Ambrey Camp above mentioned, and to the east of the river Lug. It was however later than the Norman period that the Crofts waxed, and became most distinguished in court and tented field; and therefore we may pass to two or three ecclesiastical reminders of that period, still to be found in Herefordshire churches and kindred buildings. As might have been expected from the favour bestowed on Leominster (so named probably from the sumptuous patron of churches and abbeys at Wenlock, Coventry, and Leominster, Edward the Confessor's Earl of Herefordshire, *Leofric*)—by William Rufus, who fortified the town, when, having become his own Marcher, he resided at Wigmore; by King John, who visited Leominster, and compensated its partial burning by De Braose, his turbulent Marcher, by confirming a charter of the monks (under which the inhabitants thrived in trade and commerce, and developed the Merino-emulating Ryelands wool, the 'Leominster ore' of Camden);—and by Edward I. and his envoy to the Marchers, Archbishop Peckham;—we find, amidst diverse additions and alterations, much that bespeaks Norman builders, in the church now in process of restoration. To what was originally a cell of the Abbey of Reading was annexed a grand Norman church, with north and south aisles, and, later on, with a larger aisle on the south for the burghers, augmented still later by a second south aisle. At the north-west end stands the tower, of which the two lower stages are late Norman, with the arch of the principal entrance door firmly recessed. At Ledbury too—a town which from the date of King Stephen (who at the instance of Bishop Beton gave it a charter for a market) thrived under its episcopal connection—the church represents the Norman architecture in its chancel and east portion and the fine central door of the west front, though much of the rest of the edifice is Early English and later. Bromyard, a hillside town of 3000 inhabitants, now at last made accessible by a railway from Worcester, can boast of a cruciform Norman church, with arches of zigzag moulding over the south door of the nave and the smaller north door, and a Norman embattled central tower with a circular stair-turret conically capped outside it, standing conspicuous in a churchyard looking out upon the river Frome, which flows through the valley dividing Bromyard Down from Bromyard town, and stretching the whole extent of the town to the north. In the same district, as at Thornbury and Tedstone

Delamere, there are various Norman features in churches of the Early English type, and so it is at Fownhope and Mordiford, on the opposite side of the Wye to Hom Lacy, between Hereford and Ross.

Of Norman work in Hereford Cathedral there should be no lack. Its earliest portions—for of the Saxon minster there is no vestige—are the great piers of the nave and part of the choir begun by Robert of Lorraine and finished by Robert de Betun. As Sir Gilbert Scott pointed out to the Archaeological Institute at Hereford in 1877, except for the fall of the western tower and consequent spoiling of the nave, Wyatt's destruction of the Norman triforium, and other like solecisms, few cathedrals could offer such a field of progressive architectural study from early Norman to latest Perpendicular, as that of Hereford. But the history of Hereford Cathedral may be safely left to the late Mr. R. J. King's 'Handbook to the Cathedrals,' as that of the Norman Castle of Stephen, repaired by Henry III. and the scene of the younger de Spencer's hanging by order of Queen Isabella, may be remitted to Mr. G. T. Clark, whose notes of 'English Mounds and Norman Castles' are promised shortly. It is more to our purpose here to notice briefly two or three churches of typical later Norman architecture. The first example is connected with the demesne of Shobdon (in Domesday 'Scepe Dune'), granted in 1135 by Hugh de Mortimer to Oliver de Merlinond, who at once built here a church consecrated in 1140 by Robert de Betun. The associated Priory of the same foundation was soon transferred to Wigmore, owing to scarcity of water in summer, of which the well-watered slopes of modern Shobdon evince no lack. Of the old parish church, hard by the Court, only the ancient tower remains *in situ*, the remainder having been superseded by a modern church of no architectural pretension. Fortunately, when the old church succumbed to the vandalism of the age, an eye to the picturesque availed for the erection, in that portion of the park lying north of the Court and nearest to the drive, of a treasured memorial of Norman architecture—three connected arches of late Norman character, which for grace and beauty of ornament have often been associated with the South Herefordshire church of Kilpeck; and which in the sculptured forms of men, animals, and foliage, represented on the pillars, evince such refinement and artistic feeling, as suggests the handiwork of the rare Irish-Norman school of architectural ornament.

Another probably earlier example of this is to be found in the nobly timbered park of Moccas, on the west bank of the Wye between Hereford and Hay, where the restorations necessitated by time have been truly conservative. Of earlier and plainer Norman than Kilpeck, which lies beyond Stockley Hill to the south-east, Moccas Church is characterised by the same ground-plan of nave, choir, and eastern apse, marked off and divided by decorated arches. Other churches, like Rowlstone, present some kindred features; but Kilpeck is so *facile princeps* among its fellows of the same type, that it is worth a trip by railway to St. Devereux Station. This church, though little

visited except by antiquarian pilgrims, is at least one of the most valuable relics of late Norman architecture in Herefordshire, curious for the variety and profusion of the carved mouldings which surround the arches, jambs, and other parts of the edifice, among which the beak-head moulding and the zigzag or chevron mouldings predominate. Here, as at Moccas, though in more ornate Norman style, is the triple division of nave, choir, and apsidal sanctuary, a richly-decorated arch opening from nave to choir, and another of equal size, less enriched, from choir to apse. For full particulars of its details the valuable works of Lewis and Matthew Gibson should be studied, if it might be, on the spot or near it, for the lavish intricacy of the strange sculptures defies description.

Our survey thus far will have shown that the county was not without the favour of the Conqueror, his immediate successors, and several Plantagenet kings; and we have anticipated some of the notable events which occurred within its area, up to the victory in 1461 of Mortimer's Cross, which, shortly followed by that of Towton, confirmed the young Duke of York on the throne under the title of Edward IV. The annals of that tract of time, could they be unfolded *in extenso*, would show how much of the *raison d'être* of the President of the Marches and his Lords was to provide against or requite such ravages of the English border as were committed by David and Llewellyn ap Griffin in the thirteenth and by Owen Glyndwr (who was strong in matrimonial alliances with the Herefordshire Scudamores, Moningtons, and Crofts, through his daughters) in the beginning of the fifteenth century. Yet we must not pass on to the Tudor and Stuart periods, after the union of Red and White roses in the marriage of Henry VII. with Elizabeth of York, without a brief glance at the strength of Lollardism in Herefordshire in the reigns of Henry IV. and Henry V., and the sympathy of parochial clergy as well as laymen of rank with Wycliffe's reformation. Sir John Oldcastle, called, from his marriage with the last Lord Cobham's granddaughter, himself Lord Cobham, a gallant soldier in his younger days, and in his latter years devoted to Lollardism, was connected with Herefordshire at Almeley, near Weobley, and elsewhere; and there is reason to suppose that Oldcastle, near Almeley Church, was his native place. He served as sheriff for the county in the seventh year of Henry IV. In the first year of Henry V. he was condemned as a heretic, but escaped, it is surmised, into Herefordshire, and there kept alive the flame of religious zeal and treason until, after remaining some five years at large, he was arrested at Broniarth, in Gwilsfield parish, near Welshpool, conveyed to London, and hanged and burnt on Christmas Day, 1418. There is not a great deal of proof that he was personally associated with the chief *locale* of Lollardism in Herefordsre, namely Deerfold Forest; but there remains a tradition of an 'Oldcastle' on the west of it, and a chapel farm in keeping wth Lombard traditions is still standing.

In the Woolhope Transactions* is a good sketch of Swynderby's

* Woolhope Trans., 1869, pp. 168—183.

advocacy of Wycliffism in Herefordshire; and new proof of the excitement, which his preaching and Bishop Trefnant's endeavours to repress it created in the county of Hereford, is found in the recently-printed pages of Mr. Cooke's continuation of Duncumb's History, (now, we are glad to see, well through the parish of Marcle in Greystree Hundred); where it appears that in 1390 and 1394 Thomas Walwyn, heir through his mother of 'Helyons' or 'Hellens' in that parish, and Sheriff of Herefordshire in those years, was required to assist in endeavouring to repress the heresies of the Lollards; and 'one Walter Brutt, educated at Merton College, who had opposed at Oxford the favourite tenet of the Begging Friars, that Christ begged for a livelihood, having become a disciple of Wycliffe, and having joined William Swynderby, a zealous promoter of the new faith in the diocese of Hereford, where he preached in defiance of episcopal injunctions,'—the said Walter Brutt, appearing before the Bishop and several witnesses (one of whom was this Thomas Walwyn, named by the Bishop as 'Vallettus noster,'*) had maintained Swynderby's conclusions, and admitted that he did eat, drink, and communicate with him, 'the Bishop's sentence of excommunication notwithstanding.' A royal mandate was issued to several Knights and Esquires of Herefordshire, to the effect that 'the King having been advertised that one Walter Brutt and other sons of iniquity had damnably held, affirmed, and preached certain articles and conclusions notoriously repugnant to Holy Scripture in the diocese of Hereford, whereby the King's peace had become endangered, required them to cause proclamations to be made forbidding persons to assemble in conventicles, and to imprison and punish those who should be found acting contrary to such order.' Thomas Walwyn was named in this mandate, and in 1394, when again Sheriff, he was directed to arrest 'Walterum Brutt et alios iniquitatis filios prædicantes haereses et errores in diocesi Herefordiae.' There is nothing to show that the episcopal or the royal mandates took effect in the cases of Swynderby or Brutt, though there is some faint ground for connecting with the sojourn of the Lollards in Herefordshire a curious version of St. Luke i. 15 in the Wycliffe MS. Bible in Hereford Cathedral, where for the authorized 'He shall drink neither wine or strong drink,' it has 'He schall not drink wyn ne sider.'† The last word may have been a suggestion of local experience.

In the same reign as the martyrdom of Oldcastle, and about three years earlier, good proof of Herefordshire valour had been given at Agincourt, where Sir John de Cornewall, K.G., had a principal command, and captured Louis de Bourbon, Count of Vendôme; where too a Hackluit of Eaton,‡ near Leominster, Sheriff of Herefordshire in the preceding reign, had St. George, a nobleman of France, to his prisoner;

* A complimentary expression denoting an heir of knighthood or a gentleman of descent or quality.—*Selden*. See Greystree Hundred, p. 11.

† See 'Hereford Pomona,' Part I. p. 16.

‡ One of this family, a prebendary of Westminster in Queen Elizabeth's reign, compiled the famous collection of *Voyages*.

and Sir John de Brugge, of Brugge or Bridge Sollers, who represented the county in this reign, also served. The Herefordshire mansion of Hampton Court, to the north of Dinmore Hill, which commands an almost unique outlook over its own ample demesnes, and differs from most chief Herefordshire seats in the preservation of many features of its first historic building, was begun, as Leland tells us, by Rowland Lenthal, yeoman of the robes to Henry V., out of the prey he had gotten at Agincourt. He had licence from Henry VI. to 'crenellate his mansion and impark a thousand acres,' and Hampton Court passed through his daughter to a Cornewall of Burford, whose grandson sold it to Sir Humphrey Coningsby, a Justice of the Queen's Bench. On its north side is the embattled and machicolated square entrance tower, on the top of which, it would seem from Leland, was a cistern for water which Sir Rowland brought from a neighbouring hill. Through a wide archway with gate and portcullis admission is given to a quadrangular court, on the south of which are the reception-rooms, the great hall to the east, and the chapel with the arms of Lenthal and Fitzalan quartered on its roof in the north-east corner; and judicious restorations have done much in other details to bring nearer to its ancient type the *tout ensemble* of Hampton Court. One of the three valiant Welshmen, whom Agincourt immortalized in their deaths, was Sir Roger Vaughan of Bredwardine.

It must suffice to add to this list of heroes, that in the next reign Sir John Talbot, afterwards Earl of Shrewsbury and thrice Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland—whose staunchness to Henry V. in his French wars was continued to his successor, though without the same uninterrupted success, during the ascendancy of the Maid of Orleans, and who was mortally wounded on the relief of Chastellon in 1453, at the age of eighty years—was the owner of the manors of Linton and Goodrich and other estates in Herefordshire, which may claim his birth and origin, although Whitchurch in Salop has his alabaster effigy, with that of his son, Lord Lisle, who fell with him. But indeed there is evidence of warlike prowess in every quarter of the county during the wars of the Roses, and in the subsequent civil wars or rebellions in the reign of Henry VII. If we visit the north-east of the county, *en route* from Bromyard to Worcester, the modern Brockhampton, the seat of the Barnebys, whose present representative has assumed the surname of Lutley, is passed on the left. It is itself a modern brick-house, erected in 1760, but below it are the remains of old Brockhampton mansion, a timber-framed house, surrounded by moat, drawbridge, and gatehouse, with chapel attached. A unique sample of a residence of the fourteenth century, with the original dining-hall, sleeping-rooms, minstrels' gallery, and detached gateway—it might have been thought that the representatives of a Barneby slain in 1461 at Towton would have scorned the craze which drove Herefordshire men—as in the cases of Garnstone, Newport, and, in some degree, Hom Lacy—to change old residences for new, even though the new have the advantage of situation. The

present owner has, however, done what lay with him to repair the bad taste of his great grandsire, by restoring, though not for his own residence, the interesting home of his forefathers. Higher praise would have been earned had he restored also the chapel.

Scarcely at any period did the Crofts of Croft Castle hide their light under a bushel; and one of them, Sir James, who was M.P. for Herefordshire and Deputy-Constable of the Tower under Edward VI., had a hand in Wyatt's rising, and doubtless took part in the Herefordshire demonstration in behalf of Queen Jane. Winning favour, however, with Queen Elizabeth, he was employed by her both in the field and the council-chamber, and found his last rest in Westminster Abbey. Some slur, however, clings to his memory from the records at Simancas, which give a colour to the charge of his accepting Philip's pay and betraying his mistress's secrets. Another more brilliant and more unfortunate son of Herefordshire, who figured in the reign of Elizabeth, was Robert Devereux, second Earl of Essex, whose birthplace is set down by Blount's M.S., by Arthur Collins's 'Peerage of England,' vol. iii., by Duncumb, and in a host of encyclopædias, as Netherwood or Northwood, a mile or so to the west of Thornbury, on the south bank of the Teme. No vestiges of the old mansion remain, though tradition says that it was the birthplace of Isabella's Mortimer, as well as of Elizabeth's Essex. The latter was born in 1567, and his father, Walter Devereux, the first Earl, died in Ireland in 1576, when his heir was but nine years old. But the manor of Thornbury and Netherwood was given by Edward IV. to a William Baskerville for his services on the field at Towton, and is found in possession of that family in and before 1538, until in the reign of Elizabeth it was sold to Pitts. In the Record Office there is a suit in Chancery, 'temp. Eliz.', in which this Pitts is required by Thomas Baskerville to complete his purchase. There is only bare tradition to associate Robert Devereux (A.D. 1567-1601) with Netherwood or Thornbury; no entry of baptism in the extant parish register, no mention of it in Walter Devereux's imperfect will in 1576,* nothing but the legend of an 'Essex room' in a quadrangle long since pulled down, and of a chapel with a deep vault, where Duncumb surmises that the family were interred.† There is no personal history to connect Elizabeth's favourite with the county, where he had other estates, though certainly not that of Netherwood; but his son succeeded to the manors named above, and, as tedious litigation in reference to his disposition of his property continued till after the restoration of Charles II., the sisters of the last or Parliamentary Earl took by arrangement, one of them (Frances Devereux, who died Duchess of Somerset) the Herefordshire and South Wales property; the other, Dorothy, or rather her son, Sir Robert Shirley, the Chartley estate in Staffordshire and other tenements near Essex House and elsewhere.

* E.g. the Manors of Weobley, Lionhales, Moor Court, Byford, &c. See 'The Devereux, Earls of Essex,' vol. ii., 483, Appendix. John Murray, 1853.

† Walter, the first Earl, was born at Lamphey Castle in Pembrokeshire, died in Ireland, and has his monument at Carmarthen.

Little, save tradition, connects James I. with the county of Hereford, although Sir Roger Bodenham is said to have entertained him at Rotherwas, two miles from Hereford, an 'ancient and delicate' seat of a family who, in the subsequent troubles, realized by their loyalty the local adage that 'Every one cannot dwell at Rotherwas.' The Bodenham's were staunch Royalists in the troubles of Charles I.; and one of them was nominated, with a Hopton of Canon Frome, a Pye of Kilpeck, and others, for the Knighthood of the Royal Oak.

At the very outset of the disturbances Herefordshire is found mainly sympathizing with the King. George Coke, D.D., Bishop of Hereford, was one of the twelve protesting Bishops sent to the Tower in 1641, and was taken prisoner at the siege of Hereford in 1645. Herbert Croft, successively Dean and Bishop of the diocese, who held the see for thirty years, found vent for plain speaking in a sermon to Colonel Birch against sacrilege, and for words in season to the King, to whom he was chaplain. Hereford itself early sustained hostile visits, direct and indirect. In 1642 the Earl of Stamford had been sent by Essex, the Captain-General for the Parliament, on an errand of occupation prior to the battle of Edgehill, and Waller had followed him in 1643. Latter on, the city had resisted the Scots, so as to gain for itself the prestige of a 'maiden city.' At this point Colonel Birch was sent by Parliament as a leader to distress it and abase its confidence—a task requiring all his energy and resource, seeing that among the Royalists were Lord Scudamore, Fitzwilliam Coningsby, Sir Walter Pye, Sir Henry Lingen, and others; while for the Parliament were ranged only Sir Robert Harley, Sir Richard Hopton, old Sir John Kyrle, and a few lesser names. In 1645 Sir Barnabas Scudamore is found the Governor of Hereford, a younger brother of the noble house of Hom Lacy, and an experienced soldier. Canon Frome, near Ledbury, then a moated mansion of the Hoptons, first seized and garrisoned for the King, and then taken by assault under the Earl of Leven and the Scots on their way to the siege of Hereford, occupied the concern of Sir Barnabas in vain, but his staunch defence of his special charge was so gallant and steadfast that, at the end of six weeks, the Scots broke up their leaguer and retired, to the delight of city and county. The entrenchments of the Scotch army are still traceable a quarter of a mile south-east of the city, in Bartonsham meadows. But before Christmas, Colonels Birch and Morgan, availing themselves of the treachery of two Royalist captains, Alderne and Howorth, possessed themselves by stratagem of the drawbridge facing Aylstone Hill; and, circumstances favouring the introduction of the enemy, the enfeebled garrison were compelled to submit, after a short struggle, as prisoners of war. The historian of the Civil War in Herefordshire, the late Rev. John Webb of Tretire, brings forward abundant evidence of the gallantry of Sir Barnabas Scudamore, the Governor, and of the success of the Roundheads being due to the grossest bribery. It was a serious acceleration of the ruin of the royal cause, which had promised better things during the autumn, when

Prince Rupert and Colonel Birch had disputed the possession of the quaint old town of Ledbury, with its timber and lath-framed houses and market-place, one of which preserves the memory of Rupert. It was early in the autumn, too, that Charles I. in person had taken the opportunity of stimulating the zeal of his subjects on the Brecknockshire border, by using Herefordshire's pre-historic cromlech, on the heights above Moccas Park, for a review of his troops from Hay and Dore, from Radnorshire and Brecknockshire. According to Symond's Diary, the King slept on the 16th of September at the Bishop's Palace in Hereford, reviewed his troops at Arthur's Stone on the 17th, and slept that night at Hom Lacy. The turn of the tide at Hereford, and later on at Goodrich, was due in a great measure to an act of Sir Henry Lingen, the Governor of the latter castle for the King, whose burning of the neutral castle of Wilton upon Wye, near Ross, to prevent its becoming a parliamentary garrison, seems to have precipitated Sir John Brydges, its owner, into the arms of the enemy. It was he, according to Sir B. Scudamore, who, from his retreat at Gloucester, set on foot the communications with Birch and Colonel Morgan about taking Hereford by stratagem; after which there remained but the strong castle of Goodrich to prevent the county being lost to the King. That Lingen enacted, even under trying disadvantages and increasing isolation, marvellous acts of daring during the protracted siege, may be gathered from his attempt to cut off the return of a convoy sent from Newnham to Hereford in January 1646, and another in March to surprise Hereford, when its Governor, Colonel Birch, with Sir John Kyrle, was away at Gloucester. At last, when Charles I. had surrendered to the Scots, and, though his flag floated in defiance on Goodrich Keep, it was evident that his cause was hopeless, Colonels Birch and Kyrle pressed the siege hotly on the north-western and weakest side, and, having burned the stables, cut off the supplies of water; and, raising batteries, drove the gallant garrison to surrender at discretion. There were 150 privates, and some fifty officers, among whom were represented the Herefordshire families of Pye, Lochard, Bodenham, Wigmore, Vaughan, and Berrington.* In the spring of the next year the castle was disengaged. Its plan was a parallelogram flanked by round towers at the angles, and the entrance was by a passage (over a drawbridge) fitted for a succession of portcullises. The banqueting-hall, the keep, the chapel, and octagonal watch-tower, near the entrance, still remain; and it is not the least curious circumstance in connection with the castle, that it was only when he found he could not purchase and restore it, that Sir Samuel Rush Meyrick, the historian of Cardigan, built himself a pseudo-Edwardian castle on the eminence to the right of the dingle, separating Goodrich Castle from Goodrich Court. It was here that

* For a faithful and excellent account of the siege of Goodrich, no better authority can be approached than the Rev. John Webb's edition of Colonel John Birch's Military Memoir already referred to; see pp. 122-32, &c. It is probable that the 'History of the Civil War in Herefordshire and the Marches,' written by Mr. Webb, and edited by his son, will see the light in 1879.

that learned antiquary bestowed his since dispersed collection of arms and armour, his antique furniture, the Doucean Museum, and his historical portraits.*

The fall of Goodrich, as a ruin still dear to artist, historian, and archaeologist, suggests to the mind some glance at the career of its self-seeking captor: and indeed, with the cessation of war and its excitements in Herefordshire, it is obvious that history will be conveniently merged in biography; the sword be exchanged for the spade, the pruning-knife, the pen, or the trowel and carving-tools. Outside the old-world quondam-borough town of Weobley stands the modern Nash-built castellated mansion, which has supplanted the stately sixteenth-century manor-house that in 1661 passed by purchase from the heiress of the Tomkynses to the successful Roundhead, Col. John Birch. The earlier dwelling, sketched by Dingley in his 'History in Marble,'† consisted of three sides of a quadrangle, with an enclosed court to the front, and a walled garden and pleasaunces to the rear; and to this Birch is said to have made considerable additions. In truth he was clever and wide-awake enough to self-interest, to feather his nest handsomely; at the same time that he was attributing the captures of Hereford, Goodrich, and Leominster, to the 'General of Heaven.' Brave in the field, shrewd, quick-witted, and resourceful, he never forgot his early training as a trader, as is seen in his loans for raising regiments, and his speculations in sequestrations for his private advantage. After the fall of Goodrich he contrived to become the purchaser of the episcopal palace and manors at a very advantageous price. One of these, Whitborne, appears to have been sold to him over the heads of other contracting purchasers, at a price which its productive hops proved to be inadequate; though it may be surmised that he coveted its possession from the remembrance of the dark passage in the Manor House, still shown as Birch's Hole, where he hid from the Royalists in 1644. The rest he acquired in 1649-50. One of his minor peculations was the purchase for 61*l.* of the lead of Worcester Cathedral steeple, valued at 120*l.*, and ordered by the Lords to be sold for the repairs of the city churches. At the Restoration he had a seat in Parliament, was among the first to welcome back Charles II., as he afterwards kept on the winning side with William and Mary, invariably escaping the disgorging process except after compensation with interest. In 1682, however, he was at the expense as a burgess of Weobley Church and spire, in the north-east corner of the chancel of which is a full-length marble statue

* Sir Samuel Meyrick's antiquarian craze may be gauged by two characteristic anecdotes. When he served the office of High Sheriff for Herefordshire, he dressed his javelin men *cap-a-pied* in armour, under the weight of which some fainted, not having proved it. When he was writing his 'History of Cardiganshire,' he chanced upon a very ancient inscribed stone, known as the 'Potenia Malher' in the Churchyard of Tregaron. (See "His. Card." p. 252). Years afterwards it was missing there; and the present Celtic professor at Oxford, having set the writer of these pages on the search, it was traced to a resting-place in the chapel-walls of the modern Goodrich Court. Either the antiquary had begged it, or he had adopted the traditional tactics of his clients, the men of Wales.

† 'History in Marble' By Thomas Dingley. Printed for the Camden Society, 1867, vol. p. 165.

of him, truncheon in hand, as a military leader. His descendants in the female line still represent Garnstone.

But—to have done with the sword and the truncheon, and to look but the range of an eyeshot from where Birch sleeps in Weobley chancel—in the little churchyard of Sarnesfield, a mile or two to the west, is the grave of one of the greatest timber architects of his time, a great and characteristic adorer of his native county, though his architectural *chefs-d'œuvre* have had a shorter tenure than his quaint effigy and epitaph, John Abel. Of Kington market-house, his building, not a vestige remains. That which adorned, though it circumscribed, Hereford high-town is clean gone, while that which he built at Brecon is improved out of all resemblance to the Abel type. Leominster indeed preserves, on a changed site and in private hands, at the Grange, the masterpiece of a town-hall which he constructed for her ancient borough; and we may trace his influence, if not his handiwork, in the Unicorn Inn at Weobley, where Charles I. slept on the 5th of September, 1645, or in the typical timber-housed villages of Orleton and Pembridge, respectively north and west of Leominster. He wrote his own epitaph, however, and planned his own monument in his ninetieth year, and lived on to his ninety-seventh in 1674, apparently a good churchman and a staunch loyalist. In 1645, when shut up in Hereford during its siege by the Scots, he was of such service to the besieged by constructing for them corn-mills, that Charles I. honoured him with the title of his 'master carpenter.'

Coeval with this local worthy was the antiquary Thomas Blount, of Orleton Court, who was born in 1614 and died in 1679, and whose old timber mansion, curious as well for its external picturesqueness as for the arched and panelled beams and carved mantelpiece of its principal chamber, is still the property of his lineal descendant. Orleton (in Domesday, Alretun) was given to the Mortimers by the Conqueror, and, coming to the Crown at the death of Edward IV., was conveyed in the reign of James I. to George Hopton, whose successors sold it to the Blounts, an ancient family located at Grendon Bishop. Thomas Blount, though prevented by his religion and studious habits from achieving forensic success, is identified with the profession of the law by his 'Law Dictionary,' his 'Jocular Tenures,' and the life of learned research which he divided between Fig Tree Court, in the Temple, and his home at Orleton. On our notice he has a strong claim for his careful collections for a History of Herefordshire, the first volume of which (A-K) is unfortunately lost, though the second has been of service to all collectors or compilers of Herefordshire history; notably to Gough, the editor of "Camden," and to Duncumb. It is from Blount, under the head of 'Sarnesfield,' that we glean the anecdote of Abel's contact with Charles I.; to him we owe particulars of the ancient owners of Netherwood and Thornbury: indeed he is answerable for the story about the last Roger Mortimer having been born there, and he endorses the statement first made by Mills, in his 'Catalogue of

Honour' (1610), that the ill-fated Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, 'was borne at *Nethwood*.'^{*} He is rich in curious gossip about each parish he commemorates, as when about Pembridge he notes that the Bylets in that parish was the ancient seat of the Lochards, the widow of one of whom had ten sons actually engaged at one and the same time in the quarrel of Charles I. of blessed memory, wherein three of them lost their lives. In Pembridge Church the two chapels bear the name of Lochard and Marston, and, according to Blount, the ancient borough had two prescriptive fairs, on May-day and St. Martin's-day. 'The one,' he adds, 'they call Cowslip Fair, the other Woodcock Fair. The loss of the first volume of this MS. History is much to be deplored, as Blount was well acquainted with the county, a diligent searcher of the public records, and intimate with Sir William Dugdale and Anthony à Wood; the first volume, too, was probably the most important. The second begins with the letter L at Laysters: copies of it are to be found in the library of Major Clive, at Whitfield, and among Mr. Phillipps' collections at Belmont. We fail to find in Gough's 'Camden,' or elsewhere, any reference to vol. i., though in his additions to Herefordshire, ii. 445—64, every reference to Blount has been traced home. All such will be found to concern the second volume. In two instances there is at the first blush an extract from the first volume, viz. (1) at Gough, p. 462 *d*, with respect to Hope-under-Dinmore, and an ancient seat named Winsley or Windesley. But the information gained from Blount may be traced home 'totidem verbis' to the head of Winsley, p. 143 in the second volume; and in the other instance (2) Hampton Court (Gough, p. 460), all the matter borrowed from Blount is word for word traceable to his Miscellaneous Appendix to vol. ii. p. 228, wherein he has dotted down brief memoranda apparently by way of after-thought.

But another contemporary (1600–1671) left a name behind him second to none in Herefordshire for loyalty and sacrifices to the Church and Crown, and is entitled to the credit of one of the earliest improvers of Herefordshire husbandry and orchards. Sir John Scudamore, of Hom Lacy, the representative of the younger branch of the Scudamores of Kentchurch, which had held that demesne on the slopes of Garway for five previous centuries, was ennobled in 1628 through the favour of the Duke of Buckingham, and being on his staff when the favourite was assassinated by Felton, retired to his country-seat to divert his grief, and applied himself to planting and grafting apples, especially the Redstreak, the famous apple of the Restoration date, which received the name of Scudamore's Crab; or, as the cider-poet Philips styles it, the 'Scudamorean plant.'

'whose wine
Whosoever tastes, let him with grateful heart
Respect that ancient loyal house.'

* Mills in his 'Catalogue of Honour,' gives Nethwood as Robert Devereux's birthplace, but specifies no locality or county. It would seem that Blount and later writers assumed the identity of this place with Netherwood or Northwood in Herefordshire.

Loyal truly, and liberal as well as loyal. He was drawn from his retirement to conduct an embassy at the French Court, and, though the friend of Archbishop Laud, he courteously received John Milton there, and gave him an introduction to Hugo Grotius. When the war was at its height, he was styled by the Roundheads 'one of the nine worthies' of Herefordshire, and he was a prisoner in London during the eventful autumn of 1645, when King Charles slept a night, as we have seen, at Hom. His heart, however, was where his brother's helpful service was. His name, moreover, lives in Herefordshire remembrance, more especially as the second founder of Abbey Dore, of which, as of two other churches in his gift, after reading Hooker's 'Ecclesiastical Polity,' he was minded to restore the fabrics, and also regrant the tithes and glebe. The good work at Dore was dedicated by Bishop Feild of St. David's, in 1634, on the Viscount's birthday; and Bishop Kennett estimates the cost of others akin to it as not less than £50,000. By how Christian a charity he was animated, is seen in the invitation which bade to his funeral in 1671 another worthy of Herefordshire, loved and honoured by him, though they had fought on opposite sides—Sir Edward Harley, the son of Sir Robert and the heroic Brilliana. This kindly appreciation of conscientious opponents may be paralleled in the noble letter of Waller to Colonel Hopton before the battle of Lansdown.* But, in the case of Harley and Scudamore, extremes were tending to meet. Sir Edward had become a consistent but tolerant churchman. He had quarrelled with Cromwell, when the King's death was decided. Hence the story *à propos* of the storm of September 3, 1658, the night of the Lord Protector's death, so destructive in many parts of the kingdom, amongst others to Brampton Bryan Park. The North Herefordshire loyalists said, 'The Devil dragged Cromwell across the park to spite the Harleys.' 'I wish,' wrote Sir Edward to a friend, 'the Devil had taken him any other way than my park, for, not content with doing me all the mischief he could living, he has knocked over some of my best oaks on his way downwards.† In truth the time had come when Herefordshire proprietors were constrained to stay at home, turn the swords into pruning-hooks, and, accepting the teaching of such exemplars as Lord Scudamore and one or two other worthies of the same century, to turn to account what remained of their patrimonies. The culture of the apple had become a source of profit and interest, as well in the midst of the county as on the border-lands of Worcestershire and Gloucestershire; and the pursuit of agriculture had, even before the troubles, at least in one instance shown signs of becoming scientific. The small parish of Bacton, in the Dore valley, had passed in marriage about 1610 with a co-heiress of the Parrys, situate there since 1400, to Rowland Vaughan, the second son of Sir William Vaughan of Bredwardine, an ingenious author and skilful agriculturist. If we may judge from the commendatory

* See 'Mil. Memoir of Col. Birch.' App. p. 203.

† See *Woolhope Trans.* 1870, p. 302.

poem by John Davies of Hereford † (the writing-master, not the judge), this worthy had anticipated the mysteries of drainage. Take this quatrain, for instance :—

'In dropping summers that do marre the meads
His trenches drain the raines superfluous almes;
And when heat wounds the earth, to death that bleeds,
He cures the chaps with richest water-balmes.'

Or this other, which, with probably as much truth as flattery, expresses the result of his endeavour to fructify his acres :—

'The place wherein is fallen his happy lott,
Hight Golden Valley; and so justly held:
His royal trench is as his melting pot,
Whence issues liquid gold the Vale to gild.'

The mention of poets or poetasters suggests the scantiness of such at all times in Herefordshire. It is not to many that John Davies's quaint conceits are known ; and still less, except from the circumstance that his 'Synagogue' is often found within the same covers as his model, George Herbert's 'Temple,' would it be credible that the first Master of Kington Grammar School, founded in pursuance of the will of Dame Margaret Hawkins, the widow of the circumnavigator, was Christopher Harvey, the friend of Isaac Walton and George Herbert, who held the serule in that early seat of learning for a brief space (*circ.* 1632-3). Perhaps it is a greater boast that the school was erected by John Abel, and that the pedigree of the Vaughans of Hergest may be read above the fine alabaster tomb to Thomas 'of that ilk,' in the Vaughan chapel of the parish church. To the reader of Walton's 'Complete Angler' he will be known through Piscator's citation of him as a learned and reverend divine, a friend of his, 'and no enemy to angling, who hath writ of our Book of Common Prayer' :—

'What! Pray'r by th' book? and common? Yes; why not?

Much more intimately known to Herefordshire is the name of John Philips (1676-1708). Four miles out of Hereford we find ourselves at Withington, a parish on the west of the Lug, belonging even before the Norman Conquest to the Church of Hereford. With the Deanery of Hereford, and several of its prebendal stalls, are connected the manor of Withington and several of its estates, the names of two of which, Church Withington and Ewington, claim special notice in a literary light, from their having been in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries let on lives by the Dean and Chapter to the families of Philips and Brome respectively. To the former belonged John Philips, the author of the 'Splendid Shilling,' 'Blenheim,' and the English Georgic 'Cider'; subjects into which he threw the fruits of his constant study of Milton, Virgil and Homer, and respecting the last of which he had opportunities of acquiring practical knowledge through his residence

[†] It is of this poet and penman, and of his scholar and compatriot Mr. Githings, that Fuller wrote, 'Sure I am that when two such transcendent penmen shall again come to be born in the same shire, they may even serve fairly to engross the will and testament of the expiring universe.'—Fuller's 'Worthies.'

with his relatives at Church Withington, and his visits to his friend and contemporary at Christ Church, Oxford, William Brome of Ewington. Philips' great grandsire was a Ledbury clothier, and his sire, amidst other preferments, a Canon of Hereford; whilst Brome, who projected a history of Herefordshire, helped Pope with the 'Odyssey,' and assisted in preparing an edition of Chaucer, came of a family, a cadet of which had settled at Ewington in 1535. Whilst the literary Ewington Squire lived to the age of eighty-one, the 'cider' poet died at the age of thirty-two, and was buried in the Cathedral, though he is represented by a bust in Poets' Corner.

All things considered, the county is scarcely strong enough in poetic sons to be able to allow a slur upon Philips; and it may be doubted at this time of day how far Dr. Johnson's criticism will hold water, in which he condemns the use of blank verse for so mundane a theme. 'Contending angels,' he declares, 'may shake the regions of heaven in blank verse, but the flow of equal measures and the embellishment of rhyme must recommend to our attention the art of engraving, and decide the merit of the "Redstreak" and the "Permain,"'*

Of higher pretensions to poetic fame than John Philips was a Herefordshire-born poetess of later days, though she seems to have found no inspiration in the county of her birth—Mrs. Elizabeth Barrett Browning; to whom we may add another imaginative Herefordshire authoress, Mrs. Archer Clive, though her 'IX. Poems by V.' won the praise of this Review before she became the mistress of Whitfield. † Her 'Queen's Ball,' which she published later, is, as Mary Russell Mitford writes in one of her letters, 'a fine subject,' powerfully and finely treated.

Did space allow, the later annals of Herefordshire might furnish more biography than history. Eccentric biography, for example, might be represented by that litigious monomaniac, Thomas Lord Coningsby, of Hampton Court, who saved his sovereign's life on the eve of the battle of the Boyne, but worried his own in futile maintenance of supposed royal rights arising from the purchase of the manor of Leominster; or the more amiably eccentric Charles Howard, Duke of Norfolk, whose union in 1771 with Frances Scudamore, the heiress of Hom Lacy, gave him so preponderating an influence in Herefordshire politics and society. Both, directly or indirectly, influenced local history : the first by printing ponderous 'Collections concerning the Manor of Marden,' to bolster up an untenable claim; the second by assisting with his collections and with liberal pecuniary aid the enterprise of a complete History of Herefordshire, which was undertaken by the Rev. John Duncumb and came to a standstill on the Duke's death in 1815. To this work we must shortly recur, though it is as needless as it is unfruitful to revive the escapades of the 'jockey of Norfolk.' Nor must we linger on the traditions of such Herefordians as that member of an old county family,

* 'Lives of the Poets: J. Philips.'

† 'Quarterly Review, vol. lxvi. p. 411.'

John Kyrle, whom Pope, having heard of from Jacob Tonson, but not knowing personally, wrote into fame as the 'Man of Ross.' Three county names indeed of the Georgian period, inseparable from the history of literature, taste, and horticulture, are suggested by Foxley and Wormesley Grange—the homes, north-west of Hereford, of Uvedale Price, once famous for his 'Essay on the Picturesque,' and the brothers Richard Payne and Thomas Andrew Knight, afterwards of Downton Castle. Foxley and Downton are both interesting souvenirs of their remarkable owners. The former can boast in its plantations many fine-grown and rare early-introduced conifers; the latter, as well as Wormesley, has given its name to various Knightian seedlings. But the biography of the distinguished President of the Royal Horticultural Society, and author of the 'Pomona Herefordensis,' has been anticipated by the editor of the 'New Pomona,' published under the auspices of the Woolhope Club, whose second and forthcoming volume promises a memoir also of that first improver of Herefordshire cider and cider-fruit, the Lord Scudamore at whose history we have glanced above; and for a kindly *résumé* of the tenets of the elder Knight and Sir Uvedale Price on the Picturesque and on Taste, the reader may be remitted to the pages of that genial humorist, the late Thomas Love Peacock.*

But Herefordshire has claims to notice beyond its direct history or biography, or—what we must leave for the most part to the new edition of its Handbook—its topography. Its legends are distinctive enough to repay the collector, as witness that of the submerged Bell of Marden, which fancy still hears pealing from the depths of the Lug near Dinmore, in echo of the bells of the parish church. A mermaid and a rhyme, and a dozen free-martins, *i.e.* heifers 'which are twins with a male,' are associated with this legend; and so is a real sheet-copper hand-bell found in cleaning a pond near Marden Vicarage, and vulgarly known as 'King Offa's hand-bell.' This was most probably, until cast aside by Protestant iconoclasts, the ancient 'sacring bell of Marden Church.' Other legends of bells are associated with Ledbury and Hereford, and their traditional saints, Catherine de Audley, a holy woman in Edward II.'s reign, who was led by a revelation to take up her abode where the parish church bells should ring spontaneously, as these did at Ledbury; and Thomas Cantilupe, Bishop of Hereford (1275), whom on one occasion the bells of his cathedral welcomed, without human agency, as he came within sight or earshot, at the White Cross, on his way from his palace at Sugwas, into Hereford. To the same category of legendary lore belong the same St. Catherine's discovery of her stolen mare and colt, after all human traces had failed, at the edge of the Delamere brook; and the variously explained myths of the dragon at Mordiford. Geologists unriddle for us one of these traditions, and sanitarians the other. And a kindred claim to consideration might be advanced for Herefordshire's folklore, its adages, and its dialectic peculiarities; one of which—'going a-Thomasing,' or in quest of a

* See 'Headlong Hall,' *tassim*

dole in money or wheat on St. Thomas's day—is still in vogue, as is the decking of churches at Christmas with holly and ivy, of houses with birch boughs on the 1st and oak-apples on the 29th of May, and of graves on Palm Sunday or Easter-day. According to Aubrey, who had property in Burghill, Herefordshire farmers bled their cattle and cart-horses on St. Stephen's day, 'because with St. Stephen's day are three days of rest, or at least two.' The custom of a rivalry to draw the first pailful of water from a particular spring in Dinedor on New Year's morn has died out within a generation or two; and the more general ceremony of 'burning the bush' is hardly yet extinct. Another custom of the Church seasons is the 'homing' of young persons on Midlent or Mothering Sunday, of which the simnel cake is an accessory custom on the Salop border. Old Aubrey is the chief authority for the superstition, which he locates in Herefordshire and across the Welsh border, of the *sin-eater*—a human scapegoat who at a funeral took on him the sins of the defunct, in consideration of a bowl of milk, a crust of bread, and a dole of money, paid over the corpse. Anon, the lean, ugly, lamentable rascal was cuffed out into the wilds, and not seen again until a similar occasion demanded his services. Perfervid Welshmen repudiate the custom, but Aubrey's account is endorsed by later Herefordshire writers.* Two adages of the county may be added here to such as we have noticed in the foregoing pages, one *à propos* of the season of trout-fishing in the Wye:—

'When the bud of the *aul* is as big as the trout's eye,
Then that fish is in season i' th' river Wye.'

The *aul* or *orl* is the rustic synonym of the alder, and *aulen* poles and coppices are mostly associated with riverside and fishponds. An old local adage declares that

'Blessed is the *eye*
That's between Severn and Wye;'

which Ray interpreted as predicating the felicity of the dwellers in Dean Forest and thereabouts, in their prospect. In his 'Glossary of Provincial Words,' † which has too long wanted a new edition, Sir George C. Lewis connects *eye* in this adage with the first syllable of *island* (*eiland*, German), whence *eyot*, an islet. Among odd provincialisms from the above rare book, is the adjective *dubersome* (*i.e.* doubtful), applied to the weather. We have heard it called *dubersome*, perhaps on the same analogy as *timbersome* for 'timorous' (*ibid.* p. 109). Another adjective expressive of 'strength,' 'size,' 'healthy growth,' is *frum*, which, as Sir George Lewis notes, throws a light on the name of a Herefordshire river. Leland's account of it is that 'it is a big broke,

* See Brand's 'Pop. Antiquities'; Johnson's 'Ancient Customs of the City of Hereford'; Napier's 'Folk Lore of West of Scotland' (Paisley, 1879), pp. 58-9; and a correspondence in the 'Academy,' 1875.

† 'A Glossary of Provincial Words of Herefordshire.' John Murray, 1839. See pp. 6, 34, 109. Amongst curious words and phases not there noticed are the verb *to plot*, *i.e.* to throw sods or clods at a person, and the expression 'three months *all-so* a fortnight' for two months and a half. 'All-so=' all-but.'

sometimes raging, which cometh by Bromyard, as I remember, and so into Lug ; and about it are very good pastures.'

The foregoing survey, as it were from a cockle-boat, of the landmarks of Herefordshire history, would ill conclude without a brief glance at what has been done towards a comprehensive record. Little as such volumes of the Rev. John Lodge's 'Introductory Sketches' (1793) or Price's 'Leominster' seem to have reaped from them, materials for such a work are neither scanty nor fitful. Silas Taylor's Collections, which his rank in the Parliament's army enabled him to get together in the Civil War, exist, if not in the original form, in copious extracts by would-be historiographers. And those of Thomas Blount of Orleton are so valuable for the parishes comprised in the latter part of the alphabet, that a strenuous effort to discover the 'latitat' of the first volume of the MSS. strikes us as no unimportant step towards the aim of a complete history. In his second edition of 'British Topography' (art. Herefordshire) Gough has enumerated a series of materials of more or less value ; and the 'Wallwyn' collections of Mr. R. B. Phillips, of Longworth, are deposited at the Belmont Monastery, near Hereford. At the sale of the collections of Richard Blyke, F.A.S., Deputy Auditor of the Imprest, and a native of the county, *circ.* 1780, we learn from Gough (vol. i. p. 410) that above twenty volumes of various sizes, properly digested, were purchased by Charles Howard (afterwards Duke of Norfolk), and devoted to the object which he induced the Rev. John Duncumb* to undertake. Other and various MSS. are understood to have been acquired of late years by Mr. Cooke, the able continuator of Duncumb's History. Of that work, the first volume of which was published in 1804 and a portion of the second in 1812, the plan was, after a general introduction and a history of the city and cathedral, to proceed to that of the county by its parishes in their hundreds. Mr. Duncumb had got as far as the end of the sixth parish in Greystree Hundred, having finished those of Broxash and Ewyas Lacy, when the Duke's death terminated his editorial labours at the 358th page of vol. ii.

Duncumb's work is not devoid of merit, albeit its ingenious author clearly lacked the legal mind and capacity for sifting evidence, which modern criticism connects with history worthy of the name. One cannot glance at his introductory chapters without discovering how sketchy, perfunctory, and slenderly based are his annals of the county under the earlier English kings. Even as late as the reign of Elizabeth he commits himself to the haphazard statement, of which we have no trustworthy evidence, that her unfortunate favourite, Robert Devereux, was born at Northwood or Netherwood. And of his hasty reception of ill-considered evidence, a startling instance is pointed out at the opening

* The Rev. John Duncumb, A.M., was a gentleman of good literary attainments, for some years Rector of Abbey Dore, in the chancel of which is a monument in his memory. He was the son of a clergyman in Sussex. His work came to an end at the Duke's death in 1815, his life in 1839 at Hereford.

of the fourth chapter of Burn's 'History of Parish Registers in England,'* where, in illustration of the fact that 'most of the old register books are only later transcripts made in pursuance of an injunction of 1597 or 1603, the minister and churchwardens of the year signing every page, to give greater weight to its authenticity,' the following statement is quoted from a note in p. 83 of the second volume of Duncumb's History, *à propos* of Bromyard :—'Robert Barnes was Vicar during eighty-two years, and his name appears to parochial registers annually during the whole period. One of the churchwardens also continued from 1538 to 1600 inclusive.' So far is this absurd statement from even the shadow of truth, that both the parochial and episcopal registers show a succession of three vicars between 1557 and 1571, when, and not in 1538, a *Thomas* and not Robert Barnes was presented, who held the living till 1620—a more credible period of half a century. Mr. Burn cites a parallel myth of a Leicestershire centenarian incumbent. It says little, however, for the exactness of Mr. Duncumb's research, that he accepted the extraordinary statement of his note on the faith of Dr. Cope, the Vicar of Bromyard, in 1794, whose letter to Mr. Duncumb treats the eighty-two years' incumbency of Vicar Barnes as 'extremely well authenticated.'

Fortunately the task which Mr. Duncumb left off in the middle of his second volume, and of the third hundred of the county, was taken up by a successor less likely to disquiet the shade of that sceptic as to centenarianism—the late Sir G. C. Lewis, or his surviving avenger, Mr. Thoms—by the admission of such evidence as avouched the vicariate of Mr. Barnes. Mr. Cooke, the representative of an old Herefordshire family, bringing to a long familiarity with the history of his native county discriminative research, fresh accession of materials, and a peculiar aptitude for his task, took up the work of Duncumb where he left it, and by the year 1866 had continued it as far as p. 404, so bringing the second volume to a close at the end of the parishes of Linton and Lea, and inviting in a postscript 'assistance in the completion of this parochial history.' Of that instalment of continuation it may suffice to say that, while the parishes in question are traced to their Anglo-Saxon names and Domesday form, the various manors and lands of 'ancient demesne' are followed up by the aid of rolls and records to their earliest historic owners ; and thus, for example, in connection with Linton and Eccleswell, light is thrown on the early association with Herefordshire and the Welsh border of a family for more than three centuries renowned in the military annals of England—the Talbots, whose earlier title of Barons of Eccleswell and Linton became merged, through the services of the great Lord Talbot in the wars with France, in the higher distinction of Earls of Shrewsbury. In text and notes almost every page concerning these is full of research, as various as erudite ; and this no less when the annals of the Talbots are being evolved than when the

* 'Registrum Ecclesiæ Parochialis,' by J. Southernden Burn. J. Russell Smith ; London, 1862.

editor discusses the Mathewses of Burton and Belmont, a prominent Herefordshire family since the middle of the eighteenth century, or the Colchesters of Lea and the Wilderness; one of whom, a dispossessed Cavalier, set matters straight by running away with the daughter of the Roundhead successor to his patrimony, Serjeant Maynard; whilst another, the offspring of that union, Colonel Maynard Colchester, was 'one of the interesting group of laymen who founded and supported the Societies for Promoting Christian Knowledge and Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts.'

But County History, thoroughly executed, is a tedious process, the more so in proportion to the strict verification of evidence, and it would have been no marvel if, scantly assisted save by good words and vague promises, Mr Cooke's third volume delayed its coming. But, as has been seen above, the sheets of the first parish within its scope, Much Marcle in Greystree Hundred, have been some months printed, and are in the hands of its author's literary friends. Having had the privilege of perusing them, we have shown, in reference to the outbreak and attempted suppression of Lollardism in Herefordshire, how the annals of the Wallwyns of Hellens or Helions in Much Marcle throw a light thereupon; and the earlier pages of its parochial and manorial history beginning with the identification of Marcle with the A.S. 'frontier district-field' (called Much in Herefordshire, as it would be Michel* in Gloucestershire or Monmouthshire, to distinguish it from Little Marcle), introduce us to the powerful Norman family of the De Baluns, who held the manor after Roger de Lacy's banishment by William Rufus, until in 1292 a decision of the Judges in circuit at Hereford affirmed it the dower of Isolda, the widow of Walter de Balun and daughter of Sir Edmund Mortimer, whose second husband, Hugh de Audley, obtained in 1301 a grant in fee to himself, his wife, and their issue, of the manor of Great Marcle. Isolda bare her second husband two sons, gallant soldiers like their father, the younger of whom, Sir James, accompanied the royal army to Gascony in 1325, and to Scotland in 1327; while the elder, Sir Hugh (No. 2), by marriage with the king's niece, the widow of Piers Gaveston, and sister and co-heiress of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, acquired a large inheritance, which, in spite of his being in disgrace after the battle of Boroughbridge until the death of Edward II., he contrived to retain until in Edward III.'s reign he was created Earl of Gloucester, and did distinguished service to his sovereign, both civil and military, being a marshal of the royal army in France in 1340, and ambassador to the French Court in 1342. As he had no male issue, his earldom became extinct in 1347, and the Barony of Audley descended to his only child, Margaret, the wife of Robert Lord Stafford, who was created Earl of Stafford in 1351. Their son, the second Earl, held a command at Crecy, and was succeeded by his three sons, one after another; the fifth Earl, who was killed at the battle of Shrewsbury in 1403, selling his manor of Marcle Audley to

* Cf. Micheldean, Micheltroy.

Thomas Wallwyn of Hellens, of whom mention has been made above. In this parish, too, was Yatton, the patrimony of Sir Peter De la Mere, M.P. for the county, and the earliest financial reformer, who, Stowe informs us, was imprisoned for opposing the large subsidies applied for by the Crown and for speaking strongly of the King's mistress. His neice and heiress conveyed her estates to her husband, Sir William St. Mawr, of Wowndy, the ancestor of the Dukes of Somerset.

Thus much may suffice for a sample of the active research brought by Mr. Cooke to bear on the history of the early owners of Marcle manor; and in tracing the history of the severances alienated from it by the De Baluns, he introduces us to the family of Kyrle, whose founder obtained a grant from the Crown of Marcle Magna manor in the reign of Elizabeth, and whose present representative is Colonel Money Kyrle of Homme House. So far, moreover, is Mr. Cooke from being wholly given to genealogies, that in his notice, *à propos* of Marcle, of the Kynaston township, he gives a detailed account of the famous landslip known as the 'Wonder' in the reign of Elizabeth, which, after being celebrated by chroniclers and poets from Camden to Fuller and from Drayton to Philips, has found its true geological explanation in Murchison's 'Siluria,' vol. i. pp. 434—6.

The earnest of 'Much Marcle' now before us inspires confident hope of yet more valuable labours on Mr. Cooke's part, upon the remaining parishes of the hundred, which includes among others Mordiford, Walford, Weston-under-Penyard, and Woolhope. And although nine hundreds are yet to follow, a calculation shows us that with the Greystree Hundred a fourth part, in round numbers, of the county will have been dealt with. For exceptional parts and parishes, as well as periods, good service has been done in such volumes as Townsend's 'Leominster,' Robinson's illustrated 'Herefordshire Castles, Manors, and Mansions,' and the 'Transactions of the Woolhope Club,' which include a certain amount of topography and archaeology in their natural history rambles. In estimating the value of the first and second of these, it must be remembered that the writers approached their task not as natives, but as sojourners. The learned author of the 'Military Memoir of Colonel Birch,' whose posthumous work on the history of the Herefordshire border, edited by his most worthy son and successor, is at the present time in the press,* had become naturalized in the county, and it is entitled to the credit of a yet deeper and more comprehensive insight; and Mr. Prebendary Havergal's 'Fasti Herefordenses' supply the necessary data for the cathedral and the ecclesiastical history of Hereford. Adding these sources of suggestive help to older and longer-amassed materials, and looking to the fact of an acute and practical steersman at the helm, shall it be said that 'Herefordshire in the nineteenth century' shrinks from the endeavour, which Mr. Cooke has shown to be feasible, of completing its county

* 'Memorials of the Civil War between Charles I. and the Parliaments as it affected Herefordshire and the adjacent Counties.' In 2 vols. Longman and Co., 1879.

history? Quite lately the county of Lincoln has been issuing, in full conviction of assured purpose elaborate proposals for a similar local work; and we have yet to learn that, did they gird themselves to their task, the county which borrowed from Lincoln diocese its earliest map-maker, whose 'Mappa Mundi'† is a famous heritage of Hereford Cathedral, would allow itself to be distanced in the race by another only just proposing to take the field. The Woolhope Club has spread its reputation beyond the range of its county or even of the British Isles by its mycological researches. It bids fair to win again: a kindred pre-eminence by its new Pomona. Surely if a band of good men and true, gifted with health and spirit, industry and research, would answer to the call of the late Mr. Duncumb's highly qualified successor, and assist him by due search for materials, and division of the work of discriminating them, in the chivalrously undertaken task of completing this county history, it would be the most solid evidence of their recognition of the debt they owe to their beautiful, winsome, and historic county, 'Spartam quam nacti sunt, ornare.'

† The author of the 'Mappa Mundi,' Richard de Bello, was Prebendary of Lafford in Lincoln Cathedral in 1283. His connexion with Bishop Swinfield of Hereford was as early as 1280. He became Prebendary of Norton in Hereford Cathedral in 1305. He left his Map to the Cathedral Church of Hereford.

1902.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

EARLY ANNUAL MEETING, THURSDAY, APRIL 3RD, 1902.

THE Early Annual Meeting was held in the Woolhope Club Room on Thursday, April 3rd. The following attended: The Retiring President, Mr. Thomas Blashill, and the President Elect, Rev. Sir George H. Cornewall, Bart., who was in the Chair; Colonels E. W. Cradock, T. H. Purser, and M. J. G. Scobie; Revs. C. H. Binstead, P. H. Fernandez, E. J. Holloway, Preb. W. H. Lambert, A. H. McLaughlin, A. Ley, H. B. D. Marshall, K. O'Neill, H. F. St. John, M. G. Watkins, and H. T. Williamson; Dr. Gerald Leighton, Messrs. T. S. Aldis, H. C. Beddoe, S. H. Bickham, C. P. Bird, A. C. Black, J. Carless, R. Clarke, A. Corner, G. Davies, James Davies, E. W. Du Buisson, H. Scott Hall, F. S. Hovill, T. Llanwarne, N. H. Matthews, T. D. Morgan, J. P. Sugden, with Messrs. T. Hutchinson and H. Cecil Moore, honorary secretaries, and James B. Pilley, assistant secretary.

The general financial statement of the Club for the year ended 31st December, 1901, was presented by Mr. Beddoe, honorary treasurer. The Report of the assistant secretary showed an increase in numbers and income attaining a Record. The number of members on the books was 240. The receipts amounted to £131 10s. 6d., compared with £114 in 1900, an increase of £17 10s., and £11 in excess of the income of any previous year. The arrears of subscriptions were less than usual. There were five resignations, two members were struck off in compliance with Rule No. XII., and four members were removed by death: the deficiency was more than counterbalanced by the election of 20 new members.

The obituary list for 1901 comprises the names of the Rev. Joseph Barker, Sir Joseph Pulley, Bart., Mr. A. J. Purchas, and Mr. H. Vevers. Mr. Barker, who was elected in 1878 or 1879, had contributed many papers to the *Transactions*. He was enthusiastic in research of objects of local interest, and a very genial companion in the field. Mr. A. J. Purchas was elected in 1856, and contributed papers on the Lepidoptera of the Ross district, and of the county. Amongst honorary members we have to record the death of the eminent Professor Maxime Cornu, whose presence at our Fungus meetings was warmly appreciated. He died, full of scientific honours of distinction, and "officier de la Legion d'Honneur," on 3rd April, 1901, aged 57.

The attendance at the Field Meetings (average 66) was very favourable.

Mr. James Pilley concluded his Report by presenting, for the sake of comparison, a copy of the financial Report for the year 1866, the year in which the *Transactions* were first printed in a bound volume. At that period there were 61 members. Of these four now survive as members: Mr. Blashill, who was elected in 1853, Sir George Cornewall, Rev. Canon Bury Capel, and the Hon. and Ven. B. L. S. Stanhope.

The dates and the places of the Field Meetings for 1892 were fixed as follows:—

- May 27th, Tuesday—The Woolhope Valley district for Geology.*
- June 20th, Friday—Longhope, for the Geology of the Districts of Huntley and Mitcheldean.
- July 24th, Thursday—Ladies' Day, Eastnor.
- August 28th, Thursday—Bredon Hill.

WILD BIRDS PROTECTION ACT, 1894.

The question of the adoption of the Wild Birds Protection Act, 1894, was introduced by Mr. Hutchinson. He drew attention to a paragraph which appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* in an article under the heading "The Charter of Birds," in which prominence was given to the fact that there were only three counties in England which had not adopted the provisions of the Acts, viz., "The Wild Birds Protection Acts 1880, 1881, and 1894," and that these three counties were Hereford, Monmouth, and Nottingham. He stated that, in reply to a letter addressed to the Chief Constable of Herefordshire, he had been informed that no prosecution under the above Acts had taken place for a considerable period. Mr. Hutchinson emphasised that the question was to a great extent one for experts, and, without any desire to dictate to the County Council what course they should adopt, he would venture to suggest that a Committee be appointed for the consideration of the subject, with power to add to their number by bringing in outside assistance. He concluded by proposing the following Resolution:—

"That the President (Sir George Cornewall) be requested to bring before the Herefordshire County Council the question of the Wild Birds Protection Acts, with a view to their provisions being adopted within the County."

The Resolution was seconded by Mr. James Davies, and supported by Mr. Blashill.

Sir George Cornewall stated that although he was no longer a member of the County Council, he would have great pleasure in forwarding the Resolution to Sir James Rankin, with the request that he would bring the matter before the notice of the County Council. He recalled to mind a previous consideration of the subject by the County Council, in which Sir James Rankin evinced much interest and took a prominent part.

The Resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Retiring President delivered his address, which treated of The Excursions of our Fiftieth Year; Natural History in the Older Societies and in the New; The Formation of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club: Recollections of its Earliest Meetings; its Founders and First Members; Their Ideas. The Romance of Darwinism. The Realities of Modern Discovery. Archæology included in our Objects.

Suggestions for the Future. Objects for Research: Astronomy, Geology, Structure of Plants and Animals. Life-Histories. Habits and Instinct. Discovery a Certainty. Investigation of Local Records.

Teaching a Duty. Modern Theories on Education; Our Attitude towards them 1951?

*The first meeting of the Woolhope Club was held in the Woolhope Valley district on May 18th, 1852. After a lapse of 50 years it was proposed to celebrate the jubilee by again visiting the locality. As May 18th fell upon a Sunday in 1902, an adherence to the very day of the anniversary was prohibited. The Paper prepared by Mr. M. J. Scobie, F.G.S., descriptive of the visit was not printed at the time. For its publication see *Transactions*, 1894, pages 260 to 263.

ANNUAL ADDRESS BY MR. THOMAS BLASHILL,
President for the Jubilee Year, 1901.

DELIVERED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 3RD, 1902.

GENTLEMEN,—At the end of its fiftieth year the Club may be congratulated on the unexhausted interest of the region which it occupies and the promise of its continued prosperity.

On our May meeting at Pembridge we inspected for the first time the Rowe Ditch, an important ancient earthwork, possibly related to Offa's Dyke.

In June we went to Richard's Castle, and saw once more the interesting geological features on the route from thence to Ludlow. On the ladies' day, in July, we revisited Dore Abbey, soon to be carefully repaired; and some of us at least brooded over the unsolved riddle of Arthur's Stone. Our excursion in August amongst the wooded hills between Ross and Goodrich completed a rich and varied programme for the year. On this occasion we may most fitly turn to a review of the beginning of the Club, and recall the objects and methods of its earliest members.

I owed the position from which I now retire to the sentiment that led the Club to choose its President for the Jubilee year by seniority of membership. But although I have for some years been the only member surviving of those who were out with it in 1852, there is one living who has a longer and much more notable record. The Rev. W. H. Purchas, the Vicar of Alstonfield, Staffordshire, one of the three originators of the Club, an enthusiastic worker during the early years, and still an honorary member, must on this occasion receive our very heartiest recognition.

FOUNDING OF THE CLUB.

Fifty years ago a demand had sprung up for a new kind of society for the special study of Natural History. Geology, the youngest of its branches, was then in vigorous development. The rest were moving more or less in sympathy. The Literary and Philosophical Societies of that day did their best, but they had other objects and had no special facilities for this. Their methods were too exclusively literary. Under their shadow one might grow up in the belief that the true road to a knowledge of Natural History was that provided in the rows of handsome volumes wherein every important fact was supposed to be chronicled and every object worthy of study was engraved and coloured. The platform was not much in advance of the library, and might be behind it. This was science at second-hand. To some of us it was a revelation to hear that the familiar fields and woods, the quarries and sea-side cliffs might reasonably be consulted direct if we would expand, or check, or even comprehend the teaching of books and lectures. I need not tell here what new zest was given to the pursuit of knowledge by combining

with it the enjoyment of out-door life. As early as 1831 the newer system of association was recognised by the establishment of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Field Club. The Tyneside Club followed. The Cotteswold was established in 1846. Thus the "Field Club" reached our borders, and names of our future members or visitors are recorded at field meetings.

The Hereford Literary, Philosophical, and Antiquarian Society must have had a fair sprinkling of members disposed to adopt the newer methods. For over a dozen years it had been holding conversaziones at which many learned and some practical lectures were given. In 1851 its President, Archdeacon Lane-Freer, F.S.A., whose learning was leavened with sound sense, was quoting from Socrates, "Not to know of things remote, but to know that which before us lies in daily life is the prime wisdom," and, in the same address, advising them to fix their thoughts on remote and permanent instead of narrow and fleeting objects. There would be some in the society able to reconcile and appreciate these apparently contradictory advices. Of its members H. Lawson was a competent astronomer. T. T. Davies and afterwards the Rev. W. S. Symonds, with M. J. Scobie, dealt with geology. Dean Merewether and the Rev. John Webb, of Tretire, were antiquaries of more than local fame. James Davies, now amongst us, worked in the same field, as also did Flavell Edmunds, who not only read papers, but kept all such studies well to the front by articles in the *Hereford Times*. During the winter of 1851-2, Mr. Scobie, stimulated by Murchison's recently published "Silurian System," was talking with his friends about a club for exploring the geology of the district. About the same time Mr. Purchas, then of Ross, was working on a more comprehensive scheme. I can nowhere find so clear an idea of the actual foundation of the Club as in his account written down recently for my use. He says:—"I had more and more seen as I continued to give attention to British Botany that Herefordshire was almost an untrodden field, and my constant correspondence with the late Mr. Hewet C. Watson, the father of British Geographical Botany, made me see this the more strongly. And when reports of the Tyneside Naturalists' Field Club reached me, I saw that if we could have a similar club for Herefordshire, the study of the natural history of the county might be greatly advanced. I had made Dr. Bull's acquaintance, and I mentioned to him how desirable the idea of a Field Club seemed to me. He proposed as a means of bringing forward the idea that I should give a lecture on the British Ferns at a soiree of the Literary and Philosophical Institution, and that I should then ventilate the idea of a Field Club. This lecture was delivered on Friday, March 26th, 1852. At the close of the lecture Dr. Bull came to me and said, 'I have just been talking to a gentleman here (Mr. Scobie), who is much disconcerted at your proposal about a Field Club, for he has been anxious to establish a Geological Club, and he fears that, if your idea is taken up, it will prevent his own plan from being carried out.' I replied, 'Nothing of the sort. I am delighted to hear

of his idea. By all means let us join forces, and have a club for the field study of all branches of Natural History.' I was introduced to Mr. Scobie, matters were talked over, and the project was mentioned to others who seemed likely to fall in with it. The result was that at a meeting held at either Dr. Bull's or at Mr. Scobie's the Club was formed. Field work seemed so different from the operations of the Literary and Philosophical Society, which lay chiefly in evening meetings, that it was only by a new organisation that our object seemed likely to be attained."

Thus on April 13th, 1852, as recorded in its first minutes, the Club came into being. Our *Transactions* have from early times borne the legend, "Established 1851," but this can only have resulted from a recollection of such informal discussions as I have mentioned towards the end of that year. It is from 1852 that we have numbered the seven times seven years and one year by which a jubilee is reckoned. It was not meant to be a rival to the older Society, but a select body at first limited to forty members, all of whom were experienced in the study of Natural History. That it was named at Mr. Scobie's strong desire after the Woolhope valley of elevation, of which Murchison had made so much, shows the strength of the geological element in the Club, and the overwhelming interest of that locality. Although, unlike other Field Clubs, its name indicates neither its headquarters nor its district, it became in the course of time practically the Natural History and Antiquarian Society of the county.

This was unforeseen by the founders, who for some years refused to increase their numbers beyond fifty. They were not to hold premises, nor to accumulate books or specimens. A record was to be prepared of each meeting, to be read at the next; and this led to the idea of printing a select number of the papers should the funds permit. The Club was, however, from the first, warmly welcomed in the county, and this was largely owing to the local Press, which has never failed to give it adequate and sympathetic notice. One article in which it is called "a vigorous attempt to extend the knowledge of Herefordshire amongst its inhabitants" speaks volumes as to the need of such a Society. It may be profitable as well as interesting to recall the names of some of the earliest members.

ITS FOUNDERS.

Mr. R. M. Lingwood, the first President, then living at Lyston, by residence in the county had acquired a good all round knowledge of its Natural History. He began by contributing a list of Herefordshire birds, and in 1860 gave lists of animals, birds, reptiles and fishes, with average dates of periodic phenomena, compiled from observations at Lyston. Until he left the county he was a courteous and genial companion on the excursions.

Mr. Scobie was the first Secretary. He had become a geologist chiefly through reading Hugh Miller's "Old Red Sandstone," which treated of the geology of a district of Scotland near to the county of Ross

where he had spent his early youth. On coming to Hereford and finding that the Woolhope Valley was too far off for a walk, he set about examining the nearer hills, and soon discovered the similar but smaller development of strata known as the Dome at Hagley Park. He became a Fellow of the Geological Society in 1851. His active, eager appearance at our field meetings, and his helpfulness in discussions over interesting discoveries, made him the life of the Geological Section of the Club. The bust in the Hereford Free Library fails to show the effect of a face that indicated the energy of youth though the hair was prematurely grey. My last interview with him was to me memorable. After looking over his geological collection he took up a pile of books, including Natural History and the grammars of two or three languages, all of which were in use. On my venturing to suggest that he had a good many irons in the fire, he replied with energy, "I desire to know something of everything, but everything of Some Thing, and that Thing is Geology." Three mornings afterwards all Hereford was saddened by the news of his death, and on June 7th, 1853, the Club, at its meeting at Eastnor, before proceeding to the election of a new Secretary, passed a resolution of the deepest sympathy with his family. In it the members recorded their sense of "the very great loss they had sustained by the awfully sudden removal of Mr. Scobie, and their united admiration of his public and private character."

Mr. Purchas was well in touch with the leading English botanists, and was profuse in giving to less experienced comrades specimens of rare plants from distant places. He was distinguished by his careful regard for accuracy in the frequent questions as to species and varieties which arose amongst the Botanical Section. He undertook to organise the compilation, by the help of our members, of a catalogue of the local plants; a heavy task much interrupted by his removal from the county. His name is perpetuated on the title page of the admirable "Flora of Herefordshire," completed in 1889, in conjunction with our member, the Rev. Augustin Ley, and he has not ceased to carry on his botanical studies in newer and wider fields.

Dr. Bull, whose early home was in Northamptonshire, had brought together the first projectors of the Club, and was for more than thirty years the most energetic and unwearied worker in all its undertakings. The gifts of versatility and business aptitude which were inborn had been steadily applied throughout his medical training in Edinburgh and Paris, and were conspicuous in many departments during his career in Hereford. There was no section of Natural History that he did not take up so as to secure for it adequate attention. He introduced the subject of Archæology; brought out by his personal exertions and influence that sumptuous work the "Herefordshire Pomona," originated and carried through the "Fungus Forays" that for nearly twenty years made Hereford for a week in October the rendezvous of the leading English and Continental mycologists, and enlivened every excursion by his overflowing cheerfulness. His habit

of suggesting suitable work to younger men, insisting that they should undertake it, and encouraging them with hints and criticisms, should not go unrecorded. He died on the last day of October, 1885.

The Rev. W. S. Symonds, the Rector of Pendock, in Worcestershire, but of an old Herefordshire stock, was one of the first who took up the idea of the Geological Club. His intimate knowledge of the geology of the district and his frequent journeys to places of geological interest at home and abroad gave him the materials which he largely utilized in his books, articles, and addresses. None who heard him describe from one of the summits of the Malvern range the geology of the country within sight could forget the brilliant clearness of his language or fail to be touched by his glowing enthusiasm. The sympathetic sketch of his life (by the Rev. J. D. La Touche) presented to us by his daughter, Lady Hooker, is a valued memorial.

The Rev. T. T. Lewis, our second President, was once in his presence, by Mr. Symonds, jocosely styled "the grandfather of the Silurian system." He had, indeed, worked out the geological history of the rocks forming that system, and had communicated his discoveries to Sir Roderick Murchison, who, in later forms of his work emphasized his original recognition of this service by calling him "My most efficient coadjutor in all the regions of Siluria." And at one of our merry meetings when Sir Roderick was hailed "King of Siluria," he promptly nominated his quiet and unambitious friend to the Bishopric of the Geological diocese of Aymestrey!

Mr. Robert Lightbody, of Ludlow, who did not join the Club until 1855, was an indefatigable wielder of the geological hammer, silent for the most part and preferring to give his information verbally or by letter. He was, however, induced to become the President in 1861. His knowledge of the local rocks and his skill in bringing out their characteristic fossils were the envy of other collectors.

Our meetings, during many years, were frequently enlivened and made instructive by the presence as an honorary member of Mr. Edwin Lees, of Worcester, a very old promoter of Natural History Societies, the author of "The Botanical Looker Out," and other works. His knowledge of the Malvern range made him a trusty as well as an entertaining guide in that neighbourhood.

THE FIRST SEASON.

Whilst dealing with the chief incidents of the first season of the Club, I will recall some of the austereies of our excursions, cheerfully borne in those far-off days. There was not then a railway in the county. Members from a distance had to find lodgings in Hereford for one or two nights. Usually we had to leave Hereford by coach at 7 a.m. Once when approaching Ledbury we halted to listen to the warbling of a belated nightingale. At nine, by strict rule, we sat down to breakfast at some convenient inn. The breakfast was then a well recognised speciality of a Field Club, always carefully recorded. There were jovial

greetings between old friends. Visitors were introduced. Routine business was done. The newest tales were told and the day's prospects discussed. Alas ! the train from Hereford at 9.20 or later has killed the pleasantest and not the least profitable feature of our excursions. About ten we set off for a long walk, conducted exactly as at present, and ending with a dinner at four. The drink was more likely to be cider than beer. The honoured toast of "The Queen" (which in this memorable year I have had to change for that of King Edward VII.) was then followed by as many others as might be necessary for drawing speeches from members or visitors. Once Dean Dawes, responding for the Bishop and Clergy, gave an instructive account of the way in which at his parish of King's Somborne they taught the school children Natural History, and the art of observing for themselves. I understand that he kept boxes of dried leaves and other objects in the schoolroom, and his ideas attracted much attention in that day.

The first Field Meeting was held on May 18th, 1852, at Stoke Edith, for the classic ground of Woolhope. The breakfast was at the Foley Arms, in the room occupied by Sir Roderick Murchison when he was working on the geology of that district. We printed in our volume for 1894, p. 260, Mr. Scobie's account of the proceedings. The *Hereford Times* gave a detailed report at the time. Mr. Purchas acutely remembers how the rain fell pitilessly, until even Mr. Symonds, who was in the chair, suggested that they should stay indoors and tell natural history anecdotes ! In a treacherous interval they left to go through Stoke Edith gardens, and then climbed over the successive ridges that enclose the Woolhope Valley. They were driven out of it by a phenomenal storm of wind and rain through the Pentelow outlet to find their dinner at Fownhope.

The second meeting was on July 20th, at Whitchurch, for the Doward and Symond's Yat, a locality full of interest for the geologist and botanist. With them was Sir Charles Lyell and also Sir Roderick Murchison, who told them how, when a lad of 16, he had carried the colours of the old Herefordshire Regiment at the battle of Corunna.

The third and last meeting of 1852 was at Mortimer's Cross for Aymestrey, on September 21st. I was then present as a visitor, and made the acquaintance of many members, including the Rev. J. F. Crouch, of Pembridge, afterwards one of our Presidents. Amongst other investigations in Natural History he had been working out the botany of that corner of the county. At a recent meeting of the Herefordshire Horticultural Society he and I had respectively taken the first and second prizes for dried collections of Herefordshire plants. The Rev. T. T. Lewis showed us, at his house at Aymestrey, the collection of fossils which he had placed at the disposal of Sir Roderick Murchison. The after-dinner discussion lasted till nearly eight, and I, for one, had a long ride homeward over unfamiliar roads in the dark.

I have thought this outline of the first year's proceedings of sufficient interest to be given now. We shall soon issue detailed reports

of the earlier meetings down to the time when they begin to be recorded in our *Transactions*. They will show no important variation in routine except for the introduction during many years of the Fungus Foray and the established custom of making the July meeting a ladies' day. This appears to have been suggested by the appearance of a large party of ladies belonging to the locality at dinner at the Craven Arms in July, 1863. It was called a memorable precedent, illustrating what might be done to render the meetings interesting and useful.

NATURAL SCIENCE IN 1852.

We shall not realise the position of our earliest members without considering the state of their information on some important branches of Natural Science. This may to some extent be done by referring to a few matters now well known, but unknown and unforeseen by them.

In their discussions of old and puzzling questions as to the relationships and differences between species of plants and animals they would be criticising the theories of Lamarck and the author of the "Vestiges of Creation." But while they were pondering such things Charles Darwin was hoarding the draft, prepared long before, of his "Origin of Species," not to be wrung from him until 1859. They could have no foresight of the discovery of Kirchhoff, who in 1860 showed how, by spectroscopic analysis, we could ascertain the composition of the sun and stars. The Healing Art was strongly represented in the Club, but though its professors may have talked of animalculæ, such as on summer nights make the sea luminous with pale fires, they had no useful knowledge of the minute organisms, animal or vegetable, malignant or beneficent, airborne or water-borne, that affect the living tissues or modify dead or refuse matter, and which the bacteriologist now breeds or cultivates as another man tends his flock or tills his garden. So their rejoicing over the possibilities of anaesthetics then just made available for operations, was checked by those mysterious influences that might prevent the healing of the wound. They had no knowledge of the communication of malarial fevers by insects, and were as ignorant of the preventible causes of the plague as were our fourteenth century ancestors in the time of the Black Death. Not one of them lived to learn that the interior of the body might be explored by means of rays that pass through living flesh.

Among recent discoveries in Botany none have been more interesting than those connected with the various methods of fertilization of flowers and the inbred tendencies of climbing plants. We knew enough to set us thinking, but we failed to see the significance of what we knew. In 1867 Flavell Edmunds read an interesting paper on the "Variations of the Primulæ," founded on close examination and on experiments which were minute and careful so far as they went. Like other observers he had found that in many of the flowers the pistil alone grows up to the opening of the corolla tube, and in others the stamens alone. He conjectured that this was a sign of general exhaustion in the

species, resulting in the infertility of many of the flowers. Had he known that he stood on the threshold of the great discovery of the Fertilization of Flowers by Insects he would have taken the shoes from off his feet. His absolution for failing to see what was before him might, however, be easy, because to see it a man should be botanist and entomologist at once. But for another failure we botanists ought to have stood voluntarily in the usual garb of penance. The question how a plant that climbs by twining finds with but little delay the object round which it will twine was old and interesting. There were those who thought there must be a kind of vegetable instinct or some magnetic force which compelled it towards its goal. If in this hop-growing county we had taken the trouble to watch the process, if we had tempted enquirers with a prize pencil-case or bracelet, if we had sent a schoolboy dinnerless into a hop-yard, we should have learned that the slender shoot, as soon as it bends over, begins to turn round like the hand of a clock, pretty regularly, once in two hours and eight minutes, till its energy is exhausted or the pole is reached. But the working out of either of these discoveries in detail, as Darwin did, seems to have demanded a philosopher, whose eyes were sharpened by curiosity and to whom sickness had given leisure.

If our earliest members, naturalists or archæologists, believed that man had not existed contemporaneously with extinct animals, they were only like the leading scientific authorities. But for a century and more there had been good evidence of hand-worked flints found in the London gravel in company with the remains of an extinct elephant. For a quarter of a century evidence now considered convincing, from British caves, had been accumulating to the same effect. It has been said that one too enthusiastic investigator spent his substance vainly in trying to get his story credited, and died of a broken heart! It was not until 1858 that the discoveries at Brixham compelled attention to the evidences of man's antiquity. But when in 1861 I brought to Hereford a series of hand-worked flints found in the gravels of the Somme Valley by Mons. Boucher de Perthes there were those who eyed them with suspicion.

These illustrations will not in general discredit, in the eyes of those who knew them, either the capacity or the methods of our early members. They were working with indifferent tools in a wide field. When in later years I have stood by the side of more prominent investigators possessed of all modern advantages, I have gladly remembered that for a too brief period in my youth I sat at the feet of these earlier masters.

It is difficult to realise now the sensation caused by the appearance of "The Origin of Species." I suppose that previous writers on the same subject had found few readers and fewer disciples. But Darwin's tones penetrated, and his audience was world-wide. You might assent wholly or partially, or dissent totally, but the book could not be read without feeling that it came from a master mind. It is "one long

argument" founded on the closest personal observation, and the widest enquiry in all branches of natural history, with a conscientious effort to restrain the imagination within vision of the facts. "The Voyage of the Beagle" had been felt by persons accustomed to lighter reading to have much of the charm of a romance. "The Origin of Species," though of a tougher texture and infinitely more difficult to grasp, had the same quality. And now, after the best thought of the most profound thinkers applied during forty years, one may feel that, with much that is convincing and much that is probable, there remains enough of the doubtful to exercise the minds and excite the imagination of generations which we shall not see. In view of work like this Charles Kingsley cried aloud for good men, for men that are honest, accurate, righteous, patient, self-restraining, fair, modest, aware of their own vast ignorance compared with the vast amount that is to be learned in such a universe, "men that will wait for more facts and more thought about the facts." Whenever such a pioneer invites us to accompany him over pleasant slopes by paths that he has smoothed and mapped to some ridge that he has been first to climb, we need enjoy the journey no less, though sure that from the top we shall look up to a still loftier range not to be climbed by us, nor by him—unclimbable perhaps by mortal man!

ANTIQUITIES.

Archæology, one of the original objects of the Cotteswold Club, was added to our programme when our excursions brought out the wealth of ancient remains—Mediæval, Roman, and Early British—in the remoter parts of this border county. The popular passion for antiquities was new-born and ill regulated. When in 1850 I first came into Hereford we were stopped by a hay-waggon in the narrow strait in the High Town where stood the old Townhall. Its mutilated and shapeless upper story rested on handsome fifteenth-century arcades that, when the Hall was pulled down, bore witness by their obstinacy to the endurance of Herefordshire oak and the solidity of mediæval construction. Little of antiquarian interest has vanished since that clearance. In the Cathedral Close the massive balks that had carried temporarily the central tower were being rolled about. The age of church "restoration" was setting in. If some of its results have to be regretted, it is fair to remember the condition of the buildings that then called aloud for treatment. Very many of our parish churches had gone unrepaired and uncleansed for years or for a generation. Many were dangerously dilapidated. No other kind of edifice used by human beings was so utterly neglected. And when those who took thought for such matters found the means for putting the churches in order to the best of their judgment, many of the people in remote places had become so accustomed to the squalor as to associate it with their ideas of Sabbath worship. In the necessary reform there perished ancient work that with greater care might have been preserved. But the worst mischief

was wrought with the fittings and memorials of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the style of which, in the renaissance of mediæval art, was detested for its incongruity, and for the injury it had done to that which it had supplanted two centuries before. With other Societies we are now systematically collecting evidence bearing on early and mediæval work, but care is still necessary to prevent the thoughtless destruction of such as remains.

THE FUTURE.

The instances which I gave of things unforeseen by our earliest members may serve a double purpose. Will any one suggest that, in the future, the fruits of investigation will be in any degree less interesting, less important, than they have been in the past? As a guide for those who decline to believe that the nineteenth century has exhausted the infinite, we may refer to a paper (*Trans.* 1891, p. 211), by the Rev. J. O. Bevan, F.G.S., "On Certain Useful Subjects for Scientific Investigation." In it the writer dealt in detail with mathematical and physical science, biology and anthropology, and every suggestion is worthy of careful consideration, particularly by new members and young members, so that no time may be lost in searching for useful work. And it may be helpful to suggest that in most departments costly apparatus is less necessary than the intelligent use of the eyes upon "that which before us lies in daily life." The evidence of former discoveries too often goes to show how obstinate has been the neglect of previous opportunities, and how hopeful at all times is the harvest of an observant eye. To my sorrow, the stars have been eclipsed by gas during the best years of my life, but even, in the far-reaching science which deals with them, there seems to be for the quiet observer who knows his constellations an occasional chance. Nothing in recent times has created greater interest than the sudden appearance of new stars. To make sure of them, astronomers have been exposing photographic plates on which every new comer can register itself. Since this has been done eight new stars have appeared, but the first news of two out of the eight, including the latest, now shining in Perseus, reached the scientific world through the eyes of one and the same independent observer! Our former President, Mr. Banks, was more anxious for new facts than for theories that might be shattered as quickly as they were formed. We want both—the facts first. A time must soon come when we shall have catalogued all the conspicuous living objects native to the county, but the more obscure organisms have not been very seriously attacked except by a few observers. Very little has been done in the great enquiry after that wonder around which the least and the greatest of these have been builded, and which we call Life! How little is known about those ways of animals which are put down to Instinct! How little advantage has so far been taken of the help offered by extraordinary variations and unusual developments in plants and animals towards a study of that mystery of mysteries—the Ordinary and Usual! And,

although many harmful organisms have been studied exhaustively, there are whole groups of conspicuous insects awaiting the kind of talent and the patience displayed by Lord Avebury to investigate their life history for scientific objects alone. No theoriser on evolution would answer for the consequences if the insects, these practical observers of their narrow world, should discover that the only way to arouse our curiosity is to bite! As a help towards our studies in comparative anatomy we have to thank Mr. Montagu Browne, of the admirable museum at Leicester, for his gift of the skull of a typical mammal, the bones of which are distinguished by colours. We hope that the Hereford Museum will soon possess also skulls of birds, reptiles, and fish similarly prepared. To name this museum is to recall our indebtedness to our past President, Sir James Rankin, for special accommodation in this building, with which he endowed the city.

If the Club was founded in part for extending the knowledge of Herefordshire amongst its inhabitants it might usefully promote the knowledge of the parish among the parishioners. Close to Hereford there are parishes where we may still identify in the doubly curving lines of the hedges, and of the rows of trees in the old orchards, the track of the plough oxen that were turning the furrow in days as old as Offa's Dyke. Mr. Beddoe and Mr. Humfrys have given us the clue to the history of local agriculture in their papers on the customs and practices of the ancient manors. The episcopal and cathedral archives would tell how the tenants of the Bishop and the Dean and Chapter were dealt with and how they fared. There has long been in slow progress our local history, and a new Victoria County History is promised. I am not sure that either of these will make clear to the cottager and the farmer, and the lord of the manor himself, the history of the lands on which and by which they live. That is work which the Club might take up as one of its duties.

More than fifty years ago the work done in the school at King's Somborne was warmly praised in official reports. And within the last few years the teaching of Natural History with a knowledge of common things, exactly as was described to us by Dean Dawes, has been advocated as a substitute for much of the book learning of the established system. I do not suggest that we should take responsibility for results, but we shall, no doubt, place any experience we may have at the service of those who desire to work more on the lines which we have laid down for ourselves.

The original idea of limiting the membership of the Club has long been abandoned, and we now number two hundred and forty. But the ideal number for associated work in the field is no larger than before. Borrowing a suggestion from another Natural History Society, our active members might be so classified that they can sometimes work together in smaller parties and prepare matter for discussion at the ordinary meetings. This would combine the advantage of numbers with the advantage of concentrated effort, and might provide our Honorary Secretaries with the

influx of Reports and Papers for which they constantly appeal, and which is contemplated by our rules.

CONCLUSION.

A year ago this office of your President was relinquished by my predecessor, whose address was a proof of the richness of the archives of the Cathedral of which he is the Dean. I have now the very agreeable duty of handing it over to a successor, upon whom also the Club may be congratulated. The Rev. Sir George Cornewall, its Honorary Secretary during many of its early years, a former President, an ardent lover of his county, has been happily chosen to start the Club on the second half century of its career. I thank most sincerely our officers and others who have so kindly made up for my non-residence. The Club has at all times been fortunate in having Secretaries able enough and enthusiastic enough to carry out without regard to their own convenience the work of organisation, little known to members in general, but indispensable to its continued utility.

In dealing with the story of our origin one's thoughts involuntarily go forward to another period not too far away for our sympathetic anticipation. There are probably some amongst us who will see the second Jubilee. What the history and the position of the Club may be at that epoch depends practically upon the energy, the acuteness, and the judgment of its members, and of those qualities we may feel assured. What will be the condition of human knowledge, what may be the effect of the extension of that knowledge upon the happiness of the human family are matters beyond us. But while we thankfully remember our past, we may bespeak from our far-off successors, our elders in experience, our superiors in knowledge, a kindly consideration, and send them a courteous, a hopeful, and a joyous salutation across the intervening years.

WILD BIRDS PROTECTION ACT.

It will be remembered that at the Annual Meeting of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club on April 3rd, 1902, the question of the Wild Birds Protection Acts was introduced by Mr. Thomas Hutchinson, and that the following Resolution, brought forward by him, was carried unanimously :—

" That the President be requested to bring before the Herefordshire County Council the question of the Wild Birds Protection Acts, with the view to the provisions being adopted within the county."

The Rev. Sir George Cornwall, the President of the Club, promised to bring the subject to the notice of Sir James Rankin, with the request that he would support it with his favourable consideration.

At the meeting of the Herefordshire County Council held on Saturday, 12th April, 1902, Sir James Rankin asked whether the Wild Birds Protection Act was in operation in this County, and if it were possible to be supplied with a list of the Birds to which the Act was made to apply.

The Chairman said that of course the Act was in force in this county, and the birds scheduled in that Act were protected; but no birds beyond those scheduled were protected. The Council had made two applications for the protection of two other birds, and in one case, that of the plover, the answer came back that there was no occasion to protect them unless they were in danger of extinction. The subject was considerably discussed at the time, and they came to the conclusion that there was no danger of extinction. There was not an order in force in this county for the protection of birds beyond those scheduled in the Act.

A PLEA FOR THE BIRDS.

The Society for the Protection of Birds has made a somewhat novel method of spreading information upon the provisions of the Wild Birds Protection Acts. It has issued a series of "Bird Law Rhymes," the object of which is to make the very complicated law on the subject of Bird Protection more readily grasped and remembered by the general public.

The following extracts are from the *Westminster Gazette*.

Close time is thus set out :—

British laws for Bird Protection
Lead off with a weighty section,
Giving birds a charter clear
For safety five months in the year.
In this close or nesting time
To shoot, net, trap, or take with lime,
Creatures that have beak and claw
Is contrary to English law.
By the Act in '80 framed

March 1st to August 1st is named
Close time, but the season's range
County Councils often change.
They who in this time molest
Bird on wing or bird on nest,
Bird in hedge or bird on tree,
Bird on land or bird on sea,
Any bird of any kind,
May be summoned, cautioned, fined.

There are, however, certain exceptions which are duly noted, and then a list is given of the scheduled birds.

But this list may be extended,
Added to, enlarged, amended,
By a County Council, so
You should your County's Order know.

As regards the penalty for taking or killing in close time we are told :—

A pound and costs may be the bill
To whomsoe'er shall take or kill
One of these in nesting season,
Whatever his excuse or reason ;
Whether the offender stand
On his own or other land.
For birds not on the schedule down
The penalty is but a crown,
And if it's a first fall from grace
Reproof and costs will meet the case.
It should at least the memory aid,
To have these matters thus outlaid.

continues the *Westminster Gazette*—requesting to be excused for falling into the rhythm of the document.

After treating further enactments in like manner we get the "Moral" as follows :—

Seeing then what may be done
By the Councils, everyone
Who loves the birds should do his best
To get the vote and interest
Of Councillors and Aldermen
For birds and Bird Protection ; then
Bid them frame an Order wise
Which to their district best applies ;
Get it legally endorsed,
And last, but far from least, enforced.
If for help or hints you care
Write to 3, Hanover Square,
Addressing (to save ink and words)
Just "Hon. Secretary, Birds";
Then the S.P.B. will do
Its best to aid and counsel you.

It is to be hoped that the committal of these rhymes to memory may bring the Regulations of the Wild Birds Protection Acts into the more general knowledge of the public.

A NEW SPECIES OF SNAKE (PSAMMOPHIS LEIGHTONI).

Dr. Leighton has left Herefordshire for Scotland to take up Zoological work entirely, and to edit Blackwood's new periodical, "The Field Naturalists' Quarterly," a journal which is being brought out under the auspices of the leading Field Clubs and Societies in the kingdom.

He writes to Mr. Moore as follows:—"One of my reptile collectors in Cape Colony sent me some preserved serpents and lizards. Amongst the snakes was one which I could not classify at all. Consequently I sent it to Mr. G. A. Boulenger, at the British Museum, for identification, and was naturally very delighted when I heard from him that it was a species new to science. Shortly afterwards he wrote to tell me that the reptile had been named after me, *Psammophis leightoni*."

ERRATA ET ADDENDA.

Page 70, add the following as the concluding sentence:—See *Transactions* 1884, page 196.

O. LYSON THOMAS . IRONMONGER—The Ironmongers' Arms.

R. IN HEREFORD . 1668—HIS HALF-PENY.

Page 136, line 19, for "Noresman" read "Norseman."

Page 145, line 23, transpose and read as follows:—"Until we reach, three miles westwards, the neighbourhood of Lyonshall and Titley; from Titley Railway Station Offa's Dyke is visible, &c."

Page 151, line 19, for "this district" read "the Pembridge District."

" " 20, for "it" read "the Mercian Kingdom."

" " 21, for "shifting of the Dyke" read "shifting of the Dyke to Lyonshall."

Page 171, on lines 1 and 5, for "pale yellow clouded butterfly" read "pale-clouded yellow butterfly."

Page 183, line 16, add at the end of the second paragraph:—"An excellent article on Dore Abbey, with illustrations, is to be found in *The Builder*, April 8th, 1893. For a view of the Presbytery, as restored by Roland W. Paul, see *The Builder*, January 3rd, 1903."

Page 225. The corrected Tables of Rainfall during the nineteenth century are reserved for the succeeding volume of *Transactions*, 1902, 1903.

TO THE

TRANSACTIONS OF THE WOOLHOPE CLUB

FOR 1900, 1901, TO APRIL, 1902.

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