



WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS FIELD CLUB

presented by

Mrs M.U.Jones 1996



C. M. Bristley

TRANSACTIONS
OF THE
WOOLHOPE
NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB,
HEREFORDSHIRE.

[ESTABLISHED 1851.]

VOLUME FOR 1939, 1940 and 1941.

"HOPE ON"



"HOPE EVER"



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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., B.D.
1856 Wheatley, Mr. Hewitt.
1857 Lingen, Mr. Charles.
1858 Bevan, G. P., M.D.
1859 Bevan, G. P., M.D.
1860 Banks, Mr. R. W.
1861 Lightbody, Mr. Robert.
1862 Hoskyns, Mr. Chandos Wren.
1863 Hoskyns, Mr. Chandos Wren.
1864 Crouch, Rev. J. F., B.D.
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, M.A.
1870 Cooper-Key, Rev. H., M.A.
1871 Cam, Mr. Thomas.
1872 Steele, Mr. Elmes Y.
1873 Davies, Rev. James, M.A.
1874 Davies, Rev. James, M.A.
1875 Robinson, Rev. C. J., M.A.
1876 Chapman, Mr. T. A., M.D.
1877 Morris, Mr. J. Griffiths.
1878 Phillott, Rev. H. W., M.A.
1879 Armitage, Mr. Arthur.
1880 Knight, Mr. J. H.
1881 Ley, Rev. Augustin, M.A.
1882 Blashill, Mr. Thomas, F.R.I.B.A.
1883 Piper, Mr. George H., F.G.S.
1884 Burrough, Rev. Charles, M.A.
1885 Martin, Mr. C. G.
1886 Piper, Mr. George H., F.G.S.
1887 Elliot, Rev. William, M.A.

PRESIDENTS—*Continued.*

- 1888 Elliot, Rev. William, M.A.
 1889 Southall, Mr. H., F.R.Met.Soc.
 1890 Croft, Sir Herbert, Bart., M.A.
 1891 Cornwall, Rev. Sir George H., Bart., M.A.
 1892 Barneby, Mr. William Henry.
 1893 Lambert, Rev. Preb. William H., M.A.
 1894 Davies, Mr. James.
 1895 Watkins, Rev. M. G., M.A.
 1896 Moore, Mr. H. Cecil.
 1897 Moore, Mr. H. Cecil.
 1898 Marshall, Rev. H. B. D., M.A.
 1899 Beddoe, Mr. H. C.
 1900 Leigh, The Very Rev. The Hon. J. W., D.D., Dean of Hereford.
 1901 Blashill, Mr. Thomas, F.R.I.B.A., F.Z.S.
 1902 Cornwall, Rev. Sir George H., Bart., M.A.
 1903 Southall, Mr. H., F.R.Met.Soc.
 1904 Hutchinson, Mr. T.
 1905 Baylis, Mr. Phillip, M.A., LL.M., F.Z.S.
 1906 Warner, Rev. R. Hyett, M.A.
 1907 Rankin, Sir James, Bart, M.A.
 1908 Moore, Mr. H. Cecil, and Rankin, Sir James, Bart., M.A.
 1909 Williamson, Rev. Preb. H. Trevor, M.A.
 1910 Farn, Mr. A. B.
 1911 Phillips, Mr. E. Cambridge.
 1912 Stooke-Vaughan, Rev. F. S., M.A.
 1913 Watkins, Rev. S. Cornish, M.A.
 1914 Watkins, Rev. S. Cornish, M.A.
 1915 Wood, Mr. J. G., F.S.A.
 1916 Jack, Mr. G. H., M.Inst.C.E., F.S.A., F.G.S.
 1917 Grindley, Rev. H. E., M.A.
 1918 Bannister, Rev. Canon A. T., M.A.
 1919 Watkins, Mr. Alfred, F.R.P.S.
 1920 Humfrys, Mr. W. J.
 1921 James, Mr. Francis R.
 1922 Marshall, Mr. George, F.S.A.
 1923 Bradney, Colonel Sir Joseph A., Knt., C.B., M.A., D.Litt.
 1924 Durham, Herbert E., D.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S. (Eng.).
 1925 Mackay, Mr J. C.
 1926 Scobie, Colonel M. J. G., C.B.
 1927 Day, Rev. E. Hermitage, D.D., F.S.A.
 1928 Symonds, Mr. Powell Biddulph.

PRESIDENTS—*continued.*

- 1929 Smith, The Right Rev. Martin Linton, D.D., D.S.O., Lord
 Bishop of Hereford.
 1930 Gilbert, Captain H. A.
 1931 Symonds-Tayler, Lieut.-Colonel R. H.
 1932 Swayne, Lieut.-Colonel O. R., D.S.O.
 1933 Hamilton, Brig.-General W. G., C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O.
 1934 Walker, C. W., M.C., M.D., Ch.B.
 1935 Ellison, Captain F. B.
 1936 Robinson, Mr. R. S. Gavin.
 1937 Morgan, Mr. F. C., F.L.A.
 1938 Bettington, Mr. E. J., F.R.S.A.
 1939 Benn, Mr. C. A., O.B.E., M.A., F.G.S.
 1940 Benn, Mr. C. A., O.B.E., M.A., F.G.S.
 1941 Martin, Rev. Preb. S. H., M.A.
-

LIST OF MEMBERS

HONORARY MEMBERS ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1941.

Richardson, L., F.R.E.S., P.A.Inst.W.E., F.G.S.
 Morgan, F. C., F.S.A., F.L.A.
 Hereford Times, Ltd.
 Gilbert, Captain H. A.
 Cornwall, Sir Geoffrey, Bart., B.A., D.L.
 Jack, G. H., M.Inst.C.E., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.
 Warner, S. E.
 Overbury, Thomas, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

Birmingham Archæological Society.
 Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Archæological Society.
 Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club.
 Cardiff Naturalists' Society.
 Cotteswold Field Club.
 Essex Archæological Society.
 Essex Field Club.
 Geological Society of London.
 Hertfordshire Natural History Society.
 Kent Archæological Society.
 Llandudno and District Field Club.
 Malvern Field Club.
 North Staffordshire Field Club.
 Oxoniensia, c/o The Librarian, The Haverfield Library, Oxford.
 Powysland Club.
 Society of Antiquaries.
 Somerset Archæological Society.
 Swansea Field Society.
 Worcester Archæological Society.
 Worcestershire Naturalists' Field Club.

ORDINARY MEMBERS ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1941.

1919 Ainslie, Dr. W., Wargrave House, Hereford.
 1938 Alcock, A. C., Brooklands, Eardisley, Hereford.
 1940 Appleton, L. P., Ivy Cottage, Ewyas Harold, Hereford.
 1936 Armitage, L. Nugent, Silverhope, Hinton, Hereford.
 1939 Atkinson, C. M., The Rock, Lugwardine, Hereford.

1933 Baily, R. E. H., O.B.E., Breinton Court, Hereford.
 1927 Ball, Edward, Oldfield House, Lyde, Hereford.
 1931 Banks, R. A., Hergest Croft, Kington, Hereford.
 1917 } Beattie, Rev. Preb. E. H., M.C., Madley Vicarage, Hereford.
 1936 }
 1931 Betteridge, W., Marley Hall, Ledbury.
 1925 Birmingham Public Reference Library, Birmingham.
 1934 Birmingham University Library, The Librarian, Birmingham.
 1939 Biggs, Herbert, Roundways, Bodenham Road, Hereford.
 1939 Boland, J. B., 24, Ferndale Road, Hereford.
 1937 Bolt, A. W., 168, White Cross Road, Hereford.
 1937 Bolt, Percy, Westwood, Hampton Park, Hereford.
 1919 Bond, E. C., Wessington Court, Woolhope, Hereford.
 1933 Booth, C. E. T., 1, Kyrle Street, Hereford.
 1927 Braby, J., Merrivale, Ross-on-Wye.
 1940 Brayley, J. W., 1, Breinton Road, Hereford.
 1897 Brierley, J. M., Pyon House, Canon Pyon, Hereford.
 1931 Bright, Captain G., Beech House, Luston, Leominster.
 1941 Brocket, Rt. Hon. Baron, Kinnersley Castle, Hereford.
 1939 Bromley, R. E., Penrhos, Kington, Hereford.
 1940 Brook, J. A., Mullion, Breinton, Hereford.
 1910 Brumwell, C. E., Kelmscott, Breinton, Hereford.
 1926 Bulman, Dr. J. R., Aylestone Hill, Hereford.
 1938 Bulmer, R. H., Adams Hill, Hereford.
 1926 Burnett, David, 10, Castle Street, Hereford.
 1937 Butcher, Basil, Dragon Garage, Hereford.
 1912 Butcher, G. H., Delamere, Bodenham Road, Hereford.
 1919 Capel, Major E. A., M.C., 36, Bridge Street, Hereford.
 1939 Cawley, Right Hon. Baron, P.C., Berrington Hall, Leominster.
 1937 Charleton, P., Burcote, Ellesmere Road, Weybridge, Surrey.
 1937 Christmas, C. J., Castle Hill, Hereford.
 1924 Christy, Captain H. A., Llangoed, Llyswen, Brecon.
 1910 Clarke, Dr. S. J., Sunnyside, Weobley, Herefordshire.
 1938 Clive, Captain M. G. D., Whitfield, near Hereford.
 1905 } Cockcroft, Major E. F., D.L., Tyglyn, Cusop, Hay, Hereford.
 1920 }
 1935 Cooper, G. B., 9, King Street, Hereford.
 1932 Cotterell, Sir Richard, Bart., Garnons, Hereford.
 1937 Croker, F., Sunnyside, Folly Lane, Hereford.
 1885 Davies, Rev. G., 5, St. Martin Street, Hereford.
 1926 Davies, H. J., Fernleigh, Bodenham Road, Hereford.
 1938 Davis, A., Brewery House, Ross-on-Wye.

- 1934 Daw, Rev. W. S., Peterchurch Vicarage, Herefordshire.
 1911 } Day, Rev. E. Hermitage, D.D., The Little Hermitage, Southway,
 1917 } Pinelands, Cape of Good Hope, South Africa.
 1929 Dill, R. F., River Bank, Hampton Park, Hereford.
 1925 Donaldson, Rev. Canon A. E., County House, Struet, Brecon.
 1907 Durham, Dr. H. E., 14, Sedley Taylor Road, Cambridge.
 1938 Dugdale, Rev. J. S., Tupsley Vicarage, Hereford.
- 1940 Edwards, Dr. C. D., Huntington Court, Kington, Herefordshire.
 1919 Edwards, R. J., Pen-y-bryn, Hafod Road, Hereford.
 1939 Edwards, Rev. S. Z., Bullinghope Vicarage, Hereford.
 1939 Elliott, S. W., The Cottage, Whitchurch, Herefordshire.
 1938 Evershed, W. A., Soho Hall Hotel, Birmingham, 19.
- 1926 Farmer, W. G., Withington Court, near Hereford.
 1938 Fixsen, H. M., Gwynant, Hampton Park, Hereford.
 1937 Ford, R. A., Garth, Venn's Lane, Hereford.
 1937 Foster, G., Southfield, Leominster.
 1925 Fox, P., 1, Greylands, Gruneisen Street, Hereford.
 1934 Franklin, C., Greentrees, St. Margaret's Road, Hereford.
- 1939 Gabriel, D. B. G., Bondjah, Uphill Road, Mill Hill, London, N.7.
 1941 Gale, H. A., Hazeldene, King's Acre Road, Hereford.
 1941 Garbett, Rev. C. S., The Vicarage, Stretton Grandison, Ledbury.
 1941 Goodall, W. K., 26, Bulmer Avenue, Hereford.
 1941 Goss, Rev. A. J., The Vicarage, Old Radnor, Presteigne, Radnorshire.
- 1899 Gowring, Rev. Canon E. A., Grittleton, Chippenham, Wilts.
 1937 Graham-Clarke, Captain G., The Skreen, Erwood, Brecon.
 1932 Gray, Robert, The Oaklands, Dorstone, Herefordshire.
 1936 Greaves, W. G., The Grammar School, Ledbury.
 1931 Greenland, G. B., West View, Bodenham Road, Hereford.
 1931 Greenly, Major-General W. H., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Titley Court, Herefordshire.
 1936 Griffiths, A. H., Overdale, Three Elms Road, Hereford.
 1902 Grindley, Rev. H. E., Kingsland, Milverton, Somerset.
 1921 Gwillim, A. Ll., Hill Field, Putley, Ledbury.
- 1926 Hall, G. A., Hinton, Elm Road, Hereford.
 1928 Harding, C. J., 26, Edgar Street, Hereford.
 1920 Harris, D. W., Mouse Castle, Eign Hill, Hereford.
 1939 Harvey, Dr. P. G., Cornwall House, Monmouth.
 1940 Haywood, Rev. H. W. J. L. R., Withington Rectory, Hereford.
 1903 Hewitt, Rev. J. B., The Rectory, Stanford-on-Teme, Worcester.
 1935 Higgins, T. H., Glaslyn, Broomy Hill, Hereford.
 1924 Hill, Rev. H. W., The Vicarage, Malvern Link.

- 1898 Hinckes, Captain R. T., Mansel Lacy, Hereford.
 1919 Holland, Rev. T., Upton Bishop Vicarage, Ross-on-Wye.
 1920 Howard, W. C., The Oaklands, Charlotte Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 15.
 1903 Hudson, A. J., 32, South Street, Leominster.
 1912 Hutchinson, J. M., Grantsfield, Leominster.
 1937 Illidge, E. J., Hill Cottage, Symonds Yat, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1903 James, F. R., St. Peter Street, Hereford.
 1927 Jay, T. E., Derndale, Canon Pyon, Hereford.
 1938 Jeffrey, E. N. B., Rainbow House, Leominster.
 1932 Jenkins, H. R., The Porch, Westhidge, Withington, Hereford.
 1932 Jewell, C., Kenfig, Grey Friars, Hereford.
 1936 Jones, E. A. P., Langston Court, Glewstone, Ross-on-Wye.
 1935 Jones, G. Averay, Mavis Holt, Hampton Park, Hereford.
 1923 Jones, Rev. G. I. R., Llanvillo Rectory, Brecon.
 1936 Jones, W. J., Westlands, Much Birch, Hereford.
 1926 Johnston, Alex., Southbank House, Hereford.
- 1935 Kilgour, Rev. J. H. T., St. James' Vicarage, Hereford.
 1927 King, C. F., Eign Street, Hereford.
 1933 King, W. J., The Yews, Hampton Park, Hereford.
 1933 Knight, L. A., Trinity House, Baggalay Street, Hereford.
- 1939 Langdale-Smith, Dr. H. G., Tarrington, Hereford.
 1935 Langford, Dr. A. W., St. John Street, Hereford.
 1941 Lea-Wilson, Rev. C. A., Tarrington Rectory, Hereford.
 1919 Lee, Lennox B., How Caple Court, Ross-on-Wye.
 1939 Leek, D., c/o Messrs. Brumwell, 10, Broad Street, Hereford.
 1941 Lloyd, Emerys, Shenstone, King's Acre Road, Hereford.
 1936 Lloyd, Sir John, M.C., Dinas House, Brecon.
 1927 Loder-Symonds, Vice-Admiral F. P., C.M.G., R.N., Waldrist, Aylestone Hill, Hereford.
- 1921 } Lovesey, A., Grendon, Belmont Road, Hereford.
 1936 }
- 1933 Maclaverty, C., Fayre Oaks, White Cross Road, Hereford.
 1923 Mappin, W. H., Ynyshir Hall, Glandyfi, Cardiganshire.
 1939 Malkin, G. R., Fownhope, Hereford.
 1938 Marfell, S. P., The Villa, Ross-on-Wye.
 1931 Marriott, A. W., Cantilupe House, St. Owen Street, Hereford.
 1927 Marriott, C. L., 23, St. Owen Street, Hereford.
 1940 Marriott, F. G., King's Acre Halt, Hereford.
 1901 Marshall, George, The Manor House, Breinton, Hereford.
 1921 Marshall, G. H., The Manor House, Breinton, Hereford.
 1914 Marshall, Thomas, Langetts, Bridstow, Ross-on-Wye.

- 1916 Marshall, Rev. W., The Grange, Sarnesfield, Weobley, Herefordshire.
- 1936 Martin, Preb. S. H., Sutton Rectory, Hereford.
- 1931 Matthews, J. W., Bartonsham Farm, Hereford.
- 1911 Matthews, T. A., 6, King Street, Hereford.
- 1934 McDowell, R. H., Shotover, Three Elms Road, Hereford.
- 1941 McLannahan, Dr. J., Daneswood, Hampton Park, Hereford.
- 1936 Mellor, J. E. M., Prospect Cottage, Bredwardine, Hereford.
- 1935 Milne, Leonard, 29, Church Street, Hereford.
- 1939 Mitchell, C. H., 12, Commercial Street, Hereford.
- 1941 Moir, E. A., 24, The Gresleys, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1899 Money-Kyrle, Rev. C. L., Homme House, Much Marcle, Gloucester.
- 1937 Morris, E. H., 11, Castle Street, Hereford.
- 1940 Morris, Rev. Quintin, The Vicarage, Breinton, Hereford.
- 1939 Moss, T., Fairford, Breinton Road, Hereford.
- 1937 Mountford, E. H., The Old Mill House, Dulas, Pontrilas, Hereford.
- 1930 Mumford, Captain W. C., M.C., Sugwas Court, Hereford.
- 1933 Newton, Freeman, De Lacy House, Hereford.
- 1940 Painter, A. E., Cranford, Broomy Hill, Hereford.
- 1927 Parker, Rev. T. H., Vineyard Croft, Eign Hill, Hereford.
- 1937 Parr, R. C., The New Weir, Kenchester, Hereford.
- 1920 Pateshall, Lieut.-Colonel H. E. P., D.S.O., Allensmore Court, Hereford.
- 1939 Payne, Rev. A., Moccas Rectory, Hereford.
- 1941 Peach, Rev. F. J., 35, Lichfield Avenue, Hereford.
- 1924 Peacock, G. H., c/o The Hereford Times, Ltd., Hereford.
- 1934 Pembridge, V. H., Mavis Holt, Hampton Park, Hereford.
- 1926 Perkins, G. W., Bredon, Cusop, Hay.
- 1932 Perry, W. T., 23, King's Street, Hereford.
- 1939 Phillips, E. H., St. Ebba, Breinton Road, Hereford.
- 1935 Pockock, Dr. R. W., Geological Survey, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, London.
- 1911 } Powell, Rev. Prebendary G. H., Dorstone Rectory, Hereford.
1938 }
- 1937 Powell, Hubert J., King's Acre Halt, Hereford.
- 1922 Powell, J. J. S., Hall Court, Much Marcle, Herefordshire.
- 1922 Price, T. Lindsey, Commercial Street, Hereford.
- 1938 Prichard, H. M., 1, Palace Yard, Hereford.
- 1940 Prior, C. E., Wiltondale, Bridstow, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1934 Pritchard, Percy, Quarry Bank, Callow, Hereford.
- 1919 Pritchard, Walter, Quarry Bank, Callow, Hereford.
- 1919 Pritchard, W. P., High Town, Hereford.

- 1935 Pugh, H., The Firs, Southbank Road, Hereford.
- 1921 Pulley, Sir Charles, Lower Eaton, Hereford.
- 1908 Purchas, Rev. A. B., Prenton, Churchdown, Gloucester.
- 1919 Riddell, Rev. G. B. E., 30, Tufton Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1.
- 1932 Roberts, Rev. J. H., Canon Pyon Vicarage, Hereford.
- 1932 Robinson, R. S. Gavin, Poston House, Peterchurch, Hereford.
- 1931 Roderick, Rev. H., The Manse, Gorsley, Newent, Gloucester.
- 1927 Romilly, E. C., Broadfield Court, Bodenham, Hereford.
- 1937 Ross, J. H., The Mount, Leominster.
- 1940 Rutherford, Captain R. V., Wennetune, Almeley, Hereford.
- 1939 Salt, Major A. E. W., Stawne, Weobley, Herefordshire.
- 1933 Scott, J., Greystone, Pengrove Road, Hereford.
- 1926 Secretan, S. D., Swaynes, Rudgwick, Sussex.
- 1940 Sell, Rev. John L., Rosedene, 26, Ferndale Road, Hereford.
- 1923 Simpson, C. W. T., 15, Commercial Street, Hereford.
- 1918 Skyrme, Herbert, Dinglevale, Pengrove Road, Hereford.
- 1938 Smith, J. P., Aylescroft, College Road, Hereford.
- 1941 Snell, F. H., Kerry Arms Hotel, Hereford.
- 1934 Sprague, A. G., Grafton, Holiday Hall, Kington, Herefordshire.
- 1905 Stoker, Rev. C. H., Brinsop Vicarage, Hereford.
- 1904 Stooke, J. E. H., 2, Palace Yard, Hereford.
- 1937 Styles, Philip, 76, Wellington Road, Hereford.
- 1935 Swales, C., Kyrle House, Kyrle Street, Hereford.
- 1924 Swayne, Lieut.-Colonel O. R., D.S.O., Tillington Court, Hereford.
- 1899 Symonds-Taylor, Lieut.-Colonel R. H., Copelands, Holmer, Hereford.
- 1926 Taylor, J. D., Norton House, Wellington, Hereford.
- 1910 Taylor, S. R., Stockinghill, Newlands, Leominster.
- 1936 Templer, P. J. T., Ringwood, Eign Hill, Hereford.
- 1928 Thomas, W. Ridley, The Lawns, Nunnington, near Hereford.
- 1937 Thompson, A., Black Swan Hotel, Leominster.
- 1941 Townroe, Dr. E. D., Kilburn House, Hereford.
- 1920 Van-der-Weyer, E. B., Lindley House, Putson, Hereford.
- 1933 Verdin, Colonel R. H. N., Garnstone, Weobley, Herefordshire.
- 1932 Virgo, R. G., The Poplars, Ewyas Harold, Hereford.
- 1930 Walker, Dr. C. W., M.C., Summerhayes, Venn's Lane, Hereford.
- 1930 Wallis, Captain O. B., Vineyard Hill, Hampton Park, Hereford.
- 1921 Waterfield, Very Rev. R., D.D., The Vicar's College, Hereford.
- 1936 Wegg-Prosser, M., Warham, Hereford.
- 1938 Westgate, J. S., The Conifers, King's Acre Road, Hereford.
- 1938 Weston, P., Oban, Ledbury Road, Hereford.

- 1916 Marshall, Rev. W., The Grange, Sarnesfield, Weobley, Herefordshire.
- 1936 Martin, Preb. S. H., Sutton Rectory, Hereford.
- 1931 Matthews, J. W., Bartonsham Farm, Hereford.
- 1911 Matthews, T. A., 6, King Street, Hereford.
- 1934 McDowell, R. H., Shotover, Three Elms Road, Hereford.
- 1941 McLannahan, Dr. J., Daneswood, Hampton Park, Hereford.
- 1936 Mellor, J. E. M., Prospect Cottage, Bredwardine, Hereford.
- 1935 Milne, Leonard, 29, Church Street, Hereford.
- 1939 Mitchell, C. H., 12, Commercial Street, Hereford.
- 1941 Moir, E. A., 24, The Gresleys, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1899 Money-Kyrle, Rev. C. L., Homme House, Much Marcle, Gloucester.
- 1937 Morris, E. H., 11, Castle Street, Hereford.
- 1940 Morris, Rev. Quintin, The Vicarage, Breinton, Hereford.
- 1939 Moss, T., Fairford, Breinton Road, Hereford.
- 1937 Mountford, E. H., The Old Mill House, Dulas, Pontrilas, Hereford.
- 1930 Mumford, Captain W. C., M.C., Sugwas Court, Hereford.
- 1933 Newton, Freeman, De Lacy House, Hereford.
- 1940 Painter, A. E., Cranford, Broomy Hill, Hereford.
- 1927 Parker, Rev. T. H., Vineyard Croft, Eign Hill, Hereford.
- 1937 Parr, R. C., The New Weir, Kenchester, Hereford.
- 1920 Pateshall, Lieut.-Colonel H. E. P., D.S.O., Allensmore Court, Hereford.
- 1939 Payne, Rev. A., Moccas Rectory, Hereford.
- 1941 Peach, Rev. F. J., 35, Lichfield Avenue, Hereford.
- 1924 Peacock, G. H., c/o The Hereford Times, Ltd., Hereford.
- 1934 Pembroke, V. H., Mavis Holt, Hampton Park, Hereford.
- 1926 Perkins, G. W., Bredon, Cusop, Hay.
- 1932 Perry, W. T., 23, King's Street, Hereford.
- 1939 Phillips, E. H., St. Ebba, Breinton Road, Hereford.
- 1935 Pocock, Dr. R. W., Geological Survey, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, London.
- 1911 } Powell, Rev. Prebendary G. H., Dorstone Rectory, Hereford.
1938 }
- 1937 Powell, Hubert J., King's Acre Halt, Hereford.
- 1922 Powell, J. J. S., Hall Court, Much Marcle, Herefordshire.
- 1922 Price, T. Lindsey, Commercial Street, Hereford.
- 1938 Prichard, H. M., 1, Palace Yard, Hereford.
- 1940 Prior, C. E., Wiltondale, Bridstow, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1934 Pritchard, Percy, Quarry Bank, Callow, Hereford.
- 1919 Pritchard, Walter, Quarry Bank, Callow, Hereford.
- 1919 Pritchard, W. P., High Town, Hereford.

- 1935 Pugh, H., The Firs, Southbank Road, Hereford.
- 1921 Pulley, Sir Charles, Lower Eaton, Hereford.
- 1908 Purchas, Rev. A. B., Prenton, Churchdown, Gloucester.
- 1919 Riddell, Rev. G. B. E., 30, Tufton Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1.
- 1932 Roberts, Rev. J. H., Canon Pyon Vicarage, Hereford.
- 1932 Robinson, R. S. Gavin, Poston House, Peterchurch, Hereford.
- 1931 Roderick, Rev. H., The Manse, Gorsley, Newent, Gloucester.
- 1927 Romilly, E. C., Broadfield Court, Bodenham, Hereford.
- 1937 Ross, J. H., The Mount, Leominster.
- 1940 Rutherford, Captain R. V., Wennetune, Almeley, Hereford.
- 1939 Salt, Major A. E. W., Stawne, Weobley, Herefordshire.
- 1933 Scott, J., Greystone, Pengrove Road, Hereford.
- 1926 Secretan, S. D., Swaynes, Rudgwick, Sussex.
- 1940 Sell, Rev. John L., Rosedene, 26, Ferndale Road, Hereford.
- 1923 Simpson, C. W. T., 15, Commercial Street, Hereford.
- 1918 Skyrme, Herbert, Dinglevale, Pengrove Road, Hereford.
- 1938 Smith, J. P., Aylescroft, College Road, Hereford.
- 1941 Snell, F. H., Kerry Arms Hotel, Hereford.
- 1934 Sprague, A. G., Grafton, Holiday Hall, Kington, Herefordshire.
- 1905 Stoker, Rev. C. H., Brinsop Vicarage, Hereford.
- 1904 Stooke, J. E. H., 2, Palace Yard, Hereford.
- 1937 Styles, Philip, 76, Wellington Road, Hereford.
- 1935 Swales, C., Kyrle House, Kyrle Street, Hereford.
- 1924 Swayne, Lieut.-Colonel O. R., D.S.O., Tillington Court, Hereford.
- 1899 Symonds-Taylor, Lieut.-Colonel R. H., Copelands, Holmer, Hereford.
- 1926 Taylor, J. D., Norton House, Wellington, Hereford.
- 1910 Taylor, S. R., Stockinghill, Newlands, Leominster.
- 1936 Templer, P. J. T., Ringwood, Eign Hill, Hereford.
- 1928 Thomas, W. Ridley, The Lawns, Nunnington, near Hereford.
- 1937 Thompson, A., Black Swan Hotel, Leominster.
- 1941 Townroe, Dr. E. D., Kilburn House, Hereford.
- 1920 Van-der-Weyer, E. B., Lindley House, Putson, Hereford.
- 1933 Verdin, Colonel R. H. N., Garnstone, Weobley, Herefordshire.
- 1932 Virgo, R. G., The Poplars, Ewyas Harold, Hereford.
- 1930 Walker, Dr. C. W., M.C., Summerhayes, Venn's Lane, Hereford.
- 1930 Wallis, Captain O. B., Vineyard Hill, Hampton Park, Hereford.
- 1921 Waterfield, Very Rev. R., D.D., The Vicar's College, Hereford.
- 1936 Wegg-Prosser, M., Warham, Hereford.
- 1938 Westgate, J. S., The Conifers, King's Acre Road, Hereford.
- 1938 Weston, P., Oban, Ledbury Road, Hereford.

- 1940 Weston, William, Browneaves, Breinton Road, Hereford.
 1918 Whiting, F. E., Credenhill, Hereford.
 1932 Williams, J. B., Dolforgan, Kerry, Montgomeryshire.
 1923 Wilmshurst, A., 3, North Villas, Barr's Court Road, Hereford.
 1930 Winnington-Ingram, Rev. A. J., The Rectory, Ledbury, Herefordshire.
 1940 Wright, Shaw, Hereford County Libraries, Bath Street, Hereford.
 1941 Yeoman, T. Herbert, The Cott, Canon Pyon, Hereford.
 1931 Zimmerman, A. U., The Vine, Tarrington, Hereford.

MEMBERS ELECTED IN 1939.

- Atkinson, C. M., The Rock, Lugwardine, Hereford.
 Biggs, Herbert, Roundways, Bodenham Road, Hereford.
 Boland, J. B., 24, Ferndale Road, Hereford.
 Bromley, R. H., Penrhos, Kington, Herefordshire.
 Bromley, R. E., Penrhos, Kington, Herefordshire.
 Cawley, the Right Hon. Baron, P.C., Berrington Hall, Leominster.
 Edwards, Rev. S. Z., Bullinghope Vicarage, Hereford.
 Elliott, F. W., The Cottage, Whitchurch, Hereford.
 Gabriel, D. B. G., Bondjah, Uphill Road, Mill Hill, London, N.7.
 Harvey, Dr. P. G., Cornwall House, Monmouth.
 Langdale-Smith, Dr. H. G., Tarrington, Hereford.
 Leek, Denys, c/o Messrs. Brumwell, 10, Broad Street, Hereford.
 Malkin, G. R., Fownhope, Hereford.
 Mitchell, C. H., 12, Commercial Street, Hereford.
 Moss, T., Fairford, Breinton Road, Hereford.
 Payne, Rev. Augustus, Moccas Rectory, Hereford.
 Pettit, Colonel R. H., D.L., Castle Weir, Lyonshall, Hereford.
 Salt, Major A. E. W., Stawne, Weobley, Herefordshire.

MEMBERS ELECTED IN 1940.

- Appleton, L. P., Ivy Cottage, Ewyas Harold, Hereford.
 Brayley, J. W., 11, Breinton Road, Hereford.
 Brook, J. A., Mullion, Breinton, Hereford.
 Crees, Dr. J. H. E., Wonder View, Much Birch, Hereford.
 Edwards, Dr. C. D., Huntington Court, Kington, Herefordshire.
 Haywood, Rev. H. W. J. L. R., Withington Rectory, Hereford.
 Marriott, F. G., King's Acre Halt, Hereford.
 Morris, Rev. Quintin, Breinton Vicarage, Hereford.
 Painter, A. E., Cranford, Broomy Hill, Hereford.

- Prior, C. E., Wiltondale, Bridstow, Ross-on-Wye.
 Rutherford, Captain R. V., Wennetune, Almeley, Hereford.
 Sell, Rev. John L., Rosedene, 26, Ferndale Road, Hereford.
 Swettenham, Dr. A. W., Highbury, White Cross Street, Hereford.
 Weston, William, Browneaves, Breinton Road, Hereford.
 Wright, Shaw, Hereford County Libraries, Bath Street, Hereford.

MEMBERS ELECTED IN 1941.

- Brocket, Right Hon. Baron, Kinnersley Castle, Hereford.
 Gale, H. A., Hazeldene, King's Acre Road, Hereford.
 Goodall, W. K., 26, Bulmer Avenue, Hereford.
 Goss, Rev. A. J., The Vicarage, Old Radnor, Presteigne, Radnorshire.
 Lee-Wilson, Rev. C. A., Tarrington Rectory, Hereford.
 Lloyd, Emerys, Shenstone, King's Acre Road, Hereford.
 McLannahan, Dr. J. G., Daneswood, Hampton Park, Hereford.
 Moir, E. A., 24, The Gresleys, Ross-on-Wye.
 Peach, Rev. F. J., 35, Lichfield Avenue, Hereford.
 Snell, F. H., Kerry Arms Hotel, Hereford.
 Townroe, Dr. E. D., Kilburn House, Aylestone Hill, Hereford.
 Yeomans, T. Herbert, The Cott, Canon Pyon, Hereford.

Obituary.

1939.

E. J. Bettington.
E. H. Bull.

F. Hogben.
H. R. Mines.

T. Southwick.

1940.

H. E. Bettington.
Rev. C. H. Binstead.
Frank Boddington.
S. J. Bridge.
R. H. Bromley.

Brig.-General W. G. Hamilton,
C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O.

Rev. Canon W. E. T. Morgan.
A. B. Oliver.
E. A. Somerton.

G. D. Taylor.

1941.

C. A. Benn, O.B.E.
Arthur Bennett.
Alan H. Bright.

Dr. J. H. E. Crees.
Captain F. B. Ellison.
G. W. Harding.

Major-General T. T. Pitman, C.B., C.M.G.

RULES

OF THE

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club, (HEREFORDSHIRE).

I.—That the Society be known as the "WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB (HEREFORDSHIRE)" for the practical study in all branches of the Natural History and Archæology 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 Winter Meeting to be held at Hereford in the latter part of each year.

III.—The Central Committee shall consist of Ten Members, with the President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Treasurer, 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 Archæology of the district. That the days and places of two at least such regular meetings be selected at the Annual Winter Meeting, and that ten clear days' notice of every Meeting be communicated to the Members by a circular from the Assistant 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 the Annual Subscription be Twenty Shillings, payable on the 1st 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 at each Field Meeting papers be read and that the President be requested to favour the Club with an address at the Annual Spring 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.

VIII.—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 five to exclude.

IX.—That Members finding rare or interesting specimens, or observing any remarkable phenomenon relating to any branch of Natural History, or making or becoming acquainted with any Archæological discovery in the district, shall immediately forward a statement thereof to the Hon. Secretary.

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

XI.—That any Member, 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 Subscription is two years in arrear, may be removed from the Club by the Central Committee.

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

XIII.—That no addition to or alteration of the Rules of the Club be made except at a General Meeting after notice has been given of the proposed addition or alteration at a previous Meeting, and the general purport of such addition or alteration has been circulated to all Members with the notice of the General Meeting.

XIV.—That no grant of money from the funds of the Club exceeding £5 may be voted for any purpose, unless notice of such proposed grant has been given at a previous Meeting, or has been approved of by the Central Committee.

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

NOTE.—Gentlemen only are eligible for membership of the Club, but members may bring lady friends to a Meeting, when this is stated on the notice.
These Rules are as amended on the 16th of December, 1943.

WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

THE HONORARY TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1939.

1939.		£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.	To Balance brought on	383	17	3
"	" Cash received for arrears of Subscriptions	6	0	0
"	" Do. Subscriptions for 1939	194	1	0
"	" Do. in advance	3	0	0
"	" Do. for sale of Transactions	8	18	11
"	" Do. Dividends on £470 5s. 3d. War Stock	16	9	2
"	" Do. Balance of Shobdon Arches Fund transferred to General Account	8	1	0
		£620 7 4		
Jan. 1.	To Balance brought down	311	13	6
		£620 7 4		
Jan. 11.	By Cash paid Oxford Architectural and Historical Society for 2 vols. of "Oxoniensis"	1	10	0
"	" Do. Subscription to British Mycological Society	1	0	0
"	" Do. for Cheque Book	0	8	0
Feb. 17	" Do. "Hereford Times" Printing "Transactions"	84	15	4
April 12	" Do. Fire Insurance Premium	0	10	0
April 21	" Do. Subscription to Society for Preservation of Kites	15	0	0
June 13	" Do. "Hereford Times" for Printing "Transactions"	88	0	0
July 1	" Do. Subscription to Congress Archaeological Society	1	0	0
Oct. 20	" Do. J. Wilson, Ltd., for wreath	1	1	0
"	" Do. "Hereford Times" General Printing	10	19	0
Nov. 21	" Do. F. Boddington, Salary as Assistant Secretary	20	0	0
"	" Do. for Postages and Petty Cash Expenses	12	0	9
Dec. 31	" Do. "Hereford Times" Printing "Transactions"	72	9	9
"	" Cash in hands of Assistant Secretary	4	0	3
"	" Do. Hon. Treasurer	3	13	11
"	" Do. Do. National Provincial Bank less outstanding cheque of £72 9s. 9d.	308	19	4
		£620 7 4		

14th March, 1940.

Audited and found correct.

(Signed) E. AMPHLETT CAPEL.

MERRICK BEQUEST ACCOUNT.
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1939.

1939.		£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.	To Balance brought on	47	13	9
	Dividends on £100 War Stock	3	10	0
	" Bank Interest	0	14	5
		£51	18	2
Dec. 31.	By Balance at National Provincial Bank	51	18	2
		£51	18	2

Audit and found correct.

(Signed) E. AMPHLETT CAPEL.

GENERAL RESERVE ACCOUNT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1939.

1939.		£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.	To Balance brought on	108	4	11
	Dividends on £120 War Stock	4	4	0
	" Bank Interest	1	12	9
		£114	1	8
Dec. 31.	By Balance at National Provincial Bank	114	1	8
		£114	1	8

Audited and found correct.

(Signed) E. AMPHLETT CAPEL.

WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

THE HONORARY TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1940.

1940.		£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.	To Balance brought on	311	13	6
June 1.	" Cash from Dividend on War Stock	8	4	7
	" Proceeds of Sale of "Transactions"	0	12	11
	" Cash received for arrears of Subscriptions	4	0	0
	" Do. Subscriptions for 1940	170	0	0
	" Do. in advance	6	0	0
	" Do. Balance unexpended on Poston Excavations	8	15	9
	" Do. Balance of Bus Subscriptions	1	16	6
Dec. 31.	" Do. Dividend on £470 5s. 3d. War Stock	8	4	7
		£519	7	10
Jan. 2.	By Cash paid Subscription to British Mycological Society for 1940 and 1941	2	0	0
April 18.	" Do. "Country Life" for Blocks	1	8	0
April 29.	" Do. Fire Insurance of Books	0	10	0
May 8.	" Do. Transferred to General Reserve Account	150	0	0
July 2.	" Do. H. Skyrme, man's time excavating City Walls	2	16	8
July 1.	" Do. Subscription to Congress Archaeological Society	1	0	0
July 26.	" Do. J. Wilson for funeral wreath	1	10	0
Aug. 2.	" Do. Mr. Boddington's Executors, 5 months' salary of Assistant Secretary, less £1 3s. 7d. cash in his hands	7	3	1
	" Do. Do. Payments made by Mr. Boddington	4	19	3
	" Do. "Hereford Times", Printing and Stationery	3	2	1
Aug. 13.	" Do. Do.	0	15	0
Oct. 30.	" Do. Do.	14	17	0
Dec. 31.	" Do. Printing 1938 "Transactions"	176	16	5
	" Do. General Printing	3	3	6
	" Do. F. C. Morgan for Postages	1	0	0
	" Do. Bank Charge	0	10	0
	" Do. Hon. Secretary, Postages, &c.	1	3	3
	" Cash with Hon. Treasurer	0	6	0
	" Do. in Bank, less outstanding cheques £1 + £179 19s. 11d. + £1 3s. 3d.	146	7	7
		£519	7	10

GENERAL RESERVE ACCOUNT.
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1941.

1941.		£	s.	d.	1941.		£	s.	d.
Jan.	To Balance brought on	19	0	4	Dec. 31.	By Balance at National Provincial Bank	23	8	6
June	Dividend on £120 ls. 3d. War Stock	2	2	0					
Dec. 1.	Do.	2	2	0					
"	Bank Interest	0	4	2					
31.							£23	8	6

Audited and found correct.
(Signed) E. AMPHLETT CAPEL.

24th March, 1942.

MERRICK BEQUEST ACCOUNT.
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1941.

1941.		£	s.	d.	1941.		£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.	To Balance brought on	56	1	2	Dec. 31.	By Balance at National Provincial Bank	60	1	9
June 3.	Dividend on £100 War Stock	1	15	0					
Dec. 1.	Do.	1	15	0					
"	Bank Interest	0	10	7					
31.							£60	1	9

xxx

Audited and found correct.
(Signed) E. AMPHLETT CAPEL.

24th March, 1942.

THE BENN BEQUEST ACCOUNT.
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1941.

1941.		£	s.	d.	1941.		£	s.	d.
Mar. 13.	To Cash from Executors of C. A. Benn Bequest for £100, less £10 duty	90	0	0	Aug. 5.	By Cash paid C. E. Brumwell for Books.	2	5	6
					Sept. 25.	Do. Miss Coleruan for assistance in Cataloguing Library	1	1	0
					"	Do. Miss Chapman, Do.	1	1	0
					"	Do. "Hereford Times" for Printing 370 Catalogues	56	8	0
					"	Balance at Bank	29	4	6
							£90	0	0

Audited and found correct.

GENERAL RESERVE ACCOUNT.
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1941.

		1941.		£ s. d.	
	To Balance brought on	19	0	4	
Jan.	" Dividend on £120 Is. 3d. War Stock...	2	2	0	
June	Do.	2	2	0	
Dec.	" Bank Interest	0	4	2	
"	"				
31.		£23	8	6	
					£ s. d.
	Dec. 31. By Balance at National Provincial Bank				23 8 6
					£23 8 6

Audited and found correct.

(Signed) E. AMPHLETT CAPEL.

24th March, 1942.

MERRICK BEQUEST ACCOUNT.
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1941.

		1941.		£ s. d.	
	To Balance brought on	56	1	2	
Jan.	" Dividend on £100 War Stock	1	15	0	
June	Do.	1	15	0	
Dec.	" Bank Interest	0	10	7	
"	"				
31.		£60	1	9	
					£60 1 9
	Dec. 31. By Balance at National Provincial Bank				60 1 9

Audited and found correct.

(Signed) E. AMPHLETT CAPEL.

24th March, 1942.

THE BENN BEQUEST ACCOUNT.
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1941.

		1941.		£ s. d.	
	To Cash from Executors of C. A. Benn Bequest for £100, less £10 duty	90	0	0	
Mar. 13.					
					£90 0 0
	Aug. 5. By Cash paid C. E. Brumwell for Books.	2	5	6	
Sept. 25.	" Do. Miss Coleman for assistance in Cataloguing Library	1	1	0	
"	" Do. Miss Chapman, Do.	1	1	0	
"	" Do. " Hereford Times " for Printing 370 Catalogues	56	8	0	
"	" Balance at Bank	29	4	6	
					£90 0 0

Audited and found correct.

(Signed) E. AMPHLETT CAPEL.

24th March, 1942.

y. m. 2004

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.
(HEREFORDSHIRE)

PROCEEDINGS, 1939.

FIRST WINTER MEETING.

TUESDAY, 7TH MARCH, 1939.

Lectures :

1. "NOTES ON THE COURT ROLLS OF ORLETON, HEREFORDSHIRE."
By F. C. MORGAN, F.S.A., F.L.A.
2. "A BRONZE AGE ARROWHEAD."
By R. S. GAVIN ROBINSON.
3. "NOTES ON BIRDS SEEN NEAR HEREFORD IN 1938."
By DR. C. W. WALKER, M.C., M.D., Ch.B.

A Meeting was held in the Woolhope Club Room, at 5.30 p.m., to hear the above three lectures. That by Mr. Gavin Robinson was illustrated with lantern slides.

In the absence of the President, Mr. E. J. Bettington, the chair was taken by Mr. F. R. James.

Mr. F. C. MORGAN gave an interesting account of the Court Rolls of Orleton, covering, intermittently, the years 1646 to 1849. These Rolls were recently given to the Hereford Public Library by Colonel J. A. Hill, Lord of the Manor.

This lecture will be found under "Papers" in this volume.

Mr. R. S. GAVIN ROBINSON followed with some remarks on the fabrication of flint tools, exemplified by a fine leaf-shaped arrow-head of the Neolithic period found on the Cefn Hill above Dorstone, and other flint artifacts which were shown on the screen. The flints having first been shaped to the required design were finished by splitting the layers under hand pressure, and the amount of time and strength required to do this must have been very great. These flint arrowheads were dangerous weapons and had great penetrating power, as was shown by the finding of the flint heads deeply imbedded in the skulls of animals. Men of those

days hunted bison with no other weapon than this. By serrating the edge, a saw was made of some of these small tools; even to-day he had found they were capable of cutting their way through wood with much ease. Lantern slides, giving many magnifications, showed the teeth of the saw, which to the naked eye could not be seen.

Dr. C. W. WALKER recounted his observations on Birds near Hereford during 1938. He said:—

The winter of 1937-38 began with a severe spell in November and December and then continued with mild and very dry weather until late spring, the only wet spell accompanied by floods occurring in the middle of January. As a result I have very few water birds to report for last winter—in contrast to the previous winter, when constant floods brought a great variety.

Every winter we see an increase of kestrels in the open part of the county: last winter's dry and temperate weather was very favourable to them, and they appeared much more prevalent in central Herefordshire than usual. These are no doubt wintering hawks from farther north and their number probably depends on the formula: "more voles and shrews, more kestrels."

On 21st December Misses Marsh and Wight warned me of an unusual flock of migrant finches in the stubbles near The Field, Hampton Bishop. These flocks consisted of chaffinches in thousands, mostly cock birds, and amongst them several hundred bramblings, some greenfinches, sparrows and tree sparrows, linnets and a few yellow-hammers.

The cock greenfinches were very brilliantly coloured, as in some continental forms, and some were so brightly orange on the breast as to make one inclined to classify them as the variety "aurantiventris" which breeds in southern France.

I have never before seen a large flock of bramblings in Herefordshire. They are regular winter visitors on the east side of England, and indeed wherever beech trees are a prominent feature. Query—was it a bad year for beechmast in the eastern counties, or were the birds driven farther west by the frost and snow of last December, which affected our county but little in comparison with other parts.

These brambling flocks remained in the district until the 3rd February, after which I saw them no more.

15th January. Lugg meadows flooded. Large flocks of gulls arrived, mostly common gulls, but some black-headed in winter plumage.

16th. Small flocks of mallard and teal. Four dabchicks swimming in the middle of a flooded field near The Burcott.

19th. Pair of pochard on the flooded meadow.

22nd January. When watching bramblings in a stubble field, I saw a flock of about 30 twites, also feeding in the stubbles, but keeping quite apart from the other flocks of finches, rising in a close flock when disturbed and, after a flight, dropping always to the ground again, never flying up into hedges or trees as the other finches do when alarmed.

6th February. A pale buff-coloured skylark with cream-coloured primaries seen with other skylarks in the Lugg meadow. Freakish plumage is not very rare in larks.

26th February. Col. Pateshall reported 6 grey geese at Allensmore bog, and on March 13th he heard the chaff-chaff's song—a very early date. I saw and heard several on the 17th. The usual date is about the 25th.

10th April. A pair of redshanks begin to haunt the Lower Lugg meadow as in last spring. They probably nested, but I have no actual proof of this.

Apart from the chaff-chaff, migrants arrived at normal or rather later than normal dates.

8th May. Mr. Morgan saw a pair of hobbies at Allensmore. He saw them again there on 1st September.

11th May. Several nightingales appeared this year in Allensmore and Tram Inn district.

19th May. Reed warbler in song in Herefordshire. Only one pair nested.

2nd June. Marsh warbler (several pairs) at two separate localities in Herefordshire.

5th September. A quail, shot at Bobblestock, was brought to Mr. F. C. Morgan.

20th October. Mr. F. R. James and I saw two green sandpipers at Hereford Sewage Works. No common sandpipers seen by the Wye later than 9th October this year.

The corncrake was not heard in Lugg meadows this year—a disappointment, as it was there in 1936 and 1937: it bred, however, at Hampton Bishop.

Goldcrests were exceedingly common last summer in this district. They began to sing early and sang everywhere. This is the result of two mild winters, and applies also to the tit and woodpecker tribes. Long-tailed tits were swarming in the hedgerows last autumn in exceptional numbers. If this should prove a hard winter, the numbers of all these small resident or partially resident birds will again be reduced. Goldcrests were to be seen everywhere in conifers throughout last winter, whereas in 1935 they vanished completely for about a month in the bitter frost of January and February; it is by such forced migration that the numbers of these tiny birds are kept in check.

Hard weather before Christmas brought some duck into the county, and Mr. Martin, of The Field, Hampton Bishop, saw two small flocks (six and eight) of pintail on the Wye.

An unusual visitor wandered to a ditch in a cottage garden at Canon Pyon on 23rd December, a Little Auk, which normally remains far out at sea except when breeding in summer. It breeds in the Arctic regions.

The HON. SECRETARY said that the Geologists' Association of London were holding their annual meeting in Hereford from 6th to 12th April, and had sent an invitation to any member of the Club who would like to join them in their excursions.

The following gentlemen were proposed for membership:—Dr. William Malkin, Fownhope; the Rev. Augustus Payne, Moccas Rectory, Hereford; Mr. T. Moss, Fairford, Breinton Road, Hereford; Major A. E. W. Salt, M.A., Broad Street, Weobley; and Mr. Herbert Biggs, Roundway, Bodenham Road, Hereford.

A hearty vote of thanks having been accorded the lecturers, the meeting terminated.

SPRING ANNUAL MEETING.

THURSDAY, 13TH APRIL, 1939.

The Spring Annual Meeting was held in the Woolhope Club Room in the Hereford Public Library, when there were present :— Mr. Edward J. Bettington, F.R.S.A. (the retiring President), Mr. Charles A. Benn, O.B.E., M.A., F.G.S. (the President-elect), Mr. A. C. Alcock, Mr. H. E. Bettington, Mr. S. J. Bridge, Mr. G. H. Butcher, Mr. A. Cheese, Mr. C. J. Christmas, Mr. F. Croker, Mr. H. J. Davies, Captain F. B. Ellison, Mr. R. A. Ford, Mr. C. J. Harding, Mr. T. H. Higgins, Mr. J. H. Hoyle, Mr. G. N. B. Jeffrey, Mr. F. R. James, Mr. A. Johnston, Mr. A. Lovesey, Mr. A. W. Marriott, Mr. G. Humphry Marshall, Rev. S. H. Martin, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. W. C. Mumford, Mr. A. B. Oliver, Rev. Preb. T. H. Parker, Dr. R. W. Pocock, Mr. H. J. Powell, Mr. H. Pugh, Rev. G. B. E. Riddell, Mr. R. S. Gavin Robinson, Mr. J. Scott, Mr. E. A. Somerton, Rev. C. H. Stoker, Lieut.-Colonel O. R. Swayne, D.S.O., Lieut.-Colonel R. H. Symonds-Taylor, Mr. P. J. T. Templer, Dr. C. W. Walker, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. F. E. Whiting, Mr. J. B. Willans, Mr. A. Wilmshurst, Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary), and Mr. F. Boddington (Assistant Secretary).

The HONORARY SECRETARY offered congratulations to Mr. F. C. Morgan on his being elected a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and proposed that a set of the early volumes of the *Transactions* be presented to him to complete his set in recognition of the very valuable services he had rendered to the Club during the last fifteen years. This proposition was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. EDWARD J. BETTINGTON, F.R.S.A., the retiring President, then read his

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

I do not propose to take up any length of time in describing the activities of the Club for the past twelve months, as I have embodied in this address a description of the remarkable cellars in Widemarsh Street. One Field Meeting was held at Clanna, one in the Thornbury district, and one (Ladies' Day) in the Ross neighbourhood. The short visit to Thornbury camp impressed upon me the need for a systematic exploration of the numerous earthworks we possess in our county and I hope something practical may be done in this direction.

Ancient Cellars under nos. 2, 3, 4 & 5
Widemarsh St Hereford

To face page v.

v

Ladies' Day will not readily be forgotten by those who were privileged to take part in it, and the thanks of the Club are due to Major and Mrs. Moreland for their hospitality, which made a very happy ending to what was later described to me "as one of the best Ladies' Day we have had".

My paper on Rudhall was, in my absence through ill-health, read by my son, Mr. H. E. Bettington. Various lectures have been given during the year and these will appear in the *Transactions* in due course.

The paper which I propose to read today is one which will probably cause surprise that such work is still to be found inside the City of Hereford.

OLD CELLARS IN WIDEMARSH STREET, HEREFORD.

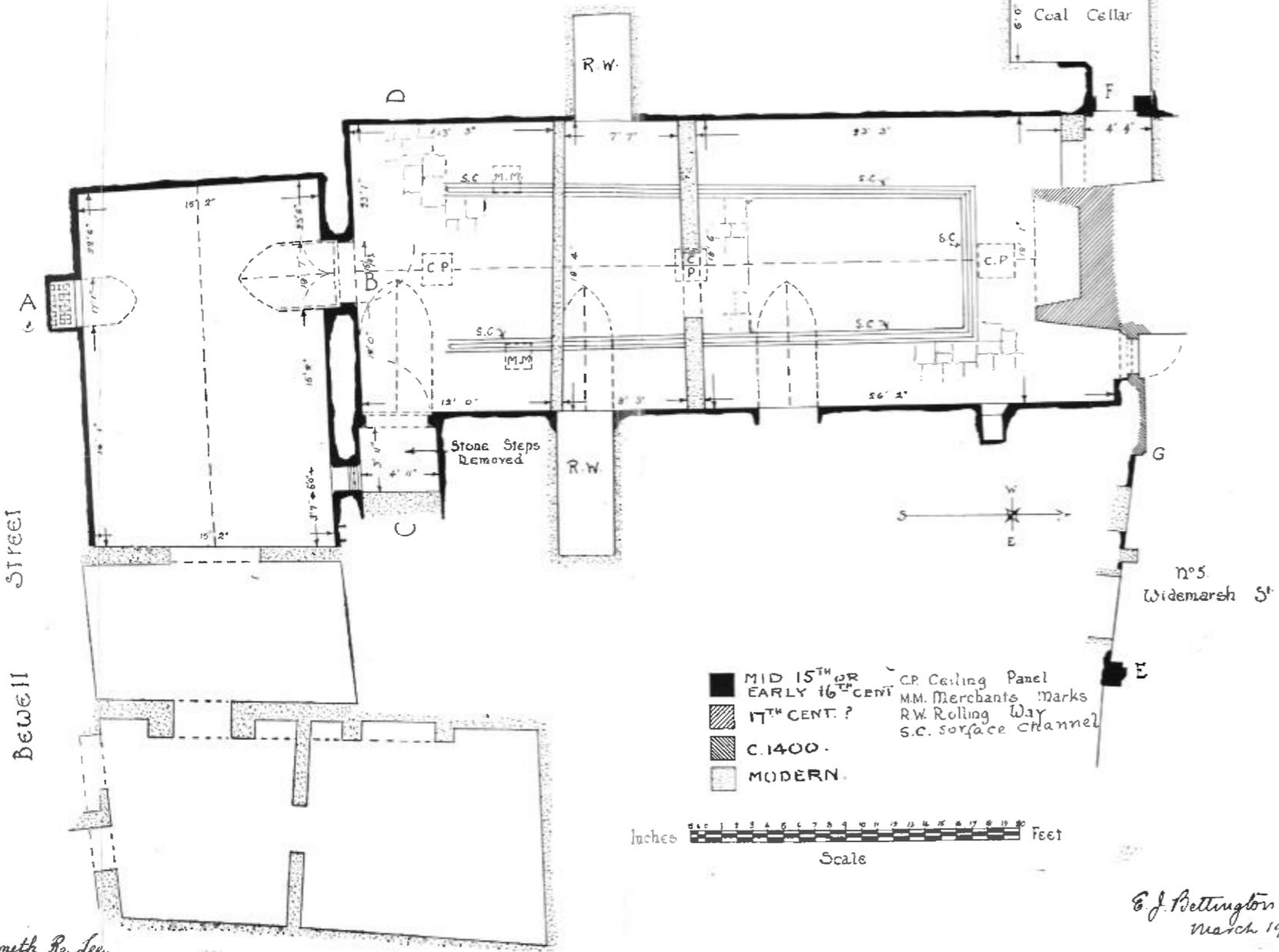
These remarkable cellars occur under several different properties, viz., Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5, Widemarsh Street, Hereford, belonging to various owners. The cellars extend from Bewell Street on the south to the northern boundary of No. 4. There are remains of earlier work under No. 5. All adjacent cellars communicate with each other by doorways, and it is possible they extended as far north as the Black Swan Hotel. The portion next Bewell Street had been known to me for some years, the early work under No. 5 had been noted during the Great War, while the great chamber under No. 4 was made known to me by Mr. Symonds, the occupier of No. 4, in 1932.

The cellars, apart from the meagre remains under No. 5, consist of a large chamber extending under Nos. 3 and 4 and a smaller chamber which lies under No. 2.

I will call the large chamber the "main" cellar, and the smaller chamber the "small" cellar.

The main cellar is about 48 ft. 0 in. long, 18 ft. 2 in. to 18 ft. 6 in. wide and 8 ft. 11 in. from the floor to the ridge soffit of the vault. The small cellar runs parallel with Bewell Street and is about 23 ft. 0 in. long, 15 ft. 2 in. wide and 8 ft. 3 in. from floor to the ridge soffit of the vault.

The main cellar is built in very fine stone work with a four centred stone vault over its entire length. The thickness of the stonework is about 10 inches and the courses run in regular lines from one end of the chamber to the other. This is best seen in the illustrations (plates 10 and 12). The cellar has two modern brick walls across it, one 14 inches thick and one 9 inches thick. The 14 inches wall was built, I think, to form a support to the vault. There is an opening in it 4 ft. 0 in. wide, the brickwork above the opening being supported by a wood lintel. The 9 inch wall was built as a partition wall to divide off the southern portion of the cellar for use by the owner, or tenant, of No. 2. It also



- MID 15TH OR EARLY 16TH CENT.
- ▨ 17TH CENT. ?
- ▩ C. 1400.
- MODERN.
- CP Ceiling Panel
- MM Merchants Marks
- RW Rolling Way
- SC surface channel



E. J. Bettington F.R.S.
March 1939.

Henneth R. Lee.

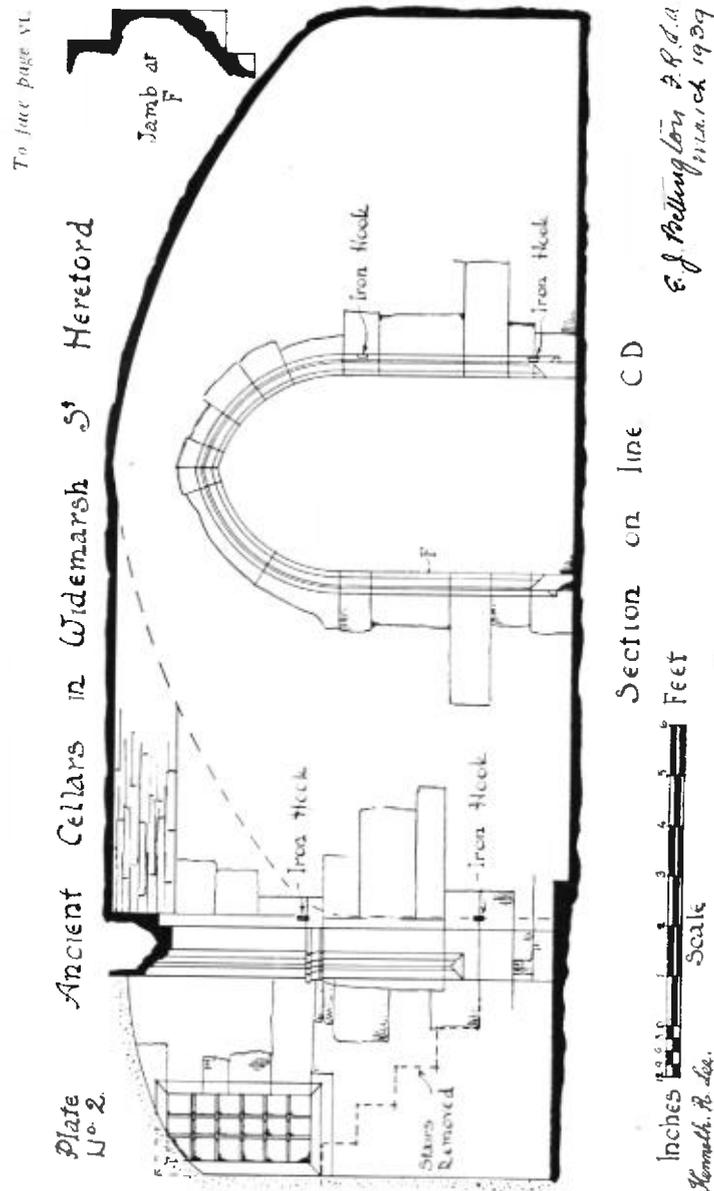
forms an additional support to the end wall and fireplace of No. 4. At the northern end of this large cellar is a large rough stone fireplace 8 ft. 6 in. across the front and containing a fireplace 6 ft. 6 in. wide and about 3 ft. 0 in. deep.

The great stone lintel over the fireplace is broken through in two places and is held together by an iron cramp. The jambs are stop-chamfered, but the lintel has a plain hollow on its edge instead of a chamfer. If you will refer to the illustration (plate 10) you will get a good idea of what this fireplace looks like. You will notice that it is not placed centrally with the ridge of the vault, and the impression is made that it was built at a later date than the cellar: A peculiar feature is that the great stack which is built on the ground floor and first floor of the building above stands behind and not immediately over the fireplace in the cellar. The flue is very large and I have had a photograph (plate 11) taken looking upwards. If you will refer to the illustration you will get some idea of its size and appearance. On the right will be seen a dark hole near the bottom of the picture. I cannot explain its purpose. In the same illustration can be seen a wooden pole which goes right across the flue at the back of the stone lintel and a little above it. Perhaps someone can explain the use of this pole.

The next items of interest in the main cellar are the remarkable and very fine stone panels set in the ridge of the vault (plate 7). These are three in number and I will describe each separately. The one next the fireplace is 2 ft. 4 in. x 2 ft. 4 in., with a sunk and moulded panel filled in with a large raised boss on which is carved a human head wearing a cap and with what appear to be oak leaves all round the head (plate 9). In addition to the boss, the panel is cut into an octofoil, the lines and edges of the cusping being in fine condition. The illustration will give you a better idea of this panel than pages of writing.

The second panel is partly obscured by the 14 inch brick wall previously mentioned, but I have had the bricks removed revealing another beautiful specimen of different design. It is somewhat smaller than the first panel, but it is sunk and moulded and has four deeply cut and raised leaves which curiously enough are separate from each other and are not connected by stems as I expected (plate 7, No. 1).

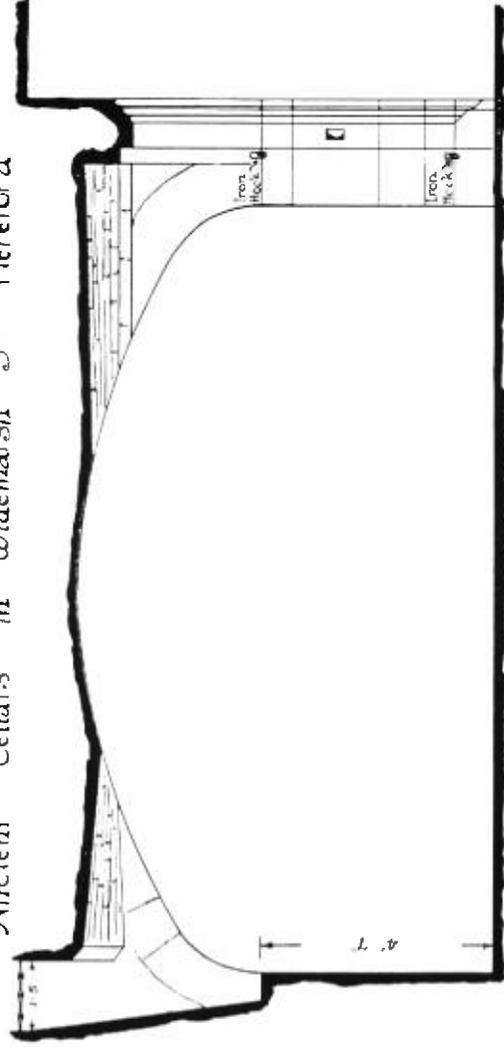
The third panel lies south of the 9 inch brick partition wall, i.e., it is in the part of the cellar which is in the occupation of the wine merchant at No. 2. This is different from the other two in that while it is sunk and moulded and has cusping forming an octofoil the points of the cusps are foliated (plate 7, No. 2). Close examination of the sketch given of this panel will show how the old craftsmen bungled the foliated points.



To face page VI.

Ancient Cellars in Widemarsh St Hereford

Ancient level of
Bicwell St
Plate
No. 3.



Section on line A B

Inches
Scale
Feet

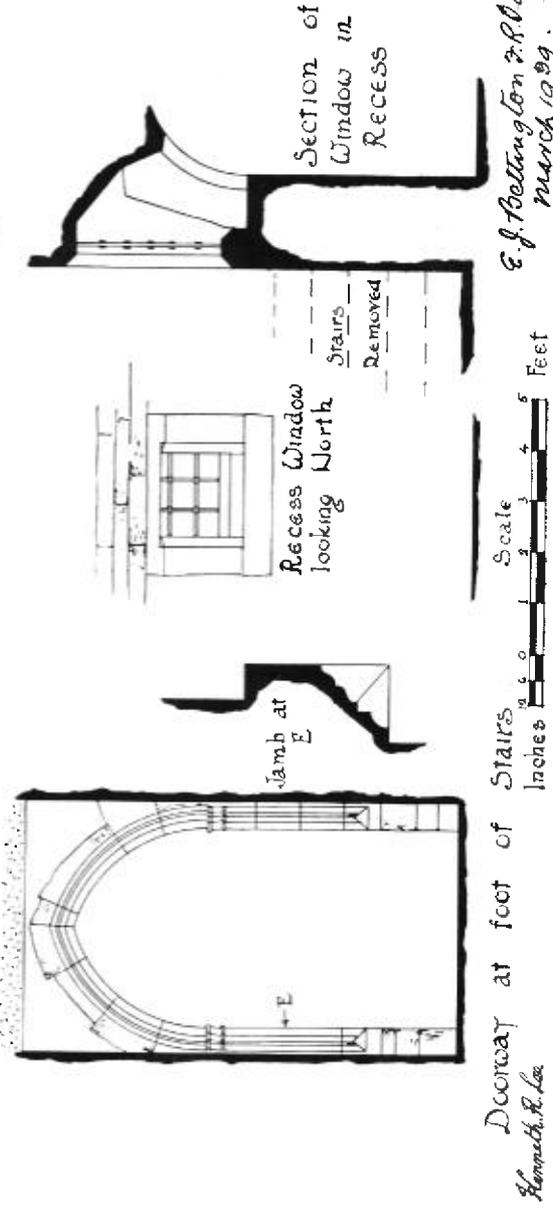
Hammett, R. Lee.

E. J. Betington J. R. S. A.
March 1939.

Ancient Cellars in Widemarsh St Hereford

To face page VI.

Plate N°4

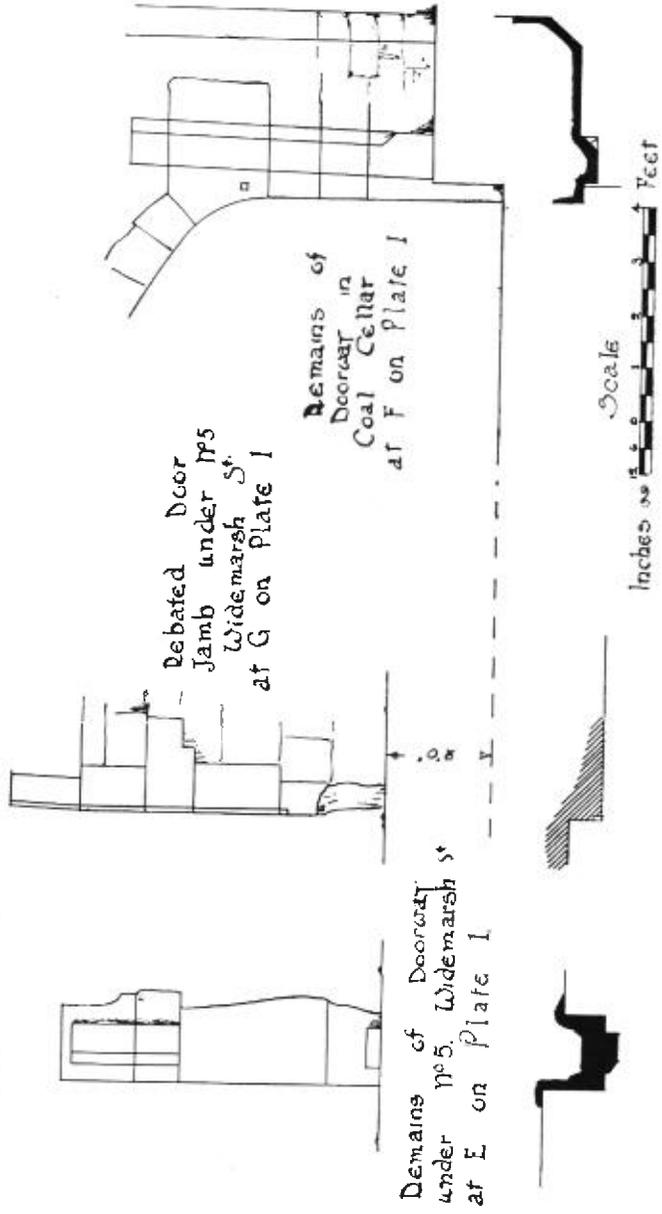


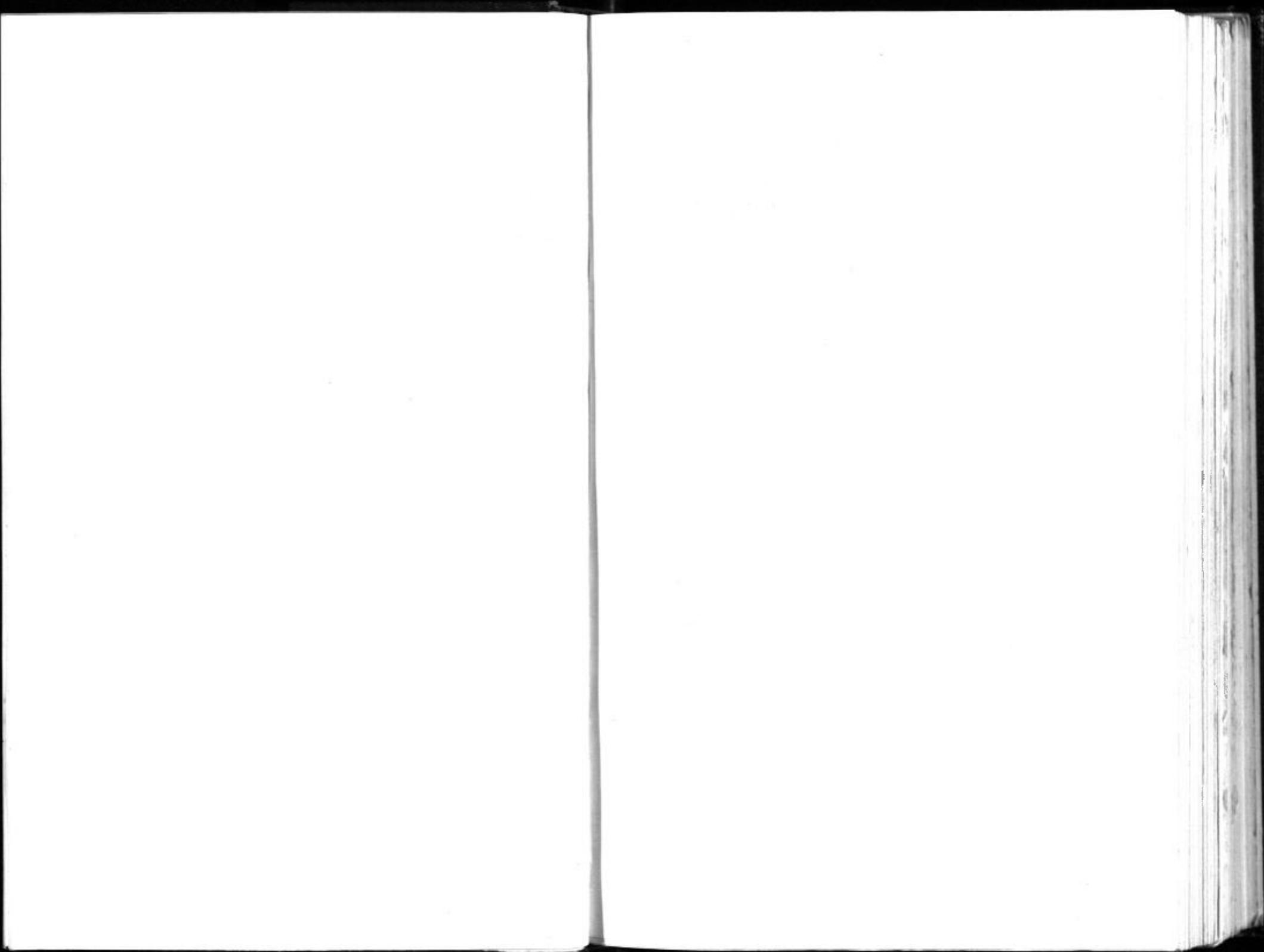
E. J. Beltington & Co
March 1909.

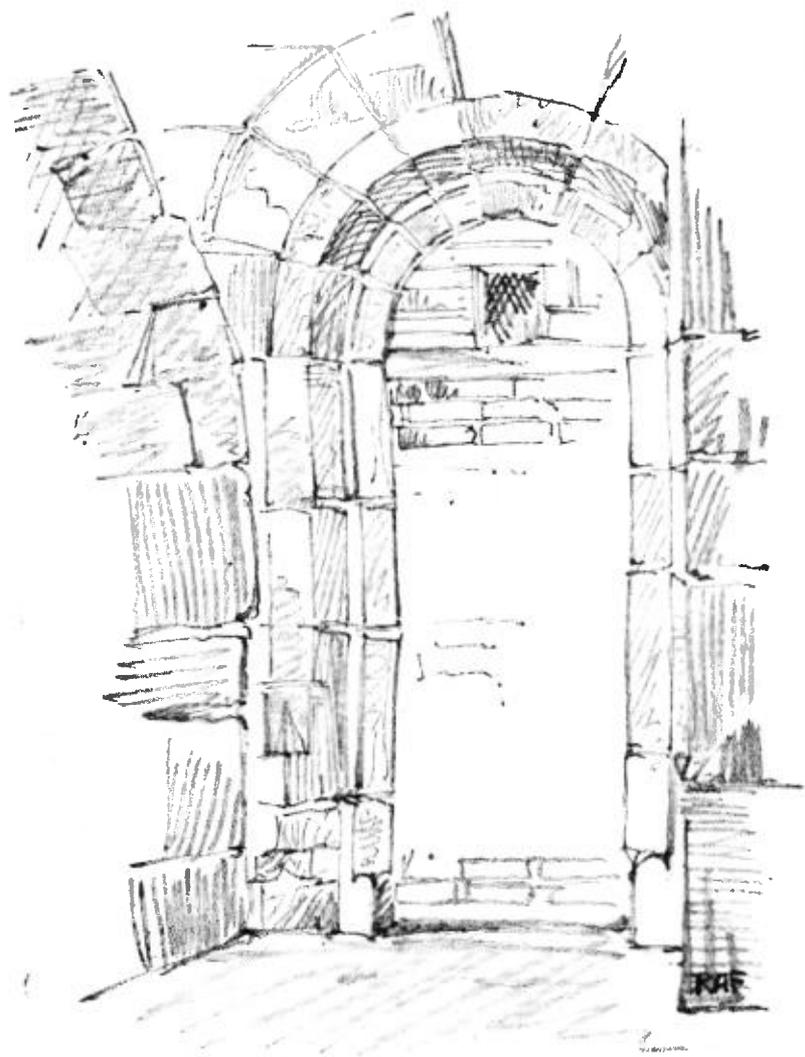
Doorway at foot of Stairs
Inches 0 1 2 3 4 5
Feet 0 1 2 3 4 5

Scale
Renneth, R. Lee

Plate No 5 Ancient Cellars in Widemarsh St Hereford

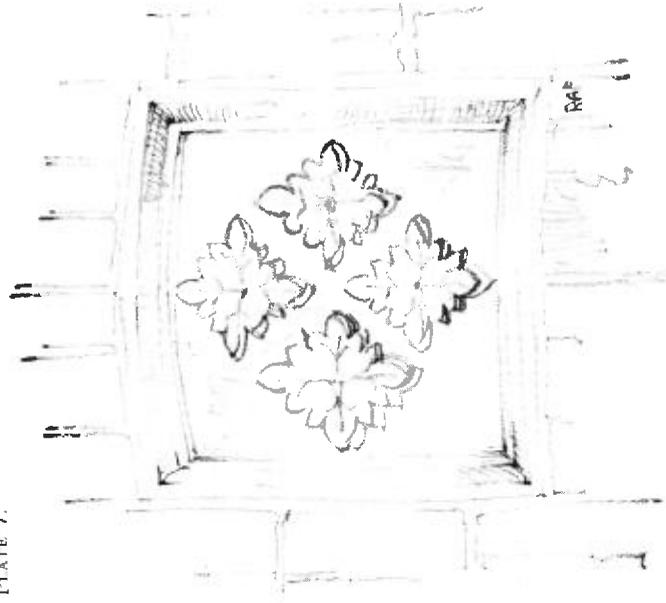






R. A. Ford, delin.

DOORWAY IN ANCIENT CELLARS IN WIDEMARSH STREET, HEREFORD.



No. 1.



No. 2.

R. A. Ford, delin.

STONE PANELS IN VAULT OF ANCIENT CELLARS IN WIDEMARSH SUBURB, HEREFORD.

In this portion of the main cellar are two other panels fixed in the haunches of the vault, one on the west side and the other on the east side of the ridge line (plate 7, Nos. 3 and 4).

I am informed by Mr. George Marshall that these panels contain Merchants' Marks, but who the merchants were it is at present impossible to know. He thinks that they may represent a father and son. Mr. R. A. Ford has kindly made sketches of these panels and these are reproduced here. I shall be glad if any of you can throw any light upon these.

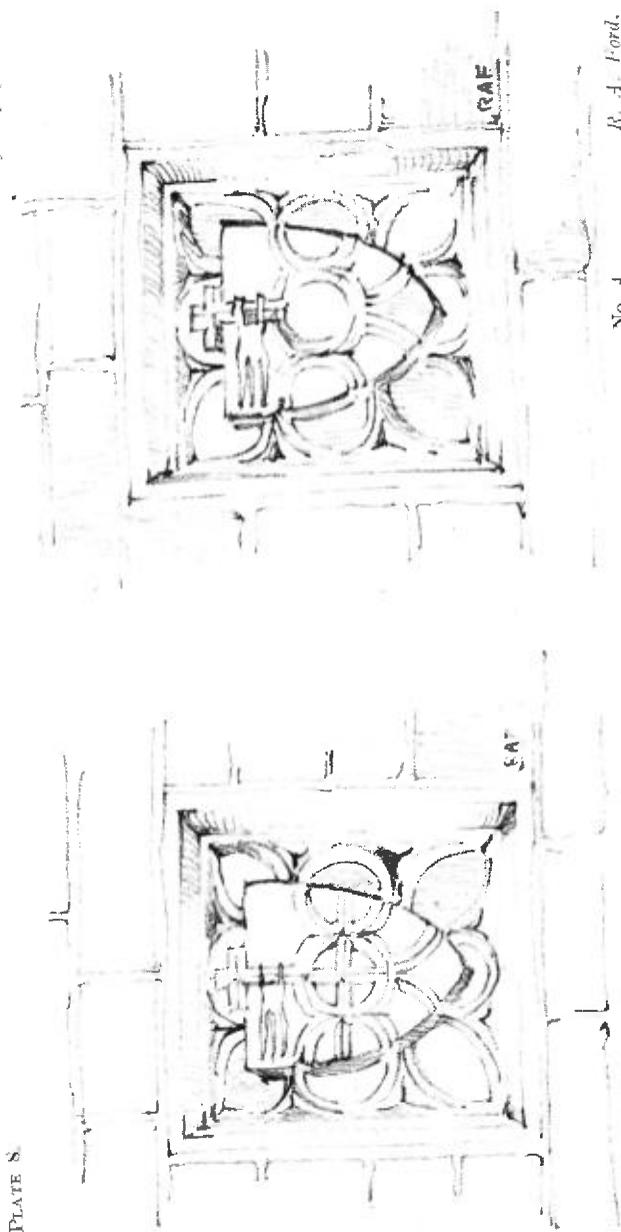
While I am still describing this main cellar I would call your attention to the three openings in the eastern wall, i.e., the wall next Widemarsh Street. Working down from the north end we come first of all to a small opening with its sill about 4 ft. 6 in. above the floor. This opening is peculiar not only in its small size, but in the fact that its northern jamb is splayed to the full depth, while the southern jamb has a simple chamfer only (plate 12). This opening is continued like a funnel up to the open air at the old ground level, and is very good evidence of what the ground level was when the building was erected. I ask you to remember this point when I am describing another opening next Bewell Street and which occurs in the small cellar. What was the use of this small opening? It could not have been for lighting purposes only, but the splayed jamb is significant.

Further south are two larger openings, the one has been filled in with stone work, while the southern one has been mutilated and used as a rolling way for barrels in later times. The illustration (plate 12) gives a view showing the small opening and the adjoining larger one. I assume that these large openings were for light and air. I should like you to notice the craftsmanship revealed by the intersection of the small arch with the main vault. All the stones are beautifully fitted and bonded together at the groin point.

In the north-western corner of the cellar is a small chamber, which is used as a "coal-cellar", in which are the remains of a doorway (plate 5) having a rebated and chamfered stone jamb bonded into the stonework of the western wall of the cellar and apparently of the same date. Excavation has revealed the bottom stone of the northern jamb, which to my surprise is not bonded into the adjoining wall which it abuts. Further excavation at this point may yield more information. This doorway faces west and was evidently a way out to the grounds at the back of the house.

An examination of the plan of the cellar will show the stone channel which runs round three sides of the chamber. It will be seen that it crosses the front of the great fireplace then along the east and west sides of the cellar and finishes a little distance from

To face page VII.



R. A. Ford.

No. 4.

No. 3.

STONE PANELS IN VAULT OF ANCIENT CELLARS IN WIDEMARSH STREET, HEREFORD.

PLATE 8.

the south wall with stopped ends. The whole of the chamber appears to have been paved, but the centre portion under No. 4 has been partially removed. It may be that the paving still remaining (including the channel) is coeval with the building. If I am correct it may throw some light on the Merchants' Marks before referred to. It has been mentioned to me that this was the Half Moon Inn in the 16th century, but I have been unable to verify this.

I cannot leave the main cellar until I have dealt with the early doorway which is placed in the north eastern corner. This is in stone with rebated and twice chamfered jambs and head. The arch is semi-circular and from the treatment of the outer chamfer to the arch where it abuts the eastern wall I conclude there was at this point a wall of an earlier date than the cellar. The doorway is 14th century and forms part of other 14th century work to be seen in the cellar of No. 5. The stops to the chamfers are at different heights and vary in design. I refer you to the sketch of this doorway (plate 6) by Mr. R. A. Ford which accompanies this paper.

Two other beautiful doorways are to be found in this cellar. One in the south-eastern corner and the other leading into the small cellar. I give careful detail drawings of both these doorways, but I would like to mention one or two things concerning them. First, let us examine the eastern doorway (plate 4). This is built in fine stonework with rebated jambs moulded with a double ogee and a hollow. The stops to this doorway are high up from the floor and examination has shown that a stone stairway was built here to give access to the cellar from the courtyard on the ground floor level. The original iron hinge hooks are still in position. Secondly, there is the other and similar doorway leading into the small cellar (plate 2). This is the same width as the other, but the height from floor to spring line of arch is different. The mouldings are similar, viz., a rebate, double ogee and hollow. This doorway has the original iron hooks for hanging a pair of folding doors which opened back into the small cellar. It has also a pair of iron hooks on the western jamb which carried a single door opening into the main cellar. In the western jamb is a small sinking in the stone to receive the end of a wood bar, while in the eastern jamb is another sinking to take the other end of the bar. From the position and design of these holes I conclude that the bar was used to fasten the original folding doors.

Before I leave the main cellar let me call your attention to the recess in which the stone stairway was built. This recess is now covered with a modern brick vault. The eastern wall is also in brick, but in the south wall is a small window opening filled in with the original iron grille. The section through this window opening is most interesting, and I have, therefore, shown it in

PLATE 9.

To face page VIII*Photo by**Vivians, Hereford.*

STONE PANEL IN VAULT OF ANCIENT CELLARS IN WIDEMARSH STREET,
HEREFORD.

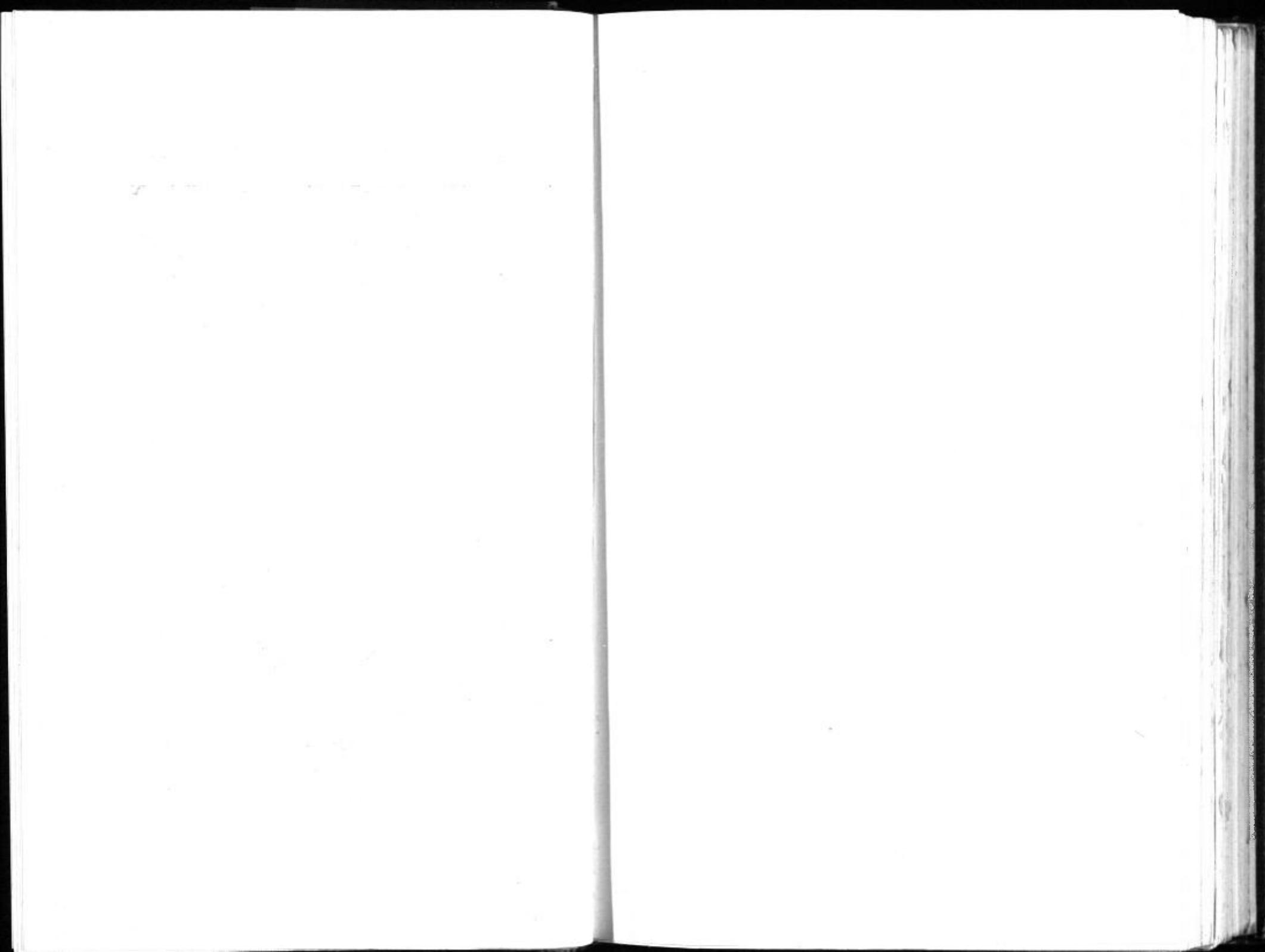




Photo by

FIREPLACE IN ANCIENT CELLARS IN WIDEMARSH STREET, HEREFORD.

Vivians, Hereford.

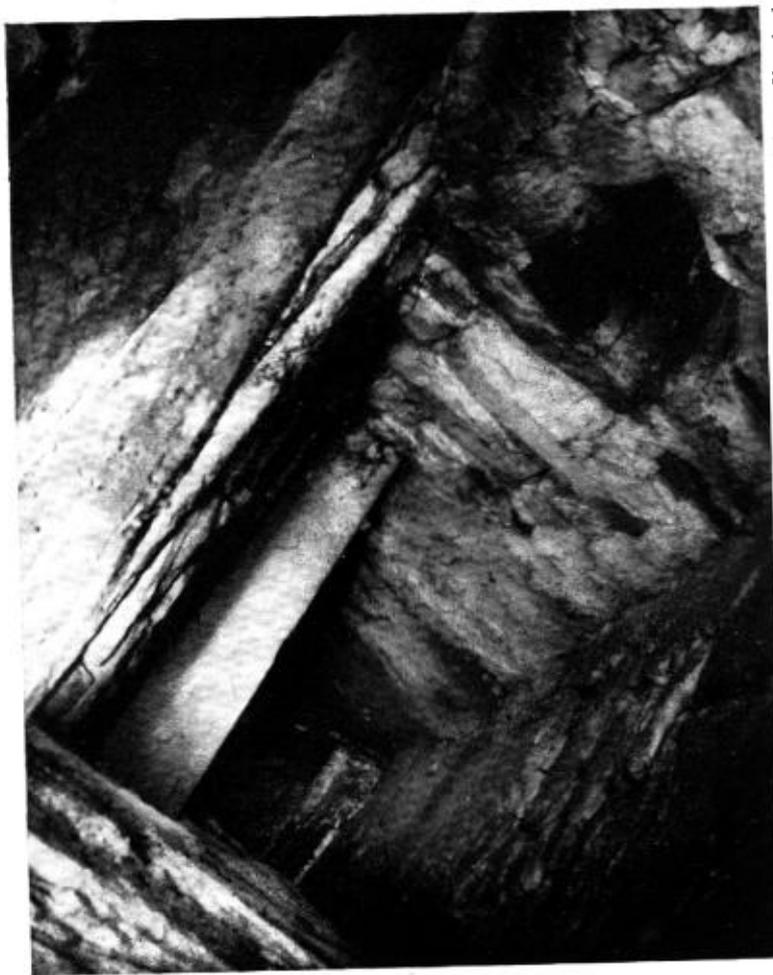


Photo by
Vivians, Hereford.
View of Gateway in Southern Wall at Westward Street, Hereford.

the illustration (plate 4). There is no doubt that this window was in the open air, and I think this, together with evidences elsewhere, proves that there was an open courtyard next Widemarsh Street. The rolling way in the western wall is modern.

Turning to the small cellar you will notice that while it is smaller than the main cellar, and devoid of ceiling ornamentation, it is of similar design and construction and of the same date. It has been much shortened at some period for there are evidences of original window openings to prove that it extended towards Widemarsh Street. This small cellar abuts against Bewell Street and formed its northern boundary. You will notice that it is not square with the main cellar, but inclines slightly to the north-east. In the northern wall are the doorway and recess window already mentioned. In the southern wall is one of the most interesting features which I have had the privilege to see. It is a window opening, evidently an area window, with the original iron grating at what I believe is the old street level. I have for years tried to find the level of the mediæval streets in this district, and I think I have found it at last. The opening in the cellar wall is covered with a chamfered stone arch, and, in view of what I have said about the old street level, I have given a section of it in the illustration (plate 3).

The eastern wall is modern and I have failed to find any further evidence of the old work beyond it.

I have referred to the slight remains of an early building under No. 5. Reference to the plan will show the extent of them, which consists of the 14th century doorway previously mentioned, some walling with a rebated quoin at its eastern end and the remains of a rebated and chamfered doorway (plate 5, G and E).

With regard to the date of the various parts, I can with certainty place the doorway with a semi-circular head, and which is in the north-east corner of the main cellar, as 14th century work. When I try to give an exact date for the remainder I feel I must proceed with caution. In the *Historical Monuments Commission Report* the date is given as 15th century, others say it is early 16th century. My own opinion is that it may be mid 15th century or a little later. If we could get the right explanation of the two panels showing Merchants' Marks it would probably decide the matter. I have had a letter from Mr. Chambers, of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, and he says: "From the drawings the work would appear to be of *circa* 1400". Again I say that caution must be used in giving an exact date.

Up to the present I have not found any stonework above the ground level, but if the fireplace in the back shop of No. 4 is ever opened out, further light may be thrown upon the superstructure. It is possible that the low-ceilinged room in No. 4, with its heavily

moulded beams and the smaller moulded beams dividing the ceiling up into small squares, is a part of the original timber building which stood over the cellars and extended northwards to the Black Swan. Portions of the original roof trusses still remain under the modern roof, while in the north wall is one of the main oak posts which carried the floors and roof. In the same wall are the remains of a very beautiful oak doorway with moulded jambs and arch and spandrils filled in with delicate cusping. This doorway opens into No. 5, and is now blocked up with thin boards.

The back portion of the ground floor room at No. 4 is of later date than the portion I have mentioned. The ceiling is about six inches higher, and it is most interesting to see how the old craftsman dealt with the junction of the old and new work. In the illustration (plate 13) is a view of the long modelled plaster panel fixed on the slope and resting against the large moulded ceiling beam of the earlier work. This panel has a lion's mask in the centre of the foliated work.

The ceiling of this later portion of the room is divided into six panels by oak beams. The panels are ornamented by a small plaster moulded cornice of a section similar to that found at Dinmore Manor, and at the back of Messrs. Wakefield Knight's premises at No. 27, High Town. One panel has a fine lion's mask in the centre with a fleur-de-lis in each corner, the panel east of this has a rose in the centre with a fleur-de-lis in each corner, the centre back panel has two corner leaves and the panel east of this has corner leaves of two different patterns. The two northern panels are modern. It will be seen that the work on the long and the other panels is by the same artist. The fleur-de-lis ornament in the old Freeman's prison was similar.

The south wall of the earlier and later parts of the room is covered with oak panelling, as is also the wall next the stairs. The panelling on the old chimney breast is much mutilated.

There are remains of the two fluted pilasters on the fireplace and also of a pilaster on the south wall, the latter showing traces of an Ionic capital.

There is also a dwarf dado of much later date on the northern wall.

In conclusion I should like to thank Mr. R. A. Ford for his sketches and for his help; Mr. Kenneth Lee for calling my attention to more than one important item and for his help in preparing the various plans and details; Mr. Fowler (of Messrs. Symonds) for his permission to take measurements and open up any part of the building I wished; and Messrs. Charles Edwards (Worcester), Ltd., and their architect, Mr. Herbert Skyrme, for the freedom given me to inspect their premises,

To face page x.



Photo by
Vintans, Hereford.
ANCIENT CELLAR IN WIDEMARSH STREET, HEREFORD, LOOKING NORTH.

PLATE 12.



Photo by

CEILING AT NO. 4, WIDDMARSH STREET, HEREFORD.

Vivians, Hereford.

Mr. C. A. BENN, O.B.E., M.A., F.G.S., the President-elect, then took the chair, and expressed the Club's gratitude to Mr. Bettington for his keen interest in its activities during his year of office.

The HONORARY TREASURER (Mr. F. R. James) presented the statement of accounts for the year, and said there was a balance in hand of £380 compared with £323 last year.

The ASSISTANT SECRETARY (Mr. F. Boddington) made his annual report, and stated that at the commencement of the year, 1938 there were 9 honorary members and 213 ordinary members, a total membership of 222. During the year 12 members had resigned, and there had been 11 deaths. Seventeen new members had been elected during the year, leaving the membership at 216.

The places for two Field Meetings were fixed as follow: The First Meeting at the Titterstone Clee Hill and neighbourhood, and the Second Meeting at Holmer, Pipe, Ivington and Leominster.

The following gentlemen were elected members:—Mr. Charles Henry Mitchell, 12, Commercial Street, Hereford; Mr. Douglas Beresford Griffith Gabriel, 133, St. Owen Street, Hereford; Mr. Godfrey Reginald Malkin, Fownhope, Hereford; Rev. Augustus Payne, Moccas Rectory, Hereford; Mr. T. Moss, Fairford, Breinton Road, Hereford; Major A. E. W. Salt, Broad Street, Weobley; and Mr. Herbert Biggs, Roundway, Bodenham Road, Hereford.

New members were proposed as follows:—Dr. H. G. Langdale Smith, M.B., Ch.B., Tarrington, Hereford; and Rev. S. Z. Edwards, M.A., Bullinghope Vicarage, Hereford.

Mr. Edward Ball submitted his Report on Botany for 1938, which in his absence was read by the Honorary Secretary.

A paper by Dr. Brian Lawn, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., entitled "Notes on a 17th Century Almanack originally belonging to Richard Corbett, Esq., of Elton, Herefordshire", was laid before the meeting. It was decided to print it in the *Transactions*.

The HONORARY SECRETARY announced a gift of books and MSS. dealing with the Wye Fishery Dispute, 1911, from Sir John Lloyd, M.C. These were accepted with grateful thanks.

The HONORARY SECRETARY reported that he had found a columbarium in the late 14th century tower of the ruined church of Llanwarne. There were six nesting holes in one wall and four in each of two of the other walls. The holes inside were very rough and enlarged considerably at the back, but had not the usual sharp bend to one side or the other. This is the second columbarium discovered in a church tower in Herefordshire, the other being in the tower of Sarnesfield church, also discovered by him many years ago.¹

¹ See the *Transactions*, 1904, p. 263, illus.

Captain H. A. Gilbert and Dr. C. W. Walker offered to the Club for publication a book they had written on the Birds of Herefordshire. Dr. Walker pointed out that no such work had been published for more than thirty-five years. This offer was unani- mously accepted, and it was decided to issue it with the *Transactions*, and to have a number of copies printed in book form to be available to the general public.

The Assistant Secretary was cordially thanked for the labour he had expended in compiling a "General Index to the Transactions" from 1912 to 1935, which also included an "Index to the Illus- trations" from 1852 to 1935. He then offered to make a general index *de novo* from 1852 to 1911. This offer was gratefully accepted. Mr. Boddington said that such an index would entail a great deal of work, and would probably occupy his spare time for a period of two years or longer.

Mr. F. R. JAMES referred to the movement in Wales for the protection of the kite, which last year cost about £300. He said that last year the Club voted a sum of £10 for this object, and proposed that £15 be given for the same purpose this year. This proposition was seconded by Dr. C. W. WALKER and carried unanimously.

Captain F. B. ELLISON drew attention to the destruction of wild daffodils by digging up the bulbs in the Eardisley and Bred- wardine districts, and said he hoped that the County Council would make greater efforts to enforce their Bye-laws dealing with the Destruction of Wild Plants.

A letter was read from Mr. T. C. S. Morrison-Scott of the British Museum (Natural History), in reference to a bat which Mr. A. B. Oliver found in Moor Park Road, Hereford. In the letter Mr. Morrison-Scott said: "The specimen is Natterer's Bat, *Myotis nattereri* (Kuhl). Barrett-Hamilton, *A History of British Mammals*, vol. 1, 1911, certainly says that there are no records for Herefordshire, but I have no information since then. One would expect Natterer's Bat from there however, since it occurs all round. The diagnostic feature is the fringe of hairs round the tail mem- brane."

It was decided that on a suitable date the Club should visit the cellars in Widemarsh Street, referred to in Mr. Bettington's Presidential address.

The Meeting then terminated.

FIRST FIELD MEETING.

FRIDAY, 26TH MAY, 1939.

THE TITTERSTONE CLEE HILL DISTRICT.

The First Field Meeting was held at the Clee Hills and neigh- bourhood to study the geology of the district under the guidance of Dr. R. W. Pocock, D.Sc., of the Geological Survey and Museum, South Kensington.

Those present included:—Mr. C. A. Benn, O.B.E. (President), Mr. Nugent Armitage, Rev. Preb. E. H. Beattie, M.C., Mr. A. Bennett, Mr. A. W. Bolt, Mr. C. E. T. Booth, Mr. F. Croker, Mr. H. J. Davies, Rev. W. S. Daw, Captain F. B. Ellison, Rev. D. R. Evans, Mr. W. A. Evershed, Mr. D. B. G. Gabriel, Mr. H. J. Harding, Mr. D. W. Harris, Mr. T. H. Higgins, Mr. E. J. Illidge, Mr. A. Johnston, Mr. G. S. Averay Jones, Mr. A. C. Lumsden, Mr. A. W. Marriott, Rev. S. H. Martin, Mr. J. W. Matthews, Dr. R. W. Pocock, Mr. H. J. Powell, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. J. Scott, Engineer-Commander J. Smith, Mr. J. D. Taylor, Mr. P. J. T. Templer, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary), and Mr. Frank Boddington (Assistant Secretary).

The members drove *via* Bromyard and Tenbury to Neen Sollars, where at an exposure of the rocks Dr. Pocock described the Silurian Inlier and the sequence of Silurian and Old Red Sand- stone Rocks between this point and Cleobury Mortimer.

A hurried visit was paid to Neen Sollars church, a cruciform building of the fourteenth century with central tower and a broach timber spire. There is a fine monument to Humphry Coningsby with his effigy. He was descended from John Coningsby of Lin- colnshire, who married in the early fourteenth century Margaret, daughter and heiress of Roger de Solers of Neen Sollars. Hum- phry Coningsby was a bachelor and a great traveller, and the monument gives a long account of his adventures on the continent of Europe and in Asia Minor. His first journey was begun in 1594, when he was twenty-seven years of age, and on the 10th of October, 1610, he left London for Venice, and was never heard of again. His half sister, Mrs. Joyce Jeffries, the writer of the well known diary in which she gives interesting particulars of Hereford during the Civil War, was his executrix and erected this monument in 1624.

Soon after leaving Tenbury a halt was made while Dr. Pocock described how the terminal moraine at Atton had diverted the

river Teme from its original course reversing its drainage across the Malvern chain into the Severn valley.

The next stop was made at Cleobury Mortimer, where the church was examined. Once, when in danger of imminent collapse, it had been buttressed up and saved by Telford, of Menai suspension bridge fame, who happened at the time to be bridging the Rea at Cleobury.

Proceeding past Bagginswood, a stop was made near Walton, where Dr. Pocock described the view along the axis of the Clee Hill syncline, and further on at Prescott he pointed out a roadside section in Upper Old Red Sandstone. At Oretton, the Carboniferous Limestone quarries were searched for fish-teeth, in which fossils they are rich. No one was fortunate enough to disinter any, but there were plenty of the commoner limestone fossils. Dr. Pocock explained how the limestone dipped towards the centre of the syncline and passed under the coal measures, and was topped by the Upper Old Red Sandstone.

After an *al fresco* lunch the business of the Club was transacted.

The following new members were elected:—Dr. H. G. Langdale Smith, M.B., Ch.B., Tarrington, Hereford; and the Rev. S. Z. Edwards, M.A., Bullinghope Vicarage, Hereford.

The following gentleman was proposed for membership:—Mr. J. B. Boland, 24, Ferndale Road, Hereford.

A letter was read from Mr. Basil Butcher, drawing attention to the gradual obliteration of the heights and dates of the great floods marked on a wall in the yard of Mr. Rutter near the Wye bridge in Hereford, and asking if the Club could have these records permanently inscribed.

On the proposition of Mr. C. A. Benn, seconded by Captain F. B. Ellison, it was decided to make arrangements to have these figures recorded on a copper plate.

The party then went on to Farlow Bank, where the Carboniferous Limestone can be seen overlying the Upper Old Red Sandstone conglomerates, which are supposed to be wind-blown, and have yielded remains of fishes.

The next stop was made at Clee Hill Quarries, where the great quarry in Columnar Basalt was examined, and the party heard one of the most interesting discourses of the day—a description of Urry's age determination of rocks.

Dr. Pocock explained that certain rocks contained uranium which liberated helium gas. The rate at which helium was liberated was known, also its content in the uranium. From a sample of rock it could be determined how much uranium there was, what proportion of helium remained and hence how much was gone, hence how long it took in going, which was equal to the age of the rock.

With the help of this new principle—Dr. Urry was an American scientist—he (Dr. Pocock) had proved certain ideas about rock formation to be incorrect. He regarded basalt as a lava flow of coal measure age. The coal measures on Clee Hill were worked in past years. By permission of the British Quarrying Co., Ltd., the party was able to see the methods of working the quarries.

The drive was continued down Angel Bank to Ludlow, where tea was served at the Feathers Hotel. Afterwards the President, moving a vote of thanks to Dr. Pocock, said that he had told them more than any other man could have done, and they were extremely grateful to him "for giving us the geological time of our lives." He would like on behalf of the members to thank the Secretaries, who were the life blood of the expeditions, and ran them so smoothly.

Replying, Dr. Pocock said it had been a great pleasure to act as their guide. He wondered whether the Woolhope Club had forgotten its old-time enthusiasm for geology. If they could organise occasional geological expeditions it would be very interesting, and he would be pleased to help. He thanked them very much.

The Honorary Secretary thanked the speakers for their kind words and endorsed Dr. Pocock's remarks about geological expeditions. They were very fortunate in having him as a member and a most interesting day might be arranged in the Woolhope district.

The members walked down to the river afterwards to see the Upper Ludlow sequence and the Ludlow Bone Bed, where there is a layer about two inches thick of fossilised fish bones.

The party then returned to Hereford by Leominster and Dinmore Hill.

SECOND FIELD MEETING.

THURSDAY, 22ND JUNE, 1939.

IVINGTON, LEOMINSTER AND BERRINGTON.

The Second Field Meeting was held to visit a variety of sites in the Leominster district. The early part of the day was very wet, but cleared by lunch time.

Those present included:—Mr. C. A. Benn, O.B.E. (the President), Mr. A. C. Alcock, Mr. Nugent L. Armitage, Rev. Preb. E. H. Beattie, M.C., Mr. S. J. Bridge, Mr. C. E. Brumwell, Mr. Basil Butcher, Mr. A. Cheese, Mr. H. J. Davies, Mr. A. Davis, Mr. R. E. Dill, Mr. R. J. Edwards, Mr. P. Fox, Mr. A. H. Griffiths, Mr. D. W. Harris, Mr. J. H. Hoyle, Mr. A. G. Hudson, Mr. A. Johnston, Mr. G. S. Averay Jones, Mr. E. N. B. Jeffrey, Mr. J. W. Matthews, Mr. C. H. Mitchell, Mr. A. B. Oliver, Mr. V. H. Pembridge, Mr. T. Lindsey Price, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. R. S. Gavin Robinson, Mr. C. W. Simpson, Mr. H. Skyrme, Engineer-Commander J. Smith, Mr. E. A. Somerton, Lieut.-Colonel O. R. Swayne, D.S.O., Mr. J. D. Taylor, Mr. R. J. T. Templer, Mr. S. E. Warner, Mr. A. Wilmshurst, Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary), and Mr. Frank Boddington (Assistant Secretary).

The first place visited was Pipe church, a building of the Early English period but largely rebuilt.

Mr. GEORGE MARSHALL pointed out the chief features of interest, and a paper by him tracing the evolution of the building will be found under "Papers" in this volume.

The drive was continued to Westhope, where the members walked up the hill to see a mediæval moated site. Practically nothing is known of this place. The *Victoria County History* and the Royal Commission's *Report on Ancient Monuments in Herefordshire* give it but a cursory notice, but Robinson in his *Mansions of Herefordshire*, quoting Silas Taylor, circa 1655 (*Harl. MS. 7626*), says speaking of Laughton's Hope, "It belongs to the Pembers of Newport, but heretofore . . . the dwelling of Sir Hugh Monington; in whose grounds upon the hill are the signes of a depopulated place, not any house left standing—the occasion reported to be from a sickness; it is said to be called, anciently, Smithlee." The Woolhope Club *Transactions*, 1900, p. 79, says: "it is 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."

It is a fairly large rectangular enclosure with a moat fed by surface water, and from a pond, in which may be a spring, not far off, but now is nearly dry. There are indications of its having had a curtain wall with towers at the corners, and in the south east angle are considerable foundations of a rectangular building. It is no doubt the site of a fortified residence of the fourteenth or fifteenth century, and should well repay careful excavation.

Returning to the cars the drive was continued to Birley church. The HON. SECRETARY, in giving some particulars of this building, said:—

The earliest mention of the church is to be found in a Norman-French account of the foundation of Wigmore Abbey.¹ From this we learn that immediately after the dedication of Shobdon church, about 1145, Oliver de Merlimund, the Steward of Hugh de Mortimer, heard that the parson of Birley, named Wolward, was deprived for ill-conduct, and he prayed Bishop Robert de Betun to grant him the patronage of the church, which request was granted, and with the consent of the bishop he gave it to St. Victor of Paris. Thence it passed to Wigmore Abbey.

The chancel and nave walls were rebuilt on the old foundations in 1873-4, when the earlier features are said to have been retained. Evidence of a late 12th century church may be seen in the font, a very good example, in the much restored south doorway of the nave, and possibly in the responds of the chancel arch, which appear to have been reworked when the arch with ball flower ornament was reconstructed about 1310. The tower with the arch leading into the nave is probably about the second quarter of the 13th century. The responds of the arch have a peculiar feature, namely, that the narrow square fillet on the shafts is carried over the bases and the capitals. The windows on the ground stage of the tower have round heads and may have been rescued from the west wall of the nave when the tower was built. The windows in the upper stages are pointed.

There are three bells, the 1st inscribed "Abr. Rudhall, Bell Founder, 1721"; 2nd, uninscribed, 17th century; and the 3rd, "Gloria in Excelsis Deo, 1671", probably a William Clibury bell. There is an exactly similar bell, with the same inscription and date at Kinnersley. There is a good mediæval chest with two lids.

On the south side of the nave at the east end is a chantry chapel dedicated to the B.V.M., which was built at the end of the fourteenth century by one of the Burley family. Their arms were once to be seen in the glass of one of the windows (Hill's MSS. at Belmont), and a tombstone is said to have borne the same arms (Thomas Blount's MS). On the face of the angle buttresses, outside near the top, are indents, evidently for metal plates the shapes of which show they were for shields surrounded by a garter.

This chantry chapel now has a timber gable on the south wall, and foiled wind-braces to the roof, dating from the sixteenth century, which took the place of the original flat lead roof with a parapet. The remains of the plain stone gargoyles of the earlier roof still exist.

The Burleys held Birley under the Mortimers of Wigmore Castle and from them derived their arms. The family was settled here in 1247 and probably much earlier, taking their name from the place. Sir John Burley, knight, senior, by his will² dated 19th December, 1383,

¹ *The History of Ludlow*, by Thomas Wright, 1852, pp. 103, 104; and Dugdale's *Monasticon*, 1817-30, vol. vi., p. 343.

² Register of Bishop John Gilbert, p. 34. Cantilupe Society.

and proved on the 18th of January following, desired to be buried in the Black Friars' church at Hereford, and left £22 to the chantry of the Blessed Virgin in Birley church, and it must have been one of his immediate successors who built the existing chantry chapel. There was a chantry here to the B.V.M. before the building of the present chapel, for Sir John Burley presented John Ector, chaplain, to it on the resignation of John atte Broke, in 1356.

Sir John Burley, senior, must have died an old man, aged between 70 and 80 years. His sons in his lifetime had risen to considerable eminence. John, the eldest, was created a Knight of the Garter in 1370, and died shortly before his father, between the months of June and October, 1383.

Where he was buried is unknown. Leland, writing 150 years later and before the Black Friars' Monastery was destroyed, merely says that "Sir John Burley" was buried in the church there. Beltz, in his "Order of the Garter", did not know who his father was and he and various other authorities not unnaturally concluded that it was John, the Knight of the Garter, whom Leland referred to, instead of his father of the same name, who desired in his will to be buried here.

He married Amicia, the elder of the two co-heiresses of Sir Richard Pembridge, also a Knight of the Garter, whose tomb is in Hereford Cathedral, and left a son, Sir Richard, who was elected to the Order of the Garter in 1382, and died without issue in 1387, and was buried in Saint Paul's Cathedral, under an effigy which perished in the Great Fire of London. His brother William succeeded him, but dying without issue the following year, the third brother Roger became the heir, and was succeeded on his death, probably about 1398, by his son Sir John, who died in 1428, and he by his son William who, dying in 1445, without issue, the family of Burley in the male line became extinct, and the property passed to his cousin and next heir Thomas Hopton.

Sir John Burley, senior, had another son, Sir Simon, the most celebrated member of the family, who was born in 1336. He was tutor to the Black Prince and had a distinguished military career, and was created a Knight of the Garter in 1381. He came to an unfortunate and undeserved end being beheaded, on a trumped up charge, in the Tower of London in 1388, and was buried in the Abbey of St. Mary Graces by the Tower.

The next stop was made at Gattertop, where a picnic lunch was partaken of, after which the business of the Club was transacted.

The following new member was elected:—Mr. J. B. Boland, 24, Ferndale Road, Hereford.

The following gentlemen were nominated for election:—Mr. C. M. Atkinson, The Rock, Lugwardine; Dr. P. G. Harvey, Cornwall House, Monmouth; Colonel H. R. Pettit, D.L., Castle Weir, Lyonshall; Mr. R. H. Bromley, Penrhos, Kington; Mr. Denys Leek, 10, Broad Street, Hereford; and the Rt. Hon. Lord Cawley, Berrington Hall, Leominster.

Dr. P. G. Harvey reported in a letter that on the 29th of May, at 12.30 p.m., he saw an animal on the Herefordshire bank of the river three-quarters of a mile below Corras bridge at Kentchurch, from a distance of about fifteen yards, and that he was positive it was a Pine Marten. Members were inclined to the opinion that the animal was more likely to have been an otter.

The gift of a pamphlet, entitled *Blanche Parry, Queen Elizabeth's Gentlewoman*, from the author, Mr. C. A. Bradford, F.S.A., was gratefully acknowledged.

The party then walked up to Ivington Camp. This typical Early Iron-Age camp is partly arable and partly under grass, but the outer defences are planted with trees. The area is divided into two parts by a large curved vallum, the ditch being nearly filled up. Two "stone hatchets" are reported to have been found here in 1764, one of which was given to the Society of Antiquaries by the then Lord Bateman, but it cannot now be found and had probably disappeared before 1847, for it does not figure in a catalogue of its collections of that date.¹

Returning to the cars, the drive was continued to Leominster, where at the Town Hall the members were met by the Mayor and the Town Clerk, and were shown the civic regalia, charters, and other treasures.

Proceeding to Berrington Hall, a fine example of the Adam style built about 1786, the party were entertained to tea by Lord and Lady Cawley. Afterwards the members visited the heronry on the island in the lake. There was a large number of nests with young birds, some ready to fly.

A hearty vote of thanks having been accorded to Lord and Lady Cawley for their hospitality, the return journey was made to Hereford, which was reached about 7.15 p.m.

¹ For some particulars of this camp see the *Transactions* for 1882, pp. 212-219, plan; 1900, p. 76; and 1912, pp. 19, 20.

THIRD FIELD MEETING (LADIES' DAY).

THURSDAY, 13TH JULY, 1939.

KINVER EDGE AND ARLEY CASTLE.

The Third Field Meeting (Ladies' Day) was held to visit Kinver Edge in Staffordshire and Arley Castle and the Arboretum there in Worcestershire, on the Severn.

The party consisted of about eighty-five members and their friends, amongst whom were Mr. C. A. Benn, O.B.E. (President), Mr. A. C. Alcock, Mr. N. L. Armitage, Rev. Preb. E. H. Beattie, M.C., Mr. E. J. Bettington, Mr. J. B. Boland, Mr. C. E. T. Booth, Mr. J. Braby, Mr. G. H. Brierley, Mr. R. H. Bromley, Mr. A. Cheese, Mr. F. Croker, Mr. H. J. Davies, Rev. W. S. Daw, Captain F. B. Ellison, Mr. W. G. Farmer, Mr. P. Fox, Mr. D. B. G. Gabriel, Mr. A. Ll. Gwillim, Mr. T. H. Higgins, Mr. E. J. Illidge, Mr. E. N. B. Jeffrey, Mr. E. A. P. Jones, Mr. G. S. Averay Jones, Mr. W. J. Jones, Mr. W. J. King, Mr. A. C. Lumsden, Mr. J. W. Matthews, Mr. C. H. Mitchell, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. E. H. Morris, Mr. W. T. Perry, Mr. H. M. Prichard, Mr. W. J. Powell, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. R. S. Gavin Robinson, Mr. J. Scott, Mr. C. W. Simpson, Mr. H. Skyrme, Engineer-Commander J. Smith, R.N., Mr. E. A. Somerton, Mr. P. J. T. Templer, Mr. W. Ridley Thomas, Captain O. B. Wallis, M.C., Mr. A. Wilmshurst, Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary), and Mr. F. Boddington (Assistant Secretary).

The drive to Kinver was made by Bromyard, Stourport and Kidderminster. Alighting on the road below the Holy Austin Rock, the members ascended the hill to the caves, which are cut out of the soft red sandstone. Some of these caves were occupied up to a few months ago, when they were condemned as unfit for human habitation, though they are perfectly dry and cool in summer and warm in winter. As many as twelve families have been known to live in this rock at once. Some of the caves are high up and now inaccessible, and must always have been difficult of approach.

The walk was continued to the top of the Edge, from which a fine view extending into eighteen counties can be obtained. An Early Iron Age camp covers a large area of the sloping summit. The vallum and ditch are clearly traceable. Having followed the Edge for about half a mile the descent was made to Nanny's Rock, where another series of rock dwellings was seen. These have not been inhabited for about a hundred years. From here a foot track was followed through wild wooded scenery to the road, and the motors conveyed the party about two miles to the Stewponey Hotel, a well-known hostelry, lately rebuilt, with some fine swimming baths attached. Here lunch was served, after which the business of the Club was transacted,

The following new members were elected :—Mr. C. M. Atkinson, The Rock, Lugwardine; Dr. P. G. Harvey, Cornwall House, Monmouth; Colonel H. R. Pettit, D.L., Castle Weir, Lyonshall; Mr. R. H. Bromley, Penrhos, Kington; Mr. Denys Leek, 10, Broad Street, Hereford; and the Rt. Hon. Lord Cawley, Berlington Hall, Leominster.

The following gentlemen were proposed for membership :—Mr. Frederick W. Elliott, The Cottage, Whitchurch-on-Wye, Herefordshire; and Mr. E. H. Phillips, St. Ebba, Breinton Road, Hereford.

Mr. F. C. Morgan recorded the re-appearance of *Xanthium spinosum*, the *Spiny Burweed*, at Hereford. It was first observed there in 1865.¹ He also drew attention to two old houses at the upper end, on the west side, of Church Street, Hereford, which the Post Office had bought and were in danger of demolition. He urged members to visit them, so that they could appreciate the advisability of saving them.

The drive was continued to Arley Castle on the left bank of the Severn. Here, by permission of Miss Kell, the occupier, and Major A. C. T. Woodward, the owner, the arboretum extending to about fifteen acres was inspected under the guidance of Mr. H. Jacques, the estate agent. The collection was started about 1800 by George, Earl of Mountnorris, and in it are to be found a very large number of fine and rare deciduous and coniferous trees and shrubs. Major Woodward is still constantly adding to their number.

A hurried visit was paid to the church, which stands in the Castle grounds. In it are traces of a Doom over the chancel arch, and an interesting effigy of Walter de Balun, who died in 1288 A.D., and was closely connected with the Mortimers and Audleys of Much Marcle.

Miss Kell showed the members over the castle, in which are incorporated slight remains of the original Arley Manor, but the castellated part is no earlier than 1800, when it assumed the designation "Castle". The tower was ascended by a hundred steps, and from the summit a good view was obtained of the surrounding country, including Wyre Forest on the opposite side of the river.

The return journey was made *via* Bewdley and the right bank of the Severn to Worcester and Malvern. A stop was made on the way for tea at the Lenchford Hotel at Shrawley on the bank of the river.

Captain F. B. Ellison spoke briefly of the recent discoveries which Mr. E. H. Morris and he had made about the Hereford-Abergavenny tramway. One of the trucks had been discovered buried in a hillside.

Hereford was reached about 7.15 p.m.

¹ See the *Transactions*, 1866, p. 187, illus.; and *Flora of Herefordshire*, p. 196.

FOURTH FIELD MEETING.
THURSDAY, 24TH AUGUST, 1939.

DYMOCK, NEWENT AND ASHLEWORTH IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

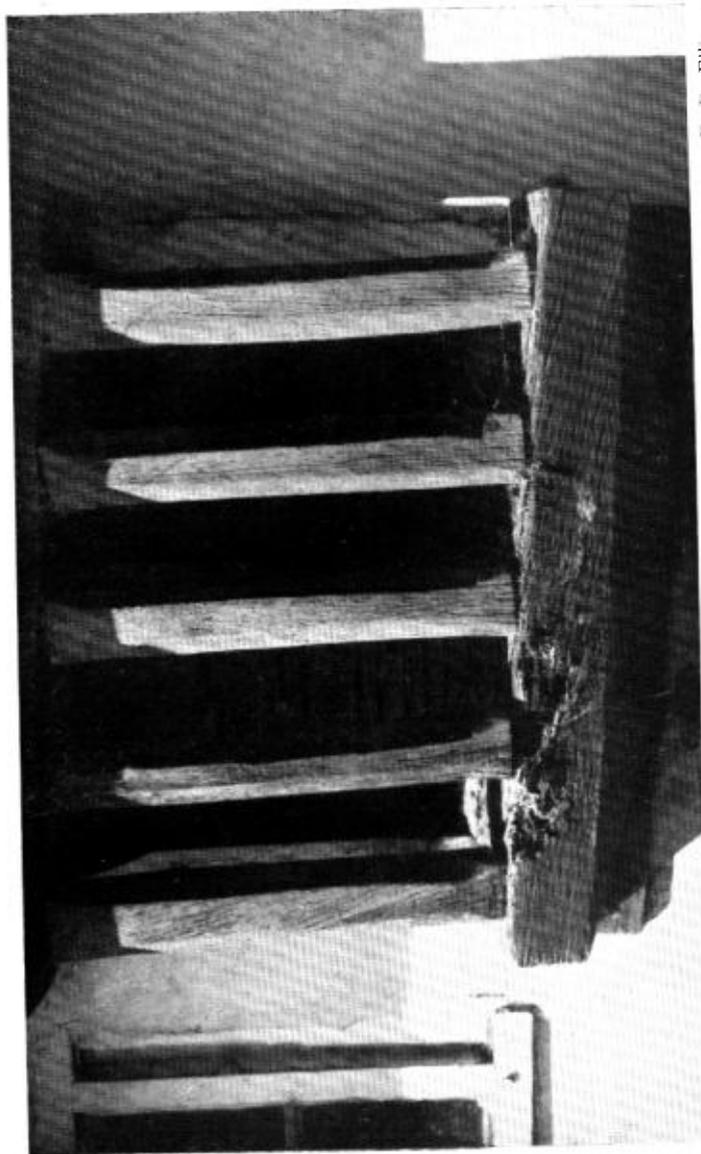
This meeting was held to visit the above places, and to study the archæology and geology of the district.

Those present included :—Mr. C. A. Benn, O.B.E. (President) Mr. A. Bennett, Mr. R. H. Bromley, Mr. C. J. Christmas, Mr. G. B. Cooper, Mr. F. Croker, Mr. H. J. Davies, Mr. A. Davis, Mr. R. F. Dill, Mr. E. S. Ellis, Captain F. B. Ellison, Mr. R. A. Ford, Mr. P. Fox, Mr. G. A. Hall, Mr. C. J. Harding, Rev. T. Holland, Mr. A. G. Hudson, Mr. E. J. Illidge, Mr. Alex. Johnston, Rev. G. Ifor R. Jones, Mr. W. J. Jones, Mr. W. J. King, Mr. A. C. Lumsden, Rev. Preb. S. H. Martin, Mr. J. W. Matthews, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. E. H. Morris, Mr. A. B. Oliver, Rev. Preb. T. H. Parker, Mr. H. J. Powell, Mr. H. M. Prichard, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. J. Scott, Mr. C. W. Simpson, Mr. H. Skyrme, Engineer-Commander J. Smith, R.N., Lieut.-Colonel O. R. Swayne, D.S.O., Mr. W. Ridley Thomas, Mr. F. E. Whiting, Mr. A. Wilmshurst, Mr. A. U. Zimmerman, Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary), and Mr. F. Boddington (Assistant Secretary).

The party drove to Dymock, where a visit was made to the church. This building dates from early Norman times. The nave was lengthened towards the west in the late Norman period. There is a fine Norman south doorway with a tympanum on which is a Tree of Life. The east end was probably apsidal. A central Norman tower was replaced by a 14th century one at the west end of the nave, on which are shields with the arms of Ruyhale, namely, two bends indented. This family came into possession of Dymock at the end of the 14th century.

The Honorary Secretary drew attention to the disused wooden pedestal font of the first half of the 18th century. It is turned in one piece and has a very small bowl. Hitherto it seems to have gone unrecorded among the wooden fonts of England, and Dr. A. C. Fryer, F.S.A., in his exhaustive account of the fonts in Gloucestershire in the *Transactions* of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society, does not mention it.

The next stop was made at the Castle Tump by the roadside, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles on the way to Newent. This is a typical Norman motte with a bailey that can be traced on the south-east side,



F. B. Ellison.

WINDOW AT GILFACH
in Newton, near Clodock.

Photo by

It was probably constructed at the Norman occupation of the district when Newent and its six hides was assigned to William Fitz Osbern.

A good exposure of the junction of the Old Red Sandstone and the New Red Sandstone or Trias was examined in the bank on the main road at this spot.

The drive was continued *via* Oxenhall to the disused colliery shafts at the White House Farm in Newent. There are two of these shafts now nearly full of water.

Mr. L. Richardson, F.R.S.E., P.A.Inst.W.E., F.G.S., who unfortunately was prevented from attending the meeting, sent a Paper entitled "Some Notes on the Geology of the Newent District," which was read by the Honorary Secretary. This will be found printed under "Papers" in this volume.

The business of the Club was then transacted.

The following new members were elected:—Mr. Frederick W. Elliott, The Cottage, Whitchurch, Ross-on-Wye; and Mr. E. H. Phillips, St. Ebba, Breinton Road, Hereford.

The following gentleman was proposed for membership:—Mr. R. E. Bromley, Penrhos, Kington.

The Rev. Prebendary S. H. Martin laid before the meeting "An Additional List of Coins found at Magna" (Kenchester), which will be found under "Papers" in this volume.

Captain F. B. Ellison reported the following natural history and other observations:—

At Eardisley a barn owl, perched on the electric wire, when dusk came on, reached out its wings, touched the other wire and was electrocuted.

At Almeley, two crows, cock and hen, perched on the wires reached out with their bills, and met with fatal results.

At Offa's Dyke, Bridge Sollars, Constable Lyne of Staunton saw on the road four animals in the space of a square yard, looking at something—one was a squirrel, next a pheasant, next a rabbit and a stoat, all watching probably the stoat.

A stoat was seen here also to chase a hare for a mile and then back a mile, when the stoat gave it up as a bad job.

The following prices for salmon from the river Wye may be of interest: In 1810 it was as low as a penny a pound, in 1860 it was sold at ninepence a pound, and in 1874 for ten pence and a shilling. In 1880 salmon was brought into Hereford in a donkey cart, full up, nearly every day in the season. During the Great War salmon was netted again, this having been prohibited since 1909. The owners took one fish for their use and the rest were sold in the Market Hall in Hereford. The Mayor and ladies of Hereford cut them up and they were sold at the controlled price of 2/8 per pound.

At Gilfach, Newton, near Clodock, a five-barred window, all in oak, was found by me. The oak shutters at the back have disappeared. This is a fine example (*vide* illustration), and is similar to those at Tretower Court, near Crickhowell, which we saw some years ago.

Captain Ellison then read a paper on "The Hereford 'Time Guns'", which will be found in this volume under "Papers".

After an inspection of the coal pit shaft, the journey was continued to Newent by way of the site of the Spa.

Lunch was served at the George Hotel, after which the members walked across the road to the church, where they were met by Mr. Thomas Overbury, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., who gave an account of the building. He said:—

The church comprised a chancel of the 13th century with a 14th century aisle on the south side. The roof of the nave collapsed in 1673, and the nave was rebuilt in the prevailing style between 1675 and 1679. The roof of this period with a flat ceiling is an ingenious piece of timber construction having a span of fifty feet. The tower on the north side of the nave dates from about 1300.

Part of a Saxon cross shaft is sculptured with Adam and Eve on either side of the Tree of Knowledge. There is another small stone 8 inches by 6½ inches and 1½ inches thick, carved on both sides, one with a crucifixion and the other holding a cross shaft and round it a number of figures and the word EDRED.

In the chancel aisle is an alabaster tomb with effigies of a knight and his lady, *circa* 1380, and a brass to Roger Porter, who died in 1523.

The next stop was made at Hartpury, where, under the guidance of Mr. Overbury the church and a fine stone tithe barn once belonging to the Abbots of Gloucester and dating from the 15th or early 16th century were inspected. The small church, much restored, retains a Norman south doorway, but the chief entrance is through a fine wooden porch, with Gothic tracery on the uprights, attached to the west face of the tower which abuts against the west end of the nave. The 15th century octagonal font retains its locking staples and has a flat oak lid dated 1668 and the initials R.H. and G.C., but this lid could not be used for locking by means of the existing staples. There are three mediæval chests, one a large dug-out with a solid division; another a small dug-out fitted with a much later lid, and painted at the same time to represent oak; and the third a chest with three key holes, heavily bound with strap iron, probably dating from the 14th century. Some fragments of 15th century glass have survived, including a crucifix and parts of another, and a seated figure.

The drive was continued to Ashleworth on the Severn, where another stone barn of the same period, but not so fine as that at Hartpury, and close by the church and the Court House built in stone, were seen. These buildings make a most interesting group of almost unaltered mediæval architecture.

Mr. Overbury gave a detailed description of these buildings.

The church of Ashleworth and apparently the Manor were granted to St. Augustine's monastery in Bristol in the time of Henry the First. The Courthouse was built soon after 1450, and remains with very few alterations, except for the insertion of an

upper floor in the hall and some partitions. The entrance is through the centre of the house, being the screens passage with the hall on the north side and the kitchens, buttery, *etc.*, on the south side. The hall retains its original roof timbers of four bays. Beyond the hall to the north is a wing of two floors containing the parlour and private apartments. The stone newel staircase still exists, but its domed roof has gone. The house unfortunately is liable to floods from the Severn.

The church has the remains of an early Norman nave, a western tower of the 13th century, a south aisle of the 15th century, and a chancel and south chapel later in that century. The interior face of the north wall of the nave is of herring-bone masonry. Against the west wall of the south aisle is a large Elizabethan Royal Arms painted in what appears to have been the tympanum boards above the nave and chancel screen.

A full account of this interesting church and also of The Court House and barn by Mr. Thomas Overbury will be found in the *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*, vol. 48 (1926), pp. 7-9, 379-385 and plan of the church.

The President having thanked Mr. Overbury for his interesting talks, it was unanimously decided to elect him an Honorary Member of the Club.

The party then drove to Ledbury, where after tea at the Feathers Hotel, an inspection was made of the Market Hall, recently repaired by Messrs. E.J. Bettington and Son, architects, of Hereford.

The following account of this work by Mr. E. J. Bettington, F.R.S.A., was read in his unavoidable absence.

LEDBURY MARKET HALL. When the renovation of this fine specimen of a 17th century Market Hall was decided upon it was laid down by me that only such work as was necessary to make the building safe should be done, and as the defects were skilfully hidden by the use of cement and tar, it was only after the erection of the scaffolding and the removal of the plaster panels that it was discovered that some of the main timbers—principally at the angles—were in a dangerous condition. Dry rot of a virulent kind had got a good start on the timbers at the south west angle, while the timbers at all the other angles were found to be worm eaten and rotten behind the covering coat of tar. The sill beam at the N.E. angle had a "rat-run" through its centre for a considerable length.

The plaster panels next and above the sill piece had been so badly repaired that the sill piece below had commenced to rot away. This has now been protected by a lead apron running along the south and west sides of the building. Lead aprons have also been placed to protect other woodwork which is exposed to the weather.

The corner posts of the upper storey have been carefully spliced in English oak while the "dragging" or "dragon pieces" and the ends of the sill piece at the corner of the building have also been spliced in oak and bolted. Incidentally the "dragging pieces" are of elm.

It was found necessary to insert two new brackets to the south end to give support to the new portion of the sill piece above.

The insertion of the new stairs some years ago, when one of the main floor beams was cut through, had caused a considerable movement in the framing of the north end; in fact, the original bracket is much twisted because of the change in the loading. This has been strengthened as much as possible.

The collar piece in the south gable was found to be dangerous and had to be renewed, while a similar collar in the north gable had to be re-faced.

In passing, I may say that the columns supporting the building, and which are generally stated to be of Spanish chestnut, are of English oak.

In two of the southern columns are incised circular ornamentations—I have not been able to find any others.

It was found impossible to retain the comparatively modern windows in the south and north ends owing to their decayed condition. New oak ones have been inserted and care has been taken to cover the exposed parts with lead.

The lead glazing and the iron casements were in such a defective condition that it was impossible to retain them. They were modern and of very poor quality.

Every plaster panel has been inspected and it was found that many were defective. They have been renewed in lime and hair mortar; the old oak laths, where sound, being left in. New cleft oak laths have been used where new lathing was required. The panels have been coated with lime mixed with tallow.

All the cement jointing and cement facing to the timber framing has been removed, the joints have been repaired, some in oak and some in bitumen, and the whole of the framing coated with Stockholm tar.

I am of the opinion that the repairs now done were just in time. The dry rot was an unpleasant surprise, for it was of that type which spreads with great rapidity. The progress made by this fungus had destroyed a good deal of the main timbers at the angles. We saw no sign of the beetle.

This fine building does not belong to the Ledbury Urban Council, but to the Ledbury Charities. The work has cost more than was anticipated, and I have no hesitation in asking the Woolhope Club to kindly grant a sum of money towards the cost. The C.P.R.E. has made a grant of £50 and I hope the Club will do its best to help also.

I feel I cannot close this paper without thanking Mr. R. A. Ford for his skilful collaboration, and Messrs. Preece & Sons, builders of The Southend, for the great care and attention which they have given throughout. They have done a fine piece of work for which they are to be congratulated.

The return journey was then made to Hereford, which was reached about 7.30 p.m.

ANNUAL WINTER MEETING.

TUESDAY, 12TH DECEMBER, 1939.

The Winter Annual Meeting of the Club was held in the Woolhope Club Room in the Hereford Public Library on Tuesday, 12th December.

Those present included: Mr. C. A. Benn, O.B.E., M.A., F.G.S. (the President), Mr. A. C. Alcock, Mr. G. H. Butcher, Mr. C. J. Christmas, Dr. J. S. Clarke, Mr. H. J. Davies, Mr. R. F. Dill, Mr. D. W. Harris, Mr. T. H. Higgins, Mr. F. R. James, Mr. A. Johnston, Mr. A. W. Marriott, Mr. G. H. Marshall, Rev. Preb. S. H. Martin, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. E. H. Morris, Mr. V. H. Pembridge, Rev. Preb. G. H. Powell, Mr. H. Pugh, Rev. G. B. E. Riddell, Mr. J. Scott, Rev. C. H. Stoker, Lieut.-Colonel R. H. Symonds-Taylor, Capt. O. B. Wallis, Mr. A. Wilmshurst, Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary), and Mr. Frank Boddington (Assistant Secretary).

The PRESIDENT paid a tribute to the memory of Mr. E. J. Bettington, a Vice-President, and President in the year 1938, and spoke highly of Mr. Bettington's interest in and services to the Club, referring especially to his knowledge of architecture, which he had always readily placed at the disposal of his fellow members.

The members then stood in silence.

The first item on the agenda was the election of a President and officers for the ensuing year.

The HONORARY SECRETARY proposed that Mr. Benn be elected President for another year, which would enable the difficulties of the present times due to the war more easily to be tided over when the activities of the Club were likely to be largely curtailed.

This was seconded by Lieut.-Colonel R. H. Symonds-Taylor and carried unanimously.

The following were elected as Vice-Presidents: Mr. R. S. Gavin Robinson, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Rev. Canon W. E. T. Morgan, and the Rev. Prebendary S. H. Martin.

The other officers of the Club were elected as follow:—Central Committee: Mr. F. R. James, Rev. C. H. Stoker, Rev. G. B. E. Riddell, Captain H. A. Gilbert, Captain F. B. Ellison, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. Walter Pritchard, Dr. C. W. Walker, Mr. G. H. Butcher, and Mr. Edward Ball; Editorial Committee: Mr. George Marshall, Dr. H. E. Durham, and Mr. F. C. Morgan; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. F. R. James; Hon. Auditor: Major E. A. Capel; Hon. Secretary: Mr. George Marshall; Hon. Librarian: Mr. F. C. Morgan; Hon.

Lanternist: Mr. Basil Butcher. Delegate to the Society of Antiquaries: Mr. F. C. Morgan.

The HONORARY SECRETARY referred with regret to the recent death of Mr. E. H. Bull, who had been a member of the Club for fifty-three years, having been elected in 1886. He was a son of Dr. G. H. Bull, one of the founders of the Club, and who was the life and soul of it up to the time of his death in 1885. Mr. Bull was interred in Breinton churchyard by the side of his father. Another loss was that of Miss E. Hutchinson, of Grantsfield, who had carried out much useful research work on the Lepidoptera of the county. Her family, including our late Hon. Secretary, Mr. Thomas Hutchinson, had contributed to the Club's researches during many years.

The places of two Field Meetings to be held in 1940, if possible, were arranged to take place, the one at Kington, Hergest and district, and the other at Dulas and neighbourhood.

The following new member was elected: Mr. R. L. Bromley, Penrhos, Kington.

The following gentleman was nominated for election:— Mr. C. E. Prior, Wiltondale, Ross-on-Wye.

The Assistant Secretary reported he was making good headway with the General Index of the *Transactions* from the commencement in 1852 to 1911, but that it probably would take at least two years to complete.

It was decided that the Editorial Committee consider the cost, *etc.* of printing the Rev. C. H. Binstead's MS. on the Mosses of Herefordshire and report to the next meeting.

The Rev. Preb. G. H. Powell reported that a black-headed gull was shot at Dorstone in October last, which had been ringed as a young bird at Haderslev, South Jutland, Denmark, on 13th July, 1939.

The meeting then terminated.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

(HEREFORDSHIRE)

PROCEEDINGS, 1940.

SPRING ANNUAL MEETING.

TUESDAY, 16TH APRIL, 1940.

The Spring Annual Meeting was held in the Woolhope Club Room in the Hereford Public Library, when there were present:— Mr. C. A. Benn, O.B.E. (the President), Mr. Arthur Bennett, Mr. R. H. Bromley, Mr. C. E. Brumwell, Mr. G. H. Butcher, Sir Geoffrey Cornwall, Mr. F. Croker, Mr. H. J. Davies, Mr. R. F. Dill, Mr. George W. Harding, Mr. J. H. Higgins, Rev. G. Ifor R. Jones, Dr. A. W. Langford, Mr. A. Lovesey, Mr. Albert W. Marriott, Mr. G. Humphry Marshall, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. A. B. Oliver, Rev. A. Payne, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. R. S. Gavin Robinson, Mr. J. Scott, Lieut.-Col. O. R. Swayne, D.S.O., Mr. P. J. T. Templar, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. S. E. Warner, Mr. A. Wilmshurst, and Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary).

The President, Mr. C. A. BENN, read his

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

THE EFFECT CAUSED BY CLIMATIC CONDITIONS OF
27TH-28TH JANUARY, 1940, ON TREES AND SHRUBS.

On 27th-28th January the most unusual climatic conditions prevailed causing widespread damage to trees, not to mention telephone and telegraph wires. The ground was covered with snow to the depth of a few inches. On the 27th at Moor Court, Pembridge, we registered a rainfall of .90 in., *i.e.* between 9 a.m. on the 26th to 9 a.m. on the 27th. On the 28th the rainfall was under one hundredth of an inch. The wind had been in the south-west but veered to the east during the evening of the 27th. On the morning of the 28th we registered 3° frost. During the night of the 27th-28th a fine mist blew up with the east wind, the lower stratum of the atmosphere above the ground was colder than the upper stratum and, as the mist fell, instead of being converted into hail as one would expect, the distance of the fall of the mist being insufficient,

the mist was deposited on the trees, shrubs, *etc.*, and immediately froze, then the wind blowing the mist westwards kept on depositing more mist, causing more and more ice where the ice had already begun to form. This accounts for the small rainfall that was registered in the rain gauge having so noticeable an effect upon the vegetation, *etc.*

We are in no way concerned with the damage done by frost, that is another story and would be of much interest.

Mr. A. M. Wilson, of Middlemoor, Presteign, cut a piece of a broken telephone wire and weighed it with its coating of ice. He then melted the ice and weighed the wire. The result was that the wire had been carrying 57 times its own weight. Taking the average distance between telephone poles as 60 yards he found that the 18 wires in his neighbourhood were carrying a weight of 12½ cwt. between the posts.

The snow on the ground was in many places pierced by bents of grass, and ice formed on these bents to a thickness of half an inch.

The leaves of the laurel were encased in ice, but the weight was not sufficient to tear the leaves from the branches.

Where a wood was facing east on the hillside great damage was done, the leaders and upper branches of the trees being broken by the weight of ice, but where the wood was on level ground little damage occurred except to the trees on the eastern side; the trees on the outside collected the moisture as the mist drifted and protected the trees in the interior of the wood.

This state of things continued for about a week, the frost was continuous; had there been a fall of snow or a gale during this period the damage would have been enormous.

Vegetation on the higher ground suffered more than that on the lower ground. I found that few young apple trees on the 400 ft. level suffered, but on the 600 ft. level similar types of apple trees of similar age had their branches torn off, many trees being altogether dismembered.

Deciduous trees suffered to a much greater extent than conifers. Certain species of poplar were badly affected.

Some 150 cricket bat willow (*Salix alba* var. *caerulea*) presented a curious sight; they were supported by stakes and tied to the stake 5 ft. 0 in. from the ground, every tree bent over from the tie until the top of the tree swept the ground. Fortunately the trees had not been pollarded, and they all lay at exactly the same angle, *i.e.* they all bent over westward. I did not think they would ever right themselves again, but when the thaw came they recovered, but all the small branches were torn off, which may

not be very good for the trees. Other willows, especially *Salix vitellina*, fared badly.

A row of beech trees planted north and south had over 100 branches torn off on the east side, whereas not a single branch was damaged on the western side.

The School of Forestry at Oxford undertook to rename the poplars, the nomenclature of which was in a deplorable state, and those who had the work in hand used now and again to come over to see our poplars. One particular species (*P. lloydii*) grew near a small plantation of *P. serotina*. The Oxford pundits came to the conclusion that what we called *P. lloydii* was really *P. serotina*. All the trees were about 40 ft. high and of the same age.

Well, although equally exposed they reacted in different ways to the ice formation, the *P. lloydii* being absolutely stripped of their branches and *P. serotina* scarcely losing a branch. So that does not look as if they were the same species.

Mr. R. A. Banks, of Hergest Croft, Kington, kindly took me round his wonderful garden and woods at a height of 800 to 850 ft. above sea level.

The Birches suffered badly, also Elms, Ashes, Oaks and Cherries.

Betula papyrifera, where the branches were torn off, were exuding a rain of sap, evidently the sap must begin to flow very early in this species.

Betula japonica was in no way affected, but our own common birch (*Betula alba*) could not stand the weight of ice and were either bent over or snapped off in their hundreds.

Betula luminifera suffered.

Paulownia imperialis, as one would expect owing to its soft wood, was a sufferer, also *Pinus montezuma*, and *sciadopitys verticillata*.

Of the Acer those most affected were *A. rubrum*, *A. nikaense*, *A. dasycarpum*.

Acer griseum, the finest specimen in England, fortunately escaped.

Other deciduous trees that suffered were *Prunus cornuta*, *Eucommia ulmoides*, and *Catalpa bignonioides*.

The Spanish Chestnuts (*Castanea vesca*) at Moor Court, which in the gale of 1916 had every branch blown off, and merely the trunk and a few feet of the thicker branches left, but which had quite recovered their branches, curiously did not suffer at all, but the horse chestnuts (*Æsculus hippocastanum*) were badly injured, as one would expect.

At Stanage Park on the 750 ft. level, where Mrs. M. Coltman Rogers kindly showed me round, the damage to the deciduous trees was very extensive, especially to the Birches and young Larches. Every *Notofagus antarctica* was ruined and *Populus balsamifera* stripped, but these were rather exposed. Most of the trees and shrubs were somewhat protected, but the following were much damaged: *Acer sanguinea*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Abies concolor*, *A. pinsapo*, *Carpinus chinensis*, *Cunninghamia sinensis*.

The finest specimens in England of *Abies magnifica* at Silia, Presteigne, the residence of Mrs. Lee, was fortunately undamaged. The extensive arboretum was planted some 90 years ago. Here the Douglas Firs, *Pseudotsuga taxifolia*, were considerably debranched, whereas most other large Douglas I have seen weathered the storm without loss, including the very fine ones at Hergest Croft. Others that suffered were *Juniperus chinensis*, *Quercus borealis*, and *Pinus excelsa*. *Pinus ponderosa* was decapitated.

The Austrian pines appear to be more brittle than the Corsican pines, not that either suffered very severely.

Of the many large and beautiful cedars at Garnstone Castle, *Cedrus atlantica* had many boughs ripped off, but *C. libani* was undamaged, and *C. deodara* seems to have escaped everywhere.

The magnificent *Pinus coulteri* was unfortunately uprooted by the weight of ice. It was 88 ft. x 10 ft. 5 in. (measured 5 ft. from the ground) and contained 185 cubic feet.

As far as I have observed, shrubs suffered little from the ice; it is not always easy to say whether shrubs were affected for certain by the ice conditions or by frost, but the consensus of opinion is that it was the frost that was responsible for the damage.

In the absence of the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. F. R. James, the statement of the accounts for the last year was presented by Mr. F. C. Morgan. There was a credit balance on the General Account of £311 13s. 6d.

It was decided to invest £150 of this balance, and £100 from the General Reserve Account in War Saving Certificates.

In the absence through illness of the Assistant Secretary, the HONORARY SECRETARY read his Report. He said the year was started with 8 honorary members and 207 ordinary members, a total of 215. During the year 5 members had died, 11 resigned, and 4 were removed for non-payment of their subscriptions, and 19 new members were elected. At the end of the year there were on the Register 8 honorary members and 206 ordinary members, making a total of 214, one less than last year. Eleven members

were in arrear with their subscriptions on the 31st of December, 1939.

The places of two Field Meetings were fixed, one in the city of Hereford to inspect the town walls and the vaulted undercrofts recently discovered in Widemarsh Street, and other places of interest, the other to be Ladies' Day at either Shrewsbury or Abergavenny and district. The other two Field Meetings were fixed at the Annual Winter Meeting, to be held at Kington, Hergest and district, and at Dulas, Ewyas Harold and district.

The following new member was elected:—Mr. C. E. Prior, Wiltondale, Ross-on-Wye.

The following gentlemen were proposed for membership:—Dr. C. Edwards, M.D., Huntington Court, Kington; Captain R. V. Rutherford, Wennetune, Almeley, Hereford; Rev. John Sell, Rosedene, Ferndale Road, Hereford; Mr. J. Brayley, 11, Breinton Road, Hereford; Mr. William Weston, Browneaves, Breinton Road, Hereford; Dr. Albert Warren Swettenham, Friern Lodge, Whitecross Road, Hereford; and Mr. L. Appleton, Selly Oak, Birmingham.

Mr. F. C. MORGAN read his Report on Archæology for 1939.

Mr. E. BALL'S Report on Botany for 1939, in his absence, was read by the Honorary Secretary.

Mr. ARTHUR BENNETT read his Report on Geology for 1939.

Mr. FRANK BODDINGTON submitted the following meteorological observations on the effect of the ice frost in the Golden Valley.

The damage done to the countryside by this extraordinary storm, merits, I think, a note on its occurrence.

It will be remembered that the month of January after the 10th was notable for remarkably low temperatures (zero and below being recorded at a number of places and times during this period), and almost continuous frost by day as well as night, with as a natural corollary, a very low rainfall.

On the 26th and 27th of January a very severe snowstorm swept a large part of the country, but in Herefordshire and a number of other localities this storm took the form of "super-cooled" rain.

This rain fell with the thermometer showing from one to four degrees of frost throughout the period of rain. This was a sufficiently remarkable phenomenon in itself, but the amount of precipitation that was recorded and the results that followed probably constitute a state of affairs that has never been recorded, at least in this part of the country, since reliable records were first made.

The amount of rain recorded in my gauge at Peterchurch was 1.15 inches on the 26th of January and 1.21 inches on the 27th of January. This was followed by .69 of an inch on the 28th, which fell as snow.

By the end of the second day, every single twig of a tree or dead bent of grass was covered with many times its own thickness of clear ice (*vide*,

a photograph in the *Meteorological Magazine* for January, 1940). As an instance, it may be stated that each telephone wire was covered with ice two fingers in thickness.

The weight of this ice was of course immense, and as it persisted for almost a week the material damage was incalculable in the more exposed districts. The districts which I have personally seen that seem to have been among the worst sufferers are Bromyard and the higher parts of the Golden and Michaelchurch Valleys. (See illustrations.) Apart from the almost complete destruction of the overhead telephone system, which took place over a large part of the country, practically every tree either standing singly or in woodland has been severely mutilated by the splitting off of numerous branches. In the case of the more upright growers such as larch, poplar and willow, the destruction is more complete, for not only are they stripped of their side growths, but their heads have been clean broken off. There is a small plantation of some two acres of larch of perhaps thirty years' growth within a mile or so of my house, which looks exactly as if it had been subjected to a severe shelling with shrapnel.

The financial loss to owners of woodlands must run into very many thousands of pounds in the ruining of trees, apart altogether to the labour involved in clearing meadows and arable land of the countless loads of wood fallen from the trees growing in the hedgerows.

A remarkable feature which was very noticeable after the ice had gone was the fact that, although scarcely perceptible at the time, there must have been a slight drift of wind from the south or east, as almost all the damage done to the trees was on that side, showing that the weight of ice must have been slightly greater on that side.

Those who live in the less devastated areas can have no idea of the havoc that has resulted from this almost unprecedented visitation.

It was decided to proceed with the printing of the Rev. C. H. Binstead's account of "Herefordshire Mosses", and also Captain H. A. Gilbert's and Dr. C. W. Walker's work on "Herefordshire Birds."

The HONORARY SECRETARY drew attention to the recent clearing of buildings from several stretches on the site of the city walls, and said it would be a good opportunity to uncover the base of the wall and ascertain its size and construction, and also the original width and depth of the ditch adjoining. This ditch had been reduced in the seventeenth century to a small stream, but probably when made was a wide and deep moat.

It was decided that up to £5 be expended on such an excavation if the necessary arrangements could be made.

The HONORARY SECRETARY proposed that the Misses Evelyn and Maude Bull be presented with a copy of the *Transactions* as issued, and any other work published by the Club, and be sent an invitation to any meeting of the Club to which ladies were admitted, in recognition of the connection of their family with the Club over a period of nearly ninety years. Their father, Dr. Bull, was one of the Founders and was the mainspring of the Club up to the time of his death in 1885. His son, Mr. E. H. Bull, joined the Club soon after his father's death and continued a member until his own

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Photos by

F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.L.A.

TREES DAMAGED BY ICE FROST, 1940.

1. A Wood near Snodhill, Peterchurch.
2. An Orchard in the upper part of the Michaelchurch Escley Valley.

demise a few months ago. The Misses Bull had always taken a lively interest in the Club's proceedings and contributed to them from time to time. Miss Maude Bull as long since as 1874 had found and reported a rare fungus, which was duly recorded in the *Transactions*.

This proposition was passed unanimously.

Mr. F. C. MORGAN reported that a starling was recently brought to him which was found at Longhope, and had been ringed in Holland.

The meeting then terminated.

FIRST FIELD MEETING.

THURSDAY, 1ST AUGUST, 1940.

THE CITY OF HEREFORD.

The first Field Meeting was held in the city of Hereford to study its defence works and to inspect mediæval vaulted cellars in Widemarsh Street, a seventeenth century plaster ceiling in Church Street, and the College of the Vicars' Choral.

This meeting was to have been held on the 30th May, but was postponed owing to the death of the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Frank Boddington, and further delayed owing to the war. The weather was fine and sunny.

Those present included:—Mr. C. A. Benn, O.B.E. (the President), Mr. N. L. Armitage, Rev. Preb. E. H. Beattie, M.C., Mr. C. E. T. Booth, Mr. R. H. Bromley, Mr. G. H. Butcher, Mr. R. F. Dill, Mr. Charles Evans, Mr. W. G. Farmer, Mr. R. A. Ford, Mr. Cyril Franklin, Mr. D. B. G. Gabriel, Mr. G. A. Hall, Rev. H. W. J. L. R. Haywood, Mr. J. H. Higgins, Mr. F. R. James, Mr. T. Jay, Mr. C. Jewell, Mr. Walter J. Jones, Mr. W. J. King, Dr. A. W. Langford, Mr. A. W. Marriott, Mr. G. Humphry Marshall, Rev. Preb. S. H. Martin, Mr. T. A. Matthews, Mr. L. Milne, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Capt. W. C. Mumford, Rev. Preb. T. H. Parker, Mr. Hubert Powell, Mr. C. E. Prior, Mr. H. M. Prichard, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. C. W. J. Simpson, Mr. H. Skyrme, Eng.-Commander J. Smith, Mr. P. J. T. Templer, Mr. S. E. Warner, Mr. J. B. Willans, Very Rev. R. Waterfield, D.D., Dean of Hereford, Mr. A. Wilms-hurst, Mr. A. W. Zimmerman, Mr. George Marshall (Hon. Secretary), and others.

The members assembled in the Woolhope Club Room in the Hereford Public Library, where the business of the Club was transacted.

The PRESIDENT referred to the loss the Club had sustained by the sudden death of Mr. Frank Boddington, the Assistant Secretary, on the 26th of May last. He paid a tribute to his zeal in carrying out his duties, and in furthering the interests of the Club. His work in compiling an Index to the later volumes of the *Transactions* was of great value, and further he had taken in hand an Index of the earlier volumes, but unfortunately only lived to accomplish about half this work.

The HONORARY SECRETARY expressed his appreciation of all Mr. Boddington had done for the Club, and the ready and willing assistance he had always given him.

The PRESIDENT announced that the Central Committee had approached Mr. Basil Butcher with regard to taking the post of Assistant Secretary, and were pleased to announce that he had consented to undertake the duties at the conclusion of the war. In the meantime the Honorary Secretary undertook to carry on the work.

The following new members were elected:—Dr. C. Edwards, M.D., Huntington Court, Kington; Captain R. V. Rutherford, Wennetune, Almeley, Hereford; Rev. John Sell, Rosedene, Ferndale Road, Hereford; Mr. J. Brayley, 11, Breinton Road, Hereford; Mr. William Weston, Browneaves, Breinton Road, Hereford; Mr. J. Appleton, Ivy Cottage, Ewyas Harold; and Dr. Albert Warren Swettenham, Friern Lodge, White Cross Road, Hereford.

The following gentlemen were proposed for election:—Dr. James H. E. Crees, M.A., D.Litt., Much Birch, Hereford; and the Rev. H. W. J. L. R. Haywood, Withington Rectory, Hereford.

The HON. SECRETARY said he had received a report on the Preservation of the Kite, towards which the Club contributed £15 last year. It showed that six pairs were traced and five nests located. No. 1 was a young pair, no young birds brought off; No. 2 was a two-year-old pair, one young bird brought off; No. 3 was the same pair as reared one bird last year, crows attacked the nest and destroyed the young; No. 4 moved further north and could not be traced, but were thought to be the same as a pair which reared two young; No. 5, a "freak cock" fought the cock of the pair and probably killed him. The hen left the nest, in which was one egg with young in it; No. 6, this pair was observed, but the nesting place was not traced. The result was one young bird and probably two others from the six pairs. £427 were collected, and £411 spent.

The HON. LIBRARIAN reported the gift of three volumes of *The Cambridge Natural History* by the President, Mr. Benn, and his offer to complete the series as and when the missing volumes could be obtained.

The HON. SECRETARY reported the gift of a number of drawings of houses, churches, etc., in the north of the county, by the Rev. H. B. Hewitt. These drawings dated from about 1860-1870.

The HON. LIBRARIAN asked if he could have some gift labels printed for insertion in the books presented to the Library, to which the meeting agreed.

The HON. SECRETARY read a paper entitled "The Defences of the City of Hereford", which will be found printed in this volume.

The members then proceeded to perambulate the walls of the city. Walking down Pipe Lane attention was drawn to the site of the alleged birthplace of Nell Gwynne in the Palace garden, but there is no evidence in support of this claim. Arriving at the Wye bridge the HONORARY SECRETARY gave a short account of its history. The most perfect section of the walls was then seen in the garden of the Grey Friars House. The Honorary Secretary said that the buttresses on this section were not of Norman date as was generally believed. The late Mr. E. J. Bettington had made a careful survey of the wall at this place with scale drawings and had pointed out that some of the buttresses had been repaired or largely rebuilt. The wall was of the same type as other sections, but here and as far as West Street was constructed as a retaining wall to the great vallum, which was thrown up after the destruction of the city by the Welsh in 1055.

The bastion in Victoria Street, recently exposed to view by the demolition of some houses, was examined, and it was pointed out that it was bonded into the wall, and not planted against it. The Club has had a cutting made at this spot to find out how deep the foundations were. These unexpectedly were discovered to be not more than 18 to 24 inches below the present ground level. An endeavour was made to find the lip of the city ditch and to determine its width, but war conditions prevented a final conclusion being arrived at, but it was evident that a berm extended for six feet or more from the wall, as this ground was undisturbed, which confirms other evidence on this point. Inside the bastion in the wall face is a stone 14 inches long by 10½ inches wide a few feet from the ground with a hole through it and a sunk panel to which was evidently attached an iron plate or grid. This sunk panel measures 6 × 5 inches. The stone was found by the late Mr. E. J. Bettington. It may of course be of no great antiquity and have been used for holding a shaft for some unknown purpose.

In the yard of Messrs. Holloway and Webb was seen a section of the vallum, composed of gravel with an admixture of bones, thrown up when making the ditch.

In Gunner's Lane a good stretch of walling was examined, and parts of it were seen to have been altered and reconstructed. There is a buttress to this wall on the outer face.

Crossing the site of the Eign Gate the course of the wall was followed along Wall Street, where it has all or nearly all been destroyed. At the Widemarsh end on the east side the house of Thomas Church, which was built against the wall, and is now occupied by the Farmers' Club, was inspected. The gables overlooking the city ditch may still be seen from the street. Interesting particulars of this house, built in the late 16th and 17th century, and its owners, are to be found in the city archives.

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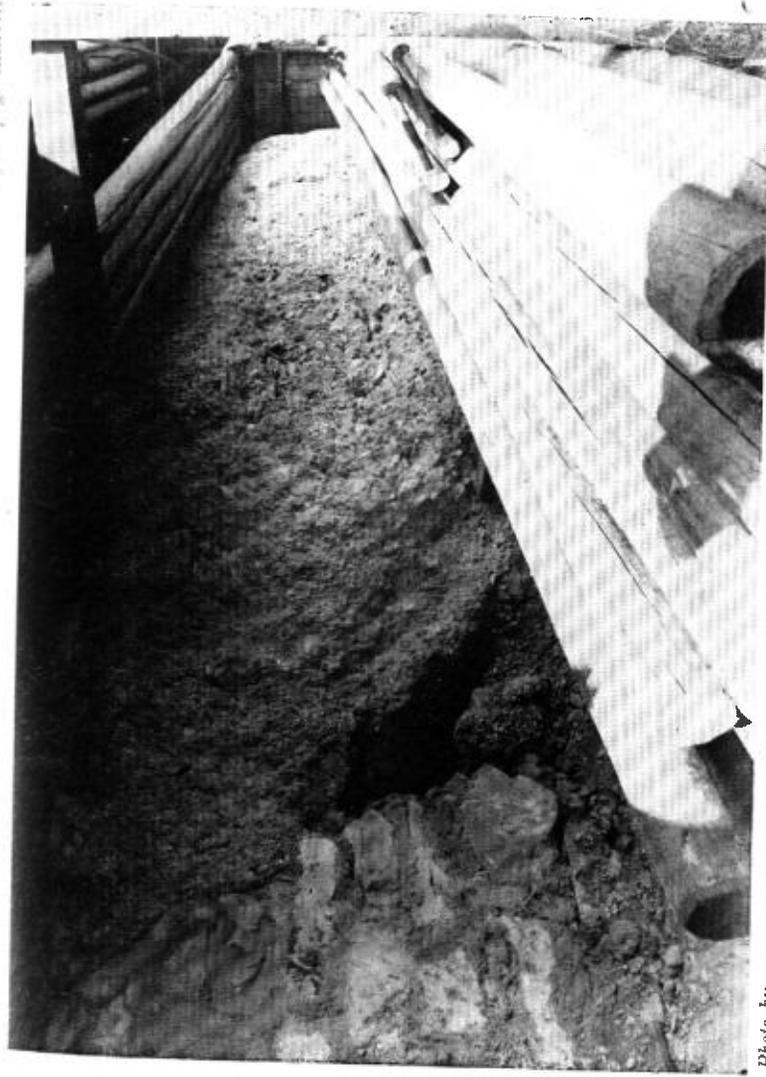


Photo by
HERFORD CITY WALL.
F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.I.A.
Section through the vallum backing the wall in Victoria Street, in the Yard of Messrs. Holloway and Webb.

The course of the ditch and wall was followed and several good sections seen. In Messrs. Harding Bros. iron foundry there is a long stretch of stone walling on the line, but very little of the original stone work can be seen.

On the north side of St. Owen's Gate is a long piece of the wall incorporated in a bakery, and the outer face is exposed in a shed in the yard of the Lamb Inn. Here for a little distance from the gate is a stretch of wall with a plain chamfered base course, a feature that does not exist on any other section of the wall.

On the opposite side of St. Owen's Street a very good example of the walling runs from the street to the earlier defence line at which point it makes a right angle turn. The party wall of the houses by the gate has the original walling to the top of the first floors, and below is a cellar evidently connected with the gateway. From the right angled turn, above-mentioned, the wall is of the revetted vallum type. It has in places been rebuilt, especially at the end where it joined up with the Castle moat before Cantilupe Street was cut through it.¹

Time did not permit of inspecting the Castle defences, and members proceeded down East Street on the line of the earlier vallum and ditch defence work to the Booth Hall, where luncheon was served.

Afterwards Mr. F. C. MORGAN, F.S.A., read a paper entitled "Hereford Presentments, 1611-1659", which will be found printed in this volume.

The members then walked to No. 2, Widemarsh Street, where the mediæval cellars were inspected under the guidance of Mr. Herbert Skyrme, who has been instrumental in their preservation. The late Mr. E. J. Bettington gave a detailed account of this recent discovery in his Presidential Address to the Club in 1939.

Mr. SKYRME read some notes detailing the finding of the cellars and suggestions made as to their use and date. He put forward the suggestion that they had been constructed and used in connection with an inn for the reception of pilgrims to some shrine in the city, possibly in the nearby church of All Saints.

The HONORARY SECRETARY said he could not agree that such can have been the purpose of these cellars, as apart from other

¹ The late Mr. E. J. Bettington made a study of the city walls and ditches with the intention of writing a paper on them in detail, which unfortunately he did not live to complete. His son, Mr. H. E. Bettington, has kindly offered to put his notes and drawings at the disposal of the Honorary Secretary, who hopes with the aid of these to draw up a detailed description of the surviving fragments, with particulars of the gradual devolution of the walls as a Supplement to his paper on "The Defences of the City of Hereford".

considerations the merchants' marks carved on the vaulting undoubtedly pointed to their being the property of an influential merchant. Unfortunately the marks in this case gave no clue to the owner or his trade, but possibly he was a vintner. The cellars had evidently been in use for tramping barrels as might be seen by the floor, but whether this layout was coeval with the vault could not be determined. The premises had been in the occupation of a wine merchant from the end of the 18th century, and it was not impossible or improbable that they had been in use for this purpose continuously since their construction. Evidence on this point might still be forthcoming by a search for ancient documents, such as conveyances, leases, wills, MSS., in the possession of the city, etc.

The next place visited was a house at the south end of Church Street on the west side. Mr. F. C. MORGAN, F.S.A., who had found documents in reference to the building, gave the following particulars. The houses must have belonged from very early times to the Custos and Vicars Choral of Hereford, who quite recently have been compelled to sell the site to the Post Office authorities. The house is of timber construction dating from the 14th or 15th century with early carved barge boards. The following information is gleaned from the College Act Books. On the 26th of March, 1627, a lease was renewed to Mr. James Lawrence, then Mayor of Hereford, of 3 tenements in Broad Cabage Lane with a garden in Greene Lane at the old rent on payment of a fine of £10. It was probably at this time that the premises were renovated and the moulded plaster ceiling with the arms of Hereford (old) at one end inserted between and over the roof timbers of a room on the first floor extending from one of the street gables to the back of the house. Before this the room would have been open to the tiles, as at one time were all the upper rooms in the Vicars' College.

On the 25th of March, 1645, the lease was renewed to Thomas Lawrence for 29 years, paying yearly 6/8, a fine of £8, and the rent raised from 20/- to 26/8. Presumably the yearly 6/8 represents the amount of the increased rent.

On the 10th of July, 1684, another renewal was granted to Mrs. Elizabeth Lawrence, widow, of 3 small tenements, "lately converted into several rooms, wherein the Registers office was lately kept", and the garden and backside adjoining in Capuch Lane, and the garden belonging, lying without St. Owen's Gate near the Greene Lane, and one acre near St. Giles' Chapel for the term of 29 years. The considerations were surrendering the lease granted unto James Lawrence, the elder, of the Middle Temple, London, gent., of which 5 years were unexpired, the raising of the former rent of £2 17s. 4d. and 1 couple of capons and 1 couple of hens to £4, and a fine of £60.

On the 26th of September following licence was granted to

Mrs. Elizabeth Lawrence to assign this lease to Mr. Henry Smith of the City of Hereford, mercer.

The premises were used as early as 1628 as the Register's Office, for in that year, on the 18th of June, one Isacke Clarke of Bromyard was had up before two magistrates for unseemly behaviour and using abusive and blasphemous language, being drunk, to Mr. James Lawrence, Justice of the Peace, in the Register's Office in the Cabbage Lane. (Hereford Corporation MSS.)¹

The party then proceeded to the Vicars' College, where they were met by the Dean, who gave some amusing particulars of this ancient foundation.

An inspection was made of the 15th century carved roof of the Cloister. The HONORARY SECRETARY drew attention to some of the subjects depicted, and as a correction to his full description of this roof in the *Transactions* for 1918, pp. 71-81, said that the shield of Devereux with the garter was that of Walter Devereux, who married Anne, *suo jure*, Baroness Ferrers, and became in right of his wife 7th Baron Ferrers. He was elected a knight of the Garter on the 24th of April, 1472. There can be little doubt that the roof was erected when the present College was built soon after this date.

The roof of the College itself was next seen, each set of rooms being composed of two bays, the centre principal being arch braced. This roof is practically undisturbed except for the wing, which was destroyed by fire in 1828 and the hall which was rebuilt in the 17th century and altered since that date. The newly renovated chapel, partially re-roofed, and its length curtailed in the middle of the 19th century, and the Common room, a good example of the Gothic style when it had to be re-constructed and decorated after the fire in 1828 were inspected.

The meeting then terminated.

¹ The first James Lawrence was Mayor of Hereford in 1626. Thomas Lawrence was most likely his son and may have died about 1660, when the lease was renewed to James Lawrence, "the elder". This second James was the son of the 1626 Mayor, was a barrister of the Middle Temple, Mayor of the city in 1661, and died a sexagenarian on the 26th of March, 1668, as recorded on his monument, once in the Bishops' Cloisters (Dingley's *History from Marble*, p. clxxxvii). As he is described in the lease as "the elder" it is evident that he had a son James. By the wording of the 1684 lease it would appear more probable that Elizabeth was the widow of the son, rather than the father. A letter from and some particulars of James "the elder" when Mayor in 1661 will be found in Johnson's *Ancient Customs of Hereford*, pp. 210, 212.—*Editor*.

SECOND FIELD MEETING.
THURSDAY, 29TH AUGUST, 1940.

HUNTINGTON, NEAR KINGTON, HERGEST, HERGEST CROFT,
AND MOOR COURT.

The above Field Meeting was held in fine weather, when those present included:—Mr. C. A. Benn, O.B.E. (the President), Mr. N. L. Armitage, Mr. C. M. Atkinson, Mr. R. H. Bromley, Mr. C. E. Brunwell, Mr. G. H. Butcher, Mr. G. B. Cooper, Sir Geoffrey Cornwall, Bart., Dr. J. H. E. Crees, Mr. H. J. Davies, Mr. R. F. Dill, Dr. C. D. Edwards, Mr. Roland Edwards, Mr. G. A. Hall, Mr. C. J. Harding, Mr. D. W. Harris, Mr. D. H. Higgins, Mr. F. R. James, Mr. T. E. Jay, Mr. C. Jewell, Mr. Alex. Johnston, Mr. Emerys Jones, Mr. G. S. Averay Jones, Rev. G. Ifor Jones, Mr. W. J. King, Dr. A. W. Langford, Mr. A. W. Marriott, Mr. F. G. Marriott, Rev. Preb. S. H. Martin, Mr. J. W. Matthews, Mr. J. E. Mellor, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. E. H. Morris, Mr. E. Painter, Mr. Hubert Powell, Mr. H. M. Prichard, Mr. W. P. Pritchard, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. E. C. Romilly, Captain R. V. Rutherford, Mr. J. Scott, Mr. C. W. F. Simpson, Mr. H. Skyrme, Eng.-Commander J. Smith, Mr. J. P. Smith, Mr. P. J. T. Templer, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. S. E. Warner, Mr. J. B. Willans, Mr. A. Wilmshurst, Mr. A. W. Zimmerman, and Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary).

The first stop was made to inspect a Wild Service tree¹ growing on the roadside near the top of the Tin Hill at Letton. Mr. F. R. James said these trees are almost invariably found in woods, and this one was a very fine specimen and a beautiful sight when in blossom in the spring.

On arriving at Huntington Court, the party were met by the owner, Dr. C. D. Edwards, who led the way to Turret Castle, about half a mile across some fields.

The HONORARY SECRETARY said:—

This was a Norman motte and bailey castle, the motte having been severed by a deep fosse from a projecting tongue of land which falls steeply to the river Arrow in the valley below. The motte is now covered with scrub wood and the bailey with bracken. A similar severance to form a motte was to be found at Ewyas Harold and Clifford. The top of the motte was considerably larger than the more artificial one at Huntington castle, which may be accounted for by the nature of the terrain. It seems

¹ Illustrated in the *Transactions*, 1932, p. 183.

probable that this was the earliest Norman defence work of the district, the Huntington castle site being selected later as a defence against the Welsh approaching by the Gladestry valley. The Turret castle commanded the valley of the Arrow and the passage by it from Wales through Radnor and Kington to the Wye Valley. As originally laid out these two castles are of similar size and it is hardly likely that an enfeoffed knight of the Huntington lord would have been in a position to construct such a large defence work as the Turret. Huntington castle may have been dug by Bernard de Newmarch when the King granted him, in 1092, the lordship of Brecon, which included Huntington with Kington. The Turret castle may have been made by Earl Harold, who held this district previous to the Conquest. Ewyas Harold and Richard's Castle were constructed before 1050, and it is likely that there were others of this early date of which we have no record. One, unnamed, we know was held by Hugh an associate of Richard Fitz Scrob of Richard's Castle¹. On this important line of communication on the limits of the Saxon occupation there might well have been such a defence work before the Conquest, and this supposition is strengthened by the district being held by the leading ruler in Herefordshire, Earl Harold. Unlike Huntington there are here no remains of walling, and probably there were never any stone defence works. The numerous stones on the motte and the vallum of the bailey appear to be those thrown up in the process of making the earthworks. Huntington Castle was known to the Welsh as Y Castell Maen, the stone castle, as if in contradistinction to another castle or castles not having stone defences.

The party then returned to Huntington Court, where Dr. Edwards exhibited three cannon balls of different size, found on the site of the castle. Mr. F. R. James measured a Monkey Puzzle tree in the garden as 7 ft. 8 in. in circumference at 5 ft. from the ground. Proceeding to the church, the Rector, the Rev. W. N. Potter, pointed out the chief features of interest, and showed two Elizabethan chalices belonging to the parish. The one made for the parish had an H, for Huntington, worked in the engraved band and had been very badly repaired; the other had been remodelled and must have come from some other church, possibly Kington, when that parish had new plate.

The HONORARY SECRETARY said the church was dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury on the day of his translation. In 1256 a licence for a fair to be held on this anniversary was granted to the lord of Huntington, and is still so held. The church must therefore have been dedicated to this saint sometime between 1171 and 1256. The chancel dates from the first quarter of the fourteenth century, and is no doubt an extension. Part of the walls of the nave are of an earlier but uncertain period. The font dated from the seventeenth century, and was not fourteenth as stated by the Commission on Ancient Monuments, for there are no marks of staples for locking the lid, and the interior of the bowl is of a shape not made in mediæval times. There is a neat cross cut on the right jamb of the nave doorway. The two stone brackets let into the exterior east end wall of the chancel were no doubt for the support of an eighteenth or nineteenth century monumental slab that has perished.

¹ *Feudal England*, by J. H. Round, p. 323.

The members then walked to the castle. Dr. Edwards, the owner, said that in the past centuries and down to recent times it had been used as a quarry for the erection of buildings and walls in the neighbourhood. He had tried to expose the steps leading to a chamber under the site of the tower, part of which survives, but the stones forming these had been removed. Further excavation would probably prove of interest.

The HONORARY SECRETARY then gave the following particulars of the castle and its owners.

From the Domesday Survey we learn that Earl Harold held Huntington, but the King then had it, and there were 3 hides, and it was waste. Harold no doubt became possessed of it on the death of Earl Ralph in 1057, and it passed into the hands of the Conqueror after the battle of Hastings in 1066, when Harold was slain. In 1092 the King granted it to Bernard de Newmarch, from whom it passed to his great-granddaughter Bertha, who married Philip de Braose, whose great-grandson William de Braose died in 1228. He married Eva daughter of William Mareschal, Earl of Pembroke, leaving four co-heiresses, of whom Eleanor married, about 1250, Humphry de Bohun, son and heir apparent of Humphry de Bohun, "the Good," Earl of Hereford.

Huntington then passed to five successive de Bohuns, and eventually to Eleanor, daughter and heiress of the last Humphry de Bohun, who died in 1373. She married Thomas de Woodstock, the sixth son of Edward III, and died a nun at Barking in 1399. She was succeeded by her daughter and heiress Anne, who had married, in 1392, Humphry, Earl of Stafford. His son Humphry was created Duke of Buckingham and was succeeded by his nephew Henry, the second Duke, and he by his son Edward, the third Duke, on whose death being attainted, Huntington became the property of the Crown.

It is interesting to note that five successive owners of Huntington came to untimely ends: 1, Thomas de Woodstock was murdered by smothering in 1397; 2, Edmund Stafford, husband of Anne, daughter and heiress of Thomas de Woodstock, was slain at the battle of Shrewsbury in 1402; 3, Humphry their son, the first Duke of Buckingham, was slain at the battle of Northampton in 1460; 4, his nephew and successor, Henry, second Duke of Buckingham, was beheaded in 1483 (his father had been killed at the battle of St. Albans in 1455); and 5, Edward, third Duke of Buckingham, was beheaded in 1521.

The castle is a motte and bailey of the usual type, with an additional or outer bailey, and was bounded on the east side by a large artificial lake the retaining embankment of which remains. Whether there was a Norman stone keep, or any Norman curtain of stone, there is nothing to indicate without excavation.

The surviving fragment of the curtain wall on the west and the piece of the tower on the north are probably of 13th century date. The latter has steps descending no doubt into a vaulted chamber, and there are indications on the N.E. side of a garderobe and another above it. The lower one on the first floor was stone vaulted, and the groove for a wooden or more likely stone front to the seat can be seen.

Perhaps the building of the castle in stone was executed by Humphry de Bohun, who died in 1265 in the lifetime of his father, and who had married Eleanor, daughter and coheiress of Wm. de Braose, as his first wife. In right of his wife he held and was returned in his Inquisition

*Post mortem*¹ as holding Hay and Huntington castles, so not improbably these were used as his chief places of residence. From the Inquisition *Post mortem*², 1299, of his son Humphry, who succeeded to the title and estates of his grandfather Humphry de Bohun "the Good," Earl of Hereford, we learn some particulars of Huntington Castle. The homestead was worth 2/- per annum, a garden was worth 12 pence per annum, sundry land, and 4 water mills were of the annual value of 30/-, and there were 8 acres of meadow at 10d. an acre, 8 of pasture land at 2d. an acre, and 30 of woodland at 1d. an acre. The pannage of pigs was worth 12 pence. Sundry tenants had to do military service, some to find a man with a bow and arrows in time of war for 40 days and some for 15 days. There were a great many tenants holding varying quantities of land, among them a shoemaker, mason, falconer, and last but perhaps not least Maddock Carnifex the hangman (*Furcillator*), but he probably carried on at the same time the trade of a butcher (*carnifex* being a butcher), as the hangman's business cannot have employed all his time, though during Welsh raids it may have kept him busy.

In a *comptus* roll³ of 45 Edw. III, 29th September, 1372—29th September, 1373, we get particulars of repairs to the castle. It was at this time that Humphry de Bohun, the last male heir of his line, died on the 16th January, 1373, having married Joan daughter of Richard, Earl of Arundel, in 1362. Thomas le Yrriish (the Irishman) and Robert Stanley, stone masons, were employed in quarrying sufficient stone for one interior wall and one exterior wall, and for the drawbridge of the castle and two side walls of the said bridge, the said walls newly made and others repaired. The whole cost seems to have been £74 6s. 0d. The stone was brought from "S'rcilio montis" (? Brilley mountain). A tiler was employed for three weeks on the hall and 100 "combenaille" were bought for 6d. for the same. A carpenter made two new shutters for the hall and four new bars for the same at a cost of 12d., and hinges 10d.

Edmund, Earl of Stafford, married Ann Plantagenet, daughter and heiress of Thomas Woodstock, whose wife was Eleanor de Bohun, coheiress of the last Humphry de Bohun. Edmund was killed at the battle of Shrewsbury, 1402, and either before or after this battle Glendower ravaged the district of Huntington. In 1403 Ann, the Countess of Stafford, was ordered to fortify the castle. We learn at this time that a tollgate had been destroyed by the Welsh rebels and a new one was made, 1403-4. They also burnt the mill at Chickwardyn and it was not rebuilt, and no one would take the fulling mill at Hengoed for fear of the rebels. The 'Alta turris' (possibly the keep on the motte) was roofed with shingles and lead. Other towers were called the Countess Tower, perhaps the one of which a fragment remains on the north of the curtain, the Reeve Tower, possibly one of the towers at the gateway, and the Prison Tower (? the keep), and there was a building called the 'Octagon'. A palisade of thorns was made from the Countess Tower to the great barn, no doubt in the outer bailey, and another of thorns was made from the Prison Tower to the western end of the paling by the *vinarium* (? vineyard, or wine cellar). There was a hall with a chamber north of it, probably against the western curtain wall, a fragment of which remains. A new fosse was made with palisading from the Countess Tower to the Grange.

In the same year, 1403, Wm. Bouchier, Earl of Ew, with his family, visited the widowed Countess at Huntington, perhaps to superintend the strengthening of the defence works, and maybe it was due to this visit that he married the lady in the following year.

¹ *Arch. Camb.*, 4th S., vol. i. App., pp. i, ii, for this Inquisition.

² *History of Kington*, pp. 261-268.

³ *Arch. Camb.*, 4th S., vol. i. App., p. viii.

In 1415 repairs were made to the old rafters of two towers. The Prison and Reeve towers are mentioned, also the *vinarium*, barn, *etc.* Two fences of thorn were made, one from the west end of the large barn as far as the entrance of the manor from Welsh Huntington.¹

Ann's son, Humphry, E. of Stafford, born 1401, was created Duke of Buckingham in 1444, and slain on the Lancastrian side at the battle of Northampton in 1460. From this date the castle probably was allowed to fall into decay, and after the execution for high treason of Edward, Duke of Buckingham, in 1521, it was in a derelict condition except for a tower in which prisoners were kept.²

The Duke's honours being forfeited, his estates passed to the Crown, and the manor of Huntington was sold in 1564 for £6,328 to Sir Ambrose Cave, knt., Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. He sold it in 1566 to Francis Vaughan of Hergest, and afterwards having passed through various hands it was left by will in 1818 to Edmund Watkins Cheese, solicitor in Kington, and it was purchased recently by Dr. C. Edwards, the present owner.

The drive was then continued to Hergest, where the Castle Twts were inspected. This earthwork is a motte and bailey castle, advantage having been taken of broken ground to form a small motte at the highest point with a bailey on the sloping ground below. Irregularity of the natural terrain has led to surmises that the formation is all artificial, but this is evidently not the case. The site was no doubt the original home of the lords of Hergest, later to be superseded by the present Hergest Court.

Lunch was then partaken of, after which the business of the Club was transacted.

The following new members were elected :—Dr. J. H. E. Crees, M.A., D.Litt., Much Birch, Hereford, and the Rev. H. W. J. L. R. Haywood, Withington Rectory, Hereford.

The following gentlemen were proposed for membership :—Mr. Arthur Edmund Painter, Cranford, Broomy Hill, Hereford; Rev. Quintin Morris, Breinton Vicarage, Hereford; Mr. James Arthur Brooke, Mullion, Breinton, Hereford; Mr. Francis George Marriott, King's Acre Halt, Hereford; and Mr. Shaw Wright, Herefordshire County Libraries, Bath Street, Hereford.

The Rev. Preb. S. MARTIN submitted the following particulars of three Roman coins found at 19, Vaughan Street, Hereford, ten years ago, and one other Roman coin; also of a Roman coin, sent to him for an opinion by Engineer-Commander J. Smith, recently dug up at Bromyard.

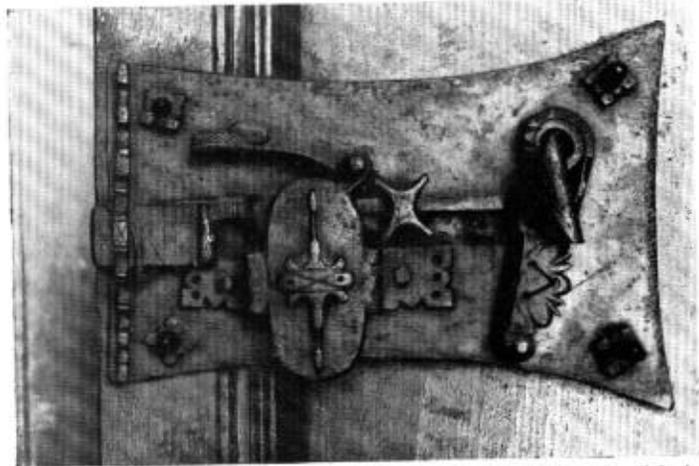
COINS FROM HEREFORD :—

(1) Maximianus. Concordia militum. Antioch. 293 A.D.
Mattingley and Sydenham, 621.

Mintmark $\frac{HF}{XXI}$

¹ *Arch. Camb.*, 3rd S., vol. 15, p. 245.

² *Duncumb's History of Herefordshire, Huntington Hundred*, p. 62.



Photos by

F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.L.A.

HERGEST COURT.

1. Fireplace in undercroft of the hall
2. Mediaeval Lock on door leading to staircase hall

- (2) Theodosius. Gloria Romanorum.
Mintmark S.M.K.B. Sacra moneta. Cyzicus. Officina B.
- (3) Eudoxia. Gloria Romanorum.
Mintmark probably S.M.K.A. As above, Officina A.
- (4) Lysimachus, General of Alexander the Great and King of Thrace,
323-281 B.C.

Obv. Head of Pallas r. wearing Athenian helmet; border of dots.

Rev. Lion running r. Spear-head and beneath it M. The spear-head is probably a mark to distinguish the issue and M. may be the initial of the official who produced the coin. The lion is the badge of the Thracian Chersonnese.

The inscription is βασιλεως λυσιμαχου.

COIN FROM BROMYARD:—

Obv. Imp. C. Gal. Val. Maximianus P.F. Aug. Laurelled head r.

Rev. Genio Imperatoris. Genius with hat and cloak and patera (cup) in hand from which wine is pouring to the ground.

Mintmark $\frac{U}{H.T.A.}$

This is a coin of Galerius. Cæsar 293-404 A.D., Augustus 305-311 A.D. Diocletian chose him as his colleague and he succeeded him as Emperor of the East, with capital at Nicomedia. He is noted as being the author of the last and longest of the persecutions of the Christians. 303-313 A.D.

The mint-mark is Heraclea Thraciae Officina A. The U is a mark of the issue.

It is a follis of the small size, and represents the new style of coinage first issued by Diocletian. Heraclea is in the Propontis about 60 miles west of Byzantium. It was known in classical times as Perinthus. Date of coin, 308-311 A.D.

The members then visited Hergest Court. This is a fifteenth century house now F shaped, partly of timber construction and partly of stone. It has a staircase of about the year 1600, at which period or rather earlier the house was considerably added to by the extension of the west wing built with upright timber framing. The panelling in several of the rooms dates from the same period. On a panelled door leading into the staircase hall is a very fine iron lock, which is of an earlier date and may be fifteenth century. (See illustration.)

The stone wing (see illustration) which must have formed the centre cross piece of the building before the destruction of the east wing in the eighteenth century contained the hall. This hall probably always had an undercroft as at present in which is a fireplace (see illustration), with a moulded stone surround with four centred head, and a string-course above in the centre of which is an angel holding a shield painted over so that no armorial bearings are visible. This string-course may have carried a corbelling for the hearth in the hall above, otherwise it seems to serve no purpose. In the room above, approached by outside steps, and now used as a granary, there can be traced on the plaster of the south wall mural decoration which is here illustrated from a

Carefully measured drawing of what can be seen by Miss Morgan, daughter of our Hon. Librarian, Mr. F. C. Morgan, F.S.A. This painting has been whitewashed over and superseded by a later, probably Elizabethan pattern, of what appears to be an imitation of black and white upright timber studding.

None of the roof timbers so far as can be seen is mediæval. The hall is now ceiled between the tie beams.

It would seem that, not long after the timber-framed west wing was built, one of the main cross beams, where it butted into the west wall, gave way, for the floor boards in a room above have buckled downwards about six inches, which could hardly have occurred after they had thoroughly dried, for then they would have fractured. The structure, which is four storeys high, had in consequence to be shored up with very massive planks laid across walls built to support them, which can be seen in the cellars.

It is most desirable that a thorough examination and measured drawings of this interesting house should be made, when the evolution it has undergone would become apparent.

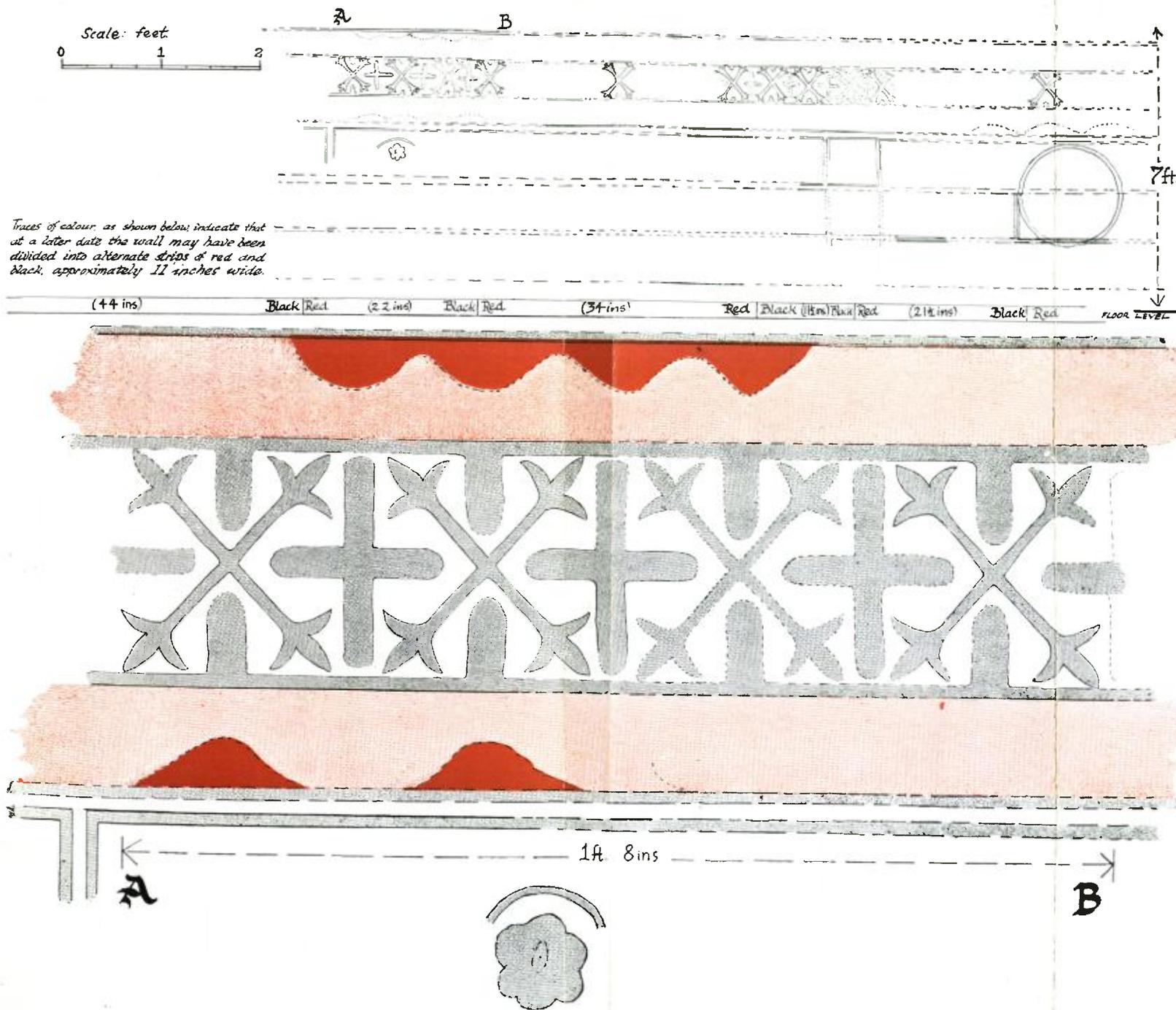
The garden on the north side of the house has been laid out in a rectangular enclosure with gazebos at the corners, of which part of one remains.

The farm buildings are to the south of the house upon the narrow ridge on which the whole layout is situated. On the east side of the ridge is a very steep drop to the river Arrow below, and on the west side was a moat fed from the river, part of which remains as a pond immediately below the house. In the pond is a large stone, and Dr. Edwards informed the members that this stone though only showing just above the surface of the water is never covered (adding because it was above the level of the outflow), and that underneath it lay "Black Vaughan", with the traditional legend of him attached, and that no one could move the stone to set him free. Some years ago an attempt to do this failed. Vaughan's ghost appears at night close by, and horses have been known to refuse to pass the spot.

One of the farm buildings near the house is of mediæval date, with a plain chamfered pointed arch to the doorway, and a single light window and jambs of others on the first floor of the same period. (See illustration.) It is said to have a fireplace with large stone lintel in this floor, but the interior could not be examined, being full of hay.

The party then drove to Hergest Croft where, in the absence of the owner, Mr. R. A. Banks, his sister, Miss Banks, with the assistance of the President, conducted the members through the gardens and pointed out the many rare trees and shrubs of which there is an exceptionally fine collection. Parts of the other gardens and rockery were also seen. Mr. A. C. Benn has supplied some

Approximate Restoration by Penelope E. Morgan.





Photos by

F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.L.S.

HERGEST COURT.

1. The Court, looking north-west.
2. 14th Century Outbuilding.

notes on the trees which will be found recorded under "Papers" in this volume.

Thanks having been accorded to Mr. and Miss Banks, the drive was continued to Moor Court, the seat of the President. Here the members were entertained to tea in a tent erected on the lawn.

The PRESIDENT read some notes on the trees on his estate which will be found under "Papers" in this volume.

Mr. F. R. JAMES said that as perhaps the oldest member present he would like to propose a vote of thanks to the President and Mrs. Benn for their kind hospitality, and recalled that a former President of the Club, the Rev. James Davies, at one time lived at Moor Court, and he wished long life to Mr. Benn and his trees.

The members then divided into two parties, one to inspect the apple orchard, which the President has extensively planted, and the other to see a very remarkable collection of Poplar trees also planted by him.

The party then made the return journey to Hereford.

L

WINTER ANNUAL MEETING.

TUESDAY, 17TH DECEMBER, 1940.

The Winter Annual Meeting of the Club was held in the Woolhope Club Room in the Hereford Public Library on Tuesday, 17th December.

There were present:—Mr. C. A. Benn, O.B.E. (President), Mr. H. Biggs, Mr. C. E. Brumwell, Mr. G. H. Butcher, Mr. H. J. Davies, Mr. J. H. Higgins, Mr. T. Jay, Mr. A. Johnston, Dr. A. W. Langford, Mr. A. W. Marriott, Mr. G. Humphry Marshall, Rev. Prebendary S. H. Martin, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. E. H. Morris, Rev. Prebendary T. H. Parker, Mr. V. H. Pembroke, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. J. Scott, Lieut.-Colonel R. H. Symonds-Taylor, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. William Weston, Mr. A. Wilmshurst, and Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary).

The PRESIDENT referred to the loss the Club had sustained by the deaths of Brig.-General G. W. Hamilton and Mr. H. E. Bettington.

The HONORARY SECRETARY said that General Hamilton had filled the office of President in 1933, and had always actively supported the Club, and had contributed valuable papers to the *Transactions*. Mr. H. E. Bettington's decease so soon after that of his father was deeply to be deplored. He took a great interest in the Club and had he been spared would have ably followed in his father's footsteps.

On the proposition of the PRESIDENT, seconded by the HONORARY SECRETARY, the Rev. Prebendary S. H. Martin was elected President for the ensuing year.

The following Vice-Presidents were elected:—Mr. C. A. Benn, the Rev. Canon W. E. T. Morgan, Mr. R. S. Gavin Robinson, and Mr. F. C. Morgan.

The following officers of the Club were elected:—Central Committee: Mr. F. R. James, Rev. C. H. Stoker, Rev. G. B. E. Riddell, Captain H. A. Gilbert, Captain F. B. Ellison, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. Walter Pritchard, Dr. C. W. Walker, Mr. G. H. Butcher, and Mr. Edward Ball. Editorial Committee: Mr. George Marshall, Dr. H. E. Durham, and Mr. F. C. Morgan. Hon. Treasurer: Mr. F. R. James. Hon. Auditor: Mr. E. A. Capel. Hon. Secretary: Mr. George Marshall. Hon. Librarian: Mr. F. C. Morgan. Hon. Lanternist: Mr. Basil Butcher. Delegate to the Society of Anti-quaries: Mr. F. C. Morgan.

It was decided that two of the Field Meetings to be held in 1941 be (1) at Dulas and district, and (2) for the study of geology in the Woolhope district if Dr. Pocock could be obtained as guide, if not in the Ashperton and Westhild district.

The following new members were elected:—Mr. Arthur Edmund Painter, Cranford, Broomy Hill, Hereford; the Rev. Quintin Morris, Breinton Vicarage, Hereford; Mr. James Arthur Brook, Mullion, Breinton, Hereford; Mr. Francis George Marriott, King's Acre Halt, Hereford; and Mr. Shaw Wright, Hereford County Library, Bath Street, Hereford.

The following gentleman was proposed for membership: Mr. F. H. Snell, Kerry Arms, Hereford.

The Rev. C. H. Binstead, Penngrove, Venn's Lane, Hereford, was elected an Honorary Member.

It was resolved that the subscriptions of members serving in H.M. Forces away from home be suspended for the duration of the war.

On the proposition of the HONORARY SECRETARY, seconded by Mr. F. C. MORGAN, it was agreed that members be permitted to borrow books from the Club's Library for a period not exceeding one month.

The Rev. J. B. HEWITT reported observing foundations of a building on the north side of Bockleton church and parallel with it. These measured 48 feet by 21 feet and were about 2 feet wide, and 15 feet from the north wall of the nave. There was also a small square foundation patch on the north side towards the west end. This may be the foundation of a font, the main entrance to the church being on the north, and the site that of the predecessor of the present Norman church.

Mr. HEWITT also reported observations he made on a large female spider with legs about an inch long, that lived on the underside of the lid of a water tank for three years. She was always to be found in the same position and produced annually a bag full of eggs which hatched in the autumn. When the lid was shut the eggs would be suspended, and when laid back the spider stood over the eggs or young spiders as if on guard. Unfortunately the observation came to an end when a workman crushed the eggs.

Mr. F. C. GODDARD reported that at Bournemouth he had seen rats biting off plums on a tree and then descend and eat them on the ground or carry them off.

Mr. J. H. HOYLE sent the following particulars of the Roman finds at Trewyn House, recorded in the *Transactions* for 1884, p. 60. Mrs. Gillespie, then living at 2, Wye Terrace, Hereford, told him in 1925 that on the death of General Gillespie, about 1899, the arm of the silver statue of Victory was offered to the

British Museum for a large sum, but refused, and three or four years later was sold at Christie's, but she did not know who purchased it. The gold ring was in the possession of her son Major Gillespie, of 9, Ilchester Mansions, Abingdon Road, Kensington. Mrs. Gillespie thought that there were Roman remains under Aconbury on the left of the Ross road a little beyond the toll-bar house at the top of Callow Hill.

The HONORARY SECRETARY reported that the Club had received a bequest of books from the late Brig.-General W. G. Hamilton, including a set of the Bishops' Registers published by the Cantilupe Society.

Mr. F. C. MORGAN exhibited a novel, "The Man of Fortitude," by B. Frere, 1801, in 3 volumes, and said it was the earliest novel the scene of which was laid in Herefordshire; also a walking stick which incorporated a tiny glass drinking cup and a glass container nearly the length of the stick for the liquid refreshment. These are now in the Hereford Museum.

The meeting then terminated.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

(HEREFORDSHIRE)

PROCEEDINGS, 1941.

FIRST WINTER MEETING.

TUESDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY, 1941.

LECTURE: "THE HEREFORD AND ABERGAVENNY TRAM ROAD."
By E. H. MORRIS, M.Inst.C.E.

An instructive lecture, illustrated with plans, photographs and parts of the tram line, together with a few lantern slides, was given by Mr. E. H. Morris, in the Woolhope Club Room, on this Hereford Tram Road.

The lecture will be found printed under "Papers" in this volume.

Mr. F. C. MORGAN, in the absence of the President, Mr. C. A. Benn, was in the chair, and made a sympathetic reference to the loss the Club had sustained by the death of the Rev. C. H. Binstead, who was recently elected an Honorary Member of the Club.

The following gentleman was proposed for membership: The Right Honourable Arthur Nall-Cain, Baron Brocket, Kinnersley Castle.

At the conclusion of the lecture, Mr. MORRIS, in answering questions, said that he had been unable to ascertain how the tram was run during the construction of the present railway which occupied stretches of the tram site. The present short railway tunnel on the site of the tram tunnel was not in a sense a tunnel at all, as it was built in a cutting and then covered over with earth. Although a tariff was fixed for the conveyance of passengers, there was no evidence that the tram was used for this purpose.

Captain F. B. ELLISON said that the tram rails were supplied by the same firm that made the rails for the Brecon-Kington tram line, namely, Evan Vaughan of Clydach, near Brynmawr.

A wax impression of the seal of the Tram Company was shewn on the screen, the centre having the arms of the city of Hereford, with the tram name encircling it. The seal itself had not been found.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer, congratulated him on his exhaustive researches, assisted by Captain F. B. Ellison, and the admirable way in which he had recorded the history of this link in the evolution of the transport problems of the county.

The vote of thanks was heartily accorded and the meeting terminated.

SECOND WINTER MEETING.

TUESDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY, 1941.

LECTURE : "HEREFORDSHIRE PRINTERS AND BOOKSELLERS."
By F. C. MORGAN, F.S.A., F.L.A.

A Meeting was held in the Woolhope Club Room to hear the above Lecture, which was illustrated with lantern slides.

In this lecture Mr. MORGAN opened up an unexplored field in the Club's researches in the byways of Herefordshire history. It proved to be an exhaustive analysis of the growth of the printing and bookselling trade in the county, and a most valuable record.

The lecture will be found printed under "Papers" in this volume.

Mr. GAVIN H. JACK, M.Inst.C.E., F.S.A., took the chair. He said he was pleased to be temporarily back in the county after an absence of eight years, and to have the opportunity of again meeting some of the members of the Club.

At the conclusion of the lecture, the CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Morgan for an instructive discourse and the painstaking research which he had obviously expended in its preparation.

This was heartily accorded and the meeting terminated.

SPRING ANNUAL MEETING.

TUESDAY, 8TH APRIL, 1941.

The Spring Annual Meeting was held in the Woolhope Club Room in the Hereford Public Library, when there were present: The Rev. Prebendary S. H. Martin (the President-elect), Rev. Prebendary E. H. Beattie, M.C., Mr. G. H. Butcher, Mr. F. Croker, Mr. H. J. Davies, Mr. R. F. Dill, Mr. R. A. Ford, Mr. G. H. Jack, Mr. F. R. James, Mr. Alex Johnstone, Mr. A. W. Marriott, Mr. G. H. Marshall, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. E. H. Morris, Mr. V. H. Pembroke, Mr. C. E. Prior, Mr. H. M. Prichard, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. J. Scott, Mr. H. Skyrme, Rev. C. H. Stoker, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. A. Wilmshurst, Mr. A. Shaw Wright, Mr. A. U. Zimmerman, and Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary).

The Rev. Prebendary S. H. MARTIN referred to the loss the Club had sustained by the death of its President, Mr. C. A. Benn.

The HON. SECRETARY and the HON. LIBRARIAN also spoke of the great interest he evinced in the Club's proceedings during his two years in the Presidential chair, and his liberality in presenting to the Club's library a large number of valuable books, and his gift of money for printing a catalogue of, and for buying books for, the library.

By request of the late President, the HON. SECRETARY read his

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

It is with great regret that I am unable to be with you today, but owing to illness it is impossible.

I would like to say a few words. One of your past presidents stated that the principal business of the Club was its field work. I do not quarrel with that, but he did not go far enough, and I should like to add a rider supplemented by study of the particular science one is interested in.

Up to this year it has been most difficult for anyone to make use of the books in the library, but now that they can be borrowed and taken home and read by one's fireside, it will make all the difference in the world to the advantages that accrue for studying one's particular subject. Had this rule not been passed I do not think it would have occurred to me to have presented the books to the Club which I have done, or to have been responsible for the making of the catalogue of the library.

I feel sure that this is the most important step the Club has taken for a great many years.

I feel confident that there are many members who would be only too pleased to present scientific works to the Club knowing that they can always borrow them whenever they wish.

I do not propose to say anything with regard to Mr. Marshall, except what a great help he has been to me. I have so often referred to his wonderful capacity.

I feel that I should like to bring to your notice the enormous amount of work that Mr. Morgan, your honorary librarian, has done and is doing for the Club. He is in charge of all your books, and I anticipate his work will be much increased. It is he who has made the catalogue entailing a vast amount of work. Possibly the Club might be able to help him with an Assistant.

Now I would like very much to welcome Mr. Martin as your new President and feel sure that with his extensive knowledge a better choice could not have been made.

Finally, gentlemen, will you accept my great thanks for your kindness in having elected me as your President for the past two years. An honour I greatly appreciate.

THE ESTATE OF THE BISHOPRIC OF HEREFORD AS RECORDED IN THE PIPE ROLLS. 7 HENRY II TO 3 JOHN.

(1160/1 to 1201/2).

Introduction.

The pipe Rolls or *Rotuli Annales* are the yearly accounts of the Sheriff of the county, as presented by him at the Exchequer (*Scaccarium*). They are written in Latin greatly abbreviated, often a circumflex being placed over a word to signify that several letters had been omitted, this constantly makes matters difficult when dealing with places or proper names and, as the rolls were written from oral dictation, the clerk would write the name in what appeared to him to be the best way to express the sound, whereas different clerks might easily spell the same names in various ways.

The rolls were inscribed on sheep-skins, two of which were sewn together in two strips to form one length, from 12 inches to 15 inches wide, except those in the *Curia Regis*, which were sewn side by side. Hence the name pipe rolls, as they resembled a pipe when rolled up. No erasure was permitted, the word to be erased was underlined and the alteration rewritten (*Non presumat abradere sed linea subtili subducta cancellat et scribat in serie quod oportet*).

The Treasurer's scribe was allowed 5/- for supplying parchment.¹

¹ *A Description of the Close Rolls in the Tower of London*, by T. D. Hardy, 1833.

The King held certain lands and was entitled to various Aids, Pleas, Amerciaments, Fines, Escheats, Scutages, *etc.*, in each county, which it was the duty of the Sheriff to collect.

The fixed sum to be collected by the Sheriff was called the "farm" of the county, or *firma Comitatus*. *Firma* is a Saxon word signifying provisions; it came to be used as rent, because the greater part of the rents were paid in corn, *etc.*, until the use of money became more prevalent.

The Sheriffs were both presidents of the county court and farmers of the revenue.

The Pipe Rolls, ancient charters and monastic chartularies contain the only documentary evidence, strictly speaking, which exists for the illustration of the constitutional history of the reign of Henry II.

The Pipe Rolls bristle with curious and interesting entries. At Easter the Sheriff presented his accounts at the Exchequer, usually at Westminster, the Treasury being at Winchester,¹ paying a portion of his "farm" and receiving a tally, similar to an interim dividend by a Company. At Michaelmas he presented his final accounts, which were expected to balance.

No payment from the King's revenue might be made without the express authority of the King's writ.

A writ was issued to the Sheriff by the Clerk of the Exchequer stating the amount that was due and ordering him to present himself at a specified date and place therein named, and to bring with him whatever was due.

The Sheriff's accounts were presented under two headings:—

- (i) The Sheriff's farm. That is the rents collected for which he paid a fixed sum.
- (ii) The specified sums due which were enumerated one by one, such as payment for Encroachments, Court Fees, Aids, Danegeld, Scutage, Payment by persons or towns.

The office of Sheriff was evidently of considerable value, for Geoffrey, Archbishop of York, in 1194, offered £2,000 and a yearly payment of 100 marks for the shrievalty of Yorkshire.

Hugh de Puiset, bishop of Durham, pays 2,000 marks for the sheriffdom of Northumberland. (*Hugo episcopus Dunelm debet MM marcas pro comitatu Northumbriae habendo.*)²

The system of tallies continued until 1834, when in burning those stored at Westminster the houses of Parliament were destroyed.

¹ *Feudal England*, by J. H. Round, 1909.

² *Introduction to the Roll Series*, by H. D. Hardy, p. 208; and *Pipe Roll*, 2 Ric. I.

The King's manors, as also the Bishop's income, were frequently charged with the payment of alms and liveries, which the Sheriff was allowed to deduct from his farm, also the *terrae datae* or lands granted away by the King.

To make the accounts plain on the debit side we have the Sheriff's total farm, and on the credit side the amount paid to the Exchequer together with the allowances to the Sheriff for payments made on behalf of the King. And the two sides should balance. *Et quietus est.*

When the Sheriff paid the revenue to the Exchequer it was often found that the weight of the coinage paid was deficient. In early days he was required to pay by "tale", *i.e.*, he should pay an extra sixpence per 20 shillings to meet any possible deficiency. This method was called *ad scalam*. As this method was found to be inadequate, the Sheriff was required to account for the actual weight of the money. This was called *ad pensum*, or he was allowed to compound by paying one shilling in twenty shillings. There was a further system, when the coins had to be tested by melting called *Blancum*. In Domesday we find it recorded that money was paid by "tale".

Now we come to the difficult problem, *viz*: how does the value of money in the 12th century compare with the value of the present day? Two experts have tackled the problem. Hardy in 1833 considered that it was necessary to multiply by 15 to obtain the value at that time, and Round, in 1910, is of opinion that one must multiply by 40.

Suppose we take Round's figure, we can arrive at the incomes of some of the Bishops in terms of present day values. The following figures are only the farm and doubtless they all had incomes outside their farms. To give one instance only: the Bishop of Hereford received the chattels of a man who was hanged.

We find in Domesday that if anyone kills one of the King's men and commits house-breaking, he gives the King 20/- in payment for the man and for his offence 100/-. If he kills a thane's man he gives 10/- to the dead man's lord. If so be that a Welshman shall kill a Welshman, the relatives of the slain shall meet together and plunder the slayer and his kin and burn their houses. Of this plunder the King has the third part.

INCOME OF VARIOUS BISHOPRICS.

	<i>Farm Present day value.</i>	
Archbishop of Canterbury	£1135	£45,400
See of York	£1111	£44,440
Bishopric of Rochester	£121	£4,840
Bishopric of Hereford	£300	£12,000
Bishopric of Lincoln	£870	£38,000
See of Winchester	£1555	£72,200

Each year we find an allowance made "In default of the fair of Hereford", varying from £20 to £2.

A monopoly was granted to the Bishop for St. Ethelbert's fair, which was to be held in the streets of Hereford.

The permanent courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction (irrespective of local courts) were the *Aula* or *Curia Regis*. About the reign of Richard I this was split into various courts which continued to function until modern times.

John Cumin was a very influential personality and *persona grata* with the King. We first hear of him in 1164, when he was sent by the King as ambassador to the court of the Emperor Frederic. It is evident from his attestation of various charters that he travelled about with the King and his court, both in England and France, and appears to have been the type of person to whom the King entrusted matters of a confidential character that required delicate handling.

In 1166 he was sent to Rome on a mission to the Pope in company with Ralph de Tamworth. At this time the King and Becket were at daggers drawn and Cumin on his arrival at Vitabonet met Becket's messenger, who was taking despatches to the Pope and the Archbishop of Bourges. These despatches he seized. On proceeding to Rome, Pope Alexander entrusts him with a letter to King Henry, offering to adjudicate between the King and Becket.

At Michaelmas, 1167, he was appointed *custos* in charge of the farm of the Bishopric of Hereford. In the same year we hear that the Pope is very displeased with him. The King appoints him a Justice in Eyre in 1168, and in the following year Becket excommunicates him. He is then sent to the Papal Court by the King to obtain absolution and release for the Prelates of York, Durham, London and Salisbury, and is kept waiting fifteen days for an interview, which is only obtained by the payment of 500 marks. Just then the Pope hears of the murder of Becket, which took place on the 29th of December, 1170, and he shut himself up refusing to see any Englishman, so presumably Cumin returned home.

In 1177 he is sent as ambassador to Spain.

When the King in 1179 divided the kingdom into 4 circuits, he appointed Justices to act in each circuit, Cumin being appointed to that of the North of England, together with five others.

As early as 1172/3 he had been appointed a Judge of Assize in Herefordshire, and in 1180 acted on another circuit.

The Pope made him a cardinal in 1180, and he was ordained Priest by Pope Lucius at Velletri on the 13th of March, 1182, and on the 21st of March he was consecrated Archbishop of Dublin by the Pope. After his consecration as Archbishop, we still find him attached to the King's court, for the following year he was with

the King at Caen, and in 1184 and 1186 was with him at Reading and Guildford.

The King was by no means adverse from retaining the various Bishoprics in his own hands when they fell vacant, in fact, it seems to have been a glorious source of income to him, so much so, that we find the Pope protesting at the Sees being allowed to be vacant.

At the council of Northampton held in October, 1164, the King pronounced sentence on Becket. Doubtless he took the See under his protection and appointed a *custos*, who was exercising his duties in the autumn of the following year.

In 1167 Pope Alexander censured Henry for the vacancies in the Sees of Lincoln, Bath and Hereford.

In 1173 the following Sees were filled, viz. : Ely, Lincoln, Salisbury, Oxford, Bath, Hereford and Chichester, six of which took place after Easter and are recorded in the Pipe Rolls.

The revenue of the See accrued to the Bishop-elect from the commencement of the half year during which he was elected.

At this time the Archbishopric of Canterbury and Bishopric of Winchester were also vacant; the revenue of the Archbishopric accrued to the Archbishop-elect from Easter, 1173.

In March, 1186, there were eight episcopal Sees vacant, viz. : York, Lincoln, Chester, Salisbury, Hereford, Worcester, Exeter and Carlisle.

In May of the same year William de Ver was elected Bishop of Hereford.

THE ESTATE OF THE BISHOPRIC OF HEREFORD

1160/1—1201/2.

In 1160/1 the seventh year of the reign of Henry II, William de Beauchamp was Sheriff of Herefordshire, and also Sheriff of Worcestershire. The Bishop of Hereford (Gilbert Foliot) renders £10 from the Knights.

In 1161/2 the Sheriff renders account of Danegeld, which he collects from the Bishop. This was a tax similar to our land tax, reaching back to Anglo-Saxon times, and was payable on every hide of land and collected by the Sheriff. Danegeld was not levied after 8 Henry II.¹

The Bishop was pardoned by the King's writ for 66/-.

Robert de Melun was consecrated Bishop of Hereford on the 22nd of December, 1163.

In 1164/5 he owes £76 5.0. for the Army, *i.e.*, for setting forward (*de permissione*) 100 servants from (*de*) Wales, which the King

¹ *Exchequer of the 12th Century*. Round.

pardoned by writ the following year; also £40, but it is not stated why.

In 1166/7 the Bishopric was in the King's hand by reason of voidance, Robert de Melun having died 28th February, 1167.

The See remained in the King's hand during the next six years, when Robert Foliot, Archdeacon of Oxford, was, with the King's consent, elected bishop by the Chapter of Hereford in 1173.

We are fortunate in that on the death of Robert de Melun the Bishopric for the next six years passes into the King's hand. John Cumin being appointed Keeper or Custos, whose duty it was to deal with the revenues of the Bishopric and account for the same to the Treasury. Owing to the King being in possession we have details of the accounts of the Bishopric recorded in the Pipe Rolls, (1166-7, pp. 76, 77), which otherwise would not have appeared. The passage reads:

"John Cumin renders account of the issue of the Bishopric of Hereford for three fourths of the year, exclusive of LINDEBIA which Geoffrey de Ver¹ holds by the King's command, to wit, of £93.0.10 of the established assessment (*de censu statuto*), i.e. the settled rent.

And of £20 of the fair of Hereford (*feria*).

And of 100/- for honey.²

And for £4.8.0. for sinodals (*de sinodalibus*, i.e., rent paid by the clergy at Easter).

And of 30/- of the pleas of the Archdeacon³ for the half year.

And of £7.19.4 the surplus of St. Peter's pence.

And of £7.19.6 for hogs (*baconibus*) sold.

And for £10.19.1. for corn (*blado*) and malt (*brasio*) sold.

And for 74/3 for two nags (*runcinis*)⁴ and crozuns and salt sold.

And for £28.9.6 for pleas and for customs (*duty*) of pigs.

And the residue of the service of the Bishop's Knights."

The "*Nova placita*" are the pleas of the year to which the Roll belongs; strictly speaking, the "*placita*" were the fines

¹ Geoffrey de Ver was Sheriff of Shropshire.

² In Domesday Book we constantly find reference to the payment of honey. The Welshmen at Monmouth Castle pay 33 sestiers of honey. F. 180 (b). In Archenfield 96 men pay 41 sestiers of honey. F. 181. The men on the King's manor of Leominster gave according to custom 75/- worth of honey. F. 180. We also find mention of a bee-keeper (*custos apium*), who has 12 hives (*vasculorum*). F. 180.

³ Ralph. He seems to have been both Dean and Archdeacon.

⁴ A rouncey was an inferior kind of horse, here probably pack horses which had brought salt from Droitwich in the 'crozuns', most likely some kind of earthen vessel, but it has not been possible to identify this word.—
Editors.

inflicted by the judges. The "*conventiones*" were voluntary payments made by the parties to obtain a decision. Justice was not to be had for nothing, it was necessary to obtain a writ and pay a fine.¹

The total of the "Farm" was £184.0.6 for three quarters of the year. The sum paid into the Treasury was £162.15.7.

Then follows a list of various items allowed to the "Keeper",

For solemnizing the funeral of the Bishop of Hereford 50/-, by the Dean of the Church. (The Bishop, as before mentioned, was Robert de Melun and the Dean was Ralph.)

And for 50 loads of wheat sent into Wales 100/-, by writ of Richard de Luci. (Richard de Luci (Lucy) was Justiciar of England for 25 years. He supported the King in the great rebellion of 1173. In 1179 he retired to his Monastery at Lesnes in Kent and died that year.)

And in liveries of the servants who took the wheat into Wales 7/7. (*Liberatio*=livery, i.e., payment in money or kind.)

And for taking three wolves 10/-.

And to Geoffrey de Ver² 20 marks to strengthen the castle of LINDEBINORT³ by the King's writ. (In 1176 the king took over all the castles in England, but returned some of the larger ones soon afterwards.)

And for 289 loads of wheat of the issue (*de exitum*) of the manors.

In furnishing (*ad muniendum*) the castles of ROELEND and PRESTATON and MUNHALT⁴ 239 loads (of wheat) by Richard de Luci.

And to 18 Prebendaries and sick of Hereford 46 loads.

And to the two vine-dressers 4 loads.

And he is quit.

This is the only year in which we are informed of the various items that go to make up the "farm" of the Bishopric.

1167/8 is the first complete year for the accounts of the Bishopric. John Cumin, the "Keeper", renders account of 3½ marks for the Knights of the Bishopric; he pays two marks into the Treasury, and Hugh de Luci who owes one mark and Margaret de Bohun half a mark, say they do not owe those services to the

¹ *The Historical Works of Master R. de Diceto*, edited by William Stubbs, 1876, 2 vols., pp. 118, 594, 600.

² Geoffrey de Ver was Sheriff of Shropshire from January 1165 to 1170.

³ Lindeberinort i.e. Lydbury North, in Shropshire.

⁴ The identification of Roelend is uncertain; Prestaton was the Bishop's manor of Prestbury, in Gloucestershire, where Cheltenham now stands; and Munhalt was the Bishop's house in the city of London.

Bishop. As these amounts are not carried forward to the following year, evidently their contentions are upheld.

Under Shropshire we find grain forwarded to Hugh de Laci at Meath.

1167/8.

Farm due by	Paid to Treasury ...	£255 15 0
John Cumin ... £300 9 4	„ Geoffrey de Ver..	21 0 0
	„ to renew the stock of Prestebia ¹ ...	4 0 0
	„ in default of the fair of Hereford...	6 7 9
	Owing	13 6 7
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£300 9 4	£300 9 4

The entry with regard to the fair of Hereford reads:—" And in default (*defeciu*) of the fair (*nunditiū*) of Hereford on account of the war in Wales, £6.7.9 this year."

Moreover, John Cumin accounts for wine sold for 100/9 and for 25/11 for Petty Pleas (*minutis placitis*) for the previous year. Some of these items occur year after year, so if we refer to them briefly now, there will be no need to mention them again. John Cumin is allowed to deduct £21 payment to Geoffrey de Ver for the upkeep of the castle of LINDEBIA, which he holds by command of the King.

The entry for restocking the Manor in the King's hand is interesting. The price of £4 for 400 sheep seems small, as were probably the sheep. This works out at about twopence halfpenny each, whereas in Cornwall the value was four pence each, in Yorkshire eight pence each and in Northumberland nine pence each. It is easy to see that our small Welsh muttuns are the product from very early times.

1168/9.

Farm due by	In Treasury	£260 11 7
John Cumin ... £300 9 4	Paid to Geoffrey de Ver	21 0 0
	„ to renew the stock of Prestebia ...	4 0 0
	„ in default of the fair of Hereford...	5 7 9
	„ Welchelin the smith	2 0 0
	„ sick of Hereford in wheat	0 10 10

¹ i.e., Prestbury.

Paid Chaplain of Hereford, 5 loads of wheat	0 4 2
„ Ralph de Lidebia	1 0 0
Owing	5 15 0

£300 9 4

£300 9 4

There are a few items of interest this year, viz. :—

A payment of 107/9 is made in default of the fair of Hereford. Also, 40/- to Welchelin the smith by the King's writ. Also, 10/10 to the sick of Hereford in wheat. Also, to the Chaplain of Hereford 5 loads (*ladas*) of wheat valued at 4/2 and in recompense (*soltis*, i.e., payment) by the King's writ to Ralph de Lidebia 20/- which Ralph paid for Hugh de Laci. He also renders account for the chattels of Ranulph and his sons, who were hanged (*suspensor*). This is an interesting entry, for we have already seen that the King took a third part of the goods of a Welshman who killed a Welshman in 1086.

1169/70.

Farm due by	In Treasury	£268 16 4
John Cumin ... £300 9 4	Paid Geoffrey de Ver...	21 0 0
	„ to renew the stock of Prestebia ...	4 0 0
	„ in default of the fair of Hereford...	2 0 0
	„ the sick of Hereford, 15 loads wheat	0 15 2
	„ Chaplain of Hereford, 5 loads wheat	0 5 10
	„ William Folet and Robert de Brailis..	3 12 0

£300 9 4

£300 9 4

It will be noted that the Chaplain received a better quality of wheat than the poor.

John Cumin renders account of 115/- of the old farm. The old farm means the sum brought forward from the previous year. And in quittance of the land of William Folet and Robert de Brailis by the King's writ. *Et quietus est*.

With regard to the new farm an allowance of 40/- is made for default of the fair of Hereford on account of the war in Wales (*verra walsie*).

Also he renders account of the relief of Roger Puher ; of five marks of Ilbert de Dinra ; of 10/- of Ralph de Cradelea. *Et quietus est*.

with regard to scutage, the collection of which hereafter is in the hands of the Sheriff.

1186/7.

In this year there is an entry:—"Of the scutage of the Barons of England who did not go with the King in the army of Galway. The Bishop of Hereford renders account of £15 of the scutage of his Knights. In the Treasury £13. And in the fee of Hugh de Laci, which is in the King's hand 40/-. And he is quit."

1189/90.

Walter son of Helie owes one hound (*fugator*) for having a new assize of novel disseisin against the Bishop of Hereford.¹

1201/2.

The Bishop of Hereford renders account of 30 marks of scutage. He has delivered it in the Treasury and he is quit.

The Chancellor's Roll.

From the Chancellor's roll for 3 John, 1201/2, the sheriff Hubert de Burgh records that there is owing from the Dean and Chapter of Hereford £100 for having their liberties and tenements.

We find our entries with regard to novel disseisin.

- i. 1176/7. Roger a man of the monks of Liministre and Herbert his brother and Ralph de Risebi render account of 30/- for disseisin (*dissaisina*) against the assize (*assisam*).
- ii. 1184/5. Ralph de Linguein owes half a mark for unlawful disseisin (*pro dissaisina injusta*).
- iii. Roger de Bunehilla owes half a mark for unlawful disseisin.
- iv. 1186/7. Nicholas le Deuin renders account for novel disseisin.

This assize of novel disseisin was the method by which an aggrieved party who claimed to have been wrongfully dispossessed was able to obtain a verdict for possession. A writ was issued to the sheriff to bring twelve neighbours before the King's justices to answer the question who is entitled to possession and not as to who has the right (*jus*) in law.¹

AID FOR MARRYING THE KING'S DAUGHTER MAUD (MATILDA).

The separate entries for the Aid for marrying the King's daughter have been omitted, as it is of more interest that these entries should appear collectively, as follows:—

In 1167/8 the Bishop renders account of 15 marks for the Aid of marrying the King's daughter MAUD, for his Knights. *Et*

¹ *Three Rolls of the King's Court, Ric. I, 1194–1195*, by F. W. Maitland, 1891, p. xxxiii.

quietus est. This refers to the King's daughter Matilda, who was born 1156 and married Henry, Duke of Saxony, in 1168.

In the autumn of 1167 the Duke sent envoys to England to conduct the Princess to Saxony.

The King decreed an Aid for the expenses of marrying his daughter of 2 marks for every Knight's fee throughout the country. He also instructed the Sheriffs of several counties each to expend 36/- on the purchase of a palfrey and hounds (*fugatoris*) for the use of his daughter, which sums the Sheriffs were to deduct from the King's account. In 1182 the Duchess gave birth to a son at Argentan, and in 1184 to a son at Winchester. She died in 1189.

Also John Cumin, the custos of the Bishopric, accounts for 3½ marks for the Knights of the Bishopric, besides those which the Bishop says he owes to the King. In the treasury 2 marks.

There remain one mark on Hugh de Laci and ½ mark on Margaret de Bohun, who say they do not owe these services to the King.

As no reference is made hereafter to these two entries, their contention was probably allowed.

In 1168/9 John Cumin renders account of £40 for the Aid of the demesnes of the Bishopric. In the treasury £29 6s. 8d. And in Lidebia which Geoffrey de Ver has by the King £4 13s. 4d. and he owes £6.

It is not apparent how this £6 is dealt with. If we add £29 6s. 8d. to £4 13s. 4d. we get £34, which leaves £6 owing.

Then the custos accounts for £4 13s. 4d. in 1170/1 and the four following years, but this does not balance the account. When relinquishing the custos-ship whatever was due would be settled by the Bishopric and there would be no record of it on the Pipe Rolls.

The Bishopric would therefore appear to have been assessed at £56 or 42 Knights' fees. We find that there are only 119 Knights' fees in the whole county.

£159 15s. 0d. represent the amount of the total assessments from the Knights' fees.

£37 10s. 2d. represent the sums remitted.

£122 5s. 2d. represent the amount due.

£21 13s. 4d. due from the Burgesses of Hereford and townships of Maudin and Lurgurdin.

£143 18s. 6d. is the total sum due from Herefordshire.

£140 18s. 0d. is the total sum due from Lancashire.

The HON. TREASURER presented the financial statement for the year. This showed a satisfactory balance in hand of £1467s. 7d., after £150 had been transferred to the Reserve Account.

The HON. SECRETARY reported that there were 216 members on the books at the end of the year, being an increase of one. Ten members were lost by death during the year, including Brig.-General W. G. Hamilton, Mr. Frank Boddington, the Rev. Canon W. E. T. Morgan, and the Rev. C. H. Binstead.

The HON. SECRETARY reported that the Rev. Canon W. E. T. Morgan had bequeathed to the Club a copy of the Glanusk edition of Jones' *History of Brecknockshire*, and that Mr. C. A. Benn had presented a large number of books dealing with the history of the county covering a period of about two hundred years from the Norman Conquest. Also that Mr. Benn, shortly before his death, had sent £90 to defray the cost of printing a catalogue of the Club's library and the balance of this sum to be expended on books for the library.

It was decided to hold the following Field Meetings: How Caple and district; and Kenchester and district (Ladies' Day). The other two Field Meetings were fixed at the Winter Annual Meeting to take place at Dulas and district, and at Woolhope for the study of Geology or at Ashperton and district.

The following new members were elected:—Mr. F. H. Snell, The Kerry Arms Hotel, Hereford; and the Rt. Hon. Arthur Nall-Cain, Lord Brocket, Kinnersley Castle.

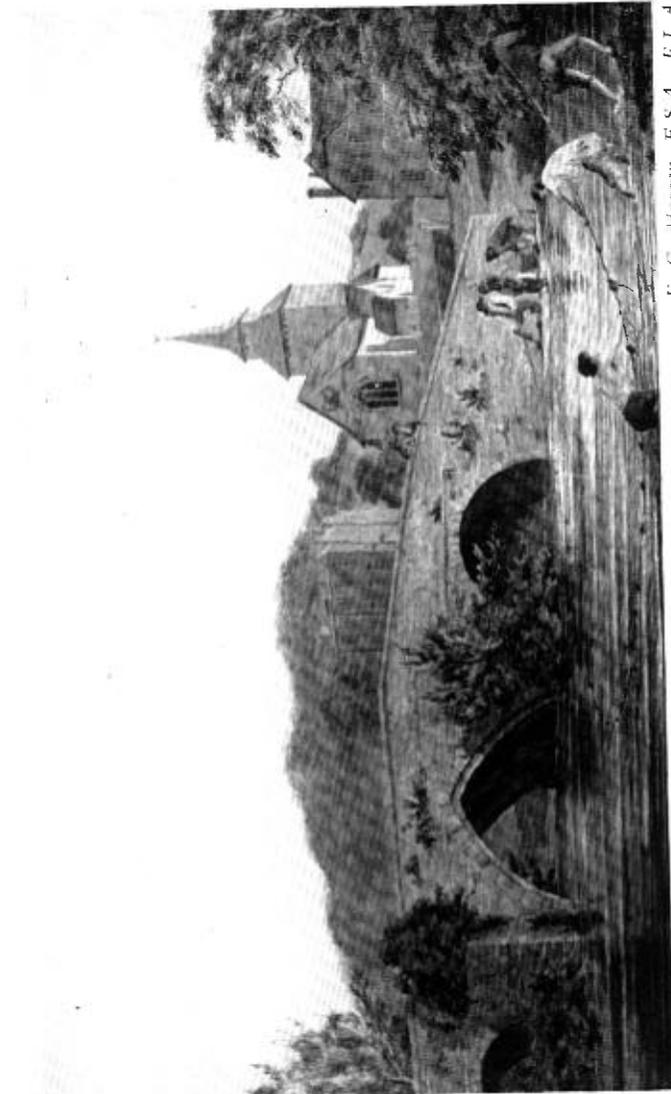
The following gentleman was nominated for election:—Mr. E. A. Moir, 24, The Gresleys, Ross-on-Wye.

Mr. F. C. MORGAN presented his Annual Report on Archæology, which will be found printed in this volume.

A paper by Mr. C. A. Benn entitled "The Castles of Herefordshire as mentioned in the Pipe Rolls" was laid on the table. It will be found printed in this volume.

Mr. F. C. MORGAN exhibited a flint knife and a flake which he had found in a field called "Fishpools Field", at Haywood Lodge, near Hereford.

The Meeting then terminated.



F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.L.A.

MORDIFORD BRIDGE, CHURCH, AND RECTORY (left),

From a water colour drawing by Thomas Girtin, circa 1790, in the possession of J. T. Hereford, Esq.

Photo by

FIRST FIELD MEETING.

FRIDAY, 23RD MAY, 1941.

HOW CAPLE AND DISTRICT.

The First Field Meeting was held at Mordiford, Fownhope, Solers Hope and How Caple.

Those present included :—The Rev. Prebendary S. H. Martin (President), Mr. C. M. Atkinson, Rev. Preb. E. H. Beattie, Mr. A. W. Bolt, Mr. Percy Bolt, Mr. J. A. Brook, Mr. C. E. Brumwell, Mr. G. H. Butcher, Mr. G. B. Cooper, Dr. J. H. E. Crees, Mr. F. Croker, Mr. H. J. Davies, Dr. C. D. Edwards, Mr. Roland Edwards, Mr. F. W. Elliott, Mr. Charles Evans, Mr. A. R. Ford, Mr. G. A. Hall, Mr. D. W. Harris, Mr. C. J. Harding, Rev. H. W. J. L. R. Haywood, Mr. J. H. Higgins, Mr. E. J. Illidge, Mr. G. H. Jack, Mr. F. R. James, Mr. C. Jewell, Mr. Alex Johnston, Mr. G. S. Averay Jones, Mr. Walter J. Jones, Mr. L. A. Knight, Mr. A. W. Marriott, Mr. F. G. Marriott, Mr. J. W. Matthews, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. W. C. Mumford, Mr. A. E. Painter, Rev. Preb. T. H. Parker, Mr. V. H. Pembridge, Mr. Hubert Powell, Mr. A. Pugh, Mr. J. Scott, Mr. C. W. Simpson, Mr. Herbert Skyrme, Mr. J. P. Smith, Mr. P. J. T. Templer, Mr. W. Ridley Thomas, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. S. E. Warner, Mr. William Weston, Mr. A. Wilmshurst, Mr. A. Shaw Wright, and Mr. George Marshall (Hon. Secretary).

The first stop was made at Mordiford, to inspect the ancient bridge over the river Lugg.

Mr. G. H. JACK, M.Inst.C.E., F.S.A., made the following remarks on this interesting structure :—

Before I make my short comments on the bridge, I want to say what pleasure it gives me to be out with the Woolhope Club again after an absence from the county for eight years, and what a satisfaction it is to see again so many old friends.

MORDIFORD BRIDGE.

Of all the fine bridges of Herefordshire, I place this one among the first three, indeed there are very few bridges of such character and interest in the country. It is of 14th century date and has stood the test of time remarkably well. The centre arch, pointed and ribbed, is a perfect specimen of the period. This ribbed construction enabled the builders to economise in the wooden centring. As one rib was completed, the supports could be moved to the next, and when these were completed and set the arch proper could then be proceeded with. A disadvantage of the

method was that the arch was not bonded into the ribs. Similar construction (though later) on Wilton Bridge over the Wye failed in the year 1912 to stand up to the vibration due to mechanical traffic, and the outer ribs parted from the arches to the extent of well nigh 2 inches.

A bridge of the age of Mordiford has of course been much repaired from time to time. The cut-waters on the upstream side and the round arch nearest the village may have been built early in the 17th century, and the face of the same arch on the downstream side, together with the string course, has the appearance of the work of John Gethen in the early part of the 19th century.

The upstream face of this arch is specially interesting in as much as the arch stones are not true wedges, but cut with a slight chevron. This is very good construction and effectually prevents any slip in the separate members of the arch. The outer ribs at Wilton are of this fine construction, and there is one other example in the county at Lugg Mill Bridge on the Worcester road.

Fortunately Mordiford Bridge is scheduled as an Ancient Monument, but this will not prevent it being disfigured or possibly destroyed. I want to impress upon you, though I hardly think it necessary in the case of persons interested as you are, that this fine bridge is a county treasure of historic and architectural value and should be carefully preserved, as it can never be replaced. If ever the weight and intensity of the traffic should call for a wider and stronger bridge, then it would be wise and desirable to bypass the village by means of a short length of road and a new bridge.

Captain H. A. GILBERT wrote drawing the attention of the members to a colony of house martins which nest under the arches of the bridge. These were seen in large numbers. He also said sedge-warblers and reed-buntings were to be seen in the osier bed adjoining the bridge.

The members then proceeded to the church, where the Rector, the Rev. W. R. Rhys, gave a short description of the building and the objects of interest therein.

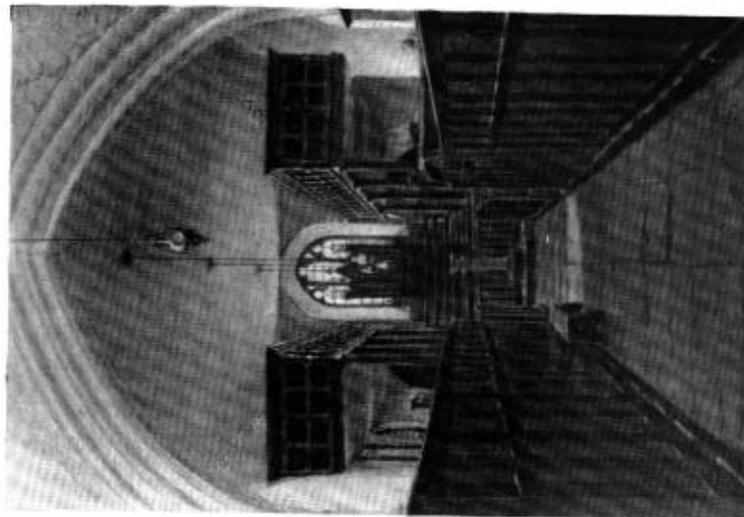
The HONORARY SECRETARY made a few remarks on the famous Mordiford dragon, which was painted outside on the gable over the west window of the nave, and was destroyed during the restoration of the church in 1810-1812. He said:—

At this time the beast was depicted as a wyvern, in early times used as the symbol of St. Guthlac. The priory of St. Guthlac's in Hereford held the living of Mordiford from about 1300 A.D., hence no doubt the origin of the painting and the doings in the neighbourhood of this mythological beast.

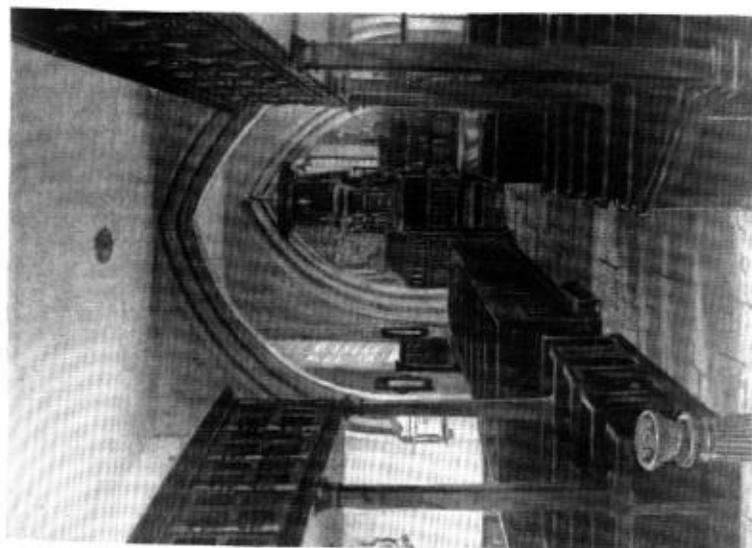
Mr. F. C. Morgan had drawn his attention to two water colour paintings in the Hereford Art Gallery of the interior of the church, looking east and west. These show a gallery on either side of the west window, a font of the middle of the eighteenth century, now gone, boxpews, three-decker pulpit under the centre of the chancel arch (a similar arrangement was formerly to be seen in All Saints' Church in Hereford), turned altar rails, etc. (*See illustrations.*) The tower was built on a new site in 1814, when the upper part of the central tower with a shingle spire was pulled down. The south chapel was rebuilt in 1852, and the north aisle and vestry added in 1869.

The curious front elevation of the Rectory, and the old yew

The face page is built.



F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.I.A.



Photos by

MORDIFORD CHURCH.

from pictures in the Public Library, Hereford.

1. Looking east. 2. Looking west.

hedges with their fine topiary work in the garden were then inspected.

The next stop was made at Fownhope. Here the stocks combined with a whipping post, the only example surviving in Herefordshire, were seen against the churchyard wall. The church was then visited, and the HONORARY SECRETARY gave a short description of the building.

The drive was continued to the Camp Farm on the road from Gurney's Oak to Brockhampton, from which the party walked to the camp. Here Mr. G. H. JACK gave the following description of this large Early Iron Age fortified site:—

CAPLAR CAMP.

Herefordshire is rich in these hill forts, camps, entrenchments, or what we choose to call them, and it is disappointing that we know so little about them. Latterly our Honorary Secretary has been able to lift the veil somewhat by his discoveries on the site of the Iron Age Camp at Poston. Like many other Woolhopians, I had a thirst for wresting the secrets from the trenches and mounds of one of Herefordshire's largest hill forts, and in 1924, with the help of the late Colonel A. W. Foster, of Brockhampton, and my friend Mr. Hayter, we cut fifteen trenches in various parts of the camp where we are now assembled. We worked hard but we found—nothing!!

When I say "nothing", I mean we were unable to find any trace of the place having been occupied in early times. We did discover one square inch of black gritted ware which could be dated not later than 400 A.D. We also unearthed the foundation of a seventeenth century cottage near the eastern entrance, which appears to be the only certain entrance of ancient date. The opening on the south side may have been one of the original approaches. We cut right through the mound guarding the main entrance and found the natural soil at a depth of 12 feet 7 inches. Our excavation was entirely in loose stones, among which we found some modern pottery, a nail and fragments of a boar's tusk, and a small piece of bone and glass, but nothing which would give any clue to the date of the construction of the mound which some people refer to as "The Officers' Grave". I don't know nor can I imagine why.

The Camp is 583 yards long from east to west and 113 yards wide from north to south.

The defence on the north consists of a long steep slope, 1 in 2½, which means roughly a rise of one foot for every yard forward.

On the south side there is a well constructed ditch, which we found in parts to be cut through the solid rock, an arduous piece of work considering the tools in use in early times.

The evidence we were able to acquire must be considered definitely negative, so much so that doubts were raised in our minds as to whether the place was ever occupied continuously but simply used as a place of defence against possible enemies and a refuge for non-combatants and cattle. I hope our non success will spur on others to continue the investigations so as to solve the mystery which this strong defensive work presents to us.

After a walk round the Camp, lunch was partaken of, and the business of the Club transacted.

A letter was read from Mrs. Benn thanking the members for their expression of sympathy in the loss of her husband.

Mr. S. E. Warner, the Honorary Secretary of the Malvern Field Club, conveyed to the members the regret of his Club at the loss sustained by the sudden death of Mr. C. A. Benn, our President.

The following new member was elected:—Mr. E. A. Moir, 24, The Gresleys, Ross-on-Wye.

The following new members were proposed:—Dr. J. McLannahan, Daneswood, Hampton Park, Hereford; Mr. T. Herbert Yeomans, Canon Pyon, Hereford; Dr. E. D. Townroe, The Town Hall, Hereford; and Mr. H. A. Gale, Hazeldene, King's Acre Road, Hereford.

Lieut.-Colonel R. H. Symonds-Tayler wrote to say that Mrs. P. B. Symonds had offered to present to the members a portrait of the Rev. William S. Symonds, one of the founders of the Woolhope Club. This offer was gratefully accepted.

A paper was read by Mr. GEORGE MARSHALL, F.S.A., entitled "A Report on Finds at Sutton Walls". This will be found printed under "Papers" in a later volume.

Mr. F. R. JAMES reported that a heronry was now well established in a wood near Aconbury, and that there were about twenty nests.

Returning to the cars, the members then drove to Solers Hope, where a visit was made to the church.¹

The Court adjoining was then inspected. This is a timber building, possibly erected by John Whittington, who when a minor under ten years of age, succeeded to the property on the death of his father in 1470. He married as his first wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Richard Croft of Croft Castle, and secondly Elizabeth, one of the daughters and coheiresses of Simon Milborne of Tillington and widow of Sir Thomas Monnington of Sarnesfield. He died in 1525.

Since the last visit of the Club the timber work at the south end of the house has been exposed to view. The house does not follow the usual plan of Herefordshire houses of the period, but is a simple oblong with a hall running through the centre of the house with entrances on the east and west faces. On the right on entering from the east is the principal room now used for lumber. This has fine moulded timber beams dividing the ceiling into squares, with plain joists supporting the boarded floor above. The room on the south side has beams from east to west. The exceptionally fine brick chimney stack with two flues remains intact on the east side of the principal room. There was a corresponding one to the south room, but the upper part was removed at the beginning of the last century and rebuilt as an ordinary

¹ See the *Transactions*, 1926, pp. 182-184, for a description of this church.

brick stack. Workmen must have been imported from the east of England to carry out this work, as there is nothing comparable to it in Herefordshire, and it is some of the earliest brick work in the county.

The party then drove to How Caple Court, where a visit was paid to the church, and the beautiful gardens were seen.

Dr. JOHN SMART, who was in charge of the entomological collection of moths and flies housed here for safety during the war from the British Museum, addressed the members, giving some account of the origin of the Museum, and his department. There was on view a representative display of the moths and flies, of which Dr. Smart gave many interesting particulars.

Mr. and Mrs. Lennox Lee then entertained the party to tea, which was much appreciated.

The return journey was then made to Hereford, which was reached at 6.0 p.m.

SECOND FIELD MEETING (LADIES' DAY).

THURSDAY, 26TH JUNE, 1941.

KENCHESTER AND BISHOPSTONE.

The Second Field Meeting (Ladies' Day) was held in beautiful weather to inspect Roman sites and objects at Kenchester and Bishopstone. The company mustered over a hundred ladies and gentlemen.

The gentlemen present included:—The Rev. Prebendary S. H. Martin (the President), Mr. Nugent L. Armitage, Rev. Preb. E. H. Beattie, M.C., Mr. A. W. Bolt, Mr. I. Braby, Mr. C. E. Brumwell, Mr. G. H. Butcher, Captain H. A. Christy, Mr. G. B. Cooper, Sir Geoffrey Cornwall, Bart., Dr. J. H. E. Crees, Mr. F. Croker, Mr. H. J. Davies, Mr. R. F. Dill, Mr. T. H. Edwards, Mr. F. W. Elliott, Mr. W. G. Farmer, Mr. C. H. Haig, Mr. G. A. Hall, Mr. C. J. Harding, Mr. D. W. Harris, Rev. H. W. J. L. R. Haywood, Mr. T. H. Higgins, Rev. H. W. Hill, Captain R. T. Hinckes, Mr. E. J. Illidge, Mr. G. H. Jack, Mr. C. Jewell, Mr. G. S. Averay Jones, Mr. Walter J. Jones, Mr. Alex. Johnstone, Mr. W. J. King, Mr. L. A. Knight, Dr. A. W. Langford, Mr. Lennox B. Lee, Mr. J. W. Matthews, Mr. A. W. Marriott, Mr. C. L. Marriott, Mr. C. Maclaverty, Mr. E. A. Moir, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. E. H. Morris, Mr. W. C. Mumford, Mr. Thomas Overbury, Mr. A. E. Painter, Mr. R. C. Parr, Rev. A. Payne, Mr. V. H. Pembridge, Mr. W. T. Perry, Mr. H. J. Powell, Mr. W. P. Pritchard, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. J. Scott, Rev. J. L. Sell, Mr. C. W. Simpson, Mr. G. P. Smith, Mr. P. J. T. Templer, Mr. W. Ridley Thomas, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. William Weston, Mr. A. Shaw Wright, Mr. A. U. Zimmerman, and Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary).

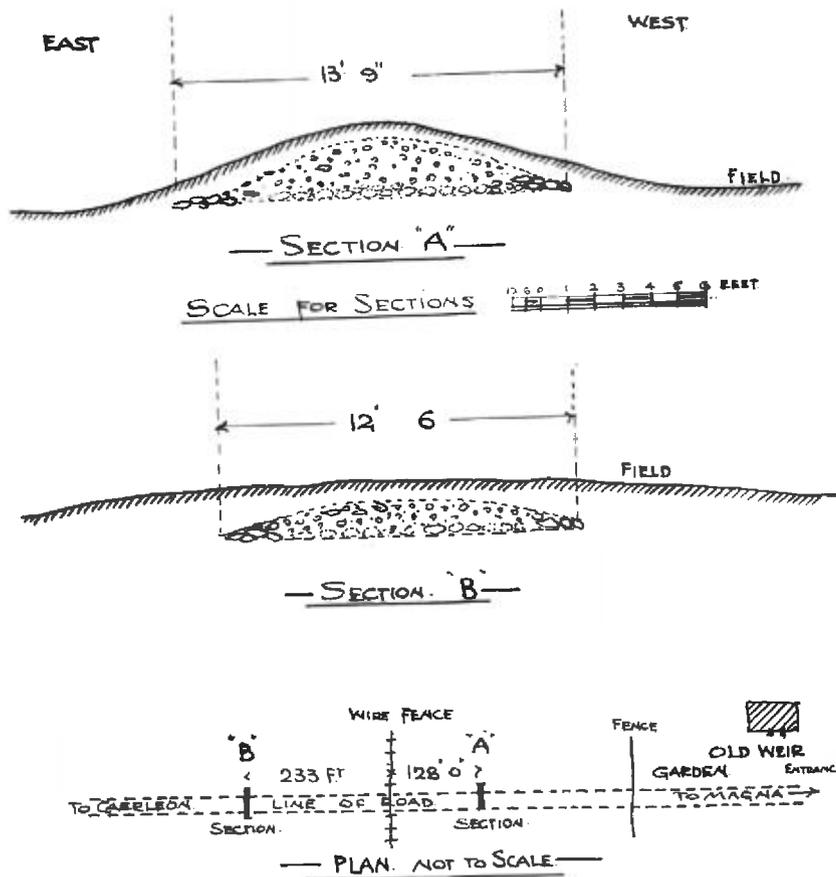
The party assembled in the Woolhope Club Room, where some coins and other objects found by the late Mr. Whiting at Kenchester, and a selection of the finds made during the excavations on the site of Magna and now in Hereford Museum were on view.

The PRESIDENT made some observations on the collection now belonging to Miss Whiting, giving an account of the wives of five Roman emperors whose coins were among those displayed.

Mr. G. H. JACK, M.Inst.C.E., F.S.A., said a few words about the more outstanding pieces of pottery and other Roman objects.

The party then drove to the Old Weir at Kenchester, where the line of the road from Magna to Caerleon in fields leading to the river

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ROMAN ROAD, KENCHESTER. Sections.

G.H. JACK
JUNE 19.41

Wye was seen. By the permission of Mr. J. A. Hewer, the owner, two cuttings had been made across the road, and these were inspected.

Mr. G. H. JACK made the following remarks on the road :—

Early in the 4th century a kind of Roman Road Book was made, giving the names of the Roman stations in Britain and the mileage between each. This work is known as "*The Itinerary of Antoninus*".

Two routes in Herefordshire are mentioned. One between Caerleon and Wroxeter, on which Magna lies, and the other between Monmouth and Gloucester, on which Ariconium near Ross is placed.

The line of road upon which we are now assembled is the itinerary road, Caerleon—Usk—Abergavenny—Magna—Leintwardine—Wroxeter, now known in this vicinity on the south side of the river as "Stoney Street", a modern name no doubt given to it from the stony nature of its surface over long lengths. It was possibly constructed late in the first century or early in the second.

We hoped to expose a good cross section of the road by cutting the trenches which you see, but were disappointed. The ancient surface has disappeared, but there is evidence of the gravel structure still lying on a cobble foundation. The original width was probably about 12 feet. The construction is very similar to a section of the itinerary road at Wigmore, known there as Watling Street, where in 1921 I found the surface paving in place on top of gravel construction which rested as this does on a cobble foundation. The width of the pavement at Wigmore was 10 feet, and the whole thickness of the road 21 inches, about the same as at this spot. In the year 1908, I made another excavation on the site of this road at Abbeydore, where there was no gravel or surface paving, the road consisting of large rounded stones 12 inches thick and the road width 12 feet 9 inches. There were ruts 4 to 6 inches deep cut into the stones by wheeled traffic which for some reason did not keep to the middle of the road, but well to one side. These ruts evidently became inconvenient, for they were avoided by the traffic moving nearer to the edge of the road. There must have been some good reason for this which is not now clear, possibly a good space had to be reserved for foot traffic.

The study of Roman road construction is fascinating. The nature of the work varies considerably in different localities, full use is made of materials found near at hand, but the general principles laid down by a famous Roman engineer, Vitruvius, who prepared his specification in the early years of the 1st century A.D., are always in evidence. He insisted on a strong foundation and a fairly smooth surface, requirements which today still hold.

In the Middle Ages, and indeed as late as the 18th and 19th centuries, these essentials were lacking.

There is a great deal to be learned about Roman roads in Herefordshire, and I know of no more interesting and healthy task than tracing and examining them. Our meagre knowledge will not be extended until some energetic Woolhophians take the task in hand.

Drawings of the sections in and across the road were handed round and are here reproduced. With regard to the suggested typical section, Mr. Jack has supplied the following note :—

It will be observed that some lengths of the road were constructed above the natural level of the land (Section A). On these stretches it may have been necessary to protect the slopes with some hard material, otherwise the made ground would be liable to be damaged by the flow of water from the road surface in times of heavy rain especially at points where the gradient changed. On the level the slopes would in all probability be turfed. There would no doubt be a ditch on either side, but in the course of my excavations I have so far found no trace of these.

The drive was then continued to the New Weir, where by permission of the owner, Mr. R. C. Parr, the beautiful gardens were seen, and two blocks of masonry on the river bank and a stone stepped well were examined.¹

Mr. G. H. JACK made the following remarks on these objects :—

The two large blocks of masonry have been referred to as abutments, I suppose because when they first attracted attention they were thought to be the abutments of a bridge. This idea had to be abandoned, for the reason that there is no trace of masonry either in the river or on the other side and, further, a bridge abutment would have been constructed parallel with the river and not at right angles to it.

The masonry is composed of large stones, some 3 feet in length. Some with Lewis holes² in them to assist in handling and incorporated in it are some undoubted Roman flue or roof tiles. The block upstream is 12 feet thick and the other which projects further into the river is 18 feet and between the two there is a space of 18 feet.

What was the purpose of this work? This question will not be answered until a full investigation incurring excavation is made. It has been suggested that a small dock and landing place existed here when the Wye was navigable. I do not think such massive work would have been necessary for that purpose. Frankly, I cannot give a plausible explanation of the use of the erections.

We know that there was a weir somewhere near this place, and if a weir then a mill. It may be that the masonry has something to do with this. There are no definite records of a mill on this site nor do we know the exact site of the weir. There is a reference in Domesday Book, which was compiled in 1086, to a mill in Kenchester parish, which mill was assessed at a value of 2/-. The value of the whole parish was 70/-. so that in comparison the mill accounted for about 1/35th of the total value—not an inconsiderable proportion.

The well was discovered in the year 1891. It is roughly octagonal, in shape, 7 feet across at the top and 20 inches at the bottom. The bottom stone is pierced by a hole 6 inches in diameter. At the time of the discovery this hole was filled with Roman tesserae (small squared stones).

¹ A description of the masonry blocks will be found in the *Transactions*, 1893, pp. 56-59, *illus.*, and of the well in the *Transactions* for 1891, pp. 244-246, *illus.* The original papers by Dr. H. C. Moore, dealing with these objects, are in the Club's Library and give some further details.

² Mr. Philip Corder, F.S.A., has supplied the following particulars of these holes :—

"The two-legged lewis was in common use in Roman Britain for lifting large blocks of stone. A full discussion by the late Parker Brewis, F.S.A., occurs in "Roman Rudchester" (*Archaeologia Aeliana*, 4th ser. I, pp. 104-5. *Pl. XVII, figs. 25-27*, show lewis-holes in the west gate of the fort, with photographs showing the modern three-legged lewis in use. The fact that the holes in Roman stones vary in length indicates the use of the two-legged lewis rather than the modern three-legged

lewis, which requires a hole of uniform length. The holes preserved in the Headquarters at Chesters are 3, 4 and 5 ins. long. The large blocks from the S.W. Gate at Verulamium (*Verulamium pl. XC*) both have lewis-holes in their upper surface. These are 4 x 1½ and 4½ x 1½ ins. respectively. They are not mentioned in the report, but are on view in the Verulamium Museum."



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G. H. Jack, M.Inst. C.E., F.S.A., *delin.*

ROMAN ROAD, KENCHESTER.

The well, or whatever it was, was found to have been constructed on the line of an underground stream of water which was conveyed from under the well to the river in a stone trough.

Between the well and the masonry construction higher up the river bank a road was discovered. The road surface was 18 inches below the ground level.

It would be interesting if we could discover what was the precise use of this well and its date. Some have thought it to be Roman, others mediæval. I do not consider the finding of the tesserae indicates a Roman origin. Possibly these were obtained from Kenchester, like the tiles in the masonry nearby.

I have already ventured the suggestion that the masonry may have some connection with a mediæval mill. Obviously there was something on the site which required an approach road. If a mill, we may assume a mill house, and a mill house would require a pure water supply, which could be easily obtained from the stepped dip well by means of a stop gate on the overflow which would cause the water to rise through the hole at the bottom of the well. The steps would facilitate access.

It is to be regretted that there are no records of the weir. The papers relative to the Navigation of the Wye by John Lloyd, published in 1873, give no information about this particular locality.

The HON. SECRETARY, having inspected the well, said that the hole in the bottom stone had a small flange at its base, a detail previously overlooked. This might have been for a pipe to rest on for a fountain which could be played if a stop gate were let down across the outflow. The outflow does not seem to have been examined to ascertain if such an arrangement ever existed.

The cars then conveyed the party to the house of the Rev. E. A. Hughes attached to the Lady Southampton's Charity at Kenchester. Here in the garden an alfresco lunch was partaken of, after which the business of the Club was transacted.

The following new members were elected :—Dr. J. McLannahan, Daneswood, Hampton Park, Hereford ; Mr. T. Herbert Yeomans, Canon Pyon, Hereford ; Dr. E. D. Townroe, The Town Hall, Hereford ; and Mr. H. A. Gale, Hazeldene, King's Acre Road, Hereford.

The following gentleman was proposed for membership :—Rev. F. J. Peach, Hereford.

The Rev. E. A. HUGHES, minister of Lady Southampton's Charity, presented a paper, entitled "Lady Southampton's Charity at Kenchester, Herefordshire", which was read by the HONORARY SECRETARY. This will be found printed in this volume under "Papers".

Mr. F. C. MORGAN, F.S.A., reported the recent gift of a large collection of early deeds to the Hereford Public Library by Major C. B. Lee-Warner of Tyberton. One of these was a conveyance to Sir Edward Dyer of a manor owned by Lord Dudley, Earl of Leicester, granted to him by Queen Elizabeth, and bearing a fine signature of the Earl, and many others are of great local interest.

The site of Magna, the Roman town, was then visited, and Mr. G. H. JACK read a paper dealing with some aspects of life, more

especially those concerning ladies, during the time the town flourished. This paper entitled "Some Conclusions derived from the Magna Excavations", will be found printed under "Papers" in this volume.

The PRESIDENT also made some remarks on the causes of the disappearance of some of the old Roman towns.

The journey was then resumed to Bishopstone, where the party were met, in the absence of Captain H. A. Gilbert, by Mrs. Gilbert at their residence. This house is on the site of a Roman villa, on which Mr. G. H. JACK made the following remarks:—

This site was chosen as a suitable one for a residence by a Roman as far back as the year 300 A.D. After a lapse of 1500 years, when the Roman and his villa had been long forgotten, the Rector of the Parish, the Rev. Adam John Walker, was seeking in 1812 for a site for his parsonage. Like the Roman, he was a good judge of essentials. He wanted a good view among other things.

As soon as the work on the parsonage started, the remains of the early house were discovered. It must have been a house of quality, for one of the rooms was as much as 30 feet square and had a floor of fine mosaic.

In 1830 some excavations were carried out. Foundations of walls were laid bare for a length of 55 feet and 3 feet wide, and in one spot as much as 5 feet wide. Nearby was discovered the usual black earth and pottery and fortunately a few coins of Constantine, which indicate that this house was in existence during Magna's golden age, namely, the first quarter of the 4th century A.D.

A causeway has been traced across the fields in the direction of Magna.

Mr. GUY CHARTERIS, the well-known field naturalist, gave some particulars of ornithological observations he had made recently at Bishopstone. He said that ravens could be seen almost daily over Bishopstone, buzzards were now breeding within half a mile of the parish, curlews were breeding in the marshes, willow wrens, the common warbler, whitethroats and colonies of house martins and many other birds could be observed, in fact the district could be said to be a very good one for all bird life. Corncrakes were once more in evidence and could be heard nightly. He had observed cuckoos who destroyed the eggs in a hedge sparrow's nest, or if they had young, eat or destroy the young birds. Two cuckoos also sometimes laid in the same nest and do not seem to be capable of differentiating the eggs.

Mr. Charteris has supplied the following observations he has made this season at Bishopstone and the district:—

1. RED BACKED SHRIKE. 29th June. Three young still in nest at Monnington-on-Wye.
2. WILLOW TIT. 5th July. A single bird calling loudly seen on Wormesley Golf Course. Another in June in Darkhill Wood, Yazor.
3. TREE SPARROWS. Several pairs at Bishopstone Common about Kenchester. Young of first brood much in evidence in late June.
4. CORN BUNTING. A solitary bird at Kenchester noticed from early to late June. Not heard singing.

5. REED BUNTING. 22nd June. At Kenchester. Building 60 yards within a heavy clover crop and carrying nesting material over 100 yards from withy bed on other side of the road. Was incubating 4 eggs when the field was cut on 30th June.
6. LANDRAIL. One heard at Bishopstone from June to early July. When I mentioned this at the Woolhope Meeting, two members told me that others had been heard after many years in other parts of the county. These "inland" birds as opposed to those that may have persisted in riverside meadows.
7. WHIMBREL. One heard at Bishopstone and seen by the railway close to Bishon Common on 28th May.
8. HEDGE SPARROW. Incubating solitary cuckoo's egg at Kenchester in late June. (Stanway, Gloucestershire, June, 1936, robin ditto.) Neither of these species were found incubating a solitary egg of its own!
9. GREAT GREY SHRIKE. Seen on two successive days in marshes near Credenhill, and probably the same bird at Bishopstone in January.
10. GOLDEN PLOVER. Flock of 15 or so seen in March in large marshy meadow by the railway near Credenhill.

The party then walked to Bishopstone church, where they were met by the Rector, the Rev. T. M. F. Roberts.

The HONORARY SECRETARY gave some particulars of this ancient building, which will be found more fully described in a paper entitled "Some Notes on Bishopstone Church, Herefordshire", printed in this volume.

Proceeding a short distance to Bishopstone Court, the ancient home of a branch of the Berrington family, Captain R. T. Hinckes, the owner, met the party and made some observations on the house and its connections with the Price family of Foxley. He said that about six years ago he re-conditioned the house, which had been unoccupied for some years, and found several fireplaces of Elizabethan date, one very large in a room on the ground floor, and other early details. The arch of the gateway before the bridge over the moat was taken down about 1905, being in a dangerous condition.

The house as it now stands largely dates from the 18th century, but incorporates parts of the Elizabethan house which was built, no doubt, on the site of an earlier one, the moat of which still survives, by Humphry Berrington, a younger son of the Stoke Lacy branch of the family, who purchased the property in the early part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The gateway in renaissance style is of this period, but the mouldings and other details are now sadly weathered.¹

The party then drove to Breinton Manor, where they were entertained to tea by the Honorary Secretary and Mrs. Marshall, after which the return journey was made to Hereford, which was reached at 6.0 p.m.

¹ Vide an illustration of the gateway in the *Transactions* for 1913, p. 96. In the Pilley Collection in the Hereford Public Library is an earlier drawing showing the gateway nearly intact.

THIRD FIELD MEETING.

THURSDAY, 21ST AUGUST, 1941.

ASHPERTON AND DISTRICT.

This Meeting was held to visit Ashperton, Stretton Grandison, Westhide, and Ocle Pychard.

Those present included:—The Reverend Prebendary S. H. Martin (President), Mr. Nugent L. Armitage, Rev. Prebendary E. H. Beattie, M.C., Mr. C. E. Brumwell, Dr. J. H. E. Crees, Mr. H. J. Davies, Mr. F. W. Elliott, Mr. W. G. Farmer, Mr. H. A. Gale, Mr. G. A. Hall, Mr. D. W. Harris, Rev. H. W. J. L. R. Haywood, Mr. J. H. Higgins, Rev. H. W. Hill, Mr. F. R. James, Mr. H. R. Jenkins, Mr. Alex. Johnston, Mr. G. S. Averay Jones, Mr. Walter J. Jones, Mr. W. J. King, Dr. A. W. Langford, Dr. J. G. McLannahan, Mr. A. W. Marriott, Mr. F. G. Marriott, Mr. J. W. Matthews, Mr. T. A. Matthews, Mr. E. A. Moir, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. E. A. Morris, Mr. A. W. Painter, Mr. V. H. Pembridge, Mr. H. J. Powell, Mr. H. M. Pritchard, Mr. W. P. Pritchard, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. J. Scott, Mr. C. W. T. Simpson, Mr. H. Skyrme, Mr. P. J. T. Templer, Dr. E. D. Townroc, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. A. Shaw Wright, and Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary).

The members drove to Ashperton, which was approached by a field path leading to the site of the castle adjoining the churchyard. The ground on which the castle stood is overgrown with underwood, and the wide moat still largely filled with water encloses an area of about three-fifths of an acre. No masonry is now visible above ground.

The HONORARY SECRETARY gave the following particulars of this once important place and its owners:—

Ashperton was held by the family of de Monmouth from the time of the Conquest until in 1257 on the death of John de Monmouth, his estates escheated to the Crown and were given in or before 1270 to Prince Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, son of Henry the Third and brother of Edward the First. The Earl gave Ashperton about 1290 to a member of his household, William de Grandisson, a younger son of the House of Grandisson in Savoy, who would then have been between twenty and thirty years old. On the third of May, 1292, Grandisson had licence to strengthen his house at Ashperton with a wall of stone and lime and to crenellate it. Probably on acquiring the property he made the present moat and built the house *de novo*.

William died an old man on the 27th of June, 1335, his wife having predeceased him on the 21st of September, 1334. They were buried at

Abbey Dore. By his wife Sibilla, the younger daughter and co-heiress of John de Tregoz of Ewyas Harold, he had five sons and four daughters, who were through their mother great nephews and nieces of Saint Thomas de Cantilupe.

The eldest son, Sir Peter de Grandisson, born about 1288–1290, succeeded his father and dying on the 10th of August, 1358, was buried in the Lady Chapel in Hereford Cathedral, where his fine monument with his effigy is still to be seen. Sir Peter had married Blanche, daughter of Roger Mortimer, 1st Earl of March, who gave his manor of Much Marcle to her in 1320. She died in 1381 or 1382 and is buried under a monument in that church.¹

Sir Peter left no issue, and his titles passed to his brother John de Grandisson, Bishop of Exeter. The Bishop apparently renounced the larger part of the property in favour of his nephew Thomas, son of his brother Otho. Thomas died on the 5th of November, 1375, *sans prole*. He was the last male heir of the Grandisson family and was succeeded by the descendants of the three sisters of his father. Thomas was created a Knight of the Garter in 1369.

John de Grandisson, Peter's brother and heir, was born at Ashperton in the year 1292, as he tells us in his will. He was consecrated Bishop of Exeter in 1327 at the age of thirty-six and ruled the See for forty-two years until his death in 1369, in the 77th year of his age.² He visited Ashperton on the 29th and 30th of June, 1331, when returning by a circuitous route from London to his Exeter diocese. We can picture him with the huge retinue which accompanied episcopal dignitaries on their peregrinations, arriving at the gate of the castle and being welcomed by his aged parents. His father had suffered from a severe illness in 1322, and was probably in a bad state of health.

In the church adjoining the castle, which the Bishop must have remembered being built in his childhood, he no doubt attended mass. In his will dated the 8th of September, 1368, he bequeathed a suitable vestment for a priest, to wit, a chasuble with alb apparelled, stole and maniple to the parish church of Ashperton, "where I was born" (*ubi oriundus fui*), unless he had given it in his lifetime.

Katherine, the youngest daughter of William de Grandisson, and sister of the Bishop, married William, Lord Montacute, 1st Earl of Salisbury, who died in January, 1344, from injuries received at a joust. He was succeeded by his son William, who was then sixteen years of age. This youth was one of the original members of the Order of the Garter, which was probably founded in the year 1344. It was of Katherine, Lady Montacute, of whom the story, *circa* 1343, is told that her garter falling off while she danced, King Edward the Third picked it up and observing the smiles of the courtiers at what might have been considered an act of gallantry, exclaimed "*Honi soit qui mal y pense*", adding "that the Garter should soon be held in such high estimation that they would account themselves happy if permitted to wear it".³

There seems to be little foundation for the incident, and Froissart, who recorded all such stories current at this period, does not mention it, but he does narrate how the King became enamoured of the Countess's beauty on a visit to her castle at Wark, but that she successfully resisted his advances.⁴

¹ See illustration in the Woolhope Club *Transactions*, 1929, p. 214.

² *The Register of John de Grandisson, Bishop of Exeter*, by Rev. F. C. Hingeston-Randolph, 1894–1899, 3 vols.

³ Beltz's *Order of the Garter*, p. xlii.

⁴ *Froissart's Chronicles*. Johnes edition, 1839, vol. i, p. 102.

The family of Grandisson was long lived for the period, Otho the elder brother of William, Baron Grandisson, lived to be nearly 80; William himself to 65; and of his children, Peter was 68; John, the Bishop of Exeter, 77; Otho 66; and Matilda, Prioress of Aconbury, 65.

On the death of Sir Thomas, the last Grandisson, in 1375, the castle was probably allowed to fall into decay, as we hear nothing further of it until Silas Taylor, writing about the year 1660, tells us that there was a park here belonging to the Lingens of Stoke Edith, well wooded but not stocked with deer. At the end of the 18th century the foundations of the castle were stocked up and the site planted with trees. In this condition it remains to-day.

Mr. F. C. MORGAN, F.S.A., F.L.A., then read a paper entitled "John Grandisson, Bishop of Exeter," which will be found printed under "Papers" in this volume.

The members then proceeded to the church, where they were met by the Vicar, the Rev. C. S. Garbett, who gave a general description of the building. He said that it dated from the early 14th century, and consisted of nave, chancel, north and south transepts, and western tower. In the chancel is a piscina with an ogee head and others in the transepts. The chancel arch was probably reconstructed, the bases of a 13th century one being re-used in the 14th century. The tower was a modern addition of the early 19th century and contained two pre-Reformation bells, two others and an uninscribed sanctus bell.

The HONORARY SECRETARY made the following remarks:—

The width of the nave (26½ feet) and the chancel (21 feet) were exceptional at this period in a church of such a small size. The reason probably was because the walls of the present building were erected outside its predecessor, which dated from the early 13th century. The roofs of the nave and chancel are ceiled, but the moulded tie beams of the former indicate that this roof dates from the 15th or 16th century, but the queen post roof of the chancel is probably late 17th century. At this latter date some attention seems to have been paid to the fabric and fittings.

Blount, writing about 1670, tells us that the wooden effigy, now in Much Marcle church, was removed to Hellens in that parish, "when the chancel some years since fell down".¹ No doubt the roof collapsed, which necessitated reconstruction.

The font which was turned out into the churchyard early in the present century dates from about 1690, and not "probably 13th century" as stated in the *Inventory of the Historical Monuments in Herefordshire* (vol. ii, p. 3). The cover belonging to this font was, or is, in the belfry stage of the tower.

Another fitting of this period is an oval carved stone now fastened to the outside of the north wall of the north transept.² It is the work of

¹ For further particulars see the *Transactions*, 1920, pp. 192, 193, illus., p. 191.

² Mrs. Frances Rose-Troup, in her book entitled *Bishop Grandisson, Student and Art-lover*, 1829, p. 7, writing of the castle, says: "The only relic of the ancient building is an oval stone carved with the arms of Edward I. once, doubtless, surmounting an entrance archway, but now fastened against the wall of the neighbouring church." This is impossible, as the character of the carving undoubtedly dates it sometime about 1700.



F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.L.A.

WALSOPHTHORNE (WASSINGTON) IN ASHPERTON.

1. Stop to an inside door frame.
2. The house from the south-west.

Photos by

an unskilled and no doubt local monumental mason. He has attempted to display the arms of England, *viz.*, France quartering England, but has carved them in reverse with the result that the lions face the wrong way and the arms appear as England quartering France. The last monarch to use the arms of France quartering England was William III. The carver has made a further error by placing the crown on a torse as if it were a crest. This stone no doubt was intended to be a "Royal Arms", which were erected in churches from after the Reformation to the time of Queen Victoria, and were generally either carved in wood or painted on a wall or canvas. The mason was evidently unable to marshal the arms as they should have been shown, namely, 1 and 4 quarterly, France and England; 2, Scotland; 3, Ireland; and an inescutcheon with Nassau, if the stone dates from the time of William III; it might however belong to the reign of James II, when the arms should be the same without the inescutcheon of Nassau.

The north transept is known as the Mainstone chapel. Mainstone once formed a detached part of Ashperton parish, and the south transept as Roaks chapel, from a farm in the parish.

On the outside left jamb of the window to the east of the porch is a mason's mark of a triangle, and another of a double triangle on the west jamb of the nave doorway.

Over the window of the south transept is a stone sundial. In 1910 I noted the date 1831 on it, but this has now peeled away.

In the churchyard two yew trees with clean stems were examined and measured. They stand in a line running north and south from the west end of the church. At five feet from the ground the northern one had a circumference of 7 feet 2 inches and the southern one 9 feet 2 inches. They were probably planted at the same time and taking a mean of the two the diameter would be about 33 inches, so allowing ten years for every inch of diameter their age would be 330 years, or if reckoned on the basis of a hundred years for a foot of diameter their age would be 275 years.¹

The party then drove to Walsopthorne, pronounced Wassington. The remains of the disused Gloucester and Hereford canal were observed on either side of the roadway by which the house is approached. The house (*see illustrations*), formerly surrounded by a moat, is a timber building with wings extending from either end on the south side. It was probably built in its present form in the latter years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, but there are few architectural features from which it can be dated. The timber framework is quite plain and stands on a stone base with cellars under the eastern part of it, lighted by square-headed stone mullioned windows. The principal living room at the north end of the east wing has an original oak mullioned window of eight lights, and there is a large central chimney stack in this room with a fireplace with the original moulded stone surround. Here are also two heavily moulded

¹ Cf. the yew tree at Hentland, the date of the planting of which is known (*Woolhope Transactions*, 1867, p. 122), and those in Monnington Walk (*Ibid.* 1933, p. xiv).

oak framed doorways with a rather exceptional type of stop (*see illustration*). The timber framing in this room is exposed to view.

Walsopthorne is mentioned in Domesday Book as a separate manor under the name Walesapeldor, *i.e.*, Walthoof's Apple Tree. In 1303 it had become Walsopethorne. It consisted of one hide and one virgate and was worth 25/-. Little is known of its history, but about 1496 it was bought by John Pychard of Suckley in Worcestershire, but he sold it again in 1540, when it consisted of two messuages and 600 acres of land. It now belongs to the Canon Frome estate.¹

The drive was then continued to Stretton Grandison, where the Rector, the Rev. S. E. GARBETT pointed out the chief features of interest. He said:—

The chancel dated from the beginning and the nave from the middle of the fourteenth century. There were considerable remains of mural decoration. Over the south doorway was the figure of a woman, but the subject depicted was uncertain. Opposite, on the north wall, was a figure of St. Christopher with the infant Jesus on his shoulder, the details of which were fairly clear. The stair and doorway to the rood loft had been opened up recently, but all that remained of the screen was the end of a moulded beam of the loft, in the wall where it had been sawn off. Mortice holes on the underside of the chancel arch showed that there had been a boarded tympanum over the screen. A small lead plate, probably from a coffin, now fixed to the north wall of the tower, is inscribed "Mis Davies died March 19th, 1716, Aged 8 months and 6 dayes."

The next stop was made at The Spout on the Hereford-Worcester road, from which point the ascent was made of Shucknall Hill. Near the footpath to Westhide, where it enters the wood, the members had an alfresco lunch, after which the business of the Club was transacted.

The following new member was elected:—The Rev. F. J. Peach, Hereford.

The following gentlemen were nominated for membership:—Mr. Charles Palmer, 48, Pengrove Road, Hereford; and Mr. Emerys Lloyd, Shenstone, King's Acre Road, Hereford.

Mr. F. C. MORGAN read some "Notes on Pembridge Churchwardens' Accounts", contributed by his daughter, Miss Morgan. These will be found under "Papers" in this volume. Mr. Morgan was asked to convey to his daughter the thanks of the members for this contribution.

Mr. R. Gavin Robinson sent a report of his finding in the Golden Valley a flint arrow-head, barbed but without a tang, the first of this type to be recorded in this region.

¹ Some particulars of ownership and an illustration of the north side of the house will be found in *The Picards or Pychards*, 1878, p. 144. Since the photograph was taken in 1878 or before, the porch has been rebuilt, and some of the windows altered.

The members then followed the footpath to Westhide through the wood, which Mr. F. R. JAMES said was exceptional in being a pure growth of oaks, covering a great many acres. On the way some of the members were conducted by Mr. H. R. Jenkins through his beautifully laid out gardens at The Porch.

At the church, the Rector, the Rev. H. W. J. L. R. HAYWOOD gave a general description of the building.¹

The HONORARY SECRETARY made the following remarks in reference to a painted ceiling at one time in the church:—

Sometime previous to 1716 the south aisle was ceiled on the old roof timbers and was elaborately decorated with subject paintings. James Hill, who made collections for a History of Herefordshire, writing about 1716-1720, says: "The roof of the south aisle is painted, the painting represents the History of Moses, but particularly those parts of it which relate to his legislative office. On the ceiling is also represented the Messiah delivering His Laws to the world, and the magistrates and parents putting them in execution. On the scrolls are several inscriptions in Old English verse. I believe this painting was performed about the end of the 14th century."²

Now this description indicates a painting on a grand scale and certainly cannot date from the 14th century, and further, plaster ceilings were unknown in this country before the 16th century. Perhaps he meant to write the end of the 17th century.

In Ocle Pychard church chest is a MS. written by one William Morris about 1877, in which he records observations and recollections of antiquarian interest in this district. He was the son of a small holder in Westhide, and Mrs. Cresswell, of Ocle Pychard Court, tells me that he was a retired schoolmaster and a rate collector. He also mended clocks and was in consequence called Clock Ticker by the boys. He wrote: "The roof of this chapel seems to have been one of the few mediæval timber roofs that were not anciently open but plaster ceiled and this one seems to have been decorated like the walls." He had previously described these wall decorations, which were evidently the original 14th century mural paintings. He then goes on to say: "An old lady a native of Westhide (Mrs. Henley, the mother of the last Mr. Henley of Westhide), who died at a great age, when I was a youth informed me she remembered 'the roof of Westhide church covered with pictures resembling the Jews when she was a girl.'" This would carry one back to about 1800, and in the churchwardens' accounts under 1801 is a record of repairs to the church at that time, and it states that the part of the church belonging to the Court estate was ceiled and repaired at the expense of Mr. John Kedward, the proprietor, in the same year.³

Evidently the painted ceiling had fallen into disrepair, and was either renewed or repaired, and no doubt whitewashed at the same time. Any-way the paintings would have then disappeared.

Hill's description would lead us to think that it was one of the painted ceilings so much in vogue during the latter part of the 17th century. If this surmise is correct, the question arises if there were any painter to whom the work could be ascribed. The answer, I think, is James Thornhill, afterward Sir James Thornhill.

¹ Cf. the *Woolhope Club's Transactions*, 1903, pp. 113-117; and *The Royal Commission's Report on Historical Monuments in Herefordshire*, vol. ii, pp. 205, 206, *illus.*

² Hill MSS. at Belmont Abbey.

³ Cf. the *Woolhope Club's Transactions*, 1903, p. 114.

Now in 1695 Cecilia Fiennes, in her diary, tells us that Stoke Edith mansion was being built, and says the east wing was inhabited by the family but that the rest of the building was unfinished. It is well known that Thornhill painted the ceiling and walls of the great hall, and in a recent article in *Country Life* (5th July, 1941), Mr. Christopher Hussey, who was a frequent visitor at Stoke Edith, came to the conclusion that these paintings were executed about 1720, owing to their being in Thornhill's mature style.

In the east wing, which was first finished and occupied, the rest of the house not being completed until some years later, there was before the fire in 1927 a room painted with a garden landscape in perspective which might well have been the work of a beginner in this art. I would therefore suggest that about 1695 Thornhill, then about twenty years of age, was employed to carry out this decoration, and years later was called in again to execute the paintings in the hall and other rooms. At his first visit to Stoke Edith his prentice hand may have painted the ceiling in Westhild church when his fee would have been on quite a modest scale, but by 1720 his charges had risen to a figure that nearly certainly would have been prohibitive to anyone in Westhild at that time, and it is most improbable that the Foley of the time would have paid to decorate someone else's chapel, furthermore the paintings had evidently been in existence sometime before 1716-1720.¹

The church in the neighbouring parish of Ocle Pychard was next visited. Here the Vicar, the Rev. R. B. TWEDDELL acted as guide. He drew attention to the recent re-instalment² of the ancient octagonal font, which for some time was relegated to the churchyard, and more recently had been placed in a corner of the church, and now had resumed its original function. At a funeral the custom prevails of chiming all the bells when the cortège is in sight of the church, and it is known as "ringing him home". The churchyard was originally circular and possibly the church was built on a heathen burial mound. There was a local story of how the departed spirit of a farmer in the neighbourhood haunted a certain spot on a road, until it was read down by bell, book and candle into a strong box which was cast into the pond adjoining the north-east boundary of the churchyard. The details correspond with the story of Black Vaughan of Hergest. Mrs. Leather, in her *Folklore of Herefordshire*, does not connect this legend with Ocle Pychard, but gives instances of similar stories at other places in Herefordshire. The story may be only a modern creation of some local inhabitant to fit in with the pond, which always seems to retain its water although on high ground.

On the way back to Hereford, a stop was made at The Lawns, Nunnington, where the party were entertained to tea by Mr. and

¹ At the end of the 17th century the manor of Westhild was in the possession of Humphry Baskerville of Pontrilas, whose family had held it for nearly 150 years, or of his daughter and coheirress Mary, who married firstly Sir Edward Morgan of Llantarnam, co. Monmouth (died 1681), and secondly John Grubham Howe (died 1721), father of the 1st Baron Chedworth. Whether any members of this family resided at Westhild at this period, I have been unable to ascertain, but it certainly was not their chief residence.

² On the 16th March, 1940.

Mrs. Ridley Thomas, and an inspection was made of a Roman site in a grass orchard at the north-east of the house. At a depth of two or three feet there was a number of loose stones with fragments of pottery between them.¹ The excavation covered an area of about ten feet by ten and appeared to be a rubbish dump. The quantity of pottery recovered was considerable and apparently dated from the 2nd and 3rd centuries A.D. Samian ware indicated that there was probably a villa of some importance nearby. A few trenches cut across the site, which is slightly raised above the surrounding ground with a good view all round, would most likely disclose the whereabouts of the buildings. The pottery was exhibited in an old timber cottage behind the house.

Mr. and Mrs. Ridley Thomas having been heartily thanked for their hospitality, the party made the return journey to Hereford, which was reached about 6.0 p.m.

¹ See the *Woolhope Club's Transactions*, 1932, p. 184.

THIRD WINTER MEETING.
THURSDAY, 30TH OCTOBER, 1941.

LECTURE: "THE PARISH BOOKS AND CHURCH REGISTERS OF
WEOBLEY."

By MAJOR A. E. W. SALT.

A Meeting was held in the Art Gallery of the Hereford Public Library to hear the above lecture given by Major A. E. W. Salt.

In the absence of the President, Vice-President Mr. F. C. Morgan took the chair.

The lecture will be found printed under "Papers" in this volume.

Major SALT, who had studied these Weobley documents from various angles, made interesting deductions as to the fluctuation of the population, due to disease and other causes, the continuance of families in the parish over many centuries, the prevalence of certain, and the peculiarities of other, Christian names, and reviewed other matters bearing on the lives of the inhabitants now long changed and forgotten.

After a number of questions had been put to the Lecturer and answered, Mr. MORGAN proposed a vote of thanks to him for his interesting address, and this was seconded by the Rev. Prebendary BEATTIE, at one time Vicar of Weobley, and heartily accorded by all present.

WINTER ANNUAL MEETING.

THURSDAY, 18TH DECEMBER, 1941.

The Winter Annual Meeting of the Club was held in the Woolhope Club Room in the Public Library, Hereford, on Thursday, 18th December. There were present: Rev. Prebendary H. S. Martin (President), Mr. C. E. Brumwell, Rev. Gilbert Davies, Mr. H. J. Davies, Mr. R. F. Dill, Mr. F. R. James, Mr. C. Jewell, Mr. Alex. Johnston, Mr. G. S. Averay Jones, Rev. J. H. T. Kilgour, Mr. G. H. Marshall, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. E. H. Morris, Rev. T. H. Parker, Mr. V. H. Pembridge, Mr. H. Pugh, Mr. J. Scott, Rev. C. H. Stoker, Dr. C. W. Walker, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. A. U. Zimmerman, and Mr. George Marshall (Honorary Secretary).

The PRESIDENT referred to the recent loss the Club had sustained through the death of Captain F. B. Ellison and Mr. Arthur Bennett. He said that Captain Ellison had done excellent work in recording the history of the old tramways of Herefordshire, and in contributing many natural history and other observations to the Club's proceedings from time to time.

The HONORARY SECRETARY said that Mr. Arthur Bennett was President of the Malvern Field Club and was a clever geologist and botanist and had placed his knowledge at the service of the members on a number of occasions. His lucid talks on these subjects were a treat to listen to.

The election of officers for the year 1942 was then proceeded with.

The Rev. C. H. STOKER proposed that in view of war conditions the Rev. Prebendary Martin be asked to continue in the office for another year. This was unanimously agreed to.

The other officers of the Club were elected as follow:—Vice-Presidents: Mr. R. S. Gavin Robinson, Mr. F. C. Morgan, Mr. G. H. Jack, and Captain H. A. Gilbert; Central Committee: Mr. F. R. James, Rev. C. H. Stoker, Rev. G. B. E. Riddell, Captain O. B. Wallis, Mr. Walter Pritchard, Dr. C. W. Walker, Mr. G. H. Butcher, Mr. Edward Ball, Mr. P. J. T. Templer, and Mr. Herbert Skyrme; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. R. James; Hon. Auditor, Major E. A. Capel; Hon. Secretary, Mr. George Marshall; Hon. Librarian, Mr. F. C. Morgan; Hon. Lanternist, Mr. Basil Butcher; Editorial Committee: Mr. George Marshall, Dr. H. E. Durham, and Mr. F. C. Morgan; Delegate to the Society of Antiquaries, Mr. F. C. Morgan.

It was decided to hold two of the 1942 Field Meetings, the one at Byford, Kinnersley and District, and the other at Much Cowarne and District.

The following new members were elected:—Mr. Charles Palmer, 48, Pengrove Road, Hereford; Mr. Emerys Lloyd, Shensstone, King's Acre Road, Hereford; Rev. Clement Stewart Garbett, The Vicarage, Stretton Grandison, Ledbury; Rev. Cuthbert Arthur Lea-Wilson, Tarrington Rectory, Hereford; Rev. A. J. Goss, The Vicarage, Old Radnor, Presteigne; and Mr. W. K. Goodall, 26, Bulmer's Avenue, Hereford.

The following gentlemen were proposed for membership:—Mr. William Jones Lewis, 1, Clifton Villas, Harold Street, Hereford; and Mr. Herbert James Harris, 1, De Lacy Street, Hereford.

Dr. H. G. Langdale-Smith sent some entomological observations he had made in 1941, which were read in his absence by Dr. C. W. WALKER, as follow:—

The severe winter of 1940-1941 seems to have had little effect on the number of butterflies this summer, and although few hibernated Tortoiseshells (*A. urticae*) were observed, it was none the less numerous later.

Holly Blues (*Z. argiolus*) were unusually common in April and May. Specimens were seen at Putley, Stoke Edith and Shucknall, and at a meeting of this Club on the 21st of August several second brood specimens were seen on Shucknall Hill.

The ubiquitous Meadow Brown (*M. jurtina*) was perhaps not so numerous this year, but the light variety was unusually common.

In June Clouded Yellow (*C. croceus*) were seen at Ashperton and Shucknall Hill, and in August and September their progeny were fairly numerous.

Painted Ladies (*P. cardui*) were also much in evidence at these times.

Several Duke of Burgundy Fritillaries (*H. lucina*) were seen in Hough Wood, and here Wood White (*L. sinapis*) Speckled Skippers (*C. palamon*), and Pearl Bordered Fritillaries (*A. euphrosyne*) were more abundant than usual, but no aberrations were noticed. White Letter Hair Streaks (*S. w.-album*) were scarce.

A larva of a Goat moth (*C. ligniperda*) was discovered at Putley, where it had invaded a flower show.

Ghost moths (*H. humuli*) were not so numerous in their usual haunt this year.

Red Underwings (*C. nupta*) were numerous this year and often seen on the north side of telegraph poles in willow tree districts.

Walls (*P. megaera*) were very common this year, but the Comma (*P.c.-album*) was not so numerous. Last year the pale straw aberration was seen at Alders End, where this butterfly was very numerous.

Dr. C. W. WALKER read his Report on Ornithology for 1941.

The HON. SECRETARY reported that the late Mr. Alan Bright had left some papers relating to Hope End and Elizabeth Barrett-Browning to the Club.

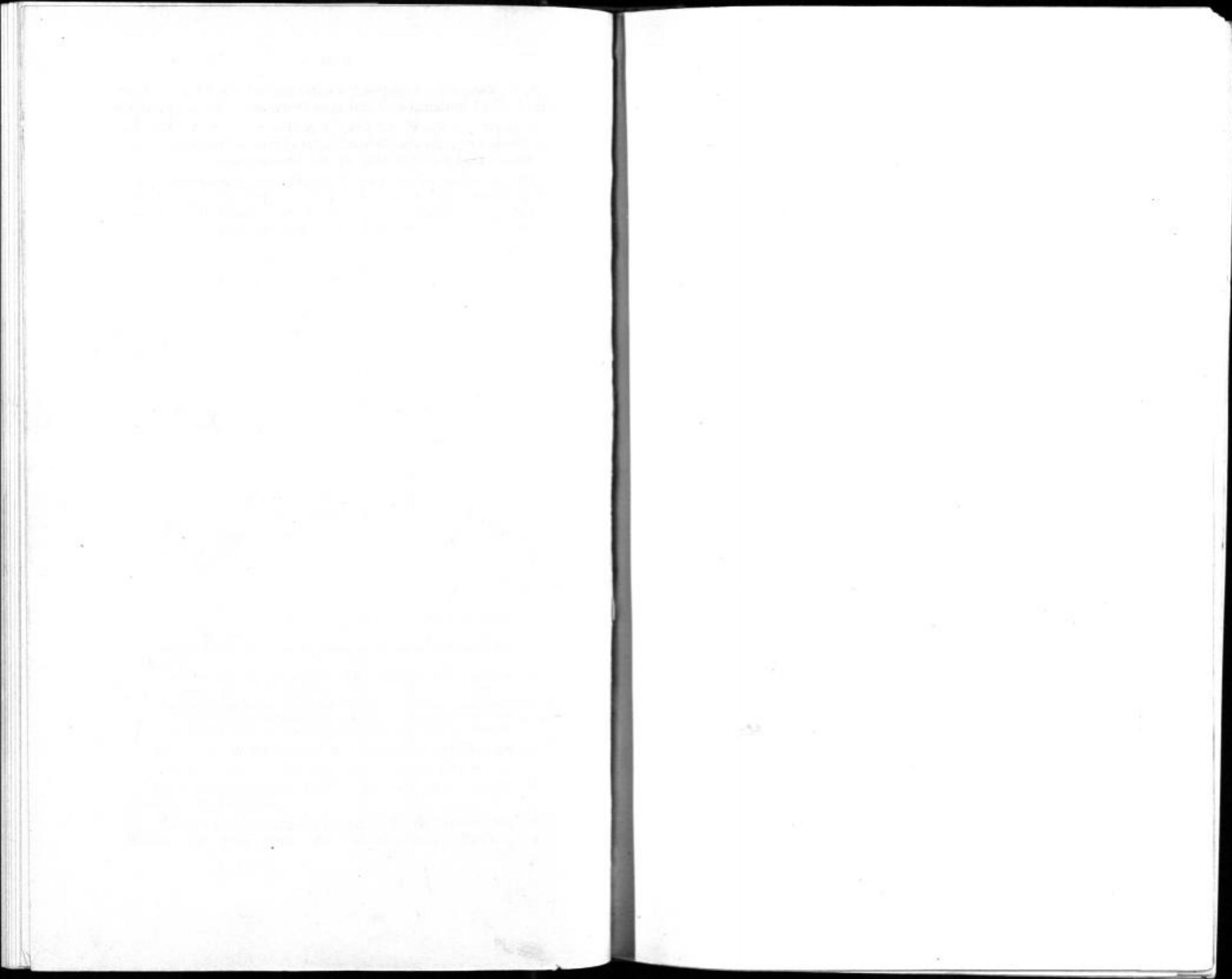
Thanks were accorded to Captain H. A. Gilbert and Dr. C. W. Walker for their work on "Herefordshire Birds", and to

Mr. F. C. Morgan for compiling a catalogue of the Club's Library, both of which publications had now been issued to the members.

A paper by Mr. W. E. TATE, F.R.Hist.S., entitled "Herefordshire Enclosure Acts and Awards," was laid on the table, and it was agreed that it be printed in the *Transactions*.

On the advice of the HON. LIBRARIAN, it was agreed that the work *Bibliotheca Britannica*, 1824, 4 vols., be purchased for £3 10s.0d. out of the gift of the late Mr. C. A. Benn, and that the Hon. Librarian purchase from the same fund some works on British Coinage and Tokens.

The meeting then terminated.



- Vol. I. (4th October, 1623, to April, 1655). 4th October, 1623. George Hopton.
18th July, 1646. Alexander Popham.
- Vol. II. (2nd October, 1655, to 18th April, 1661). 2nd October, 1655. Thomas Blount (1) (born at Bordesley 1618, d. 1679).
8th April, 1656. John Webb, James Scudamore.
- Vol. III. (18th April, 1661, to 25th October, 1688). 18th April, 1661. Ditto
2nd April, 1662. John Webb.
5th October, 1665. Thomas Blount.
4th May, 1682. Elizabeth Blount, (probably Thomas Blount's daughter).
- [Gap in Court Rolls.]
- Vol. IV. (17th June, 1729, to 30th Sept., 1741, and 15th April, 1769, to 13th Dec., 1784). June, 1729. Thomas Blount (2), (son of Myles Blount and nephew of Thomas Blount (1)).
30th July, 1731. John Blount, M.D., (? son of Thomas Blount (2)).

This volume was used from each end. The period between 1741-69 is recorded upon the parchment rolls.

- 7th November, 1738. Edward Blount, (? son of Thomas Blount (2)).
- 22nd October, 1746. Francis Walker, Richard Baldwin, and Robert Pardoe.
- 11th February, 1756. Edward Turnour.
- 1st May, 1762. Lord Winterton.
- [Gap ?]
- Vol. V. (9th Oct., 1787, to 26th April, 1806). 9th October, 1787. Edward Blount (m. Miss Cotham, St. Hellen's, Lancs.)
14th October, 1788. William Blount, M.D., b. 1760, d. 1831, son of Edward Blount.
- Vol. VI. (3rd May, 1806, to 6th Nov., 1849). 25th October, 1831. Edward Blount.
29th August, 1833. Thomas Blount and Charlotte Augusta Trimmer, widow.
20th June, 1839. William Blount (b. April, 1799, d. 1885).

[The Rolls at the Public Library end on 6th November 1849.]

- 1885 Archibald Henry Blount (b. 1840, d. unmarried 1907).
1st July, 1908. John Richard Hill, (purchased the manor from the Trustees of the will of Archibald Henry Blount).
16th March, 1926. Alice Mary Hill, widow of John Richard Hill.
18th July, 1935. Colonel John Arthur Hill, son of John Richard Hill.

The Rolls are typical examples of their kind. With a few exceptions all entries are in English, beginning with a report in 1623 upon the custom of the manor signed "by Ro: Riche" and "Washington". Then comes a surrender by Tho Keyseell.

"The nine and Twenty day of September 1644. Tho: Keyseell did surrender into the hands of the lord of the manor of Orilton by William Howton and Francis Hints two of the Customary tenants of the said man(or) three ackers of erable land lying in the Church field two ackers therof lyeth neare a leasowe of Richard Sheward and the other acker lyeth neare land of Edward Hall and shuteth to the stocking lane¹ to the use of William Sheward and his [heir' omitted here and in other documents] according to the custom of said man(or).

W Fra Hints Rent xijd.
fn ijs.

I think that the "W" is the mark of William Howton as in the same year John Bydawhile surrendered "his Customary Messuage outhouses and backside and a passture called the Halliats Close with the appurtenances to the use of the afoorsayd Mathew Sneade". The same two witnesses were present and a similar "W" is used by Howton. The first Court roll is dated 18th July, 1646, and after nearly five pages of entries of surrenders in Latin there is a record in English concerning the ownership of the manor. It appears that Lord Cottingham, Lord High Treasurer of England, had issued a warrant for courts to be held in the King's name. Many surrenders were taken, entered upon the rolls (now lost), copies made and signed by the Steward, James Lawrence, "and afterwards called in, and newe Copies made absolute contrary to the Custome" of the manor; presentments also were made. "And thereupon great care and advise is nowe had & taken by the nowe lord . . . whoe is right owner and Lord hereof and his Ma^{tie} a p(re)tendinge lord." A sixth sheet, is "A trew p(re)sentment made and sett downe by the Homadge . . . at a Coort baron Hawden for the Right Hono^{ble} Colonell Alixander Popham Right lord of the Manor of Orleton." It records the deaths of seven tenants, in each case a heriot being due to the lord. This is attested by six tenants who all placed their marks against their names.

The position of the tenants seems to have been difficult for a time, for on the 30th September, 1646, two months later, in the list of presentments some few were pained £40 each to produce their "Coppies as aforesaid that were made to them in the Kings name." At this same court it was reported that the stocks and pound were in repair; Edward Hall was presented for a "Pound breatche" and "for being drunken the 25th day of August 1646 in the sight of John Bideawhile & John Wall." Johan Wedgwood had broken "the assize of bread & beere." Edward Hall was

¹ Stocking lane. Was this a lane leading to land that had been "stocked up", i.e., taken in from the woods?

presented "for making of malt having noe Licence to our knowledge. And all such other p(er)sons that doe the like wthin the manner and badging the same from towne to Towne." The usual "paine" was laid "that all the hedges about the Corne fieldes be sufficiently repaired and all the yates hanged at or before the eight day of October next." Each defaulter was fined 3s. 4d. This sheet is signed by fifteen tenants, nine of whom made their marks.

These lists of "presentments" throw much light upon the social conditions of the 17th century and therefore I propose to make many extracts from them.

In April, 1648, the Jury presented "that the Butts & stockes are in sufficient repaire and for Artillary is used to our knowledges." "Wee present that for makeing of hempe & flax we know non that doth to our knowledges." A pain of 3s. 4d. was laid upon all that cut down & carried away "any gorst or furrs or other fuell in the wood to the intent & purpose to make sale thereof. But to cutt & carry away the same onely for their owne uses." Richard Watkins was pained to "put out of his house in Orleton John Harries & his wife" . . . unless he entered "into a bond of a great penalty with sufficient sureties to save the parish harmles from him and the children which he shall have." Those "Tenant & Resiant within the mannor" were not to "keepe & depasture any manner of Cattell in the Corne & Lent fields before the fieldes are cleerely ridd unles it be upon their owne lands."

In the days when land was tilled in common the condition of hedges was important and each tenant had to see that his own portions were in good repair before the seed corn was planted or the meadow land put down for hay. The danger of fire was great also when houses were thatched and had timber walls. This explains the entry "Wee lay David Evans in a paine of 3s. 4d. that he shall sufficiently repaire the chymney in his house before the feast day of Saint Michaelmas." James Cornewall gent and Ann Glover were ordered to appear at the Court Leete and Court Baron at Michaelmas to find two constables for the parish "upon pain of 40s. sterling a peece."

In the presentments for April, 1651, Joan Wedgwood (in whose house the Court was held) and Richard Bufton were amerced in 2d. each for "trantery",¹ and William Cooke, of Richards Castell "parcke" was presented for encroaching upon the lord's waste. The chief attention of the Jury however was devoted to the cleansing of the various streams. There are a number of entries upon this important matter. One reads:

¹ This word has various meanings. Here it probably means retailing of ale.

"Item we lay apaine upon the mill Brooke from the borden bridg in the mill streete to ducke meadow end to scoure the brooke sufficiently one both sides before the xxiiiijth day of June next upon paine of 6s. 4d. ev(er)y man making default."

In the following October, Johane Wedgwood, widow, was said to have "forfeited the payne of 6d. because she did not scower her ditch att Halliotts", and she and Richard Bufton "being como tiplers . . . brake the assize" and were amerced in 3d. a peece." Eight tenants were fined for not repairing fences, and all the inhabitants were presented "for their neglect in not observeing the penall statuts ev(er)y Teeme land in the some of iiijd. and ev(er)y halfe teeme land att ijd. which they doe refer to the Lords consideracon in respect the tennants are p(re)sented att the Hundred Court, which they doe desire to be Freed from". A number of tenants were presented for default of court—a breach of custom which increased as time went on and the penalties became difficult to enforce.

There is a list with the names of 86 tenants and 18 "Resiants" for a Court Leete and Court Baron on the 7th May, 1652, and fifteen of the tenants were sworn a Jury and with five other tenants were ordered to meet at the "Maidenhead" at 7 o'clock on Whit-Tuesday "to make it appeare where the bounds ought to goc upon payne of 2s. 6d. makeing default." This list is a directory of the parish. There is an interesting entry for November, 1652:—

"Att this Court John Cancke gent was admitted tenant to his Free bench after the decease of Elizabeth his wife to one acre and a halfe of meadowe ground, . . . according to the Custome of the said Mannor. And Mary Cancke daughter of the said John Cancke is the next heire, and the said John Cancke is admitted tennant and sworne." fine jd., Rent vjd.

"Free-bench" is described in the Law Dictionary, published in 1670, by Thomas Blount—the famous antiquary and Lord of the Manor of Orleton at this time¹—as "that estate in Copihold which the wife being espoused a virgin hath, after the death of her husband, for her Dower, according to the Custom of the Mannor." I have not seen another instance of the reverse of this custom. On the 11th April, 1667, an entry reads "We present that since the last Coort there dyed Joan Jelley one of the Custumary tenants of the said maner and by reason of her death there is due to the lord one Heriot and Thomas Jelley next heyer to the land which she held by her freebench."

The removal by a dishonest tenant of mere or boundary stones during ploughing, and misplacing them to the disadvantage of his neighbour was a serious offence, and was a constant source of friction when arable land was held in common. This is reflected in an entry on the 18th October, 1653:—

¹ Blount bought the manor in 1655, and died in 1679. Being a Papist, it may have been vested in trustees—hence the appearance of Webb and Scudamore as lords.

" Alsoe itt is ordered att this Court, That William Howton John Yopp sen. Thomas Keysell Frauncis Hints Thomas Crompe Edward Hall and William Phillipps shall meete together on all Sts day next at the Maiden head in Orleton aforesaid and view all agreivances within the Mannor aforesaid, and to sett upp meerestones where they are desired according to their viewe, and the p(er)son soe desireing a viewe is to pay unto the said viewers 4d. for their paynes according to the Custome of the Mannor every of the said viewers are to meett on the day att the place aforesaid upon payne of 5s. a peece making default."

At the first Court held during the Lordship of Thomas Blount, 2nd October, 1655, the Jury presented " that a meere stone which was sett by a view apointed betweene¹ Mr. Wollascott and John Steward is removed". As late as the 1st May, 1750, Thomas Weaver was pained in six shillings " for ploughing up part of a Mear that parts Lands belonging to him and Mr. John Brown situate in a field called lower Cumbertons field."

Upon the decease of a tenant a heriot was payable to the lord. Usually this took the form of the best beast or a yoke of oxen. In April, 1656 :

" The Jury doe p(re)sent the death of Thomas Baldwin. . . . And that by his death there did happen to the Lords of this Mannor one fether-bed for a herriott appraised at [amount not given] And one Yeares rent for a Releefe."

The presentment for 7th October, 1657, is quaintly spelled and worded—a new clerk was making the entries—

" Imprimis we p(re)sent that since the laste Coorte there died on Joane Jones on of tenants of this manor & on Harrot dew and John Hictcox next Eyer unto the foresayd Joane."

" We ley a peine of the occupiers of Land from the lady wall to the lower end of the Croft by the high way sid [=side] upon peine of iijs iiijd to be scowred be fore saint andrwes day."

" The Jury doth present that Richard Martin doth Com in to the lands that Elynor Brigget was in Coppied of as a stranger and not as an eier."

" The Jury doth order that the inhabitants of this manor shall make their hegges and hang their yattes for the Corne filds to be made before the fiftient day of september and the lent fild to be made by the firste day of march and to be kept from tyme to tyme till harvest be all in this to Continy every on making defalt iijs iiijd."

" An order that the yates and glates should be made before the 10th day of this instant october and so to be kept untill the laste sheff be caryed every on making defalt iijs iiijd."

This document is signed by the fifteen members of the Jury.

The Roll for the 8th April, [1657?], contains several entries worthy of note :—

" The Bayly being sworne and examined we present Elyzabete Connopp for an unlawfull cry and lykewise a Reskeu made upon the lords bayly to bee in the lords mercy concerninge the Rescue iijs iiijd."

Of greater interest, however, are two entries, both partly erased :—

¹ This name does not appear in the list dated 1652.

" The glatiers present att mykellmas that William sheward and Robert Watkins for not making theyer fences according to the peinc but it was made before we went to vew it and lykewas Ann Hopton widow for not making hirs."

" The glatiers went upon the 10th day of march or there about that Richard sheward and Thomas keysell for not making the hem and the yatte at Runnbach yatte was not don but a doing Collist yatte there was a hem not made at Colliste yatte at that tyme John Brymell rentinge the ground lykewise there was a yatte un hanged was due to behanged by Roger weste and Richard Brymell the poortway yatt lykewise is now in defalt we present Thomas Yapp and Thomas Brompton to have Incurred the paine lade at the laste courte."

" We lay a peine upon the dich or water gotter from the port way unto the upper end of milmedow every on making defalt vjs viijd to be skowred sufficiently before Witsunday next Coming."

" Glatiers " is not recorded in any dictionary, and I have not seen it in any other document. It almost certainly means those appointed to see that the gates and hedges were in repair, and the glats—gaps in the hedges—made good when the arable common fields were cleared of stock and made ready for planting. " Hem " in the sense here used is unknown also—I can only suggest that it means that the borders of the fields were not being looked after or kept clean by those who ought to do so. Thus these ungrammatical, ill spelled entries contain much of interest to the student of social life and of language. They are written in the daily speech of the common people. The spelling "yattes" for gates had continued from early days until the period we deal with. It disappeared soon afterwards.

There are three entries of exchanges of land between tenants in the roll for 12th April, 1658. These are signs of the coming changes in agriculture when land would be held in severalty instead of in common—

" Thomas Crumpe doth exchange Two Ridges of Arable land lyinge in the Wood feelde at the Thorne with Robert Watkins for three butts of Arable lande lyinge on the head of Ambler."

An order regarding gleaning was made about the same time : " We doe order that non of the inhabitants of this manor shall not glene or lease any pease or pouse⁶ upon peine every on making defalt iijs. iiijd." On the 6th April, 1659, year there is an order prohibiting the leasing of oats and peas in the lent field. On 11th April, 1667, they were forbidden to lease any lent corn except barley.

Even the weather conditions are recorded sometimes, and are used as excuses for non performance of public duty. On the 7th October, 1658 :

" Alsoe wee p(re)sent that all the Inhabitants of Orleton have bee hindred by reason of the unseasonableness of the wether to scower the brooke and therefore have Incurred the paine in that beehalfe layd, And therefore wee submitt to the mercy of the lords."

In 1660 (see illustration, p. 1)—

⁶ i.e. pulse.

" We Retorne Robert Hemmins for not scowring the brocke a nont the Hall prill a cording to the peine in vs 'qualified by the Affirors to xijd " and " We p(re)sent that there Cam one swarme of Beese into a hive of John Boules as straies and they are dew unto the lords of this man(or)."

The use of the word " prill " in the former of these quotations is worth notice ; the importance of bees before the days of cheap sugar, is shown in the latter.

A number of presentments on 22nd April, 1663, are worthy of mention, but there is time for one only :

" It is ordered by ye Jury yt the Inhabitants of this p(ar)ish that have any home Cloisiers yt Furth wth they shutt there fences and hedges before ye first of May, upon payne of a noble for every Default & soe thence foorth to Continue & sutfitiently Keepe them."

Here we have the late use of the word " noble " (=value 6/8 or 10/-) ; the unusual form of closier for close and the verb " shut " applied to a hedge. At the court held upon this day four of the Jurors are ordered to take care that the orders made were performed, and to present any breaches at the next court.

On the 5th October, 1664, the inhabitants were ordered to " make the streat a nonts their house or ground within the towne of orleton."

Rights of way that were in dispute were settled by the Court. On 11th April, 1667, it found " that according to the oath of Thomas Keysell and William Penson and according to the Coorte Rouls (=Rolls) that Roger west ought to have away (= a way) to his house through the fould now in strife between Henry Pitt & William Sheward." The same day the inhabitants were presented for " want of a crow net & Butts." The lack of a crow net—for destroying rooks and other birds—is frequently mentioned after this date.

This document is worthy of study for another reason. It is typical of many with signatures of the Jury attached. Several of these are in the same hand and without " marks " ; others, each distinctly different, have " marks " with the name (see *illustration*). Mr. Oliver Baker believes that it was the custom for many men not only to write their names upon documents but also to put their " marks ", and therefore many who once were thought to be illiterate were not so in reality. Why, in this document, are marks opposite what are apparently autographs and none opposite several names written by the same hand ?

Orleton Common is now entirely enclosed, but two entries referring to the time when it was open may be quoted to show how the interests of the commoners were protected:—

29th April, 1735. The Jury aforesaid on their Oathes present that William Russell Charles Craddock and Severall other Inhabitants within this Manor do frequently cut and burn Fearn upon Orleton's Comon within

¹ The following six words interlined.

this Manor and sell the ashes thereof, And further present that the Smoak and Ashes proceeding from burning the same is a Great prejudice to the Copy holders of this Manor who have right of Comon there, and not only destroys the Grass upon the said Comon Hill but much injures the Sheep and other Cattle depasturing thereon.

30th September, 1741. Also ORDERED that no person within this Manor shall turn a Riffy or Distempered Horse in any of the Comonfields or on the Comon within this manor on pain of Fifty Shillings.

It is interesting to note how the amounts of some fines were increased. For example, that for omitting to repair fences was 3/4 in 1646, 20/- in May and 30/- in October, 1791, and in October, of the next year it was raised to £1 19s. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¹—after 1797, however it was reduced by the odd 3d.

The last entry of " pains " was made on 26th April, 1806—those for tenancies were continued until 1849. The power of the court seems to have been slowly waning, for in October 1793 there are entries as follows which seem to show that more and more pressure was required to enforce the attendances of jurors:—

" We present that Richard Price one of the Jurors was fined at this Court in sixpence for absenting himself before the Court was discharged And that it was ordered by the Court that the said Fine should be paid to the Steward within eight days. N.B. The sd fine was pd accordingly."

" We also present that William Mason one other of the Jurors was fined at this Court in thirty nine shillings for Contempt of the said Court in wilfully refusing to come into Court after being three times called by the Cryer in an Exalted voice and two personal summons's sent him for that purpose and that it was ordered that the said Fine of Thirty nine shillings should be paid within one day to the Steward of the Manor at his House at Leomminster."

Entries on the 15th April, 1812, the 21st April, 1818, and the 14th October, 1820, also point to the fact that the time had arrived for another form of local government to take the place of one that had served its turn—

15th April, 1812--

" We continue the Presentment laid—at the Court held on the Seventh day of May One thousand eight hundred and eleven as to the repairs of the Church way and present that such Way is still out of Repair and order that the same be sufficiently repaired by the Churchwardens of the said Parish on or before Michaelmas day next under the further Pain of Thirty nine shillings.

" We Present that the Gate leading upon Orletons common called Connop's Gate and another Gate leading on the said Common called Cullis Gate are out of Repair by which the Sheep Stray from off the said Common And that William Coleman, Edward Spencer and John Trumper Inhabitants of this Manor have been accustomed to repair and of right ought to repair the said Gate called Connop's Gate And that William Procter, the Reverend Thomas Procter and Thomas Yeates have been accustomed and of right ought to repair the said Gate called Cullis's Gate And we lay a pay [*sic*] on the said several Persons respectively of one Pound if they neglect or refuse to repair the said Gates before the first day of May next."

¹ This odd amount was evidently fixed in order to escape the duty on receipts for £2. This tax was first levied in 1783, and alterations to it were made in 1784, 1791, *et seq.*

21st April, 1818—

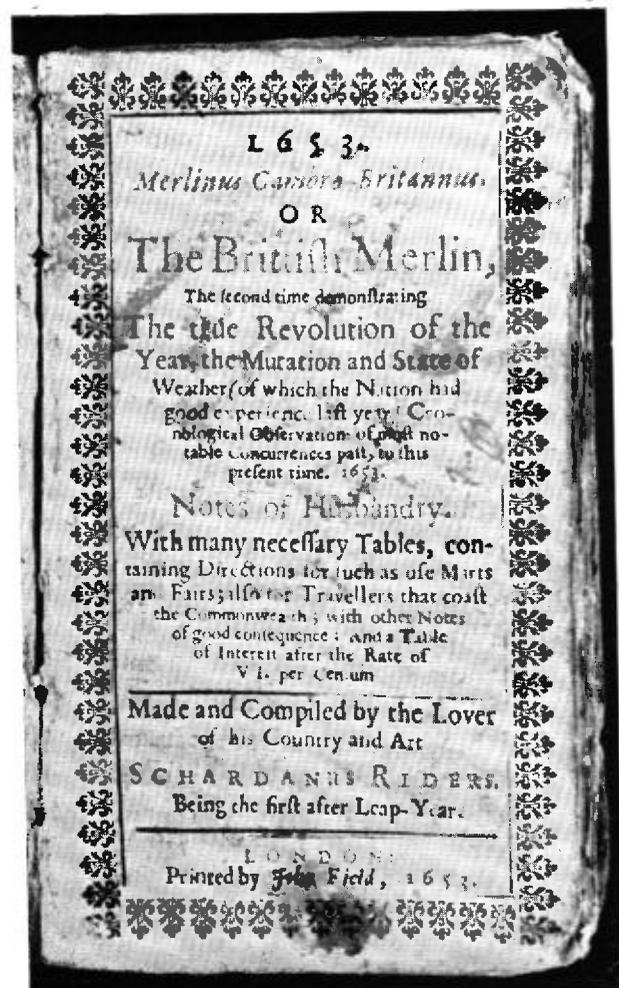
" We present that the Pound belonging to this Manor and Parish is ruinous and in great decay and we lay a pain of thirty nine shillings on the person or persons who have been accustomed to repair and of right ought to repair the same if they neglect to put the same in sufficient repair before the next public Court."

14th October, 1820—

" We do also present the Surveyors of the Highway for suffering a Well now dry to be uncovered, situate in the Upper Church Lane opposite to the House now occupied by William Mason and Mrs Maund Widow And We lay a pain of Thirty nine shillings on the said Surveyors if they neglect to have the said Well covered and made secure before the next Court."

Personally, I believe that until lands were enclosed and great improvement in methods of agriculture were thereby rendered possible, together with easier means of transport, the Manor Court in Orleton, as elsewhere, was the only possible method of satisfactory local government. The tenants themselves had much power in the management of their own affairs, and made many of the rules and regulations whereby their daily lives were ordered. That sometimes there were abuses also is admitted, but where the Lord of the Manor was just and reasonable and lived among his tenants, and many fulfilled these conditions, then the system worked well and the inhabitants dwelt together in amity.

These few notes prove how much these Court Rolls contain of interest to the student of social life, the philologist, the genealogist, and others. The place names alone are worthy of study. Orleton Rolls are typical examples of thousands of others, and it is well to know that they are now safely housed in the official depository for this county.



By permission

of the British Museum.

TITLE PAGE OF THE ALMANACK—A UNIQUE EDITION,

NOTES ON A SEVENTEENTH CENTURY ALMANACK
ORIGINALLY BELONGING TO RICHARD CORBETT, ESQ.,
OF ELTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

By BRIAN LAWN, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

(Contributed 13th April, 1939.)

A seasonable Almanack gains more reputation than the King of Spaines Bible with all his languages, or the King of France, with more then his, or our late English translation, with more then both. If the Calender say fair, wet, windy, indifferent, or mixt of both, they will quarrell with the stars, if they make not good what Lilly said."

EDMUND GAYTON, in his "Pleasant Notes upon Don Quixot."
London. 1654.

This little book, found in London in 1937, has so many interesting features, that I thought an account of it would prove acceptable to those who like to delve into the habits and customs of our ancestors—especially as it concerns one of the most beautiful and historic, though least known parts of England: I mean certain districts of Herefordshire and Shropshire, on the Welsh Border. It is a thin pocket book measuring 2½ x 5 ins., bound in plain boards uncovered with leather or vellum, and with the leaves, 51 in number, roughly stitched to leather thongs.

As is usual with almanacks of this period, the book consists of two portions: a printed part containing observations on every month of the year, various tables, a chronology, description of the highways, and names of the principal fairs in England and Wales, and many leaves filled with manuscript notes made by the original owner.

The title (*plate 1*), printed in black and red within a wood-cut border, is as follows:—

1653.

Merlinus Cambro Britannus.

or

THE BRITISH MERLIN,

the second time demonstrating

The true Revolution of the

Year, the Mutation and State of

Weather (of which the Nation had

good experience last year) Cro-

nological Observations of most no-

table Concurrences past, to this

present time. 1653.

BRITISH MERLIN (1653)

Pgs. 11 - 32.

The Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club

Hon. Secretary :
F. M. KENDRICK,
40 Stanhope Street,
Hereford.

Hon. Treasurer :
P. A. B. ELKIN,
37 Bridge Street,
Hereford.

Hon. Librarian :
F. C. MORGAN,
1A The Cloisters,
Hereford.

.....19.....

M.....

.....

Annual Subscription 19.....

Transactions

Notes of Husbandry.

With many necessary Tables, containing Directions for such as use Marts and Fairs; also for travellers that coast the Commonwealth; with other Notes of good consequence: and a Table of Interest after the Rate of VI. per Centum

Made and Compiled by the Lover
of his Country and Art
Schar danus Riders,
Being the first after Leap-Year.

LONDON

Printed by John Field, 1653.

It is the second edition of this particular almanack, and of such rarity as to be unique, no other copy having been traced so far. The earliest edition hitherto known was that in the British Museum with the date 1656.

However, as this is not a bibliographical notice, I shall spend no more time over the printed part, but get on to a description of the manuscript portion in which lies the main interest of the book.

First of all it would be as well to say a few words in general about these manuscript parts of old almanacks. They are an interesting and little known branch of study, and I would refer those who might care to pursue the subject further to E. F. Bosanquet's monograph on English seventeenth century almanacks printed for the Bibliographical Society, London, 1930, to which work I am indebted for some important information in these notes. Taking the sixteenth century first, you will perhaps not be surprised to learn, considering the ephemeral nature of these publications, that there are so far known only two sets of notes written by contemporary owners in almanacks of this period. One, written in an almanack for 1589, which is in the Bodleian Library, by a small landowner; the other written in a set of Gabriel Friend's almanacks for the years 1587-92 in Canterbury Cathedral Library.

In neither case is the name of the writer known, but in the latter instance he appears to have been connected in some way with Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

On the other hand, in the seventeenth century several sets of notes are known, mostly belonging to the second half of the century

and usually by unnamed owners. Bosanquet gives three examples; the first in the Bodleian, the other two in his own possession.

1. Notes in a copy of John Booker's *Mercurius Coelius* for 1645. These are by some kind of Barber Surgeon who lived in London.
2. Notes in a copy of Wharton's *Calendarium Carolinum* for 1666 written by a country gentleman.
These are chiefly about his horses and "mairs".
3. Notes in a copy of Nathaniel Culpepper's *Almanack* for 1689 by the original owner, one Peter froulkes gent. of Henllan, a parish near Denbigh.

This man was a small farmer who apparently owned at any rate part of the land he worked, and his notes consist of wages, receipts, and many expenses dealing with the working of a farm, such as the prices of apple trees, oxen, cows, and sheep, and expenses of shoeing animals, mending and sharpening tools, etc.

Bosanquet has also been one of the first to draw attention to the importance of notes of this kind in almanacks. He says, "Of course these note books have not the interest of the Diaries of the celebrated men of the period which have come down to us; but they furnish us with valuable data as to the everyday life and work of ordinary people of the times." One might say that they afford us material which we should not expect to find elsewhere in a diary, common-place book or large account book.

The almanack being essentially a pocket book, the owner noted down small everyday personal and other items as he went about; transitory and often trivial matters which yet are of the utmost interest and importance to anyone studying the history of the period. They are, as it were, the deft touches here and there which give life to the whole picture, and infuse a warmth and glow into the canvas.

We now come to the actual set of notes before us. These have several features of special importance which distinguish them from other notes of the same class. Thus, not only has the name of the original owner been traced, but it has been found that he was a member of a very well known and titled family owning much property.

Again, as against the general rule, the manuscript is prolific in both family names and the names of contemporary people and places; so that there is much material for both family and local history. Certain of the notes appear to have been written in chronological order, and from the mention of Easter we can tell more or less what time of the year they were written. Thus we

have a series of consecutive events which gives the MS. more the value of an actual diary.

The writer also appears to have been a man of some learning and fond of reading, so that we get some interesting information with regard to the purchase of books, and several philosophical and medical extracts, recipes, herb lore, etc.

But perhaps the most remarkable thing about this particular set of notes is the way in which facts have been corroborated and amplified by external evidence; thus allowing us to erect around a handful of Christian names (for the name Corbett occurs nowhere in the manuscript) the entire structure of a large and extensive family, and throw much light on its activities in the middle of the seventeenth century.

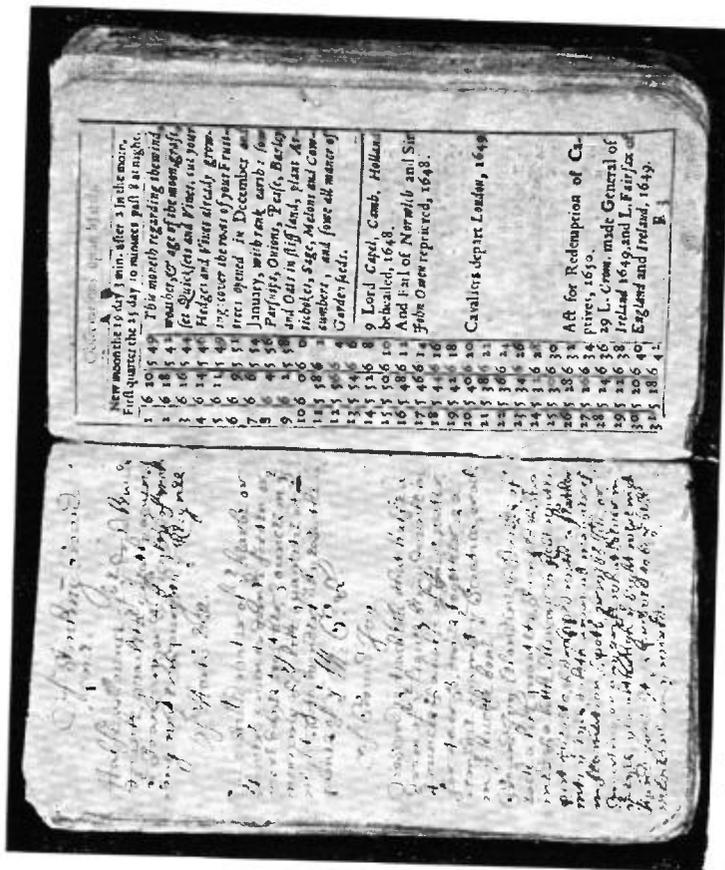
This has been made possible by the fortunate discovery of certain wills and manuscript collections which you will find noted in the pedigree.

The contents of the manuscript (*plate 2*), then, may be briefly listed as follows:—

1. A very detailed list of personal, family and household expenses made in the earlier part of the year 1653 and set down, there is good reason to think, in chronological order.
2. Notes of lands owned in Longnor, Langton (*sic*), Wigmore, Leinterdine (Leintwardine), and Rushock, with names of the lessees and particulars of the rents to be received. In the cases of Langton and Rushock he evidently considered selling the property, as he notes the purchase price for so many years.
3. A list of bonds owed.
4. A list of articles bought in London, 21 Nov., 1653.
5. A list of books.
6. A short list of furniture, with prices.
7. Purchase price of rye, wheat and oats.
8. Medical recipes for man and beast, with description and properties of several herbs mainly out of Gerarde's *Herbal*.
9. Moral and philosophical extracts, some from Francis Bacon's *Sylva Sylvarum*, or *Natural History*.
10. A copy of an old indenture (belonging to the year 1634) in a different though contemporary hand, dealing with the purchase of Gatley Park.
11. Fragment of an early jest book, written in the 18th century by a later owner, one Richard Jones, as we learn from the inscription "Richard Jones his Book Nov. 16, 1789", which is in the same illiterate hand.

PLATE 2.

To face page 14.



By permission

A PAGE OF RICHARD CORBETT'S DIARY.

of "Country Life."

Most of the items are of sufficient interest to be given in full ; but it has not been thought necessary, owing to limitation of space, to give all the medical and philosophical extracts, herb lore, etc.

Throughout I have adhered to the old spelling, transcribing the words exactly as they are written, only I have numbered each item in the list of expenses to facilitate reference later on to particular entries.

1.	An Account of what I layd out sithence I came from London.	
1.	Towards my expences in Ludlow two several times	0- 4- 6
2.	To ye servants at Henly	1- 6
3.	Borrowed of Mr Scott when I went to Shobdon Layd out as followeth.	1- 8- 0
4.	To my Sister farrer	5- 0
5.	To my Sister Margaret to give ye servants	3- 0
6.	Towards ye mending of my Wach	5- 0
7.	Towards my expences in Llemster two several times	4- 6
8.	Towards my owne expences at Shobdon and to ye servants	2- 0
9.	Towards our expences in Ludlow wth Mr Wiggmore and his comepeny	6- 6
10.	To my Sister farrer when they were at Elton	2- 6
11.	ffor wine and a cake	2- 4
12.	Towards my expences at Leinterdine two several times	3- 6
13.	Towards my expence in Ludlow wth my Brother Tho	1- 0
14.	Towards my expence when I went to Mr Bishop	0- 6
15.	To Mr Scott for my Brother Charles	7- 6
16.	To Mrs Scott for 3 Strike of Oats	3- 0
17.	To Scotts maid for what shee lent Poole	2- 6
18.	To my Sister farrer towards our dyett	1- 10
19.	To my Sister farrer for money due upon old accompts	6- 0
20.	To hir more as shee lent ye Boy	6- 0
21.	Towards my expence in Ludlow	1- 6
22.	for an Almanack for my Sister farrer	0- 6
23.	for an Almanack for my Brother Charles	0- 6
24.	for my one Almanack	0- 6
25.	To Mr. Poole for Oats and shuing when he went to Ludlow	6- 6
26.	ffor tenne Strike of Oats at 10d ye Strike	8- 4
27.	To my Brother francies when he went to Leighton	0- 4
28.	ffor mattes for ye Study	4- 0
29.	ffor a lock for ye Study	1- 0
30.	ffor 2 hundred of Nayles	0- 1- 0
31.	To Mr. Davies for to buy mattinge	3- 0
32.	To my Brother Charles for to buy Shott	0- 6
33.	To Bushopps Boy	0- 6
34.	Towards my expence in	
35.	Towards my expences when I went to ye Grange for myselfe and my horse goinge and comeinge back	2- 10
36.	for mendinge of my bootes	0- 8
37.	ffor our expences at Bushops Castle wth Mrs Wigmore	17- 0
38.	ffor our horses at yt time and to ye ostler	6- 6
39.	To my Brother Charles at yt time	1- 6
40.	ffor our expences at Leinterdine when we went to ye Castle	1- 0
41.	To Ambler at yt time	1- 0
42.	To a messenger for goeing to Mr Edmund Lloyd	0- 6
43.	To my Brother Charles at Worthyn	1- 0
44.	To ye servant fellow at Worthyn	0- 6
45.	To my Sister Margaret at Bromley	2- 0
46.	To my Sister farrer when I went to Mountgomery	2- 0

47.	To hir sonce to buy (nailes)	1- 6
48.	for my expence at ye widdow Drapers wth Mr. David Roberts	0- 8
49.	To Mr Edmund Lloyds man yt came wth a stre (possibly an abbreviation for " steere ")	1- 0
50.	To ye servants at Bromley	1- 6
51.	To ye servants at Haghly	0- 6
52.	ffor our expences at Cherbury wth my Cozen Newton	1- 0
53.	To ye servants at Mr Middletons	1- 0
54.	ffor our expences at Minsterle going to groomes and for shuing my horse	1- 1
55.	To ye Groomes at my Cozen fflowlers	0- 6
56.	Towards my expence in Ludlow	0- 6
57.	ffor our expences going to ye Graines and for bayting our horses	1-10
58.	ffor shuing my horse	0- 4
59.	To ye groome at yt time	0- 6
60.	To my Brother Charles in Ludlow	2- 0
61.	ffor bayting our horses	1- 0
62.	To ye poore	4- 0
63.	Towards my expences goinge wth Mr Wigmore to Mountgomery and for shuing	4- 0
64.	To my Sister Margaret at Glenhavenen	0- 4
65.	To my Brother Charles when I went into Shropshire	5- 0
66.	for our expences in Ludlow	1-10
67.	for my expences in Shropshire when I fell sicke	4- 6
68.	To ye woman of ye tithe Barne for straw and Oats	0- 8- 6
69.	To ye Doctor when I was sicke	5- 0
70.	for our expences at Leinterdine when I came from Longnor	1- 0
71.	ffor 3 Strike of Oats	3- 8
72. Sweetmeats	5- 0
73.	To ye Apothocary for thinges to drench my Horse	0- 9
74.	To him for my owne use	2- 0
75.	ffor our expences in Ludlow	3- 4
76.	To my Brother Charles when he went to Burrington	2- 6
77.	To him when he went to Ludlow	0- 6
78.	To Mr Morgrove for his mare	1-12- 6
79.	ffor our expences at Leintall	0- 4
80.	To ye Smith for shuinge	2- 0
81.	To my Brother Charles for to shue his Horse	1- 0
82.	Towards our expence at Burington wth Mr Bright	1- 0
83.	To Anne Evans for Sope	0- 7
84.	ffor our expence in Ludlow and for our horses
85.	To my Sister ffarrer at severall times	8- 6
86.	To my Sister ffarrer to give ye Carpenter	2- 3
87.	To ye man yt playd of ye Hoboy and for a reed for a suscingle	0- 6
88.	To ye man yt playd of ye Hoboy and for a reed for a suscingle	0- 4
89.	To my Sister ffarrer for to buy fishe	0- 6
90.	To ye taylor for mendinge my clothes	0- 6
91.	To John Tilly when he went to Sudbury	0- 6
92.	To my Sister ffarrer	0- 8
93.	To my Sister ffarrer more upon Easter Eve	5- 0
94.	Towards our expences in Ludlow wth ye Doctor	3- 6
95.	To my Brother Charles in Ludlow	2- 0
96.	ffor a cappe and combe for my owne use	4- 0
97.	To ye Barber for shavinge my head	1- 0
98.	ffor our expences goein to Ludston	1- 0
99.	To my Brother Charles at Ludston	1- 4
100.	To ye servants at ye Grainge	2- 0

101.	Towards our expence comeing from Ludston	1- 0
102.	To my Sister ffarrer when I went to Ludston	3- 0
103.	Towards my expence with my Uncle George and at Ludlow	2- 0
104.	ffor shuing my mare	1- 0
105.	To Cooper ye Shuemaker	1- 0- 0
106.	To Jones ye taylor	1- 0- 0
107.	To ye widdow Harries	10- 0
108.	To my Sister ffarrers maid at Ludlow	10- 0
109.	To my Sister ffarrer when I came home	10- 0
110.	To Cristopher when he went away	5- 0
111.	ffor our expences at Kington	2- 0
112.	ffor shuinge my horse as I went to Kinton	0- 6
113.	To ye Barber for shaving	1- 0
114.	To my Brother Waties out of my Cozen fflowlers money	5- 0- 0
115.	To my Sister ffarrer	4-10- 0
116.	To my Brother Charles	3- 0- 0
117.	ffor sope and thrid	1- 0
118.	ffor shuinge of my horse	1- 0
119.	To Mrs Littleton for Strike of Oeats
120.	ffor our expences at Ludlow wth my Sister ffarrer and my Sister Griff.	5- 0
121.	To ye Austler for hay for our hoses at yt time	0-10
122.	To my Sister Marg. for to give ye ffidler	0- 6
123.	To him more by mee	0- 6
124.	To ye Barber	0- 6
125.	To Cole for mendinge my Saddle	2- 6
126.	To my Sister ffarrer for to pay ye weaver	2- 6
127.	To ye taylors Boy for my Brother ffancies	8- 0
128.	To my Brother Charl. for to pay ye taylor	4- 6
129.	To him at another time before to pay ye taylors Boy	0- 6
130.	To Marg. wch shee lent to Anthony	5- 0
131.	To Timothy Williams for ground we tooke of him	1- 0- 0
132.	ffor our expences at Kington and for bayting our horses	2- 4
133.	To ye Barber for shavinge	0-10
134.	ffor my expence in Ludlow when I went to meet ffavell	2-10
135.	Towards my expence when I went to Kington to meet Mr. Gears	2- 7
136.	ffor our expences in Ludlow	3- 0
137.	To my Brother Charl. yt day	3- 0
138.	for a kane for my selfe	0-10
139.	Layd out for my own use	0- 6
140.	ffor my expence in Ludlow	1- 6
141.	ffor shuinge my horse and to ye Austler for hay	1- 0
142.	To my Sister ffarrers maid and to hirselfe	10- 0
143.	ffor 3 Strike of Oats	4- 0
144.	To ye man for mendinge my table booke	0- 6
145.	Towards my expence at Presten assizes	5- 6
146.	To ye Boy for five hundred of hay	6- 8
147.	To my Brother Charles for to give ye ryder	10- 0
148.	To ye City of Hereford	1-10- 0
149.	ffor ye Boyes expence goeing in wth it
150.	ffor an acquittance	0- 4
151.	To my Sister ffarrer for my Sister Marg. use	3- 0
152.	To my Sister Marg.	16- 0
153.	To my Sister ffarrer for to pay Annes wages	5- 0
154.	To hir at yt time for to buy cheese at Wigmore	1- 0- 0
155.	To Herny when he went to London	14- 6
156.	To Hopkins for his grasse	0-14- 0
157.	To my Brother Charl. to pay Mr Scott	10- 0

158.	To him at yt time for his owne use	6- 0
159.	To Mr Morgrove mor for his mare	1- 5- 0
160.	To him for 2 Strike of Oeats for my Brother Charl.	2- 4
161.	ffor our expences in Ludlow wth my Brother Tho.	4- 6
162.	ffor our expence in towne that night	6- 6
163.	ffor my Hanger	14- 0
164.	ffor my expence in Kington	2- 0
165.	To my Brother Griffithes at my Brother ffancies funerall for to buy meat	2- 0- 0
166.	To him at yt time for his owne use	1- 0- 0
167.	To him for ye Ringers	1- 0- 0
168.	To my Sister for to buy a wineding sheet	2-10- 0
169.	ffor shuger to ffancies	2- 0
170.	ffor two Belts	1- 1- 0
171.	To my Sisters mayd to buy candles	1- 0
172.	ffor a quarter of Beefe	1- 5- 0
173.	ffor a cloth to lay over the corps	15- 0
174.	To Boudler for Ribons in parte and upon old accompt	5-12- 0
175.	To him for use money upon a bond of my ffathers	1- 5- 0
176.	ffor wine	1-11- 0
177.	ffor frught and short cakes	11- 3
178.	ffor two paire of boots	1- 1- 0
179.	ffor my own expence and ye mans	4- 6
180.	ffor Bayting our horses and for Shuinge	3- 0
181.	To ye Cooke	11- 0
182.	To William Harry for comeinge to Elton	1- 0
183.	To ye poore	1-13- 4
184.	ffor ye Coffyn	10- 0
185.	ffor our expence comeing from Mountgomery	0-10

A brief analysis gives us the following arrangement of the more interesting items in this list :—

1.	Mending.	6.	Watch 5/-
		36.	Boots 8d
		125.	Saddle 2/6
		144.	Table book 6d ¹
	Purchasing.		
	A. Food and drink.		
		11.	Wine and cake 2/4
		176.	Wine £1.11.0
		89.	Fish 6d
		154.	Cheese 1-0-0
		165.	Meat 2-0-0
		172.	Beef 1-5-0
		177.	Fruit and short cakes 11-3
		72.	Sweetmeats 5/-
		169.	Sugar 2/-
	B. Various other articles.		
		23.	Almanacks 6d each
		28.	Mats 4/-
		29.	One lock 1/-

¹ These books "were sometimes made of slate in the form of a small portable book with leaves and clasps", Douce's *Illustrations of Shakespear*, 1839, p. 454, where he is discussing the passage in Hamlet :

"My tables,—meet it is I set it down."

They are also found with blank leaves of asses skin.

30.	} Nails	{ 1/-
47.		
31.	Matting	3/-
32.	Shot	6d
83.	Soap	7d
117.	Soap and thread	} 1/-
88.	A surcingle	
96.	A cap and comb	} 4/-
138.	A cane	
163.	A hanger (sword)	14/-
170.	Two belts	£1-1-0
178.	Two pairs of boots	£1-1-0
Expenses.		
Funeral expenses (excluding food and drink).		
167.	For the ringers	£1- 0- 0
168.	A winding sheet	2-10 -0
171.	For candles (for watching the dead)	1- 0
173.	For a cloth to lay over the body	15- 0
184.	For the coffin	10- 0
Other expenses.		
90.	To the tailor	0- 6
106.	To Jones the tailor	1- 0- 0
127.	To the tailor's Boy	8- 0
128.	'To my brother Charl. for to pay ye taylor'	4- 6
129.	'To him at another time before to pay ye taylors Boy'	0- 6
86.	To the carpenter	2- 3
126.	To the weaver	2- 6
105.	To Cooper the shoemaker	1- 0- 0
87.	To the 'Hoboy' player and for a reed	0- 6
122.	} To the fiddler	0- 0- 6 each time
123.		
97.	To the barber for shaving his head	1/-
113.	To the barber for shaving	1/-
124.	To the barber	6d
133.	To the barber for shaving	10d
67.	Expenses when sick	4/6
69.	To the doctor	5/-
94.	To the doctor	3/6
74.	To the apothecary for drugs for his own use	2/-
Expenses connected with his horse.		
78.	'To Mr. Morgrove for his mare'	1-12- 6
159.	'To Mr Morgrove mor for his mare'	1- 5- 0
58.	'for shuing my horse'	0- 4
80.	'To ye Smith for shuinge'	2- 0
81.	For shoeing	1- 0
104.	For shoeing	1- 0
There are many other references to shoeing.		
55.	To the grooms	0- 6
59.	To the groom	0- 6
121.	'To ye Austler for hay'	0-10
61.	For bayting our horses	1- 0

16.	3 strike of oats	3- 0
26.	10 strike of oats	8- 4
73.	' To ye Apothocary for thinges to drench my Horse '	0- 9
Actual travelling expences.		
35.	' Towards my expences when I went to ye Grange ¹ for myselfe and my horse goinge and comeinge back	2-10
57.	' ffor our expences going to ye Graines (Grange) and for bayting our horses,	1-10
63.	Expences going to Montgomery, including shoeing	0- 4- 0
98.	Expences going to Ludston	1- 0
135.	Expences going to Kington	2- 7
185.	Coming from Montgomery	0-10

2.

A note of what rents owe to be received out of Longnor.

from my uncle Humphrey	1- 2- 6
from my uncle Robert	15- 6
from Robert Chield	10- 6
from Tho. Scriven	2- 6
from Rich. Whitley	5- 0
from Humphry Raulins	1-10- 6
from John Fox	6- 8
from Shewster Withington	2-10- 6
from Sarah Morris	2- 6

The totall sume is 7- 6- 2

A Particular of what Land lies in Langton.

One tenement wch Prosser holds at £2 p. annum.

One peece of Meadow ground called by ye name of Welshmans Acre at £1-10- 0 p. annum.

One other small peece of meadow ground worth 5/- p. annum.

Sr. Samson holds two peeces of meadow ground worth £4 p. annum.

John Knight holds one peece of meadow ground worth 5/- p. annum.

William Colerick holds one peece of meadow ground worth 10/- p. annum.

So ye whole is £8-10- 0 p. annum.

John Dale of Leighn(tall) desires to deale for this (at) Leinghtall.

Prossers rent is	£4- 6- 8
Sr Samsons rent is	4- 0- 0
Knights rent	5- 0
Colericks rent	10- 0

Some totall 9- 1- 8

The rent of £9- 1- 8 at 12 yeres purchase for ye revercion after ye Ladyes decease doth amount unto £108.

The rent of £8 after 12 (yeres) purchase comes to.....

A particular of what land lies in Wigmore towne.

Tedstell holds a tenement at £2- 6- 0 p. annum.

One other tenement held at 14/- p. annum.

The totall of both is £3- 0- 0 p. annum.

Cludds tenem. upon ye rock £60 p. annum of wch he hath a lease for 20 yeres after the Ladyes decease for £40 p. annum.

Out of the Lordship of Rushock there is received £65- 1- 8d p. annum wch at 18 yeres purchase comes to £1176- 8- 4. (sic).

¹ The Grange was probably Harnage Grange, where his cousin Fowler lived.

And ye £70 rent in Revercion at 5 yeares purchase after 3 lives doth amount unto £350- 0- 0.
The particular for Rushock doth amount to £1518-16- 8.

Leinterdine.

William Smith for one tenement does pay £4 p. annum, wor(th) £5 p. annum.

Anne Bould widdow for a house and garden wth 3 acres of errable land worth 40/- p. annum.

Tho. Underwood of Lower Heighton.

3.

Mr Taylors Bond of £22 to be discharged upon ye second of february 1654.

Mr Edwards Bond of £55 to be paid ye 1st of May 16(54).

Due to Mr Jones by Bill £13- 6- 0.

Mr Brownes Bond of £6 to be discharged upon ye 25th of October 1654.

Mr Halls Bond of £27-19- 0 to be discharged upon ye 14th of January 1654.

There is due from Mr Browne unto mee wth ye moneyes layd out for his Horse £3-11- 8.

And from Mr Purslow out of yt money I layd out for Mr Browne £1- 0- 0.

And from Mr Purslow there is due £4- 5- 6.

4.

Bought in London ye 21 of November 1653.

One paire of Shues and Goloshues	0- 8- 6
One paire of Black Sarge Stockings	5- 0
One ckamebrick Band and paire of cuffes	4- 0
One Holland Band and paire of cuffes	3- 6
One paire of Gloves with fringe	8- 6
One Razor, case, and Sizers	5- 0
One knife and case	3- 6
Three paire of Band Stringes	8- 6
ffor Bookes	10- 6
ffor one ruled booke	1- 0
ffor Ribonds	1- 3

The Band was a kind of large collar falling over or standing out from the coat, it was often richly trimmed with lace.

The Band Strings, often of Silk, were tied in front to keep the Band together.

Thus Jane the seamstress in Dekker's *Shoemaker's Holiday* :

" Sir, what is't you buy ?

What is't you lack, sir, calico, or lawn,

Fine cambric shirts, or bands, what will you buy ? "

Also in *The Picture of an English Antick*, a rare 17th cent. broadside in the British Museum satirising the extravagant dress of the period :

" His band lapping over before.

Great band strings, with a ring tied."

The gallant of those days wore many ribbons, at the knee, wrist, shoulder, etc., and on the hat ; they are mentioned several times in the above Broadside :

"His hat . . . banded with a calves tail and a bunch of riband.

Long haire, with ribands tied in it.

His codpeece (fore-flap of the breeches) open tied at the top with a great bunch of riband.

Many dozen points at knees.

Above the points of either side two bunches of riband of severall colours."

5.

Reeds Anatomy
 Physicall Rarities by Ralph Williams
 Robert Turners Anatomy
 The Haven of Health by Tho. Cogan
 Walter Bruells Practicce of Physicke.

These may well be the books which he mentions above as having been bought in London.

They are all physic books, the Physical Rarities being collections of medical recipes.

The book by Cogan was a very old favourite first published as far back as 1586 in 4to.

"The Haven of Health, chiefly made for the comfort of Students, and consequently for all those that have a care of their health, amplified upon fine wordes of Hippocrates.

. . . Hereunto is added a Preservation from the Pestilence: With a short Censure of the late sicknesse at Oxford."

There is no doubt that the writer of these notes had "a care of his health" both from the mention of his expenses in Shropshire "when I fell sick" (No. 67 in the list), his payments to the doctor and apothecary (Nos. 69, 74, and 94), from the fact that all the books he mentions are on medicine, and finally from his many medical recipes scattered throughout the manuscript.

6.

The six stooles at 6/-
 The table at 4/6
 The panne at 2/6
 The two frames of chayres at 3/-.

7.

The 67 thrave of Rye at 6/- a thrave comes to £20- 2- 0.
 The 18 thrave of wheat at 10/- a thrave comes to £9- 0- 0.
 The twenty thrave of Oats at 4/- a thrave comes to £4- 0- 0.
 So ye whole comes to £33- 2- 0.

A thrave was equal to twenty-four sheaves.

12 sheaves made a Stook and 2 Stooks a Thrave.

Mention is frequently made in the above list of expenses of a strike of oats.

In the old days when half bushel measures were chiefly used, two strikes of oats equalled a bushel.

The half bushel measure was filled up and then levelled or struck off with the straight edge of a strip of board called a Strikler.

8.

An Approved Medicine for a Cough or Consumption.

Take unsett Isopp, Coltsfoote, Egrimony, Lungwort, Spearmint, Peniroyal of each a small handfull, a little Harts toung, six leaves of Alecoast, a quarter of a pound of Reisons of ye Sun stoned, ye like quantity of figgs sliced, 2d of dates, 2d of English Liquorish, 2d of Aniseeds, boyle all thees in a gallon of running water till it be halfe boyled away, then strain it from ye hearbs putting into it an ounce of browne shugar candy, and so drinke a good draught warme in ye morninge halfe an hour before you rise, another an houre after dinner, and as much when you goe to bedd.
 If you be not solluble you may put in a peece of Butter about ye quantity of a small nutt.

After this we get "The Vertues of ye foregoing Hearbs."

Then recipes "To Purge the Bloud," "For a Heat in ye Liver," etc.

The description and vertues of the following herbs are also given:—

Of Goats Beard or Goe to Bed at Noone.
 Of Stinking Groundpine.
 Of Harts Ease.
 Of Ground Ivy.
 Of Bugle or Middle Comfrey.
 Of Yarrow or Nose Bleed.
 Of Sleepy Nightshade.
 Of Radish.
 Of Knobbed Cranesbill.
 Of Mouse-eare.
 Of Common Knot-grasse.
 Of ye Apples of Peru or thorny Aples of peru.

Most of these are copied from Gerarde's Herball, or General History of Plants, first published in 1597.

Now come several recipes for the ailments of horses:

A Receipt for ye Fashions.

Take of Bay Berryes and of Garden Rue, Red Sage, unsett Ysop, topps of Rosemary of each a like quantity boyled in 3 pints of Ale tiff one 3rd part be boyled, and see given to ye Horse.
 probatum est.

Then there are the following recipes:—

For Horses Eyes (two recipes)
 For a chancker
 For ye Botts
 For Scratchings.
 For a Horses Back yt is Swelled.
 For ye Could.

9.

Many men there are yt trouble themselves more how ye soule comes into man than how it goes out.

They wrangle whether it comes in by infusion from God, or by propagation from parents, and never consider whether it shall returne to him yt made it or to him yt marred it, to him yt gave it, or to him yt corrupted it.

This is a very just censure of a foolish controversy that raged during the 17th century and before.

Books were even written about it of which it might be interesting to give the titles of two:

1. *An Introduction to the Teutonic Philosophie, being a determination concerning the original of the soul, viz., whether it be immediately created by God, and infused into the body; or transmitted from the Parent.* by C. Hotham, Fellow of Peterhouse. London 1650.
2. *Mans Dignity and Perfection Vindicated. Being some serious thoughts on that Commonly received Errour touching the Infusion of the Soul of Man . . . Wherein it is Rationally, Philosophically, and Theologically demonstrated that the Soul of Man is ex traduce and begotten by the Parents.* By William Ramesey, Sworn Physician to His Majesty. London 1661.

Of Religion.

For although Religion and ye truth thereof be in every man and womans mouth who for ye greatest part are fools of vanity, What is it other then an universall dissimulation? and wee professe yt we know God but by our workes wee deny him. *Beatitudo non est divinatorum cognitio sed vita divina*, for Beatitudo doth not consist in the knowledge of Divine things but in a Divine life.

Of Riches.

The uncertainty of Riches Honor Health or Life; for what man is there so assured of these but yt he may be deprived of either or all the very next houre or day to come. *Quid vesper vehat incerta est*. What ye evening will bringe with it, it is uncertain. *Volat irrevocabile tempus*. Time past cannot be recalled.

Of ye losse of a friend.

Griefe for things past yt cannot be remedied, and care for things to come yt cannot be prevented, may easily hurt, can never benefit mee.

I will therefore commit myselfe to God in both and enjoy ye present.

What a sound philosophy! which if more generally indulged in to day would leave general practitioners very little to do.

Then there is a curious extract on the making of woman:—

The maker was God, the Matter a Rib of Adam, the forme a Buildinge, the end to be a meet helpe. The Man was made of dust, the woman of ye Man to be one flesh with ye man and of a ribb to be a supporter of him in his calling wch requireth strength: neither could any other bone (have) been spared more easily in ye whole body wch hath not such variety of any other kiend; nor could any place more design ye woman hir due place, not of ye Head yt shee should not arrogate or rule; not of ye feet that ye housband should not reckon hir as his slave; but in a meane between both, and yt near the hart in wch they should (as in all Divine and human Laws else) be fast joyned.

An almost identical passage is found in John Swan's *Speculum Mundi, or a Glass Representing the Face of the World*. Cambridge, 1643, 2nd ed., p. 494.

There are one or two other extracts too long to be given here, and then the following from Bacon's *Sylva Sylvarum* or *Natural History*:

The nature of ye Appetite in ye Stomach.
Experiment Solitary touching the help or hurt of Wine though moderately used.
Touching ye taste.
Touching yawning.
Touching ye Hiccough.

10.

. by Indenture th Apr. 9^o Car. from (Sir) Joh. (Danvers) and his Lady and Sr Wm Crofts to Sr Sampson Eure of ye Lordshp of Lenthall Starks wth cattles waived strays cattels of felons and fugitives and all other rights jurisdictions privileges comodities etc in Lenthall Starks Elton etc and elsewhere in ye sd County of Hereford to ye sd Lordship or Mnor belonging. Wch sd Mnor was heretofore grnted by Q. Elizabeth by letters pattents dated ye 30th of July 5^o Eliz. to Wm Horne merchant of ye staple of England.

This indenture, which is in a hand different from though contemporary with that in which Richard Corbett's notes are written, would appear to relate to the purchase of the Manor of Leinthall Starkes by Sir Sampson Eure in 1634 (the 9th year of Charles 1st). No doubt Gatley Park was meant, with surrounding lands. Robinson, in his *Mansions of Herefordshire*, p. 172, has the following:

"Gatley Park was granted, 5 Eliz., to Tim. Horne, merchant, and his heirs, and came afterwards, by purchase, into the hands of Sir Sampson Eure, Attorney-General in Wales for Charles 1., and Speaker of the House of Commons at Oxford, in 1644.

He d. at Gatley (*circa* 1659), where his widow continued to reside until her death in 1673."

And a little further on he says:

"Silas Taylor (*Hart. MS.* 6726) says, 'It (Gatley Park) was alienated by Philip and Mary, and came into possession of the Crofts, and afterwards by purchase, as now it is, to Sir Sampson Eures'."

There are two things to note in this indenture: the first is that a definite date, April, 1634, is given for the purchase, a fact that was apparently, hitherto unknown as Robinson makes no mention of it. The other is that William Horne and not Timothy is given as the name of the man to whom the manor was granted by Elizabeth. Since this appears to be a copy or memorandum of the actual indenture made evidently not long after the transaction itself, I should rather take William to be correct than Timothy.

As to the exact significance of the presence of this indenture in an almanack belonging to Richard Corbett, I can say nothing; except of course that Sir Sampson Eure had property adjoining

?
1634

?
1644

that of the Corbetts at Elton, and was no doubt a friend of the Corbetts.

Also in the list of lands owned at Langton there is mention of a Sir Sampson, who may very well have been Sir Sampson Eure.

11.

It would be a pity to omit the following fragment which is so curious as to spelling and contents. Although nothing to do with Richard Corbett, the story was no doubt current in his period and probably much earlier still.

"A cupple of sharper went to a bucher shop to Buy some meet But while the Bucher was Bisied with other customer one of them stole a Pece A Beef and gave to is fellow who Put it under his Cloke the Bucher Presently mised the meet and charged them with the theft But he that stole it swore by Jove that he had none of it and he that had it swore likewise that he did not take it away to (w)home the Bucher replied the theaf"

Unfortunately we do not know what the "Bucher" replied, or whether he got his "meet" back again. But the story is typical of the early 16th and 17th cent. Jest Books, and in one or other of them the end may yet be found.

This ends the description of the principal contents of the Manuscript. It now remains for us briefly to review what knowledge of the owner and his family has been gained from an examination of the notes and other sources.

In the first place then, from the names of relatives and places mentioned, it has been possible to establish without any shadow of doubt that the original owner of the almanack, who bought it in 1653 ("for my one Almanack 6d." No. 24) was Richard Corbett, sixth son of Sir Edward Corbett¹, Bart., of Longnor², Salop, and Leighton, Montgomeryshire.

A reference to the pedigree will show at a glance how he stood in relation to the rest of the family, and how all the brothers, sisters and uncles mentioned fit into place. It will be seen that the year 1653 was an eventful one for the Corbett family.

Richard's father died on 8th April, and Edward the eldest surviving son, six weeks later on 20th May, whilst we learn from the notes that Francies, the fifth son, died in the earlier part of the same year also. His mother, Lady Margaret Corbett³, had died the previous year. This leaves Richard as the eldest unmarried son who would, in that capacity, see to all the many affairs of his father's estates, and be free to travel about the country attending to all the details of rents and sales of lands, etc., that were to be made. We have, in fact, in the almanack, notes of some of these journeys and the businesses connected with them.

¹ See portrait, plate 3.

² See illustration, plate 5.

³ See portrait, plate 4.

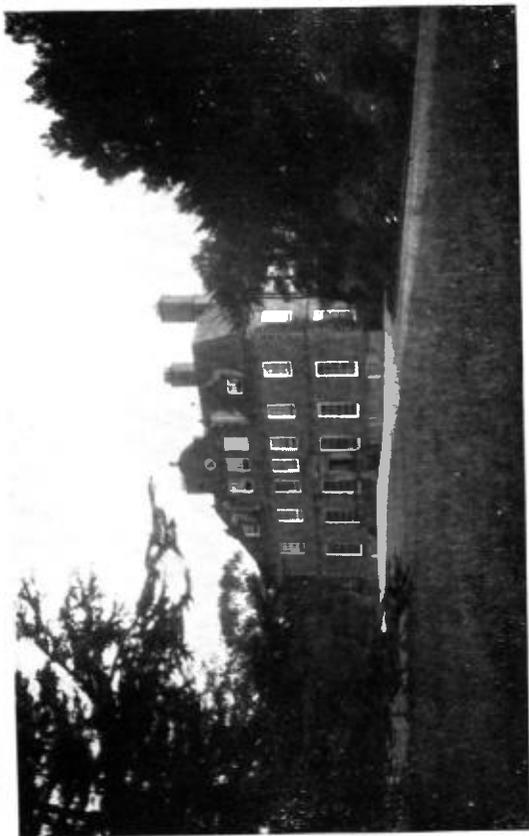
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SIR EDWARD CORBETT, BART., AND HIS WIFE LADY MARGARET CORBETT, OF LONGNOR, CO. SALOP.

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By permission

LONGNOR HALL, CO. SALOP.

of "Country Life."

Now there is a copy of Sir Edward's will in Somerset House, and in it he authorises his executors, Francies, Richard, Charles and "my dear daughter Margaret", to make sale of his lands and first discharge debts, etc.

The lands mentioned are: Manor of Rushock, Hereford; Manor of Elton, Hereford; Manor of Marlowe, Hereford; Manor of Great Sutton and Little Sutton or Suttons, Salop; lands, etc., in Neather Hayton, St. Margaretts Clee, Corfton, Ludlow or elsewhere in Salop. The four executors were the unmarried children, that is unmarried in 1653; but Richard married 2 years later, in 1655, and Margaret in 1656.

The will was proved 20th June, 1653, by oath of Richard and Charles, Francies being dead by then, as indeed we learn from the almanack (Nos. 165 onwards).

There are notes in the almanack of the purchase price of Rushock, and no doubt Richard was then negotiating for a sale. There is also mention of a Thomas Underwood of Lower Heighton, and notes of the rents from Longnor, Langton, Wigmore and Lleinterdine. In the case of Langton the purchase price is calculated, and he evidently considered selling this particular property to one John Dale of Leightall.

We can also determine, I think pretty conclusively, where Richard was living when he wrote the notes in the almanack.

First of all it is obvious that he was living with his sister Farrer ("To my Sister farrer when I came home", 109), who kept house for him; he supplying the money for food, maid's wages, etc. She would be thirty in 1653, and quite possibly was the eldest sister; her Christian name was Martha.

Now this Martha was then married, to a Captain Robert Farrer, who is not mentioned in the notes. Therefore presumably he was not living with his wife at the time, but was perhaps engaged elsewhere in the wars, thus leaving Martha free to keep house for her brother. In any case this Captain Farrer made his will on 20th Sept., 1653, and died in December of that year. He was buried in Elton Church, as a brass, bearing the date 4 Dec. 1653, in the floor of the chancel there, testifies to this day. Nearby there is another brass commemorating the death of Martha Farrer, incompletely dated 16—. So that it would seem that the Farrers were living at Elton in the year 1653, and that Richard Corbett was living with his sister in the first half of that year, quite possibly at Elton.

For further proof, for this alone is not very convincing, we have the fact that there is mention in the notes of people "coming to Elton", a phrase not used in connection with any other of the many places noted, *i.e.*, "To William Harry for comeinge to Elton," 182, and also the following significant sentence, "To my

Sister ffarrer when they (Mr Wiggmore and his company) were at Elton," 10.

The evidence is against his living in Shropshire, either at Longnor, the ancient seat of the Corbetts, or elsewhere, since he says "To my Brother Charles when I went into Shropshire," 65, and "for my expences in Shropshire when I fell sick," 67. These are scarcely the words of a man who lived in that county. Again, Ludlow is the nearest large town to Elton, which is only $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles away, and it receives many more references than any other place.

Finally we know from the will and from the MS. notes of Archdeacon Corbett (quoted by Robinson in his *Mansions of Herefordshire*, p. 114) that Sir Edward, Richard's father, had an estate at Elton which he was said to have acquired through his wife Margaret, who in turn had it from her uncle Sir Charles Fox. So here is external evidence of the Corbetts holding land at Elton.

I have no doubt, then, that at any rate in the first half of the year 1653, Richard Corbett was living at Elton on his father's estate. Further, judging from the notes of his expenses, I should say that living with him were his sister Martha and the other three unmarried children of Sir Edward mentioned in the will, Francies, Charles and Margaret.

As for younger children under age, it is difficult to say anything about them with certainty, as we should not expect to find them mentioned in the list of expenses. Martha's four children might very well have been there, and so might Richard's young sister Ursula, who would only be fifteen then.

Francies, early in the list, No. 27, went to Leighton, perhaps to see his father, who did not die, it will be remembered, until the 8th April. If we take the entries as following each other in chronological order, it will be seen that this entry relating to Francies's visit comes sometime before that mentioning Easter Eve, No. 93.

Very strong evidence in favour of this chronological order is found in the fact that Richard bought the three almanacks pretty soon, Nos. 22, 23, 24, and it is most likely that he would buy these at the beginning and not the middle or end of the year.

Thereafter we have no mention of Francies until much later. After Easter, Richard pays his tailor's bill of 8/-; and then notes that he pays the tailor's boy for Francies, and not Francies himself—whereas in the very next entry he gives money to Charles so that he can settle his own tailor's bill.

One might surmise from this that Francies was still at Leighton, or that he was ill and unable to attend to business himself, since towards the end of the list we learn of his death.

That Charles was at Elton we gather from the frequency of the entries concerning him (he is mentioned 16 times). Richard is always giving him money, "to buy shott", 32, "to shue his horse", 81, and on many other occasions.

His sister Margaret travelled about a little: at one time she is at Bromley, 45, at another at Glenhaveren, 64 (Glanhafren in Montgomeryshire), but later on after Easter she is apparently home again, as Richard gives her 6d. "to pay ye fidler", 122, and likes his fiddling so much that he promptly gives him another 6d. himself.

He gives money to Margaret three times after that, in one case "to my Sister ffarrer for my Sister Marg. use", 151.

This, as far as we know, completes the family household at Elton in 1653.

I do not think that any of the elder brothers were living with Richard at the time. They were all married and receive either no or very scanty mention in the almanack. Edward, the eldest, is not mentioned at all. He is described "of Leighton", and no doubt was living with his father at this place in the first part of 1653; Richard is with Thomas in Ludlow on two occasions, but otherwise there is no mention of him. This brother was living at Presteign in Radnorshire in 1681, as we learn from his will; perhaps he lived there as early as 1653.

The other brother, Waties, is mentioned only once, when Richard gives him £5 "out of my cozen frowlers money", 114. He was married to Margaret, daughter of Sampson Weaver of Elton.

Now if Richard was living with Waties, or Thomas, for that matter, surely there would be no need for his sister Martha to keep house for him, or for him to defray all household expenses. The wife of the elder brother would be the one most likely to run the house, and the elder brother himself would pay the accounts, such as wages, food, etc.

Of course this is only a supposition, we have nothing really definite to go on, but where there is so little information, we have to consider things more in the light of probability, and try to determine what would be the most likely state of affairs. Except for a few definite facts, this is the attitude we have to adopt throughout the whole of these notes.

Later on it seems reasonably certain that Waties Corbett did live at the Elton estate; since we learn from the above mentioned notes of Archdeacon Corbett (Robinson's *Mansions*, p. 114) that Sir Edward left this property to his son Waties, and that either the latter or his son sold it at a later period.

The list of expenses in Richard's almanack covers, it will be remembered, presumably only the earlier part of that eventful year. During the writing of a considerable portion Sir Edward would still be alive. So that it is perfectly reasonable to assume that during the period with which we are concerned Waties Corbett had not yet taken possession of the Elton estate. When he did so, Richard and Charles may have moved to Shobdon; for in Bigland's MS. Collections in the College of Arms (which were formed in the following century) these two brothers are described as being "of Shobdon".

I am pretty certain that they were not living at this place in 1653, since besides the above mentioned evidence in favour of them living at Elton, Richard explicitly mentions a visit to Shobdon, "Borrowed of Mr. Scott when I went to Shobdon", 3, and soon after, "Towards my expences at Shobdon and to ye servants", 8. Now he would hardly write in this way if he lived there.

It is possible that Richard, Charles and Margaret did not move to Shobdon until 1655, when Richard married Susan, daughter of Thomas Wigmore of Shobdon, at this place. There are several references to Mr. Wigmore and Mrs. Wigmore, no doubt the father and mother of the girl he was to marry. The following year Margaret married a John Matthews, also at Shobdon.

Nos. 120 and 165 respectively refer to his sister Griffiths and his brother Griffiths. As you can see from the pedigree the probability is that his sister Mary had married a Griffiths, and that he called her by her married name, as indeed he does Martha. His brother Griffiths would of course refer to his brother-in-law. But it is a little difficult to see why this brother-in-law should have been the one to attend to certain matters in connection with Francies's funeral. It rather looks as though Francies did not die at Elton, but perhaps at this brother-in-law's house; at any rate Richard apparently pays the expenses of the funeral.

Richard visits Longnor, the original home of the Corbetts, once (70). Jane Corbett, his grandmother, described in her will as "widow, of Longnor", was living there then (will signed 1654) possibly with those of her unmarried sons then living.

Two of Richard's uncles, Humphrey and Robert, are mentioned as renting lands in Longnor. But in the Visitation of 1623 Robert is described as "Goldsmith of London", so he was not living in Longnor at that time. Richard meets his Uncle George at Ludlow once (153).

Now as regards his cousins, there is no doubt that one of the Fowlers of Harnage Grange, Shropshire, was his "cozen fowler". Edward Corbett, the second son, had married Ann, fifth daughter of Sir Richard Newport, and Richard Fowler of Harnage Grange, married Margaret, fourth daughter of Sir Richard.

Again, Richard Fowler, a younger son from the Grange, married Sarah Burton, a descendant in the third generation from Edward Burton, who was brother to Jane Corbett, our Richard's great, great, grandmother (see pedigree).

He frequently mentions going to "ye Grange" (35, 57, 100), perhaps this was Harnage Grange.

The other cousin, Newton, whom he was with at Chirbury, may well have been one of the Newtons of Heightley, a village only a mile or so from Chirbury. Referring to the pedigree we see that Edward Burton married Elizabeth Newton of Heightley. The entry before that describing the meeting with "my cozen Newton at Cherbury" is "To ye servants at Haghly" (51). Now this could be an old spelling of Heightley. I find it spelt in Harleian MSS. both "Highlee" and "Heighley", both without the "t".

It is interesting to note, by the way, that in the list of Longnor rents occurs the name "Shewter Withington". This man, spelt "Seawster Withington", was one of the witnesses to Jane Corbett's will in 1654. He was the son of Edward and Bridgett Withington, and was born in Longnor in 1618 (Longnor Parish Register).

Many rents are described as owing from "Langton", a place which spelt as such has completely disappeared. I can only suppose it to be an old spelling of Longden, which is four miles N.W. of Longnor and where it might be presumed that the Corbetts' held lands.

How old was Richard Corbett when he bought the almanack? Unfortunately all attempts at finding the date of his birth have proved fruitless; we can only make a rough guess. Thomas, the third son, was born in 1622, Martha in 1623, so that Waties, the fourth son, may have been born in 1624, Francies, the fifth son, 1625, and Richard 1626. This would give about the earliest year he could have been born, but of course one or more of the other daughters may have intervened. At the most, therefore, he would be twenty-seven years of age in 1653, three years younger than Martha.

As to his character, disposition, etc., we have clearly a picture of a young man not very robust, careful of his health, attentive to his personal appearance, clean shaven, and probably wearing a wig, as on one occasion, No. 97, he had his head shaved; soberly but neatly dressed in the fashion of the period rather after the style of the cavaliers than the Puritans, since he had his fringed gloves, cambric cuffs and bands and ribbons. He would be scholarly and serious minded, fond of books and reading; he knew his Latin and could write an excellent hand. Painstaking and careful he was to a degree we should think extraordinary nowadays, noting down with precision the smallest items, "layd out for my own use 6d", etc. In a note

on Religion he quotes "*Beatitudo non est divinarum cognitio, sed vita divina*"—"for Beatitudo doth not consist in the knowledge of divine things, but in a Divine Life". In the very next note he refers to the uncertainty of Riches, Honour, Health and Life—had he not just lost four of his nearest relations, including his father and mother?

No doubt there were many debts to settle and sales of lands to attend to, and the responsibility and worry of so much business must at times have lain heavy on his young head. He comforts himself with a philosophical axiom: "Griefe for things past yt cannot be remedied, and care for things to come yt cannot be prevented, may easily hurt, can never benefit mee. I will therefore commit myselfe to God in both and enjoy ye present."

So he buys his clothes and his books, his cane and a new sword, is attentive to the furnishing of his study and the mending of his watch, boots, saddle, etc.; and what time he is not travelling about the country on business we can imagine him at his house at Elton, reading, seeing to household matters, occasionally listening to a strolling fiddler and enjoying it, or to "ye man yt played of ye Hoboy," eating his cakes and sweetmeats and taking a glass of wine.

He sees that all the tradesmen are duly paid, Cooper the shoemaker, Jones the taylor, the carpenter, the weaver, the apothecary, and he is even punctual in paying his doctor.

He gives to the poor on two occasions: (62) "To ye poore 4/-", and again soon after the funeral of his brother Francies, (183) "To ye poore £1-13-4."

At No. 145 he goes to the assizes at Presteign, and at No. 148 he gives £1-10-0 to the City of Hereford, whether this was just a gift or whether he was adjudged to pay this money at the assizes in the way of a fine or other forfeiture, we do not know. Most probably it was a fine since, No. 150, 4d. is paid for an acquittance, and the Royalists were always being fined in those days.

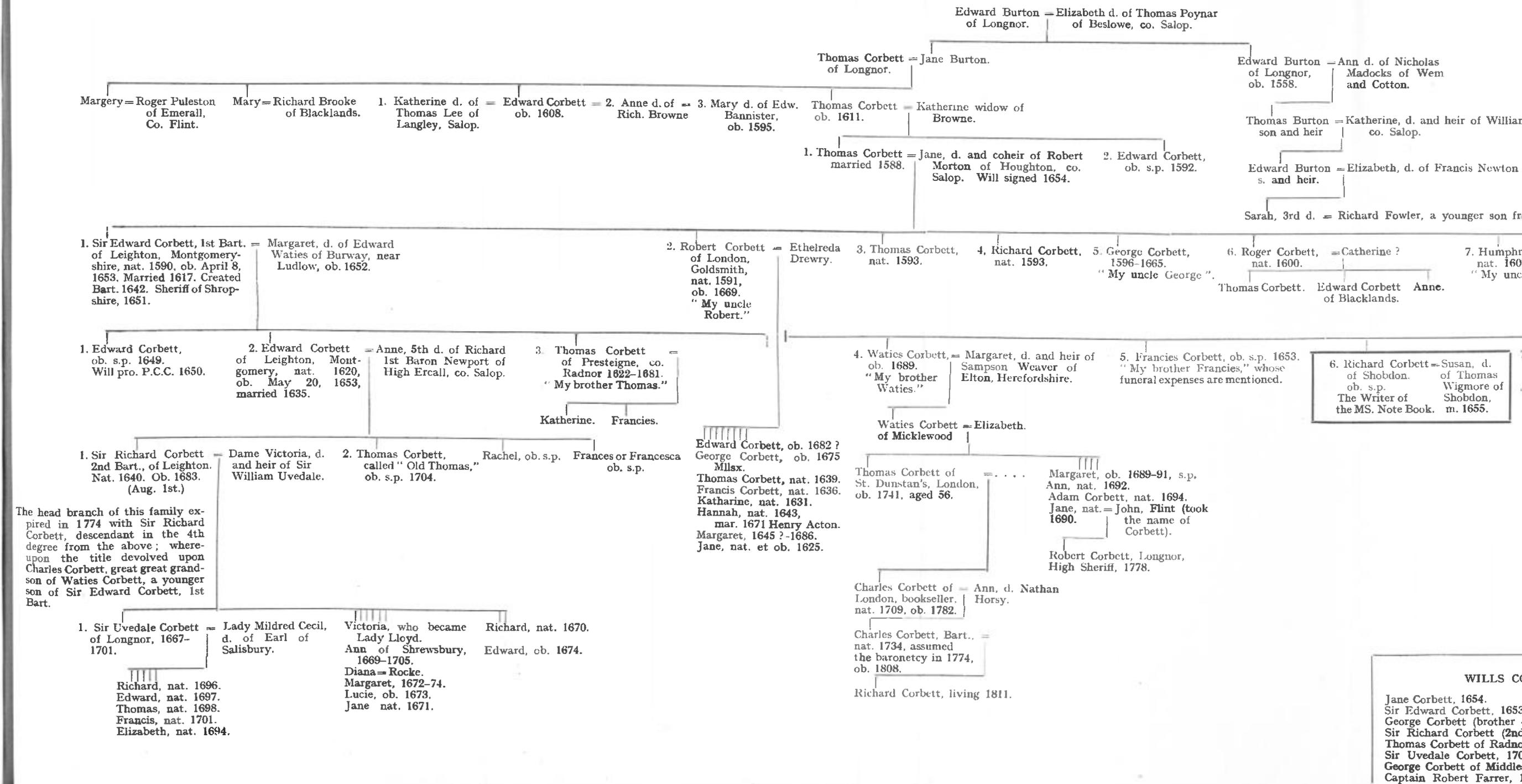
And here we must take leave of Richard Corbett and his almanack. There is no doubt that much as been left unsaid, as a subject of this sort admits of unlimited amplification and research. However, my object will have been achieved if these few notes have served to introduce to the reader a very interesting and hitherto entirely unknown seventeenth century personality, and been the means of adding yet another chapter, however short, to the histories of Shropshire and Herefordshire.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

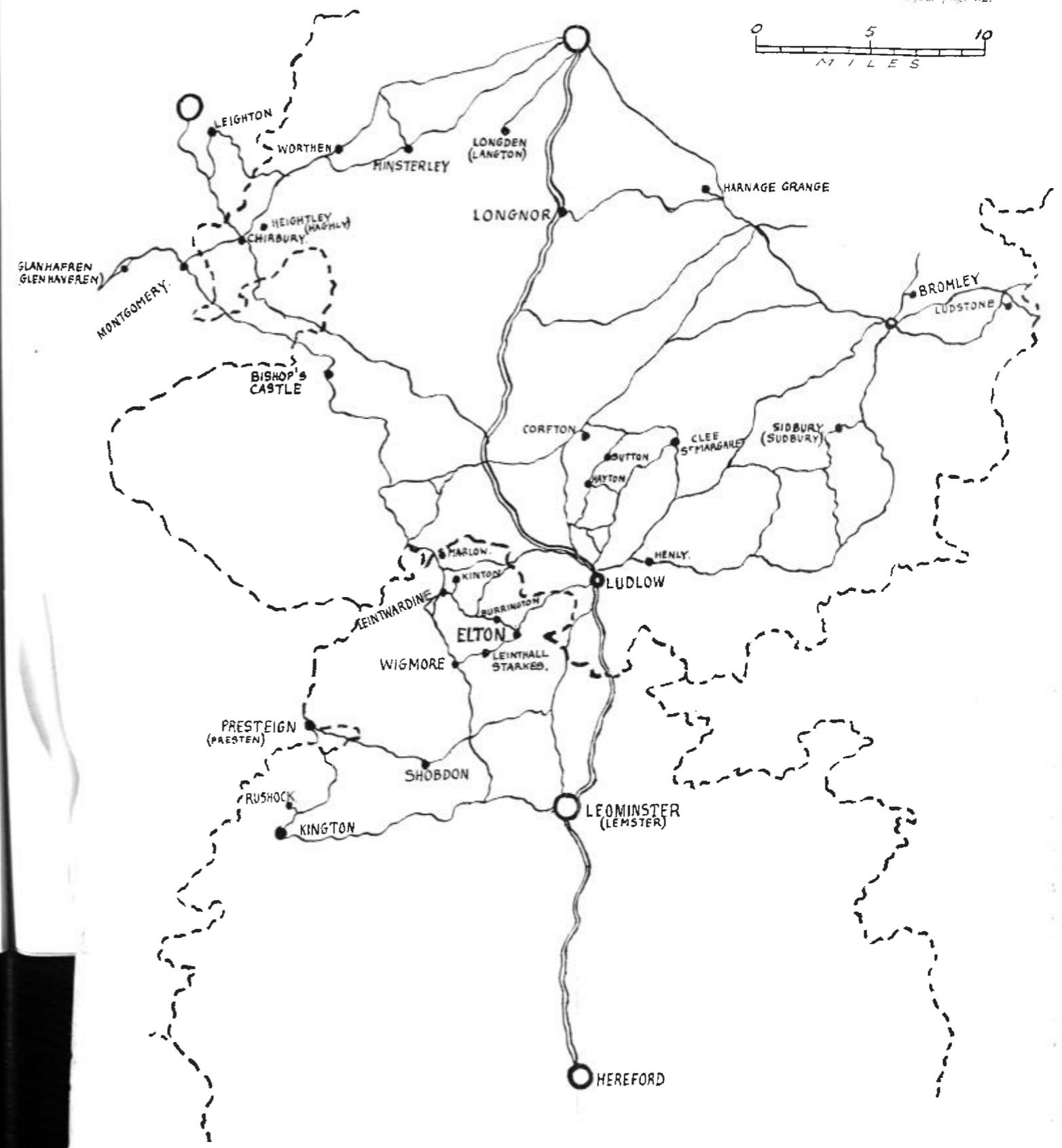
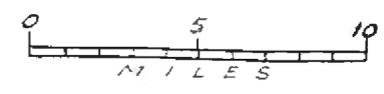
My best thanks are due to Mr. George Marshall, F.S.A., of Breinton, Herefordshire, for starting me off on the right track in the investigations which led eventually to the discovery of the owner's name, and for subsequent help, and to the late Miss Emily Lawn, M.A., for her kind assistance in searching the wills.

PEDIGREE OF THE CORBETTS OF LONGNOR, SALOP.

Compiled from the Visitation of 1623, Parish Registers, Wills, Harleian MSS., Bigland's MSS. Collections in the College of Arms, London, and other sources.



WILLS CO
Jane Corbett, 1654.
Sir Edward Corbett, 1653.
George Corbett (brother of Sir Richard Corbett (2nd Thomas Corbett of Radnor Sir Uvedale Corbett, 1701 George Corbett of Middles Captain Robert Farrer, 16



MAP, SHEWING PLACES MENTIONED IN RICHARD CORBETT'S DIARY.

PIPE CHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE.

By GEORGE MARSHALL, F.S.A.

(Read 22nd June, 1939.)

I have been moved to make the following observations on Pipe church after a perusal of a volume of churchwardens' accounts of the parish covering the years 1695 to 1840, and a book, with MS. notes made, during the rebuilding of the nave and tower in 1873-1874, by the Rev. Francis T. Havergal, who was the vicar at that time. These documents have been put at my disposal by the good offices of the Rev. S. L. Thompson, the present vicar. At the same time it will be the means of correcting the description of the church given in the *Report of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments in Herefordshire*.¹

At the time of the Domesday Survey, Pipe was held by the Canons of Hereford. There was one hide liable to tax, and one plough and sixteen acres of meadows, and it was worth 5/-. As there is no reference to its being held by any different owner in the time of King Edward the Confessor, it would appear that the Canons had possession of it before the Conquest.

That there was a church on the site before that time is probable, but there is little evidence, except documentary inference, and a few architectural deductions, of any church previous to the structure as it stood before the restoration of 1873-1874, at which date the whole of the nave and tower were taken down and rebuilt on the same foundations, most of the old features being retained.

There are two facts which point to there having been an early Norman building on the spot. The first is the position of the north doorway of the nave. Havergal in his notes says that this doorway was 20 feet 6 inches from the west wall to the west jamb, but it is now only 19 feet between these points.² The nave is 47 feet long, so that the doorway before rebuilding was nearly midway in the wall and not opposite the south doorway, which occupies

¹ In this Report the nave and tower are shown on the plan as if they were ancient. The nave is said to date from 1200, but it was entirely rebuilt in 1873-1874. The tower is said to have been restored in 1816, of which there is no evidence. It was rebuilt at the same time as the nave. Also that the chancel was restored in 1874, but this work was carried out some years earlier.

² The plan in the Royal Commission's Report shows it as about 16 feet from the west wall, which is incorrect.

a normal position, *i.e.* much nearer to the west than the east wall. From the position of the north doorway it may be inferred that the nave was originally shorter than at present and was lengthened about 1180-1200 when a reconstruction of the nave took place, the earlier north wall with its doorway being retained and lengthened. Had the whole wall been taken down at this time and rebuilt the doorway would without doubt have been placed in the normal position opposite the south door and about three-quarters of the way from the east end.

The second piece of evidence indicating the existence of an early Norman stone church is the fact that the chancel, now existing, was built about 1280. If the chancel was rebuilt at the time of the lengthening of the nave at the end of the twelfth century it is very improbable that it would have required rebuilding a hundred years later.

In trying to recover the evolution of the fabric it will be helpful to state the condition the church was in before the rebuilding of the nave and tower so far as can be gathered from the churchwardens' accounts, the Rev. Havergal's notes and drawings, and a photograph of the south side of the church made before the restoration, and from the fabric itself.

The chancel dates from about 1280-1300 and remains substantially as then erected. In 1869 it was restored and the inner walls refaced. In 1871 the addition of a vestry was made against the west part of the north wall, when a single trefoil light window no doubt taken from this wall was reset in the east wall of the vestry. In the west wall of the vestry is a blocked fourteenth century window of two trefoiled lights with ogee heads, and square top. It may have come from the north wall of the chancel. It cannot have come from either of the nave walls, for these had not then been pulled down.

There was no chancel arch when the nave was rebuilt, the lay out, then existing, being retained. That there was originally a wall and arch here is evident, for the end of the north and south walls of the chancel abut against nothing, being set in inside the line of the inner faces of the nave walls as if the chancel were about to be telescoped into the nave. The removal of the chancel arch and surrounding wall no doubt took place when the present nave roof was erected about 1500. When the late thirteenth century chancel was built it is probable that there was a narrow early Norman arch in being which was allowed to remain, and when a new roof to the nave was required about 1500 the opportunity was taken to do away with this obstruction and put up a screen with a rood loft the whole width of the chancel and nave in the fashion of the time. Of these new features there only remain the bressummer of the loft carved with a trailing vine pattern, and nine stone steps with a ten inch rise against the north wall of the nave, which must have led to

the rood loft. The screen and loft had disappeared at some time, unrecorded, before 1873. The carved beam before the restoration was three feet lower than at present and eleven inches nearer the chancel, and no doubt *in situ*, for the Rev. F. T. Havergal explains that he moved it to its present position, with apologetic remarks for having done so, because it cut across the east window, and he justified his action on the ground that this must have been its original position without producing any evidence in support of such a claim.

The north wall of the nave had "several buttresses", but Havergal does not describe them except to mention that one was "6 to 7 feet east" of the tower. This buttress may have been built at the junction of the extension of the wall to the west. Had these buttresses been flat Norman ones and so an integral part of the wall, no doubt they would have been reinstated. It may be noted that the masonry of the present wall is made up of good squared stones in random courses, except near the top where they are of a more roughly worked nature. Probably the earlier east end portion of the wall was composed of these stones in coursed masonry, as is commonly to be found in early Norman work, examples of which are to be seen at Bishopstone, Castle Frome, and elsewhere.

When the wall was pulled down it was found to be "set with good mortar and several stones were full the thickness of the wall". In the wall were found pieces of "tufa" (travertine), which suggest an early Norman building. These stones were probably the quoin stones of the west end of the original wall which would have been removed to make a bond for the extension. One Norman corbel stone was found in the wall, and another formed the sill of the little lancet window near the doorway. These carved stones, one of which is presumably the muzzled bear lying in the churchyard, might have been corbels at either end of the early wall, the one being re-used for the lancet window sill at the time of lengthening the wall, and the other being built into the wall when it was raised about 1500. "Several large pieces of chamfered base and one piece of a window jamb" were also found. What Havergal calls pieces of chamfered base are more likely to have been the chamfered overhang to carry the wall plate at the top of the Norman wall, which would have been removed and used up when the wall was heightened for the present roof. There does not seem to have been any base course from which the stones could have come. Base courses in early Norman times are very rare. Had Havergal recorded the whereabouts in the wall of these different finds it would have been possible to make deductions from them more certain.

There is a good deal of ambiguity about the north doorway. Its position in the wall has already been discussed, but whether

its shape as Havergal found it has been retained is not certain. He gives a drawing of the interior arch with a pointed head similar to that over the south doorway, but the head is now rounded and probably always was so. This would indicate that it was of an earlier date than the south doorway. This roundheaded arch is 8 feet 4 inches high and 3 feet wide. The doorway from the ground sill to the underside of the lintel is now 5 feet 8 inches and 2 feet 4 inches wide. It has a shouldered arch not uncommon in Norman doorways. The lintel stone appears to be entirely new and also the shoulder stones, but it is possible the latter have been redressed. The jambs are plain chamfered with chamfered stops. The whole of the doorway was walled up with stones set in clay not mortar. It is now walled up and there is no door. It had holes for a draw-bar and a hole for a lock bolt. These features have been clumsily reproduced and in a way that would be useless in practice.

The south wall of the nave has the original doorway reset in the rebuilt wall at its former level and no doubt in the same position. It has an acutely pointed arch with a continuous heavy roll moulding, and is now very lofty, having about two feet of plain walling below the old stops. It would appear that the ground outside the church was formerly much higher and was reduced to its present level at the rebuilding so obviating a descent by steps into the church. A photograph and drawing in the Pilley Collection taken before the rebuilding in 1873-1874 shows that all along this wall the ground was higher as it is still immediately opposite the doorway.

In these illustrations a stone porch is shown with plain walling and a round-headed arch at the entrance. This is the porch that was built in 1831-1832. The churchwardens' accounts give particulars of this headed "An account of the expense of taking down the old and building a new Porch in the Church". The whole cost came to £15 7s. 9d. The new porch was of stone, roofed with stone tiles and had seats. The previous porch had caused a great deal of trouble through constant repairs.

The present porch was not erected at the time of the rebuilding of the nave and tower, but some years later, at the expense of Mrs. Mary Built of Hereford in memory of her husband, who is interred at the entrance. It is not bonded to the nave wall.

In the south nave wall just to the east of the porch was a plain two-light trefoil headed window, which may have dated from the latter half of the thirteenth century. Inside it had shouldered stops and a flat head. Another rather smaller window at the east end of the wall had two lights with trefoil heads, carried up into ogee curves, in a square headed stone. Inside it had a pointed head, but this had been filled up making it flat headed. This window was of fourteenth century date. There may have been

another window to the west of the porch, but it does not show in the photographs or drawings.

At the east end of this wall was a large buttress, which Havergal says was rebuilt as it was before. He also tells us that in taking down "the south wall of nave and buttress next the chancel" a window sill and part of another was found in the buttress precisely similar to the sill of the window now moved to the N. (*sic*) side of the vestry. This must refer either to the window in the east wall of the vestry, or more likely to the blocked one in the west wall, as the north window is modern. If the latter it may be a piece of chamfered worked stone somewhat L shaped lying in the churchyard, but this stone though at first sight made for such a purpose shows on close examination that it cannot have been a portion of a window sill. The chamfered mouldings suggest that it might be part of a transom of a double light window, but if so it was never glazed as there are no grooves for glass. Almost certainly it is piece of a gable cross that stood over the chancel arch previous to its destruction about 1500. If this is so it might well have been used up in the buttress which was newly built at this time, and fixes a date for the scratch dial on a butt end of the stone, which is an irregular octagon, 8 inches on the square. The dial is divided into twelve hours in the lower half of a circle, showing that it is of late date. In the old photograph there can be detected a stone which might well be this dial, but it does not come out sufficiently clearly to be certain of this.

"At the east end of this wall" was found a broken cross slab in two pieces, which by the sketch given dates from about 1290. Havergal surmises that it was "broken up before it was used for building purposes in the XVth century, as I suppose," but he does not say in what part of the wall it was, but presumably the upper portion. There was also "another sill of the smallest lancet windows in a perfect state". This might equally well have been a sill to a small rounded headed Norman window. He further tells us that "the wall outside especially towards the bottom was constructed with mortar of extreme hardness of much better quality than we had found in any other portion of the masonry taken down. The wall was most irregularly built in every way tapering outwards considerably", and he gives a sketch with a batter on the outside and a more accentuated one on the interior.

There was a diagonal buttress at the south-west angle of the wall, and the line where the wall was raised two or three feet when the new roof was erected about 1500 can be clearly seen in the old photograph, but there is no definite evidence available to put a date to the lower part of the wall, except that it was earlier than 1500.

The west wall of the nave before rebuilding was as regards the openings substantially as at present. Havergal states that

the wall was "in a hopelessly shaken state", otherwise the tower was very solid and massive but much fissured. At the same time he says that this wall was not bonded into the north wall of the nave, that the tower wall at top was 3 feet 11 inches thick and that the drip course of the earlier roof could be seen on the face of the tower and that the centre stone of the top course was cut as the termination of the early English gable of which he gives a little drawing. A further drawing shows a large tie beam against the tower at the wall plate level, another a few feet lower starting from the south wall to about three-quarters of the way across the nave pinned by a piece of timber through the blocked window and joined near the south wall by a piece of timber to the tie beam above. Of this he remarks: "a clumsy beam intended to prevent the western wall bulging inwards" and "I conclude that the whole of this west wall had been built up from the inside at the same time as the south wall of the nave was altered and raised to receive the present timber roof wall plates". Two large fissures are shown from top to bottom close to the north wall of the nave, which wall was leaning outwards.

It is not easy to make conclusive deductions from what Havergal has recorded. In one place he says the tower wall was 4 feet thick, and in another that the top of the wall was 3 feet 11 inches. If this were the thickness throughout, the skin wall which was on the nave side must have reached the whole height of the tower. Otherwise one might surmise that it rose only to the wall plate and was erected in the 15th century when the nave was re-roofed, as Havergal suggests. If it had been built the full height of the tower at this time the drip course of the earlier roof would not have been visible. The probability is that the west wall of the nave was thickened when the tower was built by erecting against it on the inner side a skin wall some 12 to 18 inches thick the whole height of the tower. A new drip course would then have been incorporated in this new wall and have remained visible on the face. Further proof of this may be gathered from Havergal's statement that no quoin stones of the window could be seen on the nave face of the wall which would be natural if the wall were built over and the window filled up at the same time.

There was a doorway from the nave into the tower with a rather flattened round head in stone quite plain on the nave side, but the main thickness of the wall behind this arch was supported by horizontal pieces of timber. This opening has been replaced as it was, except that a rough stone arch has been substituted for the timbers. It was probably an opening made in the seventeenth century, as no mention of it appears in the churchwardens' accounts dating from 1695, and it certainly is not mediæval. In this opening, the stone arch may have represented the thickness of the skin wall, and the rear or west part, supported by the timbers, the original

west wall of the nave. There was and is a doorway into the tower in the south wall also of uncertain character, but it may have been the original entrance.

In pulling down the tower Havergal says that some small pieces of stone with roll moulding were found in various parts, and gives a sketch of one similar to the moulding on the south doorway. There does not seem to be any place where these stones could have come from, possibly they were a few worked stones that were never used when the nave was reconstructed about 1180.

The tower was added to the church about 1230, judging by the mouldings on the fine base. This base consists of six courses. Starting at the bottom course, the first is an upright stone with a plain chamfer; the second a plain upright stone; the third a battered course with a slight feather-edge overhang; the fourth and fifth are battered courses with a throated overhang; and the sixth a thin stone with a round moulding with a flattened top, and a fillet on the face and throated underneath. Very few of the stones of this base course on the south side were good enough for use again.

When the tower was rebuilt all the dressed stones of the lancet windows, most of which were sound, were replaced in their original order. The lancet in the west wall of the ground floor has a round opening over the top of it, which does not look like a mediæval feature, and presumably was introduced at the rebuilding, though the extra light it gives is of little account.

The tower had a shingled spire, which Havergal says had a weather cock, and was in a hopelessly decayed state and gives a drawing of the construction of the timbers, which were set out in a curious manner. On the centre tree was cut "W.T. 1648," but, he says, "which I scarcely consider genuine. In fact I am almost certain 1848 is about the time it was cut." At what date the spire was erected it is now impossible to say, but in 1751 it was reshingled, £2 being paid for "Rent", no doubt rent oak for the shingles and £3 5s. 0d. "to the workmen for shingleing the steeple". At the rebuilding the tower was left unfinished and is so shown in a drawing of the north side of the church, signed C[harles] W[alker], in the Pilley collection. In this state it remained until 1885-1886, when the present spire on the lines of the old one was built at a cost of £610, which included £60 allowed for the old timber. There had been a good deal of dispute as to whether a stone spire should be built in the place of the wooden one.

The nave roof is of the curved braced collar-beam type, with the principals and purlins moulded. Havergal says that only one short length of the moulding, of which he gives a section, survived, the rest having been cut away to get a flat surface for nailing on the laths when the open roof was ceiled in. This plaster

ceiling was put up in 1817 during the incumbency of the Rev. William Cooke. In the churchwardens' accounts is an entry which states that a special meeting was held on the 23rd of May, Ascension Day, 1816, when it was resolved:—"1. That a proper ceiling to the church and chancel of Pipe would be very beneficial to the fabrick and creditable to the Parish. 2. That the measure is rendered more necessary from the following circumstances: 1st, the best repairs that have been made to the roof have been found insufficient to keep out the snow at the winter season; 2nd, That driving snow has so penetrated through the tile, has (*sic*) been a preventative to the regular sitting of the Families attending Divine Service, And that the Vicar be asked to give a donation towards defraying the cost of the same, also the Governors of Guy's Hospital, the Dean and Chapter of Hereford, and the rest be made by a parish assessment."

A bill of £10 paid in 1817, "to Forister Davies for plaistering the church", was no doubt for the ceiling.

That the roof gave constant trouble over many years may be gathered from the churchwardens' accounts, where there are numerous entries for tiles, moss, laths and nails for its repair.

When this roof was erected the opportunity was taken to remove the old narrow chancel arch and surrounding wall, which would have required heightening had it been retained because the new roof was set out at a lower pitch than the old one, necessitating the raising of the nave walls to keep the ridge of the roof at about the old level. The chancel wall having been removed was replaced by a screen, with a rood loft, wooden tympanum and a framed wooden gable¹ probably filled with wattle and daub, but afterwards renewed with brick nogging. It is now hung with tiles on the outside. The tie beam at wall plate level of this framing is moulded and embattled, and on the underside are mortice holes to receive a framing, which would have been boarded over to the level of the loft and painted with a doom. In front of it would have stood the rood with Mary and John on either side. Unfortunately all below the tie beam with the exception of the bressummer of the loft has disappeared.

That the date of these alterations is late in the Gothic period is evidenced by the stylistic vine leaves, on a square or oblong plan, carved on the loft beam and the groove under it, shows that there was a brattishing, or inverted cresting. The general arrangement of the boarded tympanum in place of a chancel arch is a late feature, probably after 1500, common to this border country.

¹ This gable was nearly blown down on a Sunday morning when the rebuilding of the nave was in progress. Just before a service which was to be held in the chancel, the wind blew the gable several feet out of the perpendicular, and the service had to be held in the schoolroom.

At the restoration in 1873-1874 it was proposed to rebuild the nave without taking down the roof, which was actually shored up and the north wall removed, but on close inspection the timbers were found to be in a bad state, especially at the tower end. The tiles were then taken off and the timbers lowered into the church, taken to pieces and repaired. The mouldings were re-worked on the principal timbers and purlins, but the lesser rafters are plain and probably always were so.

There was a gable window in the roof over the loft on the south side, shown in a drawing in the Pilley Collection of about 1830. Later the gable was removed and a skylight substituted. This window was most likely an insertion of the 17th or 18th century to light the loft where the musicians and choir would have been installed. It is improbable that it was introduced to light the pulpit. It was not renewed at the restoration.

Havergeral tells us "Search was made carefully for old stones, indicating early work, but one only (*sic* but see *ante*) was found, a rough circular piece of a shaft or column." No doubt this is the stone now lying in the churchyard. It has a diameter of 9½ inches and is 15 inches long, and a V shaped groove down the back 1¾ inches deep and 1¼ across which turn down under the base, or more likely what was the upper surface, to a shallow circular sinking. If the latter, the basin of a piscina stood on this stone, and the water was conducted down the channel against the wall into the usual sump. The stone would therefore be part of a Norman pillar piscina. He also says "the walls were repeatedly searched for traces of any early decoration, and samples of the same were preserved," but he gives no description of them, and they now appear to be lost.

The additional stone required for rebuilding the nave and tower came from the now disused quarry at Shelwick near Lower Lyde Court belonging to Guy's Hospital.¹ Shortly afterwards the quarry was closed and planted with ash to supply poles for the hopyard on this farm. The hopyard is gone, but the ash grove remains. Nine tons of Corsham stone were also used in the building, and £7 19s. 0d. was paid for it to Randall, Saunders and Co.

The architect of the work was Mr. Frederick R. Kempson, assisted by Mr. Thomas Nicholson, who was responsible for the organ, both of Hereford. Mr. Kempson received his inspiration for the design of the windows from the beautiful Early English work at the church of Acton Burnell in Shropshire. There were never any windows of this type at Pipe before the rebuilding.

¹ The stone used in building St. Nicholas church (1842), St. Martin's church (1845), and the City Gaol and Police Station (1842) in Hereford, came from this quarry.

From the ancient features of the church that have survived, and by deduction from the notes on the state of the building in 1873 left by the Rev. F. T. Havergal and other sources, the evolution of the church may be summarised as follows :—

1. *Ante* 1066. The first church on the site was built most likely of wood in Saxon times adjoining to what may be a Bronze Age burial mound. There was apparently a settlement of these people in a field on the left of the road from Moreton to Burghill by the Portway. The remains of this barrow, if such it is, are represented by the high ground at the south-west end of the church.

2. *Circa* 1100. The wooden church gave place to an early Norman structure in stone with nave, chancel and narrow chancel arch.

3. *Circa* 1180. The nave of this church was lengthened about 7 to 10 feet and the present south doorway built.

4. *Circa* 1230. A tower was added against the west wall of the nave.

5. *Circa* 1280. The small Norman chancel was pulled down and replaced by the present one.

6. *Circa* 1500. The existing roof of the nave and probably that of the chancel, and a screen, rood loft and tympanum were built in place of the narrow Early Norman chancel arch and surrounding walls which were done away with.

7. 1817. The nave and chancel were ceiled.

8. 1831. A new porch was built in stone.

9. 1869. The chancel was restored, the inner walls being refaced in stone.

10. 1871. The vestry was added against the north wall of the chancel.

11. 1873, 1874. The nave, and tower were taken down and rebuilt, the porch removed, and the roof repaired and re-erected.

12. *Circa* 1880. The present stone porch was erected.

13. 1885, 1886. The present shingled spire on the lines of the old one was added to the tower.

The above remarks are an attempt to trace the evolution of the fabric and may be of help to someone who will write an exhaustive history of the church, including the numerous fittings, which I have not space to deal with here.

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THE HEREFORD "TIME GUNS".

By CAPT. F. B. ELLISON.

(Read 24th August, 1939.)

In the last century, watches and clocks were not as numerous as to-day. Mass production had hardly been thought of in those days, and the need of them was not felt in Hereford, for had not the "Merrie City" got its famous "Time Guns", fired every day at exactly 1.0 p.m.

Where did Hereford get its idea of this time gun from? Was one of the citizens a Scotchman, who remembered the famous Edinburgh Castle gun roaring out the time day after day, or was the idea taken from one in London at the Tower, of years ago?

Where the idea came from we do not know, all we know is that Hereford had two "Time Guns" in the last century, and it is about these two I am now about to tell you something.

The first and probably the best known was the Waterworks Gun. This was a large and powerful gun, the length being about 7ft. 7in., the bore being $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, muzzle loading and of the type used in 1817, with a touch hole at the breech end and fired by a fuse, or sometimes just touched off with a lighter or a match. This I found after a lengthy search in the Hereford Corporation yard. At present it is mounted on iron wheels. The gun is a fine one, rather ornate and very heavy, weighing no less than 2 tons $1\frac{3}{4}$ cwt., and reminds me of the one now on the Castle Green.

This gun stood until 1874 on Broomy Hill, inside the Waterworks enclosure, and was fired every day at one o'clock, or as near to that hour as the "Keeper of the Time Gun" kept his own watch, which I expect was sometimes a bit fast and sometimes a bit slow.

Before the performance commenced the Keeper, watched by a few privileged spectators, would carefully weigh out the proper amount of the coarse gunpowder used in those days, and insert a short length of touchpowder or fine gunpowder (later, perhaps years after, a short length of fuse would be used, which naturally for the Keeper would be safer), then the charge would be rammed home and kept safe by a wad, or more likely by a piece of the *Hereford Journal* which had been kept handy.

All was now ready for the great moment, the spectators were moved well back and out of the way and the Keeper, admired

by the youngsters, gallantly came forward and with due solemnity lit the fuse and stepped well away to the side, as the recoil of the gun was considerable. In a few seconds the great gun roared out, re-coiled on its carriage and Hereford heard with pleasure or pain the "Time". The discharge produced a tremendous bang, accompanied with volumes of blue smoke which, if the wind was in that quarter, covered the few and privileged spectators. For youngsters this was a great treat and "Grandfather", probably on the City Council, took his relatives very occasionally to see this well known event.

The gun had a Keeper, for a well known historian tells us that in a procession in the City he appeared as follows:—

"The Keeper of the Time Gun, with Bezant's celebrated fourteen and sixpence Chronometer watch, by which the firing of the Gun is regulated, and box of fuses used for lighting the charge (and the Time-keeper's pipe)."

I enjoyed reading this skit the other day about the "Time Gun", and have wondered if "Grandfather" who wrote this happened to know the name of the Keeper as Bezant.

The exact date when the gun was first fired I cannot find out, but in 1874 someone fired it at night to the great consternation of the City. Now who was that? If he is still alive and will tell me, I will promise not to let this out to the Chief Constable. At any rate this upset the City Fathers, for the gun was spiked or leaded up at the touch hole and so made impossible to fire. It was removed from its position and was found by me amongst the rubbish in the Corporation yard. Why cannot this old relic be put on its carriage and placed on the Castle Green with a notice to say what it was and thus provide another interesting relic of what happened years ago?

So much for the grand old gun, and now let me tell you something of the second gun. After the Time Gun had gone, a Doctor Isbell provided another small gun and collected some subscriptions to run it with. This gun was fired every day at one o'clock commencing in 1879. It was kept at Jordan's Boat House, pulled along the bank of the River Wye for a hundred yards or so daily, and then fired, to the admiration of all youngsters in the vicinity.

It was scrapped after Dr. Isbell had secured a much bigger one, about 24 inches long with a bore of an inch or so, mounted on a wooden carriage with four wheels and fired with a stick with a lighted match at the end, which was applied to the touch-hole. The gun, a muzzle-loader, was fired from the "Old Tram" and was kept in a stone-built hut on the arches of the "Tram". The arches which were built for the escape of flood water are there today. The gun was fired by Mr. John King, whose son gave me the

following particulars about it: His father was a clever man and got tired of firing it with a match, so he bored the breech and inserted a nipple. This improvement allowed the gun to be fired with a percussion cap which used to be hit smartly with a small hammer. His father John, not satisfied with this, arranged a steel spring and this when lifted up and allowed to fall, hit the cap and thus fired the gun. All this time the gun was kept up by means of small subscriptions, and all went well until he and some other naughty boys got into the hut, when suddenly the gun went off and boys, gun and the stone hut nearly all disappeared. No lives were lost, but Master King got a good hiding from his irate father, who did not forget to lay the cane well on.

The gun was kept going for some time, and when Dr. Isbell died his son and Harry Jordan carried on the firing, at any rate up to 1881, when the Kings left the City.

This gun cannot be found, but probably some of my readers may give me a clue, and I should like to obtain it for the Hereford Museum.

I have many people to thank for help in writing this paper, but particularly Mr. King of Messrs. Beavan and Hodges, Mr. Jordan, the well-known boat builder, Mr. John Birch and Mr. McNeil Shimmin for being allowed to see their papers, and the City Corporation for access to its annals and permission to photograph the "Time Gun".

DETAILS OF THE OLD "TIME GUN", NOW IN THE CORPORATION
YARD, HEREFORD.

The weight of the gun is 2 tons and $1\frac{3}{4}$ cwts., the length 7 ft. 7 in., the bore is $4\frac{1}{4}$ in. diam. and the length of the bore 7 ft. 0 in.; the muzzle 10 in. wide, and the breech 16 in. wide. It was cast by "Carron" and the date is 1807 or 1817. The number is 83967. The monogram on the top looks like G.R. 3 all entwined and in good order, with the royal crown above, and probably the proof mark above that, thus M. The cast iron carriage with four iron wheels has several marks on it,

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9↑PR
14.2.9.

suggesting that it was a nine pounder, and giving the date of the carriage as well. The elevating gear is still on the carriage, with the worm and the handles in good order. It is a naval gun, as at the breech is a place for the rope to be run through to take up the big recoil, and the wheels are too small to move the gun on land, for they would stick in the ground at once. The sights have gone, but at the muzzle is a nick and on both sides also. The gun, seeing that it has been exposed for over 125 years, is in a wonderful condition and should be preserved.

SOME NOTES ON THE GEOLOGY OF THE
NEWENT DISTRICT.

By L. RICHARDSON, F.R.S.E., P.A.Inst.W.E., F.G.S.

(Read 24th August, 1939.)

Castle Tump, between Dymock and Newent, is situated approximately on the junction-line (which runs roughly north and south) of two great geological systems, namely, the Old Red Sandstone and the New Red Sandstone. Here and there along this junction-line Coal Measures emerge from between the Old and New Red Sandstone formations.

Without going farther back in geological time and into detail, it may be stated that the Old Red Sandstone and earlier rocks of the district between the Ledbury hills and the Woolhope "dome" and May Hill were bent into a trough (syncline) the axis of which continued south-eastwards through the Newent area. The upper beds of the Old Red Sandstone, Carboniferous Limestone (which forms the cliffs of the Wye Valley at Symonds Yat), "Millstone Grit" and Lower Coal Measures are all absent from this district; but the flexured and denuded rocks hereabouts had subsided sufficiently by Upper Coal Measures time to allow of deposition (9,¹ pp. 104, 105). Further crumpling, faulting and denudation took place after the deposition of the Upper Coal Measures, and then subsidence permitted of the accumulation of the New Red Sandstone. The New Red Sandstone or Trias consists in this district, in ascending order, of Bunter Sandstone, Lower Keuper Sandstone and Upper Keuper Marls. Subsequent earth-movements have produced a great fault to the east of Newent (by which the Upper Keuper Marls are let down on the east), and more limited faulting to the west, and, in conjunction with denudation, account for the roughly oblong tract, some seven miles long and on an average about two miles broad, of Bunter and Lower Keuper Sandstone in which are situated Bromsberrow, Ketford, Pauntley and Newent.

The Coal Measures of the Newent Coalfield have been ascertained by a study of such plant-remains as have been obtainable from the tips of the old pits (10; 11, p. 274; see also 14, p. 71) to belong to the Upper Coal Measures. The coal-seams are a Big Coal from 5 to 7 ft. in thickness, and, within some 16 ft. of dark

¹ For references, see p. 52.

shale below, three or four thinner seams totalling about 4 ft. 8 in. The great quantity of water and financial difficulties are the causes given for the short-lived activities of the workings in this coal-field; but much of the coal is shattered and sulphurous and a sample specially burnt for investigation a number of years ago gave high ash.

Coal was first discovered in this district at Bouldon in 1790, and six shafts were sunk (1; 3, p. 154; 5, p. 58; 6, p. 104). Between 1790 and about 1840 numerous attempts were made to exploit the coal at or near its outcrop: for example, at Lower House¹ (3, p. 153), Hill House Colliery on the east side of the Ell Brook between Lower House and Hill House (3, pp. 153, 154; 4, p. 206; 6, p. 106), near White House (6, pp. 104-106), and in Pitleases (6, p. 107) between Little Woodend and Welsh House: but activities appear to have been short-lived except possibly at Bouldon. When the Gloucester and Hereford Canal tunnel was made² it penetrated according to Phillips (6, p. 107) "a thin coal"; but according to information supplied to Murchison (3) no "state of coal" was encountered only "smut."

In 1879 a boring was made and a shaft (said to be 450 ft. deep) sunk by the Newent Colliery Company on the site of the old White House Colliery. The record of the boring given on p. 50 was copied from one inscribed on a piece of board in the possession of Mr. O. T. Price of Newent. Much water from the base of the New Red Sandstone was encountered in the shaft at about 150 deep, and it was here that a chamber was constructed to take the necessary pumping equipment for the colliery. The lithic characters of the Coal Measures indicate that they are practically unproductive of water. On January 19th, 1934, water was standing in the shaft at 44 ft. 8 in. below ground level: an analysis is given on p. 51. The enterprise was abandoned in 1880.

Near the railway west of Oxenhall Court Farm three old shafts are marked on the 6-inch map, of which two are filled in and one is open. Mr. S. M. Reece informs me: "The pit was sunk by a man named Trigg, a local well sinker, now dead. It was begun in 1893 and finished at a depth of 54 yards in 1894. Definite signs of coal were found, but it was never worked and only small quantities of coal were raised by the men employed. Prior to the actual sinking of this shaft a shallow one nearby was filled in after the water had been pumped out. My informant is a man named T. James, who helped Trigg in the work".

The junction of the Coal Measures with the Old Red Sandstone below and the New Red Sandstone above is now nowhere seen;

¹ This may refer to the Hill House Colliery.

² The construction of this canal was authorized by a Special Act in 1792, and by another Act passed in 1870 the canal was transferred to the G.W.R., who made a railway—in places along it.

but in the bank alongside the road at Castle Tump, Phillips (6, p. 107) observed this section:—

"Red Sandstone and Conglomerate almost horizontal, resting on inclined

Coal Measure Clay
White and Yellow Sandstone
Hæmatite Iron Vein
Micaceous Old Red [Sandstone]."

A few years ago this bank was cut back for the improvement of the road, but I have not been successful in detecting the "Coal Measure Clay" and "White and Yellow Sandstone". The "Hæmatite Iron Vein", however, is well displayed, thickly developed, and pebbly in places.

HILLEND GREEN IRON LEVEL (ABANDONED).—The ironstone which was worked here is of the same geological age as that which crops out in the bank alongside the road at Castle Tump. I am indebted to Mr. S. M. Reece, Manager of the Gloucester Corporation Waterworks Pumping Station at Newent, for kindly obtaining for me the following information:—

The iron level was abandoned in 1875. It was worked by Thomas Foley of the Newport Estate, Kington, Herefordshire. It is not known when it was opened; but in the hall of The Furnace, Newent, the residence of Mr. A. R. Onslow (a descendant of the Onslow Foley family), there is a portrait of Thomas Foley in wig and white ties from which it may be surmised that it was "in work" a hundred to a hundred and twenty years ago. The ore was brought down and smelted in barns attached to the house in which Mr. Onslow now lives, hence the name "The Furnace".

NEWENT SPA (DEMOLISHED).—The site of Newent Spa is on the New Red Sandstone (Lower Keuper Sandstone part) near its eastern limit.

The occurrence of "a highly sulphurous medicinal spring" here, which "runs to the surface", was known to Murchison, who refers to it in his *Silurian System*, published in 1839 (pp. 154, 155). Subsequently, a Dr. Richardson, a medical practitioner in Newent, interested himself in the water and gave it what publicity it had: at his own expense he had the site laid out as a garden, a bungalow cottage built, and an attendant there to serve out the water. In 1847 or 1848 the cottage was still standing, but uninhabited and dilapidated, from which it would appear that the doctor had left Newent and that no one took interest in the maintenance of the place. Later, as people coming to drink the water occasioned trouble, the owner had the cottage demolished, the well intercepting the spring covered, and the overflow piped into the Ell Brook. In 1922 no one in the neighbourhood knew of the occurrence of sulphurous springs, only of saline. A sample of the water

taken at the outfall in 1922 (12, pp. 154-156) gave no evidence of sulphuretted hydrogen, but one obtained in 1934 had a very slight smell of it (see page 52).

The water met with in this Newent sandstone tract is very interesting. The subject has been dealt with elsewhere (12, 13); but, in brief, boreholes put down in it usually encounter water increasing in salinity with depth, and, in the neighbourhood of Pauntley, saline and/or sulphur springs are dotted about among the usual springs.

Murchison (3, pp. 155, 156) and Etheridge (7, p. 10) considered that the presence of sulphuretted hydrogen at Newent (Spa) indicated the presence of Coal Measures with iron pyrites (iron sulphide) at no great depth; but Mr. C. C. Duncan, F.I.C., F.C.S., is of opinion (12, p. 158) that "the sulphuretted hydrogen gas . . . is derived from fermenting vegetable matter in the presence of much sulphate, and not from a mineral source."

BORING PUT DOWN FOR THE NEWENT COLLIERY CO.
IN 1879.

	Thickness.	Depth.
	Ft. In.	Ft. In.
NEW RED SANDSTONE.		
Red Sandstone	0 6	0 6
Red Marl	1 0	1 6
Red Sandstone	8 6	10 0
Yellow Sandstone	7 6	17 6
Red Marl	2 0	19 6
Red Sandstone	0 6	20 0
Red Rock Marl	5 0	25 0
Red Sandstone	5 0	30 0
Red Sandstone mingled with marl	19 0	49 0
Red Marl	1 0	50 0
Hæmatite Iron	7 6	57 6
Rocky Sandstone, gravelly	3 0	60 6
Red Sandstone	9 6	70 0
Light Red Marl	8 6	78 6
Light Yellow Sandstone	10 6	89 0
Red Sandstone	1 0	98 0
Red Marl	0 6	98 6
Red Sandstone	37 6	136 0
COAL MEASURES.		
Mingled Marl	29 6	165 6
Blue Rock Binds	5 3	170 9
Light Blue Binds	3 0	173 9
Light Binds	6 0	179 9
Dark Clod	0 9	180 6
Light Blue Rock	2 3	182 9
Brown Binds	2 9	185 6
Light Rock Binds	3 3	188 9
Light Blue Binds	5 8	194 5
Light Binds	13 0	207 5
Dark Binds	2 6	209 11
Light Rock Binds	9 0	218 11
Dark Clunch	1 9	220 8
Coal	0 3	220 11
Dark Binds	1 6	222 5
Light Rock Binds, mingled	0 6	225 11
Light Blue Rock Binds	3 6	229 5

	Thickness.	Depth.
	Ft. In.	Ft. In.
Light Blue Binds	1 7	231 0
Ironstone	2 0	233 0
Light Blue Rock	4 3	237 3
Blue Binds	4 10	242 1
Blue Clunch	4 3	246 4
Coal Smut	0 2	246 6
Dark Clunch with Coal Smut	1 10	248 4
Hard Stone Pyrites	1 3	249 7
Blue Rock Binds	4 5	254 0
Blue Binds	7 0	261 0
Blue Clunch and Coal Smut	2 0	263 0
Light Rock Binds	5 9	268 9
Dark Blue Clunch	9 10	278 7
Strong Binds	14 9	293 4
Light Rock	5 8	299 0
Coal	0 5	299 5
Pricking	0 2	299 7
Light Rock	13 5	313 0
Blue Binds	15 1	328 1
Blue Clunch	6 0	334 1
Coal	6 8	340 9
Clod Parting	0 3	341 0
Coal	2 5	343 5
Dark Blue Clod, tough		

"Binds."—Shaly clay, generally blue.

"Clunch."—Tough clay, breaking into blocks.

"Clod."—Earthy clay, generally black.

WATER ANALYSES

By ROWLAND H. ELLIS, F.I.C., F.C.S.

- Sample taken at outfall (ex pipe) into the Ell Brook (150 yards below Croft's Bridge) of spring intercepted by the well of Newent Spa (disused), 19.12.1933.
- Sample from pit-shaft at Newent Colliery (disused) taken at 150 ft. below the surface. 20.2.1934.

Parts per 100,000.

	1.	2.
Total Dissolved Solids	415.20	47.4
Combined Chlorine	110.5	2.3
Nitrogen present as Nitrates	0.020	0.200
Nitrogen present as Nitrites	Absent	Absent
Mineral Ammonia	0.0208	0.0004
Organic Ammonia	0.0024	0.0020
Oxygen required to oxidise the organic matter in 3 hours	0.089	0.061
Hardness: Temporary	17.8	31.5
Permanent	102.2	5.0
Total	120.0	36.5
<i>The Saline Constituents of the Newent Spa water are:—</i>		
Calcium Carbonate	17.6	
Calcium Sulphate	94.7	
Magnesium Sulphate (Epsom Salts)	33.0	
Sodium Sulphate (Glaubers Salt)	65.3	
Sodium Chloride (Common Salt)	182.1	
Other Salts and Combined Water	22.3	
	415.2	

NOTES.—1. This is a saline water. The sample had a very slight smell of sulphuretted hydrogen, but the quantity present was less than 0.1 parts per 100,000.

2. Analyses show that the composition of this water differs very slightly at depths of 9 ft., 83 ft. and 150 ft. In the sample taken 20.2.34, B. Coli was present 1 per one cubic centimetre.

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AN ADDITIONAL LIST OF ROMAN COINS FOUND
AT KENCHESTER, HEREFORDSHIRE.¹

By the REV. PREBENDARY STEPHEN HENRY MARTIN, M.A.

(Contributed 12th December, 1939.)

From April, 1938, to August, 1939, 182 Roman coins were found at Kenchester or in its neighbourhood. They are in poor condition, as usual, and thirteen are illegible. With the exception of a small silver denarius, they are of copper or of base metal, of no intrinsic value, like our paper currency. Nevertheless, in spite of their poor appearance, they tell us much and suggest more about an obscure period of British history, namely, the years that lie between A.D. 260 and 361, for all but eleven of them were issued between these dates. We are justified in extending this period, for coins minted in 360 might not be found in Herefordshire till perhaps ten years later, especially if they were issued abroad. If anyone today might find in his pocket a halfpenny of 1915, minted in London 26 years ago, our predecessors of A.D. 400, when communications were slower and much interrupted by war, might easily circulate coins that were forty years old. In fact it would be hardly too much to say that most of the coins in our list were current or at least regarded as good for something in A.D. 400.

Roman coins, as compared with ours, are remarkable for their individuality; very few are exactly alike. There were not so many struck at a time, and the types changed more frequently. To distinguish the genuine from the unauthorised coinage they have marks or letters to show where they come from. The first London mint was established by Carausius, continued by Constantine the Great, and then suppressed. Its mark is ML (*moneta Londiniensis*) or LON (*Londinium*). Much of our money was struck at Treves (TR), where the authorities were fond of adding marks or signs to indicate a particular issue, as the Post Office does today. P, S, T (*Prima, Secunda, Tertia*) mean the first, second or third workshops; other indications are the leaf, the wreath, the star and the dot, but no one knows exactly what they mean. There was a less important mint at Lyons (LVG or LG) and a smaller one at Amiens (AMB or ANB). These had their day and ceased to be; but the mint which lasted longest was

¹ For former list see *The Woolhope Club Transactions*, 1938, pp. 128-140.

that of Arles (CON or CONST), because it was nearer Rome and more secure from attack by the barbarians. It had three workshops, distinguished respectively as OF (ficina) I, II, and III.

There is a special interest in three of our coins, because they come from so far away as Alexandria (ALE or AL). Egypt was much valued by the Romans, because it supplied Rome with corn, and being under the special care of the Emperor was given separate administrative arrangements, one of which was to continue the old Greek mint of the Ptolemies. This Greek money was good enough in Egypt but of little value elsewhere, and the soldier (shall we say?) who one day dropped a tetradrachma in Bath Street, Hereford, probably did not feel his loss very keenly. It has on the one side the Egyptian national symbol, the eagle, and on the other the year of its issue, the sixth and last year of the Emperor Aurelian. Readers of Gibbon will remember his account of Aurelian's triumph at Rome, when everyone's eyes were fixed on the three chief captives, Zenobia of Palmyra who had aspired to be queen of the East, and Tetricus and his son, who had ruled over Gaul, Spain and Britain for three years. (See *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, by Edward Gibbon, chapter II.). The second coin has the head of Constantius I, who shared the empire of the world with the great Diocletian, and governed Britain from 293 to 305, dying at York. The third belongs to Diocletian's successor in the East, Licinius, who joined with Constantine in issuing the famous edict of toleration that brought the persecution of the Church to an end, though he himself remained a heathen. The coin is marked SM (*Sacra Moneta*) and probably had the inscription *Jovi Conservatori* ("to Jupiter, my preserver").

The legends on the coins illustrate the ideals of the period. In the third century the commonest types are Hope and Peace, which existed in the minds of men as aspirations only. They disappeared when the longed-for world-peace was more or less established by Diocletian, and were replaced by "The Wolf and the Twins" (Romulus and Remus), "The Fallen Foe" (Rome triumphing over her enemies), "The Victories of our Lords" (*Victoria dominorum nostrorum*), and "The Restoration of Prosperity" (*Felicium temporum reparatio*). The invincible power of Rome is represented by a Phoenix rising out of a heap of ashes or by the Emperor guiding the ship of state, holding in his hand the labarum, the Christian symbol. A coin of this latter type was found on Sutton Walls, probably indicating that there were people living there sometime in the century after A.D. 361. Another coin (of Constantine I) has also been found there (see *The Woolhope Transactions*, vol. 1914, p. 290, but unfortunately no details are given).

It has been discovered that a Kenchester coin (see *The Woolhope Transactions*, end of vol. 1924, "Excavations on the Site of

Magna," pp. 48, and 55, No. 378) is identical with one that has been found at Richborough. It is an imitation and its legend seems to mean nothing; therefore it is called "barbarous". Richborough was, in the fifth and sixth centuries, almost certainly the focus of a locally organised area in which a truly local currency, based on previous Roman models, was produced by petty kings. The post-Roman coins found at Richborough form an individual and independent series showing strongly localised characteristics; and from this series some few pieces, like that from Kenchester, were doubtless diffused from time to time.

If this coin was issued from Richborough in the fifth century it seems to supply evidence that Kenchester was inhabited in the fifth century, say from 400 to 450. This must be balanced against the fact that no coins of any emperor later than Honorius (393-395) have been found in our district.

ROMAN COINS FOUND AT KENCHESTER, 1938, 1939.

A.D. 98-117. TRAJAN. 1.

1 Sestertius.

A.D. 193-211. SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS.

1 Denarius (fragmentary). Mars carrying trophy and spear.

A.D. 260-268. GALLIENUS. 1.

1 M.S. 508. Provid. Aug. II Obv. Gallienus Aug.

A.D. 268-270. CLAUDIUS II. 4.

1 M.S. 102. Spes Publica.

2 M.S. 249. Consecratio. Eagle and altar.

1 Rev. illegible.

GALLIC EMPERORS.

A.D. 268-270. VICTORINUS. 2.

2 M.S. 55. Pax Aug. 1. upright sceptre. 1 transverse.

A.D. 270-3. TETRICUS I. 3.

1 M.S. 148. Virtus Aug. (copy).

1 M.S. 98. Oriens Aug. (barbarous).

1 Rev. illegible.

A.D. 270-3. TETRICUS II. 4.

1 M.S. 270 ff. Spes. A good copy.

1 M.S. 272. Spes publica.

2 M.S. 104. Sacrificial vessels (copy).

BRITISH EMPERORS.

A.D. 287-293. CARAUSIUS. 3.

3 M.S. 101 ff. Pax Aug. ML. ML. $\frac{FO}{ML}$

RADIATE COPIES. 21.

4 Salus type, one with Carausius on obv.

2 Pietas —.

1 Victoria —.

1 Virtus —, with Carausius on obv.

3 Pax Aug. (barbarous).

8 Illegible.

2 Minims.

ROMAN EMPERORS.

- A.D. 286-305. MAXIMIAN. 1.
1 C. 198 ff. Genio populi Romani.
A.D. 293-305. CONSTANTIUS I. Cæsar. 1.
A
1 Genio populi Romani $\frac{XXI}{ALE}$ (The new *Latin* mint at Alexandria).
(Found near Kenchester).
A.D. 307-324. LICINIUS. 2.
1 Genio pop. Rom. $\frac{PLN}{X}$
1 — Conservatori $\frac{II}{SMALB}$ S(acra) M(oneta) Alexandria. Officina II.
(N.B. $\frac{X}{II}$ is a mark of value).
A.D. 305-337. CONSTANTINE I.
4 C. 1 Constantinopolis. Victory. One TRS, one a minim copy.
(These coins were issued 330-337).
1 Gloria exercitus. 2 standards. Max. Aug. $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$
1 C. 332. Populus Romanus (Wreath and star). CONSE.
A.D. 292. THEODORA. 2.
2 Pietas reipublicæ. (Struck under Constantine the Great).
A.D. 317-326. CRISPUS-CÆSAR. 1.
1 Cæsarum nostrorum. VOT. XV MULT. XX.
A.D. 317-337. CONSTANTINE II. CÆSAR. 1.
1 Cæsarum nostrorum. VOTIS X.
A.D. 337-350. CONSTANS. 1.
1 Fel. Temp. Reparatio. Phoenix on heap. TRP.
A.D. 350-363. MAGNENTIUS (Emperor of the West). 3.
2 C. 66-8, Victoriæ DD NN VOT. V MULT X ANB (Amiens).
1 TRS.
1 C. 34. Securitas reipublicæ TR.
A.D. 301-361. CONSTANTINE FAMILY. Obv. uncertain. 22.
12 Gloria exercitus 1 standard $\frac{M}{TRS}$, $\frac{M}{TRP}$, $\frac{XP}{-TR}$, $\frac{XP}{CONST}$
2 standards TRS and five illegible.
8 Victoriæ DD.NN. $\frac{D}{TRT}$, $\frac{D}{TRT}$, $\frac{D}{TR}$, $\frac{O}{TR}$, $\frac{O}{A}$, *, $\frac{D}{-}$,
and a minim copy.
2 Rev. illegible.
A.D. 364-378. VALENS. 2.
2 C. 45. Securitas reipublicæ C 45. $\frac{OF III}{CONT}$
1 C. 11 Gloria Romanorum. $\frac{OF III}{TR-T}$
A.D. 364-392. VALENTINIAN or VALENS. 1.
1 Securitas Reipublicæ $\frac{OF}{SCON}$

- A.D. 367-383. GRATIAN. I.
1 C. 21. Gloria Romanorum $\frac{OF I}{CON}$
Five coins with diademed obv.--Emperor uncertain.
3 Fallen foe type (cf. Constantius II, C. 44).
2 Illegible rev.
ILLEGIBLE COINS, 13.

ROMAN COIN FOUND AT SUTTON WALLS, 1939.

- A.D. 337-361. CONSTANTIUS II. I.
1 C. 33. Fel. Temp. Reparatio. Emperor on ship with labarum. Victory
at helm.

ROMAN COIN FOUND IN HEREFORD, 1939.

- A.D. 270-275. AURELIAN. I.
1 Tetradrachm from the Greek mint at Alexandria.
Obv. Aurelianus Seb. $\xi\rho\upsilon\varsigma$ S (6th year). A.D. 275.
Rev. Eagle. Found in Bath Street in 1939.

REPORTS OF SECTIONAL EDITORS, 1939

ARCHÆOLOGY.

By F. C. MORGAN, F.S.A., F.L.A.

I regret that owing to the abnormal conditions, there are not many items to report to the members of the Club.

Mr. C. Evans has called attention to an interesting sundial (*see illustration*) at Drybridge House, made by P. Miles, London, in 1651, inscribed—

“Swift runs ye tyme ye dyall doth showe
How short ye fleeting life belowe.”

This was bought by the late Mr. C. P. Bird from a secondhand dealer many years ago.

SITE OF NEW HOSPITAL AT HEREFORD.

Mr. Bricknell Webb on the 25th August last reported that a number of skeletons were being found on the site of the new hospital. These were laid at an original depth of about 3 ft. 6 ins. on undisturbed gravel about 5 ft. below the present surface of the soil. One skeleton was found surrounded by pieces of sandstone about 12 ins. in height and covered with several small slabs. The finds of human remains in this part have been very numerous indeed, and when I visited the spot almost every shovelful of soil at the depth mentioned contained bones more or less entire.

Some skulls found on this site, formerly the monastery of St. Guthlac, were sent to the late Dr. Dudley Buxton of the University Museum, Oxford, for a report, but unfortunately his untimely death occurred shortly afterwards, and his successor, Mr. T. K. Penniman, owing to the war, was obliged to store for a time all specimens sent for examination. He hopes to be able to report upon the skulls in the near future.

A large flat cup of the local glazed ware has been found on the site. This is now in the Hereford Museum and is quite an interesting addition to the collection of local pottery.

JOHN GILDON.¹

Mr. P. Styles, during research work at the Town Hall, has discovered some additional information concerning John Gildon,

¹ See *The Woolhope Club Transactions*, 1935, pp. 111-118, illus., for article on John Gildon and Epiphanius Evesham, two local sculptors.

To face page 58.



Photo by

F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.L.A.

SUNDIAL, DATED 1651, AT DRYBRIDGE HOUSE, HEREFORD.

the 16th to early 17th century Hereford monument maker. Four apprentices to Gildon are recorded in the City archives. The first, dated 3 July, 1577, records the apprenticeship of W. Attersley of Astley, Worcestershire. It will be remembered that tombs made by Gildon for members of the Blount family are in Astley Church. On the 31st May, 1580, Griffith ap Thomas, son of T. Devithe, yeoman, of Llanvoyse, Merioneth; on 15th Nov., 1582, Hopkin Baker, son of Wm. Baker, husbandman, of Goodrich; and on 6th July, 1583, Richard Madox, joiner, of Hereford, were apprenticed. The description of Gildon varied in each entry. In the first he is a "Freemason", in the second "Freemason and joiner", the third "Freemason, joiner and carver", and in the last "Joiner and freemason." The third entry shows that he practised three branches of handicraft, and additional specimens of his work may confidently be looked for. Possibly some of the carved timbers in the city may be from his workshop. Apparently he was known at a distance from Hereford, judging from the native places of his apprentices.

EPIPHANIUS EVESHAM.

Mrs. Esdaile has discovered that the large monument in Blore Church, Staffordshire, to the Howard family was made by Epiphanius Evesham. Mrs. Esdaile describes this as "an astonishing work". It was due to the Duchess of Newcastle who "desired to commemorate both husband and parents. The skill with which she is represented as a young girl in the one effigy, as a widow, older, yet unmistakably the same, in the other is amazing. The delicate bands of 'antiques', hour glasses, helmets, drums, pipes, skull and crossbones round the edges of the raised structure on which Sir William Basset lies are a pleasant feature of the work". In all there are three effigies and two kneeling figures.¹

CATHEDRAL GARAGE.

During the demolition of old buildings in the Cathedral Garage, Broad Street, some 13th century carved stones were discovered built into the walls. These are now in the Museum.

HOUSES IN CHURCH STREET.

It is to be regretted that no further steps at present can be taken to save the houses in Church Street with their especially interesting plaster ceilings. There are now so many vacant spaces in the city where cottages have been demolished, that it ought to be possible to rebuild these houses upon a new site and thus preserve some examples of early 17th century work.

¹ See "Post Reformation Monuments, mainly in Derbyshire," by Mrs. Arundell Esdaile, reprinted from the *Derbyshire Archaeological and Natural History Society's Journal*, 1939.

OLD TOWN HALL, LEOMINSTER.

It is satisfactory to know that the Old Town Hall, Leominster, built by John Abel and rebuilt as "The Grange", has been purchased by the Corporation of Leominster and should be preserved for all time.

TALBOT MSS.

Miss Elizabeth Scroggs has generously sent to the Public Library a typed catalogue of the Talbot Manuscripts at Shrewsbury relating to Herefordshire from 1271-1694. These include a large number of entries concerning many parishes, and all have been indexed in the library catalogue. The British Records Association has sent a number of documents relating to English Huntington, St. Weonards, and elsewhere for preservation here. The Association acts as a clearing house for all documents sent to them, and distributes these to the local approved depositories. During the last few years many have come to Hereford and are available for students. May I again call attention to the fast growing and valuable collection of local deeds in the depository here, and appeal for manuscript material from offices to be sent to the library for sorting. Much now being destroyed would be of interest and value to future students of local history.

The minute book of the Brecon Brobury Turnpike Trust, 1760-1777, together with an imperfect copy of the Act of 1759 authorising this Trust, a large number of local Acts of Parliament, including many enclosure Acts, have been purchased by the Library Committee.

Mr. T. H. Higgins has given a drawing by his brother of the fine carved oak fireplace and overmantel from 16, Widemarsh Street, lost to the city, alas! many years ago.

EXCAVATIONS.

Mr. George Marshall will report upon the finds at Sutton Walls.

CITY WALLS.

The best preserved part of the City Wall has been exposed by the demolition of cottages in Friars Street. Here one of the bastions can be seen with a good stretch of the wall to the south. A careful study of the few parts of the wall now remaining probably would reveal much information, but the work must be done soon or it will be too late.

POSTON EXCAVATIONS, etc.

The work at Poston has not been restarted owing to the war. That there is plenty of work to be done in excavation can be shown



Photos by

F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.L.A.

VAULTED CELLAR IN EIGN STREET, HERFORD.

1. Looking north-west.
2. Looking north-east.

by the fact that upon a recent visit to Kilpeck a member of H.M. Forces interested in these matters picked up from two adjoining mole hills three small fragments of early mediæval pottery. Scientific exploration might discover much of interest here.

VAULTED CELLAR WEST OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH.

This was referred to in my Report for 1938. Illustrations are now appended. See also some account of this vaulting in *The Transactions* for 1921, pp. cxxvi, 28, *illus.*; 1932, pp. 177, 178, *with plan.*

GEOLOGY. 1939

By ARTHUR BENNETT.

The Geologists' Association visited the Malvern Hills on Tuesday, 11th April, 1939. The members motored from Hereford to the Wyche Cutting, where Dr. Brammall, D.Sc., F.G.S., took on the leadership of the party. The area examined included the Igneous and Metamorphic rocks of the northern part of the range from immediately over the Railway Tunnel to the extreme north of the range, and the special points examined in that area were the Upper Toll-gate Quarry, the Lower Toll-gate Quarry, The Wyche Cutting, the hill-crest from the Wyche Cutting southwards to the pillar immediately over the Railway Tunnel, then to the Gold Mine north of the Wyche Cutting, afterwards to the top of the Beacon, the Dingle Quarry at West Malvern and round the Hill to the Pyx Quarries at North Malvern.

At intervals, by the aid of large scale diagrams, I gave an account of the sedimentary rocks, both on the eastern and western sides of the range. I pointed out how many of the phenomena exhibited in these sedimentary rocks lent support to the views of Dr. Brammall on the tectonic structure of the Malvern Range. With the exception of Dr. Holl, who, on a very small scale map, showed some of the intrusive dykes, Dr. Brammall is the first geologist to make a detailed map of the Malvern Rocks. He has been working in the district for several years and has surveyed on a large scale the greater part of the Range.

By careful survey in the field, by microscopical examination as well as by chemical analysis, Dr. Brammall has established the existence of a great variety of "hybrid" rocks, which have been produced from the chemical reactions that have taken place in the more basic types of rocks when penetrated by injections of the more acid types.

In the Lower Toll-gate Quarry he showed how the injection of granite into the basic rock Biotite-Pyroxenite had metamorphosed the basic rock on each side into a new type of rock called *Biotitile*, consisting largely of large plates of the mineral Biotite, also how the superheated liquids and gases from the injected molten granite had penetrated deeply into the Biotite-Pyroxenite and by chemical interaction between the two rocks had produced a new type of rock known as "Shonkinite", a variety of Syenite composed principally of the minerals hornblende (dark green)

and felspar (pink) in large crystalline grains about an inch in length and arranged in a mottled pattern.¹

In spite of the immense variety of these hybrid rocks the fact that they are recognisable as hybrid rocks does make for a simpler classification of the bewildering variety of igneous rock types.

In regard to the Gneissic rocks, although some have been produced from pre-existing igneous rocks, it is likely that many have been produced by ancient sedimentary rocks having been altered by granitization—the granite insinuating itself in thin sheets between the layers of the sedimentary strata thus giving a banded foliated structure to the rock—layers of granite alternating with layers of basic rocks.

At the Haysland Quarry at West Malvern an ancient sandstone, metamorphosed by heat from igneous injections, was seen.

In addition to these phenomena, Dr. Brammall showed in the field many instances of tectonic phenomena such as crushing, faulting, folding and many examples of great and complicated movements in the rock masses which he finds to be generally consistent with a great pressure that came from a S.S.E. direction.

When the full results of Dr. Brammall's researches are published it will be found that a very important contribution has been made to our knowledge of the Malvernian Rocks.

¹ Mr. Bennett has deposited specimens of these rocks in the Hereford Museum.

BOTANY.

By EDWARD BALL, M.A.

I think that one of the most interesting botanical finds of 1939 was made by Mr. A. D. Webb, who in June reported finding *Xanthium spinosum* at the Hereford Corporation Sewerage Works. This plant is a rare alien, which was first reported in Herefordshire in 1865 by Dr. Bull, who said it had been found "on the site of the old mill, between the Castle Green and the garden of the Infirmary" and also in an uncultivated cottage garden on the same side of the city. The plant is an annual, and very common in the south of Europe. Whether the plant has persisted in the district all these years, or has been freshly introduced is, of course, uncertain, but at any rate it has been observed not far from the site described by Dr. Bull.

Mr. Webb also reported that a variety of flowering plants could be found at the Sewerage Works, and the place is worth visiting by those interested in botany.

Mr. R. S. Gavin Robinson sent me a specimen of Elm found near Tenbury Wells, for identification. I forwarded it to Dr. R. Melville of Kew, who stated that it was either a form of *Ulmus glabra* var. *fastigiata* Rehd, a variety which has been in cultivation for a long time and probably arose as a sport, or possibly a hybrid segregate in which the characters of *Ulmus glabra* predominate.

It will be recalled that in my report for 1938 I suggested that anyone interested could do some useful work on the distribution of the species of the genus *Ulmus*, and especially the Wych types. In his letter concerning Mr. Robinson's specimen, Dr. Melville wrote as follows:—

"If members of your Club are interested, there is one piece of work they could very easily help in. I am working out the distribution of the Plot Elm, *U. plotii* Drace, which has been much confused. Recently I passed through parts of Herefordshire and discovered quite a lot of it in the little valley to the south of Bromyard, in the area two to four miles south along the Avenbury road, and mostly close to the stream. This stream runs into the Wye eventually. I expect *U. plotii* may turn up again in some of the valleys of the Severn drainage system, just east of this point. Hybrids of *U. glabra* occur at Tedstone Delamere, and *U. plotii* is scattered here and there in Shropshire, in the Severn basin. The main centre of distribution of *U. Plotii* is in the Trent valley, around Newark-on-Trent. Your area is probably about the western limit of its distribution. Any help your members may be able to give in further mapping of its distribution will be very much appreciated. The foliage is illustrated in Butcher's *Further Illustrations of the British Flora*, under the name of *U. minor*. The habit is very characteristic, an upright trunk with arching

leader, a few short, almost horizontal branches and pendulous branchlets. Voucher specimens are essential, as the tree hybridises readily."

Mr. F. M. Day, of the Downs School, Colwall, has kindly sent a list of the more interesting plants which he found in Herefordshire in 1939. The districts referred to are the botanical districts described in the *Flora* of Purchas and Ley.

District.	Variety.	Place.
2	<i>Oenanthe aquatica</i> L. (<i>Oenanthe phellandrium</i> Lam.)	In a pool near Holme Lacy Church.
4	<i>Crataegus oxyacanthoides</i> Thuill	Hanway's Coppice, Colwall.
	<i>Campanula patula</i> L. ...	White House Farm, Cradley.
	<i>Mentha verticillata</i> L. det. A. L. Still.	White House Farm, Cradley.
	<i>M. piperita</i> L. var. <i>subcordata</i> Fraser. det. A. L. Still.	Evendine Corner, Colwall.
	<i>M. aquatica</i> L. var. <i>major</i> Sole det. A. L. Still.	Southend, Mathon.
7	<i>Linaria purpurea</i> Mill ...	One plant on bank of R. Wye, opposite Belmont.
	<i>Ceratophyllum submersum</i> L. ...	In R. Wye, Breinton, and at Holme Lacy.
	<i>Carex acutiformis</i> ...	Marshy stream near Ruckhall, Eaton Bishop.
	<i>Chenopodium bonus-henricus</i> L. ...	Roadside in Lower Bullingham.
	<i>Mentha rotundifolia</i> Huds. ...	Near the Boat Inn, Breinton.

Mr. Day also recorded that *Aconitum napellus* and *Carex paniculata* were still growing plentifully in a marshy stream near Ruckhall, Eaton Bishop, the same station recorded by Purchas and Ley in their *Flora* of 1889.

I myself observed the following plants which have not been recorded before in the area concerned, or only rarely:—

District.	Variety.	Place.
3	<i>Cotyledon umbilicus</i> ...	Near St. Ethelbert's Camp; was growing luxuriantly.
7	<i>Campanula patula</i> ...	Lyde.
	<i>Chicorium intybus</i> ...	Lyde.
	<i>Viscum album</i> (Mistletoe) ...	On <i>Robinia pseudacacia</i> at Lyde.
8	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> , white and pink forms.	Dinmore.
10	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i> (Dame's violet) ...	Near Aymestrey.

Obituary Memoir.

EDWARD JAMES BETTINGTON, F.R.S.A.
Born 1867—Died 26th August, 1939.

By the sudden death of Mr. E. J. Bettington the Club lost a member, who in the last few years had taken an active part in the Club's proceedings, and had contributed some valuable papers to the *Transactions*.

A native of Worcestershire but with connections in Herefordshire, he had lived in the latter county for the greater part of his life, practising as an architect in the city of Hereford, where he was responsible for designing several public buildings and numerous houses, both in the city and county.

He joined the Club in 1909 and served on the Central Committee from 1936. In 1938 he occupied the Presidential chair, and 1939 became one of the Vice-Presidents.

He took a special interest in the early defences of the city and as opportunity offered noted the depth, shape, and character of the ditches. Latterly he began to make a special record of the stone walls with measured drawings, but this work was unfortunately cut short by his untimely death.

In his Presidential address in 1939 he gave an exhaustive account of the ancient cellars in Widemarsh Street, illustrated with many drawings and photographs, which latter had been taken under difficult circumstances for the purpose of illustrating his address.

His researches in regard to the evolution of the early timbered mansion at Rudhall, which he was enabled to carry out when Major W. Morland, the owner, was restoring the mansion, alterations of which Mr. Bettington was in charge, are also noteworthy.

Other contributions from his pen will be found in the *Transactions*. His death is much to be regretted, just when he had retired from active participation in his firm of Messrs. E. J. Bettington and Son, and was devoting his time to recording the many observations he had made of antiquities in the city of Hereford and elsewhere over a long period of years.

He lies buried in Tupsley churchyard.

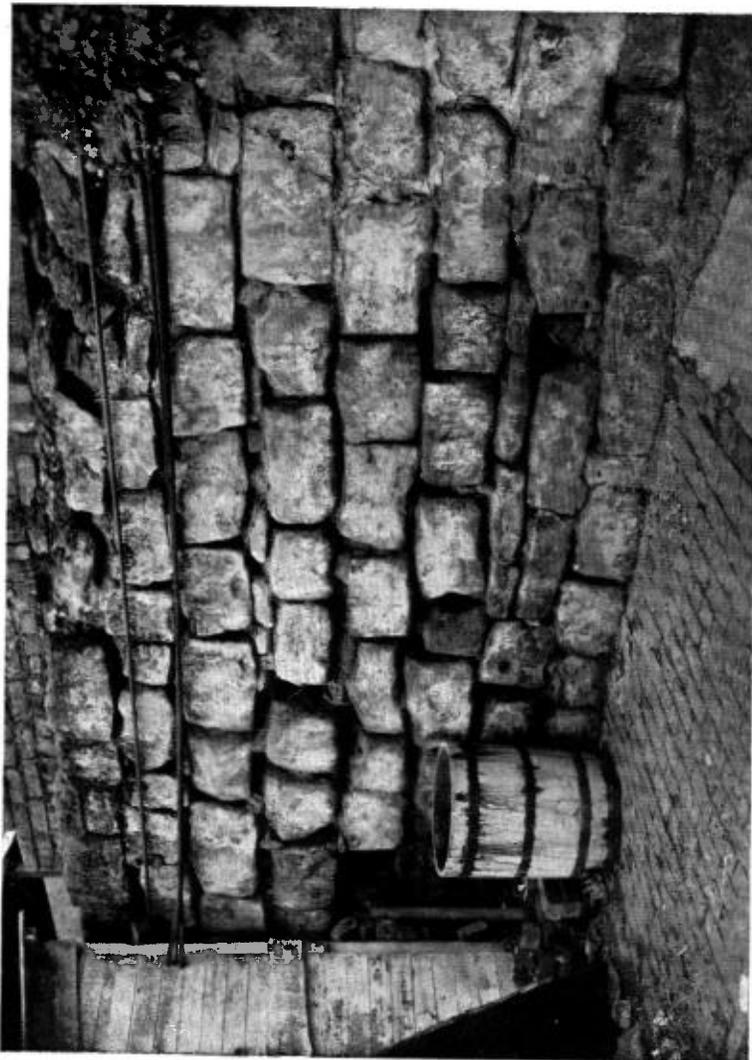


Photo by

HEREFORD CITY WALL,

In Yard of 110, St. Owen's Street, South of Site of St. Owen's Gate.

Walter Pritchard.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

PAPERS, 1940.

THE DEFENCES OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD.

By GEORGE MARSHALL, F.S.A.

(Read 1st August, 1940.)

It was the custom of the Romans when annexing fresh territory to their empire to make great military roads along which their troops could rapidly pass to patrol and defend any threatened part of their new boundary. At the Claudian invasion of this country in 43 A.D., after the defeat of Caractacus, who with his followers fled to our border, the Romans pushed rapidly westward and constructed the road known as the Foss Way in a direct line from Lincoln to Bath. Not long after an advance was made to the line of the Severn stretching from Wroxeter in Shropshire to Gloucester, and in 51 A.D. the Roman General Ostorius Scapula, most likely working from Gloucester and up the east bank of the Wye and the Lugg, drove Caractacus before him, finally defeating him at or in the neighbourhood of Coxwall Knoll on the north border of Herefordshire.

From this date the boundary along the Severn was fairly stabilized until 74 A.D., when the newly appointed General, Sextus Julius Frontinus, took in hand the final subjection of the Silures. At this time or not many years before the Romans must have pushed over the Severn to Monmouth, on the occupation of which they no doubt laid out the road known as the Watling Street¹ leading from Wroxeter, where a legionary fortress had been established about

¹ The Watling Street is sited from Wroxeter and must have been designed before the advance to Caerleon and the establishment of a legionary fortress there about 75 A.D. Caerwent has the layout of a military fortress, though nothing during excavating on the site has been found to indicate such a use. If the buildings were of wood and if it was occupied for a very short time, all traces of such might have disappeared. On the subjugation of the Silures, Caerleon may have been judged a more suitable site, and Caerwent have been converted into a civil town centre for the Silurian tribe. Otherwise what explanation is there of a town being laid out on the lines of a military camp?

the year 50 A.D., through Herefordshire to Monmouth. The road was apparently sited to the latter place and so to Caerwent.

In this military highway Hereford had its beginning, for on the line of the road were two strategic points determined by the necessity of crossing the rivers Teme and Wye. As it happens these two points were very conveniently situated, as the ford across the Teme was 24 miles from Wroxeter and that over the Wye 23 miles from the Teme, and from the Wye to Monmouth was 18 miles, each distance being about the daily march of a Roman legion. Accordingly at the crossings of the Teme and of the Wye there were constructed military camps. At the former place, now known as Leintwardine, and to the Romans as Bravinium, the lay out of the vallums of the fort is still easily traced, but at Hereford, the Roman name of which is lost, the vallums are practically non-existent, but the ditches can be traced and the plan is apparent in the present streets.

THE ROMAN DITCHES.

It has been said that there are no indications of a Roman occupation on the site of Hereford, but it has been apparent to me for many years that there was a fort here of exactly the same dimensions and lay-out as the one at Leintwardine. A tracing of the latter from the 6-inch or 25-inch Ordnance survey map superimposed on Hereford will at once demonstrate this. The central street at Leintwardine falls on the line of Church Street, and the rounded corner by Offa Street, the line of the ditch from here westwards through the City Arms Hotel and the old Northgate, and the ditch, known as the King's Ditch,¹ behind the houses on the west side of Broad Street, now largely built over, crossing the lowest point of King Street and hence nearly to the river, correspond exactly with the Leintwardine vallums. The vallum along the river side may be represented by the steep declivity now terraced in the garden of the Bishop's Palace between the Palace and the river. Mr. Alfred Watkins, in the *Transactions*, 1920, pp. 249-258, demonstrated the course of these ditches and the one on the east side of the fort, but failed to realise that they dated from Roman times.

The late Mr. E. J. Bettington in making alterations to premises on the west side of Church Street, where the ditch crosses it, found

¹ This defence line may have acquired its name from a liability on the King to keep it in repair, while the eastern ditch within the Bishop's Fee was kept in repair by the Cathedral authorities. There seems to have been some such arrangement in being probably from very early times, for in 1316 an agreement between the citizens and the bishop was drawn up to settle various matters in dispute, and among them was that "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." (Hereford Cathedral MSS., *Woolhope Transactions*, 1901, p. 118; and Johnson's *Customs of Hereford*, p. 98.) This agreement was in confirmation of an earlier one of 1260 or 1262,

the natural gravel about 9 feet 6 inches down, but a little farther to the west it dropped to 16 feet, and on the opposite side of the street it was 17 feet 6 inches, which here disclosed that the ditch was V shaped with the bottom two to three feet wide. It was evident that here was the causeway of the original northern entrance to the Roman fort, just where one would have expected to find it. Water for the ditches of these defences was no doubt obtained from the Eign brook.

The ditch on the west side of and parallel with Broad Street was open up to the end of the 17th century and probably later, and there were constant complaints of its being fouled by the adjacent owners. Originally this ditch must have been of considerable depth down to 20 feet, as has been proved by excavations on the site of Hereford Art Gallery, the Green Dragon Hotel and elsewhere.

Mr. E. J. Bettington stated that he had found stumps of trees near the bottom and the width irregular. He therefore concluded that it was originally a natural gully, and the contour of the ground supports this, but the sides may have crumbled down and the tree stumps grown there between the abandonment of the site by the Romans and its re-occupation by the Saxons. Along the inner side of the ditch must have been an earthen embankment, but this in the course of centuries has disappeared, probably being levelled down and cast into the ditch.

This Roman fort for military purposes was required for a very short time, owing to the pacification of the Silures and other tribes inhabiting the country on the line of our Herefordshire Watling Street.¹ Hence few Roman finds have been made in the city of Hereford. The abandonment of the fort even as a civil settlement was brought about by the foundation of Magna (or Magnæ) at Kenchester in conformity with the Roman plan of building towns throughout the country. The site, on which this town stood, is a rising piece of ground largely surrounded by marsh and a stream, and lies on the road from Worcester into Wales, which road was probably made a little later than the Watling Street. It was in close proximity to the tribal centre on the hill at Credenhill, which the natives would have been compelled to evacuate and take up their residence in the newly founded town. The date of this movement apparently occurred about 100 A.D.

Not long after the foundation of Magna a new road was made to the south leading more directly to the legionary fortress at Caerleon. This crossed the Wye after passing between the house and farm buildings of the Old Weir, and so to the Golden Valley, Usk and

¹ The earliest reference of this name applied to this particular road is to be found in an Anglo-Saxon charter dated 958 A.D. in the Chapter House at Wells. See *Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of Public Records for 1879*, p. 813.

Caerleon. A branch road at about the same time was taken off the Watling Street near Canon Pyon leading to Magna. During the remainder of the Roman occupation this road formed the main artery of north and south traffic. Thus the site of Hereford was by-passed and few travellers and less traders would have used the ford and this road to the south. Leintwardine was apparently occupied all through the Roman period, as finds on the spot tend to show, but no doubt more as a civil centre than a military one.

The site of Hereford, little used at the time of the withdrawal of the Roman legions from Britain about 400 A.D., probably sheltered still fewer inhabitants during the succeeding dark ages, though the presence of the road and a good ford over the Wye gradually restored its importance as a trading route, the Magna-Caerleon road having been rendered useless because there was no ford on its line over the Wye, which river in Roman times must have been crossed by a ferry or some kind of bridge.

Such then was the first phase of the defences of Hereford. Let us now consider the second phase.

THE SAXON DITCHES.

When the Saxons advanced to the river Wye about the end of the 6th century, the site of Hereford became a spot of considerable military importance, facing as it did the Welsh tribes on the opposite bank of the river. The Saxons on their occupation of the site no doubt took advantage of the Roman defence works, and somewhat later the See of Hereford was established within them.

The first recorded mention of the defences of Hereford is in the Saxon Chronicle under the year 1055 A.D., when the Welsh under Gruffydd-ap-Ilewelyn laid waste Archenfield, and marching on Hereford met Earl Ralph, who held the Earldom of Hereford at this time, with his French and English followers two miles to the south of Hereford. The Earl had mounted the English on horses contrary to their practice of fighting, with the result that before the battle was fairly engaged it became a rout and large numbers of the Earl's followers were slain. The Welsh the same evening sacked and burnt the city and the cathedral, slaying some of the canons, from which it may be inferred that the fortifications of the town were in no state to put up a defence and far less to stand a siege.

King Edward on hearing of this defeat sent his son Harold from Gloucester to retrieve the situation, who having driven the Welsh into the Golden Valley, immediately set about re-fortifying the city. From the Saxon Chronicle we learn that "Harold the Earl caused a ditch to be dug about the fort" (*i.e.* Hereford). Now the Chronicle known as that of Florence of Worcester, though probably compiled by a monk named John of that place, a very reliable and conscientious narrator, writing about the year 1140 A.D.,

expands the account in the Saxon Chronicle and tells us that Harold "encircled it (Hereford) with a broad and deep ditch, and fortified it with gates and bars."¹ Sir Henry Howarth translates the passage as "fortified Hereford with a wide and high vallum."² The words *vallo lato et alto* evidently imply a wide bank and a deep ditch, which of course gave additional height to the bank. It is possible that the monk of Worcester, living not far off, may have known from personal observation the nature of the defences of Hereford, and if so it would strengthen his statement that they were of the marked character he describes.³ He also gives the additional information that gates were made, which would refer to the new entrance at the Friars and another that must have existed at the eastern end of the town.

This description corresponds very exactly with what remains of such a system of defence works, so there can be little doubt that it was at this time that the northern ditch of the Roman fort was extended both to the west and east. The west end of the ditch was carried as far as the later Eign Street Gate, from which point and at right angles to it a great earthen embankment was thrown up which with its ditch⁴ reached nearly to the river bank. The revetting of part of this embankment at a later date with stone will be discussed presently. The point at which this new earthwork terminated in its course towards the river was between the garden of 33 Bridge Street, the late Mr. W. J. Humfrys' house, and the Black Lion Inn, where the boundary of St. John's parish makes a right angle turn to the river, and the vallum turned at a right angle to join up with the southern bank of the Roman Ditch. The parish boundary was evidently altered at this time to include the river foreshore outside this new defence work. A similar parish extension took place when the castle was layed out about the same time so as to include the bailey within its bounds. The boundary before this time was no doubt the same as at present, which included the land marked on Speed's map as *Beyond the Wall*, except that it ran straight to the river and so would have already included the area on which the castle motte was thrown up.

Unless a bridge was constructed over the Wye at this period

¹ "The Chronicle of Florence of Worcester." *Church Historians of England*, vol. ii, p. 127.

² *Royal Archaeological Journal*, vol. lxxiii (1916), p. 127.

³ Later writers merely give an expanded wording of these two chronicles and so are unreliable.

⁴ It is possible that part or all of the water coming down this ditch was turned, before reaching the river, into the southern one, and then have found its way out at the old overflow of the King's Ditch. The King's Ditch for the most part must have been fed originally by the Eign Brook, and may have been the natural channel for this stream, but it would have been much attenuated when part of its water was deflected down Victoria Street.

the passage through the Roman vallum to the ford, which was a little way below the present bridge¹, and now only approachable through the Palace garden, may have been retained or an entrance may have been made through the new vallum on the line of Bridge Street.

The Friars' Gate opening through this new defence work was opposite to what must have been the old west entrance to the Roman fort near the east end of King Street. There was no entrance at the western end of West Street, but there might have been a sally port to the north from Gunners' Lane, although there is no proof of this.

The Northgate entrance, opposite the City Arms Hotel, was probably made when the Saxons occupied the site in the 6th century, the roadway from it leading in a direct line to the ford. There must have been another entrance, no doubt known as the Southgate, in use up to the time of building the Wye Bridge, about 1100 A.D., which led through the southern embankment parallel to the river, but of this we have no record. The narrow Roman entrance at Church Street may still have been open, but could not have been used as a through way, ending as it did and still does in the Cathedral cemetery.

The eastern extension of the north ditch of the Roman fort commenced at about the junction of Offa Street and the present East Street. The sunk line of this ditch and the embankment on the inner side can still be distinctly traced to St. Ethelbert Street. To the east of this street and to be seen behind the houses in Cantilupe Street, there still exists from the point where the later wall joins this earlier defence a great vallum revetted with stone, exactly similar to the one on the west side of the city. The southern point of this earthwork abutted against the Castle defences, and the water of the ditch was led in part through a culvert to feed the northern moat of the Castle, the main stream being dammed up near the river, forming a pond which fed the castle mill. There was also a smaller mill near the junction of the city and castle defences.

This raises the question, when was the castle first built, or digged, as the Normans more correctly would have said? Unfortunately there is no actual reference to a castle till 1067 A.D., but there are reasons for thinking that it was a pre-Conquest structure, and the dating of the extension of the city defences above noted leads to the same conclusion. It has been surmised that the castle was laid out by Earl Ralph, "The Timid," a Frenchman

¹ The earliest reference I can find to the bridge is in 1100. See *The Mediæval Builder and his Methods*, by F. B. Andrews, Oxford, 1925, p. 45, where it is said that Alduin de Malverne, *surveyor*, had to deal with matters concerning a bridge at Hereford. This can hardly have been other than the one across the Wye. Unfortunately no reference is given to the source of this statement.

who favoured Norman methods and tactics, as witness his mounting the English on horses in 1055 A.D. He was in possession of the Earldom of Hereford from 1052 A.D. until his defeat in 1055 A.D., and may have commenced the building of the castle between these dates, and left it to be finished by Earl Harold, son of Edward the Confessor, after he had driven off the Welsh in 1055 A.D. The Saxon Chronicle tells us that Harold fortified the town as already described, so it is possible that he planned the castle *de novo* at the same time as the extended defences of the town. If what is the east side of the castle were originally only a part of the great vallum continued to the river, as on the west side of the city, one cannot imagine this being designed to include an open area, some eight acres in extent, for which the population can have had no need, and to which it would have been a source of weakness rather than strength.

If the castle was laid out before the enlargement of the city in 1055, the very deep and wide ditch, now the Castle Pool, would have been advisable, but if the city vallum were already in being and acting as an outer defence work such an exceptional moat would seem hardly to have been necessary, unless dictated by the need of obtaining soil to make the large vallum. The evidence decidedly points to the castle being planned previously, but probably only a few years, to the 1055 extension of the city defences. The parish boundary referred to before supports this, as do the available historical data.

That there must have been a gateway in this extension seems a foregone conclusion, otherwise those leaving the newly enclosed land or the castle would have had to go to Church Street or the Northgate for their nearest exits from the city. The gateway with its drawbridge which led from the castle into the city stood about a third or rather more of the way along the northern defence line of the outer bailey starting from the passage that connects Castle Street with the Castle Green.¹ This exit was in a straight line to St. Ethelbert Street, cutting through or just behind the Castle Pool Hotel. It is therefore more than probable that a gateway existed at the end of St. Ethelbert Street leading outside the city at the junction of the high vallum with its ditch and the lesser vallum and ditch to the west of it. This gateway would have been superseded by St. Owen's Gate when the extension of the city took place in 1189 A.D.

During this second period of the defence works, that is from 1055 to 1189 A.D. a wooden palisade must have crowned the vallums encircling the city, with the ditches fed from the waters of the Eign brook, which ran in the open down the White Cross road to the present Eign Gate, and continued to do so until recent times.

¹ Duncumb's *History of Herefordshire*, vol. i, pp. 286-288. Woolhope Club *Transactions*, 1884, p. 162, plan.

The reason for constructing such large vallums on the west and east sides of the defences is not at first apparent. The explanation is probably to be found in: (1) the rapid falls of the ground from Friars' Gate to the river, and from the north-east corner of the castle to the river; and (2) the danger that would arise if an enemy let out the water from the flat stretches immediately to the north of these points by cutting the dam that must have stanked it back.

For the purpose of retaining the water in the ditches no doubt a causeway of natural gravel was left unexcavated at suitable points. The chief of these would be at the gateways where drawbridges were built in wood or stone. These natural dams would have had two or three feet of water over them, except where the falls to the river commenced. Here there may have been sluice gates, which kept the water at the necessary level.

We now come to phase three in the defences of the city.

THE MEDIEVAL DITCHES.

On the 9th of October, 1189, King Richard the First granted the city of Hereford to its citizens on payment of £40 per annum, and a payment of 40 marks in silver, cash down. One of the clauses in this grant was that the citizens were to give assistance in fencing the city (*et quod ipsi auxilium præstabunt ad claudendam villam*).¹

Hereford at this time had increased in population and a considerable proportion must have been living outside the defences. Furthermore the churches of St. Peter and All Saints and most of the markets were without the bounds.

There can be little doubt that it was at this time that the fortifications of the city were greatly extended in one circular sweep commencing at the right angle turn of the old defence line at the end of West Street and abutting at the other end of the line against the great vallum just beyond St. Owen's Gate, forming at this junction a sharp right angle. This alteration entailed new gateways on the roads leading from the city, the Eign Gate leading to the west, Widemarsh Gate to the north, Bishopsgate to the east, and St. Owen's Gate to the south. The defence line made at this time comprised a ditch of what dimensions and depth has at present not been ascertained for certain, with a bank on the inner side formed of the earth thrown up when making the ditch. On the bank would have been erected a wooden palisade. It was not until a century later that stone walls were built, of which we still have fragments remaining.

In 1272-3 A.D. material from Hay Forest was granted by the King for repairs to the castle and town, but it does not say

¹ *Hist. MSS. Com.*, 13th Report, App. pt. 4, p. 284.

whether this was for stone or timber or both, but it was probably to be used so far as the town was concerned for the gates and palisades.¹

There are two things in support of the evidence that this was a stage in the evolution of the city's defence works: (1) the ends of the palisades and later the stone walls on their site were staggered, that is if projected they would overlap²; and (2) the stone walls with the demi-lunes or half moons are of a type that was not in general use until the last quarter of the thirteenth century.

When the extension was made with ditch, bank, and palisade it is probable that the new gateways, namely Eign, Widemarsh, Bysters and St. Owen's were constructed in stone with plain walls and an archway beneath which were wooden doors.³ On one side would have been a guardroom from whence a look out could be kept on those presenting themselves at the gate, which would be rendered possible by the staggering of the walls. Had the gateways, of which we have drawings, been built at the time of laying out these defences, there would have been no need for staggering the walls. By the details shown in the pictures of the gates they might be dated between 1270 and 1300 A.D., and it is possible that the materials granted by the King to the citizens in 1272-3 A.D. may have been for their construction. Had they been built at the same time as the stone walls with the demi-lunes they would almost certainly have been flanked with round towers as at Conway and elsewhere. The gateways, the most vulnerable points in the defences, would have been the first places to be strengthened.

On the 24th July, 1265 A.D., a citizen of Hereford was granted compensation, by being given houses of the Jews in another part of the city in exchange for his, which had been pulled down outside Eign Gate by order of King Henry the Third, who was then in Hereford.⁴ This evidently was done for the security of the gate, and may have been part of the scheme when the rebuilding of the gates took place or were in contemplation.

We now come to the fourth phase in the defences of the city, *viz.*, the building of the stone walls.

¹ Duncumb's *History of Herefordshire*, vol. i, p. 238.

² See Isaac Taylor's Map, 1757. The late Mr. Alfred Watkins drew attention to the fact that these walls are staggered. *Woolhope Club Transactions*, 1931, p. 119.

³ The earliest mention I can find of these gates is a roll of receipts for toll taken at them in 1264-5. (*Hist. MSS. Com.*, Hereford Corporation MSS., p. 292.). Friars' gate is not mentioned among them, probably the traffic passing through it did not warrant a porter being kept there to collect the tolls.

⁴ *Hist. MSS. Com.*, 13th Report, App. pt. iv, p. 284; and Johnson's *Customs*, p. 51. Johnson gives the date as 23rd February, 1265 A.D.

THE MEDIEVAL STONE WALLS.

At the end of the thirteenth century many towns were being fortified and castles built in Wales, as at Conway, Carnarvon and Beaumaris. At Conway the town walls date from 1284,¹ and are exactly similar to Hereford, but the height of the walls was 24 feet and the thickness 5 feet 7 inches, whereas at Hereford the walls were 16 feet high and 4 feet 6 inches thick. On some of these works in Wales masons from Hereford were employed, and it is not improbable that some Hereford master mason returned to plan and superintend the building of our walls.

The character of the Hereford walls, with their half-moons, or hollow towers, formed of a segment of a circle, would lead one to date them in the last quarter of the thirteenth century. This is confirmed by a grant of murage from Edward I, dated 6th of June, 1298, giving the citizens the right to levy tolls for five years.² It says: "Know ye that to aid in enclosing the said city, and for the security of the same and parts adjacent, we grant you to take in the said city from the day of making these presents to the end of the five years next following the completion of the same, the underwritten customs." And then follows a complete list of the tolls that may be levied.

Undoubtedly it was at this date that the erection of the stone walls of the city was commenced.

In 1270 the tolls taken in 24 weeks amounted to £4 18s. 5d., say £10 a year.³ This would not have gone far in defraying the cost of the walls, if we can judge by the cost at Conway, where part of the wall with the ditch amounted to £472 10s. 4d., but the tolls allowed to be taken in 1298 for the murage were apparently much larger than those ordinarily levied and covered every conceivable commodity.

Among the Hereford city muniments is a computus roll of 1319-20 of Henry de Orleton, collector of the murages. The receipts were £30 16s. 9d., and of this sum the expenditure on cartage, and on the actual building operations was £27 0s. 9d., the balance being made up of small items. From this it is evident that at that date the walls were not completed.⁴

A licence was issued to the inhabitants of the city in 1315-1316 to dig stone in the King's Forest of Hay for the repair of their walls

¹ *Archæologia*, vol. 86 (1936), "The Town and Castle of Conway," pp. 163-193.

² *Johnson's Customs*, pp. 52-54, and *Hist. MSS. Com.*, *ibid*, p. 285. Johnson gives the year incorrectly as 1297.

³ *Hist. MSS. Com.*, *ibid*, p. 492.

⁴ *Hist. MSS. Com.*, *ibid*, p. 297.

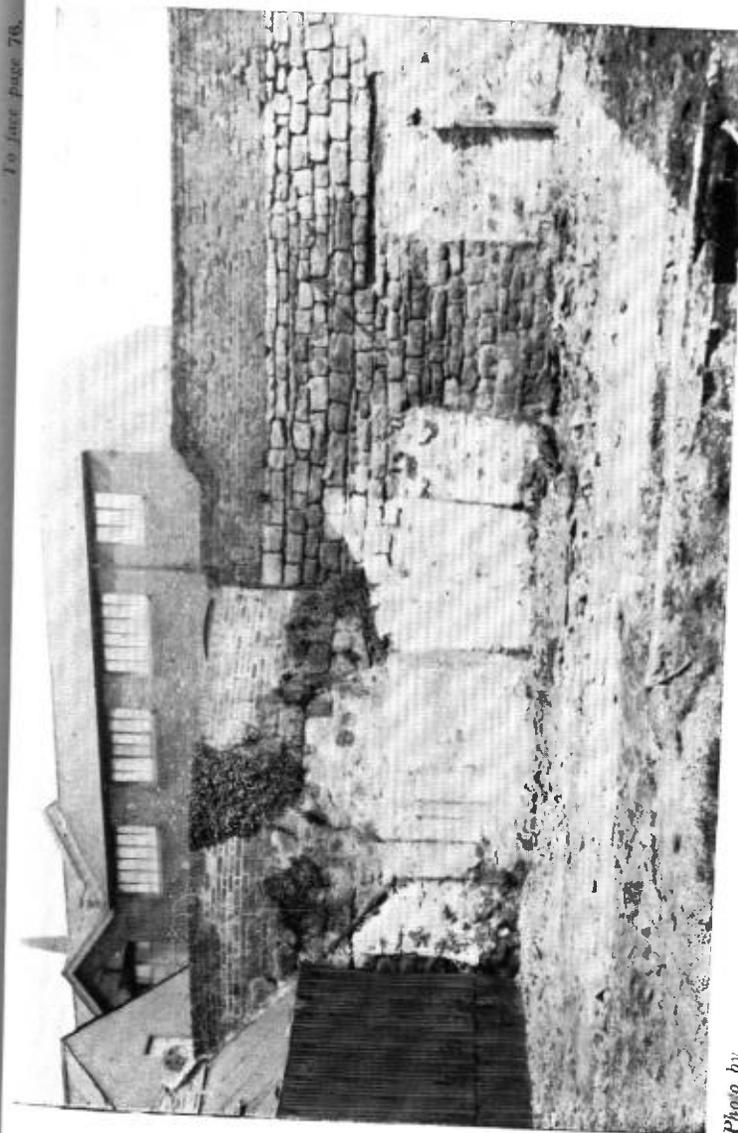
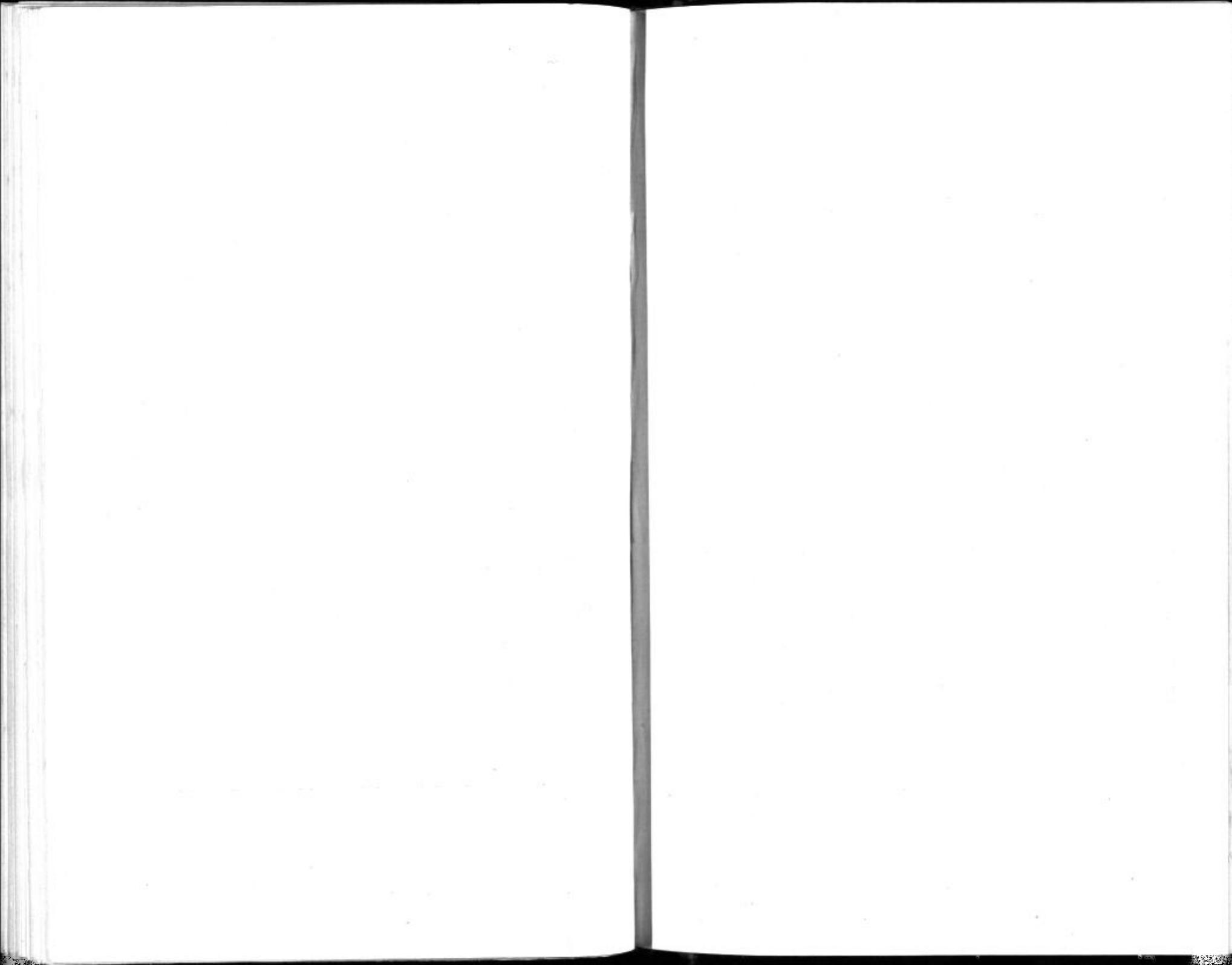


Photo by

HEREFORD CITY WALL.

Showing Bastion and Section of the Wall in Victoria Street.

F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.L.A.



To face page 77.



Photo by

F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.L.A.

HEREFORD CITY WALL,
Showing Foundation of the Bastion in Victoria Street.

and pavements.¹ The licence was renewed in 1327-1328 (1 Edw. III) with the additional privilege of procuring the stone in any part of the forest most convenient to themselves or where the best quality could be met with. These licences may indicate that the walls were not yet completed in 1327.

The stone work revetting the great banks on the west and east sides of the city has been said to be older than the rest of the walls and in fact to date from Norman times. This estimate of their date is based largely on the fact that the section from Fryars' Gate to the river is strengthened by some flat buttresses. Now the revetting walls at either end of the city are of the same type of construction, except for the buttresses on the river section, as the other fragments of the original wall that survive, namely they are built of large blocks, roughly coursed with horizontal joints, and where a stone was not high enough to reach the level of the larger stones it was made up with smaller ones, so that the courses run in continuous lines, though somewhat irregular and undulating (see illustrations, pp. 67, 76).

The bastions have been said to be planted on to the wall and not bonded in with it, but having carefully examined the one in Victoria Street I find it is bonded with the wall, and so all are of one build, (see illustrations pp. 76, 77). The only other remaining bastion, that on the river section, is covered with ivy and built against at the junctions, so that it cannot be examined properly. As to the buttresses, they were probably built to strengthen the wall, as the stream would flow rapidly down this section and be more likely to wash out the foundation, than in the level sections in Victoria Street and at the east end of the city. Buttresses of this type continued to be built in mediæval time where necessity demanded it. Here a stepped Gothic buttress would have projected and formed a point of advantage for a besieger where he could mine the wall, without being enfiladed from the battlements.

Such then was the evolution of the defences of the city of Hereford, which may be summarised as follows:—

1. Circa 70-75 A.D. A Roman fort founded at the same time as the new military road called Watling Street, leading from Wroxeter to Monmouth, was constructed.

2. 1055 A.D. Additional areas enclosed by a large vallum and ditches on the east and west side of the Roman fort, including the castle site.

¹ Duncumb's *History of Herefordshire*, vol. i, p. 342. Close Roll of 9 Edw. II. Duncumb does not quote the original, so that "repairs", if this is the correct translation of the word used, may refer to the pavements, for the walls can hardly have required repairing, being recently built. Possibly it referred to the gates.

3. 1189 A.D. A further extension made by enclosing with a ditch and palisade a semi-circular area on the north side of the town.

4. 1298 A.D. Walls with semi-circular hollow bastions built in place of the palisades, and the great vallums of 1055 revetted with stone and solid bastions.

The stone wall defences of the city remained fairly intact until the destruction of the gates at the end of the 18th century. In the middle of the 17th century they were in a sufficient state of repair after being patched up to withstand two sieges during the Civil War.

Historical and other details connected with the walls are of considerable interest, but cannot be dealt with now, as it would require a Paper of considerable length to do justice to the subject.

The topographical evolution of Hereford has yet to be written, but the above remarks may clarify some of the confusion that has arisen in regard to the date and sequence of the growth of the defences of the city.

NOTE.—The late Mr. Alfred Watkins must be given the credit for making the first attempt to unravel the growth of the City. This will be found in two papers that he contributed to the Woolhope Club's *Transactions* entitled *Hereford City Walls*, Vol. 1919, pp. 159-163, illus., and *The King's Ditch of the City of Hereford*, Vol. 1920, pp. 249-258, illus. and plan. These papers have been of great assistance to the writer as a basis for the further elucidation of the subject in the above contribution, and also in a paper he is preparing dealing with the stone walls, the gates and the Wye Bridge.

inquiry to be made after it." In 1625 the Jury presented Eign Ward (4) "for that they want a stockes and butts," a presentment repeated in 1628, and at intervals for each¹ ward until 1658. In the last year the Jury desired that there should be a (5) "Coockeing stoole or Gomstoole, for the punishment of deserveing p(er)sons espeatially Margaret the wife of Ro: Wodlife being a Comon scoald." Wyebridge Ward in 1641 was presented for "the want of a paire of stockes" at the "Ashe neere unto the church Called St. Martens." (6)

Butchers were still (1628, 1632) presented for killing animals in the (7, 8) "fore street"; in 1642 two were fined for killing beasts in their shops. (9) The playing of unlawful games appears in 1628 (10) and again frequently towards the end of our period, when keyte (=quoits), dice, caylles (a form of ninepins), shuffle-board and bowls appear. Many leading inhabitants are presented for keeping swine, and the sanitary condition of the city may be judged from the frequent appearance of the names of offenders who had miskins at their doors. There were some few between Broad Street and the Booth Hall back door for example. (11) Abraham Powell in 1632 was ordered to remove (12) "a c(er)tein anoisance with Gorbadge" "in greene lane alias Bartishame streete." The emptying of household utensils either out of windows or doors (13) "into the streetes of the said Cittie, whereby to make any noyesome smells to annoyne the neighbors adioyneinge" was again forbidden in 1622, and presentments for breaking this order appear constantly. All Saints' Church seems to have suffered severely from offences of this kind, for at intervals from 1617 onward we find entries similar to the following: (14) "The Jury aforesaid doe payne all the inh(ab)itants in the parishe of Allsaints and all others that they nor any them heereafter doe throwe any mucke dunge duste rubble or any of other filth at the end of the Church of All saints w(i)thin the cittie of heref nor against the wales thereof sub pen vij* in defect."

In 1642 Wm Allen and John Wylde placed (15) "Rubbadge and dunge agt the church," and Thomas Paynard placed his timber and carts against it.

In 1655 Thomas Stringhame Bucher (16) "for suforinge his man to emp his Gorbedge att the end of All Saints Church" and "William Lane For kepinge his miskin in the same place," were two only of several presented for similar offences.

In 1632 Bewall Street was (17) "full of filthy miskins." In 1633 Thomas Homes made a (18) "miskin in the castle streete at the lanes end called behind the walles," and had his dung heap nearby. The well-known Dr. Bridstock Harford, a Justice of

¹ There were five wards in the city:—Bisters, Eign, St. Owens, Widemarsh and Wyebridge.

Peace, to whose three wives there are brasses in the Cathedral, was frequently presented for various offences (19). In 1641 (20) he was one of those presented for making miskins within the walls. In 1657 (21) he was presented for stopping up the "Waine way" from Byshoppsgate streete to St. Owens street and fined £20 if he "shall not cause the same to be layd open and made passable by gates as formerly it was." In 1632 the jury pained (22) "those yt doe carrie or bringe any durte, mucke, or gorbedge into the lanc next good knaves miskin betweene Seargeant Hoskins backe doore and the street." By 1655 the grand jury came to the conclusion that further means of cleansing the city must be put in force and record that (23) "all the streets & back lanes within ye Citty to be very foull and nastye for want of skvengers to keep it Clean and hollsome as it in other Cittyes, therfor wee think it fitting to a point two skvengers for that porposse uppon the puplike (=public) Charge of ye Citty to make it Clean every weeke." This recommendation does not appear to have been effective for similar complaints appear at several courts afterwards.

In 1654 Roger Addis, Padmaker, was presented (24) "for throwging a Carrion dogg wch was madd into ye feild to the publique nusance." "Capten" French was fined 6/8 for (25) "Throwinge Carrion" into Wye, and Phillip Langford and Widow Eysam the same sum for throwing lime into the Wye.

BRIDGES.

Various bridges are mentioned frequently, and early plans of Hereford show that there were many small footbridges across streams near roads leading into the city. In 1632 (26) "barrs bridg leading fro(m) Wyebridge bargingams" was "in decay and allsoe the said bargingams or washinge place under Wyebridg." This was the public place for washing clothes. The town wall ran parallel with the Wye above the bridge for some yards on the north bank. It was long before repair of the bargingams took place. In the same year the bridge at Friar's gate was (27) "in decay that the towne ditche water have no passage throughe it to Wye."

John Price was presented many times for not repairing the bridge and causeway at Scut Mill; in 1641 he was pained £30 for the offence (28). The high causeway from Widemarsh mill into the city was in a bad state and the parish of Holmer was presented because (29) "Many of the Kings people Ridinge alonge the highway aioyninge to that Causey are in dainger of theyer lifes horse & man and by the defalt of makeinge up the sayd decaied causey beinge certaine small Bridges made of stone all gone to decay that noe man can pass cyther uppon the kings occations or thyer owne." (30) "The maier and Common Counsell" were presented in 1659 for not putting in order the bridge at Widemarsh gate and a bridge

at the end of Widemarsh street, both said to be dangerous to passengers.

In 1657 Harbert Aubre was said to have forfeited £5 upon a (31) "former payne" for not erecting a fence from "Fryarne gate to his owne groundes which is very Dangerous for passengers." In 1654 (32) Thomas Band and Richard Benny were in trouble for not repairing the bridge without Eigne gate, for which purpose they had a sum of money in hand, and St. Owen's ward was presented for not repairing the drawbridge at the gate, "it having spoyled some horses."

(33) In 1632 the decay of Wye bridge, in (34) 1655 bridges at Stone bow, Barrs bridge, Dead bridge (Wigmarsh) and Lugg bridge are mentioned.

TOWN DITCH.

In 1641 (35) Richard Jansie was amerced in the sum of £5 to cut down willow trees that hung over the town ditch.

PUMPS AND WELLS.

The town was supplied with water from pumps, frequently called by the old name of "plump", and a large percentage of the lists of "Presentments" contain references to these, and the positions of many can be ascertained. There were pumps at the upper end of Broad Street near the house of Thomas Lewis (in 1655 (36), it is described as near the focken (=Falcon) (37) doore), Bewell St., St. Nicholas Church end, the Broad Cabbage lane, Widemarsh street within the gates, near St. Peter's church door, the Raughall, Bye Street, St. Thomas street, near Thomas Lane barber in Eigne ward (this may be the same as one mentioned in 1654 as opposite the Red Lion), the King's Ditch, near the Rose and Crown, and one under the Market house.

In 1658 several residents were presented for (38) "Causinge Certaine Annoyances to bee made, & don abouts the plumpe at the head of Bewalls streete within our said Warde by throwing out, or causinge to bee throwed out certaine filthly styncks both by Emptying pissepotts, and other stinking excrements to ye greate annoyance of the neighbours there."

In 1641 John Maylord was presented (39) "For sufferinge the waste water that com out of his plumpe to be a greate annoyance to the pasengers to com to the Cathedrall Church and other his Ma^{ties} liege people passinge yt waie."

Thomas Heynes, who was pained at the same court for keeping Inmakes in 1632 was fined (40) "for keeping of a well wthout inclosier in his back side to the greate hurte and anuzance of his neighbours." Wells under the Toulsend and at Blackmarston are mentioned many times.

An entry in 1641 shows that even before the Civil War there was neglect in keeping the water supply in order, (41) "Wee doe p(re)sent a place whear a ploumpe was in Bystreat wch is gone to decaye & in defalt of the inhabitants neere adioyneinge there in the p(ar)ishe of St. Peters."

ENCROACHMENTS.

The jury kept careful watch over encroachments, but it was difficult to enforce the pains imposed upon defaulters. John Mayoës in 1623 put (42) "twoe corner postes uppon the Citties lands in putting them further out into the streete then they ought to be" in Cabbage Lane. He was ordered to remove the posts or to compound for the same. In the same year Thomas Quarrell and Thomas Symonds put (43) "standard powles to the hindrance of passengers at the Bothhall back door." In 1632 Christopher Higgings and Alis Gwillim for the third time were presented for not removing an (44) "incrotchment in erecting a Tavarne head in the kings high way." In 1640 a famous resident of Hereford, Joyce Jefferies, appears (45) "Item we doe p(re)sent Joyce Jefferes spinser (*sic*) & Henry Wellington for encroching upon the kings High way by laying of timber in the street to the hinderence of his mats passengers & we doe payne Joyce Jefferes in xiiij^d. and Henry Wellington in six shillings eight pence to remove the same before Christmas next."

Many times Tho. Duppa gent. was pained for not pulling down (46) "Posts & pale & Railes" he had erected. Thomas Higgins (1642) and his wife with other offenders placed (47) "standings upon the causey to the hindrance of the Contrey people" and were fined 3/4 for every Market day they placed them there.

Enclosures upon Widemarsh Common, often called "Wig-marsh", were frequent. In 1655 (48) Humphrey Howorth, Rowland Howorth, Walter Williams and John Tomkins were fined for so doing. The two first in the sum of £20 each and the last two in £5 each "if they doe not laye it open" and "pul downe the Cotegies." Thomas Whittney of the (49) "Towneshypp of Ailstone" enclosed a quarter of an acre of the city's waste land "to his owne benefitt & behoafe not renderinge or payinge any rent." In 1658 John Summars, Labourer, incroached upon (50) "the Lane with post and pale by him erected which lane leadeth into Byshopps-gate streete towards Wiggmarsh." In 1658 Widow Prosser (51) was pained £2 13s. 4d. for building a house on the waste land, and the famous Colonel John Birch made (52) "an Annusance in digging up the High way without Eyne Gate leading from the Brooke to Friore (Friars) Gate. This accusation appears several times, in fact it appears continually for some years later than 1659.

Another offence that occurs often is obstruction of the smaller streets with timber. Frauncis Jenkins had (53) "teemes in a certaine Lane called Bowseys Lane with tymber hee hath placed there." Bakers were presented for keeping piles of faggots within the walls, a source of danger from fire.

In 1640 even the High Sheriff, Thomas Alderne was presented for (54) "an incroachment Beinge his Row of bulkes in Cookinge Row being formerly paine in a hundred and fortie pounds Wee doe now paine him in 2 hundred pound to amend the same."

An offence that it seems difficult to think possible was that of digging earth and gravel out of the streets. In 1657 (55) Roger Meredith gent committed this by causing his servants to load and carry away cart loads and waine loads from a "certaine streete in the suburbs" . . . called or knowne by the name of Bushopps gate street . . . by means of which . . . there is a dangerous hole (the mouth whereof is of greate Wideness) . . . in the road leading . . . towards the Stonebow." There are other entries for similar offences.

THE MARKETS.

Forestalling the market was an offence that appears occasionally. In 1632 (56) "Ite(m) we doe present for foorestallinge of the Markett in buyinge butter & cheese Richard Phillips Cor. Eaven (?) Price withoute Ine gate, Reece Jones alias Thomas." A still more interesting entry appeared in 1659 (57) "Wee of this Jury doe humbly desire that there may bee care taken for the settleing of Aunchient Weomen to sell apples & other Fruites and not suffer those yeonge people wch doe now sell them which are abler & more fitter to doe other worke." This follows the presentment of Sybill Turnor for forestalling of Apples.

The use of correct weights and measures by tradesmen was still another duty enforced by the Jury. In 1632 (58) there is a long list of those who failed to conform to an order to bring in their "waights and measures", followed by the names of those whose measures had been tested. These are typical entries:

Martha Davies vid. one pound waight—to lighte
George Spratt, one qrte pott to little
Daniell Amies j yard right.
John Peerce j quarte pott right.

The (59) "Fishboords" near the back of the Booth Hall are frequently mentioned. This was still the place where the fish market was held.

DISPUTES.

Disputes among neighbours, especially those connected with property, were settled by the Court. Members of the Jury were appointed to take evidence, usually upon the spot, and to report.

Typical entries out of many are (i) 1629 (60) "The Jury doe present that the p(ar)ties are agreed upon this condicon that henry hill shall geve John Tomkins iij^s. iij^d. for a fine and j^d a yere rent for the gutter or water course in difference, and for the said fine and rent the said John Tomkins shall make a lease for lxxxxix^{ea} yeres unto the said henry hill, and yf the sayd henry hill shall any waies abuse the said watercourse that then the sayd John Tomkins shall & may barr upp the same."

(ii) 1632 (61)

" Tho Clark	Francis Smith	} to take a view of the sd peticon and fence nowe in difference betwixt Mrs Burghill vid and Jo Maylord gen
Jo . . . mercer	Phe Towsey	
George Gullofer	Roger Webley	
Will Garner	Tho Weaver	
Edward Perkins	John Lewis	
Jo Weaver	Samuell Bayly	

The Jur Foresayd doe finde that John Maylord gen ought to repayer & make a sufficient Fence betwine the lands of the sayd John Maylord gen & Mrs Isabele Burfeild (*sic*) widdow the fence two bee made betwixt this and Candlemas next upon payne of Fortie shillings."

SCOURING DITCHES, ETC.

There are so many entries concerning the neglect of scouring the ditches around the city both by the parishioners at large and by individuals that some idea of the appearance of the surroundings of the city may be imagined when heavy rain fell. There were no drains to carry away the surplus water, and conditions for foot passengers must have been almost intolerable. At almost every Court some offenders were presented for this offence. The inhabitants and the townships outside the walls were enjoined to yoke and ring their swine and the hanging of gates and the mending of hedges to prevent strays was enforced. (1628) (62) "We Henrie Band and John Howells of the township of Huntinton do certifie that Philip Symons Esqr hath lost the paine of xx^s default of scowring the brook neere his land in the township aforesaid and John Syrell esqr hath lost the like paine. Mr. J^r Richardson lost the same paine. We also paine all the inhabitants of the said township in a paine of 7^s a peece to hang their gates and yoke their swine before the second daie of November next ensuing.

"And we further p(re)sent that Thomas Eysham lost the paine of a noble for not hanging his gate and mending his hedge sufficiently against the daie appointed at the last court."

(1618) (63) "It is comaunded that all and ev(er)y the Inhabitants and occupants (of the said p(ar)ish) havinge lande from the portwaye at Ballybroke to the Ryver of Wye, shall ev(er)y one

against his lande ryd and scower the dytches & wattercourses, before the feast of St. John the Baptist sub pena x^a quilibt in defect."

The last entry is one only of many on the same sheet.

THE HIGHWAYS.

There is enough material for a paper upon the condition of the roads in the city and the numerous place names mentioned. Suffice it to say here that practically every street is presented at frequent intervals as being in decay. There is one query I cannot answer—where and what was the "Mace" tree (64) that is mentioned constantly? The causeway from Widemarsh mill to the "Mace tree"¹ seems to have been in a bad state for some years without any attempt having been made to repair it.

ALE HOUSES.

There is a great deal of material in the Hereford archives for the study of the drink question. There are many lists of residents who sold ale and beer, a schedule of conditions under which licences were granted and numerous presentments for selling by "retayle". In 1628 (65) in Wyebridge Ward alone eighteen men and women were presented "but whether they have ad licence or nott we know nott." This is a typical entry. Selling ale with unlawful measures is a frequent offence, and also selling under the hair sieve. Cider is rarely mentioned. In 1642 (66) five people were fined for selling it without licence.

The conditions under which the trade was carried on may be shown by the numerous presentments for not railing the tavern stairs throughout our period. The place for drinking was in basements below the street level. (1625) (67) "The said Jury do p(re)sente Luke Hulett gent for not putting a sufficient barre or rayle at his taverne stayers belonging to his house according to a payne putt at the last Turnes where fore he hath in curred the payne of x^a and he is comaunded sufficiently to doe ye same before mid-somer next uppo(n) payne of xx^s in default."

The statute price of ale was still a quart for one penny and those who charge more were punished; an entry concerning the price of wine in April, 1633, is given in full: (68) "The Jury uppon their oathes doe present Christopher dewe M^r Mary Bayly widdow James Aston gent for that they sell not their wines at reasonable prizes vizt the best Gascoigne & French wines at vj^d the qte & Rehen (?) wines at 5^d the qte by retaile according to the kings mats late p(ro)clamacon dated at whitehall the xxijth day

¹ Dr. H. E. Durham suggest that this was a maple tree, of which wood mazer bowls were made.

of m(ar)ch last past, but doe contrary to his mat^a p(ro)clamacon sell the same at excessive prizes and allsoe doe sell other wines at excessive prizes contrary to his mat^a former p(ro)clamacon dated at whitehall the xvijth of February last past to the high contempt of his sd mat^a p(ro)clamacon." This presentment had little effect, for a month later the two culprits were fined £5 for the same offence. (69)

THE POOR.

There are many presentments for "Receaving of inmates". In 1632 Thomas Heynes, who had been pained 13/4 for the same offence at a previous Court, was pained 26/8 (70) "to remove those Inmakes (*sic*) at or before the Feast of the purifacon next." (71) "William Rurll for takinge of straingers into his howse whoe are like to be burdensome and troublesome to the parish of St Martins" was pained 6s 8d to remove them. Lists of inmates are given in papers not being dealt with to-day. Some strangers came (72) "for their private gaine and doe exercise and practize und(er) hand the handycrafte or occupacon of yo(ur) sayd peticoners." Others were people with no means and no apparent occupation. The landlords were sometimes ordered to enter into sufficient bonds to keepe the parish "harmless". Often the usual weekly allowance of 6d. each ordered to be given to the poore was left unpaid by the overseers, and in 1653 (73) the latter were fined 20/- for their neglect to pay 6d. to Robert Mathoes for himself and wife and 8d. to him for relief of a poor orphan.

In 1658 the following entry (74) records efforts made to provide employment: "We of the Jury doe humbly desire that there might be some care taken for puting of the poore at worke & not suffering them to walk the streets as they doe wch would tend to the glory of God & the Credit of this Cittie & all such as will not worke and are able it is needfull that there should be a bride-well provided for them."

VARIOUS PRESENTMENTS.

One curious presentment in 1632 (75) is of six well known residents including James Rodd and Phillip Trehearne, who were ordered "to put suffitient boords in theyer Carts and waynes."

In 1625 Richard Jauncey was presented (76) "for shotinge in a peece at piggons wthin the lib(ert)ies of the said Cittie." This offence occurs again in 1657 (77).

An entry of great interest in 1658 (78) reads as follows: "Alsoe wee desire that there may be an engine provided For the Suppressing of violent Fires at the generall Charge of the City and that there may an equall an Assessment be made towards that good work upon each Cittezen according to his Ability" (*see illustration*). This is probably the first mention of a fire engine for Hereford. At an

earlier period in London, and possibly elsewhere, fire hooks were compulsory. No mention of these has been found locally.

The High Cross in the market place was in decay in 1633 (79), and though the Chamberlains of the city were presented many times for this, apparently no action was taken.

In 1658 (80) there is an amusing entry concerning the wearing of gowns by the members of the council. "It. Wee p(re)sent all those gent. of the Comone Councell which (to the great disgrace of this Cittey & themselves) doe not provide themselves gownes according to the ancient Custome of this cittey, and doe amerce each of them in ten pownds which shalbe unprovided of such gownes wthin three monethes after the date hereof."

Several offenders were presented (81) for "wattering" their hemp in the river Wye, and others for watering hemp in the (82) Tanbrook. In 1657 twelve were presented (83) "for kepeing of mastife dogs unmused." In the same year fourteen men and women were presented (84) "being Comonly reputed for papishes in the Cytty" and Richard Vincent Cryer (85) "for not keeping the Clocke in such order as it ought to be kept, which is very much a p(re)judice to market people, and strangers goeing thourowe the Cytty, it standinge in so publicke place and ought of any Clock in towne to be kept in good order."

In October, 1657, there is a reference to St. Peter's Church that needs investigation to understand its exact significance: "We doe present M^r Tho Holmes mercer and Georg Williams being Churchwardens For the P(ar)ish of St Peters that they doth nott Cause the Chur(c)h to be mended and kept dry and we doe paine each of them in ten pownds a pece if they doth nott Cause the Church to be amended by the 25th of March next."

Constantly the overseers and surveyors are presented for not carrying out their duties, but the most eloquent entry is that where the ex-mayor (87) is called to account. (1658) "It Wee p(re)sent Thomas Paynard late maior for not putting all the p(re)sentments made in his time in execution, the neglect thereof is the great hindrance of reformacon of maney & great disorders & mysdimeners in this Cittey for which neglect we amerce him in twenty pownds." In order to prevent this neglect the Great Inquest in the same year pleads (88) "Alsoe we doe most Humbly desire that those presentments now presented by us at this Leete or Law day and alsoe those Formerly at other Leetes or Law dayes presented Might be duely Executed and those good Lawes and Ordynances wch tend to the Glory of God and For the good of this poore City might be duely put in Execution wch have beene divers times humbly desired and as yett never put in Execution wch is to the greate Dishoner of God and a shame to those that proffess Christianyty." A shorter but similar desire was expressed by the

Second Inquest (89) "that theire ameracements may be levied without p(er)ciallity so will yo(u)r worppps, & the Cittizens be put to lesse trouble here after, & the City better Governed, All which (without doubt) will redowne to the great credit of this City."

An appropriate ending to this paper is an adaption of an entry that appears in various forms at the end of the period under review: "Lastly what is wantinge in this (my) p(re)sentmt of Forme or false English, (I am) content it shall be amended not alteringe the substance etc." (90) by our learned and beloved Honorary Secretary and Editor.

REFERENCES TO CITY DOCUMENTS.

The figures in the second column refer to the skin, those in the third to the file, and those in the fourth to the number of the document quoted, except where this is bound with others into a volume.

1.	12.	xvii.	xv	31.	23.	xi.	xiv	61.	17.	xx.	i
2.	23.	iv.	v	32.	22.	iv.	iii	62.	16.	ii.	iv
3.	23.	iv.	iii	33.	17.	xx.	iv	63.	13.	xv.	xi
4.	15.	xxxviii.	x	34.	22.	xx.	i	64.	22.	xv.	xix
5.	23.	xxx.	i	35.	20.	xxiii.	iv	65.	16.	vi.	viii
6.	20.	xxiii.	vi	36.	22.	xvi.	xxv	66.	20.	xxxv.	viii
7.	16.	vi.	vii	37.	22.	xvi.	xxv	67.	15.	xxxviii.	viii
8.	17.	xvi.	iv	38.	23.	iv.	i	68.	17.	xvi.	ii
9.	20.	xxxv.	x	39.	20.	xxiii.	iii	69.	17.	xxvii.	ii
10.	23.	iii.	ix	40.	17.	xxvi.	x	70.	17.	xxvi.	x
11.	23.	iv.	vii	41.	20.	xxiii.	iv	71.	17.	xvi.	v
12.	17.	xvii.	xv	42.	15.	xlili.	vi	72.	Vol. 4.	66	
13.	Vol. 4.	31		43.	15.	xliv.	xliii	73.	22.	xxi.	iii
14.	13.	xvii.	ix	44.	17.	xvi.	ii	74.	23.	xxx.	i
15.	20.	xxxv.	ix	45.	20.	xxiv.	i	75.	17.	xvi.	iii
16.	22.	xvi.	xxv	46.	20.	xxiii.	vi	76.	15.	xxxviii.	vii
17.	17.	xx.	viii	47.	20.	xxv.	ix	77.	17.	xxvi.	viii
18.	17.	xvii.	xvi	48.	22.	Loose document		78.	23.	iii.	ix
19.	23.	iv.	iv	49.	23.	xi.	xxiii	79.	17.	xiii.	vii
20.	20.	xxiii.	iii	50.	23.	iv.	iv.	80.	23.	xxx.	ii
21.	23.	xi.	xxiii	51.	23.	iv.	v	81.	17.	xxvi.	x
22.	16.	vi.	vi	52.	23.	xxi.	i	82.	17.	xxvi.	viii
23.	22.	xxi.	i	53.	23.	iv.	vi	83.	23.	iv.	xliii
24.	22.	iv.	iii	54.	20.	xxiii.	ii	84.	23.	xiv.	i
25.	23.	xi.	xv	55.	23.	xi.	xxiii	85.	23.	iv.	iv
26.	17.	xxvi.	x	56.	17.	xvi.	iv	86.	23.	xvi.	xii
27.	17.	xx.	viii	57.	23.	iv.	vii	87.	23.	xxx.	ii
28.	20.	xxiii.	iii	58.	17.	xv.	i	88.	23.	iii.	ix
29.	20.	xxiii.	v	59.	23.	iv.	vii	89.	23.	xxx.	ii
30.	23.	iv.	i	60.	16.	vi.	xvii	90.	23.	xiv.	i

NOTES ON TREES AT HERGEST CROFT, KINGTON,
AND AT MOOR COURT, PEMBRIDGE.

By C. A. BENN, O.B.E., M.A., F.G.S.

(Read 29th August, 1940.)

HERGEST CROFT.

On 29th August, 1940, at the invitation of Mr. R. A. Banks, the Woolhope Club visited the gardens at Hergest Croft in the vicinity of the house, but unfortunately time did not permit of a visit to the many rarities situated some distance away.

Of the vast number of exotic species of trees, shrubs and rock plants it is difficult to know which to describe, but with regard to the trees I propose to deal with those that are healthy and well grown specimens and likely to last for many a day, in order that members of the Club may be able to compare the growth in years to come. Owing to the time of year the wonderful show of rhododendrons and azaleas was over, which annually provides a feast of colour to delight hundreds of visitors.

Amongst the Forest trees we noticed (I must state that the circumference of the trees are measured 4 ft. 3 inches from the ground)—

Abies bracteata, the bristle cone, has the apex of the leaves spine-tipped. Habitat California. Introduced 1853. Circumference 2 ft. 8 in. Height 30 ft. A specimen at Eastnor Castle planted 1865 was 9 ft. 0 in. x 78 ft. in 1908.

Abies brachyphylla. Planted 1912. Circumference 3 ft. 11 in. Height 35 ft.

Abies amabilis. Has a peculiar citron-like scent. Planted 1898. Circumference 4 ft. 11 in. Height 60 ft. Habitat N.W. America.

Abies cephalonica. A native of Greece. Introduced 1824. Planted 1900. Circumference 7 ft. 9 in. Height 55 ft.

Abies grandis. Habitat W. America, where it attains a height of 300 ft. Introduced 1851. Planted 1900. Circumference 10 ft. 2 in. Height 70 ft. A specimen at Silia Place, Presteigne, measured 13 ft. 3 in. in 1933.

Picea smithiana (morinda). Habitat the Himalayas. Introduced 1818. Planted 1908. Circumference 2 ft. 8 in. Height 28 ft.

Picea omorika. Habitat Servia. Introduced 1884. Circumference 3 ft. 0 in. Height 55 ft.

Picea orientalis. Habitat the Caucasus and Asia Minor. Planted 1898. Height 55 ft. A specimen at Stanage Park, Radnorshire, planted in 1845, was 8 ft. 10 in. in circumference in 1931.

Picea polita (Tiger tail spruce). Habitat Japan. Introduced 1861. Planted 1898. Circumference 3 ft. 3 in. Height 30 ft.

Picea sitchensis (Sitka spruce). Habitat Canada, where it attains a height of 300 ft. Planted 1898. Circumference 9 ft. 8 in. Height 75 ft. This specimen is noticeable for the great spread of its branches. At Stanage Park there is a specimen 126 ft. 0 in. high and 12 ft. 10 in. in circumference in 1931.

Picea breweriana. A very attractive tree. Habitat California. Introduced 1897. Planted 1916. Circumference 2 ft. 2 in. Height 25 ft.

Cupressus lawsoniana. Var. *Wisseli*. Planted 1909. Height 35 ft.

Tsuga albertiana. Habitat W. America. Introduced 1851. Planted 1900. Circumference 5 ft. 3 in. Height 50 ft.

Acer griseum. Habitat Central China. This is one of the treasures, if not the treasure, of the gardens, the bark of the trunk and branches peels off like a birch and is of a bright tawny red colour. This specimen is without doubt the finest specimen in the British Isles.

Arbutus menziesii. Introduced 1827. Habitat N. America. The bark of the trunk and branches is dark reddish brown which peels off in large scales.

Fraxinus mariesii. Habitat Central China. Introduced 1879.

Davidia involucreata. A fine specimen.

Zelkova acuminata. Habitat Japan and China. Introduced 1862.

Amongst the many shrubs the following are noticeable:—

Eucryphia pinnatifolia from China.

Viburnum rhytidophyllum from China.

Viburnum tomentosum, var. *Mariesii*.

Fothergilla major from U.S.A.

Rosa hugonis from China.

Osmanthus delavayi from China.

MOOR COURT.

In 1873 the Wych Elm as recorded in the *Transactions* of the Woolhope Club, p. 70, illus. p. 66, measured 18 ft. 10 in. at 5 ft.

from the ground ; in 1901, p. 124, it measured 22 ft. 4 in., and was 130 ft. high, and in 1923 (*Transactions* for 1924, p. xi), was 23 ft. 9 in., that is, it had put on 1 ft. 5 in. in 50 years.¹ The largest tree in the Elm avenue measured 14 ft. 4 in., 1870 (the *Transactions*, p. 293), and the largest circumference to-day is 15 ft. 10 in.

Only a few trees of the Walnut avenue remain. In 1870 the largest one measured 12 ft. 3 in. In 1931 Dr. Fox came from London on purpose to see the avenue. He measured the largest as being 14 ft. 6 in. and 88 ft. high ; the avenue is mentioned in Elwes and Henry's *Trees of Great Britain and Ireland*.

The following passage occurs in an article on Moor Court in the *Transactions* for 1870, p. 295, referring to the pictures that were in the house at that time :—" Opposite to her is the portrait of a noble-faced old man with grey hair, flowing black velvet gown and cap, a pair of compasses in hand, a chest before him, and beside him a globe, whereon certain countries, Lapland among them, are prominently figured." It continues :—" Why should not Moor Court have been the abode of one of those Flemish families who are known to have taken up their residence in this neighbourhood ? The man who occupied the house for a considerable time may have been the proprietor of the cloth works of Leominster or Kington."

I think I can add something to this. I noticed that the sun as it rose in the winter months tended to move daily in the direction of the walnut avenue, and I said to myself, I wonder if on mid-winter's day it will rise up the centre of the avenue, and sure enough it did. Then I said, will it set exactly down the centre of the main elm avenue on mid-summer's day, and again sure enough it did. Therefore these two avenues were planted to mark the winter and summer solstice. The gentleman in the picture was doubtless an astronomer. In fact, the picture had always been known as " The Astronomer ", he was probably a Dutchman. Now, as we know from the old pictures, Dutchmen were addicted to planting avenues. The end of one of the barns on the west side of the house is eminently Dutch, and there was until recent years a Dutch barn such as is built in Holland to the present day.

You who are historians will recollect that many Flemish weavers were turned out of Holland and came to England, and Mr. Davies was on the right tack when he said that a Flemish family might have resided at Moor Court, but he had not grasped that the gentleman of the picture planted the avenues and built the barns, and that he was acquainted with the summer and winter solstice.

¹ Mr. F. R. James measured this Wych elm, and it is now 24 ft. 3 in., and a Tulip tree in front of the house as 9 ft. 4 in., both at 5 ft. from the ground.

Obituary Memoirs.

FRANK BODDINGTON.

Died 26th May, 1940.

The Club lost an energetic and enthusiastic assistant-secretary by the death of Frank Boddington, son of Robert Slater Boddington of Manchester, at the early age of 52, on the 26th May, 1940. For many years he had been a progressive fruit grower at Burghill, and for some years was a member of the Hereford Board of Guardians and Rural District Council, where his knowledge of the county was of value. He was also an active member of the local Amateur Dramatic Society. Upon retirement from fruit farming he took up his residence at Hinton, Peterchurch, and soon found an outlet for his unbounded energy when appointed Assistant-Secretary of the Woolhope Club. To further its interests no task was too great, and he undertook the work of compiling the Index of Transactions 1912—1935 and a list of all illustrations that had appeared therein since 1852. This took far more time than is usually realised, but upon publication in 1939 it became of immense value to students of local history. At the time of his death he had been actively engaged for some months upon a much needed full index of the Club's Transactions from 1852—1911, work for which it is difficult to find a successor.

Frank Boddington's cheery and breezy presence at the Club's outings will be greatly missed.

F. C. M.

Brig.-General WILLIAM GEORGE HAMILTON, C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O.

Died 30th August, 1940.

Brig.-General William George Hamilton, C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O., entered the army in 1878 and had a distinguished military career. He took part in the Isazai expedition, the Chitral Relief force and the European war in Mesopotamia. At the opening of his career he had a narrow escape with five other newly appointed ensigns. Upon returning from Gravesend to Woolwich after instruction in musketry they missed the boat by a few seconds. This was the " Princess Alice ", which upon the trip came into collision with a steamer and sank, nearly all the passengers being

drowned. The six ensigns had been gazetted on the same day a short time before, and all had a distinguished record of service.

After retirement from the Army, General Hamilton took up his residence at Coddington Court, Herefordshire, and not long before his death moved to a house in Ledbury, where he died on the 30th of August, 1940, aged 80. He had taken great interest in archæology and read papers to the Club upon the Bronze age finds at Mathon and the place names of Coddington. In 1933 he became our President.

F. C. M.

The Rev. WILLIAM EDWARD THOMAS MORGAN, B.A.,
Canon Emeritus of Swansea and Brecon.
Died 31st December, 1940.

The Club has lost a valuable member by the death of the Rev. Canon W. E. T. Morgan, who died on the 31st of December, 1940, at the age of 93 years. At the time of his death he was the second oldest member of the Club, having been elected in 1892, forty-eight years ago. He acted as one of the Vice-Presidents in the years 1913, 1920, 1931, 1932 and from 1934 to the date of his death. Though offered the Presidency on more than one occasion, he could not be persuaded to take the chair. His contributions to the Club's *Transactions* were many and varied. A good Welsh scholar, he was much interested in the Place-names and Folklore of Breconshire and Radnorshire, and he wrote papers on these subjects which are printed in our *Transactions*. He located an unrecorded Long Barrow in the parish of Llanigon and had it carefully excavated, making a full report on it to the Club. Another outstanding piece of work was when he broached an entirely new subject, namely Dog Doors in Churches, which hitherto seem to have gone entirely unrecorded. Other interesting papers dealing with this Welsh Borderland came from his pen.

When Sir Cyril Fox was endeavouring to obtain for the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff an old stone cider mill with press and all the concomitants for cider making, Morgan found him an admirable example, which was about to be broken up, in his parish of Llanigon.

He graduated from St. David's College, Lampeter, in 1870, and after holding several curacies in Radnorshire and Breconshire, he was appointed to the Vicarage of Llanigon, near Hay, in 1887, from which he retired in 1923, and took up his residence in Cusop, where he died.

Shortly after the foundation of the Bishopric of Swansea and Brecon he was appointed a Canon Emeritus of that Cathedral.

With a knowledge and understanding of all things appertaining to the countryside he was much beloved by all with whom he came in contact in the course of his parochial duties.

He retained his full faculties and activities up to the end, and his was a personality which those who had the pleasure of knowing him will not readily forget.

He lies interred in the churchyard of his old parish, Llanigon.

G. M.

1872
Jan 1st
to
Feb 1st
to
Mar 1st
to
Apr 1st
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May 1st
to
Jun 1st
to
Jul 1st
to
Aug 1st
to
Sep 1st
to
Oct 1st
to
Nov 1st
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Dec 1st
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1873
Jan 1st
to
Feb 1st
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Mar 1st
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Apr 1st
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May 1st
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Jun 1st
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Jul 1st
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Aug 1st
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Sep 1st
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Oct 1st
to
Nov 1st
to
Dec 1st
to





Photos by

E. H. Morris, M.Inst.C.E.

ABERGAVENNY TRAM ROAD.

1. High Embankment near Pandy, shewing some sleepers, some in position.
2. Culvert under Tram at St. Devereux.

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.

PAPERS, 1941.

THE HEREFORD AND ABERGAVENNY TRAMROAD.

By E. H. MORRIS, M.Inst.C.E., in conjunction
with Captain F. B. ELLISON.

(Read 11th February, 1941.)

The continuous tramroad from Abergavenny to Hereford consisted of the undertakings of three separate companies, known as the Llanvihangel Railway Co., the Grosmont Railway Co., and the Hereford Railway Company.

The first section, the undertaking of the Llanvihangel Company, constructed under an Act of 1811, extended from a wharf on the Brecknock Canal at Govilon, crossed the River Usk adjacent to the old highway bridge, on its western side; and continued round and to the north of the town of Abergavenny, passing close to the New Inn at Mardy, and to the churches of Llantilio-Pertholey and Llanvihangel Crucorney and terminated in a field about 54 chains almost due east of the latter church. The length was $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

The second section, the Grosmont tramroad, was constructed under an Act of 1812. Commencing at the termination of the preceding one, it followed the natural contour of the ground in a westerly direction for approximately one mile; from that point to its termination at Monmouth Cap, it ran along the southern edge of the present highway. The original turnpike road, which was later developed into the present highway was constructed by the Grosmont Railway Co., presumably in conjunction with the tramroad, and tolls were charged by the Company for its use. Toll gates were fixed thereon at the Toll House at Penissaplwyd, which still stands, at the west end, and at Monmouth Cap, near the junction of the new road with the old road over Campston Hill. The length of the section was $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and that of the toll road about 4 miles.

According to Priestley (1), the estimated cost of these two tramroads was as follows:—

Llanvihangel: Crossley's estimate made 1810, amount £13,390 for a single line; Grosmont: John Hodgkinson's estimate, amount £12,000.

What actual sums were expended are not known. Both the tramroads consisted of a single track with passing places at intervals.

There were no considerable engineering works on these two sections except the bridge over the River Usk at Abergavenny, and earthworks at Llanvihangel Crucorney, *viz.*, a cutting 30 feet deep which occupied part of the site of the deep railway cutting adjacent to Llanvihangel station, and an embankment 30 feet deep near Pandy.

That bridge was a viaduct of eight spans, corresponding with the spans of the older highway bridge, to which it was contiguous on its upstream side, and some six or eight feet higher. An Act was passed in 1862 for the construction by the L. & N.W. Rly. Co. of a single line of railway from Abergavenny to Brynmawr; that company thereupon acquired the properties of the former Llanvihangel undertaking between north Abergavenny and Govilon and absorbed the site, making use of the tramroad viaduct for the crossing of the river. When, however, a few years later the line was doubled, the present iron structure was erected a few yards further upstream to carry the double line, and the tramroad viaduct, no longer of use, was taken down.

The gradients were considerable, but appear to have been reasonably uniform; the following figures are merely approximations:—

From the Canal wharf at Govilon to the River Usk—1 in 50 falling.

From the River Usk to the Summit at Llanvihangel, about 500 ft. above sea level—1 in 70 rising.

From Llanvihangel to Monmouth Cap—1 in 120 falling.

There appear to have been three private sidings on the Llanvihangel tramroad—to lime works at Llanfoist, to the gas works at Abergavenny and to Trilley Mill in the parish of Llantilio Pertholey; and one on the Grosmont tramroad—to a quarry in the neighbourhood of Pandy. After the construction of the Newport, Abergavenny and Hereford Railway, a spur of the Llanvihangel tramroad was extended to some railway sidings on the new line, about three-quarters of a mile north of Abergavenny Station; and the Railway Company maintained and worked for some years a short portion of the tramroad in the town of Abergavenny, in order, presumably, to provide the gas works with coal.

Apart from the actual tramroad, the Llanvihangel and Grosmont Companies held the following properties:—

Llanvihangel—House, wharf, weighing machine and shed at Groesvach; sundry cottages and stables.

Grosmont—Six cottages; cottage and garden at Pandy; a cottage at Penbidwal; stop gate cottages at Penissaplwyd,

4 miles from Monmouth Cap; a cottage, wharf, and weighing machine at Monmouth Cap (2).

The permanent way of the two tramroads was of the simplest character, and similar to that of the contemporary Hay tramroad. Cast iron plate rails, each 3 feet long, 4 inches wide on the tread and with a vertical flange 3 inches deep, were laid on stone blocks of irregular shape, about 120 lbs. weight each, bedded into the earth. A dowel hole in each stone was plugged with wood, and the adjacent ends of the rails were secured to the blocks by one tapered iron spike, 4 inches long, driven into the plug. Each end of each rail was notched to receive a common spike, which thus preserved the alignment.

The gauge, measured over the flanges which were on the inside of the rails, was 3 feet 6 inches.

It may be presumed that John Hodgkinson was engineer of both tramroads.

The Hereford Tramroad, the final section, from Monmouth Cap to Hereford, followed at a much later date, owing, it is alleged, to organised opposition from barge owners and other vested interests; in November, 1825, however, a covenant was entered into by ninety-four subscribers to contribute a sum of £23,700 by way of capital (3) and a plan was prepared by David Davies (4), for application to Parliament for an Act, which received the Royal Assent in 1826, and construction proceeded at once. John Hodgkinson was the engineer. Of the ninety-four subscribers, Mr. E. B. Clive, the chairman, Mr. Thos. Hill of Blaenavon, and Richard Blakemore of The Leys, each contributed £1,000; the remaining subscriptions were in smaller amounts. The value of one share was fixed at £100. It is not, however, certain that more than 235 shares were actually taken up (5).

The alignment of the tramroad, as constructed, adhered very nearly to the plan made by Davies. Commencing on the north side of the toll road at Monmouth Cap, a connection with the Grosmont Tramroad being laid across the highway, the track crossed the River Monnow by Llangua road bridge and the road itself and took a wide sweep to the bank of the River Dore, half-a-mile further, where a toll-house and weighing machine were erected. The cottage still exists. The track crossed the River Dore at Pontrilas, and also the Abergavenny and Hereford highway, and for 2½ miles hugged the north side of the highway; at Howton Grove Farm it crossed the road and took to the fields in a more or less direct line for the Wye Bridge, Hereford, passing 200 yards to the south of St. Devereux Church, and immediately south of Haywood Lodge, where a tunnel 200 yards long was made through the high ground. Much of the track between Howton Grove and Hereford was obliterated by the later construction, on the same site, of the Newport, Abergavenny and Hereford Railway.

The layout of the section was arranged to follow the natural contour of the ground ; with the exception of Haywood tunnel, engineering works were inconsiderable. The profile attached to Davies's plan (and there is no reason to doubt its substantial accuracy) shows a uniform ascent from the River Monnow of 1 in 500 for about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles and 1 in 750 for $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles more to Haywood tunnel, the summit, from which the track descends rapidly on a gradient of 1 in 100 to the Wye Bridge. Except for cuttings about thirty feet deep at the ends of the tunnel there were no earthworks exceeding ten feet in depth. There were three or four small bridges ; of those over the River Dore and Worm Brook there is no trace, but a couple of arches remain in ruins in the pasture south of the River Wye at Hereford. There must have been a few small culverts ; part of one is visible at St. Devereux (*see illustration p. 97*). The total length from Monmouth Cap to Wyebridge was $11\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

The tramroad was laid as a single line with passing places or loops about 50 yards long, generally at intervals of 20 to 40 chains.

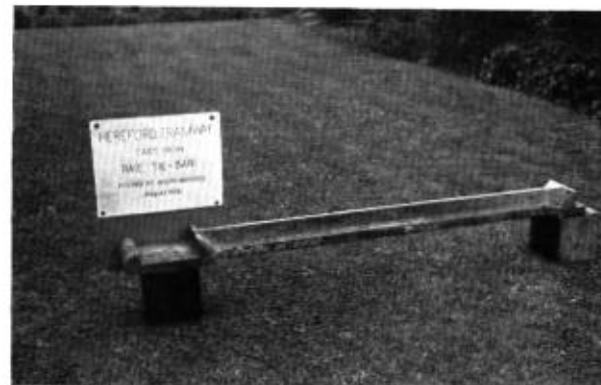
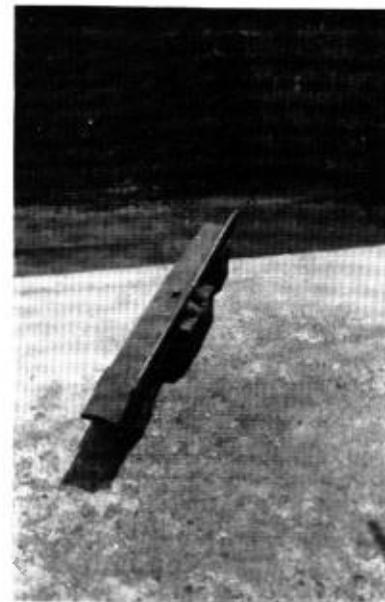
The permanent way is interesting, as it appears from observation of the site, and from the meagre relics in the Hereford Museum, that the type was unique. In the points and crossings at the ends of the sidings, and probably in the sidings and loops themselves, the permanent way was similar to that of the two earlier sections. But in the lengths of plain line between the passing places on the Hereford tramroad, there is no doubt that a more substantial construction of cast iron sleepers and plate rails was adopted (*see illustration*). The stone blocks were retained but without dowel holes and spikes ; the sleepers were merely laid upon them, without any attachment. The sleeper was 4 ft. 4 ins. long, and weighed 53 lbs. ; at each end was a pair of shallow lugs, into which the ends of adjacent rails were inserted and secured by a slightly tapered key (*see illustration*). A layer of broken stone ballast between the rails and over the sleepers served to keep the track in place, and at the same time formed a metallised tread for the horse's feet. The gauge was, of course, the same as that of the two earlier sections, *viz.*, 3 feet 6 inches. The plate rails were four feet long and weighed each 51 lbs.

Apart from the tramroad itself the property held by the Company was as follows :—

A dwelling house, counting house and cottages, situated at Wye Bridge, Hereford, with weighing machine, tram house, workshop and yard leased to the Co. for 99 years from 25th October, 1829, at a rent of £90 per annum.

A dwelling house, called the Tram Inn, in the parish of Much Dewchurch, with the buildings, garden and block adjoining thereto and two cottages.

To face page 100.



Photos by

E. H. Morris, M.Inst.C.E.

ABERGAVENNY TRAM.

1. Pieces of Original Rail and Spike, shown in perspective to exhibit the method of attachment.
2. Cast Iron Rail Tie, peculiar to the Hereford Section found in the Worm brook, near Wormbridge.

A parcel of 1 acre of land at the New Wharf in the same parish, occupied by Jas. Rogers.

A small parcel of land at Monmouth Cap occupied by Messrs. Symonds and Davies.

A cottage, garden and weighing machine at Pontrilas, occupied by the owners. (6)

There were two private sidings on the tramroad—one to a mill at Pontrilas, which stood opposite the turn of the road from Kentchurch, the other at Howton Grove Farm for the convenience of Mr. Clive.

The Hereford Tramroad was opened for traffic on Monday, 21st September, 1829, at 10 a.m., when the first consignment of coal from Abergavenny arrived at the Wyebridge wharf. In all during the day thirty-four trams arrived at the wharf, fifteen from the Blaenavon collieries, and eighteen from Pontypool, and one of grain. Mr. Hill, the proprietor of the Blaenavon Collieries, gave orders for 10½ tons of the first coal consignment to be distributed among the poor of Hereford City. It is recorded that two horses drew twelve tons of coal from the tunnel at Haywood to the Wyebridge wharf. (7)

A fortnight later, on October 7th, a public dinner was held at the Hotel, Hereford, in celebration of the opening of the tramroad, under the presidency of Mr. E. B. Clive. (8)

On October 17th, in the same year, at a meeting of the Company, under the chairmanship of Mr. E. B. Clive (9), rates and tolls for the use of the tramroad were fixed—

Rates of tonnage.

Minerals, manure, apples, cider—1½d. per ton per mile.

General merchandise—3d. per ton per mile.

Tolls.

Passenger carriage, plying for hire—1s. each.

Each passenger therein in excess of three—3d.

Animals—2d. each (except swine and sheep, 5d. per score).

But the Hereford Railway Co.—to give its official title—was short of funds. On 25th October, 1830, a meeting of the proprietors was held at Hereford, at which it was reported that there were outstanding debts of £2,800, in addition to £2,200 borrowed on mortgage; that recent efforts by advertisement to borrow £2,600 at 5 per cent. had been fruitless. It was resolved that the shareholders should advance a further £25 for each share of £100 held, and be credited with one additional share for each sum of £25 so advanced (5). What was the result of this resolution is not known, but it is learnt from the published accounts that in the

twelve months ending 30th June, 1832, £210 interest on mortgages was paid off, while a year later the value of the mortgages was stated to be £6,014, and the interest paid thereon had risen to £294 per annum.

About the year 1834 the first clerk, James Price, died, and James Fowler was appointed to succeed him, and immediately the policy of applying the net profits to the reduction of the mortgage debt was instituted, and continued successfully till, in 1846, the mortgages amounted to no more than £800, and a dividend—perhaps the first dividend—was paid to the shareholders in the sum of £458. (Copies of the published accounts are extant in the Hereford City Library for the years—ending 30th June—from 1832 to 1846, with the sole exception of 1845; and for the 21 months ending June 30th, 1848, in which the profits, under an agreement of purchase of the undertaking by the Newport-Abergavenny and Hereford Railway Co., dated 27th January, 1847, were handed over to the purchasers.) The traffic receipts from 1831 to 1846 increased annually from £800 to £1,100 in the peak years 1834–38, then declined to an average of something more than the original figure for the next eight years, the minimum of £650 being touched in 1846, after which there was a slight revival; the decline was said to be due to the increased price of South Wales coal, which brought coal from the Forest of Dean once more into favour (2). Net revenue, though fluctuating considerably, was however well maintained over the fourteen years, the average being nearly £700 annually, owing no doubt to the steady reduction of debt. Rents provided a negligible revenue, and did little more than balance the outgoings in rent for the wharf at Wye Bridge. On the other hand the cost of maintenance was very small. Salaries were about £70 per annum, of which the clerk received £30. Upkeep of the track was the chief item of expense, averaging about £150 per annum. Labour in repairs was found by a Contractor, who until 1836 was William Fosbroke, the tenant of the Tram Inn: he received £120 p.a. therefor; later the payment to the contractor was reduced to £98 p.a. The materials in renewals were found by the Company.

In the year 1845 a new company was formed to construct a steam railway from Pontypool to Hereford, to join up with projected railways from that city to Shrewsbury and Worcester, under the title of the Newport-Abergavenny and Hereford Railway; negotiations were begun to acquire the three tramroad undertakings, which were ultimately acquired for the following sums of money:—Llanvihangel, £21,750; Grosmont, £16,250; Hereford, £19,460. The basis of calculation of the first is known to have been 25 years' purchase of the net annual income of £870 (10), but that of the two others is not known. The implication is that the Llanvihangel Co. had been much more prosperous than the Hereford Co. in spite of the latter's possession of a length of line

50 per cent. greater, but the reason for this prosperity is not obvious. By an agreement with the Hereford Co., dated 27th January, 1847 (6), the Newport, Abergavenny and Hereford Rly. Co. undertook to pay the purchase money in half-yearly instalments, with interest at 5 per cent. on the unpaid residue until the completion of purchase, the date of which was fixed at 1st March, 1850, the Hereford Railway Co. handing over to the purchasers the net profits for the same period. The instalments were duly paid by the purchasers until 1st September, 1848, when shortage of funds caused a temporary suspension of the Railway Company's activities, and by a further agreement in 1848 (11) the date of completion of purchase was extended to 31st July, 1851. In that year construction of the railway was revived and pursued with energy until its completion. The railway was opened to traffic from Coedygic Junction, near Pontypool, to Barton Station, Hereford, on the 2nd January, 1854. From 1851 the tramroad from Abergavenny to Hereford was presumably worked by the Railway Company until the virtual extinction of the tramroad by the absorption of much of the site between Mardy and Llanvihangel, and again between St. Devereux and Hereford, in the course of construction of the railway.

The following additional facts regarding the later history of the tramroads is learnt from a report dated 19th April, 1848, by the Secretary of the Newport, Abergavenny & Hereford Rly. (2).

Management.

Llanvihangel Tramroad: A collector received £60 per annum, and house provided. A contractor for repairs received £212 per annum to cover cost of materials, and employed one man.

Grosmont Tramroad: The same contractor for repairs received £91 11s. 0d. per annum. A collector at Penissaplwyd received £52 (with a house provided, presumably) for collecting tolls as well as tonnages. The return of tonnages and tolls for the stone road made by his wife was so confused that the exact amounts of each could not be ascertained. The value of the tolls was, however, estimated to be £96 per annum.

Hereford Tramroad: The Clerk's and Collector's salaries amounted to £80 per annum. A contractor was paid £98 per annum for repairing the track, to include new blocks, and exclusive of tram-plates, which were found by the Company.

The Condition of the Track.

The whole length of track was in bad repair from the Brecknock Canal to Monmouth Cap, and if further neglected would soon become unfit for traffic. Tram plates were to a considerable extent worn through and many were hanging loose between others that were whole; some blocks required renewal and the centre of the track needed ballasting. The track of the Hereford Tramroad

was in good order. It must be borne in mind, however, that the two first sections were at that date about thirty-five years old, while the Hereford Tramroad, with a vastly superior type of permanent way, had not yet seen twenty years' service.

The Cost of Coal at Hereford.

	per ton	
	s.	d.
Coal at Canal Wharf	-	9 6
25 m. tonnage	-	3 1½
Haulage	-	3 6
Wharfage	-	4½
		<hr/>
		16 6
Monopoly and profit to Mr. Bridgwater and the Blaenavon Co.	-	5 6
		<hr/>
Cost per ton at Hereford, delivered into cellars	-	£1 2 0

The Newport Abergavenny and Hereford Railway was absorbed on 1st July, 1860, into the system of the West Midland Railway Co., which, three years later, on the 1st August, 1863, was amalgamated with the Great Western Railway Co.; thus the property of the old tramroad companies changed hands three times in quick succession. Each successive owner disposed of the surplus land of the tramroads to adjoining owners as opportunity offered. It is interesting to note that the turnpike road from Pandy to Monmouth Cap was conveyed to Mr. J. L. Scudamore by the West Midland Railway Company in 1860.

It is probably due to these successive changes of ownership that so few relics of the tramroad companies have survived. The seals of the three companies, for example, which ought to be now in the possession of the G.W. Railway Company, have never been found.

REFERENCES.

1. Priestley's *Navigable Rivers, Canals and Railways*, 1831, in the Hereford City Library.
2. Report dated 19th April, 1848, by the Secretary of the N.A. & H. Ry., in the possession of the G.W. Railway Co., Paddington.
3. Original deed, dated 21st November, 1825, in the Hereford City Library.
4. Lithographed plan and section by David Davies, 1825, in the Hereford City Library.
5. Memo. of meeting held 25th October, 1830, of Hereford Ry. Co., in the Hereford City Library.

6. Draft of Agreement dated 27th January, 1847, between N.A. & H. Ry. Co. and Hereford Ry. Co., in the Hereford City Library.
7. *Hereford Journal*, 23rd September, 1829. No. 3089.
8. *Hereford Journal*, 30th September, 1829. No. 3090.
9. *Hereford Journal*, 14th October, 1829. No. 3092.
10. Memo. by Messrs Gabb and Secretan, Secretaries of the Llanvihangel Railway Co., of a meeting held at the Monmouth Cap Inn, 25th June, 1845, in the possession of G.W. Railway Co., Paddington.
11. Draft of Agreement, dated —, 1848, between N.A. & H. Ry. Co. and the Hereford Railway Co., in the Hereford City Library.

NOTE.—Mr. Morris has deposited in the library of the Woolhope Club a one inch Ordnance Map shewing the course of the Tramroad with each section in a different colour.

HEREFORDSHIRE PRINTERS AND BOOKSELLERS.

By F. C. MORGAN, F.S.A., F.L.A.

(Read 25th February, 1941.)

Hereford has not played an important part in the history of books and printing, but a survey of the subject should be of interest to students of local matters. In the library world, however, Hereford stands supreme; her chained libraries at the Cathedral and All Saints' Church, of two distinct types, are the only perfect examples of each remaining.

Connexion with the continental book trade began early in the 16th century, when several traders from Rouen are said to have published or sold books in this city. No local records of these immigrants have been found, and the statement is based on the colophons of various volumes.

A Frenchman who is said to have come to Hereford and published books was Inghelbert Haghe, who issued the *Hereford Breviary* in 1505 under the patronage of Margaret, Countess of Richmond and Derby. This book was probably printed by Jean Olivier and Jean Mauditier in Rouen.¹

The next connexion with the publishing trade may have been as early as 1517, for Havergal in *Fasti Herefordienses*, 1869, p. 212, mentioned that Mr. T. Kerslake, of Bristol, had for sale a Latin² and English dictionary published in Hereford by John Gachet in that year. This book is now in the John Rylands Library, Manchester, and its claim to be of Hereford origin was strongly disputed by the late Mr. John Hutchinson, who, under his well-known pseudonym "Ladylift", had a long newspaper argument upon the subject with James Lloyd of Kington in the *Hereford Times*³ in 1906. There is no doubt that John Gachet published books in York from 1514 to 1517. Then he is said to have come to Hereford, where he published the Dictionary in May and two other books later. His movements afterwards are unknown until he re-appeared at York in 1528. In 1535 he was granted letters of denization—"John Gachet, Frenchman, of the city of York, bookbinder from the dominion of the King of France." No further mention of him has been found.⁴ It was suggested by

¹ Plomer. *Wynkyn de Worde and his Contemporaries*.

² See Appendix I.

³ P.C. No. 2287.

⁴ Duff. *English Provincial Printers*, 1912.

Hutchinson that he came from Herford in Westphalia, assumed the surname "Herford" and was identical with the well known printer of this name at St. Albans in Hertfordshire, who issued books from 1534-44. This is mere supposition, and is strongly disputed by Dr. John Guppy of the John Rylands Library, though it would be satisfactory if some reference to Gachet could be found locally.

Hereford's first known association with printing dates back to 1559, when Robert Crowley, a distinguished scholar, was appointed Archdeacon of Hereford, after a career at Oxford. He had a printing office in Ely Rents, Holborn, from which some few important works were issued, including his own poems and the famous *Vision of Pierce Plowman*, of Herefordshire authorship, of which three editions were published in 1550. Crowley was ordained the following year, gave up his business, and was exiled owing to his Protestant beliefs, until the death of Queen Mary in 1558. Afterwards he held various livings in London, and resigned his Hereford archdeaconry in 1567, but kept alive his interest in books, as he was admitted a freeman of the Stationers' Company of London in 1578. He died in 1588.

The earliest local bookseller whose name appears in local records was John Cooper, a stationer of the city, and therefore entitled to sell books, to whom his son John was apprenticed in 1650. This is recorded in the minute book of the Company of Barbers, Stationers, and other trades, now preserved in Hereford Public Library, from which many of the following records are taken. Cooper died before 1663, for his widow, on the 2nd November of this year, acknowledged the true service of her son to her husband during his lifetime and, after his death, to her. The younger John Cooper was then admitted as a master of the Company.

In 1657 William Luggar¹ of London, who had served his apprenticeship with John Thompson, of London, produced his indentures, his copy of Freedom to the Company of Drapers, and a certificate from his Master and other booksellers of London, and was admitted to the local Company as a foreigner upon payment of £6 13s. 4d. and 40/- in lieu of a dinner.

The Company in the 17th century was keeping a strict watch upon its privileges, and in November, 1662, presented William Knight of Bircher, petty chapman, for selling books and ballads within the city. Knight was fined 5/-, and he promised not to commit the offence again.

In February, 1663, Christopher Gravill, mercer, was presented "for using the trade of a stationer by selling of a play book bound

¹ Luggar was presented for default of court at a view of Frankpledge in October, 1662.

and offering others to sale." He confessed his offence before William Edwyne, Mayor, in the presence of John Garnons, master of the Company, and John Rodd and Thomas Powle, wardens. He was fined 20/- and promised not to offend again. Recently I found the signed copy of the presentment in the archives at the Town Hall.

On 10th February, 1672/3 Richard Hunt, of the city, stationer, was "sworne a freeman to use the art and mystery of a stationer and bookseller," and in 1690 his son James was apprenticed to him for seven years. Richard Hunt was of some importance, as his name appears in a list of provincial booksellers at the end of Bromfield's *A Brief discovery of the . . . scurvy . . . whereunto is added a short account of . . . pills against all diseases*, 1685. Hunt was agent for these pills. On 9th November, 1699, John Hunt was bound to Armolah Hunt, widow, described as a bookseller, not the widow of Richard, as James is recorded as having served his apprenticeship to his father and was admitted a master of the company on 3rd December, 1702, and John was admitted having served his apprenticeship to Armolah Hunt on 3rd February, 1706.

On 27th September, 1744, John Hunt, bookseller, leased from the Mayor and Corporation of Hereford for 21 years a messuage or tenement adjoining a "way that leads up from the Above Eign to the Stony Field" in the parish of All Saints. He paid a fine of five pounds and a yearly rent of two shillings and sixpence due on Lady Day and a "couple of Quick fat hens" to the Mayor at Christmas.¹

The next entry concerning the Hunt family is dated 27th August, 1759, when a second Richard was admitted a freeman, having served his apprenticeship to John Hunt.

In April, 1674, Thomas Hancox appears for the first time, when he took as an apprentice Richard Whittington, son of William Whittington of Hampton Bishop. He took Thomas Lastley apprentice as a stationer only in May, 1687.

Thomas Hancox issued the well-known token bearing on the obverse "THO. HANCOX. IN. HEREFORD = A book," and on the reverse "CITY. BOOKSELLER. 1668 = HIS. HALFE. PENY."²

On 18th August, 1679, he was in trouble with the Company, and asked John Garnons, the master, to call a special hall, for which he paid the fee 3/4, and then before the Master, Thomas Bond and Thomas Ford, the wardens, and the greater part of the

¹ Lease with counterpart in Hereford Public Library, MS. No. 248.

² In 1661, seven years earlier, Thomas Seaborne, John Hill, Hugh Rodd Roger Bulcott, John Moorose, Edmund Huch, John Lane, William Barne and Thomas Mathewes were presented for setting out "farthings and halfe pence without any Authority". City Archives 25, xvii, 5.

members, he acknowledged his offence of joining with Thomas Rogers, "barber chirurgion and painter", in fraudulently attempting to bind John Best, glazier, a married man, as an apprentice to Rogers. The Company imposed a fine of 3/-, which Hancox paid to buy a common seal for the Company, and he promised to pay all his arrears of quarteridge. Upon the same day his son John was bound apprentice to him.

In *Arber's Term Catalogues*, Vol. I, 1668-1682, p. 163, there is an entry that a work by Tho. Good, D.D.¹ entitled *Firmianus et Dubitantius, or, Certain Dialogues concerning Atheism, Infidelity, Popery and other Heresies that trouble the peace of the Church* [etc.], was printed in Oxford for Tho. Hancox in 1674. Hancox's name does not appear in the Hearth Tax rolls, but in the Register of St. Peter's for 19th February, 1681, the baptisms of Thomas and Penelope Hancox are recorded.

Richard Whittington was admitted a freeman, having faithfully served his apprenticeship, in August, 1683, and took Richard Broade,² son of Thomas Broade, Clarke, of Hereford, as his first recorded apprentice seven years later in August, 1690. The following January, 1690/1, Roger Williams became his second apprentice, and in January, 1692, his son John was bound unto him.

Records of the Wilde family are first found in the list of Free-men preserved at the Town Hall, Hereford. In 1695 James Wilde was admitted a Freeman, and among the city archives is an inventory of the books and goods of Roger Williams,³ bookseller of the city, which were seized at the suit of John Bevans, writing master, and were "appraised" by Thomas Broad and James Wilde; Broad was a mercer. James Wilde's name does not appear in the Barber's minute book until on the 2nd August, 1711, his two sons, James and Richard, put themselves apprentices to their father, who is described as a stationer.

In September, 1712, another son John was bound also. The earliest known local Poll book was printed for Richard Wilde in 1747. James Wilde had a business at Ludlow, as his name appears there from 1748-1768, though he is said to have been in Hereford also until 1755.⁴

This family must have continued for some considerable time, as Mrs. F. Wilde appears as a bookseller in a directory of 1792.

¹ Good was a Prebendary of Hereford and Rector of Wistanstow in Shropshire.

² R. Broade was buried on 17th October, 1704. See memorial tablet to him in Hereford Cathedral.

³ This is the only record of Roger Williams that I have been able to find so far, but a very long inventory of his books is of absorbing interest, and I am hoping to read a paper upon this at a future meeting of the Club.

⁴ Lloyd, Llewelyn C., "The Book Trade in Shropshire." *Shropshire Archaeological Soc. Transactions*, 1936, p. 189.

The last entry in the minute book concerning booksellers was that of Richard Hunt in 1759. Although the minute book was used from 1613–1771, it cannot be regarded as a complete record of occurrences in the local booksellers' trade during the latter part of the period owing to the decline in power of the Companies.

PRINTERS.

The first recorded press in Hereford appears comparatively late. Not until 1721 was there any printing in this city, when William Parks produced *Pascha; or, Dr. Prideaux's Vindication of the Rule and Table for finding Easter* (see illustration). Parks¹ was a native of the Ludlow district, and began printing in Ludlow in 1719, when he published the first Ludlow newspaper. He came to Hereford two years later and the work already mentioned and Bunyan's *The Jerusalem Sinner Saved*, translated into Welsh by Benjamin Meredith, are the only known local products of his press. Two copies of the former are in the Public Library. He went to Reading, where, with S. Kinneir, he printed *The Reading Mercury or Weekly Entertainer* on the 8th July, 1723. He is next heard of in America in 1725, and he became public printer of Maryland in 1727 and afterwards was the first printer in Virginia in 1730, of which state he became public printer in 1732. He died on a voyage to England in 1750 after an active and successful career. No less than 150 of his separate publications are known. A fine tribute to his skill and literary sense appeared in the *New York Herald-Tribune Books* of 11th September, 1927.

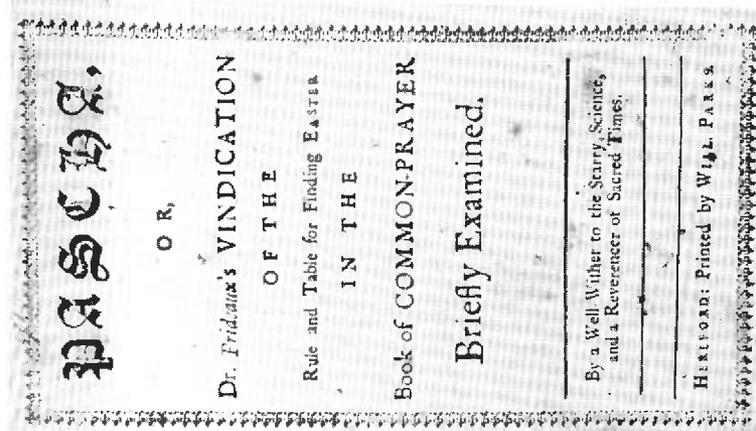
The second Hereford press was the private press of Simon Thomas, who engaged Nicholas Thomas, to teach him the craft. Simon was an ordained Presbyterian minister² who resided in this city for several years and who died here shortly after 1746. Nicholas had practised the trade in Carmarthen, and returned there probably in 1736. The first book issued from the Hereford press was *Athrawiaethau Difnyddawl* in 1734. The only example of the work of Simon Thomas in Hereford Library was probably the second book he published, entitled *History yr Heretic Pelagius*. This he also wrote and published. Several other works are known, the last dated 1742.³

In 1739 Willoughby Smith began *The Hereford Journal with the History of the World given gratis* (see illustration, p. 127). The Library possesses the only known copy of this—Number 12—dated 11th September, 1739. Smith rented a house in Bye Street that belonged to William Brome of Withington, but apparently was not successful, as in one of Brome's letters in the Bodleian

¹ *Op. cit.*, pp. 152–6.

² See Jones (Ifano), *A History of Printing and Printers in Wales*, 1925, pp. 45–6.

³ *Op. cit.*



Photos by

"PASCHA" (see page 110.)

To face page 110.



F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.L.S.,
"SPECIMEN TYPES" (see page 113 footnote.)

Library he mentions that he had let his house, and in another he laments the fact that he had not received any rent, the tenant having removed everything but the key in the door. A pamphlet printed by Smith, *A Warning to Professors of Religion*, was given to the Library by the late Prebendary Hopton, and *John and Betty, a tale in verse*, by Sherborne of Hereford, was probably the product of Smith's press. This rare work was given to the Library recently by Mr. C. Davies Sherborne.

Apparently Smith printed the *Preston (Lancashire) Journal* about 1740, since in the American Antiquarian Society's collection of newspapers in Worcester, Mass., it is said there are copies with the imprint "Printed by W. Smith, Hereford, in Church Street."¹ If this is so, Smith must have removed from Bye Street. It seems extraordinary that a Lancashire paper should be printed in Hereford at a time when communications were difficult.

In 1765 the name of Charles Pugh, founder of *The British Chronicle*, or Pugh's *Hereford Journal*, in 1770, first appears. The Library has some few examples of his work, which was varied. The earliest is *A Dissertation upon the chronological difficulties imputed to the Mosaic History*, by William Skinner, and the latest a *Sermon Preached September 20th, 1786, at a Meeting of the Three Choirs*. He also printed Falkner's *Description of Patagonia* and Thomas Talbot's *Addresses in favour of the establishment of a Public Infirmary*, which led to the foundation of the present hospital.

The Hereford Museum, or, a series of letters on the most interesting subjects, Nos. I-III, 1770, has the imprint of Green & Co. on No. 1, and of Green and Barnes, Capuchin Lane, Hereford, on later numbers,² but this is the only record of the names I have found.

In 1784 the Hon. John Byng, afterwards 5th Viscount Torrington, in a tour through England and Wales, came to Hereford on the 29th June, and records that "Before dinner we stroll'd to a bookseller's shop, in vain." On 10th August, 1787, he again visited the city and writes that he "pursued an enquiry at booksellers, which I find to be ideal."³ I have little doubt that J. Allen's shop was that visited.

In the *Universal British Directory* for 1792 the names of John Allen, Charles Badham, Henry Parker and Mrs. F. Wilde are recorded as booksellers and stationers and Mrs. F. Davies as a stationer only. John Allen had a Circulating Library in connexion with his business, which was typical of the period in that he also

¹ *Notes and Queries*, Vol. 166, pp. 259 and 304.

N.B.—Since writing this paragraph, I have heard from the Librarian of the American Antiquarian Society that there is not a copy of the *Preston Journal* with Smith's imprint in their Library, so this statement is evidently an error.

² Mr. H. J. Davies has a copy of No. VIII, dated 7th April, 1770, and the only known copy of *A Concise description of Hereford, 1770*, printed by Green and Barnes, has been given to the Public Library by Dr. Richard Davies, J.P., of Cheltenham.

³ *Torrington Diaries*. Vol. 1, pp. 127 and 312.

sold music, musical instruments, and patent medicines for men and domestic animals. His catalogue of books for home reading—the first issued in this city—probably between 1785–1795, is of great interest. It contains the titles of books on many subjects in 2,901 volumes, including all the standard works of the period. These are followed by a long list of stationery and other articles for sale, though only a few are priced, and then a classified catalogue of bibles, prayer books, poetry, plays, books for children, mathematical instruments, colours for drawing, and medicines for sale. The list of children's books is worth study, as it includes many published by the famous John Newbery, who appears in the *Vicar of Wakefield*, and the lengthy list of medicines contains a notice of the famous Dr. James's powders, also a proprietary article belonging to Newbery. Allen was an important man and published a bibliography of Herefordshire in 1821. Only 25 copies were printed of this most useful work. Two copies, one with annotations by the author, are in the Library. Allen also carried on a printing office, the earliest dated example of his work being Uvedale Price's *Thoughts on the Defence of Property*, 1797, though his catalogue is undoubtedly earlier. The latest recorded specimen is *The Proceedings in Herefordshire connected with the Visit of Joseph Hume on December 7th, 1821*, dated 1822.

In 1788¹ Thomas Davies, of Carmarthen (b. 21st March, 1763) opened a successful business as printer and bookseller at the corner of High Town and Widemarsh Street, known as the Britannia Printing Works. In 1802 he bought the lease of Nos. 1 and 2, High Town, for £475, the former house at that time projected across Widemarsh Street, so that occupiers of opposite upper storeys could almost shake hands. The lease was held by the Custos and Vicars of the College. No. 1 was sold to the Commissioners of the Hereford Paving Act for street widening in 1804, and in this year it was taken down. Davies purchased the freehold of No. 2 (now No. 1) and rebuilt it, the corner stone being laid with a grand civic ceremony by the Mayor, Mr. John Sherburne, on the 23rd August. A list of subscribers to the fund for this town improvement was placed under a stone pillar at the corner of the street. Thomas Davies died on the 24th March, 1835, aged 72. His son, the first Thomas Theophilus (b. 15th January, 1793) was taken into partnership in 1815. He was a founder of the Herefordshire Philosophical Society, a Justice of the Peace and held many other unpaid offices. Geology was his special study, and he made a wonderful collection of Herefordshire books and pamphlets, which still exists. He died on 28th August, 1887, aged nearly 96.

¹ This date is given in a newspaper obituary notice. In a volume containing family records kindly lent to me by Mr. H. J. Davies, the year 1795 is given. Another newscutting states that Davies came to Hereford in 1790 and opened his business in 1795. In *Universal British Directory* for 1792 his name does not appear.

The second Thomas Theophilus Davies (b. 27th May, 1823) also lived to a great age, as he died in 1918. He was a Justice of the Peace and a great public servant. The business had been relinquished by his father about 1847 and was carried on by the son until about 1888, when Watson Morrison, who had been his assistant for about 30 years, became the owner and shortly afterwards transferred it to Widemarsh Street, where it came to an end upon the death of Morrison.

Some few examples of the work of the Davies' "Britannia Press", which occupied the upper rooms in High Town, are in the Library. One is a volume of poems by "Meta", the pseudonym of Frances Davies (née George, of Warham), Thomas Theophilus Davies junr.'s mother-in-law. A patent medicine department was included in the business.

Other Hereford printers who began work in the 18th century are worthy of note. The name of William Henry Parker¹ appears first upon a *Miscellaneous Collection in Prose and Verse from the most approved authors*, No. 1, in 1784. In 1822 the business was carried on under the name of W. H. and John Parker. It had a flourishing circulating library, and sold patent medicines, musical instruments and wall paper. John Parker, son of the founder and grandfather of the late Mrs. Lane, wife of the late Dr. James Oswald Lane, of Hereford, sold the business to Mr. Edward Knight Jakeman, and about 1870 Mr. Thomas Carver joined him. The works were first situated in Widemarsh Street, and later transferred to High Town next to the Market, where a second-hand book business was started. In 1923 Mr. Carver sold the printing works to a firm trading as Jakeman and Co., and Mr. G. W. Russell acquired the bookselling and stationery section. The second-hand books were sold by auction.

When the fire of 1922 consumed the Market Hall, the printing machinery was destroyed and Messrs. Jakeman sold the remainder of their lease to Messrs. Lloyds Bank and removed to Church street, where they continue today. Messrs. Jakeman and Carver printed Bull's *Pomona Herefordensis*, 1876–1887, a fine piece of work for a provincial press to produce, and also the continuation of Duncumb's *History of Herefordshire*, Vols. V, 1897—Vol. VII, 1913. The manager of the printing department during Mr. Carver's ownership was Edwin Sledmere, who wrote and illustrated small works upon the archæology of the county. He was responsible

¹ A sheet of type specimens and one of printer's ornaments, issued by Parker, probably in the 18th century, are in the possession of Mr. H. J. Davies. (See illustration, p. 110.)

Since writing the above a copy of an anonymous poem entitled "Constancy", printed by W. H. Parker, 1784, has been given to the local collection of Hereford Public Library. This is an excellent example of the printing of this period. It is a quarto volume with nice type and good margins.

for producing the *Pomona* and Mrs. Leather's *Folklore of Herefordshire*, in 1912.

There is a legend, unfortunately with no foundation in fact, that the business was first begun after the defeat of Charles II at Worcester, by the King's Printer, who accompanied his master with his plant carried on a royal wagon. The plant is said to have been brought to Hereford and used here. No evidence whatever can be found to support this legend, though it is the oldest printing business in the city.

D. Walker,¹ printer of the *Hereford Journal*, published *The Bishop of Hereford's Charge to the Clergy of his Diocese* in 1792, and in 1794 issued Goldsmith's Poetical Works, with wood engravings by T. Bewick. This was the first illustrated volume printed in Hereford, and is well designed. Walker also printed an edition of Uvedale Price of Foxley's *Dialogue on the Picturesque and the Beautiful* for J. Robson in 1801.

THE "BRITISH CHRONICLE, OR PUGH'S HEREFORD JOURNAL."

The *Hereford Journal* was founded by Charles Pugh, and the first number was issued on Thursday, 9th August, 1770. The price was 2½d. until 11th July, 1776; 3d. to 6th January, 1790; 3½d. to 3rd July, 1793; 4d. to 12th July, 1797; 6d. to June², 1809; 6½d. to 5th September, 1815, and 7d. to 14th September, 1836. On the 21st of this month it was reduced to 4½d. and eventually dropped to 1d.

Pugh, the printer of the *Journal*, who employed a man named Rathbone as editor, was burnt to death at his lodging in London, in June, 1788, and his sister Margaret published the *Journal* until the Rev. John Duncumb was engaged as editor. He was succeeded by members of the Harris family of Gloucester, and later by Edwin Goode Wright.³ Margaret Pugh gave the set of *Journals* preserved by her brother to a servant who sold them to a grocer as waste paper. John Allen, junr., hearing of this sale, purchased them, apparently in 1817, and afterwards they became the property of Hereford Permanent Library; the shareholders of this institution in 1900 gave them to the Public Library. Allen wrote many interesting details concerning the publication on the flyleaf of the first volume. From these I have freely drawn.

There are many examples of the work of Edwin Goode Wright in the local collection from 1803 to 1837, and a few bearing the imprint of Watkins and Wright from 1818-1822 and of Watkins only from 1818-1836.

¹ See Appendix III.

² The number for 7th June is priced 6d., those for 14th and 21st are missing. On 28th June the price was 6½d.

³ See Appendix III.

William H. Vale not only printed many small books and pamphlets from 1826 to 1855, and issued many local lithographs of little artistic merit but great topographical interest, but was also printer of the *Hereford Journal* from 23rd January, 1850, to 4th June, 1856.¹ Vale had a printing office at 23, High Town, which he is said to have founded in the last decade of the 18th century. About 1839 or 1840 William Phillips was apprenticed to him, and later on taken into partnership. In 1850,² apparently, Vale retired from this business to become editor and printer of the *Hereford Journal*, which had its premises in Broad Street, and Phillips became proprietor. In 1851 the latter issued a leaflet describing himself as a printer and bookbinder, and acknowledged the "very distinguished patronage conferred upon him since taking over the above old established business."

The business continued at 23, High Town, until 1886, when the lease expired and the then owner, William John Phillips, son of William Phillips, went into partnership with the late William Marshall Wilson (who had served in the stationery department of Adams and Son, 29, High Town, from boyhood) and purchased premises, now occupied by Messrs. Woolworths, in Eign Street. Here they continued until 1928, when Major W. J. Phillips died and Mr. Wilson retired. The stationery and picture framing departments came to an end, but the printing department was disposed of to Messrs. Sayce Brothers, proprietors of *The Brecon and Radnor Express*, and was removed to new premises in Aubrey Street. It is therefore the second oldest printing office in the city and still continues under the name of Messrs. Wilson and Phillips. Two members of the present staff have been with the firm for over fifty years. The Phillips family have been hereditary freemen of the city for many years, Mr. William Newton Phillips now being the holder of this honour.³

In the *Hereford Journal* for 16th January, 1850, Mr. W. H. Vale, the editor and printer, records that the remains of John Vale, chemist, "our lamented and much loved brother were consigned to their final resting place". This reminds me of a leading article that appeared in a Malvern paper many years ago, when the editor in his weekly notes announced that "we have broken our leg".

"HEREFORD TIMES"

The *Hereford Times*, founded by the late Charles Anthony as a Liberal newspaper in 1832,⁴ though its politics were changed to Conservative in 1910, has had an honorable and successful career.

¹ See Appendix III.

² If the business was founded in the 18th century, Vale must have been an old man by this time.

³ For much of this information I am indebted to Mr. Greville Phillips, grandson of William Phillips.

⁴ The first number had 4 pages only and the price was 7d.

Fortunately it has been able to preserve its independence and has not been swallowed by one of the big newspaper combines—the curse of the modern press. Anthony, an Alderman and six times Mayor of Hereford, died in 1885, at the age of 82. During his proprietorship, Mr. Flavel Edmunds, author of many small volumes on local subjects, was sub-editor from 1847–1874, having been editor for a short time. He was succeeded by Mr. W. J. Leigh, who also had a short reign, as the Anthony family were keen on retaining the administration of the paper. The founder was succeeded as owner by his son Charles who reigned as editor until 1910. He was followed by Mr. Saxon Mills, 1910–12, and Mr. Charles James Bex from 1912–22. Mr. George H. Peacock became editor in 1922 and still holds this important office. The imprint on the *Hereford Times* was that of Mr. Charles Anthony during the whole of his life. Afterwards, until 1910, it was either "C. and E. Anthony" or "Anthony Brothers".

In 1910 the *Hereford Times* became a private limited liability company, and in 1927 Mr. G. K. C. Macaskie became principal proprietor and Chairman of Directors. In 1932 a Centenary celebration was held, with a largely attended banquet in the Town Hall, when tribute was paid to the high standard the paper had achieved and maintained. The *Hereford Times* has outlasted all its local competitors, and worthily upholds the best traditions of the British Press. It has a large circulation, and the latest type of machinery is installed.

SOME MINOR PRESSES.

In October, 1835, Mr. Joseph Jones founded a printing and book-selling business in Broad Street,¹ which he and his son carried on until July, 1907. In this year the bookselling and stationery department was bought by Mr. C. E. Brumwell, who quickly developed it into one of the best book shops to be found in a provincial town. The new owner had an unusual knowledge of books and their contents, was a collector of fine books himself and had keen business ability. He retired from active work in 1939, though the business continues under his name.

A few months after the division of the business, the printing department, which had been carried on at the rear of the premises in Broad Street, was removed to Aubrey Street, and in 1910 was purchased by Mr. W. E. Henner, and named the "De Cantilupe Press". This proprietor has specialised in artistic workmanship and he employs exceptionally good craftsmen.

Messrs. Adams and Sons' printing business was purchased or founded by the late Mr. S. Adams at 29, High Town in 1867, and carried on by him and his son until 1922, when it was purchased

¹ The premises were rebuilt between 1814 and 1835. They formerly consisted of five tenements with gardens belonging to the Vicars Choral.

by Mr. David Lowe, the present owner. The business was transferred to its present address in East Street about 1908. Possibly it originally belonged to Joseph Head, who had a printing office at 35, High Town, in 1851. Examples of Head's printing, dating from this year to 1862, are in the Library. Messrs. Adams and Son now specialize in commercial work.

The Elliott family, which had various printing businesses in Hereford, originated in or near Scotland, and came south about 1790, owing to religious persecutions and squabbles. The earliest member of whom I have any record is said to have had a private school in Ross about 1800, and had three boys of the Southall family and Thomas Blake as pupils. Family tradition says that Richard Elliott, his son, first obtained a "Caxton" wooden press, which he used in premises behind the "Maidenhead Inn" in Eign Street, with the idea of starting a newspaper. His name is in Robson's Directory for c. 1835. He afterwards opened a school at 19, Bridge Street, and it was in this house he started a branch of the Plymouth Brethren. Later on he began a printing press a few doors higher up the street and then moved to No. 40, Bridge Street, where he issued *The Weekly News and General Intelligence*, of which No. 1 was published in May, 1860. The first three numbers are in the Library collection. His office was directly opposite that of "Evans the Nailer", where most of the hand-made nails used in the city were produced. In 1868 his name appears for the last time in the collection of local directories. Richard Elliott brought up five sons as printers. He also had an office for hiring servants and for letting houses and estates.

After Richard Elliott's death the business was removed to 28, Church Street. The local directories record that it was under the name of Ebenezer Elliott from 1876–1879. Afterwards it was continued by Messrs. W. and H. Elliott and known as the "Caxton Press" until about 1902, when Wilfred was proprietor. It came to an end about 1920.

Richard's eldest son John and the fourth son Phillip went to London, the former to Edgware Road to premises afterwards pulled down to make room for the rear portion of the Cumberland Hotel, and the latter to Finsbury Square, with a branch inside a City Bank to which no one except himself and a director was admitted. The business is now carried on as Elliott Bros. at Moor Lane, E.C.

Richard Herbert Elliott had a business at 20, Commercial Street, in 1862, but by 1868 it was removed to 4a, St. Peter Street, formerly the Hereford Old Bank Buildings, and here his son Arthur, to whom I am indebted for much of this information, can remember seeing the old Caxton press in a dilapidated condition, it not having been re-erected. It was here also that the first cylinder machine, a Harrild Bremner, was used in a private office in Hereford. This

was driven by a hot air engine. In 1885 Richard Elliott and Sons were the owners.

Richard Herbert Elliott, eldest son of Richard Herbert Elliott who died in 1869, was at 15, Commercial Road, in 1885, and in 1895 was at 99-100, East Street. This business was carried on by him until August, 1930, when he died at the age of 71 years, and afterwards by Ernest Smith Elliott, who died in February, 1938, aged 72. The last printing was done on the old Stanhope press, which is still in working order, by Elsie Elliott, daughter of Richard Herbert Elliott, junr., at Easter, 1940. Richard Herbert Elliott, senr., printed hymn books on this press for the British and Foreign Bible Society. This business is now for sale.

A George Elliott, compositor, of 17, Clive Street, was another member of this family which had so many engaged in the printing trade.

The names of many other local printers appear on various books or pamphlets in the Library, but little can be said of these, as a single example only of the work of several is known.

They are—

Watkins and Wright, 1818-1822.

John Pyndar Wright, 1824-26.

T. B. Watkins¹, Albion Printing Office, 1810-1836.

M. Child, Eign Street, 1830.

J. Gardner, 1832.

Francis and Arnold Merrick, Printer, Patent Medicines and Stamps, 14, High Street, 1832-1841.

County Press Office, Packers Lane, 1837-39.

T. N. Webb, 1838-1842.

Joseph Head, 35, High Town, 1851-1864.

Head and Hull,² 1869.

James Hull,³ High Town, Steam-printer, Widemarsh Street, 1873-1882.

Frederick Thomas Hawkins, 44, Church Street, and later of 13, High Street, 1863-1878. Hawkins is said to have printed the *Hereford Marvel*, but I cannot trace any copy of this.

F. and A. Merrick, High Street.

A. Merrick and Sons, King Street, 1879-1880.

Hull and Hamblin, Widemarsh Street, 1881.

E. Colwell, 149, Widemarsh Street, 1885.

¹ Billheads of W. H. and J. Parker, 1820, T. T. Davies, 1840, E. G. Wright, circa 1816, James Hull, 1862, T. B. Watkins, 1819-1832, F. and A. Merrick, 1831-49, and C. Anthony, 1838, are preserved in the Pilley Collection (No. 2305) at the Public Library. There is also an advertisement sheet of T. T. Davis and the rules of Hull's and F. and A. Merrick's circulating libraries in the same volume.

² Printers of Robinson's *Castles of Herefordshire*, 1869.

³ Printer of Robinson's *Mansions and Manors of Herefordshire*, 1873.

HAY.

So far as I can trace there has never been more than one printer at any time in Hay. Apparently the first was William Harris; a sermon printed by him in 1851 is in the Library. He was followed by George Horden, who printed for forty years, and in 1891 was succeeded by Mr. Henry Richard Grant, who hopes to keep his Jubilee in Hay in June of this year. His foreman has been with him during the whole of his proprietorship—another tribute to friendly relations between master and man. All work is done by hand.

There is a bookselling department combined with the printing business, which is typical of that once common in small country towns, where the local printer and bookseller was often more than an ordinary tradesman, and was looked upon as the cultural and medical adviser of his customers.

The premises occupied by Mr. Grant were built for a wool and flannel factory and the shop was added by George Horden.

KINGTON.

Mr. H. Knowles has most kindly furnished me with a list of Kington printers. Examples of work by Hurry, Atkinson, Evans, Knowles & Son, and A. Stevenson are wanted for the Local Collection at the Library.

J. Barrell printed Lodge's *Introductory Sketches towards a Topographical History of the County of Hereford* in 1793. The following are Mr. Knowles' remarks:—

Mr. J. Barrell,¹ Bridge Street. 1802.

I can get no information *re* Mr. Barrell, but I have just seen a quarto handbill published by him and dated 1802.

Mr. John Wilson, High Street. 1812-1835.

This man was an auctioneer, etc., and in 1834 he published a *Travellers' Guide of Coaches running between Aberystwyth and London*.

Mr. Charles Humphreys, High Street. 1835-1900.

In 1845 he published a *History of Kington*,² 304 pages, royal 8vo. Only about 100 copies were printed, and these are now very scarce. It is well printed and well bound. How they did the job with the material then available is to me a marvel. It was all printed off on a Double Royal Columbian Press! Mr. Humphreys also published a weekly newspaper known as *The Kington*

¹ See also under Leominster. In *The History of Kington*, p. 112, it is recorded that Barrell was the first printer in Kington, and that he died on 29th July, 1824, aged 70.

² A copy of this book, published anonymously, but written by Richard Parry, is in Hereford Public Library.

Gazette and Radnorshire Chronicle, 4 pp., royal. The two inside pages came ready printed from London weekly, the front page was all advertisements, the back page had the local news and more advertisements. About 100 copies were printed weekly.

- Mr. Francis Went, High Street. 1845-1861.
 Mr. W. Virgin, High Street. 1862-1871.
 Mr. J. Hurry, High Street. 1871-1882.
 Mr. R. W. Satchell, High Street. 1882-1889.
 Mr. C. Atkinson, Church Street. 1889-1901.
 Mr. C. W. Evans, High Street. 1889-1904.
 Messrs. H. Knowles & Son. 1900-
 Mr. A. Stevenson, afterwards Mrs. Isabella Stevenson.
 1905-
 A William Tringham appears in *Pigot's Directory* for 1830.

LEDBURY.

In the *Hereford Journal* for 1771 the name of Mr. Nott of Ledbury appears as the local bookseller.

H. Holder, of Butchers' Row, published *The Ledbury Diary*, or, *Weekly Magazine*, Nos. 1 to 5, in 1817. This is the earliest known record of printing in the town. The next was *Hints of Ledbury*, by a *Native Inhabitant*, printed by Thomas Ward in 1831. Ward also printed Stephen Ballard's *Treatise on the Nature of Trees*, in 1833, and a second edition in 1836. James Gibbs printed from 1833 to 1859, and Phillip Bayliss from 1851 to 1880. In 1882 the name of Tilley appears for the first time in the Library collection, and the firm still flourishes with modern electrically driven machinery.

Twelve years earlier, in 1870, however, Mr. Luke Tilley began the *Ledbury Free Press*, afterwards the *Ledbury Guardian*. This was actually printed in Worcester by the George Williams Press, though Tilley had a hand press in Ledbury. In 1896 Thomas Vaughan began the *Ledbury Reporter* and achieved success unaided. The paper was printed in Church Lane on a hand press by Vaughan, who was proprietor, editor, reporter, compositor, machine-man, publisher and canvasser. He died in 1911, and deserves commemoration. The two papers ran as rivals for fifteen years, but were amalgamated after Vaughan's death with the title of the *Ledbury Reporter and Guardian*. It now belongs to Messrs. George Williams and Berrows, Ltd. For this information I am indebted to Mr. A. Heaton, the manager.

One claim to fame in the literary world belongs to Ledbury. Here for his last few years lived Jacob Tonson who, in 1683, bought the right to publish Milton's *Paradise Lost*, by which he made a

great sum of money. He also issued works by Dryden, Addison, Pope, Rowe's edition of *Shakespeare*, and other important volumes. He bought the Hazells estate in Ledbury, where he died in 1736, and is said to have been worth £40,000. Rowe in *Dialogue between Tonson and Congreve*, wrote in 1714—

"Thou, Jacob Tonson, were, to my conceiving,
 The cheerfullest, best, honest fellow living."

LEOMINSTER.

The earliest bookseller in Leominster whose name has been discovered so far was William Clent, who issued a token in 1666—

Ob. WILLIAM CLENT. BOOK = 1666.

Rev. SELLER. IN. LEOMINSTER = W.E.C.

The name of John Barrow, bookseller, appears in the Poll List for 1802. Between these two no booksellers are known to me. From the time that presses were established in the town most printers, if not all, combined the trades of printing, book-selling, stationery, etc.

Printers whose names are recorded by examples of their work in Hereford Public Library are P. Davies,¹ 1784; Francis Harris,² 1795³; James Barrell³, 1802; Francis Jenks Burlton, Broad Street, 1808-26; Proctor and Wright, 1810; Francis Went,⁴ Postmaster, High Street, 1813-1864 (Messrs. F. Went & Sons in 1851); J. V. Chilcott, 1831-55; John Woolley, Post Office, Broad Street, 1852-64; John Colam, 1857; Edward J. Partridge, 1860-72; R. G. Edwards, West Street, 1863; Charles James Saxby, Stamp Office, 1874; Mortimer Press, 1892, and the Orphans Printing Press, c. 1874.

F. Went founded his business in 1813, and his name may still be traced out in the woodwork under the office window. In 1868 it passed into the hands of C. J. Saxby, and in 1897 it was taken over by the present owner, Mr. F. A. Dalley. This firm seems to have specialised in church printing, for some of its early works were *Select Psalms and Hymns for the use of the Congregation of the Parish Church of Leominster*, 1815; a *Church Catechism*, and for 53 years it has produced the Deanery magazine.

¹ The dates of the earliest and latest examples are given.

² These names appear in the Poll Book for 1802. No printers are mentioned in the Poll Book for 1813.

³ *The Sweets of Dutch Liberty*—a satirical poem with wood-cuts illustrations.

⁴ See also under Kington. Mrs. Hannah Went, probably the widow of Francis, was carrying on the business in 1863, and a Mrs. Harriet Went was carrying on a printing, bookselling and stationery business at the "Public Library," Leominster, from the same date until 1876. See *Littlebury's Directory*.

The Orphans' Printing Press dates from 1870. The late Mr. Henry Stanley Newman, who had established the Leominster Orphan Homes in 1869, being the prime mover, when he purchased the business of the late Mr. Partridge, the printer of *Townsend's History of Leominster*. It appears the chief thought Mr. Newman had in mind was the creation of some business in which the orphan boys might gain knowledge by which they could later earn their own living. There were several hindrances to this, one was the operation of the Factory Acts by which juvenile labour was controlled by law. There was also the point that boys did not always take to the printing business. For many years the profits went to the Orphan Homes. Mr. Newman was the editor of the first weekly *The Friend*, which had hitherto been published monthly. This proved to be a very good thing for Leominster, as it gave regular employment to a number of printers, and it also helped financially. Mr. Newman was followed in the editorship by Mr. E. B. Reynolds, who retired in 1933. A London gentleman was then appointed, and this resulted in the printing of *The Friend* leaving the Orphans' Printing Press, a very heavy loss for that business and institution. Some few years ago the concern was formed into a limited liability company, and from that time dividends were allocated to the Homes. About three and a half years ago the business again changed hands, but it has been fortunate in retaining many of the old customers, locally and from away. The manager of the Press was an early believer in the linotype and has installed two of the best models. It has an automatic feeder Falcon press and a modern ruling machine. By these means the firm has been able to execute some very large printing orders for Cadbury's Cocoa Works. The business is the second oldest printing firm in the town, Mr. Dalley's being no doubt the oldest. A large sum of money has been laid out in erecting a building for carrying on the printing, and the retail establishment has been brought up to date.

ROSS.

So far I have been unable to obtain any full particulars of Ross printers, and for the moment cannot give more than a list of those whose work is represented in the Hereford Public Library:—

William Farror, printer and bookseller, High Street.
1813–1834.

Benjamin Powle, stamp distributor, 95, High Street.
1831–

Thomas Farror & Dobles. 1841.

Susan Dobles.¹ 1847.

William Hill, *Gazette Office*. 1880–1894.

Lawrence & Fowler, Market Place. 1907.

Ross Gazette Office. 1911.

¹ Mrs. Susan Dobles still appears in the *Directory* for 1862.

APPENDIX I.

Title and Colophon of Latin and English Dictionary,
published by John Gachet.

TITLE.

Ortus Vocabulorum alphabetico ordine fere omnia que in catholicon breviluquo Cornucopia gemma vocabulorum atque medulla grammaticæ ponuntur cum vernacule lingue anglicane expositione continens . . . Impressum Rothomagi per Eustachium Hardy. Impensis honestorum virorum Johannis Caillard librarii Rothomagi moram trahentis, et Johannis Gachet Herfordensis commorantis Anno incarnationis dominice Millesimo quingentesimo decimoseptimo incipit feliciter.

COLOPHON.

Adest studiosissimi lectoris opusculi finis: quod non minus preceptoribus ut vocabulorum significationes memorie commendent quam scholasticis: ceterisque studiosis eas ignorantibus conducat: omnium enim vocabulorum significationes que in Catholicon, Breviloquo, Cornucopia, Gemma vocabulorum, aut Medulla grammaticæ ponuntur continet. Quum igitur summa diligentia sic collectum vigilantique studio correctum: ut majus in lucem prodicet: ipsum a viris studiosis comparandum esse constat. Impressum Rothomagi Anno incarnationis dominice Millesimo ccccc. xvii. die vero penultima mensis Maii explicat feliciter.

N.B.—Contracted words are given in full, and the modern use of the letters I, J, u and v.

Translation by the Rev. E. AP IVOR of the Title and Colophon of Latin and English Dictionary published by John Gachet.

TITLE.

The origin of words, containing in alphabetical order almost all those that are given in the *Catholicon*, *Breviloquium*, the *Cornucopia*, the *Gemma Vocabulorum*, and the *Medulla Grammaticæ*, with a vernacular translation in English. Printed at Rouen by Eustace Hardy at the expense of the honourable men John Caillard, staying at Rouen, and John Gachet of Hereford (? Hertford), now staying there, in the year of the Incarnation of our Lord one thousand five hundred and seventeen, the book happily begins.

COLOPHON.

This is the end of the work, studious readers, which will be of service not less to teachers than to other scholars and other students who do not know them; for it contains the meanings of all the words that are given in the *Catholicon*, the *Breviloquium*, the *Cornucopia*,

the Gemma Vocabulorum, or the Medulla Grammaticæ. Though therefore it is with the greatest diligence it has thus been collected and with vigilant care corrected, it must be compared by students that it may show greater light. Printed at Rouen in the year of the Incarnation of our Lord, 1517, on the last day but one of the month of May, the book happily ends.

Ut majus in lucem prodicet is not clear and *prodicet* is not known. The translation is a guess. "*que*" and "*grammaticæ*" end in *æ* in Classical Latin; *quæ, grammaticæ*.

APPENDIX II.

The following London booksellers were natives of Hereford:—

Richard Boyle, of St. Paul's Churchyard, was son of Thomas Boyle, of Hereford. He was bound to Thomas Woodcock, of London, for eight years from St. Bartholomew's Day in 1576. He became a freeman in 1584. Boyle was a bookseller and a Puritan, and in 1589 was fined 2/6 for keeping an apprentice unrepresented. Various books printed for him from 1588–1595 are recorded—*Ames' Topographical Antiquities*, p. 1279.

John Bowen, son of William Bowen, capper, of Hereford, was bound apprentice to Thomas Dawson for seven years from 1578. He became a freeman of the Stationers' Company on 31st January, 1585/6. Books printed by him are recorded *op. cit.*, p. 1304.

APPENDIX III.

"HEREFORD JOURNAL".

Printers and Editors.

Charles Pugh from 9th August, 1770, to 5th June, 1788.
 Margaret Pugh from 12th June, 1788, to 14th August, 1788.
 Rev. John Duncumb from 21st August, 1788, to 22nd June, 1791.
 D. Walker from 29th June, 1791, to 31st March, 1802.
 Edwin Goode Wright from 7th April, 1802, to 18th November, 1840.
 Edward Weymss from 2nd December, 1840, to 16th January, 1850.
 William Henry Vale from 23rd January, 1850, to 4th June, 1856.
 William Akerman from 18th June, 1856, to 27th July, 1859.
 William Prosser from 3rd August, 1859, to 28th May, 1864.
 Robert Redman from 4th June, 1864, to 5th May, 1866.
 James Corner, 12th May, 1866, to 26th March, 1870. Afterwards
 J. Corner & Co. (1st January, 1870).
 Thomas William Garrold, 2nd April, 1870, to 28th September, 1872.
 Eustace Hinton Jones, 5th October, 1872, to 1st September, 1877.
 For Philip Ralph by William Marshall Leslie, 8th September, 1877,
 to 25th December, 1880.
 Philip Ralph from 1st January, 1881, to 27th September, 1884.

The "Hereford Journal" Newspaper Co. Ltd.

William Henry Poole from 4th October, 1884, to 11th October, 1884.
 Albert Joseph Stanton from 18th October, 1884, to 26th June, 1886.
 John McCoy from 3rd July, 1886, to 21st January, 1893.
 Printers' and Editors' names omitted after this date.

The *Hereford Journal* was last printed by the Herefordshire Press and Printing Co. Ltd. at the *Journal Office*, St. Peter's Square, on 28th March, 1925. From 4th April to 27th June, 1925, it was printed by Jakeman & Co. On 6th February, 1926, the *Hereford Observer incorporating the Hereford Journal* was started by John Nolan. The title was reversed to *Hereford Journal and Observer* on 26th June, 1926, and it lasted as such until 30th July, 1932, when the copyright was purchased by the proprietors of the *Hereford Times* and publication ceased.

"HEREFORD TIMES".

Printers and Editors.

Founded June, 1832, by Charles Anthony (died 1885).
 Flavel Edmunds¹, sub-editor, 1847–1874.
 Charles Anthony, junr., 1874.
 W. J. Leigh.
 Saxon Mills, 1910–12.
 Charles James Bex, 1912–22.
 George Henry Peacock, 1922—

APPENDIX IV.

"HEREFORDSHIRE INDEPENDENT."

John Pyndar Wright, Broad Street, 2nd October, 1824, to 29th April, 1826.

In a handbill announcing the publication of the first number of this paper, the proprietors say they had spared no expense in the purchase of entirely new materials and improved modern machinery. There is a footnote: "That it becomes necessary to state that Walter Honeywood Yate, Esq., has not, directly or indirectly, any connexion whatever with the undertaking."

In an announcement in the last number on the 29th April, 1826, the Editor states that "it has been deemed expedient that the Press, Types and Copyright of this paper should be sold by public Auction on Monday next. . . . We regret that a deficiency of those little Treasury decorations called 'Stamps' precludes us from supplying one-tenth of our subscribers this week."

John Prosser Ellidge, Packers Lane, 20th October, 1827, to 26th July, 1828.

A dispute arose between John Prosser Ellidge, the editor,

¹ See page 116.

and those who advanced funds for the *Independent's* revival, and publication ceased. Ellidge was put in prison for non-payment of the Advertisement Tax, and published appeals for help. See various pamphlets in the Hereford Public Library.

APPENDIX V.

HEREFORD NEWSPAPERS.

Those with titles in square brackets are not in Hereford Public Library, but are taken from the *Times Hand-list of Newspapers, 1620-1920*.

1. *The Hereford Journal with the History of the World given gratis*. Vol. 1. No. 12. September 1th, 1739. Only known copy.
2. [*The Warwickshire Journal and Hereford Mercury*. Vol. 2. No. 57. 10th May, 1770, to Vol. 2, No. 84. 15th November, 1770. This paper was originally entitled the *Birmingham Chronicle and Warwickshire Journal*, and it was originated by J. Swinney, S. Aris, J. Sketchley and T. Appleby. Agents were appointed in Hereford when the addition of *Hereford Mercury* was made for a short period only.]
3. *The British Chronicle, or, Pugh's Hereford Journal*, 9th August, 1770, to 1925, 1926. Title changed to the *Hereford Journal* on 20th April, 1803. See Appendix No. III. An index in MS. by Mr. T. Bird from 1770 to 1831 in the Public Library.
4. *Hereford Independent*. 2nd October, 1824, to 29th April, 1826.
- 4a. Do. Revived by John Prosser Ellidge. See Appendix IV.
5. *Hereford Times*, 1832 to date. See Appendix No. III.
6. *Hereford Observer*. No. 1. 19th July, 1837; No. 2, 1837. Only known copies, published by Vale. Election propaganda.
7. [*Hereford County Press*. Nos. 1-146. 2nd September, 1837, to 13th June, 1840.]
8. [*Hereford Chronicle*. 10th April, 1853, to May, 1860.]
9. *Hereford Weekly News*. No. 1, May, 1860, to 27th May, 1863. Nos. 1 to 3 only in Public Library. (See page 117.)
10. [*Hereford Mercury*. 12th July, 1864 to ?]
11. [*Hereford Express*. No. 1, 1864, to 15th February, 1865.]
12. [*Hereford Weekly Marvel*. No. 2, 5th June, 1869, to 1904.]
13. [*Hereford Market Express*. January to May, 1884.]
14. *Hereford Evening News*. Nos. 1, 1st May to 17th August, 1882. Published by Philip Ralph. 3, High Town, and 34, Broad Street. Nos. 1-3 only in Public Library.
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CASTLES MENTIONED IN THE PIPE ROLLS UNDER
HEREFORDSHIRE.

By CHARLES A. BENN, O.B.E., M.A., F.G.S.

(Contributed 8th April, 1941.)

In the Pipe Rolls of Herefordshire, 31 Henry I to 3 John (1129 to 1202), including the Chancellor's Roll of 1201-2, there are nineteen castles mentioned.

In 1176 Henry II took over the castles of England, having already in 1155 ordered the demolition of one hundred and forty castles,¹ in order to safeguard himself against the growing strength of the Barons. Of the seven castles mentioned before 1176, four belonged to the Bishopric of Hereford, *viz.*: Lindeberinort, Munhalt, Prestaton and Roeland. Of these places, grouped together under "castella", only Lindeberinort (Lydbury North) was actually a fortified castle. Munhalt must be the Bishop's house or inn of St. Mary's Munthalt in London, and, if so, this would seem to be the earliest reference to it in connexion with the Bishops of Hereford. Webb in his *Roll of the Household Expenses of Bishop Swinfield*, p. cxxiv, says that this house was purchased by Bishop Maydenstane about the year 1234, and given to his successors in the See of Hereford, but the Bishops may have leased it before this date. Prestaton is evidently the Manor of Prestbury in Gloucestershire, where the Bishop had a house. The identification of Roeland is uncertain, it may be a corrupt rendering of Ross.

It is worthy of note that the great castles mentioned in Domesday book, A.D. 1086, under Herefordshire, *viz.*:—

Caerleon (Carlion) F. 185 (b); Clifford (Cliford) F. 183; Ewyas Harold (Ewias) F. 185; Monmouth (Monemude) F. 180 (b); Richards Castle (Auretone) F. 185, and F. 186 (b); and Wigmore (Wigemore) F. 180, are none of them referred to in the Pipe Rolls under Herefordshire in the period under review.

The nineteen castles mentioned in the Pipe Rolls are:—

Ardelay, Ardelai (? Eardisley or Almeley).
Canterbohhan (? Caldicot in Monmouthshire).
Cameron, Camerum (Cwmaron in Llandewi-ystrad-Ennau in Radnorshire).

¹ Eyton's *Itinerary of Henry II*, p. 15.

Caperun (? same as Cameron).
Crichteton (Knighton in Radnorshire).
Ewias (Ewyas Lacy).
Godric (Goodrich Castle).
Grosmund (Grosmont in Monmouthshire).
Hereford.
Kinton (Kington).
Lantelio, Lanteliou, Lantolio, or Blanch-Castell (White Castle in Monmouthshire).
Lindeberinort, Lindeberia (Lydbury North, *i.e.*, Bishop's Castle in Shropshire).
Ludelawa (Ludlow in Shropshire).
Munhalt (St. Mary's Munthalt in London).
Prestaton (Prestbury in Gloucestershire).
Roelend (? Ross-on-Wye).
Schenefrid, Scenefrid, Kenefrit (Skenfrith in Monmouthshire).
Sawurdin (Shawardine in Shropshire).
Wibelay (Weobley).

Four of these I have been unable to locate for certain. None is occupied at the present day.

The seven places described as castles that are referred to previous to the year 1176 are:—Canterbohhan; Caperun; Hereford; Munhalt; Prestaton; Roeland; and Lindeberinort, of which Hereford is the only one mentioned both before and after that date.

As we find no further reference to the pre-1176 castles (with the exception of Hereford), it is reasonable to suppose that they had been temporarily in the hands of the King and had either reverted to their former owners, or been granted to new ones.

ARDELAY OR ARDELAI.

This castle is mentioned only twice, in 1182-3 and 1183-4.

"1182-3. Richard de Esketot renders account of 20 marks for having the keeping of the castle of ARDELAI with the appurtenances, until the King shall decide his will concerning it."

The next entry is similar, except that the amount stated is 15 marks.

Is it possible that this refers to Almeley castle? It appears as a castle or castellum in the Patent Rolls of King John and Henry III. In 1216 King John issued his mandate to William Cantilupe, constable of Almeley Castle, *etc.*¹

We find that Richard de Esketot in 1175-6 was fined 10 marks

¹ *The Woolhope Club's Transactions*, 1904, p. 235.

for forest amercements of which he paid 5 marks at the time, and the balance the following year.

In 1184-5 he renders account of 10 marks for having the keeping of the castle of Ardelay with the appurtenances.

In 1186-7 he pays scutage 110/- because, as a Baron of England, he did not go with the King in his army to Galway.

GROSMUNT (Grosmont).

This castle is mentioned in the following years :—

" 1182-3. Miles de Muzegros,¹ the Sheriff, is allowed 31/8 by writ of Ranulph de Glanvill for the discharge of the garrisons (*pro acquiescentia guarnisonis*) of the King's castles of Grosmund and Schenefrid, which the said Sheriff and Robert son of Bernard sent to the aforesaid castles."

" 1183-4. In the work of the castle of Grosmund £14.6.8 by the King's writ."

" 1185-6. In work of a certain chamber in the castle of Grosmund 20/- by the same writ."

" 1201-2. (Chancellor's Roll.) In repair to the castles of Hereford, Grosemunt, Blanch-castell and Schenefrid £14.18.5 by the King's writ and by view of John de Luchthoñ and Simon the miller (*molendinār*)."

This castle has always been associated with the castles of Skenfrith and Llantilio or White Castle, the three forming a triangle. Grosmont and Skenfrith are 4½ miles apart, Llantilio is 5½ miles from Skenfrith and 5 miles from Grosmont.² Grosmont was probably occupied in the earlier days of the English stockades, although the ruins now existing indicate no period earlier than that of Henry III.³

In 1182-3 we find that Miles de Muzegros, the Sheriff, receives 100/- "for the keeping of the King's four castles in the march of Wales, from Whitsuntide until three weeks after Easter, by the King's writ."

These would be doubtless Blanch-castell otherwise Llantilio, Schenefrid, Grosmund, and presumably Hereford. Under the Chancellor's Roll of 1201-2 we find Hereford, Grosmund, Blanch-castell and Schenefrid linked together.

An entry occurs in 1164-5 "To Ralph de Grosmund £8.5.6 for the liveries of the serjeants of Grosmund and Llantelio and Schenefrid."

These serjeants would be light troops supplied by tenants by serjeanty, to be distinguished from tenants by knight service.⁴

¹ Miles de Muzegros was Justice in Eyre 1185-6.

² *The Woolhope Club's Transactions*, 1887, p. 134.

³ *Mediæval Military Architecture in England*, by G. T. Clarke. Vol. II, p. 51.

⁴ *The King's Serjeants and Officers of State*, by J. A. Round.

LANTELIU, LANTELIO, LANTOLIO or BLANCH-CASTELL

(White Castle).

" 1184-5. In the work of the castle of Lanteliou £43.6.8 by the King's writ and by view of Ralph de Grosso Monte."

" 1185-6. In the work of the castle of Lantelio £80.10.4 by the King's writ and by view of Ralph de Grosmont and Alam de Perci. And to Ralph de Grosmont 3 marks as a gift because he took charge of the said workmen, by the King's writ."

" 1186-7. For the work in the house of the keep (*turri*) of Lantolio 46/8, by the King's writ and by view of Ralph de Grossomonte."

The only mention of this castle under the name White Castle occurs in the Chancellor's Roll of 1201-2, *viz.* :—

" In repair of the castles of Hereford, Grosmund, Blanch-castell and Schenefrid £14.18.5 by the King's writ and by view of John de Luchthoñ and Simon the miller."

This castle was never occupied as a Baronial residence.¹ The excavations recently made show the foundations of a Norman keep, probably referred to under 1186-7.

WIBELAY (Weobley).

" 1186-7. And in keeping the castle of Wibelay for the same term £10, by the same writ."

The term is from the feast of St. Michael last year to the feast of St. Michael this year.

Weobley castle we know to have been in existence early in the reign of Stephen and the foundation of it has been attributed to Roger de Lacy or his brother Hugh² (founder of Llanthony Abbey, Monmouthshire) before the close of the eleventh century.³

In the wars between Stephen and the Empress Maud it changed hands more than once and was occupied on behalf of the latter in 1139 by Geoffrey Talbot, who took the castle of Hereford. In the following year it was seized by Stephen.⁴

Canon Phillott states that the castle was taken by Geoffrey Talbot or Fitz-Scroope on behalf of the Empress Maud, but was soon retaken by Stephen, who fortified it as well as the castle of Hereford, in 1129.⁵

¹ *The Woolhope Club's Transactions*, 1929, p. xciv.

² Hugh de Lacy was assassinated 25th July, 1186, when his lands were taken over by the King.

³ *The Castles of Herefordshire*, p. 131, by Rev. C. J. Robinson.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 131, *Gesta Reg. Steph.*, pp. 61, 69.

⁵ *The Woolhope Club's Transactions*, 1888, p. 252.

EWIAS (Ewyas Lacy).

"1186-7. And in the cost and keeping of the castles of Ewias and of the New Castle¹ (*Novi castelli*) from the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula last year to the feast of St. Michael this year (*a festo sancti Petri ad vincula anni preteriti usque ad festum sancti Michaelis ejusdem anni*), and from that feast to the feast of St. Michael this year, £37 by the King's writ."

Ewyas Lacy castle had come into the King's hands on the assassination of Hugh de Lacy, 25th July, 1186.

We find in Domesday Book, entered under the land of the church of Hereford, that the Manor of Stane by right belongs to the Bishop and that in this and in the Manor of Dodelegie (Didley) of ten hides nine are waste. Of these nine hides one part is in the jurisdiction of Alured's castlery at Ewias, *i.e.* Ewyas Harold. (*De his IX hidis una pars est in castellaria Aluredi Ewias.* F. 181.)

Under Cutestorn Hundred (F. 184), we find that Earl William gave to Walter de Laci 4 carucates of land which are waste in the castlery of Ewias (Ewyas Harold). "Roger de Laci his son holds them and William and Osborn from him. On the demese they have two plough teams and 4 Welshmen rendering two sestiers of honey, and they have one plough team. There are 3 servi and 2 bordarii. This land is worth 20/-."

(*In castellaria de Ewias dedit Willemus comes Wallerio de Laci IV carucatas terrae vastas. Rogerius de Laci filius ejus tenet eas et Willemus et Osbernus de eo. In domineo habent II carucas et IV Walenses reddentes II sextarios mellis et habent I carucam.*)

This is followed by the entry which says "The same Roger has an estate called Ewias on the borders of Ewias. This land does not belong to the jurisdiction of the *castellaria* nor to the hundred. From this land Roger has 15 sestiers of honey and 15 swine, when the men are there, and he has pleas over them."

It was on this estate that Roger de Lacy built his castle known as Ewyas Lacy, and more recently as Longtown, in contra-distinction to the much earlier castle of Ewyas Harold to which the following entries refer.

Under the same hundred (F. 185) "Roger (de Laci) holds three Churches and a Priest and 32 acres of land from Henricus (de Ferieres) in the castlery of Ewias and renders 2 sestiers of honey. He has in the castle two burgages."

(*In castellaria² de Ewias tenet Rogerius de Henrico III ecclesias*

¹ Does this refer to the present Longtown Castle which may have been built at this time to replace the motte and baily by Clodock Church, known as Pont Hendre (the old house)?

² *Castellaria* really means a district organized feudally for the defence of a particular castle. *English Feudalism*, by Stenton, p. 192.

et presbyterum et XXXII acras terrae et reddit II sextarios mellis. In castello habet II masuras.)

Under the land of Alured de Merleberge (F. 186) we find that he holds the castle of Ewias from King William. For the King granted him the lands which Earl William had given him, who had refortified this castle. There are five carucates of land there and another 5 carucates at Manitone (*i.e.*, Monnington in the Golden Valley).

Also the King granted him the land of Radulfus de Bernai which used to belong to the castle. "This castle of Ewias is worth £10."

(*Aluredus de Merleberge tenet castellum Ewias de Willemo rege. Ipse rex enim concessit ei terras quas Willemus comes ei dederat qui hoc castellum refirmaverat. Hoc est V carucatas terrae ibidem, et ad Manitone alias V carucatas. Terram quoque Radulfi de Bernai concessit ei rex, quam ad castellum pertinebat. Ibi habet in dominio II carucas, et IX Walenses cum VI carucis, reddentes VII sextarios mellis, et XII bordarii operantes una die abdomadale. Ibi IV bovarii, et unus homo reddens VI denarios. Quinque milites ejus Ricardus Gislebertus Willemus et Willemus et Hernoldus habent V carucas in dominio, et XII bordarios, et III piscarias, et XXII acras prati. Duo alii Willemus et Radulfus tenent terram II carucis. Turstinus tenet terram reddentem XIX denarios, et Warnerius terram de V solidis. Hi habent V bordarios. Hoc castellum Ewias valet X libras.*)

In *W.C.T.*, 1930, p. xxv, Mr. G. Marshall states that the castle of Ewias, *i.e.*, Ewyas Harold, was constructed before the Conquest, and that "Edward the Confessor brought with him from Normandy his nephew Ralph and on the banishment of Earl Sweyn gave him the Earldom of Hereford. Ralph gave lands at Ewias Harold to Osbern Pentecost, who constructed there a castle of the form common in Normandy at that time, but entirely unknown in this country. When in 1052 he was outlawed, the castle was dismantled and handed over to Earl Leofric." Later it passed into the hands of William I, and we see from Domesday Book that the castle had been re-fortified.

GODRIC (Goodrich).

"1176-7. The men of the castle of Godric (*Castello Godrici*) and of Trawent owe 5 marks of the same aid, *i.e.* of the Assize made upon the King's demesne by Ralph son of Stephen and Turstin¹ son of Simon and William Rufus."

This sum was paid the following year.

"1185-6. The same Sheriff (Ralph de Arden) renders account of $\frac{1}{2}$ a mark from Tedric of the castle of Godric,

¹ Turstin was a Justice in Eyre.

because he withdrew from his appeal and of $\frac{1}{2}$ a mark from Juliana of the castle of Godric for the same thing."

"1186-7. The men of the castle of Godric render account of 40/- for the same thing." *i.e.* tallage (a general word for taxes).

"1189-90. The men of the castle of Godric owe 20/- for a debt. John of the castle of Godric owes $\frac{1}{2}$ a mark for not prosecuting his claim."

No mention of this castle is made in Domesday Book.

About 1166 the castle was in the hands of William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke¹. His possession was confirmed by King John in 1203 and was held by two Knight's fees².

Round states in the *Victoria County History of Herefordshire*, p. 280, that the Monmouth Priory Charters prove that the name of Goodrich Castle (*castellum Godric*) existed as early as 1101 or 1102, and the form "*castellum Godrici*" definitely establishes its origin, and refers to *Calendar of Documents, France*, pp. 403-8.

In the *Testa de Nevill temp.* Henry III and Edward I the Earl Marshal has 4 marks from the two fees of Goodrich castle. Also, Earl William Marshal holds two Knights' fees at Castle Goodrich and Trewen of the gift of King John.

LUDELAWA (Ludlow).

"1176-7. To Turstin son of Simon £4.2.6. in Linton for a quarter of the year for keeping (*ad custodiam*) the castle of Ludelawa by the King's writ."

"1177-8. To Turstin son of Simon £16.10.0 in Linton for keeping the castle of Ludelawa."

Turstin received this sum for the upkeep of the castle until 1189-90 with the exception of the years 1187-8 and 1188-9 when he does not appear to have received any payment, and in the years 1181-2, 1182-3, and 1184-5 he received only £8.5.0. for half a year.

LINDEBERINORT, or LINDEBERIA (Bishop's Castle).

"1166-7. To Geoffrey de Ver 20 marks to strengthen the castle of Lindeberinort, by the King's Writ."

"1167-8. To Geoffrey de Ver £21 in Lindeberia, which he holds by command of the King for the keeping (*ad custodiam*) of the castle.

There is a similar entry in each of the two following years.

During this period the castle, which belonged to the Bishopric, was in the King's hand by voidance, and as we do not hear of it

¹ *Liber Niger*, Vol. I, p. 160.

² *The Castles of Herefordshire*, by Rev. C. J. Robinson, p. 65.

again after 1171-2, it was evidently returned to the Bishopric on the appointment of the new Bishop.

Geoffrey de Ver was Sheriff of Shropshire.

"1170-1 and 1171-2. In the custody of the castle of Lideberia £21 in the manor of Lideberia."

In neither of these two years is it stated that payment was made to Geoffrey de Ver.

KINTON (Kington).

"1186-7. In repair of the palisade (*palitii*) in the castle of Kinton 10/- by the King's writ."

CANTERBOHHAN (? Caldicote).

"1159-60. And in munitions of the castle of Canterbohhan £18.5.0. by William de Beauchamp (de Bellocâpo)."

CAMARON or CAMERUM (Cwmaron).

"1178-9. In repair of the castle of Camaron £10 by the King's writ."

"1181-2. In pardon by the King's writ of the same Ranuph (*Puherius*) £27.12.2 blanch (*i.e.*, money by weight and assayed) for keeping the castle of Camerum."

CAPERUN.

"1155-6. In livery of the porter of the castle of Caperun 30/5."

There is a similar entry in each of the following three years.

CNICHTETON (Knighton).

"1181-2. For the work of the castle of Cnichteton." The payment of £27.12.2 for keeping the castle of Camerum includes the work for the castle of Cnichteton.

SLAWURDIN (Shrawardine).

"1186-7. To the ten Knights who do their ward (*qui faciunt wardam suam*) in the castle of Slawuedin £10, by King's writ."

MUNHALT, PRESTATON and ROELEND

(St. Mary's Munthalt, Prestbury and ? Ross).

"1166-7. In provisioning (*ad muniendum*) the castles of Roelend and Prestaton and Munhalt 239 loads (of wheat) by Richard de Luci."

These three so-called castles belonged to the Bishopric of Hereford, but were in the King's hand by reason of voidance.

HEREFORD

In 1155, Roger, Earl of Hereford, places the castle of Hereford

at the King's disposal, by negotiation of Gilbert, Bishop of Hereford, the Earl's kinsman. (Eyton's *Itinerary of Henry II*, p. 9.)

Previous to 1172-3 we find no entry in the Pipe Rolls with regard to Hereford Castle. It would appear that in that year the castle was in the King's hands, as 66/- was allowed for remaking the wall. In subsequent years considerable sums were allowed for its upkeep.

"1172-3. In remaking the walls of the castle of Hereford, 66/- by the King's writ, and by view of Richard the painter and Ern Jobin." (In the Chancellor's Roll it is "Jobini".)

"1173-4. In the work of two bridges and gates and bretasches in the castle of Hereford £15.3.9., by the King's writ and by view of Richard the painter and Nicholas the clerk and of Aerñ Jobin."

"1176-7. In the work of the King's house in the castle of Hereford £26.13.4. by the King's writ and by view of Ralph de Grosmonthe and John the reeve (*prepositi*)."

"1177-8. In repair of the houses and bridge of the castle of Hereford £15, by the King's writ and by view of Ralph de Grosmonthe (in the Chancellor's Roll it is "Grosmund") and John the Layman (*secularis*)."

"1178-9. In the work of the castle of Hereford and of the houses of the same castle £18, by the King's writ, and by view of Ralph de Grosso Monte."

"1181-2. In the cost of levelling part of the wall of the castle of Hereford and the preparation of piles (*rogi*) to make the said wall up again 26/6 by the aforesaid writ and by view of Roger son of Maurice." (*Et in custamento prostermendi partem muri de H. et preparatione rogi ad reficiendum predictum murum.*)

"To John de Sanford for his livery for keeping the mote (*mote*) of Hereford £4 by the King's writ. In livery of the watchmen (*vigilum*) of the castle of Hereford 8/4 by the same writ. And to the same men 4/- to buy clothes (*ad emendos pannos*), by the same writ."

"1182-3. In repair of the castle of Hereford £33.9.0 by the King's writ and by view of Roger son of Maurice and Ailmund and Stephen the moneyer (*monetarii*) and Roger the miller. And for furnishing the castle of Hereford with corn and hogs (*pro blado et baconibus*) £20, by the writ of Ranulph de Glanvill and by view of William Torel.

And in livery of the watchmen of the castle of Hereford 5/8 by the King's writ."

"1186-7. In repair of the houses within (*infra*) the castle of Hereford 20/-, by the same writ."

"1189-90. In repair of the houses in the castle of Hereford one mark, by the King's writ."

FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S ROLL.

"1201-2. In repair of the castles of Hereford, Grosmund, Blanch-castell and Schenefrid £14.18.5, by the King's writ and by view of John de Luchton and Simon the miller.

In the cost of the Knights who kept the castle of Hereford and the aforesaid castles, after the King received the county from William de Braiosa, 48/- for eleven days, by the King's writ."

William de Braiosa was the owner of one of the two ships that escorted the royal vessel when sent to fetch the daughter of the King of Portugal.

In Robinson's *Castles of Herefordshire* the author states that the construction of the castle of Hereford may without much hesitation be attributed to William Fitz-Osborne, the first Earl of Hereford after the Norman invasion. (He died in 1071.) In the reign of Henry I, Milo (Fitz-Walter), Constable of England and Earl of Hereford, held the castle in his custody for a time, but on his espousing the cause of the Empress Maud, the Earldom and castle were transferred by King Stephen to Robert de Bellamont, Earl of Leicester, who was the grandson of Roger de Bretevil, youngest son of William Fitz-Osborne. The Empress, in her brief triumph, re-appointed Milo to the Earldom by charter dated 1141, and granted to him and his heirs the castle of Hereford. Once more the tide of fortune turned, and dispossessed of his honours by King Stephen, Milo retired to the Abbey of Llanthony, near Gloucester, and died a monk in the house which he had founded.

Mr. Alfred Watkins, in his article on "Foundations of buildings in Hereford Castle", states:—"About 1150-1154 Roger, Earl of Hereford, made a grant of the chapel of St. Martin's in the castle, to the See of Hereford. But it seems to have belonged to another body, for about 1163-1173 Henry II confirms the right of the Abbey of Gloucester and the monks (St. Guthlac's) of Hereford to this same chapel of St. Martin in 'my castle of Hereford', which Hugh de Lacy had given them."¹

Duncumb (Vol. I, p. 226) states that "the honours of which Milo had been divested, were restored to his son Roger by Henry II, who was granted 'the mote of Hereford with the whole castle and the third penny of the revenue of the pleas of the whole county'."

In 1181-2 we find a payment for keeping the "mote" of Hereford castle and in 1186-7 under Lanteliou an entry "for the work of the keep (*turri*)."

The charter² granted to Miles of Gloucester³ describes Hereford

¹ *The Woolhope Club's Transactions*, 1933, p. 40.

² *Geoffrey de Mandevill*. Round.

³ Died 1143.

castle "*motam Hereford cum toto castello*". This same expression occurs in the confirmation of the charter by Henry II and by John. (*Cart.* 1 John, m. 6.).

The "*mota*" or motte was a mound crowned by a stronghold of timber or masonry. In "*tour*" or "*turris*" we have the keep, constructed of masonry, independent of or upon the mound. The "*castellum*" was the fortified enclosure and later came to be used for the whole castle.

Sometimes the keep was added to the castle and sometimes the castle to the keep. The Tower of London is an instance of the latter.

SOME CONCLUSIONS DERIVED FROM THE MAGNA EXCAVATIONS.

By GAVIN H. JACK, M.Inst.C.E., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., F.G.S.

(Read 26th June, 1941.)

During the years 1912-13 and again in 1924-5 the Woolhope Club carried out some excavations on the historic site of Roman Magna. A perusal of the reports subsequently published will show what a mass of archæological information was acquired and recorded.

The main objects of the work was to fix the dates of the rise and fall of the place. This was accomplished! Its beginning took place towards the end of the 1st century of our era. The Golden Age arrived with the dawn of the 4th century and it declined before that century closed.

In addition to this major quest, the investigations brought to light many interesting objects associated with life and work of the Romanized Britons, who inhabited the place during the long period of its existence.

Some idea of the lay-out of the town was possible, and also the disposition of its roads and buildings, together with clear evidence of the character of the personal possessions and utensils in use during the whole period of the occupation.

Recording and classification however are not enough to impart a clear picture of the appearance of the place or the conditions of the life of the people, especially if those interested in such things are not archæologists. Any attempt to describe what stood above ground calls for imagination. The "dry bones" must be clothed.

Do you remember a passage in the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel? :—

"Can these bones live? . . . O ye dry bones behold . . . I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live."¹

In this short address which I have compiled in an attempt to interest the ladies, I shall confine myself to a description of the main street of the Roman town, and endeavour to make the

¹ *Ezekiel*, chap. 37, verses 3-5.

dry bones of a female skeleton which we discovered live once more.

Magna arrived at the peak of its prosperity about the year 320 A.D., when Constantine the Great was Emperor (306-337). He is entitled to be called Great if only for the fact that he was the first of the long line of Romans to become a Christian, and what is more he persuaded his mother Helena to follow his example.

Constantine was master of the East and held Court at Byzantium, which was named Constantinople in his honour.

Helena, at the age of 80, decided to make a pilgrimage to the holy places, and it is recorded that she was favoured by a miraculous discovery of pieces of the True Cross and the Nails. Helena's name now appears in the catalogue of saints. She died in 328 A.D.¹

The name of the reigning Emperor and his Christian mother would be on everyone's lips in Magna, and it is not impossible that it was at this time that the people first heard whisperings of the Gospel story. Twelve coins showing Helena diademed and draped have been found on this site.

When the Romans arrived in Herefordshire towards the end of the first century the organised resistance of the Britons had been broken, and it only remained to extinguish or control a brave remnant still holding out in the Welsh hills.

The Roman engineers had mapped a road running westwards from a settlement where Worcester now stands. This road crossed the Malverns at Leigh Sinton, then south-westerly to a point north of Stretton Grandison and from there due west, skirting the site of Hereford on the north and so straight to Magna. It continued across this site from east to west, making straight for the hill country of Breconshire.

A length of 500 yards of this military road became the High Street of the Roman town, and was more than double the width of the approach roads, 30 feet instead of 12. It presented an unusual appearance, for it had an open ditch down the centre. This is puzzling, as the ditch was not essential for drainage, as adequate stone drains were provided on either side of the street. Its use may have been to divide the wheel traffic, and if so it is the earliest example I know of in England of a dual carriage-way so much in vogue on our very latest highways.

This urban road was flanked on each side by buildings of stone, probably of one storey, but possibly of two. The upper one may have been of timber. A feature of the street was the verandas in front of the shops: these were roofed with diamond-shaped stone tiles. In front of the verandas ran an open stone

¹ *A Menology of England and Wales* by Richard Stanton, p. 397.

drain with slabs across here and there to give easy access to the shops. This arrangement reminds one of the famous "Rows" at Chester, where the ladies can do their shopping under cover. The roofs of the houses were covered either with stone tiles like the verandas or by heavy red tiles of very good appearance, and which would require some stout timbers to support them, as they were very much more weighty than our modern tiles. At the time of which I am speaking (about 320 A.D.) I doubt if the town was protected by a wall and gates. These came perhaps sixty years later, when the inroads of barbarians began to be sharply felt and to which the place ultimately succumbed. From the existing remains it is clear that a wall seven to nine feet thick was hurriedly constructed. A fragment is still to be seen on the north-west corner of the site.

On entering the town from the east (where Magna Castra farmhouse now stands) the street would present a strange appearance even to Roman eyes, large houses and small huts being erected in close proximity. One large house must have been occupied by a wealthy person, for it had at least two rooms, floored with expensive mosaic, the largest of which was twenty-five feet square. This room was not heated, but there were two others which were, so that it would be quite comfortable in winter. Nearby we uncovered the slab paving of a yard, and in one corner a dog trough remained in position. Another indication of wealth was the remains of much fine red pottery which we could identify as having been imported from the south of France. Next door to this house stood a granary. It appears in Magna's last days this had been fired, for on its floor we found partly cooked lumps of yellow material which proved to be barley and, strange to say, still contained 75 per cent. of its nutritive value,¹ and this after a lapse of 1,600 years.

At another spot we found some seed cases of millet.² Now as this grain is not indigenous to this country, it was probably imported from Spain or Italy. It is known that the Romans dried and exported our wheat and substituted this rather poor material for the use of the natives: one more instance of the lasting results of aggression. This find may be the first recorded instance of imported grain being used in this country.

At the back of that opulent house stood the Public Baths, a small part of which we excavated, including the large stone drain in connexion with the establishment. Quite near this spot there existed a well-built stone hut, and in excavating alongside its east wall we found intact the skeleton of a woman, which I will tell you more about later.

¹ See *The Woolhope Club's Transactions*, 1918, p. 101.

² *Ibid.*, 1918, p. 102.

A hundred yards from the large house, but on the opposite side of the road, there was a public building with massive pier foundations which evidently supported a heavy superstructure, and just beyond this on the corner of a street running north and south stood a domestic building of quality as judged from its finely moulded stones, which were rather rare in this locality. On this site we found a very fine bronze and enamelled brooch in perfect condition, which must have been prized by a high-class Roman lady.

Opposite the public building stood a one-roomed hut with flagged floor, wattle and daub walls, and probably a thatched roof. The stones supporting the uprights were all in place and the iron nails which had fixed the wooden sill were lying on the stones.

Immediately behind the hut stood another very large house covering a third of an acre and having the outer faces of its walls stuccoed. The house was built round a courtyard and included a shrine (*Lararium*) near which we found a white clay statuette of Venus, which could be given a 2nd century date. This house must have been a conspicuous feature of the town, gleaming white in the summer sun.

Just a word in conclusion of this part of my paper, about the shops. We were unable to identify a site where any particular trade was carried on, but it was proved that the making of bronze metal objects was one of the trades, and, somewhere on the site, medicines could be bought, and it is in connexion with this that the name of one person carrying on business in Magna has been preserved. A medicine stamp was found on the site in 1842 with the name Titus Vendacius Ariovistus upon it, also the names of three preparations, one of which was an ointment for the eyes. I have no doubt this man also sold rouge and hair pins to the ladies. There would undoubtedly be shops in which all kinds of fine and coarse pottery would be displayed and some where the much more rare glass bottles (of which we found fragments) could be obtained.

I have already referred to the skeleton of a woman which we found complete outside the wall of the hut near the Roman baths. The late Dr. Chapman took the bones to London, where they were closely examined by Sir Arthur Keith at the Royal College of Surgeons. The skeleton being quite complete, he was able to make an exhaustive report, and, omitting the exact measurements which he gave, the main evidence was as follows :—

She was a woman well over 60 years of age, 4 ft. 8 in. high, and of muscular build. At the time of her death her head was bowed forward owing to rheumatoid changes in the neck and she was also bent at the loins from the same cause. She had only a few stumps of teeth and the condition of her jawbone proved to the surgeon that she had suffered from abscesses at the

roots, and modern doctors will tell us that this contributed to her rheumatism. She was afflicted from girlhood with a deformity in the bones of the right side of her face, which would greatly detract from her appearance. Her skull was of the long and narrow type which suggests that she was a native British woman and not a Roman. Her brain capacity was equal to that of a modern woman and her muscular development very much greater. She had been accustomed to hard work all her life: this could be proved by the exceptional development of the bones of the hands, arms and shoulder.

With the bones were found a coin of the usurper Emperor, Carausius, who reigned in Britain for six years, 287–293 A.D., some bone pins, a button, a curious needle without an eye but with a groove cut round it, and some fragments of bronze.

The coin is important, as it gives a good clue to her date. She had this coin on her when she was buried, for it rested on her hip bone, which it had stained green. She could not have lived prior to 287, and as Carausius reigned only six years his coins would soon be out of circulation, so it is fair to assume that she lived during the last quarter of the 3rd century, let us say 300 A.D. at the latest, which would be roughly 1,000 years before the tower of Hereford Cathedral was built.

This dating by coins is an interesting study. If you look at the dates on the coins in your pocket, you will observe how easy it would be to fix the period of your existence provided those coins were buried with you and dug up by some Woolhopian 1,000 years hence.

Next to the coin the needle is of importance. It substantiates Professor Keith's estimate of her age. She was old and probably not able to see very well. Threading needles was clearly difficult, otherwise she would not have taken the trouble to secure a specially made needle round which she could fold the thread with her fingers.

The three bone pins are not without significance. One was plain and common, the other two were delicate and ornamented. She evidently valued nice things.

On the facts I have given you, let us try and imagine what sort of woman this was and what was the nature of the hard work to which she was accustomed. Let us make her dry bones live.

She was certainly not good looking, not even in her youth, for she was undersized and had a facial deformity from birth. Old age does not improve any of us, for like her we lose our teeth and our sprightly walk, and apparently she was very much bent and stiff. Seeing that she was a working woman, her clothing would be of some coarse stuff of brown or buff colour. She would

be bareheaded and her feet would be protected either by sandals or hob-nailed boots.

During the excavations we found some hob nails from a Roman boot, and it is interesting to note that there is scarcely any difference between hand-made hob nails of today and those of 1,600 years ago. If she wore boots, they would be very clumsy compared with modern productions.

The outstanding facts about this one inhabitant of Magna, of whom anything definite is known, are that she was in her prime a very strong little woman. She used her right hand on some heavy work and carried loads on her shoulders. What was the nature of this work? We can only guess, but we can make a good guess. My theory is that she was engaged by the bath authorities to collect fuel, prepare it, and stoke the hypocaust fires at the establishment. She would be required to collect faggots in the woods outside the town. This occupation would expose her to the weather and give her rheumatism. She would carry her heavy loads of wood on her shoulders to a shed near the hut, where she would chop it into lengths so that it could be easily stoked through the comparatively small opening to the furnace.

Such labour would fully account for her muscular development, to which her bones bear witness.

Her useful, if monotonous life ended, her masters had her buried in her clothes just outside her one-roomed hut, where no doubt she had spent most of her hard life. There were no signs of violence on her bones and her few possessions were not robbed. Let us hope her end was peace.

To end this address, I will say something about how it came about that all trace of the Roman town has disappeared. Had not the remains been pulled down, much of it would remain until now. As far back as 1550, Leland tells us that ruins of buildings then existed, and how Mr. Brainton took much of the worked stones for use on new buildings. As late as 1722 Stukeley records that all around the city you can easily trace the walls, some stones being left everywhere, though overgrown with hedges and timber trees. It was between the years 1810-20 that the then owner decided to clear the site, which was then "a complete wilderness of decaying walls and debris." Everything above ground was removed, all growths grubbed up and the land prepared for cultivation as you see it now. Many a ploughshare was broken in places where the masonry had not been taken down sufficiently.

The ancient town of Magna still holds most of its secrets. Perhaps in happier times the Woolhope Club will be able to resume operations over the whole area of 22 acres. Then and not till then will be known the full story of the beginnings of municipal life in Herefordshire.

ROMAN COINS FOUND AT KENCHESTER IN 1941.

By the Rev. Prebendary S. H. MARTIN, M.A.

(Contributed 26th June, 1941.)

138-161 A.D. ANTONINUS PIUS.

1 as. Providentia? Doubtful.

269-270 A.D. CLAUDIUS II.

1 M.S. 52. Jovi Statori.

3 Consecratio. Altar (one with dots).

270-273 A.D. TETRICUS I.

1 M.S. 68. Fides Militum.

1 M.S. 98. Oriens Aug.

3 M.S. 100. Pax Aug.

Radiate copies.

3 M.S. 104. (Tetricus) Pax.

1 M.S. 140. (Tetricus) Victory.

1 Altar.

3 Rev. illegible, (one a minim).

287-293 A.D. CARAUSIUS.

2 M.S. 398. Salus Aug.

1 Virtus militum, (head of Emp. not normal).

5 M.S. 101ff. Pax Aug.

1 Rev. illegible.

305-337 A.D. CONSTANTINE I.

1 Beata Tranquilitas.

305-327 A.D. HELENA.

1 Pax Publica.

317-326 A.D. CRISPUS.

1 Caesarum nostrorum (VOT X).

330-337 A.D. URBS ROMA.

4 Wolf and twins.

330-337 A.D. CONSTANTINOPLE.

2 Angel.

350-353 A.D. MAGNENTIUS.

1 Felicitas Reipublicae TS.

CONSTANTINE FAMILY.

- 9 Two victories. One holding shield inscribed, another with altar and globe on it. Mint mark probably TTR.
 1 Fel. Temp. Reparatio. Phoenix on heap.
 10 Gloria exercitus, (some of them copies).
 2 with obv. and rev. indistinct.

364-375 A.D. VALENTINIANUS I.

- 1 Gloria Romanorum, (hand on captive's head) O F II LVGS.

364-383 A.D. VALENTINIAN, VALENS, or GRATIAN.

- 1 Gloria Novi Saeculi.
 2 Securitas Reipublicae.
 3 Illegible.

Also one coin found at Leintwardine (*Bravonium*).

69-79 A.D. VESPASIAN.

- 1 Sestertius M.S. 443 obv. 2. Roma S.C.

For previous lists by the same writer see the *Transactions* for 1938, pp. 128-140; and 1939, pp. 53-57.

LADY SOUTHAMPTON'S CHARITY AT
KENCHESTER, HEREFORDSHIRE.

By the Rev. E. A. HUGHES, B.A.

(Read 26th June, 1941.)

Just 120 years ago, in 1821, Frances Isabella, Baroness Southampton, on whose premises we are and who endowed the Chapel and School at Kenchester, was living at The Weir, then called and until quite recently the New Weir, now in the occupation of Mr. Charlton Parr. How long she had been residing there we do not know, but we know that in 1822 she gave up the house and went to live at what is now known as Lower Eaton, owned by Mr. Charles Pulley, at that time known as Missionary House, probably a name she gave to it herself for, as we shall see, she was a missionary—a home missionary.

She was the second daughter of Lord Robert Seymour by his first wife Anne, daughter of Peter Deliaris, and lived at Talmé, Carmarthenshire. She married, in 1802, George Ferdinand Fitzroy, Baron Southampton, who had been Colonel in the 34th Foot Regiment and M.P. for Bury, 1784-7, and succeeded his father as 2nd Baron Southampton in 1797. He died at Fitzroy Farm in Highgate in 1808.

By 1821, when our story commences, she had been a widow for some thirteen years and had necessarily to find a home of her own. How she came to occupy different houses in Herefordshire we know not. Throughout the latter half of the 18th century and the early part of the 19th, the period coincident with her life, England and Wales had been greatly stirred religiously by the preaching of such men as John and Charles Wesley, George Whitefield (pronounced Whitfield), Howell Harris in Breconshire and Dr. Hall of Bristol. It is said that under the ministry of the last named she submitted to baptism by immersion at Broadmead, Bristol. The Countess of Huntingdon was also a convert to this revival and founded a large number of chapels in the same period, influenced by the wonderful preaching of Whitefield (a Calvinist in theology, not Arminian like the Wesleys).¹ This *evangelical* revival of religion was felt in this county and it was fostered by

¹ *Arminianism* emphasizes free-will, *Calvinism*, necessitarianism—the sovereignty of God.

what was named the Home Missionary Society, which supplied from London itinerant Evangelists to preach in the villages. One such missionary stationed at Weobley visited Kenchester and, though he found the people mostly extremely uncouth and ungodly, given up to fighting and gaming (the clergyman included, it is on record from his report), yet he got into touch, he says, with a *Lady of Title* (Lady Southampton), who welcomed him and his preaching and promised £100 a year to the Society.

This man, Charles Bartlett, was induced in 1821 to settle in a house here, which Lady Southampton bought and fitted up at the cost of £250. The house was called *Wall-bank* (suitably enough—Roman and Ancient British), now known as the Chapel House, and in the same year it was licensed by the Bishop "as a place of religious worship for Protestant Dissenters".

The religious cause evidently prospered and by 1826 we find that silver communion plate, dated that year, is in use, and that a resident minister, Mr. Moens, is settled in, to be followed in 1828 by the Rev. J. Preece, a Baptist minister from Goff's similar foundation in Tenbury. Probably in 1826 the chapel was completed, Divine service having at first been held in the dwelling house. Lady Southampton's companion, Grace Broad, writes from Eaton in that year, saying: "Lady Olivia, . . . they are stiff Church folks, but I expect my Lady will set them a chapel building. I shall much like to see the first stone laid."

About this time there was felt by many religious enthusiasts and pioneers like Lady Southampton a great urge to give education to the poor, and these—the National Society of the Church of England, the British School Society and Goffs' Charity being examples—founded schools in direct connexion with a church or chapel, rightly discerning that education and religion were interdependent and both quite necessary. So Lady Southampton embarked on what was for a single person the very ambitious scheme of providing schools here in Kenchester and at Breinton—a most desirable step to take and one that was very greatly appreciated. So before her death in 1838 she had not only established the evangelical ministry of the Word by founding the chapel but had built a Boys' School and Girls' School with teachers' residences adjoining. It is on record that on many occasions she herself would take school to relieve the mistress.

Later, owing to a dwindling population and the fact that other schools were being established in the neighbourhood, the boys and girls were combined in one mixed school under two female teachers, who still are expected to be resident and to regard their task, as Lady Southampton so devoutly wished and made possible, *a distinctly religious one.*

At Breinton, too, almost opposite Lower Eaton, across the

river, she built a chapel, school and dwelling house in one, where the schoolmaster was teacher and preacher combined when necessary. This building has been sold and transmogrified of late by its present owner, though until quite recently the old gallery, etc., in the chapel remained intact.

Lady Southampton seems to have left Lower Eaton about 1830, probably going to Cheltenham, but about 1833 she added a considerable wing to what was the Girls' School and Mistress's House for her own accommodation, kept up by a permanent house-keeper, when she would pay her many and frequent visits to the place. This whole building now is the minister's residence.

By her Trust Deed of 1830 the Charity (being partly religious and partly educational) was left to the administration of seven trustees. The conspicuous one of the first seven was her own son-in-law, the Rev. Humphrey Allen, M.A., Canon of Bristol Cathedral. Undoubtedly, after her Ladyship's death in 1838, he was the presiding genius and chief controller, and this is of importance as indicating, by the line he took and the appointments he made or sanctioned, that he understood what was in the mind of the pious founder and that he sympathized with and was determined to carry out her wishes. The Canon lived till 1868 and took a most lively interest in the work. As his brother and, later, his nephew the late E. H. Greenly, of Titley, continued in succession to the chairmanship of the Trustees till 1921, we have an unbroken line for 100 years of her family's connexion with the Charity.¹

Moreover, in 1865 Canon Allen chose the Rev. Thomas Hughes, a Calvinistic Methodist minister of Hay, as minister, evidently thinking that such a man could fulfil the conditions of the Trust Deed—"to preach the doctrines of the Church of England Calvinistically understood." In 1900 the present minister followed his father, who came 76 years ago and so is in a sense a living link back through his father's appointment by Canon Allen, to Lady Southampton herself—1821 to 1941.

¹ The late Mr. W. J. Humfrys, a former President of the Woolhope Club, was an active and interested trustee of the Charity for over 50 years, was chairman of the Trustees from 1921 until shortly before his death in 1924, when he was succeeded by the present chairman, Mr. George Marshall, the Honorary Secretary and a past President of the Club.

SOME NOTES ON BISHOPSTONE CHURCH,
HEREFORDSHIRE.

By GEORGE MARSHALL, F.S.A.

(Read 26th June, 1941.)

The parish of Bishopstone is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey, but at that time it was probably included under the lands of Bridge Solers. Here there were five hides held by a knight under the Bishop of Hereford and there were four ploughs. There was also another knight of the Bishop who held one hide and there were two ploughs. This one hide must have been the land which now comprises the parish of Bishopstone. The other four hides to make up the five hide-unit are apparently to be found in the adjoining parish of Kenchester. All these lands were in the Domesday Hundred of Stepleset (Staple), but are now in the later Hundred of Grimsworth.

The first mention to be found of Bishopstone is in the *Liber Niger*, drawn up in 1166, when John de Bishopstone was in possession holding one knight's fee under the Bishop. It must have been some time previous to this date that the present church was built and the land held by the Bishop's second knight, separated from that of the knight who held the five hides in Bridge Solers, and so formed into the present parish of Bishopstone.

When the land was raised to the status of a parish, a church must have been erected, parts of which survive in the present building, though few architectural features remain to date it by. Judging by the walling with its square stones, evenly coursed, and thick mortar joints, and the use of travertine for the quoin stones it was probably about the year 1125 that the church was built, consisting of a nave and, as will be demonstrated later, a chancel. Due to subsequent alteration, it is now a plain cruciform structure, which never had a tower, central or otherwise.

Of the original church only the north and south walls of the nave remain. These walls are faced with small square hard grey sandstones, evenly coursed, which no doubt were brought from the ruins of the Roman town of Magna at Kenchester, about a mile and a half away. The chancel would have been approached from the nave through a narrow arch and had either a square, or less likely apsidal end.

The south doorway has a depressed circular arch which does not appear to be original. The north doorway, now leading into a modern vestry, has a plain pointed arch and is evidently of a later period than the wall.

Of the fenestration of this building one short but wide Norman window, now walled up, survives in the south nave wall, just east of the south doorway, and there are slight indications in the masonry of another a little to the east of it. The blocked window has the quoin stones scratched in squares to correspond with the surrounding masonry. This may have been done when the window was blocked.

It is possible that the lighting of the Norman building was improved in the middle of the 13th century by the insertion of the large single-light windows at the eastern ends of the south and north walls of the nave, but it may well be that these windows belong to the latter part of that century, when an alteration took place in the building. This improvement comprised the erection of a new chancel with side chapels, as seen to-day, and it is interesting to note how this was carried out.

An examination of the exterior faces of the walls shows that the south chapel is built of a thin bedded local sandstone to a height of some ten feet, and similar stone is used in the foundations of the chancel and north chapel to a varying height of a few feet. Above this red sandstone the walling is of the same type as the nave walls but some parts are finished near the top with random walling. A few travertine stones are used in the quoins. It is evident that without disturbing the original chancel the new work was commenced by the erection of the south chapel with newly quarried stone and then the walls of the chancel and the north chapel carried up a few feet, when no doubt it was calculated that the destruction of the original chancel would provide sufficient material to complete the building, hence the upper part of these walls are similar to the nave walls, but different stones had to be supplied in some of the courses near the top.

The east window of the chancel, and north and south windows of the chapels or transepts are plain three-light windows of the typical Hereford type of the last quarter of the 13th century. In the south wall of the chancel is a two-light window of the same period, and opposite in the north wall a two-light window has been inserted in the later part of the 14th century.

This rebuilding must have taken place when Cecilia le Seculer founded and endowed a chantry chapel in the church to the Blessed Virgin Mary to pray for the souls of herself, Walter le Seculer her lord and her children etc.¹ The foundation deed enables the date of the

¹ *Register of Charles Bothe*, 1516-1535, pp. 256-258. Printed by the Cantilupe Society.

chantry to be fixed within a few years, which coincides with the date one would have assigned to it from a study of the architectural details. This deed has been preserved to us in a copy entered in the Register of Bishop Charles Bothe in 1531.¹ This entry probably was made when some dispute arose over the endowments which were fairly extensive. The original document must have been in a damaged condition when the copy was made, for the reading is evidently corrupt. It recites that Cecilia le Seculer in her complete power as a widow (*in mea ligea et pura viduitate*) grants, *etc.*² The copy therefore is incorrect and the other husband was named Walter. The names recited as beneficiaries under the deed were no doubt in a defective state and the copyist finding the name of Walter among them and the founder stated to be Cecilia le Seculer, jumped to the conclusion that Walter was her husband.

Now the only Cecilia le Seculer of Bishopstone was one of the daughters and heiresses of Nicholas le Seculer of Sutton, who had as her portion lands at Bishopstone. This lady married as her first husband Sir John Daniel, who was dead on the 14th of April, 1286, and in 1288 she paid a fine of £20 to marry at will. She then took as her second husband Sir Richard Delabere, who survived her. Cecilia died in 1292, aged about 40 years. As the foundation deed states it was made during her widowhood, the date of it must be between 1286 and 1288, and the rebuilding of the east end of the church have taken place at that time.³

Whether the south or north chapel was the one dedicated to the B.V.M. is uncertain, but more likely the former. Three stone brackets remain over the site of the altar in the north chapel, the centre one being more elaborate than the other two. The presence of the ball-flower ornament on the centre one would lead one to suppose that it was an insertion of some years later than the actual fabric. This north chapel was used as a private one by the owners of the Court, having a separate entrance, now blocked up, in the west wall. In spite of the abolition of chantries in 1529, it continued in use up to 1532.⁴

The next alteration to the building was the reconstruction of the west wall of the nave, but why this should have become necessary is not apparent, unless when more light was required it was considered a better proposition to reconstruct the entire

¹ It is possible that the original may still be preserved among the Dean and Chapter's MSS.

² The translation given by the Rev. E. N. Dew in his *Extracts from the Cathedral Registers*, 1932, p. 153, does not convey the true meaning.

³ For further particulars of the Le Seculer family see *The History of Marden and Duncumb's History of Herefordshire, Grimsworth Hundred*, pp. 1, 2. Both of these contain many inaccuracies. Also *The Knights of Edward I*, under Daniel.

⁴ *Cutt's Parish Priests and their People*, p. 451; and *The Archaeological Journal*, Vol. LXVI, p. 3.

wall for the reception of the present late 14th century window. The wall of course may have been defective, though the excellent condition of the contemporary north and south walls would not lead one to suppose that this was the case. There may have been a west doorway, no longer required, and in the way of the new window, and further the bell gable perhaps required enlargement or reconstruction. The present wall is built of much larger stones than the north and south walls and has angle buttresses. A travertine stone has been reused at the top of the south buttress.

The nave has a wagon roof of timbers of light scantling, with carved bosses at the intersections plastered between, with an embattled cornice, and dates from the late 15th or early 16th century. The south chapel has a similar cornice, but the timbers are entirely plastered over. The roof of the north chapel is modern.

The church underwent a considerable restoration in the early years of the incumbency of Archdeacon Richard Lane Freer, rector of Bishopstone and vicar of Yazor from 1839 until his death in 1863.

The roof of the chancel was entirely reconstructed, though some of the timbers may have been reused. On a shield on the west principal is the date A.D. 1842. The whole design evidently belongs to this year, and is not 17th century as stated in the "Inventory of Historical Monuments in Herefordshire". The pews, gallery and general fittings are of about the same date. The altar is of painted stone of bastard Gothic design, but the altar stone is said to have crude crosses upon it, so this is probably an original slab, remoulded and re-used.

When the gallery was built, the 14th century west window was blocked up with brickwork except the quatrefoil in the head, and two small round-headed windows were cut through the wall on either side of it. It was at this time that the present organ was acquired. Sir Robert Price of Foxley bought it when it was turned out of Eton College Chapel in 1840, and gave it to Mr. Freer, who had it erected in the church in a new case, the original one having been kept at Eton College. Mr. Freer reserved the right to dispose of the organ, by will or otherwise, but as he never exercised this right it has remained in the church to the present day.

This organ was built by the celebrated organ builder, Bernard Smith, who was born about 1630, and died in 1708. He was known as "Father" Smith to distinguish him from his two nephews of the same name. He constructed the organ in the years 1700-1701, at a cost of £789 2s. 6d. Additions were made to it by John Gray about 1830, who effected further improvements when it was erected at Bishopstone about 1842. It retains its old keyboard with the black and white notes reversed, and the original wooden pipes,

but the metal ones are modern. Otherwise it remains unaltered except that some large scale pedal pipes considered too noisy for the little church were turned out and added to the organ in Worcester Cathedral.¹

In 1854 further work was carried out on the building. The plain bell gable for two bells at the west end was pulled down and the present unsightly one erected with a figure of the patron saint, St. Lawrence, at its base. At the same time the large round window, with a traceried trefoil, was inserted above the ancient blocked window. On the old bell gable there was at one time a weather vane of a gridiron, the emblem of St. Lawrence.

The timber porch was brought from Yazor old church, when the new one was opened in 1855. It has undergone some injudicious alterations, but the main timbers date from the late 14th or early 15th century.

There is a monument on the east wall of the north chapel to the last of the Beringtons, namely, Anne Berington, a daughter of Captain Humphry Berington, who lost his fortune by supporting the Royal cause in the Civil War. She died in 1716, aged 87 years, and left a sum of £1,000 to trustees for the poor of the parish as they should think fit.² They accordingly in 1721 built at a cost of £221 2s. 1d. and endowed some almshouses on Bishopston Hill for six poor men and women. On the 3rd July, 1718, the executors of the will paid £12 6s. 0d. for her monument, and £2 for setting it up and carriage. Mr. Williams, the undertaker was paid £40 for the cost of her funeral.³

A fine pewter alms dish disappeared between the time of its record in "The Church Plate of Herefordshire," 1903 and the year 1922.

On the face of the gallery is fixed one of the small cast iron early Victorian Royal arms.

NOTE.—For further particulars of Bishopstone Church and its fittings see:—

The Transactions of the Woolhope Club, 1913, pp. 101–103.
"Historic Bishopstone," by the Rev. R. H. Wilmot.

¹ For further particulars of this organ see *The Organ*, 1925, Vol. IV, pp. 160–162, 250, illus. pp. 161, 162.

² This sum is stated on the monument, but it appears she left the residue of her property for the purpose. Particulars will be found in the report on *The Charities in the County of Hereford*, 1840, pp. 161–164.

³ These particulars are derived from a MS. book of the disbursements of the Charity from 1723 to 1832, and accounts of the executors of the will, in the possession of the late Sir Henry Cotterell, Bart., of Garnons.

Duncumb's *History of Herefordshire*, Grimsworth Hundred, 1886, pp. 6–9.

An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in Herefordshire 1934, Vol. III, pp. 17, 18, with plan.

The Church Plate of the County of Hereford, by The Hon. Berkeley Scudamore Stanhope and Harold C. Moffatt. 1903, pp. 12, 13.

CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS OF PEMBRIDGE,
HEREFORDSHIRE, FOR THE YEARS 1642 AND 1643.

By PENELOPE E. MORGAN, F.L.A.

(Contributed 21st August, 1941.)

Among documents recently sent to the Hereford Public Library by the British Records Association are the accounts of expenditure of the Churchwardens of Pembridge for 1642 and 1643, which came as a gift from Messrs. Farrer & Co.

This is on parchment 14½ in. x 5½ in., written on both sides, the ink now being very faded. It is headed "The Accopts & Disbursm^{ts} of Richard Carpenter & John Higgins gents. Churchwardens of the p(ar)ishe of Pembridge for Twoe yeeres vizt. A^o 1642 & 1643", but the accounts of John Higgins and a document referred to as being annexed are missing. The accounts were obviously made from notes at the end of 1643, as several items under 1642 gave sums paid out for the two years, and the entry giving the expenses of Richard Carpenter attending before the Commissioners of Array on 18 Dec., 1642, is duplicated. The total expenditure for the two years amounts to £13 10s. 3d.

Richard Carpenter was a member of a well known family which was of importance in the district round Pembridge in the 17th century.

There are 32 items for 1642 and 10 for 1643, and the majority deal with local general church matters.

The largest entry in the accounts is—

Itm To Tho Ensoll for wyne for the Comunion for the 2 yeeres 5 <i>li</i> 10s 3 <i>d</i> the p(ar)ticlrs whereof doe more att large apeere by a note under his owne hand w ^{ch} is heerunto annexed	£	s.	d.
	5	10	3

It is unfortunate that the note referred to has not been preserved, but from other entries we know that at least two kinds of wine were used—sack, the name given to any Spanish white wine and equivalent to sherry; and muscadel, a rich sweet-smelling wine from Spain. At different times Richard Meredith, John Preese, William Groome and Henry Garnons were paid 6d. for

fetching wine from Leominster, so it seems probable that Thomas Ensoll was a Leominster wine merchant.¹

Bread for the Communion cost 4/6 in 1642 and 3/- in 1643.

The repairing and glazing of windows are referred to in nearly all old parish accounts, and in Pembridge this work cost 10/- annually, Richard Compton (or Crompton) "ye glasier" being paid "for puttinge the Church windowes in rep(ar)e & for soe keeping them."

Another frequent source of expense was the upkeep of the bells, and £1 0s. 2d. was spent on repairing the three at Pembridge during 1642-3. The work was carried out by J. Dickins, some "nayles and irons" on one occasion being obtained from Ric Smyth.

Minor alterations in the fittings of the church were carried out in 1642, for Ric Parlor was paid 6d. "for removinge the Pulpitt & for mendinge the sowth doore", and Wm Phillipps received 4d. "for a sawed boord" and Jo Bowle 2d. for "Nayles" which "were both used for the said doore and pulpitt." Jo Bowle may have been a blacksmith, for on 20th August, 1642, he received 5/- for "2 Laches for the 2 Church doores & for putting them on".

Pembridge church had two surplices, for Mrs. Chapman was paid 8/- for washing them for the two years. In 1643 the "washinge of the best surples ag^t Easter last" cost 1/-.

An item of 4d. "for candles for the Ringers 5^o No 1642" indicates the celebration of Gunpowder Plot Night.

The School House, a picturesque black and white building, still standing at the west end of the churchyard, was let by Mr. Coningesby at an annual rent of 1/6d to the Church, and the plaster achievement-of-arms of the Coningsby family in the nave of the church shows the connection of this family with the parish.

A Register Book bought on the 18th Dec., 1642, cost 6/6, a sum which shows the high price of paper and parchment at that time.

The Paritor, or old-time summoning officer of an ecclesiastical parish, is mentioned twice as receiving 4d. on each occasion "for deliveringe the Coppie of the Register."

One entry, the meaning of which is a little obscure, reads as follows:—

Itm to Henr Garnons for his Attending att the 2 Church doores, for his 2 yeeres	8s.
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¹ In the Leominster Corporation accounts are these items:—
1651. For wine sent to Colonel Birch by Mr. Ensoll. £2. 0. 2.
1656. To Mr. Ensoll for Sack. 00. 04. 00.

The Suppressed Benedictine Monastery and other Institutions of Leominster, by F. Gainsford Blacklock, N.D. (c. 1902), pp. 286, 288.

Richard Carpenter visited Leominster on 23rd April, 1642, for the "Visitacon", and on the 18th June, 1642, for the "monthly meeting", and on the 18th Dec., 1642, "beinge called in before the Com's of Aray to bringe in a true Coppie of o' Ch: Lewne and Register." His expenses on this occasion amounted to 1/6, and later he received 1/- in payment of his "expenses at Pembridge at the Visitacon before Doctor Hughes". John Hughes, D.D., was appointed Archdeacon of Hereford in 1623, and died in 1648.

In 1643 Carpenter had to attend before the "Com's of Aray at Hereford".

The accounts, besides giving records of matters of local interest, also reflect the history of the period.

In 1566 an Act for the preservation of grain (8 Eliz., c. 15) provided that the churchwardens with six other parishioners should assist holders of land or tithes for the destruction of "Noyfull Fowles and Vermyn" to provide a fund to reward every person bringing "any Heades of old Crows, Choughs . . . etc." The rewards to be paid for the various animals' heads are stated. On 21st June, 1642, Richard Carpenter paid Tho Price for two fox heads at the fixed price of twelve pence each.

It was not until late in the reign of Henry VIII that civil functions were attached to the office of Churchwarden, and after this time some of the duties were to provide arms and to relieve maimed soldiers. In 1642 Richard Carpenter paid £2 10s. 0d. "for maimed soldiers for the 2 yeeres" to Jo Croft gt., who was no doubt a member of the Croft family of Croft Castle. By an Act (35 Eliz., c. 4) the relief of maimed or sick-pressed soldiers or mariners was placed upon the rates, the rate to be collected by the churchwarden. The pension had to be granted by the County Treasurer, so perhaps John Croft held this office.

1642 saw the beginning of the Civil War, and no doubt the 10/- paid to the "King's Proclamacon berer" and the fact that the keeper of the accounts had to attend "att Heref beinge called in before the Com's of Asotiation to bringe in a List of able yonge men & those that lived idle wthin our p(ar)ishe" was due to this national emergency.

At the same time the conditions in Ireland were very unsettled, following the Rebellion in Oct., 1641, and the fighting in 1642. The plight of the Protestants seems to have been deplorable, but they were evidently supported by the English government, for in the account for 1642 the following entry occurs:—

"Itm for my expences att Heref beinge called in to give an accompte of all the money wch was collected wthin our p(ar)ishe for the poore Protestants in Ireland"

2s.

and later in 1643 4d. was paid "to Charles for bringinge a Warr from my Lo: Bushopp¹ for the Contribucon money for Ireland". It would be interesting to know how much this amounted to in a parish the size of Pembridge.

In conclusion, it may be said that this small document is similar to the many other accounts of Churchwardens which have been preserved, and it is remarkable that so brief a parchment can reflect so vividly both local and national conditions.

The Accopts & Disburstm^t of Richard Carpenter & John Higgins gents. Churchwardens of the p(ar)ishe of Pembridge for Twoe yeeres vizt. A^o 1642 & 1643. ut sequitur

Richard Carpenter his Accompt

	£	s.	d.
Inprimis my expences att the Visitacon at Leom 23 ^o Ap. 1642	—	—	2 00
Itm to Tho Price for 2 Fox heads 21 Juij	—	—	2 00
Itm my expences at the Monthly meetings att Leom 18 ^o Junij 1642	—	—	1 00
Itm to Rich Parlor for removinge the Pulpitt & for mendinge the sowth doore	—	—	0 6
Itm to W ^m Phillipps for a sawed boord iijd to Jo Bowle for Nayles ij ^d w ^{ch} were both used for the said doore & pulpitt	—	—	0 6
Itm to Ric Compton ye Glasier for puttinge the Church windowes in rep(ar)e & for soe keeping them for that whole yeere—1642	—	—	10 0
Itm to Jo Bowle the 20th of August for 2 Laches for the 2 Church doores & for puttinge them on	—	—	5 0
Itm to Jo Dickins 12 ^o Julij 1642 for putting the bells in repaire	—	—	8 0
Itm to Ric Smyth for nayles & irons wch were then used about the bells	—	—	4 6
Itm for a Register booke 18 ^o dec 1642	—	—	6 6
Itm for my expences the same day beinge called in before the Com's of Aray to bringe in a true Coppie of o' Ch: Lewne and Register	—	—	1 6
Itm to Ric Meredith for carryinge of o' wyne ag ^t Easter day for the first yeere	—	—	0 6
Itm To Tho Ensolll for wyne for the Comunion for the 2 yeeres 5li 10s 3d the p(ar)ticlers whereof doe more att large apeere by a note under his owne hand w ^{ch} is heerunto annexed	—	—	5 10 3
Itm to Henr Garnons for his Attending att the 2 church doores, for his 2 yeeres	—	—	8 0

¹ George Coke, D.D., Bishop of Hereford, 1636–1646. Buried at Eardisley.

	£	s.	d.
Itm to M ^r Chapman for washinge the 2 surplusses for the 2 yeeres - - - - -		8	0
Itm to Jo Croft gt for maimed soldiers for the 2 yeeres...	2	10	0
Itm paid to the Kings Proclamacon bere - - - - -		10	0
Itm my expences att Heref beinge called in before the Com's of Asotiation to bringe in a List of able yonge men & those that lived idle w th in our p(ar)ishe - - - - -		1	6
Itm for my expences att Heref beinge called in to give an accompte o fall the money wch was collected w th in our p(ar)ishe for the poore Protestants in Ireland -		2	0
Itm to Henr Garnons for carryinge of our wine ag ^t y ^e last Easter - - - - -			6
Itm my expences at Pembridge at the visitacon before Doctor Hughes - - - - -		1	0
Itm to the parretor then - - - - -		0	4
Itm for leather to lyme the baldrick for the 2 yeeres -		2	6
Itm for my expences for to bring in the Coppie of our Lewne & Register before the Com's of Aray 18 ^o Dec 1642 - - - - -		1	6
Itm to Jo Preese for goinge to Leom for secke ag ^t xpms-		0	6
Itm to Wm Groome for goinge to Leom the same tyme for muskadel - - - - -		0	6
Itm to H. Garnons for goinge to leom for wine ag ^t Easter - - - - -		0	6
Itm for candles for the Ringers 5 ^o No 1642 - - - - -		0	4
Itm to the Parriter for deliv(er)inge the Coppie of the Register - - - - -		0	4
Itm y ^e Rent of the Scholehowse to Mr Coningesby the first yeere - - - - -		1	6
Itm for puttinge up the rope of the little bell - - -		0	6
Itm for bread for the Communion for the first yeere -		4	6

The Accompt for the second yeere.

Itm to Jo Dickins for mending the wheeles of the bells & trussing the third, for iron and nayles - - -		4	6
Itm to Ric Crompton for glasing the Church this yeere -	10	0	
Itm for Rent for the schoolhowse for this second yeere -		1	6
Itm for liccor for the bell - - - - -		0	2
Itm for charges for goinge to Heref before the Com's of Aray - - - - -		3	0
Itm to Charles for bringinge a Warr ^t from my Lo: Bushopp for the Contribucon money for Ireland -		0	4
Itm my expences then to Heref - - - - -		1	6
Itm for fetchinge wine from Leom on palme sonday -		0	6
Itm for washinge the best surples ag ^t Easter last - -		1	0
Itm for breade for this yeere - - - - -		3	0

JOHN GRANDISSON, BISHOP OF EXETER,

Born 1292, died 1369.

By F. C. MORGAN, F.S.A., F.L.A.

(Read 21st August, 1941.)

Although the reputation of John Grandisson as an art lover is well established, no paper upon him has been given to the Club. The Hon. Secretary therefore has asked me to compile a few notes in order that some record of his great work may be made in our *Transactions*.

Born at Ashperton about 1292, he studied theology in Paris under James Fournier (afterwards Pope Benedict XII). In 1309, at the age of 17, he was a prebendary of York, in the following year he became archdeacon of Nottingham, in 1322 prebendary at Lincoln, and he was also a Canon of Wells. He held the chaplaincy to Pope John XXII, and probably resided abroad for a time, for in 1322 he and a colleague held an assembly at St. Paul's and demanded a subsidy for the Pope, which was refused. The same year he returned to Avignon and was there appointed and consecrated Bishop of Exeter, arriving in England on the 3rd February, 1328. He received the temporalities of the bishopric from King Edward III at York on the 9th March, and was installed on the 22nd August.

The possessions of the See were in a bad condition, as the last bishop had held them for four months only, and Walter Stapledon, the previous bishop, had been slain in London.

Money was needed for completing the half rebuilt Cathedral. Here was a task after Grandisson's own heart. He was a magnificent and diligent prelate who had inherited great wealth, spent it liberally, and induced his clergy to contribute to the cathedral funds. The beauty of Exeter is largely due to his ability and love of art, and here he was buried in St. Radegunde's chapel in 1369 in his 77th year.

Bishop Grandisson's rank as a cultured man is high indeed, and his interests were many. He was a great book corrector, and annotated with his own hand a few manuscript volumes, which are still preserved and treasured. He wrote a *Legend of the Saints*, now at Exeter, and a *Life of S. Thomas à Becket*, and copied for Archbishop Islip a splendid volume of St. Anselm's letters, now in the British Museum. In the Bodleian there is a York Psalter with his autograph signature, and in the Library at Lambeth

Palace is a *Confessions of St. Augustine*, with an inscription in his own hand recording his corrections in the volume. Other manuscript books that belonged to, and were corrected by, him are in various libraries.

The British Museum also possesses three famous ivory carvings made especially for Grandisson. A diptych and one triptych bear his arms, and a second triptych has been associated with his name from time immemorial. The carved figures on the ivories are similar in style to the angel figures in stone upon the great minstrel gallery and those on the lower part of the west front of Exeter Cathedral and to the carving over the memorial to Peter, brother of the bishop, in Hereford Cathedral. This was undoubtedly erected by Grandisson, who had inherited his kinsman's wealth, and was executed by some of the Hereford school of sculptors who flourished in the 14th century. There is much work of this school in the church at Ottery St. Mary, where the bishop founded a college. Among the bosses here are a characteristic Coronation of the Virgin, an effigy and a portrait of the bishop, and a St. John. Some of the bishop's many gifts to this church still exist and include a marvellous clock, a lectern, and some misericords.

The late Canon Capes states that there was a school of carvers in Bewell Street, Hereford, who probably made the long series of bishops' tombs in the Cathedral, a little before Grandisson's day. The fabric rolls of Exeter Cathedral for 1299 show that wardens of the work at the latter place were "Dominus Robertus de Asperton et Magister Rogerus cementarius", (the former was probably a native of the bishop's birthplace), and "Willielmus de Hereford" was an important workman. Probably when he went to Exeter Grandisson brought other masons and carvers from Hereford to carry out his numerous alterations and improvements to the Cathedral and in rebuilding the church at Ottery St. Mary.

In 1339 Grandisson issued elaborate instructions recommending the Exeter Use, but this could be adopted in few churches as it necessitated two towers with four bells each. To Exeter Cathedral he gave a bell that weighed "xl cwt", which was recast in 1729, but is said upon good authority to weigh between 59 and 60 cwt.

To Exeter Cathedral he gave "All the books of the choir, vestments of every colour, ornaments, vases of gold and silver, and other materials of which the number is not fully written here or elsewhere, because in his lifetime and afterwards they were multiplied beyond number; as God knoweth who knoweth all things."¹ Very many of these articles still exist. Few patrons

¹ *Exeter Chapter MS.* 3671.

of the fine arts greater than Grandisson are known: he must have employed many living artists to carry out his ideas and was not merely a collector of fine works.

Another side to his character was shown by his defiance of the Archbishop Meopham shortly after his arrival at Exeter. He barred the doors of the cathedral church, surrounded it with armed men and refused admission to the archbishop who wished to hold a visitation. A pitched battle was only prevented by the intervention of the King.

The Hereford school of sculpture was first mentioned by Prior and Gardner in *An Account of Medieval Figure-sculpture in England*, 1912. It is also discussed in Miss Longhurst's *English Ivories*, 1926. Its characteristics are well shown by the canopy over Peter de Grandisson's tomb. The figures have high domed foreheads, draperies cling about the upper part of the body and sweep around the limbs and feet with sharp transverse folds and apron effects, with a certain disproportion between the head and body; and, in the ivories, the rendering of "crows feet" at the corner of the eyes. The several seals of Bishop Grandisson also show the same traits.

Those who are interested in this subject will find a full account of the Bishop's life and influence in *Bishop Grandisson, Student and Art-lover*, written by Mrs. Frances Rose-Troup, published in 1929. Herefordshire can be proud to claim him as a native. He was a great and dignified prelate, who sturdily upheld the position he occupied and had a great love for the beautiful in life.

THE PARISH BOOKS AND CHURCH REGISTERS OF
WEOBLEY.

By MAJOR A. E. SALT, M.A.

(Read 30th October, 1941.)

In the year 1879 the men and women of Staffordshire raised sufficient money to purchase a house for the invaluable material dealing with the county that had been collected by my great uncle, William SALT and founded the Archæological Society that bears his name. I would like you to consider this paper on "The Parish Books and Church Registers of Weobley", as a tribute to his memory.

THE REGISTERS.

The Registers commence in 1635, but peter out at the end of 1637 when the book is used as a copybook with pictures of birds of a forgotten age and repetitions of monetary signs.

In 1653 they start again under the civil authority but again continue for only two years. The inclusion of the act of authority is, as far as I know, uncommon. "September the one and twentieth, 1653, I, Thomas Baskerville, of Erdisley in the county of Hereford, Esqre, one of the Justices of the Peace of the said county, do approve and allow of Roger Smith of Weobley to be Register of Marriages and Burials within the said Parish and accordingly have sworn him to the faithfull discharge of the said office according to an Act of Parliament in that case made and provided. Witness my hand this day of year above written".

This first volume also contains a list of Briefs from 1659 to 1673 and in pursuance of a warrant "received from our Chieffe Constable for the lewne of lands in ye towne and pishe" a rating list, dated 1645.

In Volume II we have a Register of all Births, Deaths and Marriages from 1682 to 1731 inclusive, with the exception of 1686 and 1689, prefaced by a detailed account of the Visitation of the Bishop in 1684, and the comments of the Rev. Morgan Rice, Vicar in 1766, on one order made by his Lordship. Volume III is a record of Baptisms and Burials from 1731 to 1782 and of Marriages from 1731 to 1753, it contains also a list of Churchwardens from 1731 to 1751, and of Overseers from 1741 to 1751. Volume IV is a Register, introduced by a copy of an Act of 1754 for "the

better preventing of Clandestine Marriages", of Marriages from August 1754 to July 1806. Volume V is a Register prefaced with an official permission from the Commissioner of Taxes—the Vicar paying 13/- a year for "not affixing Stamps or Marks thereto", of Baptisms and Burials from 1783 to 1812. Volume VI is the Marriage Register from 1806 to 1812; and Volume VII the same from 1813 to 1836.

As an economic document illustrative of the growth and decline of population these Registers have been analysed.

The peak point in population, approximately 1,000, was reached in the first half of the eighteenth century, that the high baptism rate in the years 1800 to 1812 corresponded to a similar rate elsewhere and is not uncommon when the country is at war, and that the high death rate in the years 1693 to 1702 and again in 1723 to 1732 was due to the incidence of pestilence, and in 1803 to 1812 probably to the under nourishment of many labourers' families during this period.

Had Weobley been self-contained there might have been a serious decline in population, but as a market town and an agricultural centre, she naturally attracted "foreigners" and in the marriage records not only are brides and bridegrooms drawn from every village in the present Weobley Rural District area, but from Hereford, Leominster, Madley, Hope-under-Dinmore, Breinton, Bromyard, Wellington, Pembridge, Dorstone, Brampton Bryan, Peterchurch, Pixley, Hampton Bishop, and St. Weonard's within the county; from Ludford, Ludlow, Stockton, Clun, Bromfield, Wroxeter and Bishop's Castle in Salop; from Glasbury and Llanthew in Brecon; from Gladestry and Glaswim in Radnor; and from as far afield as Manchester, Birmingham, London (St. Martin'-in-the-Fields and St. Giles), Walcot (Bath), Towyn, Westhamton—now familiarly called West Ham—in Essex, and from Beeston in Nottinghamshire.

As Weobley was a pocket borough frequented at elections by "pot-walloppers", it would have seemed possible for these casual visitors to have started a romance. There is, however, only one suggestive entry, in 1813, which records a marriage between a Weobley maiden and John Colberson of Leeds, and of one baptism "Election" or "Election" Stubbs to remind us of the hustings.

The registers, however, are a repository of many quaint surnames and Christian names. Among the surnames are Quinchup, Batrex, Stripling or Tripling, Gummer, Glarris, Tither *alias* Tudor (it might be difficult to trace the connection of Henry VII with this alternative), Cookey, Pipper, Sucker, originally spelt Succour and with the Christian name Theophilus, Bezoar, Tumbings which later becomes Tomlins and then Tomlin, Physick, While (notable for its variations, Wheale, Whale, Weale), Hamans, Miggin,

Kethero, Buztorse, Yark (of Ludlow), Gignose or Gignews, Exon, Sorel, Mullington, Savager, Trillco, Budget, Lerigo, Leatherburrow, Munnox (commemorated by a famous school in Bristol and common among the owners of saltpans in the Droitwich area), Magnidge (also spelt Magnus and Magness), Carwardine, Bottom, Haycocks, Hoddol, and Pendrell or Pendry (the name of the owner of Whiteladies).

There are also two French-sounding names in Tousson and Pridieuz; (there were traditional French refugees: Vevers, Lambert, *etc.*, on the Radnor border), one German in Heilpertz, possibly a Hessian or Hanoverian legionary (Thomas Hardy has a love affair between a German soldier and a Dorset maiden in *Wessex Idylls*), and, be it gently spoken, only one Scot, a McPherson. A quaintly sounding wedding in 1745 is that between Thomas Dayhouse and Letitia Gilhouse.

Many names of those prominent in the parish for two centuries and more have disappeared. There are no longer Duppas, Faringtons, Goughs, Hobsons, Munns, Nurses, Philpotts or Tomkins. (The last Tomkins in the village died 30 years ago). Only Bray, Eckley, Philpotts, Skyrme and Synock remain in the neighbourhood, the latter family having an unbroken record of residence for 600 years. Their original name was Sevenoaks and we can trace the descent from the spelling to Sevenoak and Sevenok and Synnogh to the present spelling of Synnock, the name of the village milkman. The chirurgeon of 1698 spelt his name both as Sevenoake and Synnocke.

Among the feminine Christian names are Mallett, Olivia (also spelt Ailivia), Napolonia, Sicely (also Sysley, and obviously pronounced as she is spelt), Meliora or Milliora (possibly a fantastic Latinity), Ursula or Ursilla, Judith, Moythan or Morvan, Magdalen (spelt as Maudlen in 1639), Dinah, Marabella, Tracy, Milbrow or Melbrow, Ansell or Insole, Jannetta, Honoria, Priscilla, Susannah, and Uriah who incidentally marries an Uziah.

The uncommon male names are Nestor, Littleton, Alban, Sneyd, Basset, Somersset, Eusebius, Lincoln, Meredith, Jordan; and a variety of Biblical names, Eleazar, Job, Amaziah, Jeremiah, Nathan, Moses, Zacharias, Solomon, and Abel.

Two Christian names—Sophia Maria, Sarah Peggy, Josiah Allen, Sophia Patience—occur four times, and three Christian names once: John James Francis. Diversities of spelling are natural. The parish clerk was still calling himself a "clarck" in 1814 and we have therefore Elick (*per* Alick), Wymifryd, Gyles or Giles, Sibil, Sibel, Sybel, Sybble or Sibella, Shusan or Shuson, Maball, Elnor or Ellenor or Ellenanor, Hanna, Janne, Alles, Hener'y, Katerina, Amily, Izabell, "boarned" or "boarne", the "airs" of Mary Eckley and so on. The common spelling of Harriett with

two t's prevails to-day, and one Mrs. Harriett Smith is the licensee of the Salutation Inn.

Well known names such as Florence, Patience, Prudence, Hugh, Andrew, Phoebe, Amelia, Mabel only appear once.

Attached to certain signatures is often an elaborate "squiggle". This decoration, called in Spanish a "rubrica", is common to many sixteenth and seventeenth century commercial documents, and where the "rubrica" is substituted for the signature the writer is often difficult to trace.

It has always been the custom, where illiteracy prevails, to substitute a + as a mark of identity. There are, however, in Weobley many variations of the +, the significance of which I have not yet been able to trace.

Base children are common, "*spurius filius malogenitus*", "*filius populi*"—"a natural child", and in several cases the father is also named, sometimes with an *alias* attached, even if a Churchwarden is implicated. "Francis and Elinor, the illegitimate daughters of Mary Watts were baptized, Francis about one year, and Elinor three months old, the supposed daughters of M^r. Jeremiah Turnor". Eight years later Mary Watts, mother of five girls and one boy, married Mr. Jeremiah.

As Weobley not only had a House, but was on the main Kington-Hereford road, which then ran over Wormesley Hill, there was always a stream of casual "foreigners".

"1696. Anne, ye daughter of a Pedlar woman, who had a husband that owned her child, was baptized."

"1698. Elizabeth, ye daughter of a strange woman that came to lye in ye parish at one Hugh Lloyd's house, was baptized."

"1722. Venn Rees, a stranger, was buried."

"1723. Mary Blunt, a stranger's child, was buried."
John Brook, a stranger, was buried."

"1768. John, son of Peter Burnet, an itinerant pedlar, was buried."

"1773. Robert, son of Samuel Evans and Abigail his wife, from Newtown in Montgomeryshire, was baptized."
(And four days later buried.)

"1793. Richard Cook—a traveller with a quack doctor—was buried."

From 1692 on, with Morgan Evans as Vicar, and after 1731 with his successor James Greene as Curate the Register becomes much more than a bare record.

Individuals are registered not only according to condition: "a poor old woman", "an old dumb man", "an old cobbler",

" a foolish man ", " a poor man ", " a poor lame wench ", " a poor man's son ", " a servant maid at Little Sarnesfield ", but also according to trades and professions, so that we know that Weobley possessed one or more Barbers, Bakers, Beltmakers, Butchers, Blacksmiths, Coopers, Clockcleaners, Dyers, Day-Labourers, Excisemen, Gamekeepers, Glovers, Husbandmen (as distinct from Farmers), Ironmongers, Joiners, Shoemakers, Taylors, Tanners, Wheelwrights (as distinct from Ploughwrights), and Yeomen (as distinct from Farmers).

During the same period a note is made of Weobley people buried or married elsewhere :

" Alice Watkins, a poor woman, died in Weobley, but was buried at Sarnesfield."

" James Brown and Alice Hall, both of Weobley, were married at Norton Canon."

" William Higgins was buried at Winforton, but died at Garnstone in Weobley parish."

and of casualties :

" Thomas Lloyd was buried. He died from the kick of a horse."

" Mr. Francis Bowlcott, Gent., died in Weobley by a fall from his horse, but was buried in ye Minster at Hereford."

" Richard Hall, a poor man travelling from Moccas to his parish Humber, fell into a piece of water and died two days afterwards and was buried."

There was obviously a chance that the entry of interesting events might strictly be illegal, which may explain opposite the entry " a son of John Robert, Cobler, and Margery his wife was born ", the note in another handwriting : " Examined by John Birt."

The ages of long-lived persons are also given, varying from 65 (five short of the Psalmist's maximum), through 74, 77, 79, 80 (twice), 81 (twice), 82, 86 (three times) to 90 and finally—in 1743—to " Sible, wife of John Dayas, was buried aged 103."

If Sybil was a Weobley girl born and bred, she could have looked back over six reigns and the Commonwealth. She would have seen, when five years old, Charles I with his escort of Life Guards alighting at the door of the Unicorn, which hereafter, was by its new name of " The Throne " to be a permanent memorial of the royal visit, she would have listened to the proclamation of marriage at the Market Hall, she would have witnessed innumerable elections and enjoyed innumerable Holy Thursday and May fairs, she would have savoured the gossip about Colonel John Birch, packtrain owner, Commonwealth general, and Royalist landowner. She

would have heard the bells ringing for Oudenarde and Mons and delivery from the Powder Plot, and from the Young Pretender in the '15, and in her old age, tragically spent in the House, would have told many tales of Weobley doings and goings over her hundred and three years.

One naturally looks for any entry with regard to Colonel John Birch. He certifies one Evan Jones of Willey in the parish of Presteign as a suitable person for a brief, and on his burial he is given a wide space in the Register, entries having been eliminated for this purpose :

" John Birch, Esqre, was buried on the 14th May, 1691 ". Mrs. Sarah Birch, his wife, survived him by 18 years. He conducts himself with amenity over the paving of the chancel and a disputed seat at the Bishop's Visitation in 1684. He agreed, without demur, as farmer of the Rectorial tithes to be responsible for the paving of the chancel, on the request of the Bishop, an arrangement which the Vicar quoted successfully in his appeal in 1766 when ordered by the Bishop again to repair the same part of the Church. Incidentally, the Vicar could remove the paving if anyone was to be buried in the chancel and could claim not only the mortuary fee of 10/- but compensation from " the Administrators and Executors of the corpse for any stones broken by disorderly taking up ".

He also made no difficulties in the matter of his seat. The chapel on the north side was reserved to the Monningtons, a Roman Catholic family of Sarnesfield Court. It was used by the tenants of Little Sarnesfield in Weobley parish, which belonged to the Monningtons. Colonel Birch and his family sat in the chapel on the south side, where the Verdins now sit. One of his seats had, however, been used for many years by a Mrs. Priscilla Bird.

Mr. Bridges of the Ley now also claimed seats in the chapel and it was agreed that Mr. Bridges or Colonel Birch should either use the chapel entirely and repave it, or build seats for themselves elsewhere.

In the assumption of extra space in the Registers Colonel Birch's entry is not peculiar. In 1694 and following years the baptisms of the children of Henry Jones, *generosus*, and Mary, his wife, are inscribed in large letters and later a whole page is given to the children of the Rev. Stephen Lewis even when Head Master of the Free School, Kington, and Lecturer, with details as to the hour of birth and the godparents. How it was possible for one of his children to be born at 7 a.m. and baptized at evening prayer the same day, seems a mystery, which, however, ceases to be such, if we remember the high infant mortality. At least half the children born died within a month or two of their birth.

There were, as we have seen, years of "pestilence and plague and sudden death". The largest number of deaths in any year is 28—in 1695—when a father, mother and daughter, Philip, Dinah and Mary Bayton, were buried on the same day and three other members of the family were buried within three months; in 1724 with 27, in 1733 again with 28.

The number of Briefs is large. They range over a wide area. Between 1694 and 1716 a list is given of 38 villages, ranging over 16 counties, including two in Gloucester and four in Salop, as well as Ireland. Four of these were specifically for church repairs and one was for a fire.

There was, in addition, one brief for a Gisborough (Yorkshire) woollen dealer.

The earlier briefs, from 1659 to 1671, do not give much detail. There are briefs for 12 villages in 11 separate counties including one for the repair of Canon Frome Church, and one for Donegal in Ireland, and three for individuals, one from Willey, already noted, one from Wigmore, and a third from Beverley. In the village briefs the largest sum 11/0½ is collected for the inhabitants of Southwold, Suffolk, suffering from a lamentable flood.

Fortunately we are able to supplement this information from a Parish Book and find that in 1705 there were six when loss by fire is involved, the damage for Inniskilling and Chatteris £8,160 and £1,787 respectively, being given. Inniskilling also produces the largest sum recorded £2 1s. 0d., though closely followed in 1709 by £1 19s. 5½d., "for the relief of ye Poor Palatines."

In 1665 and 1666 also we are brought into intimate relation with two great national catastrophes: "for those visited by the plague in London and elsewhere, collected by the King's order 3/9 and 3/7 in successive years"; and "for loss by fire, Mr. Ashbrom of London, merchant, 2/1, and Mr. Robert Crawl and Mrs. Debora Dixon, wife of Henry Dixon, merchant."

We have already mentioned the keeping of the Register by the Civil representative during the Commonwealth. In this register there is note of one marriage only, but "the bans of an intended marredg were published at the market place of Weobley between Mr. James Vaughan of Kentchurch parish and Mrs. Margaret Vaughan of the same parish and given them authority according to the date to certify the Justices—26 April, 1655."

After the Commonwealth there was a Presbyterian meeting-house in Weobley which was apparently not licensed for baptisms, and one Presbyterian family of Turnors from 1697 onwards went to Leominster meeting-house for this purpose, "Josiah Twernlow, who preaches at the Weobley meeting-house attending upon the Leominster minister".

Finally, the Registers contain a record of two of the six Weobley murders:

"In 1686 James Young *inhumaniter trucidatus et bonis omnibus spoliatus post occultam inhumationem et barbaris trucidatoribus per novem septimanas miraculosa providentia Dei inventus, publice sepeliebatur in cemeteria ecclesie de Weobley. Trucidatus erat in horreo apud Devereux Wootton dum dormiebat.*"

"James Young was inhumanly murdered and robbed of all his goods and secretly buried by his savage murderers. After nine weeks by the miraculous providence of God the body was discovered and was publicly interred in the churchyard of Weobley. He had been murdered in a barn at Devereux Wootton while asleep."

The second murder is more briefly recorded: "in 1725 Elizabeth, wife of John Jenkins was buried. She was stabbed by her husband."

THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS

The Parish Books are three in number. Volume I is "Ye Book of Accounts from 1691 to 1731". Volume II is "a Book for Entering ye Chuch and Poor Lewns" ("Lewn" means "Rate") for the parish of Weobley, 1723—1738, and contains also the minutes of vestry meetings from 1740—1748. Volume III is a Book of Vestry Orders for the parish of Weobley 1793—1820.

In Volume II is also a list of Churchwardens from 1723 to 1742, a list of Parish apprenticeships from 1705 to 1734 and an expenditure and receipt account for Baron Gregory's charity from 1726 to 1739.

The interest in this list of churchwardens and another list lies in the fact that over a continuous period of 44 years there are 62 names, and that 38 of these held office for one year only, 15 on two occasions, and 4 three times, and 2, Mr. Thomas Carpenter and Mr. William Hosier at intervals in four separate years. Mr. Carpenter was a representative of a notable Weobley family living at "The Homme", while Mr. Hosier owned "The Tan House".

It says a great deal that the parish possessed so many men of the standing to become churchwardens, though the constant changes in the office suggest that the combination of the care of the poor and the care of the church was not too popular.

In Volume I is the record of Briefs, Rating lists for the Poor and the Church for 1730 and a statement of the disbursements from Mrs. Ann Bridge's charity from 1708—1726.

I will deal first with the Rating Lists. These lists give a true picture of the amount received each year from the parish for the relief of the poor or the church based on so much in the pound.

It was reckoned that a Church Lewn and a Poor Lewn of 6d, which brought in £16 to £17 a year was sufficient in the early period

for all purposes though both were raised to 9d. in 1725 and 1726 and reduced to 3d. in 1731. During the Napoleonic Wars the Church rate remained at 6d. though in 1812 it was short by £16 of its requirements, while the Poor Rate went up by leaps and bounds, reaching the peak of 8/- in the pound in 1814, which, calculated on the basis of £12 8s. 11d. for a 3d. rate should have brought in £398 5s. 4d. for a parish with a population of 1,000.

The rate could either be levied on the inhabitants and occupiers of houses in the Borough in accordance with the statute of 43 Elizabeth or on the landlords and owners of houses. In 1740 at a vestry meeting the parishioners present plumped for the former method, except the overseers and one churchwarden who refused to give them leave either to sign a protest or to make any objection to the Pools Lewn. By January of the next year, however, the recalcitrant overseers had been won over by the other churchwardens and the Lewns were both agreed to on the terms laid down by the parishioners. This, however, was in March quashed by Mandamus from the King's Bench, and the alternative method had to be approved by the small number present, eight in all, though the protest had been supported by five times as many, even if most of these did but make their mark and at the Easter vestry meeting the office of the overseer was merged in that of churchwarden.

There is one compensation for this quarrelsome year as we have, in 1741, the only record of the conditions of those receiving permanent relief. They consist of two idiots, one impotent (unable to work or past work), one sick, four widows (one poor, one old, one lame with three children, one poor with two children), ten in all.

In 1742, however, this number was drastically reduced to four. There was disapproval of the sum and no one appeared to sign and the minute approving of the relief is crossed out.

On several occasions a Lewn was protested against. In 1731 by "most of ye substantiall men in ye parish even though the Justices in a clandestine manner" had been persuaded to sign it (certification by two Justices were necessary for confirmation), while for reasons not stated the Lewns of 1730 were disallowed.

The high Lewns of the nineteenth century were nearly always supported by a majority only, or tacitly disapproved of by the process of non-attendance.

In the earliest list (1645) the largest sum is paid by the Lord of Essex, Robert, who was embalmed at his death in 1646; later, the Lord of Weymouth heads the names for Lady Meadow, and when the Birch family comes to Garnstone, its representative pays considerably more than anyone else. In addition to Lady Mead or Lady Meadow so called because of its association with one of the three chantries in the church, there are a few field names:

Cunninger, Conigre, Coninger or Cuningger (in my old parish in Staffordshire the Rabbit Warren was Coney Grave in 1246), Mitchmoor (Michmoor, Muchmore), Bradmoors, Broadmead, Gatbridge Meadow and Park Meadow.

In 1730 there were, apparently, seventeen farms and three parks, all called after occupiers except "Birches", "The Ley", and "ffenington" (now Fenhampton), Devereux Wootton, "Staple" or "Staples", and "Heroll" or "Hernald". The "Wyth" of 1645 and "King's Farme" are no longer given.

There are also two barns, "Alfords" and "The Tithe Barn", Paiton's Wall, and three inns, "The Throne", "The Bear", and "Unicorn".

On two occasions a prospective Member of Parliament is rated for a house in the Borough, which is kept separate from the rest of the parish.

The demands of the Church are of a very varied nature. They include:

(a) SALARIES.—The two paid officials are the Parish Clerk and the Dogman. According to a slip of paper left in Volume II the pay of the Clerk in the first half of the eighteenth century was £6 6s. 0d. a year with an additional £1 2s. 0d. for washing the surplice, 5/- for cleaning the Communion Plate, 5/- for cleaning ye gravel walk, 12/- for cleaning ye chandeliers (twice), £1 10s. 0d. for care of ye Clock (this had been raised in 1732 from 12/-), and 10/- (here the paper is torn) for sundries. In addition he was supposed to look after the windows for 13/4, wash the church, clean the seats, and pave the church porch. His care of the windows did not include glazing and his care of the clock eliminated "new cords to the weights, or the cost of a wheel or any other part of the machinery, if broken". In 1819 an application for more money was laid on the table.

The Dogman, who was provided with a whip or "hup" and in 1703 with a female assistant was paid his 6/8 primarily for keeping out dogs. The Dogman was also bound to "stop ye pigeons out of the Church" (pigeons still circle and tumble about the pinnacles), and was paid "for carrying out ye Rubbage", for cutting Ivy, Docks, and "Ettles" or "Nettles" and on one occasion was given 1/- for just "ridding ye Church".

He was provided with uniform, which cost from 10/10½ to 12/6. "In 1791 Richard Griffith, the Dogman, is buried". Was he the last "to whip out ye dogs from ye church?"

(b) GRATUITIES.—As Weobley had a notable peal of bells the Ringers at 5/- to 7/6 a time were kept exceedingly busy. Not only did they ring on set occasions such as the anniversary of "Ye

Powder Plott" (Guy Fawkes' Day), generally called "Ye Thanksgiving", and on May 29 ("Oak Apple Day"), but every time a monarch came home from abroad. "For the King's Return from Hanover", on royal birthdays—"Princess Sophia's Birthday", "Prince George's Birthday", on peace being established in Europe in 1713—"for peace between France and the Emperor", but on almost every occasion of victory—"Oudenarde", "Mons", "Saragossa", "Douay", "The taking of Tournay" (though not for Blenheim) and three days later "The taking of ye Cittadel", and "after ye Victory at Preston".

Their peals were on special occasions also laced with ale. "To Mary Wootton for Drink for ye Ringers on Thanksgiving Day" and at the coronations of George I and George II a special allowance was made, the former being celebrated by "2/6 extra for the Ringers, 7/6 for ale to drink his Majesty's Health at ye Markett House, and 10/- for ye Trumpeters".

(c) BOOKS, ETC.—There are almost yearly purchases of Books. "A Book of Articles", "Order to pray for Princess Sophia", "Ye Degrees of Marriage", "a Book for ye Fast", "a Book for ye Proclamation", the repetition of some of which seems unnecessary, though one cannot cavil at a "Common Prayer Book" 2/- (in 1711) or at a "Frame for Benefactions" 16/-, at a new Bible, for the loan of another while it was being bound in London, or even at pictures of "Death" and "Time".

There are four Benefactions on record :

(1) The Bridges Charity, a sum left by Mrs. Ann Bridges, buried at Weobley in 1707, the interest of which, 40/-, is disposed of from time to time.

(2) Baron Gregory's money was used for apprentices and between 1704 and 1735 £22 10s. 0d. was received, of which £2 10s. 0d. was given to George, son of William Minett in 1728, and in 1732 £5 to William Wilson's son.

(3) An annual payment of £5 came from the owners of Devereux Wootton farm. In 1745 "it was unanimously agreed by all the Parishioners there present" (perhaps as an amend for their meanness in 1741) "to ascertain and maintain the cause of the Poor and to enforce the usual payment of £5 laid out in Penny Wheaten Bread upon a tomb in the North Isle of ye Church" (this is the tomb over which there has been much controversy—it may be a Devereux Tomb)¹ "supposed to be the Donor's tomb", to be distributed every Sunday morning to such Poor People as

¹ Probably the tomb of Watkyn Garraway (of the Ley) and Agnes his wife (see Dingley's *History from Marble*, p. ccxlvii, illus.). This charity was given by Richard Goodman, in 1611 (see *Charities in the County of Hereford*, 1840, p. 208).—EDITOR.

are appointed to receive it and it was likewise agreed to nominate the Minister, Curate and Churchwardens for the time being—Samuel Birch, Esq., and Mr. Walter Thomas to manage this affair on behalf of the Parish.

(4) £100 was left by Henry Newton of Worcester in 1802 "to be put out at 5 per cent. interest to be expended for the use of the Poor in good bread to be distributed every Sunday morning after service throughout the year and every year for ever".

(d) FITTINGS.—These included "Matts for ye Reading Desk, Pulpit and Communion Table at 1/9 each, a New Clock (in 1716) at £8 5s. 0d., "feathers to mend ye cushioning" at 6d. a pound, a Bell-ropes at 2/6, a Holland napkin at 4/- "for Pulpit cloth, fringe and lining" £2 11s. 8d. and "for making ye cloth" £3 6s. 10d. "Pall and ye making 12/6", a "Tressel" at 1/6, a "Staple" at 6d., a "Key" at 1/-, "Blew Serge at 2/8 and Blew Bays at 4/- a yard" (presumably to keep out draughts), a lock for the church gate at 1/-, a new surplice made of 10 ells of Holland at 5/6 an ell, making 7/6, thread 6d. and washing 2/6, in all 65/-.

(e) REPAIRS.—These repairs were often ordered by the Bishop at his Visitations. So in 1684 "The Church alleys"—elsewhere called "isles"—were not presented but particularly taken notice of by the Bishop to be uneven and out of order and were ordered to be paved and made even and in like manner that the Church should be new paved.

The necessary materials for such repairs comprised nails at 3d. each, a fillet of iron at 4d., timber at 10d. a yard (this was bought in the raw and carried to the saw pit and thence to the church), $\frac{1}{2}$ inch board at 1/4 a yard (this was used to mend the Belfry and the window on the roof), inch board at 2d., lime at 2/- a load (a small horse load was only 1/-), ladders varying in price, 4/6, 10/-, 13/6 (ladders had previously been borrowed from Burton and Garnstone), lead at 2d. a lb., charcoal at 6d. a bushel, moss at 4d. a bag, gravel at 1/- and clay at 8d. a load, wooden standards to carry a floor 2/6 each, and "for mending ye lock at ye church gate 4d."

The sundial is now over the south porch, but apparently was once elsewhere. "Mending ye Church Wall and ye Dial Post on ye Cross. Colouring ye Church gate and Dial Post and painting and gravings." Did the later entry in 1711 "Leading and putting up the Dial" mean that it was being moved to its new position? "Pointing ye Spire £10 10s. 0d" for which and the vane Colonel Birch made himself partly responsible. Actually the point was truncated as a result and was not restored to its present condition until 1895. "For ye Pinnacle £3 3s. 0d.", "Tiling the Vestry and Porch 6/-", "Plastering do. 6/-" and on the same occasion to the plumber's mate—"To William Meredith, for serving ye Plummer

2/-", a "Spittle" (a spade) 3/- and "putting ye spittle in ye tree 6d."

(f) FUNERALS.—There was a regular charge for pauper funerals:—Washing and Laying out 1/-, Shrouding 6d. (a shroud cost 5/6), Undertaker 2/-, Parson 6d.—10d., Clerk 8d.—1/- (sometimes a combined charge, Parson and Clerk for burying 1/10).

(g) PARISH REPAIRS.—The Churchwardens from the Church Lewn made themselves responsible for keeping certain bridges in order. "Repairing of Gatbridge £2 10s. 0d., repairs of Stonybridge 6/- a stone for ye bridge at ye Pond 4/-", and also maintained certain causeways allowing 10/2 to a Mr. Meredith in 1745 for repairing the causeway in Meadow Street, the connecting link with the Hay-Leominster road and leading to Ladymead.

In 1724 also 318 yards of causeway are "pitched" (or "paved") at 1½d. a yard, and in 1727 a further 180 yards are pitched and "stocked" at 3d. a yard. "Stocking" means rooting up and cutting down trees, and for this purpose the church stocking axe was steeled and helved for the work, which was carried out with Church labour—possibly another job for the Dogman. In another place we hear of the purchase of a new stocking axe which was also helved and on this occasion "dained". To "Dain" is to sharpen and in Skeats' Dictionary is not recorded from Herefordshire.

(h) BELLS.—A great deal of money was spent on the bells. "Oyle for the Bells" is a recurrent expenditure.

On one notable occasion when a new bell—the Tenor—was cast in Leominster, it had to be weighed when going to and coming from the foundry in the presence of Weobley witnesses who were given their expenses both when the bell was cast and when it was approved. Finally, a man had to be called in to help to put the Tenor in its place, and nails and thread to whip the ropes had to be bought. Any bell that was out of order had also to be taken to the Leominster foundry, unless it could be repaired at home. "Mending ye Tenor and striking ye third Bell, three men one day 3/4."

(i) COMMUNION WINE.—This was at first purchased by the Churchwardens at Easter and Whitsuntide, until an arrangement was reached whereby the Vicar was excused the Church Rate so that he may provide it himself. The wine used was Canary (Muscadine, a raisin wine) or Tent (a dark red Spanish wine).

Incidentally the communion table faced east and west and had forms placed all round it except at the upper end. Weobley lived up to its tradition of "low church and high steeple".

Most of the money raised by the Poor's Lewn naturally goes in relief in money or kind. In the eighteenth century from 4 to 14 persons were in receipt of a monthly sum approximating to 3/- a person. This corresponds roughly to the 1703 entry "William

Jones, wife and 3 children for a week's Dyett 3/-"; supplementary allowances were also granted in the way of clothes, broth, or amateur medical attendance, so:—

"Goody Cary to cure John Pailour of the itch and other expenses upon him."

"Mr. Walter, Officer of Excise, shall be satisfied for what trouble and expense he shall be at in curing George Eckley."

"To Anne Bayton for attending a stranger sick of the small-pox."

"To Winfred Phillips a gown, two shifts, a pair of stockings and a pair of shoes" and in the next year "Winnie Phillips to be allowed a Blanket."

"Winfred Whiting, one gown and two smocks."

"Thomas Jones 6d. for a coat for Theophilus Sucker", presumably a second-hand garment, as a later entry reads "Mrs. Vane 5/- for a coat for him."

Before the rates were automatically levied, there was a good deal of indiscriminate charity of which the Brief system is witness, especially towards soldiers, and even in one case to an officer: "In 1696 to Captain Jackson, an officer and his wife 2/-, tramping back home from the Irish wars".

Four quarters pay for maimed soldiers occur in 1691 and 1692, and among five similar entries are:—

"To 4 souldiers going towards their country 1/-."

"to a maimed souldier which had his gutts tied up before him" (presumably an umbilical hernia);

"to a souldier which had only one arm and other wounds", and in the same decade:

"gave to 10 distressed people out of Ireland 10/-";

"gave to a master of London";

and next year:

"to a man out of Gloucestershire, both of which had great loss by fire 1/-".

This, however, was obviously too dangerous, and so after 1713, and a disallowance of 1/- to a poor man, charity is confined to local and to necessitous "foreign" cases.

Most of those relieved were in the House, which was kept in repair from the Poor's Lewn. "Thatting the Almshouse roof including rodts and twiggs for thatting, 3 days and half work, 14 theaves of straw, watering ye straw and halting it down for day £1 6s. 3d."

Though in 1744 we hear of an additional house being taken over by the Parish, "Sarah Williams, widow shall inhabit with

Mary Eckley in the house that the Parish rents of Mary Turner, widow".

Those permanently resident in the House had to wear a badge of servitude, "for putting letters upon ye poor 1/-" and, in 1744 an old woman who refused to wear her badge had her relief reduced to 1/- a month. As late as 1890 the discarding of workhouse uniform by children in the House going to a National School was regarded as an unwelcome innovation.

When the rent of a private house was not paid the House was the only alternative for an evicted tenant, though the goods that had been distrained were often bought by the Parish for the defaulter. "1742, Ann Griffith, widow, is to inhabit in the Alms-house with Mary Wood and in the appraisalment of those things that were seized for rent by Mr. Baskerville, the following shall be redeemed,—one Bedstead, one Bed with all things belonging, several things in the Kitchen and one Iron Pot, to a total value of 11/-".

Much of the time of Vestries was taken up with the interpretation of the Law of Settlement. It is not always realised what hardship was involved by the so-called Act of Settlement and Removal, ironically entitled "An Act for the Better Relief of the Poor of this Kingdom of 1662"—under which not vagrants or criminals, but the entire body of the manual working wage-earners of the Kingdom, together with their families, were legally immobilised in the parishes to which they "belonged", while anyone found outside their "parish of settlement" might be, with his family, at any time compulsorily "removed" in custody.

"A mournful and onerous host of indigent folk, men, women and children in all states of health were eternally criss-crossing the Kingdom for two centuries under expensive escort and from the decision of Quarter Sessions in any case of Settlement between village and village, no poor person ever appealed."

In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in Weobley there were many cases of Removal, though not a dozen were the subject of argument as in the following from the Quarter Sessions Minute Book:—

"1684. Staunton versus Weobley. Witnesses for Staunton—Jane Morris, Catherine Whiteinge";

"Touching the Settlement of Elizabeth Price and her bastard child, upon a full debate of both parishes and examination of witnesses for the said Elizabeth Price it is ordered that the Elizabeth Price and her child were legally settled in Weobley and that Weobley provide for them according to Law."

Settlement cases naturally cost money. The defendant had to be taken to the village of his settlement, and while there was a standard charge for such visits: 6d. to Dilwyn, 1/- to Hereford,

Burghill, Foxley, Pembridge, 1/6 to Kington, Presteign, Monkland, Hope, Leominster, Hereford *via* Wormsley, 2/- to Ludlow, 3/- to Pembridge, Titley and Kington, 5/- to Bromsgrove and "Ye Hay", if the constable went along the cost was doubled and expenses would be added, which might be disallowed. That the Herefordshire roads were typical of the age may be gauged by an entry in 1703, "Assistance to help lead out of the mire in Dilwyn Common 1/-".

Sometimes the movement of such indigent persons was voluntary and they might be helped on the road without correction by whipping and branding, as was allowed. "William Williams 6d. by a pass to Bristol". When, however, the charge of the indigent poor legally settled in the village became a serious problem, as in the first years of the nineteenth century every case of proposed settlement had to be fought to the end. At all cost, it was agreed, that everyone desirous of settlement must be kept off the Parish.

This, however, involved blackmail, lawsuits, and worse. The worst offender who held a pistol at the head of the Vestry was one Robert Evans of Michaelchurch. On Feb. 10 he goes back to his parish under the shadow of the Black Mountains with $\frac{1}{2}$ a hundred of coal, a loaf of bread, meat, 9d. worth of sugar, tea and candles, and 5/- after dinner, and broth for his wife.

But next month he is back again with a demand for 10/6 or half a bushel of flour. 2/6 said the Overseer—7/6 said Robert Evans—and so they meet half way and Robert, when packed off by the order of Rev. Mr. Troughton, is richer by 5/-.

In one case at least the question of settlement was carried beyond the Quarter Sessions to the Court of King's Bench. One Herbert Williams, an Exciseman or Gauger had been employed at Weobley but after five or six months had been discharged by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, on six weeks' notice and wished to remain in the village. Those who were against settlement argued in favour of finding a parish for him in New Radnor, his last place of employment before coming to Weobley, or a derivative settlement at Newport, or Monmouth, or in Denbigh, or near Aberconway in Carnarvon where his family had at one time or another resided, —anywhere in fact, except Weobley.

Williams' contention that because his predecessor had been rated in Weobley and that it was therefore also his place of residence they pooh-poohed and were willing to argue their case in the highest court and brief the ablest counsel. In this instance their arguments eventually prevailed. On the other hand, one William Fowler was allowed to settle because for 40 days he had lived in leasehold premises on the Marsh which he had bought for more than £30, as also was William Tonge who could prove a first and

subsequent yearly hiring in the parish, Edward Griffith with a yearly hiring who had slept the last day of his hiring on his farm, and Thomas Colcombe who had lived for over two years in a tenement worth over £10.

The story of a tragedy is told in full by Martha Owens in her evidence before the Vicar, the Rev. John Ellis Troughton, as a Justice. Martha Owens, who was working for Mr. Kinnersley at Newton quarrelled with her mother-in-law who brought pressure on her father to turn her out of his house in Whitehill. Martha, who was an expectant mother found a lodging for the night at Weobley and went to work next morning as usual. The farmer's wife, frightened at the possibility of the child being born there "for fear they should affront the gentlemen of Dilwyn and Mr. Kinnersley should get the ill-will of most of the parish", told her to go and find the Dilwyn overseer, as the farm was in that parish. After a long search, she eventually found him two miles away at Luntley spreading dung and brought him back to Weobley to find Mrs. Troughton and tell her what was to be done. The overseer suggested a later meeting in the churchyard and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Martha sat on a doorstep watching the path to the Vicarage and waiting for him to come out. When at last she saw him, he hurried off without speaking but some "gentlemen" who were in the churchyard shouted to her to come over and told her that she must see not the Dilwyn but the Weobley overseer, as she had no settlement in Dilwyn. By this time she was very ill and though she struggled over to see her father, who was working in Mr. Troughton's new hop yard, he could give her no promise of help until his day's work was done. Fortunately, there was one decent woman in Weobley, named Mary Jones who took her in, and though Baskerville, the Weobley overseer, came to the door and insisted that she should be turned out in the street, Mary refused point blank. The baby was born before daylight, while the Vestry still continued to argue the matter. Her period of hiring from May of the previous year had expired by mischance in March and possibly because of her impending confinement, she was only a day labourer and not entitled to settlement in Dilwyn.

There is another minor tragedy, that of one Fox, who is provided with shirts ("an application should be made to Mr. Harrold for cloth to clothe him") and then hawked from house to house. He is to be a fortnight in each place, now to Mr. Walker, then to John Peploe, Esq., of Garnstone and so on round the village."

The question of apprenticeship was taken very seriously, the apprentices were provided with clothes and were set where necessary to trades for which they were fitted, though it may be assumed that most of the boys went on to farms. However, "He is not capable of the Husbandry business owing to weakness in

the limbs, so must be put to another trade". One apprentice had recently been put to chair-making in Hereford.

If the master did not abide by the terms of his contract the apprenticeship indentures might be cancelled and so in 1798 "John Owen is to be removed from his house to a person that will take better care".

We now come to the later years of the Napoleonic Wars—1813 and 1814—years of great hardship all over the country. Wages were indeed rising, on an average for the whole country by 60 per cent., but the price of wheat had risen by 130 per cent. and all the budgets of the village labourers tell the same tale of impoverished diet accompanied by overwhelming strain and an actual deficit. The normal labourer, even with constant employment, was no longer solvent.

What was Weobley to do? There were two palliatives suggested: (a) to supply flour free out of the rates, deciding in advance how many bushels were necessary and asking the farmers in proportion to provide the same. (b) to arrange for the haulage and distribution of free coal, known as the Vicar's scheme; (c) to issue spinning wheels marked with a Roman W and flax or hurds to anyone who wished it.

Further, as the need of relief was urgent, it was agreed to appoint a special committee of three members who would meet every week or be fined 2/6 for non-attendance at any meeting.

Apparently, the coal scheme worked satisfactorily. "The Bell," "The Unicorn" and "The House" were selected as distributing centres and the Clerk was indemnified for any personal loss that might occur in the process of distribution, the farmers making themselves responsible for haulage in the summer.

The wheat plan, however, failed entirely. The regulations were precise enough:

(a) The grain, when assembled is to be ground into flour and made into bread, the price, weight and quality to be settled by the Committee

(b) Those who are required to provide grain shall deliver within six days of receiving a notice

(c) Payment for wheat at the current price in the Corn Factor's books shall be made on delivery

(d) 3 bushels including the bag shall be equivalent to 240 lbs.

(e) All decisions of the Committee shall be liable to cancellation by a majority of the inhabitants paying the poor rate at a monthly meeting to be held on every first Sunday in the month after evening service.

But (a) when the names of the farmers to supply the grain

were given, only half responded to the call. (b) There was some doubt whether they should buy wheat and barley and mix it. (c) The negotiations for the purchase of The Tan House as a home for poor children also fell through, and, lastly, that no one came either to the Vestry or to the Committee meetings, or if they did, they adjourned at once to the Red Lion.

The same indifference also affected their attitude to Church affairs. Only three parishioners came to a meeting to consider repairs to the Church roof and two months later "no business was done and it was postponed to a further opportunity".

At last the Vicar managed on his own responsibility to get 4 pecks of flour from Almeley and later had baked a bran mixture loaf, but for the whole of March there was no more, though a 7/- rate was assessed by the Vestry at a meeting in "The Bell", the Sub-Committee having been disbanded.

After this the relief becomes more generous:

"£10 is granted to — Ireland, whose husband had absconded to purchase a stock of goods to keep a shop at the New Inn in Canon Pylon."

The promotion of a Friendly Society or Benefit Club was mooted; the Tanyard Barn was bought instead of the Tan House, Fox at last found a permanent home, his employer being paid £5 towards clothing him; the whole parish was resurveyed and revalued at a cost of £20, and a list of those excused prepared; it was agreed to raise the necessary 9 men for the Militia or pay the fine (an increase from the 2 and a piece of 1796); to pay—in 1814—an Assistant Overseer £20 a year, to recover moneys due to all filiation orders; to give Dr. Lomax £14 3s. 0d. a year for attendance on the "Paupery Poor" (in 1799 he had contracted at £16 6s. 0d. over his rivals' £1 16s. 0d.); and to erect a gallery for the singers in the Church.

All these things are good in themselves, but they did not compensate for the reputation Weobley might have won among other villages both then and hereafter had her leading men only realised their responsibility to a starving and distressed population, and carried to fruition a plan for their permanent relief. We know it was charity, but what organised charity could cope with the needs of working but bankrupt labourers? And after all, what are all our modern schemes of relief but Organised Charity.

A HAND LIST OF ENGLISH ENCLOSURE ACTS AND AWARDS.

PART 15.—HEREFORDSHIRE

By W. E. TATE, F.R.Hist.S.

Author of *Nottinghamshire Parliamentary Enclosures*.

(Contributed 18th December, 1941.)

(1) HEREFORDSHIRE FIELD SYSTEMS AND ENCLOSURE MOVEMENTS.

Herefordshire in general lies just within the Midland region of the two- and three-field systems.¹ The exception is a relatively small strip along the south-west border. It is curious then that only three or four Herefordshire enclosure awards make any mention of open arable fields, although it is clear, says Prof. Gray, that the land lay largely in three-field occupation in early times, especially perhaps in the Wye and Lugg valleys. There seems very little record of two-field agriculture in the county.²

Dr. and Mrs. Orwin,³ whose views upon the extent of open field agriculture in England differ in many important respects from those set forth by Prof. Gray, think that he was too general in asserting that open fields ever existed widely in Herefordshire. Apart from one or two special areas, they think, there is little evidence as to the existence of open fields in the whole south-western half of the county.

Prof. Gray⁴ considers that it is very doubtful how far either the open field system or the general settlement plan here ever agreed with that of the Midlands. He suggests very reasonably that the explanation may be that Herefordshire (and

¹ H. L. Gray, *English Field Systems*, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., 1915, frontispiece.

² One should perhaps note, however, that Mr. Leadam says in *Trans. R. Hist. S., N.S., Vol. VI, 1892, p. 260*, that if Canon Isaac Taylor's theories were correct there is a possibility that the present-day map of Herefordshire suggests the existence in former times of a two field system at Bosbury and Yarpole, of three fields at Ivington and Ledbury, and of four at Pudleston. The evidence is, however, sketchy in the extreme, and, such as it is, seems rather to confirm Prof. Gray's theories as to the late development and irregular structure of open fields in Herefordshire.

³ *The Open Fields*, 1938, p. 65.

⁴ *Op. cit.* pp. 93, 411, 468-469.

Shropshire) yielded rather grudgingly to the influx of Teutonic custom, and adopted an open field agricultural system, though they retained the "Celtic" plan of hamlet settlement. In these conditions, more than anywhere else in England, save perhaps in the northern counties, field arrangements and settlement systems tend to show an even balance of Celtic and Teutonic ideas.

Prof. Gray has noted mediæval evidence of the field structure of but few Herefordshire townships, Asperton (*recte* Ashperton) and Stretton Grandison 1335-6, Bickerton (in Much Marcle) 1335-6, Richard's Castle 1340-1, and Eyton 1335-6, with possibly Luston 1327-8, and Lyde and Moreton 1273, and barely possibly Ivington,¹ 15th century. At Luston, and Lyde and Moreton there seem to have been true open field (three-field) systems. The three-field system, regular and irregular, persisted in the county well into Jacobean times. At Henor (*recte* Hennor), Risbury and Stoke Prior, 1608-9, there are clear three-field systems, though with extra fields to make up the differences in area of the main ones at the two places last named. At Hamnashe (*recte* Hammish), Kimbolton and Stockton, in the same year, the fields vary in number from four to at least eight, but at Kimbolton two of the fields are together equivalent in area to the third. At Stockton each tenant has roughly two-thirds of his holding fairly equally distributed between two fields, with the remaining third divided among the other half-dozen fields. It is at least possible that here and there in the county three-field systems persisted, until the time of Parliamentary enclosure,² at Kingston 1812, Sutton 1819, Tarrington 1799, Ullingswick 1856, and Wellington 1797.

Elsewhere it is certain enough that highly irregular field systems existed in mediæval times and afterwards. Such are recorded at Hope 1327-8 and at Stockton in Kimbolton in the same year, and there is a strong suspicion of them at Ivington in the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries. At Stoke Edith in 1597-8, Prof. Gray describes the parcels of open land as "small, numerous and indifferent to a three-field grouping". At Marden, *temp.* Jac. I, where there were seven townships, the whole structure is described in some detail. The traditional tenements had been broken up, and their parcels dispersed among new tenants in a state of chaotic confusion, utterly unlike the order and symmetry of Midland two or three-field holdings. Other irregular arrangements existed at Middleton in 1608-9, where there are almost 40 field names, all specified as belonging to "*communibus campis*". At Hope-under-Dinmore in the same year there were seven main fields which are not susceptible to a three-field grouping. Similarly in the same year in the neighbouring township of Brierley there were

¹ *Op. cit. passim.*

² *Ibid.*, pp. 142, 143. The dates are those of the Enclosure Acts or Awards.

seven main fields and "only a small proportion of the holdings admit of three-field interpretation".¹

Generally speaking such open fields as survived in the county until the era of Parliamentary enclosure were also highly irregular. Prof. Gray instances Holmer 1855, Humber 1855, Madley 1863, Marsden (? Marden) 1819, Much Cowarne 1826, Much Marcle 1797, Risbury 1855, and Yarkhill 1803.

EARLY ENCLOSURE IN HEREFORDSHIRE.

Prof. Gray suggests very reasonably that in the general irregularity of open field structure in the county there is an obvious explanation of its early enclosure. It is natural to suppose that in a county where such systems were in vogue true open field, agriculture soon died out, or as Prof. Gray has it: "The system, if existent, soon began to decline and can have been intact only in its youthful days." And again he suggests² as causes of the early enclosure of the county: (1) the situation of townships within fertile river valleys suited to enclosed pasture and (2) the location of townships within a forest area, settled late, and enclosed directly from the forest.

The county is among those reported on by Wolsey's Depopulation Commission³ in 1517. The original returns have disappeared, but abstracts survive in the Lansdowne MSS., and these Mr. Leadam has printed. They are clearly incomplete, and relate only to Leominster and the Hundreds of Broxash, Greytree, Radlow, and Wolphy. The total area mentioned is only 1,271 acres enclosed and all converted to pasture, some .22 per cent. of the county area. The places named are:—Barton Callewall (Barton in Colwall), Bosbury, Bradesfordes Brugge (Bradford Bridge), in Leominster, Brayerley (Brierley in Leominster), Cowarne Parva, Evesbatch, Fawley, Hide Ash, Ivington, Ledbury Foreign, Lucton, Orleton, Overton in Orleton, Poplands in Leominster, Puddlestone, Stoke Prior and Splledon (Super Ledon for Upleadon).

Leland visited the county a quarter of a century later. He travelled northward from Gloucester to Hereford and up the Lugg valley to Leominster and thence to Ludlow.⁴ He says:—

"There be hills by est and southe on the ryght rype of Wy ryver, well wooddyd, and not far distant from Hereforde toune. . . . From Herford to Dynemore hille by enclosyd grownde, not very hilly, plentifull of all good corne and pasture and metely well woodyd a 4 miles. . . . The hill selfe of Dynemore is very stepe, highe, well woodyd, and a *specula* to se all the contry about . . . I saw Hampton-Courte. . . . From Hampton

¹ *The Open Fields*, 1938, pp. 94-97.

² Gray, *op. cit.*, pp. 407, 408.

³ S. R. Leadam in *Trans. R. Hist. S., N.S.*, Vols. VI, p. 290, and VII, p. 254; 1892-3.

⁴ Leland's *Itinerary*, 1534-43, edn., Miss L. T. Smith, 1910, Vol. II, pp. 64-76; Vol. III, p. 47; Vol. V, p. 175.

to Leominstre a 3.miles by some enclosyd grownde and good corne, but on great wood at hand.¹ . . . From Leominster to Eyton a mile of by west northe west. . . . From Eyton I ryd a mile and a halfe toward Ludelawe (Ludlow). . . . Thence [I rode a] 4.miles by goodly corne grownd, partly enclosyd and havynge praty wood, to Richardes Castle. . . . From Richardes castle to Ludlow a 2.miles . . . (and so on to Shrewsbury) . . . Herchinfield (Erging) is a great lordship . . . and lieth betwixt Monemuth and Herford about a ij. myles from eche of them. . . . Erchenfeld is full of enclosures very [full] of corne and wood. . . . The lordshipe seife of Ewis Harold wher it is narowest is a myle in bredthe, and moste in lengthe 2 mile. It hath good corne, gresse, and woode." . . .

The county was not, of course, among those to which the 1536 Depopulation Act was to apply.² Presumably then enclosure was not felt to be particularly active in the county at this time, or, if it was, it was not causing the rural depopulation and impoverishment which had followed it in the midland counties. The county also seems to have been relatively little affected by the agrarian disturbances of 1549, although there is a record of the indictment at Hereford of a certain John Higgins³ for inciting others to break open inclosures, "saying that by the King's proclamation all inclosures were to be broken up". The county was however included in those to which the last Depopulation Act,⁴ that of 1597, was to apply, so apparently there had been some development of enclosure in the shire in the latter half of the 16th century, perhaps in part, though by no means wholly, by conversion to pasture of the land which was naturally much better suited for this than for arable use. Herefordshire wool was famous even in mediæval times, and in 1454 the wool of Leominster fetched the highest price in England.⁵ The county's reputation for producing wool of the highest class lasted at any rate until Young's time.

In the debates upon the 1597 Bill⁶ a proposal was made to include Shropshire also within its terms. This was negatived on the suggestion that Shropshire might well be left alone, and its inhabitants suffered to convert their arable to pasture if they pleased, since the land was in general more suited for pasture. The suggestion clearly was that in Herefordshire conditions were very different, and that the land was more suitable for arable use. The opponents of the inclusion of Shropshire said that if things were left alone Shropshire might well become "a dayrie howse to the whole Realme" just as Herefordshire and the other "countries adioyning" were "the Barnes for the corne".

¹ Leland, Vol. II, p. 73, there is mention of Presteign, Radnorshire, as a very celebrated market for (Herefordshire?) corn.

² Miss H. M. Leonard in *Trans. R. Hist. S.*, N.S., Vol. XIX, 1905, p. 124.

³ Prof. E. F. Say in *Trans. R. Hist. S.*, N.S., Vol. XVIII, 1904, p. 207.

⁴ 39 Eliz., c. 2 (1597), Slater *The English Peasantry* . . . 1907, p. 328. f.n. 2.

⁵ W. H. Curtler, *The Enclosure . . . of our Land*, 1920, p. 198.

⁶ *Bull. Inst. Hist. R.*, Vol. XII, No. 34, June, 1934, pp. 15, 16.

Considering now the scraps of information which are available as to the enclosure history of particular Herefordshire townships, we find that the townships of Adforton, Letton, Lye, Marlow, Whetton, and Yatton, where Wigmore Abbey had estates, were open *temp.* Hen. VIII,¹ and that to the extent of at least three-fourths of their total area they were enclosed at some unknown date or dates before the early 19th century. Stoke Edith, despite the chaotic field system referred to above, was still largely open in 1597-8. Middleton was about a fourth enclosed meadow or pasture in 1608-9. At Hope-under-Dinmore the same year each holding was from about a fifth to a third in enclosure. The fields of Risbury are noted above as apparently intact in the 16th century. By the time of their Parliamentary enclosure in 1855 they were a mere remnant. Three-field tillage must have disappeared long before this, and the only way in which they indicate an open field system at all is that they were composed, to the extent of perhaps a fourth of their total area, of scattered acre strips. Prof. Gray's Fig. VIII well illustrates this point, as his Figs. IX and X illustrate a very similar state of affairs in the nine main fields of Holmer 1855, and in the 46 main plots in the open lands of Marden in 1819. Marden is perhaps hardly a fair instance, since the parish is composed of half a dozen hamlets. This same feature of numerous small fields is recorded at Madley (30), Much Cowarne (13), Much Marcle (40) and Yarkhill (38).

On the whole, the Jacobean surveys of Herefordshire manors show relatively little encroachment on the open fields, though clearly a good deal of enclosure took place by non-Parliamentary means. So presumably this must have happened in the later 17th or at some time in the 18th century. Probably the major factors in its achievement were, as Prof. Gray suggests, the late development of open fields in the county, their small extent, and the small number of tenants in each. All of these factors would render the attainment of agreement to enclose a good deal easier here than in the Midlands.

The history of agrarian change in the county is however so obscure that Prof. Gonner does not venture to include the shire in his notes on *Progress of Enclosure in the Counties*.² Elsewhere, however, he states without giving any detailed reference for the assertion, that there is mention of enclosed districts in Herefordshire in the controversial pamphlet literature of the mid. 17th century. By 1675, when Ogilby's road book³ appeared, apparently the enclosure of the county was largely completed. Of the 37 counties which Prof. Gonner listed in order of the percentage of open land still remaining, Herefordshire is 35th, higher than only

¹ Gray, *op. cit.*, p. 151.

² *Op. cit.*, pp. 161, 238-289.

³ *Britannia*, 1675, quoted by Gonner, *op. cit.*, *passim*.

Kent and Essex, and with a percentage of open land apparently about 8 per cent., compared say with Shropshire's 19 per cent., Worcestershire's 13 per cent., Gloucestershire's 37 per cent., and Huntingdon's 67 per cent. There is little more information available as to Herefordshire agrarian history for another century or more. Celia Fiennes¹ found the county "a country of gardens and orchards with apple and pear trees thick in the hedgerows". The county had been reputed "the orchard of England" in the time of John Beale, 1656, and a little before this Lord Scudamore is said by Evelyn² to have turned the county into one entire orchard. Marshall, in the 18th century, refers to it as the first cider county. Clearly extensive growth of orchards would tend towards early enclosure.

William Marshall³ has a brief mention of the county a century after Ogilby's time. It is, he says, "an enclosed county. Some few remnants of common fields are seen in what is called the upper part of the county; but in general it appears to have been inclosed from the forest state; crooked fences, and winding narrow lanes. These circumstances assist in giving broadness to the roads and beauty to the country." Sir Francis Eden⁴ visited the county in 1795 and offers some brief notes upon it. He refers to poor law management, however, only in Hereford city, and has no reference whatever to either open fields or commons here or elsewhere in the county. There are two agricultural reports⁵ on the county, dated 1794 and 1805 respectively. Clark estimates the waste lands at 20,000 acres, and has a good deal to say of the alleged evil influence of the wastes and commons of the "Black Mountains" in encouraging idleness and vice among the commoners. He says⁶ that some of the best lands in the county lay in open arable fields. The Board of Agriculture Report⁷ on the agriculture of the country in 1816 is full of bitter complaints of rural distress in Herefordshire. It says nothing whatever of open fields or commons in Herefordshire as a contributory factor to the agrarian unrest, but attributes the greater part of it to the alleged heavy and inequitable incidence of tithe.

THE SURVIVAL OF OPEN LANDS IN HEREFORDSHIRE.

The official commons and open fields return of 1874⁸ (notoriously inaccurate, be it noted), attributes to the county the possession

¹ *Through England on a Side Saddle* . . . (c. 1695), 1889, p. 33.

² So says Curtler, *op. cit.*, p. 198. He gives no reference for the statement. Presumably it must be to the *Pomona*, 1679. At any rate I can find no mention of the matter in the *Journal*.

³ *Rural Economy of Gloucestershire*, 1789, Vol. II, p. 190.

⁴ *State of the Poor*, 1797. Reprint of 1928, pp. 204, 205.

⁵ J. Clark, *General View* . . . , 1794. J. Duncumb, *General View* . . . , 1805.

⁶ *Op. cit.*, p. 69.

⁷ *State of the Kingdom*, 1816, pp. 102-107.

⁸ P.P. H.C., 1874 (85).

of 10,000 acres of commons, and 2,000 acres of open fields. I have found it quite impossible however to obtain an accurate statement of the position and extent of such open lands as do survive. So far as I know they are few and inconsiderable. Commons survived at any rate until 1878 (Westhope in Canon Pyon), and open arable fields until 1858-62 (Lyde Fields in Pipe and Lyde, 13a.)

(2) HEREFORDSHIRE ENCLOSURE ACTS AND AWARDS.

In the lists below I have endeavoured to set out the main facts concerning Herefordshire Enclosure Acts under seven classified headings. Altogether not more than about 4 per cent. of the county area was enclosed by Parliamentary means (Dr. Slater says 3.6 per cent. for open field and some waste from 1700 to "recent times", Prof. Gonner 3.5 per cent. common field, and 1.3 per cent. common, from 1700-1870). It is surprising then to find that the second enclosure Act on the English statute book relates to Herefordshire.¹ This is the first English enclosure Act to be concerned at all with the enclosure of open arable fields.² It is alleged to be drawn up in the interests of the commoners to prevent surcharging of the commons and destruction of the pasture. It sanctions a piecemeal enclosure already carried out at Marden and Bodenham, and purports to confirm an existing custom as to the commoners being allowed to enclose at will. Actually it authorises them to enclose up to a third of their open lands. It is entitled "An Act for the better provision of Meadow and Pasture, necessary maintenance of Tillage and Husbandry in the Manors, Lordships, and Parishes of Marden *alias* Mawarden, Wellington, Sutton St. Michaels, Sutton St. Nicholas, Murton upon Lugg, and the Parish of Pype, and every of them in the County of Hereford."³ This was however a highly exceptional instance of local enclosure and no other Act was passed for enclosing open arable in the county until 1774,⁴ though there was a Malvern Chase Act for the disafforestation of waste in 1664.

It is difficult to estimate whether the local Acts of this type listed below affected a larger or a smaller acreage than those for enclosing waste,⁵ since many Herefordshire Acts of both classes, but particularly those of the group last named, offer no estimate of the area affected. At the first view it is surprising to find in Herefordshire, never a true open field county, a fair number of enclosures of open arable after 1836.⁶ But the data given make it

¹ The first is, of course, the Radipool, Dorset, Act of 160.

² 4 Jac. I, c. 11 (1607-8).

³ Particulars of this will be found in the *Commons Journals*, Vol. I, 4 and 5, Jac. I. Part I, Sess. 3, pp. 343, 347, 355, 368, 373, 378, 382. 1607, Feb.-June.

⁴ List A.

⁵ List B.

⁶ Lists C and E.

clear that several of these affected minute scraps of open lands which had evidently escaped enclosure in earlier years. The smallest of them all, Pipe, was only some 13 acres in extent. In the years after 1845¹ a good deal of open land in the county remained to be enclosed, and actually sixteen enclosures of waste have taken place since that time.

The acreages are, however, in general small and the total area affected is only some 2,500 acres, an average of say 150 acres to each enclosure. Many of the acres were much smaller than this, and the list gives examples of areas of 7, 30, 34, 37, 45 acres, etc. Clearly the Parliamentary enclosure here was a kind of "mopping up" process applied to the existing scraps of common which for some reason or other, perhaps on the ground of expense, had escaped enclosure in earlier years.

List G, non-Parliamentary enclosures, contains merely a 'Nil' entry. Not, of course that no enclosure took place in Herefordshire at any time without Parliamentary sanction; the whole of the evidence set forth above would negative any such supposition, but that in Herefordshire far more than in most English counties the enclosure of lands for which a modicum of consent could be obtained had in general been subjected to the process of enclosure long before it became usual to carry it out with due legal formalities and to incorporate the decisions made in a properly drawn up award.

LIST OF ACTS AND AWARDS.

CONTRACTIONS USED.

- () estimated acreage.
 a. acres.
 C.P. Award enrolled on Common Pleas Recovery Roll in Public Record Office.
 C.R. Award enrolled among county records in the custody of the Clerk of the Peace.
 n.s. (area) not specified.
 (P) Parish
 (T) Township or Tithing.

A. ENCLOSURE ACTS FOR LANDS INCLUDING OPEN FIELD ARABLE.

		<i>Area in Act/Award (Gray)</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Award enrolled.</i>
1779	Winforton. Public Act not in Slater. Quære: including open field arable? This was enclosed land over which certain persons had common rights ...	379	1779	C.R.

¹ List F.

		<i>Area in Act/Award (Gray).</i>	<i>Date of Award.</i>	<i>Award enrolled.</i>
1794	Wellington	n.s./721	1797	C.R.
1795	Marcle, Wolton, and Kinaston (T.) in Much Marcle. Not M.-W., etc., as in Slater	1000/962½	1797	C.R.
1796	Tarrington	n.s./453	1799	C.R.
1799	Mocktree in Leintwardine, Burrington, Downton, Aston, Elton (and Marlow). Not Lentwardine, etc., as in 1904 Blue Book. Supplementary Award for Downton, 1806.	n.s./2104½	1803 1806	C.R. C.R.
1799	Yarkhill, Weston Beggard, Dorington with Bartestree, and Stoke Edith with Westhide ...	1380/1409½	1804	C.R.
1801	Long Froome in Castle Fro(o)me, Bishops Froome (<i>recte</i> Bishop's Frome), Much Cowarne and Evesba(t)ch (<i>recte</i> Evesbatch), Long Froomy only in 1904 Blue Book. Evisbeach in Slater ...	410/336	1806	C.R.
1802	Bodenham	2000/?	—	C.P. 53 Geo. III, 1813
1808	Marden, Sutton St. Michael, Sutton St. Nicholas, Withington (Amberley and Preston Wynn). Act not 1807 as in Slater. Amending Act, 1818. Whettington in Blue Books	n.s./3638	—	C.P. 1 Geo. IV, 1820 2 Awards
1808	Byford. Act not 1807 as in Slater. The award allots waste but only orders the exchange of certain strips of arable (Gray, p. 139) ...	n.s.?	1832	C.R.
1809	Shobdon, Lingen, Kingsland and Aymestrey. Not Shobden and Aymestrey as in Slater ...	900/621½	1829	C.R.
1809	Mordiford and Fromes Meadow in Mordiford, Lugwardine and Donnington	n.s./498	1816	C.R.
1809	Bishopston(e) (<i>recte</i> Bishopstone) and Mansell Lac(e)y (<i>recte</i> Mansell Lacy). Not Mancell L. as in Slater	n.s.?	1833	C.R.
1810	Stapleton (T.) in Presteign. Not Ste(e)pleton as in 1914 Blue Book	n.s.?	1824	C.R.
1810	Wigmore	n.s.?	1828	C.R.
1811	Kingston (<i>recte</i> Kingstone) ...	270/187	1812	C.R.
1811	Allesmore (<i>recte</i> Allensmore) ...	n.s.?	?	?
1811	Eardisland	n.s.?	?	?
1813	Eastnor. More than 180 as stated in 1914 Blue Book.	(220)/145	1816	C.R.
1813	Clehonger. Award not 1828 as in 1904 Blue Book	n.s.?	1816	C.R.
1813	Ledbury. Award not 1816 as in Gray. Award includes 132a "recently enclosed"	140/268½	1816	C.R.

		Area in Act/Award (Gray).	Date of Award.	Award enrolled.
1813	Much Cowarn(e) (<i>recte</i> Much Cowarne). Award not 1815, as in 1904 Blue Book	n.s./546	1826	C.R.
1813	Eg(g)leton (<i>recte</i> Eggleton) (T.) in Bishop's Fro(ome) (<i>recte</i> Bishop's Frome) and Stretton Grandison. Not Stratton Grand(i)some as in Blue Books. Gray wrongly says award is not in C.R. ...	n.s.	1815	C.R.
1814	Upper Lee, Nether Lee (<i>recte</i> Upper Lye and Lower Lye, Covenhope, and Shirley in Aymestr(e)y and Kingsland. Award	340/302½	1817	C.R.
1814	Norton Canon	n.s.	?	?
1814	Orcop	n.s.	1826	C.R.

B. ENCLOSURES BY PRIVATE ACT OF LANDS NOT INCLUDING OPEN FIELD ARABLE.

1606	Morden <i>als.</i> Mawarden (<i>recte</i> Marden), Bodenham, Wellington, Sutton St. Michael, Sutton St. Nicholas, Murden upon Lug and Pipe. Should read Moreton, not Murden. Public Act. No award?	?	None	None
1664	Malvern(e) (<i>recte</i> Malvern) Chase. Also indexed in Worcs. and Gloucs. Which Herefs. Townships?	?	None	None
1772	Wigmore. Wrongly indexed by Slater as including open arable ...	?/680	None	None
1774	Hereford City. Public Act not in Slater. Including open field arable?	n.s.	None	None
1780	Noke (T.) in Pembridge. Is this the enclosure listed in the 1904 Blue Book as Northwood in P.? ...		1783	C.R.
1783	Staunton upon Wye	n.s.	1784	C.R.
1798	Bleathwood in Little Hereford ...	n.s.	1800	C.R.
1801	Kinnersley	100		
1806	Lidgemoor (<i>recte</i> Lidgemore), in Kings Pyon	n.s.	1826	C.R.
1807	Hope Mansel. Not Hopemansell as in 1914 Blue Book	n.s.	1808	C.R.
1808	Leominster (Borough) and Luston (T.) in Eye	120	1811	C.R.
1809	Bredwardine and Dorston(e) (T.). Wrongly indexed by Slater as including open field arable. (Gray, p. 138)	n.s.	1819	C.R.
1811	Brilley, Eardisley and Huntingdon	n.s.		
1811	Marston Common in Pembridge ..	n.s.	1813	C.R.
1812	Much Birch and Little Birch ...	180	1824	C.R.
1813	Whitney	60	1823	C.R.
1816	Newton (T.) in Clodock	n.s.	1823	C.R.

		Area in Act/Award (Gray).	Date of Award.	Award enrolled.
1816	St. Margarets (P.), Hereford ...	n.s.		
1817	Orleton	437	1819	C.R.
1817	Willey (T.) in Presteign	142	1819	C.R.
1830	Ross			
1833	Ganerew	200	1835	C.R.

C. ENCLOSURES OF OPEN FIELD UNDER 6 & 7 WM. IV, c. 115.

1836	Peterchurch	?	1839	C.R.
1836	Holmer	556	1855	C.R.
1836	Madley	381½	1863	C.R.

D. ENCLOSURES OF LAND OTHER THAN OPEN FIELD UNDER 6 and 7 Wm. IV, c. 115 and 3 & 4 Vic., c. 31.

1840	Priddleton in Humber, (Puddlestone), and Risbury in Stoke Prior	/149 /57	1855	C.R.
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E. ENCLOSURES OF LAND INCLUDING OPEN FIELD ARABLE UNDER THE SEVERAL ACTS OF 1845 *et seq.*

(i) By Provisional Order, not needing confirmation by Annual General Act.

1845.	Catley in Bosbury	105/104	1854	C.R.
1845	Ullingswick.	260/290½	1856	C.R.

(ii) By Provisional Order confirmed in pursuance of Annual General Act.

1845 &	Lyde Fields in Pipe and Lyde ...	13/13½	1862	C.R.
1845 &	Moseley in Pembridge. Wrongly omitted by Slater. This is given in the 1914 Blue Book as Manley	72/73½	1863	C.R.

F. ENCLOSURES OF LANDS NOT INCLUDING OPEN FIELD ARABLE UNDER THE GENERAL ACTS OF 1845 *et seq.*

(i) By Provisional Order not needing confirmation under Annual General Act.

1845	Moseley Common in Pembridge ...	?	1863	C.R.
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(ii) By Provisional Order confirmed in pursuance of Annual General Act.

1845 &	Birchwood and Merry Hill in Cradley	37	1854	C.R.
1850	Swinmore Common in Bosbury ...	7½	1865	C.R.
1851	Kingswood and Moseley, etc., in Kington	508	1856	C.R.
1851	Letton Common and the Fleete in Letton	73	1853	C.R.
1852	Urishay Common in Michaelchurch Eskley (<i>recte</i> Esckley), and Peterchurch	218	1856	C.R.
1854	Hill and Scudamore Commons in Cusop	625	1856	C.R.
1855	Volca Common meadow in Stoke Prior	69	1858	C.R.

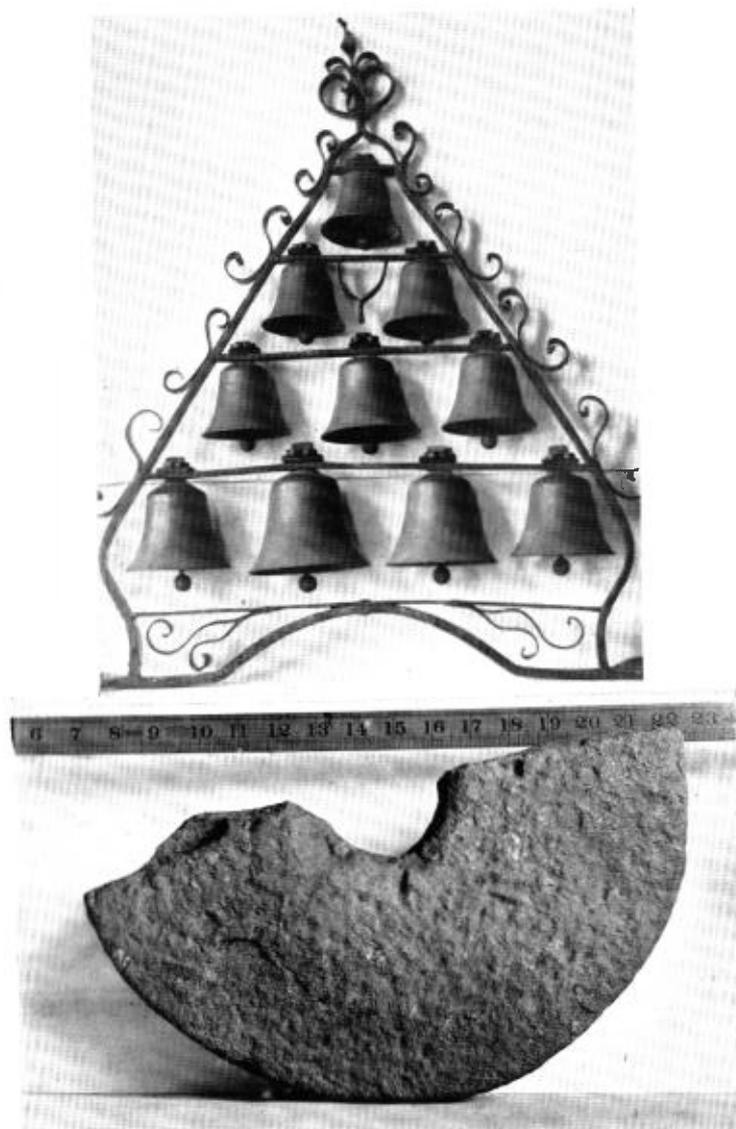
		<i>Area in Act.</i>	<i>Date of Award.</i>	<i>Award enrolled.</i>
1858	Romney Meadow (<i>recte</i> Rumney) in Frome Bishop and Stanford Bishop	30	1862	C.R.
1858	Wooferswood (<i>recte</i> Wolferwood) Common in Stanford Bishop ...	212	1862	C.R.
1858	Aylmarsh and Coughton Marsh in Ross, in Walford	56	1861	C.R.
1859	Moseley Common in Pembridge ...	45	1863	C.R.
1860	Hurstley (<i>recte</i> Hurstley) Com- mon in Letton	84	1862	C.R.
1860	Vowmine <i>als.</i> Fowmine Hill in Dorstone	495	1868	C.R.
1861	Dilwyn	80	1866	C.R.
1863	Westhope Hill in Canon Pyon ...	54	1878	C.R.
1865	Maerbach <i>als.</i> Maerbage Hill in Dorstone	73	1871	C.R.

G. ENCLOSURES OF LAND BY PRIVATE AGREEMENT AND AWARD, THE
LATTER BEING DEPOSITED OR ENROLLED IN NATIONAL OR COUNTY
RECORDS.

NIL.

The only amending Act is for Marden, 1808 (1818). Malvern Chase, 1664, is indexed also in Gloucestershire and Worcestershire. This is said to be the third enclosure Act on the Statute Book. All Herefordshire enclosure Acts (before the General Acts) are private Acts, except two, Marden, 1606, and Hereford City, 1774. The Act for Ross, 1830, is a General Improvement Act. Slater's lists for Herefordshire have been corrected by Gray (*English Field Systems*, pp. 138-140). Most of the award figures above quoted are taken second-hand from Gray. So is the information that Slater's lists include Wigmore, 1772, Bredwardine and Dorstone, 1809, which should be omitted, and omit Wellington, 1794, and Manley in Pembridge, 1859, which should be included. The other enclosures of open field mentioned by Gray but not in Slater, Holmer 1855, Madley 1863, and Humber and Stoke Prior, etc., 1855, are under 6 & 7 Wm. IV and 3 & 4 Vic. c. 31. All enclosures under these Acts are ignored by Slater.

The author expresses his indebtedness to R. C. Hansen, Esq., Clerk of the Peace for the County of Hereford, to George Marshall, Esq., F.S.A., Hon. Secretary of the Woolhope Field Club, and to F. C. Morgan, Esq., F.S.A., F.L.A., Curator of the Hereford Public Library. These three gentlemen have been good enough to give him help of various kinds during his enquiries. It is also his pleasant duty to record here his thanks to the Leverhulme Research Trustees and their Secretary, Dr. L. Haden Guest, M.P., for assistance which has enabled him to continue his researches among rather unfavourable circumstances.



Photos by

F. C. Morgan, F.S.A., F.L.A.

1. OX BELLS FROM BRAMPTON ABBOTTS.
2. PART OF A QUERN STONE FOUND AT THE BRITISH CAMP, MALVERN.

REPORTS OF SECTIONAL EDITORS, 1941.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

By F. C. MORGAN, F.S.A., F.L.A.

ADDITIONS TO THE HEREFORD MUSEUM.

Two most important additions have been made to the "agricultural and country life" section of the museum. The first is a set of ten oxbells mounted on a triangular ornamental iron frame (*see illustration*). The bells are tuned, and the raised letters "R.W." inside each show that they were made by Robert Wells of Aldbourne, Wiltshire, in the 18th century: the iron mounting may be by a Herefordshire craftsman. These bells came from Netherton, Brampton Abbots, and were formerly the property of Miss Dew, who gave an ox-yoke and bow to the museum some years ago. The bells were purchased by means of the "Friends of Hereford Museum and Art Gallery" Fund.

The second acquisition consists of two slender iron horse collars, used for identification purposes in days when fields were unenclosed. A collar was fastened around the neck of a horse when put out to graze, and was secured by an intricate lock and key somewhat similar to those used on early handcuffs. These collars are lettered "Rev^d M^r Ralph Hopton, Bish Froome 1788." The Rev. Ralph Cope Hopton was vicar of Bishop's Frome from 1750 to 1797. The collars, together with many local pamphlets, books and documents were given by Mrs. Hopton of Clyro.

ROMAN POTTERY.

Specimens of Roman pottery were found by Mr. M. C. G. Hooton at Canon Frome in August, 1940, when digging a defensive position for Home Guards. The pottery was 4 ft. below the surface of the ground in undisturbed clay.

Mr. and Miss Whiting have now given to the Hereford Museum the collection of Roman pottery, coins and other remains, made by the late Mr. A. J. Whiting of Kenchester.

QUERN.

Part of the upper stone of a quern was found at the British Camp, Malvern, on the 22nd August, 1940, by Miss C. N. S. Smith. This was brought to me to be photographed. The measurements were as follows:—

Diameter, 15 inches.
 Central hole, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
 Thickness of outer rim, max. $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches, min. 2 inches.
 Centre, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
 Angle of slope of grooved surface, 10 degs.
 Clearance at centre, 1 inch.
 Radial groove socket for handle, length $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, depth $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

This quern is Romano-British, and dates from the 1st century, A.D., or possibly somewhat later (*see illustration, p. 195*).

WYE BRIDGE.

Two arches at the north end of the Wye Bridge at Hereford have been strengthened by Mr. R. G. Gurney, County Surveyor.

A number of photographs of the bridge were taken during the course of the work, and Mr. Gurney has most kindly sent to the Library a detailed plan of this part of the bridge with the following report:

"I would draw your attention specially to the crippling of the arch by an old water main shown in Section L-M, and the similar effect of the original gas main, which has now been removed, in Section G-H; also to the two small arches in span 6 which are either put in to carry a very old water main or may possibly be the remains of two earlier arches, but from the information I have obtained, I think this is doubtful. The abutment wall under Wye Bridge House has a cut-water (which is built upon) similar to the other upstream cut-waters, although there seems to be no reason at all for the cut-water on this abutment. The cut-water goes back under the Wye Bridge House.

The other thing that is peculiar is that the masonry piers are carried up very much above the spandrels of the arches, and they appear to me to be the original piers that carried the wooden bridge.

When the river goes down to summer level, I hope to get the exact vertical section of pier 5, and this vertical section where the original pier is still showing may give an interesting angle of the pier before it collapsed. If I am able to get this in the coming summer or a little later, I will, of course, let you have details of it."

During one of his visits to Wye Bridge when under reconstruction Mr. George Marshall found the stone that supported one of the posts of the house of office that formerly existed on Wye bridge and which is mentioned many times in the city archives of the 17th century as being out of repair.

LOCAL DOCUMENTS.

Most important additions have been made to the collection of historical documents at the City Library. Major Lee-Warner most generously gave some hundreds dealing with the parishes of Tyberton, Fownhope, Bosbury, Much Cowarne, Hereford, Madley, Preston-on-Wye, and others. These proved to be of the utmost value for the study of local history, and give much information not recorded elsewhere. For example, the descent of the Rectory and other properties at Much Cowarne from the time it was leased to Queen Elizabeth by the Bishop of Gloucester in 1583 down to 1749, is recorded in detail. Fulke Greville of Warwick and George Kemble of Pembridge Castle were among the many owners of leases at various times. The values of the properties, place names, and other details are worth study. The earliest document in this series is dated 1591, when the lease was transferred to John Walton in trust for Nycholas Bullingham. George Kemble was the brother of Father John Kemble. Several documents bear his signature.

Among the Hereford documents are several leases dealing with the property in Widemarsh Street, leased by a prominent citizen Thomas Church and his descendants. These are of exceptional local interest and record many genealogical facts.

Perhaps the most important series of documents however, is that dealing with the manor of Much Fawley in Fownhope. The earliest is a grant by Queen Elizabeth to Blanch Parry (her favourite gentlewoman, whose memorial is in Bacton church) of the manor of Fawley (described as late part of the possessions of Llanthony-juxta-Gloucester), fishing in the Wye, a water mill, the Free Chapel of Wistaston, meadows in Marden, a messuage with columbarium in Bowley (? in Bodenham), and rents in Wellington. A curious feature is the reservation of all lead above and below ground, except gutters and lead in the windows. Blanch Parry paid £942 2s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for the grant, dated 1565, which unfortunately has lost the royal seal.

The Manor of Much Fawley, Caplar Farm, and other properties in How Caple and elsewhere later became the possession of Thomas Gwillim, for a document* undated, but before 1649, divides the Manor House, farm buildings, and lands at Much Fawley into five parts, and the remainder called the "Outlands" into four parts, among his "coheyres". Gwillim's widow, Julian, was, apparently, then living at Strangford. Every room at Much Fawley is mentioned and allocated to one of the five parts, as are also the various farm buildings and fields. A curious fact is that the latter are measured in "Winchester" acres, a measure I cannot

* Lands in the tenure of Tobbye Payne are mentioned in this document. Mr. George Marshall tells me that his will was proved in February, 1649.

find recorded elsewhere, though the "Winchester" gallon is well known.

The following is a copy of this document :—

- The Division into Five p(ar)ts & into four p(ar)ts of all the mann(er)s messuages lands tenem^{ts} & hereditam^{ts} belonging unto the coheyres of Thomas Gwillm late of much Fawley decd.
- 1 p(ar)s The new stable & chamber & roomes over the same the stone house the chamber over the same the new pultrie house as much of the old building adioyning to the said new house as are from the great old chamber both above & beneath towards the said new stable three roomes of the barne next unto the same new stable. The ewes coate, and all the piggs houses below of the barne next unto the same three roomes of the barne the upp(er) tacks vijli xvjs viijd Mutlowes field ixli vjs viijd The Keck close xvijd The little math meadow iijli. The little orchard ijs vjd The great meend vli viijs All the upper grove & slade thereof, excepting the hill & wood from the cock shoot to the great meadowe xlvjs viijd with the 4th p(ar)t of the teithes fishing & chief rents Intoto p(er) ann 40li 2s
- 2 p(ar)s The Hall & chamber over the same and all the buildings from the same Hall unto the Church yard saveing 7 foot in breadth att the upper end of the same house next the Church yard from the ground unto the loft of the hundes chamber for the making of a way into the square paved Co(ur)t, two roomes in the barne next to the same 3 roomes & all the sheeres below & against the same two roomes the oxhouse & Cowhouse, The mydle field ixli iijjs The Little Meend 4li 18s the pound close xlixs ijd All the great meadow excepting three Wynchester acres which is alloted to the new Leasow to bee taken att the uper end of the same great meadow next to the Cryme and next to the same new leasow xli xiijs iijd All the upp(er) grove hill from the Cockshoote unto the great meadow with the 4th p(ar)t of the teiths fishing & Chief rent In toto p(er) anno 40li 4s 6d.
- 3 p(ar)s The old Parlor and all the rest of the old buildings not otherwise divided the Larder house the wooll chamber & Chappell chamber & as much of the garden as is beneath the old Parlor & Larder house two roomes in the barne adioyning to the other two roomes the waynehouse & mustmill house The upp(er) barne, The pydgon house & pydgon house close xxs The pitt field xli vijs Three Winchest(er) acres in the great meadow to bee taken at the upp(er) end of the same great meadow next to the Cryme and the same new Leasow xls The new Leasow lvjs vjd the upp(er) Hocton field ijli xijs The Parke xliijs vjd Fishers furlong xviijs nine winchester acres in the nether end of the Gore meadow vijli iijjs with the 4th p(ar)t of the tythes fishings & Chief rents In toto p(er) ann 40li 4s 8d.
- 4 p(ar)s All the new buildings next the slade All the garden excepting that p(ar)t alloted to the old buildings the two roomes in the barne next the oxehouse the weathers Coate & the lambs Coat The warlock ixli The neather hocton field vli xixs the upp(er) barne close ls the neather tacks iijli xvjs viijd The oxleasow vli The lower grove slade & hop garden xls with the 4th p(ar)t of the tythes fishing & Chief rents in toto p(er) ann 40li 5s 8d.
- 5 p(ar)s All the houses outhouses & other buildings att Strangford & all the lands woods meadow & pasture thereunto belonging now in the tenure of Julian Gllm widdow excepting 9 winchester acres in the nether end of the Gore meadow with all Fishings & other rents & p(ro)fitts thereunto belonging.

The Outlands divided into 4 p(ar)ts

- 1 p(ar)s William Husbards & David Retherows farmes and all houses out houses lands tents meadows leasows pastures woods underwoods containing about fourscore & tenn acres more or less & the 4th p(ar)t of the Carie woods & Carie mylls which is alloted to Mr Wm Scudamore of Ballingham } xvli
- 2 p(ar)s Carie Myll & the rest of Carie woods & all the lands therewith used except that alloted to Mr Wm Scudamore } xvli
- 3 p(ar)s One message called Capler & all the lands tent^{ts} meadows leasows pastures woods & underwoods with thap(er)tences thereunto belonging now in the tenure of Thomas Gwillm gent with a piece of pasture called Warie Croft (one Croft containing 2 acres in the tenure of Wm Morgan in Kings Caple in a field there called feld wales field) p(er) ann interlined (after the death of Julian Gwillm) } xvli
- 4 p(ar)s One message & about eight acres of arable land in the tenure of Wm Morgan & one Messe & divers lands meadow & pasture in the tenure of Henry Griffiths & one messe & divers lands meadows & pastures in the tenure of Tobby Payne & Henry Griffiths All which p(re)misses are lying in Kings Caple in the sayd County of Heref & one water come myll with the app(er)tences in Howcaple in the said Countye of Heref in the tenure of Julian Gllm widdow.

Tho Marrett
Henricu Griffiths

Copia vera
Roger Hannis

* Division of the Exors of the
late Thos Gwillim

* In later hand.

The property afterwards belonged to the Andrews family, who sold it to Thomas Crompton of Lincoln's Inn. By 1652 two of the four parts of the Manor had become the property of James Oswald, late of Weston-in-Zoyland. It was leased to Rodagon Oswald, wife of Peter Oswald, in February, 1666/7, whose daughter, Elizabeth, married Francis Brydges of Tyberton, the ancestor of Major Lee-Warner. By this time all four parts of the manor belonged to the Oswalds.

This series throws much light upon social conditions in past days. I cannot trace the histories of the properties from the time of Blanche Parry to Thomas Gwillim nor why James Oswald came to Much Fawley. It was he who owned the manor of Weston-in-Zoyland, Somerset, which previously had been granted by Queen Elizabeth to the Earl of Leicester, and sold by him to Sir Edward Dyer for £6,000. This deed of sale also was given by Major Lee-Warner to Hereford Library. These are only examples of some few series of documents dealing with properties in many parts of this county. The Brydges family were large landholders and frequently bought property.

Mrs. Gadesden has deposited a large number of local documents, and Mr. E. H. Stooke a smaller number, for preservation at the City Library, but these have not yet been examined.

WALL PAINTINGS.

A number of wall paintings were uncovered at Mill Farm, Fownhope, a few weeks ago. These consisted of a frieze and some drawings of weapons probably of the late 17th century.

At the residence of Mr. G. B. Cooper, in King Street, a fireplace on the first floor recently fell out and exposed remains of a large stone fire-place, with mural paintings. Unfortunately neither of these paintings was worth preservation owing to their very imperfect states, and the fireplace had to be covered.

SUTTON WALLS.

It is a matter of regret that national needs have been the means of destroying most of the earthwork inside Sutton Walls. A few finds only have been made during the operations owing to the rapidity with which modern machinery scoops out sand and gravel needed for government work. Had it been possible for careful examination to be made there is little doubt that much material of great archæological value would have been found.

Mr. George Marshall will deal with all the finds in a special report.

ART.

It is perhaps worthy of record that the pictures collected by the late Rev. John Hopton in 1826 during his visit to the Continent with David Cox, were sold by auction on the 17th April last.

A self portrait in oils by David Cox was given to the Hereford Art Gallery by the Rev. C. H. and Mr. R. F. Bailey last week.

OBITUARY MEMOIRS

The Reverend CHARLES HERBERT BINSTED, M.A.

Died 10th January, 1941.

By the death of the Rev. Charles Herbert Binstead, M.A., the Club lost a distinguished scientific member. Mr. Binstead was ordained in 1887 and came to Herefordshire as curate of Eardisley in 1890. He was appointed Vicar of Breinton in 1897, Rector of Whitbourne in 1906, and in 1915 he became Vicar of Mordiford, retiring in 1923. After a residence in Reading he returned to Hereford, where he died on 10th January, 1941, aged 78.

The Club is indebted to him for his valuable contribution upon the mosses of this county, published as a pamphlet in 1940. A man of charming personality, an amateur artist of some ability, and of generous disposition, Charles Herbert Binstead was beloved by all with whom he came in contact.

F. C. M.

CHARLES ANTHONY BENN, O.B.E., M.A., F.G.S.

Born, 1867. Died 25th March, 1941.

The Club has lost by the death of Charles Anthony Benn a keen supporter and a learned contributor to the *Transactions*. He joined the Club in 1919, and occupied the Presidential chair in 1939 and 1940, dying shortly before the expiration of his second term of office.

Benn, a Barrister-at-law of the Inner Temple, though quiet and unobtrusive was a very knowledgeable geologist, arboriculturist, and archæologist, in all of which subjects he took a keen delight. On acquiring the Moor Court Estate in Pembridge about the time of the last war, he devoted himself to developing it on the Forestry side, and also laid out extensive cider apple orchards. He planted many trees for the study of arboriculture, and his collection of poplars was well known throughout the country, including as it did nearly all known varieties of the growth of which and their habits he kept a careful record.

Latterly he made a study of the Early Norman period in Herefordshire, and in his last Presidential Address gave an interesting account of the estates of the Bishops of Hereford as recorded in the early Pipe Rolls, and contributed another paper on the Castles of Herefordshire as found in the same documents. It was unfortunate that he did not live to read these papers to the members before his demise.

Ka

Having accumulated a large number of books on the Norman period, he generously presented them to the Club, and further gave £90 for the purpose of printing a catalogue of our library, the balance of which he desired to be spent on buying further works, which has enabled some valuable additions to be made to those he had already given on this subject.

On the occasion of the Club's visit to the Kington district in 1940, the members were invited to visit Moor Court, when they were entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Benn. At this meeting he recalled many incidents in connection with the place, at the same time adding further particulars, hitherto unknown, more especially in regard to the avenues of trees.

His death is much to be deplored, but the benefits he conferred on the Club will always be gratefully remembered.

G. M.

Captain FRANCIS BEAUMONT ELLISON.

Died 16th November, 1941.

The sudden death of Captain Francis Beaumont Ellison had deprived the Club of an ardent observer of all matters connected with the countryside. A native of Yorkshire he settled at Eardisley in Herefordshire about twenty years ago and joined the Club in 1930. In 1935 he acted as President, and was one of the Vice-Presidents from 1936 to 1938, and served on the Central Committee from that date up to the time of his death.

As a follower of Isaak Walton he made many observations of the habits of the fishes in the Wye, and contributed an outstanding account of that little known fish, the Shad. In addition to his Natural History studies, which covered a wide range, Archaeology also received his attention. The exhaustive account of the Brecon-Hay-Kington Tramway, the details of which he pieced together with infinite pains and difficulty, was a notable achievement. At the time of his death he was engaged in conjunction with Mr. E. H. Morris on the history of another tramroad, namely the Abergavenny-Hereford line.

His death has deprived the Club of an intelligent observer of Natural History phenomena of whom we have only too few.

G. M.

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 „ 11, „ 4 „ bottom *for stirtoni read Stirtoni.*
 „ 14, „ 2 „ bottom *for subinervis read subinermis.*
 „ 18, „ 11 „ bottom *for Mongeotii read Mougeotii.*
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