

42. CHANGE OF EDITOR FOR SOMERSET.—With the issue of the present number of *N. & Q. for S. & D.*, the Editorship of the Somerset section changes hands. This necessity, arising out of matters purely personal, has been imminent for some time past, and the subscribers may be congratulated on the fact that the future services have been secured of a gentleman who is not only willing, but, as his antecedents abundantly prove, unquestionably able to continue the conduct of his share of our local "*Notes & Queries.*"

It is with extreme regret that the late Editor retires from his post. His past career has been crowded with pleasant experiences, and has led to not a few literary friendships, in gratefully acknowledging which he must not forget the universal courtesy of those with whom he has been thrown in contact, whether fellow Editor, contributor, or subscriber, and although his name will not henceforth appear on the title-page, he lives in the hope that he may still be allowed to shew his warm interest in all that concerns the future of this West Country periodical.

"*N. & Q. for S. & D.*" is now fully established, and its success is acknowledged not only in this country, but in America, whilst the support it has continued to receive since its commencement, now two years and a half ago, emboldens its retiring Editor to believe that the foreshadowing contained in the prospectus will be amply realised, and that nothing more than the earnest support of all who feel an interest in its pages will be needed to secure for it a career of usefulness for many years to come.

43. STURMINSTER MARSHALL SURVEY, 1819.—The Rev. James Cross, Vicar of Sturminster Marshall, has placed in my hands for examination a survey of his parish, undated, but evidently of the year 1819,* which gives the names of the owners and their tenants at that period, the acreage and ratings of their holdings, and the names of the fields, or portions of ground, of which the latter are comprised.

This document, which is slightly imperfect, is interesting as illustrating the manner in which the open fields, all traces of which have disappeared since the Inclosure Award in 1845, were divided into small strips or portions among various proprietors, and as indicating the numerous rights of common which were attached to the separate estates or "livings."

There appear to have been five open arable fields called respectively, Pennyworth Field, South Hookland, North Hookland, Greenstreet Field, and Breach Field. These fields, as stated by Mr. Ahuzzath Legg, an old inhabitant, were cultivated

* The parishioners of S. M. were charged by William Summers, Nov. 1st, 1819, the sum of £5 5s. od. for "Perambulating the Parish and drawing a description of the same," and £193 10s. od. for "Surveying the Parish, and making Poor's Rate of the same, 3870a. 1r. 18p. at 1s. per acre."

on a three years' system, the first year being assigned to wheat, the second to barley, oats, or other grain,—the soil not being suitable for peas and beans, which were seldom, if ever, sown,—and the third year the ground was left fallow as a sheep run. By the 18th Sept. in each year all the fields were open for sheep, swine, horses, &c., to run in them, for a longer or shorter period. When the turn for fallow came in the triennial rotation, the fields continued open for this purpose till some time in November at the close of the 3rd year, when wheat sowing for the next year's crop began.*

Three of the fields mentioned above, viz., Pennyworth, and N. and S. Hookland, if not all of them, were divided into portions called Furlongs, and the Furlongs, in their turn, consisted of numerous strips held by different proprietors. The Furlongs ("furrow-longs") as explained by Mr. Seebohm (*English Village Community*, 1884, p. 2.) would normally be the length of the drive of the plough before it turned, which "by long custom was fixed at 40 rods." They varied much in breadth, and in them were comprised a greater or less number of strips of land, usually of an acre or half-acre in extent. On referring to the Sturminster Marshall Survey it may be observed that *Pennyworth Field* contained Bottom Furlong, Quitton Hill F., Lower Crazy F., Higher Crazy F., Piece F., Baily Hill F., Pennyworth Hill F., and Charborough Footroad F.

South Hookland contained Broomhill Bottom Furlong, Elderstump F., Lower Watershard F., Brains Pit F., Baily Ash F., Port Road F., Higher Limepit F., Baily Hill F., Pennylane F., Piece F., Ridon Hill F., Thorn Gould F., Shapwick F., Pigs Bush F., and Sheepwash F.

North Hookland contained Long Combe F., Dargole F., Cocks Ditch F., Greenway F., Everland or Eversland F., Everland Plain, Westley Way, and Broadland.

The three other open fields were also subdivided, but the names of the subdivisions are not recorded in the Survey, except that Long Craut Furlong, a name which survives in "Long Crats," is mentioned as lying in *Breach Field*.

Thus, William Churchill, Esq., Proprietor, (Mrs. Nowlson, Occupier), had within the limits of *Pennyworth Field* 9 distinct pieces of arable land in Bottom Furlong, 6 in Quitton Hill Furlong, 1 in Lower and 1 in Higher Crazy Furlong; in *South Hookland* 19 arable plots, distributed through various Furlongs in the field; in *North Hookland* 13 similar arable plots; in *Sturminster Meadow* 24 nameless plots of meadow land; in *North Hookland*, again, 9 arable plots; in *Greenstreet Field* 20 arable nameless plots; and 15 or upwards (for a leaf is here missing)

* Another old inhabitant maintains that ploughing for barley and oats sowing began at Martinmas, and for wheat sowing on Sept. 18th, or Woodbury Hill Fair.

in Long Craut Furlong in *Breach Field*. These plots, judging by the reference numbers attached to them, were not contiguous, but scattered throughout the respective Fields, and this, I am told by Mr. Legg, was actually the case. He further informed me, at an interview on 15th Aug. last, that the strips of which the Furlongs were composed varied in extent, but the "Head-ground," or Head-land, which ran along the ends of a series of strips, and on which the horses at plough turned, was always larger than the others, as a compensation for the inconvenience so caused to the owner. In addition to this the Head-ground afforded the only access to the strips, and its crop ought to be cut and carried earlier than the rest, since, if this were not the case, it was liable to be trodden down and driven over by the wagons and horses on their way to the respective lands. One of these headlands was denominated "Popjoy's Butt," so called because it *abutted* against some other holding or portion of the field or from its humpy shape, Popjoy being, it seems, an owner who long ago had bequeathed his name to it.*

The cultivation of these strips in the open fields occasionally gave rise to disputes between the several occupiers,—some of whom would greedily plough away nearly the whole "Landshard"† which separated their holdings from those of the adjoining occupiers. Such disputes were arranged by the Jury of twelve men, serving in the Court Leet.

Breach field had but few furlongs, and these of large size, and the majority of them belonged to Mr. Trenchard and Mr. Churchill.

In addition to these arable fields, there was a grass meadow called Sturminster Mead, wherein were numerous strips, usually marked off by stones set at intervals, and many of the strips themselves were "gored," or narrowed to a point at one extremity, "like a cow's tail," as my informant expressed it.‡ This meadow was closed for hay on 14th Feb., and "broke," or was thrown open for cattle on 11th Aug. The hay belonged to the owners of the strips or gores.

The other point of interest presented by this Survey arises with reference to the ancient commonable rights attached to the various holdings. These rights at Sturminster Marshall existed in the Common, in the first swathe of Shapwick Marsh, and in the second swathe of the same, or, as it is usually termed in the Survey, so many rights were owned in *First Marsh*, and so many

* Katheren, dr. of Richard Popjoye, was baptised at S. M., 1611.

† Landshare, i.e., land-division. The strips themselves are usually called "lands" or "launds" in Dorset, though Mr. Legg did not recollect any name for them.

‡ The old inhabitant previously mentioned affirms that the $\frac{1}{4}$ -acre strips of land in Sturminster Meadow were called *Butts*, and those of from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ acre in extent were called *Snakes*.

Second Marsh. Thus, *John Barnes*, in respect of the land he owns, has 40 rights in the Common, 4 in First Marsh, and 8 in Second Marsh; *William Churchill*, Esq., 62½, 21, and 10½ rights, and probably many more, as a leaf of the document is missing at this point, besides one second swathe in Shapwick Marsh once in two years; *J. Trenchard*, Esq., 117½, 59, and 23½; Sir W. W. Yea, 46½, 35, and 10, respectively. Rev. Dr. Heath, Vicar, had 5 rights in the Common, and 10 in First Marsh. Mrs. Grosvenor had but few common rights, but it is stated that in Sturminster Meadow she had "8 feet round the River," equivalent to 1a. 1r. 15p. in extent, and yielding 1s. 8d., when rated at 2s. in the pound.* The Rev. — Bissett and the Feoffees of Lyford Alms House are each mentioned as having a right in Combe Common, a poor piece of ground, which was not generally in "rights," and must be distinguished from the Common already mentioned. The nature of these rights is thus explained by Mr. Legg. No hay, he says, was ever made in Shapwick Marsh, (so named from its situation near the parish of that name, which lies on the opposite side of the river,) but the Marsh was thrown open twice a year, first in June for three weeks and three days, —fully long enough for the consumption of all the grass growing there,— and secondly on the grand event of the neighbourhood, Woodbury Hill Fair, 18th Sept., and it then remained open till 14th Feb. following, Old Candlemas. These open periods were severally called First and Second Swathe. Within the former of these, when the cows had been about nine days or a fortnight feeding upon the grass, a feast of Sillabub was held. This was a joint-stock merrymaking, to which one person would contribute the milk of one cow, another the milk of two, and so on, according to his ability, and Dr. Heath (Vicar 1805—1822) would send a bottle of wine as his contribution to the festivity. The sillabub was made in the milking pails, and drunk after milking time.

Two curious customs were connected with Shapwick Marsh and Sturminster Mead. The Trenchards, as owners of the Newton property, had the right of running a horse in Shapwick Marsh, after the Marsh was "broke," on the condition that it might be used in sending for the midwife, (latterly, for the parish doctor). This condition, even if it were anything beyond a jocular tenure, was never known to be acted on, as the time and trouble consumed in catching the horse would be better employed in sending a foot messenger into Wimborne, for the necessary assistance. Mrs. Grosvenor, of Charborough Park, also had the right (attached to what is now the Reading Room) of running a mare and foal in Sturminster Mead, on the condition that the former might be used in sending for assistance in case of fire.

* It is stated that the hay from this piece was used for the beasts in the Pound.

The common in the moors was open throughout the year. All persons who had rights in the common had authority to run one beast or bullock there, for every several right,—*two* rights admitting *one* horse. These rights were usually let at £1 each, but latterly for £2, but at a rate of 2s. in the pound were in 1819 assessed at 1s. The number of sheep, however, which could be turned upon the arable land when the fields had “broke,” was proportionate to the extent of the strips of land held therein.

The whole of this system of agriculture and pasturage was abolished when the Inclosure Award was settled in 1845, and the land of the parish divided afresh among several proprietors. The customs here narrated could no doubt be more fully and accurately described, if reference could be made to the Court Rolls of the principal Manor in the parish, but in the mean time it will be advisable to place on record the mass of information gathered from the early recollections of Mr. Legg, who is now, in all probability, the only man living who is familiar with the conditions under which farming was in olden time carried on in the parish where he has so long resided.||

The following tabular statement is a summary of the Survey which has formed the basis of the present communication. L=Leaseholder, P=Proprietor, O=Occupier.

Proprietor.	Holding or Occupier.	Acreage. a. r. p.	Rights in Common.	Rights in 1st Marsh;†	Rights in 2nd Marsh;§
John Barnes	Beste's	13 3 18	5	2	2
„	Bartom's and Haysome's	19 3 0	7½		1
„	Dyke's	21 0 26	5		1
„	Keats's	5 3 18	2½		
„	Lower House	16 1 38	5		1
„	Pinchard's	4 1 19			
„	Small's	12 1 11	5		1
„	Titoe's	43 3 10	10	4	2
Henry Banks, Esq.	J. Pearse, O.	5 1 21	2½		
John Bull	Himself	20			
Rev Bissett	Austin's, Tho. Laws, O.	108 0 30	*		
Wm. Churchill, Esq.	Mrs. Nowlson, O.	†			
„	? Jno. Hurdle, O.	36 2 34	11¼	7	2
„	Derham's, John Curtis, O	26 3 11	10	6	2
„	Chin's	4 1 2	2½		††
„	Hawkey's, John Barnes, L. & O.	9 3 3	2½	3 or 5 2	
„	Gould's	3 3 13			
„	Hawkey's, Wm. Thorne, O	3 3 37			
„	Austin's	5 3 2			
„	Home Living	1 0 22	7½		
„	Tile House Living	8 2 11			

|| Mr. Legg has died since this paper was written, viz., on 6th March, 1890.

† Frequently styled “1st Swathe in Shapwick Marsh.”

§ Frequently styled “2nd Swathe in Shapwick Marsh.”

* Right in Combe Common, paying 5s. 5d. when rated at 2s. in the £.

† Upwards of 396 acres, but a leaf is missing here. Mrs. Nowlson's rate at 2s., on Newton Farm, was £30 12s.

†† One right, 2nd Swathe in Shapwick Marsh, *once in two years*.

Proprietor.	Holding or Occupier.	Acreage. a. r. p.	Rights in Common.	Rights in 1st Marsh.	Rights in 2nd Marsh.
Wm. Churchill, Esq.	Holmes (late Gallop's), John Bool, L. & O.	11 3 15	7	2	1
"	Randell's, John Bool, L.	1 0 11	1½		½
"	Herbert Legg, O.	8 2 11	4½		2
"	Carter, O.	3 35	1½		½
"	Jas. Davis, L. & O.	22			
"	Skinner's, Wm. Mackrell, O	10 0 1	5		1
"	Fry's	37 3 35	10	2	2
"	W. Dean, O.	15			
"	W. Cox, O., Cottage, &c.	1 14			
"	W. Bown, O.	272 3 8			
" (P. & O.)	Plantation	160 1 0			
"	Mansion House, Hon. Edw. Harboard, O.	6 0 39			
Crewkerne School	John Barns, O.	3 0 7			
Churchwardens	Henry Hurdle, O.	1 2 9			
Henry Cox, P. & O.	Cottage	13			
Jas. Collins	John Cox, O.	21			
John Cox, P. & O.		1 36			
John Carter		33			
"	Orchard	1 13			
Edith Crabb, P. & O.	Cottage	14			
.... Dugdale	Meadow, H. Hurdle, O.	1 13			
Rev. L. H. Dillon, P. & O.	Meadow	2 0 34			
Robt. Everet, P. & O.		4 2 30			
Francis Everett	Cottage	1 9			
Charles Ellis	Red Lion Inn, Stephen Belben	1 37			
.... Fitch (late)	Thos. Bartlett, O.	16 2 5			
W. Florence, P. & O.	Cottage	10			
Feoffees of Lyford Alms House	Samuel Loader, O.	186 1 30	*		
Mrs. Grosvenor	Willice's, John Bool, O.	58 0 13	12½		2½
"	Late Uson's, John Barns, O.	3 2 22	1½	†	
" (P. & O.)	Plantations	25 3 23			
"	Manor Ho. & Ground, John Foster	1 14			
"	Amor Farm, Messrs. Uphill, O.	456 0 17			
John Gallop, P. & O.	Cottage	16			
Thos. Gallop	Cottage	16			
Rev. Dr. Heath, P. & O.		122 0 1	5	10	
John Haysome, P. & O.	Cottage	1 10			
Sir Jas. Hanham	Late Cains's	3 2 13	2½		
—Jennings, P. & O.	Cottage	17			
H. Jenkins	J. Carter, O.	3 0 38	2½		
"	Cottage	25			
Thos. Kent, P. & O.	Cottage	27			
Andrew Legg	Herbert Legg, O.	14 0 30			
" P. & O.		1 3 27	8½	3	2

* Right in Combe Common, 10s. 4d.

† Eight foot round the river (1a. 1r. 15p.)

Proprietor.	Holding or Occupier.	Acreage. a. r. p.	Rights in Common.	Rights in 1st Marsh.	Rights in 2nd Marsh.
Andrew Legg	Cottage, Henry Legg, O.	35			
"	Late Ilchester's, J. Oxford, O.	3 5			
Aaron Legg, P. & O.	House	1 34			
Wm. Mackrell, P. & O.	King's	16 0 5	5		1
"	Burges's	10 3 37	5		1
"	Banger's	23 0 38	7½		1½
"	Newton Cottage	51 2 34	15		3
"	Bryant's	8 1 19	2½	1	½
"	Quarter Farm	36 1 2	10	7½	1½
"	Pitman's or Drake's	9 1 33	2½		½
"	Gawler's	3 2 4			
"	Adams's	8 0 36	2½		½
"	P. Gallop, O.	4 0 10			
"	P. Jos. Randell, O.	3 17			
Jas. Norton, P. & O.	Cottage	28			
Wm. Pitt, Esq., P. & O.	Meadow	1 2 11			
John Robins,					
"	P. & O. Cottage	25			
"	P. "	21			
John Reeves, P. & O.	Cottage & Smith's Shop.	1 35			
Claude Scott, Esq.,					
"	P. & O. Meadow	1 1 13			
John Trenchard, Esq.	J. F. Hart, O.	296 1 38	77½	59	17
"	Jas. Collins, O.	8 0 1	3½		½
"	Henry Laws, L.				
"	Herbert Legg, O.	13 2 36	5		
"	Short's, John Bool, L. & O.	19 2 17	7½		1½
"	Wingate's	1 2 32	1½		½
"	Flowerence's	2 27	1½		½
"	Corn's Living, J. Curtis, O.	13 3 36	5		1
"	Home Living	12 0 31	3½		1
"	Wm. Thorne, O.	14 1 27	5		1 (?)
"	John Reeves, O.	3 2 6	2½		½
"	John Laws, copyholder,				
"	Haram Legg, O.	1 2 0	1½		½
"	"	1 39	1½		½
"	"	*	1½		½
.... Wickham, Esq.	Herbert Legg, O.	32 0 28	10		2
"	 Adams, O.	288 1 17			
"	Christr Sperrier, Esq., O.	29 1 35			
John Williams, P. & O.	Cottage	38			
Sir W. W. Yea	H. Jenkins, O.	211 1 7	46½	35	10

EDITOR FOR DORSET.

44. PLACE-NAMES, 'SOMERSET AND 'SEAMER.' (I. v. 231, vi. 157, viii. 356, II. ix. 9.)—The "bestowal" of (as I infer) unlearned ink by H.F.N. on this subject is accompanied by the note-worthy circumstance, that we are led entirely away from the point mooted in the original note, and that we are landed in a theory which names the parent after the offspring; and that, moreover, at the sacrifice of common sense as well as experience.

* Apparently not attached to any land.

To be sure, it may be a want of perception on my part, but I admit I do not see either the sense or the experimental probability of Horse-island-mere, Horns-island-mere, Skips-island-mere, or Witherns-island-mere. Might one suggest to H.F.N. the expediency of finding such "high and dry spots" as he wishes to assume, situated as he assumes, either at Whittlesey or any other of the meres he names, that ever could have been such "islands" as he assumes. I know that he cannot in most of them, simply because the waters in question still lie as they always have lain, in hollows with no "high and dry spots" that could ever have been encircled by their waters. Take Hornsea—which, by the way, is written Hornesse (or Horness-e, to suit H.F.N.'s mode of division) in Domesday—which is the largest of the East Riding sea-meres, and the description given of it is as follows:—"A water pretty deep, and always fresh, about a mile and a half long, and half a mile broad: it hath in it three little plots: it is fed with the waters that run into it of the adjoining higher grounds from the north, south, and west: eastward it runs into the sea by a ditch, called the stream-ditch, &c." I doubt H.F.N.'s "high and dry spot" would be bad to find in such a mere as this. Let him consult local descriptions, or study the contours in the Ordnance Survey for the others, and see if he will be able to find one single set of physical facts to back his most notable theory. By the way also, the Domesday form of Whittlesea mere rather disposes of H.F.N.'s theory in another, and some-what inconvenient mode. The said form is Witelesmare, which H.F.N. will find it difficult to expand into "Wittel's-island-mere." And, by the way again, there is another instance of the accretion—if I may still be allowed to term it so—of *mere* upon *sea* at no great distance from Whittlesea-mere, namely Ramsey-mere. Of course this becomes Ram's-island-mere to suit the new theory; Ram, Horse, Horne, Skip and the rest—the felicitously named Wittol always excepted—being, I suppose, men, beasts, or things, to suit convenience or fancy.

On the whole, while it is a little difficult to look upon H.F.N.'s suggestion as a serious attempt to add to the information obtainable, touching the derivation mooted—seeing that the origin of the word Seamer is summarily dismissed by him, at least decisively turned out of court—is it altogether gratuitous, and uncalled for to suggest that such theories as the one in question should be supported by something better than the inventor's "I believe," or that they should at least not be such as to provoke a smile when tried by the touchstone of ordinary common sense? Of course, every elementary student of local nomenclature is aware of the part played by the element *eg*, *ig*, and its many variant forms, in place-names, and of the interest attaching to it by reason of the accretionary process so frequently illustrated in connection with it. But is that any reason why we should be tacitly desired to forget the original name brought under discussion—or Seamer—into

which *eg*, or *ig*, &c., cannot by any possibility be thrust, or to accept a series of guesses at possibilities that could never have occurred? For that seems to be the end of the matter in the communication under notice.

J. C. ATKINSON.

45. EARLY BISHOPS OF BATH AND WELLS. (II. ix. 14.)—

In answer to your correspondent, it may be safely asserted that neither Jocelin nor any of his predecessors assumed the title of Bishop of Bath *and Wells*, in official document or seal.

The statements of Warner, and of others since Wharton's time, 'that the composition between the two chapters, and the assumption by the Bishop of the dual title, took place in Bishop Robert's episcopate', are based on Wharton's and Godwin's authority. Both those writers have been misled, and have misled others, by following an unsupported statement in an anonymous tract in our Registers of the date of the 15th Century, Bishop Bubwith's time, at variance with the consecutive evidence of the earlier Charters in the Registers, which Wharton in '*Anglia Sacra*' (i. 561) has quoted under the title of the 'Canon of Wells.' Notwithstanding it may be safely asserted that there is no evidence to support the statement of the arrangement made by Bishop Robert. I may add that my paper on Roger, "first Bishop of Bath and Wells," forms one of a Series of papers published in the "*Archæologia*," Volumes 50 and 51, which are based on these documents in the Registers of the Dean and Chapter of Wells. I will refer to the paper on "Reginald, Bishop of Bath," in vol. 50, pp. 1-2, and note on p. 11, for a fuller answer to your correspondent than would suit your space. Also he will find this subject treated by another writer, from another point of view, in the "*Genealogist*," of July and October, 1885.

April 14th.

C. M. CHURCH, Wells.

46. KING ARTHUR'S GRAVE. AN EXPLANATION. (I. viii. 362.)—I have gathered the following information with regard to this mysterious stone.

(1). A lady, who visited the spot in 1886, writes that it lies in a recess on the bank of the river Camel, which recess is formed by a natural screen of rocks. The spot is about a mile and a half from Camelford. The length of the stone is 7 or 8 feet; it is very massive, and "shaped curiously." Her companion, a good Latin Scholar, could only make out an A. In the immediate neighbourhood is an old bridge known as *Slaughter's Bridge*, opposite this is the *King's Mill*, and lower down the *Knights' Ford*. She concludes "The place is so unknown, that a gentleman, who resided 20 years in Camelford, had never heard of it; but the people of the land are quite sure of their tradition."

(2). The friend of my Exmoor acquaintance states that some 30 years since, when about "one and half or two miles from Camelford," he encountered a countryman, who offered to show him what he called '*King Arthur's Grave*.' He thinks that it lay about 2 feet above the stream, and considers the recess artificial. The letter A was quite distinct, and he fancies R, but the *Hic jacet Arturus rex*—if he ever mentioned such an inscription—"must have been a joke, or at all events an exaggeration." In a postscript my informant adds that, according to his recollection, "the stone is not on the main Camel river, but on a much smaller stream, somewhere West of Rowtor. I am inclined to think," he concludes, "that it is a mere brook, narrow and shallow, and on the left bank lies the stone."

There is no doubt that both my correspondents refer to the same stone, as I forwarded the latter a copy of the former's sketch, which enabled him at once to identify the spot.

This is the sum of my researches. I am not, myself, in a position to visit the stone. But there are others who are; and surely some Cornishman among the readers of this periodical might, either by himself or his friends, search out the place, and take an accurate copy of the inscription. On such evidence as that before us it is impossible to pronounce an opinion—worth much at any rate. But a stone with a similarly arranged inscription, *i.e.*, lengthwise, has been supposed by a very competent authority, to mark the grave of a British Chief of the 5th or 6th century, and Arthur, according to Mr. W. H. Overall, F.S.A., (*vide* 'Dictionary of Chronology' p. 39,) was "first mentioned in history, 467, . . . assumed the purple, 528, wounded in battle *near Camelford*, and died 535"—(though he adds "buried at Glastonbury.") And surely such names as Slaughter's Bridge, the King's Mill, and the Knights' Ford, are significant of something.

JOHN H. WARDEN PAGE, Williton.

47. MONOLITH ON BATCOMBE HILL. (I. vii. 313, viii. 343, 344, II. ix. 35.)—In the early days of our English Christianity, when there were as yet no Parish Churches, the assemblies of the faithful were held in the open air, at such spots as the convenience of the moment might dictate, or previous appointment might determine. Wherever they met, they first set up a Cross, and that Cross made the place for the time a Church. Of places so consecrated by occasional use there might sometimes be many within a small circuit, before one would approve itself as desirable above all others for the usual Church-place of the district. Sometimes the custom of the neighbourhood would settle upon a single spot, sometimes upon more than one, to hold their Christian assemblies in. When habit had consecrated any such spot, it is natural to suppose that a Cross of a more permanent nature would be erected in that place. In early times it would not

have been a stone cross, but a wooden one of solid and durable structure. At such permanent Crosses was Divine Service held, the Sacraments were administered, and the Word was preached. So much is capable of (I might almost venture to say) documentary proof; I am not however aware of any record that the dead were buried around such Crosses. But we hardly need a written page to assure us that such must have been the custom. For if they did not bury around the Cross of worship, where did they bury? We know that they did not place their dead in the old cemeteries on the downs and wastes, from the simple fact that these were designated 'the heathen burial-places.' They surely buried where they worshipped, as we do now, or did till lately; and the Cross on Batcombe Hill is the stone representative of an early wooden Cross, which was the Church of the district in the first age. In many cases the Cross of worship determined the site of the later parish church, when it took the form of a roofed house; and if for local reasons the Church was pitched elsewhere, an affectionate memory would linger around the old spot, and long survive in a tradition such as that which Mr. Southwell testifies to in his most valuable reminiscence.

J. EARLE.

48. STRONG FAMILY OF SOMERSET.—Hon. Caleb Strong, who was Governor of the State of Massachusetts from 1800 to 1807, and from 1812 to 1816, prepared, more than one hundred and ten years ago, a genealogical account of his family. His emigrant ancestor to New England was Elder John Strong, of whom he gives the following account:—

"He was born and lived in England, at [or near] Taunton, in Somersetshire. His father, whose name was Richard, died while his son was young. His grandfather, who was a Roman Catholic, lived to be very old, but died before his grandson left England.

"He came to America in the year 1630. He sailed from Plymouth, in England, [on the 30th of March, 1630, in the *Mary and John*,] in company with Mr. Warham, Maverick, Mason, Clap, &c., and arrived at Nantucket on the 30th of May, of that year, and settled in Dorchester. He married his first wife in England, who died [on the passage, or] immediately after landing in this country, leaving two young children, the youngest of which died two months after its mother.

"He married his second wife, whose name was Abigail Ford, (she was sister to Capt. Clap's wife,) at Dorchester in 1635 or 1636. He afterwards removed from Dorchester to Windsor, in Connecticut, and with four others, to wit Messrs. Mason, Ludlow, Woolcot and Stoughton, was appointed to bring forward the settlement at that place.

"He lived there several years, and from thence removed to Northampton, in the year 1659 or 1660, where he died April 14th, 1699, about 94 years old. He was the first Ruling Elder of the Church in Northampton. His wife died July 6th, 1688. A sister of his came with him from England, who afterwards married a person by the name of Dean.

"He had 16 children besides that which died young as above mentioned."

The whole of the paper from which the above is extracted was printed from Gov. Strong's own manuscript by his grandson, Edward Strong, M.D., of Newton, Mass., in 1869, in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 23, pp. 294-6. The words within brackets were added by Dr. Strong.

It is supposed that Elder John Strong's first wife was Margery, daughter of William Deane, of South Chard, who died in 1634, and whose will, dated July 22nd, 1634, mentions daughter Margerie Strong, and grandchild John Strong. Elder John Strong's only surviving child by his first wife was named John.

The name of the Mr. Deane who married Elder Strong's sister is not known, but it was probably either John or Walter Deane, (sons it is supposed of the above William Deane, of South Chard,) who came to New England as early as 1638, in which year they settled at Taunton, in Plymouth Colony. Elder Strong settled at Taunton about the same time. Walter Deane, in a deed dated 1691, calls Strong a "brother-in-law," and it was once supposed that Walter's wife, Eleanor, was a sister to Strong, but it has since been ascertained that she was a daughter of a Mr. Cogan. The wife of John Deane was named Alice.

I would be thankful for further information about this family of Strong.

JOHN WARD DEAN,
18, Somerset St., Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

[The Will of Geo. Stronge of Stogursey, Somerset, Gent., proved Feb., 8, 1655-6, mentions his brother John, and his sisters Jane, Elinor and Joane. "Somerset Wills," iv. 66.

EDITOR FOR SOMERSET.]

49. DORSET ADMINISTRATIONS—*Continued*—(II. ix. 10).

1st. January, 1572, to 31st May, 1575.

Folio	Name of Deceased	Parish	Grantee and Relationship to Deceased	Date of Administration.
24	Allen, Henry	Gillingham	John, son	6 Mar., 1572
6	Asheley, Elizabeth	Gyles Wynborne	Henry, husband	30 Apl., 1572
1	Arundell, Dame Margaret, widow	Shaston	Jane Bevill al's Arundell, daughter, with consent of Matthew & Charles, sons	25 Jan., 1571

Folio.	Name of Deceased.	Parish.	Grantee and Relationship to Deceased.	Date of Administration.
27	Boston al's Setherington, Henry	Wymbourne Mynster	Margaret, mother, during minority of Jane, Anne, and Avice, sisters of deceased.	22 Apl., 1573
70	Byrte, James	Shaston	John, son	31 Mar., 1574
5	Cheryet, James	Gussage All Saints	Katherine, relict	28 Apl., 1572
68	Clavill, Walter	Wynfrith Newborowe	Roger, son	1 Feb., 1574
2	Clewes. John, gen.	Poole	(John? illegible) Skerne of Turnerspiddle, arm., during minority of John, Augustine, and Elizabeth children of deceased.	28 Jan., 1571
59	Dakyn, Edward	"Fayrefeld," co. Dorset	William son	7 Oct., 1574
62	Dyrdo, Robert	Gillingham	William Dyrdo, jun., son	17 Nov., 1574
47	Dyrdo, William	Gillingham	Katherine, relict	30 Apl., 1574
7	Foster, John	Winterborne Mynster	William Pulvertoste, of Boston, Lincolnshire, gen., and Giles Grenewood, of Haselbury, Som't, gen., creditors.	16 May, 1572
62	Foster, John	Winborne Minster	John, son	10 Nov., 1574
67	Fuell, John	Chaston	Elizabeth Temple al's Fuell, relict	27 Jan., 1574
7	Harwarde, Anne	Poole	Henry Harwarde, brother	7 May, 1572
15	Harwarde, Anne	Poole	Cicilie Constantyne al's Harwarde, mother, and John and Henry, brothers of deceased	15 Oct., 1572
45	Hillary, Owen	Piddlehinton	Mary, relict	16 Mar., 1573
55	Hillarye, Owen	Piddlehinton	Elizabeth Dyes al's Hillarye, and Joane Styll al's Hillarye, sisters; of goods left unadministered by Mary, relict of deceased	3 July, 1574
13	Holcombe, John	Lyme Regis	Joane, relict	7 Sept., 1572
39	Horde, George	Dorchester	Florence, relict (cancelled)	28 Nov., 1573
40	Horde, George	Dorchester	Florence, relict	1 Dec., 1573
62	Hyatt, Clement	Winborne Mynster	Joan Carter al's Hyatt, sister	10 Nov., 1574
2	Johnson, Clement	Cramborne	Edmund Johnson, of Chevening, kinsman	31 Jan., 1571
64	Myller al's Rawles, Thomas	Frampton	Edith, relict	16 Dec., 1574
16	Orchard, William	Compton Vallaunce	Elizabeth, relict	24 Oct., 1572
64	Rawles, Thomas	See Myller		
68	Scriptures, Helen	Lyme Regis	Agnes Reade al's Pogger, daughter	18 Feb., 1574
27	Setherington, Henry	See Boston		
51	Waglande, Leonard	Wareham	Mary, daughter	22 May, 1574
14	Wiltshire, Edward	Chardestoke	Thomazine, mother	10 Oct., 1572

Folio.	Name of Deceased.	Parish.	Grantee and Relationship to Deceased.	Date of Administration.
36	Windlowe al's Wyndlar, Thomas	LitchettMynster 'parish of SturminsterMarshall'	Baldwin Lake of North Petherton, Somerset, during minority of Baldwin, Mary, and William Shereman, nephews and niece of deceased	16 Oct., 1573

1st June, 1575, to 28th February, 1576.

83	Hancock, John	Poole	Cicilie, relict	28 Sept., 1575
91	Keymer, Elizeus	West Chelborowe	Henry, Giles, and Joane, children	25 Jan., 1575
92	Lack, John	Birport	George Miller of Crewkerne, Somerset, during minority of Peter Lack, next of kin	13 Feb., 1575
86	Makefeld, Henry	Helton	Margery Sondag, aunt	8 Nov., 1575
78	Sergeaunt, Leonard	Fordington	Simon Sprake, of Winstead, Somerset, clothier, creditor	22 June, 1575
93	Sydenham, Thomas	WinfordeEgle	Jane, relict	10 Feb., 1575
89	Webb, Thomas	Wambroke	Joane Dening al's Webb, daughter	2 Dec., 1575

1st March, 1576, to 31st December, 1580.

136	Abbott, Thomas	Lyme Regis	Isabelle, relict	28 Nov., 1577
150	Bonner, Agnes	Lyme Regis	William Whitcomb, junr., brother	20 July, 1578
188	Carter, John	Wymbermyster	Joan, relict	29 Jan., 1579
108	Coothe, Robert	Etmynster	Rabecca, relict	8 Oct., 1576
182	Cottrell, Thomas	"Almontisbury," co. Dorset	Juliane, relict	21 Nov., 1579
135	Day, Robert	Lyme Regis	Elizabeth, relict	20 Nov., 1577
215	Downton, John	Wootton Glanfeld	Christine, relict	10 Dec., 1580
203	French, Stephen	Birport	Isabelle, relict	31 July 1580
119	Guppy, Stephen	Charmouth	Cicelie, relict	26 Mar., 1576
126	Hallett, Thomas	Netherbury	Walter, brother	10 June, 1577
157	Harward, John	Poole	Joane, relict	27 Nov., 1578
149	Hawley, Avicia	Melcome	John Hawley, brother	30 June, 1578
110	Hunt, Hercules	Lyme Regis	John, brother	20 Nov., 1576
117	Hunt, Hercules	Lyme Regis	Richard, father	9 Feb., 1576
215	Hunt, John	Chedington	Nicholas, brother	3 Dec., 1580
157	Jeanes, John	Sherburne	Joan, relict	19 Nov., 1578
187	Keyle, Thomas, gen.	Bagbeare	Ralph Fuliver, kinsman	31 Jan., 1579
180	Longe, William	Lyme	Alice, relict	22 Oct., 1579
142	Lymbery, John	Charmouth	Margery, relict	14 Mar., 1577
144	May, Cuthbert	Wymborne	Anne (? Amie), relict	28 April, 1578
119	Pridyaux al's Stone Elizeus	Corff Castle	John Nynum of Essington, parish of Worth, creditor	28 Mar., 1576
104	Reve, Robert	Randellston	Margaret, relict	31 July, 1576
210	Rosse, Christopher	Poole	John Forrest of Poole, creditor	22 Oct., 1580
119	Stone, Elizeus	See Pridyaux		
187	Tuberville Nicholas	Winterbourne Whitechurch	Anne, relict	27 Jan., 1579

Folio.	Name of Deceased.	Parish.	Grantee and Relationship to Deceased.	Date of Administration.
187	Tucker, Agnes	Dallwood	Joan Newton al's Tucker, and Christine Edwards al's Tucker, daughters	29 Jan., 1579
110	Watson, John	Morecrichell	Elianore (Alice struck out) relict	3 Nov., 1576
138	Wiffin, William	Preston	Peter Wiffin, and Isabell Payne, brother & sister; Thomas Payne, husband of Isabell; during minority of John, William, Robert, Arthur, Eleanor, and (blank) Wyffin, children of deceased	28 Jan., 1577
164	Wymyff, Elizabeth	Sherborne	Robert, son	21 Feb., 1578
1st January, 1581, to 30th September, 1583.				
12	Barber al's Prince, William	Milton	John, son	19 May, 1581
22	Bragg, Thomas	SuttonPoyntz	Leonard, brother	30 Oct., 1581
55	Cave, Thomas, son and heir of Peter Cave.	Lodborne, p'ish of Gillingham	Joan Rowden al's Cave, aunt and next of kin	24 Dec., 1582

GEO. S. FRY.

(To be continued.)

50. THE PEN PITS.—Notwithstanding the injunction of H.M. Inspector of Ancient Monuments that the controversy on this subject must be considered at an end, I venture to re-open it, to introduce a new idea, to which he can scarcely object when he learns that it is suggested by an observation of his own at the end of his Report upon his Excavations there in 1884.

My first antiquarian study was Mr. Thomas Kerslake's 'Primæval British Metropolis,' upon which I came to the conclusion that he had satisfactorily proved the identity of Pen-Selwood with Pen-Sauelcoit; but that he left the question of the Pen Pits just where it had been left by Sir R. Colt Hoare half a century earlier. Afterwards I had a conversation with the late Mr. Godwin Austen (my early archæological guide), who assured me that the pits were only holes out of which iron stone had been taken; and as in many places in Surrey iron stone is found just below the surface, I could very well acquiesce in this solution; and two or three years ago I learnt from a gentleman well acquainted with the West of England, that some years ago iron-works were established and worked for some time at Castle Cary, not far from Pen-Selwood, which tended to corroborate this iron-stone theory in the district. But even after this I could never quite reconcile the entire absence of the discovery or sign of any evidence in confirmation, such as cinder-heaps, ashes, scoriæ, or tools, with the fact of an iron industry or working having been carried on here; and I was by no means satisfied.

Very lately, however, in looking for a book, I happened to take up Mr. Kerslake's pamphlet of 1885, on the 'Liberty of Independent Historical Research,' in answer to H.M. Inspector's Report above mentioned, which I had read at the time, and considered a very smart rejoinder.—Opening it by chance my eye rested on a passage which stated that the soil at the Pen Pits is gravel resting on a sand-rock.—Gravel! I thought; why, iron stone is not found in gravel but in sand.—This showed me at once that Mr. Austen's theory, that the pits were mere stone quarries, could not be correct, and so I became all unsettled again as to their origin; and I was induced to read the pamphlet again till I came to p. 50, where Mr. Kerslake refers to what he calls H.M. Inspector's 'Recantation' of the whole of his preceding Report, which, he says, winds up with the confession 'There is nothing in the results of my investigation which either favors or disproves the supposition that this spot may have witnessed some such concerted action of independent tribes at the time of Vespasian's invasion; but we have no grounds for supposing that they were permanently organized in large cities' (Report pp. 12, 13).—In a moment my reflection was Exactly, that is it; this was not, as supposed, a large city, or (so called) metropolis, but a huge Intrenched Camp of Refuge, extemporized for the occasion by the Britons to resist the Roman invasion; not a permanent settlement of any kind, but a temporary encampment, used so long as it was required, and when no longer of use, vacated and abandoned, and remaining *in statu-quo* ever since (except of course such portions as have been levelled and cultivated). We learn that Vespasian, finding himself resisted in his attempt to land at Richborough, sailed to the shore of Totoneys (Totonesium littus, which, I say, is at Portland and the Chesil Fleet), and marched to besiege Caer Pensauelcoit (Pen Selwood); that after seven days siege of this Caer he was overtaken by the Britons under their leader, Gweyrid; that a battle was fought in which the Romans were victors, and thereupon a peace was concluded; and Vespasian, after swearing Gweyrid to perpetual fealty, returned to Rome.

Well, after peace was made, there was no further use for, or need to remain in this vast encampment, and it was consequently vacated and abandoned, a prey to the elements, and the occupants returned to their homes; and the effects of the elements upon it are such as we see to-day. These temporary occupants would naturally take home with them all their belongings, leaving nothing but their broken crockery and rubbish, and perhaps some heavy querns, which could be easily replaced at home; and this readily accounts for 'little or no pottery being found,' and 'the more than usual scarcity of relics,' in the Inspector's excavations, and may be also admitted as 'evidence conclusive against any permanent habitation theory.' The huts of this temporary encampment would of course be of the kind in ordinary use by the Britons,

viz., a hole dug in the ground and roofed with boughs and thatch, and no place could be found more suitable for this purpose than this dry gravel, with a sand rock for the floor. And the observation of Sir R. C. Hoare as to the 'opening of so many thousand pits over an extensive tract of land, in precipitous situations on the steep side of hills,' tends to show how enormous must have been the press of the population assembled in this encampment over 700 acres, when the last comers, being unable to find a lodgment on the level ground, were compelled to adopt any situation they could get on the steep sides of the hills.

Upon a review of the whole matter it would appear that Mr. Kerslake erred only in considering this densely peopled spot to be a permanent 'Metropolis' instead of a temporary encampment.

H. F. NAPPER, Loxwood, Sussex.

51. SUCCESSION OF NONCONFORMIST MINISTERS IN DORSET.
BLANDFORD. (I. viii. 370, II. ix. 13.)—The following extract from the Church Book of the Congregational Church, Blandford, under date of July 3rd, 1867, will furnish particulars with respect to the succession of Pastors in that town.

"It is believed that a Congregation of Protestant Dissenters existed in Blandford before the passing of the Act of Uniformity in 1662; and that the origin of the present Congregational Church is to be found in that early society. In the absence of authentic documents respecting the settlement of the first pastors, all that can be affirmed is that, since about 1662, there have been but five ministers, including the present pastor.

The names of these pastors and the particulars respecting their settlement are as follows:—

Rev. Mr. Powell, about 1662.

„ Malachi Blake, about 1705.

„ Henry Field, assistant to Mr. Blake, 1753.

invited to the pastorate, 14 March, 1760.

ordained 28 May, 1760.

died 5 June, 1821.

„ Richard Keynes, invited to the co-pastorate, 25 June, 1802.

ordained 9 Sept., 1802.

died 22 Sept., 1853.

„ Benjamin Gray, invited to the pastorate, 5 March, 1855.

ordained 17 Oct., 1855."

To this extract the following notes may be added:—

The information respecting Mr. Powell's settlement is traditionary. It is, however, confidently believed by some that his ministry extended over about 50 years.

The doubt respecting the exact date of Mr. Blake's settlement may be accounted for by the fact that the great fire in 1731,

of which Mr. Blake left a published account, destroyed the Chapel and probably such records as may have existed relating to the previous history of the Church.

"The Aged Pastor," by Rev. R. Keynes, printed and sold at Blandford, 1821, gives a Biographical Sketch of the Rev. H. Field. An appendix contains Mr. Blake's account of the Fire.

B. GRAY, The Manse, Blandford.

[Mr. Gray, who has kindly forwarded these particulars, relinquished his pastorate on the 25th of March last.]

52. BISHOP STILL AND SOMERSET PARISH REGISTERS.—Whilst reading an Exchequer Deposition of the reign of James I., I found an incidental mention of a recent order by Bishop Still to the effect that all paper Registers were to be forthwith transferred to parchment. This order is of course well known. It dates A.D., 1597. It may be worth while to record that the deponent, who makes this statement, was William Bryan, parish clerk of Freshford. He says that the old book began in the year 1563, was written on paper, and copied out by him on parchment. He further states that the injunction of the Bishop was 'general to all Ministers that had cure within the diocese.' It is unfortunate that the Parish Registers of Freshford perished in a fire, which broke out in the vestry within the memory of men, who were gray-headed seniors some quarter of a century since. Bryan's deposition is in itself unimportant, but it may serve as a specimen of the endless little fragments of history that are to be met with in the Exchequer Depositions. I have had occasion to consult one or two lately, and have found a great deal in them. The deponents are usually old men, and their reminiscences as to the tenure of property, description of houses, walls, etc., are often invaluable, and supply many a missing link of explanation. Thus, one witness, A.D., 1633, ninety years of age, has furnished me with the exact succession of certain property holders, and has also placed on record a description of boundaries, with other details, which he gained from 'old men' when he was young. I am told that these documents have not been sufficiently used for literary work.

HENRY GEE, St. John's Hall, Highbury.

53. AGRICULTURAL PRICES IN 1277.—There is an entry on the Patent Roll of the 5th of Ed. I., 1277, which gives us an insight into the money value of Agricultural produce of that period, and is therefore interesting.

Richard le Waleys, Knt., claimed against the Archbishop of Canterbury two parts, less 28 acres, of the manor of Tarring in Sussex. The question was submitted to a jury, who held that the manor was a member of the church of Canterbury and was farmed by the claimant at a rent of £18 a year, or an equivalent in

provisions at the will of the Archbishop. But if the latter should wish to receive the rent in kind in lieu of such money payment, he was to go to the manor and stay there until he had received the amount in provisions at the following prices.

A quarter of wheat 18d.—A quarter of oats 8d.—A carcase of an ox 16d.—A full grown male pig 8d.—A fat carcase of a sheep 4d.—Four gallons of good ale 1d.—A good goose 1d.—Four good hens 1d.—100 eggs 1d.

The tenant to provide the Archbishop gratis, during his stay, with coal, litter, salt, earthen vessels, cups, dishes and new wooden platters, and he was to have hay for nothing.—[Rot. Pat. 5, Ed. I., m. 15 and 16.]

T. BOND.

54. SOMERSET JUSTICES, 1584.—No. 737 of the Lansdown MSS. in the British Museum, contains a list of persons qualified as Justices of the Peace in every County, about the year 1584. The Somersetshire list consists of 44 persons, besides official Justices, viz.,

Edwds Seymour, miles	Edwardus St. Barbe
Amicius Pawlett „	John Brett
Georgius Norton „	Georgius Sydenham
Johes. Younge „	Johes. Coles
Johes. Sydenham „	Thomas Phillipps
Johes. Horner „	Gabriel Hawley
Johes. Horsey „	Johes. Harrington
Hen ^r . Portman „	Ricus Watkyns
Johes. Stowell „	Johes. Sydenham
Johes. Clyfton „	Jacobus Byssse
Johes. Popham, attornat', &c.	Alex ^r . Pyne (mort)
Edwardus Seymour	Matthew Gairns (?)
Johes. Thynne	Willus Saxa
Nichas. Wadham	Thomas Garvynt (?)
Hen ^r . Barkley	Johes. Keynes
Ricus Warr	Antonius Scutt
Edwardus Popham	Willms. Hill
Cristoferus Kenne	Humfrus Wyndham
Arthurus Hopton	Phus. Poyntz
Willms. Bureman	Edwardus Hext
Johes. Lancaster	Samuel Newton
Johes. Buller	Johes Fraunceys

It is a striking example of what is called "The vicissitude of families" that, as far as the writer can ascertain, the families of all these forty-four worthies are extinct in the male line, (extinct indeed altogether according to the maxim "*Mulier est finis familiæ*,") except five, the representatives of whom are Justices now, and hold the same estates as their ancestors did. These are

Sir Amias Poulett, Kt., now represented by Earl Poulett.

Sir John Horner, Kt., " " Mr. Horner of Mells.

John Thynne, " " The Marquis of Bath.

Henry Barkley, " " Viscount Portman.

Thomas Phillippis, " " Mr. Phelips of Montacute.

J. B.

[Matthew Ewens and Tho. Gawen of Horsington. See 1623 Visitation of Somerset, pp. 36, 39. For W. Saxa, see Somerset Arch. Proc., xxxiii, ii, 32. EDITOR FOR SOMERSET.]

55. CHRONOGRAM AT SHERBORNE SCHOOL.—The following inscription is to be seen over the outer door of the Schoolhouse dining-hall, formerly the Schoolroom, of Sherborne School.

Tecta Draco custos Leo vinDeX fLos Decus auctor
ReX pius haec servat protegit ornat aLit.

For the benefit of those of your readers who do not know the site of the inscription, let me say that it is underneath and descriptive of a coat-of-arms of Edward VI. In translating it note that the subject of *servat* is *draco*, of *protegit* is *leo*, of *ornat* is *flos*, and of *alit* is *rex*.

It is commonly known that this inscription gives the date of the building in the following way. Take the red letters and add them up:—

$$D + L + D + X + L + D + X + L \\ = 500 + 50 + 500 + 10 + 50 + 500 + 10 + 50 = 1670.$$

But I am certain that this is not all, for it seems unlikely that the result, which I give below, is a mere accident. If you take the red letters in pairs, and treat the combination LD as you would treat XL, you get the date of the foundation of the School itself:—

$$DL + DX + LD + XL = 550 + 510 + 450 + 40 = 1550.$$

W.B.W.

56. THE CRANE IN SOMERSET.—On the 6th of December, 1889, a fine specimen of the Crane (*Grus communis*) was shot near Stolford, on the coast of the Bristol Channel. In early times the Crane was very numerous in this country, as appears from many references to it in documents and historical records. Giraldus Cambrensis states that in his time—towards the end of the 12th century—Cranes were so numerous in Ireland, that as many as a hundred might often be seen in one flock. Hawking was the favourite mode of taking them, and many instances are recorded of its having been served at grand banquets, as were also the bustard and swan. Before the middle of the 16th century, however, it was noticed that the Crane was diminishing in numbers, and an Act was passed prohibiting the taking of their

eggs, a penalty being imposed. Up to this time, therefore, it would appear that they bred regularly in this country, the fen district being their chief resort. The gun, the drainage of the marshes, and the increase of population, all contributed to lessen their numbers, and it is pretty certain that for three centuries past the crane has ceased to breed in the British Islands. Considerable numbers, however, appear to have visited this country at the period of their annual migration, but during the present century it can only be looked upon as an occasional straggler to our shores.

The particular specimen now under consideration proved to be a male bird in very fine plumage, having nearly completed its moult. A few rusty feathers appear here and there, and the plumes on the wings would probably have grown a little longer, if the period of its death had been delayed for a week or two. But for all this the bird must be considered as an exceptionally fine specimen. Its weight was just under 13lbs.; length from bill to toe, 5ft. $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length from bill to tail, 4ft.; expanse of wing, 7ft.; from the carpal joint to tip of wing, 1ft. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; length of tarsus, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; bare space above the tarsus, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; as stuffed, the bird stands 4ft. 1in. high. These measurements seem to be rather above the average. The bird appears to have been shot whilst feeding, as the gullet was filled with beans and a few small field snails. It is in the possession of Sir Alexander Hood, of St. Audries. It is not a little singular that about 24 years ago a crane was shot by Mr. Haddon, of Taunton, within a very short distance of the spot where the present specimen was killed. It was a young bird, and is still in Mr. Haddon's collection.

3rd April, 1890.

WM. BIDGOOD, Taunton Castle Museum.

57. HAYWARD BRIDGE, DORSET.—In Hutchins, (2nd Ed., Vol. I., p. cxv.), is a List of Bridges in the County, made out at Easter Sessions, 1791, including "Hayward Bridge, over the River Stour, 6 arches, Shillingstone—Child Okeford, repaired by Trustees of Lady Hayward's Charity." Can any one give information as to who this "Lady Hayward" was and when and where she died? Was she of the family of Howard of Bindon? If she made any bequest to the bridge, it must have been subsequent to 1600, as in that year the bridge was referred to under its old name of Hayford Bridge in an Inquisition held under the Act 39 Elizabeth, cap. 6, (lands, &c., given to Charitable Uses).

GEO. S. FRY, Cædmon, Albert Road, Walthamstow.

58. MS. NOTES IN OLD BOOKS.—May I suggest that marginal MS. notes, especially when contemporary, or nearly contemporary with the publication of the work, sometimes found in old books, might throw light on our local history, and be of interest to readers of *S. & D. N. & Q.*? I append an example

from a folio copy of Hall's *Contemplations*, which I have lately had before me.

On the fly leaf is the date 1641, accompanied by the words *Mors sceptrā ligonibus æquat Jan. 18. Ita juxta officiu' I.N. inseruit Ecclesiæ Rector.*

Hen : Albin he wth his wife Ann being owners of this habitation.

The Second Book on 'The Honour of the Married Clergie maintained' is copiously annotated, and it is there seen that I.N. stands for *John Norton*, a Minor Canon of Bristol.

There is first this note :

Of Superior Clergy as Archbys, Bishops, Archdeacons, Canons—ita statuit Johes Norton olim e civitate Bristol demi-Canonicus et Custos bibliothecæ libris magni pretii Repletæ.

Then follows this :

Edward Norton according to the books of 39 Articles for y^e National Church of England or Great Brittan and Ireland. Clergie parsons may marie 1 wife.

In case a Bishop or Dean of any Cathedral or a Canon of St. Andrews, or Prebendary of yr St. Aug. have cheife tho not sole powre to choose the successors to those ecclesiasticall dignities y^m selves enjoyed as Dean, Canon, or Prebend, with those Lands and Parsonages to their predecessors appertaining.

Lib iii In case likewise y^t a Clergy parson and Vicar as at North Cadbury, Shepton Mallet, Ditchet, Thom. Holt of Lamiat, Mr. Allen of Batcomb have not sole but cheife power to choose their suc. from either Universitie of Oxford or C.——

A Discourse has this printed title :

The True Peace-Maker Laid Forth in a Sermon before His Majesty at Theobalds, September 19, 1624. By Jos. Hall, London. Printed by Ric. Hodgkinsonne in Little Britaine, 1641.

Underneath John Norton has commented thus :

"Printed 17 years after Preached. Delay such maks me I.N. no parson having bin a dubble Beneficed man."

JAMES COLEMAN.

59. GILLINGHAM MANOR—SINGULAR JURISDICTION.—It is not often that the old Manor Courts are found to exercise a right of punishing witches and persons neglecting to attend the parish church ; and for this reason, if for no other, the following entries, which are to be found in the Court Rolls of the Manor of Gillingham, may not prove uninteresting to your readers :—

2^o Elizabeth. Maij 7. Lib'i Decenne.

"Decinnar' ibm ven't & p'sent q'd qued'm Cecilia Lambert vid' inhi'tans inf' Decenn' p'd est mulier male fame & gravit' suspect' de incantand' Et i'o p'cept' Cecilie ad prox' cur' inferre duos sufficient' manucaptor' p' bona gesta ipsius Cecilie sub pen' exilij de hoc man'io."

It is presumed that Cecilia was able to procure the required sureties, as we find her still resident within the manor in the 17 Elizabeth, when she and her daughter were presented for absenting themselves from Church. "P'sent Jurator' q'd Cecillia Lambert et Katherina filia ipsius Cecillie inhabitan' de Maggeston div'sis diebus Dominicis et aliis diebus festis in p'niciocissimu' exemplu' al' inhabitan' ab edib's sacris de Gillingham abesse solent sine aliqua causa rationabil' i'o p'd Cecillia in m'ia et p' est illis impostea deli'qint pete' sine sacris edibs adesse ut p'x' et alii inhabitanc' assuescunt' et uti Christianos magis deceat sub pena cuilb' X^s. Et ult' p'c est decenn' p'tes p'd attach' q' sint ad p'x ad rend' de trans' p'd'."

May 6, 1890.

J.L.

60. A BEWITCHED HOG AT MARTOCK.—In *The Postmaster; or The Loyal Mercury* (an Exeter newspaper published by A. Brice), of June 7, 1723, is the following singular narration. Is any tradition of it yet preserved in the locality?

"For Mr. Andrew Brice, &c.

Martock, in Somerset, June 1st, 1723.

Sir,

About 5 days ago a certain Person of this Parish (of *Martock*) having a large fat Hog, which he intended to have Butchered, just before *Whitesuntide*, in order for a Supply of Roasted Pork, both for himself and entertainment of those of his friends who were disposed to pay him a visit; it happened a day or two before that which was set apart for the slaughter of the said Hog, the Owner of it perceived 'twas something sick: he immediately sent for the Butcher to kill it, that being (as he thought) the likeliest mean [*sic*] to prevent it's natural Death. Accordingly the Butcher came, and when he had perform'd his Work so as to prevent the Death of the Sick Beast, he hung it up in the usual manner, and so goes to open the body thereof: But, as soon as he had made an Entrance, there burst out a Flame of Fire, and continued for a considerable Time, which very much surprised the Butcher and all those that were present: But at length they found means to extinguish the Flame, and the Butcher opened it throughout; and it's Body was scorched in such a wonderful manner as rendered it unfit for Food for Men, or Carrion for Dogs: So they immediately buried it. Now, all this is imputed to the Diabolical Art of an Old Woman in the neighbourhood, who a few Days before desired she might have the Guts of the said Hog, for to make (what the country-people call) *Knottlings*, but was denied. Although this may seem *strange* and *incredible*, the Truth of it is *positively affirmed* by many of the inhabitants of the aforesaid place, who were *Eye-Witnesses* of the very Thing; therefore have sufficient ground to maintain it's Truth, if the Old Proverb hold good, *Quod videmus credamus*. This being such a

Remarkable Occurrence, I thought it very well deserved to have a Place in your Papers; for which Reason I took care to transmit the Relation to your Hands.

I am, Sir, your Humble Servant,

For such kind of Service,

THEOPHILUS SPRATTON."

T. N. BRUSHFIELD, M.D., Salterton, Devon.

61. DORSET MSS. IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—The following is a list of MSS. relating to Dorset, in the collection of Additional and Egerton MSS. in the British Museum Library, with their press marks, extracted from the catalogues and indices.

Dates of Catalogues.		Press Marks.
1782	Religious houses. Register of sequestrations	
to	in 1645-1647	8845.
1835	Parliamentary survey of Church lands, 1650	8846.
	Papers relative to institutions to livings ..	8847.
	List of sheriffs, 1644-1756	5832, f. 179.
	Notes by T. Baker, B. Willis, and W. Cole respecting religious houses in Dorset ..	5827, f. 187 b.
1836	Letters patent of Ed. VI. granting manors in	
to	that and other counties, A.D. 1549 ..	Add. ch. 4607.
1840	Deed of T. Tropenelle, conveying lands there to uses assigned by his will, 5 June, 1523 ..	Add. ch. 5140.
1841	Grimm's drawings of Churches, mansions,	
to	&c.	15,537-15,548.
1845		
1846	Bibliographical collection by W. Upcott ..	15,921.
to		
1847		
1848	Account of pensions to suppressed religious	
to	houses in Dorset	19,047.
1853	Charters relating to	Add. ch. 8,388-8,396.
1854	Papers relating to the County, 19 cent. Lat.	
to	and Eng.	24,775; 24,776.
1875	Bawdwen's translation of the Dorsetshire	
	Domesday, 19 cent... ..	27,768.
	Extracts from records relative to land in,	
	18-19 cent.	24,723; 24,725.
	Deeds relating to lands in, temp. Hen. iii.—	
	Eliz. 15,436-15,452; 23,841-23,844	Add. ch. 9198-9202.
	Calendar of fines in, 7 Rich. i.—2 Rich. iii. 19 cent.	21,271.
	Index of places to the Pedes Finium for,	
	temp. Eliz. 19 cent... ..	21,273.
	Placita de Assisis captis in, 1405-1411. 17 cent.	25,174.
	Deeds of estates in, belonging to Vaux	
	College, 15 cent. Lat. <i>copies</i>	28,870.

Dates of Catalogues.		Press Marks.
1854	Church Notes in, by J. Hunter, 19 cent. . .	24,577.
to	Arms of families in, 19 cent. . .	19,817, ff. 3-28.
1875	Warrant to the Royal Auditor in 1603 <i>copy</i> . . .	27,404, f. 45.
	Letters from the standing committee of 1644	
	-1646	29,319 ff. 15, 21, 23, 36, 38.
	Order to the Commissaries of garrisons in,	
	1644	29,319, f. 26.
	Letter to the committee of Dorset from the	
	committee of both kingdoms, 1644 . .	Eg. 2126, f. 15.
	Letter from the Deputy Lieutenants to the	
	Duke of Richmond, 1671	21,948, f. 100.
	Inquisition of lands of A. de Lincoln, 1264	
	-1299	Add. ch. 24,879.
1876	Præcipe to the sheriff, 1277	Add. ch. 26,753.
to	Inquisition of lands of W. de Montacute,	
1881	A.D. 1278	Add. ch. 26,753-26,754.
	Papers relating to the 16th and 17th cent. . .	29,976.
	Commission for valuation of Church property	
	A.D. 1545	30,238.
	Rental of R. Pexall's lands, 1549 . .	Add. ch. 26,560-26,561.
	Crown acquittance for fine of lands in 1567 . .	Add. ch. 25,583.
	Memorial of the justices to the Coffer of	
	the Household, 1590	29,975, f. 7.
	Petition to parliament, 1641	29,975, f. 130.
	Plans of earth works, stone circles, &c. 19 cent. . .	31,333.
1882	Analysis of Domesday and extracts from	
to	records by R. W. Eyton, 19th cent. . .	31,925-31,927-31,932
1887		ff. 190b, 193b.-200.
	Inquisitio Gheldi of, compared with Domes-	
	day, by R. W. Eyton, 19th cent. . .	31,935, f. 147.
	Notes from the Testa de Nevill relating to	
	by the same, 19th cent.	31,940, f. 208b.
	List of visits of King John by same, 19th	
	cent.	31,932, f. 194b.
	Deeds relating to, 1615-1766.	29,512-29,525.
	Petition of the justices to the Duke of New-	
	castle, A.D. 1749	32,718, f. 147.
	Accounts of the Duke of Newcastle's estates	
	in, A.D. 1754-1774	33,165.
	Casts of seals relating to (see page 322 of catalogue)	
	Collections for the history of several of the	Add. 17,459.
	counties of England, comprising notices	to
	and sketches of churches and gentlemen's	17,463.
	seats, copies of inscriptions, monuments,	
	brasses, &c., by the Rev. David Thomas	
	Powell, in 8 vols. Vol. iv contains Dorset-	
	shire, and vol. viii Somersetshire.	

In a search for other matter I accidentally came upon the following drawings :—

	Press Marks.
Wareham after the fire in 1762, by J. Scalpen	31,323
Plans of earthworks, stone circles, tumuli, &c. in Dorset, (large folio) by W. M. Flinders Petrie.. .. .	31,333 ff. 80.
Water colour drawings, and plans of monastic buildings, churches, &c., in Dorset and Somerset	31,362-31,380.

As the titles of these do not appear to be given in the indices, it is as well that some record of their existence should be preserved.

(*To be continued.*)

W. MILES BARNES.

62. A RARE ORNITHOLOGICAL VISITOR.—On June 16th, 1887, a strange looking bird was observed by some girls, crouching on a small tumulus in a meadow, near the river Parret, where it is crossed by the road leading from South Petherton to Martock. On approaching it, it was too exhausted to attempt escape, and the finders took it home, hoping that by careful feeding and nursing it might be revived. It was plentifully supplied with water, and it ate some slugs and small snails, but unfortunately it died in the night of the 17th, about thirty hours after its capture.

It proved to be a specimen of the Puffin (*Fratercula Arctica*), which is noticed by Mr. W. Baker, in an article entitled "Somersetshire Fauna," in Vol. I. of the Proceedings of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society (1851), and again by Mr. Cecil Smith, in a paper on the "Birds of Somerset," in Vol. XVI. of the same Journal (1871), as "an occasional straggler on the coast." The fact here recorded is noteworthy, inasmuch as the weather was fair and calm and had not been stormy, and the bird shewed no mark of injury. The spot where it was found is twenty miles, more or less, from the nearest point of the Somerset coast on the N., and fully fifteen from the Dorset coast on the S. A flight from the former would have been up the flat valley of the Parret; whilst from the latter, it would have involved the crossing of some of the highest ground in the neighbouring county.

H.N.

63. TRENCHARD FAMILY.—In the vestry of Arlesey Church, co. Beds., is a rectangular oak board with an impaled shield and inscription, as under :

Arg., on a bend gu. 3 lions' heads caboshed of the field between 2 fleurs-de-lys ar. — *Crest*.—A hind's head per pale indented ar. & az. holding in his mouth a broad arrow or, feathered and headed ar.—BOLTON. Impaling, Quarterly 1 & 4, paly, arg. &

sa.; ? TRENCHARD. 2 & 3, Or, 3 eagles displayed—, membered and beaked gu.—?—*Crest*.—A cubit arm erect, vested az., cuffed ar., holding in the hand ppr. a sword of the second.

“Neer vnto this place lieth buried y^e body of
Katherin y^e wife of Thomas Bolton Gent. &
daughter of William Trenchard of Cv-f-i ge
who departed this life y^e 30 f 1652.”

The paint has peeled, consequently the inscription is not quite perfect, no space appears to have been left for the month. According to the Bishop's transcripts Katherine Bolton, wid., was bur. 19 Jul., 1652. Can anyone tell me if the Trenchard above named is of the Dorsetshire family of that name, and identify the 2nd and 3rd quarters of the impaled coat? Thos. Bolton apparently was of a Pembroke family.

F. A. BLAYDES, Bedford.

64. CHURCH BRIEFS. (I. viii. 375, II. ix. 24.)—Annexed are some briefs collected in Mere, and entered in our Churchwardens' accounts under the several years given. I think they may be of interest to the readers of *S. & D. N. & Q.*

THOMAS H. BAKER, Mere Down, Wilts.

March ye 31—1678.

A Breife published for y^e Releife of 33 families in the pish of Blandford-forum in the County of Dorsett by meanes of a Lamentable fire that hapned there May y^e 24 last past, susteyned losse to the valeiu of Three Thousand ninty twoe poundes and eight Shillings.

Collected xis. iiijd.

1683. Collected July y^e ffirst for Charleton Hooerthorne in ye County of Somst. 10s. ood.

1686. Itm. gatherd a Breiffe ffor Bemister and collected the sum of 1li. 6s. 6d. and pd. the same to Ben Beech o1li 06s. 6d.

1687. Itm. collected ffor Merroet Breiffe the sum of ooli 04s. 10½d.

Briefs 1704. Collected for Francis Dorset, Apr. 29th. 5s. 3d.

1683. May y^e 3rd, 1682.

Then deliv'd to Benjamin Beech collected for y^e parish of Prestone oo—10s.—10d.

65. DORSET PECULIARS.—Can any of your readers give a complete list of the “Peculiars” which existed in the County of Dorset, till they were abolished under 6 and 7 Will. IV., c. 77, sect. 10? (*Hook's Church Dictionary*.) Were they all styled *Royal* peculiars? Some, as Wimborne Minster and Canford Magna, still issue marriage licences. Can all Peculiars still claim that right, or any other rights? Had each Peculiar its seal, and who is the proper custodian of the seal in cases where

it is never now used? In the few instances within my knowledge the seals date about 1660—1690. Is the similarity of date accidental? Could not the archdeacon of Dorset and the Rural Deans make an effort to preserve the seals from being lost, and could not the authorities of the County Museum write to the Parson of each Peculiar, and get an impression of the seal, if existing? Through the kindness of Mr. H. O. Chislett, of Wimborne, I have now in my possession, as Vicar, the seal of the Peculiar of Sturminster Marshall. I shall be glad if anyone possessing a seal of a Peculiar will give me an impression of it.

JAMES CROSS, Bailie House, Wimborne.

66. THE CRESSET STONE AT WOOL.—Mr. Hems, of Exeter, states that this has four cups; but I can find no description of it in Hutchins. Is it still in existence?

EDWARD L. PENNY, D.D., Plymouth.

67. DOGGEREL LINES ABOUT COUNTIES.—*The Mirror*, xxxvii (1841), 128, contains the following singular verse. There is no mention from whence it was taken.

"Shyres of England.

Essex ful of good hoswyfes,

Middlesex full of, stryves,

Kentshire hot as fyre,

Sowseks ful of dyrte and myre."

T. N. BRUSHFIELD, M.D., Salterton, Devon.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

68. THE LIFE OF BISHOP RICHARD FOX, prefixed to the Register of Richard Fox while Bishop of Bath and Wells, A.D., 1492-4, by the Editor, Edmund Chisholm Batten, M.A., F.R.S.E., 1889.

This is an Author's reprint for dispersion amongst his friends, of a capital biographical outline of Bishop Fox, and as an account of his public acts, it is well worth careful perusal.

Richard Fox was one of those eminent statesmen-ecclesiastics to which reference was made in our notice of John de Drokenford (I. i. 90), and by no means a minor character in the later middle ages. This one would imagine, seeing he was the friend of Erasmus and of Morton, of Amias Paulet and of More, besides being an avowed patron of the new learning. The present sketch tends to supplement the excellent articles in Cassan's Lives of the Bishops of Bath and Wells, and of Winchester, seeing that here his political acts are possibly brought more into prominence than his purely ecclesiastical doings; the converse being, as was natural, the case with Cassan. At the

same time, though compiled to a large extent from different authorities, it is remarkable how one series fairly corroborates the other. Mr. Chisholm Batten takes the Bishop's career in detail, commencing as Master of Pembroke College, Camb., then as Privy-seal and personal friend of King Henry VII., and afterwards as successively Bishop of Exeter, of Bath and Wells, of Durham, and of Winchester, in which latter position he was fully enabled to keep up his interest in the county of Somerset, thro' his possession of the great and important manor of Taunton Dean;—*i.e.*, from the time he gave his unwavering support to Henry of Richmond, then an exile in France, until the day of his death in 1528, when, after having spent a life exceptionally marked by probity and virtue, he quietly passed away, a blind old man, sinking his fulness of honors and riches in the self-denying piety of a faithful Christian.

The times in which he lived were so eventful, and his position so exalted, that it is not too much to say we are even now feeling the effects of his statesmanship. The history of his career affords a memorable example of the astuteness with which our chief rulers of the Tudor dynasty selected the best men as their leading agents in State-craft. To Fox is attributed the credit of ferretting out Wolsey as his ablest successor,—eventually to become his supplanter. The characters of the two men are, however, widely diverse. Fox was ever the Christian gentleman; a lion where principle and the Church's interest were concerned; a lamb in all matters peculiarly his own. Wolsey, on the other hand, was a worshipper firstly, of himself, and secondly, of his anything but faultless King; these being apparently his only guiding stars.

Mr. Batten, with the consistency of a scholar, gives references for almost every fresh assertion, thus affording the student, who desires to pursue the subject, facilities for carrying out his object; and without diffuseness, or the repetition which is notable in Cassan, he has given a valuable and a very readable contribution to the history of our County of Somerset.

Σ.

69. GENEALOGIA BEDFORDIENSIS.—Being a Collection of Evidences relating chiefly to the Landed Gentry of Bedfordshire. A.D. 1538—1700. By Frederick Augustus Blaydes. London: Privately Printed for the Editor at the Chiswick Press. 1890. (A few subscription copies may be obtained of the Author, Shenstone Lodge, Bedford, price £1 11s. 6d.)

A volume of great value to the Bedfordshire Genealogist, and indeed to all who are interested in the history of English gentle families, has recently been issued by Mr. Blaydes, one of the Magistrates of Bedfordshire, the accomplished editor of the Bedfordshire Visitations for the Harleian Society, and of Bedfordshire Notes and Queries.

This is a thick volume of pp. 507, quarto, beautifully printed at the Chiswick Press, in Messrs. Whittingham's well-known style of excellence,—comprising pp. 336 of (13,000) entries taken from Bedfordshire Parish Registers and their Transcripts, thus illustrating the history of the old families connected with that County from the commencement of Parish Registers. These are followed by pp. 116 of Notes, chiefly gathered from Wills and Monumental Inscriptions, and a copious Index of pp. 55 more.

In prosecuting this work, Mr. Blaydes has had access to the Bishop's Transcripts for the Archdeaconry, preserved in the Archdeacon's Muniment-room at St. Paul's, Bedford, and has systematically examined from 12,000 to 15,000 parchment slips, ranging from the year 1601, and has extracted from them every entry of a name at all connected with the gentle and clerical families of Bedfordshire, besides such entries as happened to belong to Citizens of London or the Gentry of other Counties. For this examination Mr. Blaydes, from his intimate knowledge of Bedfordshire families, is fully qualified, and no entry of value is likely to have escaped his notice. In several cases the Transcripts have proved to be of the utmost value, on account of the original registers being lost or destroyed. Somerset readers will be interested in the entries which relate to the Dyers of Colmworth, a branch of the family of that name once of note in the West, which *temp.* Elizabeth gave a Chancellor to the Order of the Garter, and a Chief Justice to the Court of Common Pleas.

- 1640. Feb. 4. Deyer, William, s. of Richard & Elizabeth, bapt.
- 1641. Jan. 13. Coke—Dyer, Sr. Edward, Baronet, & Mrs. Kathern, mar.
- 1652. Sep. 1. Dyer, Katterine, bur.
- 1654. Jul. 13. Dyer, Lady Katterine, bur.
- 1669. Nov. 15. Dyer, Ludovicus, Baronettus, sep.
- 1674. Jul. 14. Dyer, Richardus, filius Gulielmi et Ursula, Natus. Junij 14; bapt.
- 1675. Jul. 25. Dyer, Katherine, d. of Will., Esq., & Ursula, bapt.
- 1685. Sepr. 18. Dyer, Elizabeth, bur.
- 1690. Feb. 4. Dyer, W'm, Esq., bur.

These entries are from the Transcripts, the Parish Register of Colmworth commencing only in 1735.

This work, which Mr. Blaydes has so ably executed, makes us wish for similar collections relating to Dorset and Somerset. Who will undertake them?

Δ.

70. PAGES IN FACSIMILE, FROM A LAYMAN'S PRAYER-BOOK IN ENGLISH about 1400, A.D.... By Henry Littlehales. Rivingtons. 1890. Price 3s. 6d. Qto.

Mr. Henry Littlehales has just published a Layman's Prayer-book, of fourteen facsimile pages, containing Medieval versions of the Lord's Prayer, Te Deum, Magnificat, &c., edited from a MS. numbered 27,592, in the British Museum Library, of the probable date of A.D. 1400. The work is useful as shewing the versions of English prayers and hymns which were in the hands of our forefathers in what have popularly been called the Dark Ages. Mr. Littlehales justly remarks that these versions indicate the existence in those times of "not only a remarkably vivid belief in a future state, but a deep religious feeling." In the metrical version of the Creed here given we meet with a curious paraphrase of the clause expressing belief in the Communion of Saints.

and so I trow yt housel es
bothe flesshe & blode.

Instances of a similar version are also to be found in the *Lay Folks' Mass-book*, edited by Canon Simmons.

The book concludes with an ancient hymn on the Love of Jesus, which is worthy of commendation.

Δ.

71. BRASSES OF ADAM DE WALSOKNE, 1349, and MARGARET his wife, at S. Margaret's, Lynn, and of ABBOT THOMAS DELAMERE, c. 1375, at St. Albans. Photolithographed from rubbings by Mr. E. M. Beloe, Jr., King's Lynn, Norfolk.

Mr. Beloe has sent for notice in *S. & D. N. & Q.*, specimens of the above photolithographs measuring 17 × 9 in. They appear to be nicely executed, and are well worth 1/- each, for which sum they may be obtained at his address above noted. Both the brasses are fine compositions and that of Abbot Delamere is elaborate in the extreme, showing great richness in the detail of the ornament.

Δ.

72. 1. THE HISTORY OF WELLINGTON, by A. L. Humphreys. London, Henry Gray, 1889. Pp. [xv.] 308. 8vo., boards.

2. ANNALS OF SWAINSWICK, by R. E. M. Peach. London, Sampson Low, 1890. Pp. [ix.], 183. Fcp. 4to., cloth.

3. RECORDS OF YARLINGTON, by T. E. Rogers, M.A. London, Elliott Stock, 1890. Pp. 94. Fcp. 4to., cloth.

This is a day of Parish Histories, and we have much pleasure in bringing three more before our readers' notice. Mr. Rogers recalls the amusing criticism which appeared in *The Saturday Review* (May 11, 1889)—"The dullest of all dull books is a conscientiously compiled parochial history"; we cannot be expected to endorse this criticism, but would prefer to make it read thus: "The most difficult of all books to write is a good parochial history." Among the very best that we have lately seen is "The History of Cromer," by Walter Rye. This might well be taken as a model by any one who is about to assay the adventurous task.

In his History of Wellington, Mr. Humphreys has given us much interesting information under thirteen headings:—Etymology—Early History—Manorial—Family and Personal History—Civil War and Monmouth Rebellion—Parochial Records—Ecclesiastical History—Nonconformist History—Modern History—Industries—Folk-Lore—List of Birds—Bibliography.

The section on Ecclesiastical History is somewhat meagre: thus, we only hear incidentally (p. 35 *note*) of "the Wellington fraternity." We should have liked to have been told more of the Wellington Guilds—there were two principal Guilds, dedicated respectively to the Holy Trinity and St. Saviour; research would also probably have discovered the dedications of the several altars in the Parish Church. Again, we have not been told that one of the aisles was called "St. Katherine's Aisle." One of the best sections is that on Folk-Lore, which opens with an account of the festival of Bishop Blase, who was the patron of wool-combers; there was a guild of St. Blase in the parish of Dulverton. There is also a long and valuable list of Field Names. We share Mr. Humphreys' regret that the early Registers of the Church are missing. The earliest volume dates from 1683.

In compiling the "Annals of Swainswick" Mr. Peach is to be congratulated on the help he has received from his co-adjutors. The larger part of the book consists of extracts from the Parochial Records, which we are told were made ten years ago by the late Mrs. Henley Jervis; while the valuable account of the descent of the Manor has been supplied by Mr. C. L. Shadwell, of Oriel College, Oxford, the present lords of the Manor. Mr. Peach has done his part of the work well; especially the chapter on William Prynne. There is also a lithographed pedigree of the Whittington family; it is a pity, however, that the writing is so small as to be in some places almost illegible.

The substance of the "Records of Yarlington" was originally delivered by Mr. Rogers as a lecture at the neighbouring towns of Castle Cary and Wincanton, and was afterwards expanded by him into the present form. This makes the book pleasant reading, abounding as it does in local touches. The reader wishes that it were twice as long as it is, for he would like to hear more of that wonderful "chasm into which a winter brook discharges itself and no mortal can say where the water again issues forth," and of many other things of which the author is so eminently qualified to write. Mr. Rogers has given three valuable pedigrees—Salisbury Plantagenet and Pole, Berkeley of Bruton and Yarlington, and Godolphin. One of this family is buried at Bruton (M.I.) Wm., 3rd son of Sir Wm. Godolphin ob. 1636, æt. 25. We thank him for not having been deterred by the sweeping criticism already alluded to from writing this very interesting account of his native village.

73. COMMONWEALTH MARRIAGES, SOMERSET, 1653-6.—The following are from a small folio volume bound in rough calf among the MSS. of the Dean and Chapter of Wells; from internal evidence it appears that it was originally an official note-book of Arthur Duck, Chancellor of Bath and Wells. This Arthur Duck was a son of Richard Duck, of Heavitree in Devon, being born there in 1580. He matriculated from Exeter College, Oxon, 24 Oct., 1595, as the son of a plebeian; became Fellow of All Souls', Oxford, 1604, D.C.L., 1612; admitted to the College of Advocates 25 June, 1633-4; Chancellor of Bath and Wells, also of London; M.P. for Minehead. He married Margaret, daughter and co-heir of Henry Southworth of London and Wells, and after of Wike Champflower, to whom he was married at Wells by Bishop Lake. He was executor with his brother-in-law, William Bull, to the will of wife's father, on whose monument at Wike Champflower are his arms, viz.; or, on a fess wavy sa. three lozenges arg. He died in May, 1649, and is buried at Chiswick; leaving two daughters, Martha, married first, William Duck, secondly, Nicholas Duck, and thirdly, Sir Thomas Carew. The other daughter, Mary, married Harbord. For a pedigree of his family see Col. Vivian's Visitations of Devonshire.

The volume subsequently got into the hands of Henry Bonner, a Justice of the Peace during the Commonwealth period, who, turning ends with it, used it to enter a list of parish registrars whom he had sworn in, and to record the marriages he had performed according to the Act of Parliament establishing civil marriages, a business in which he appears to have been very active, from the number of entries which cover little more than three years, viz., from 19 December, 1653, to 2 March, 1656. How the book got into his possession does not appear, nor how it came into the Cathedral library.

Concerning the identity and history of this Henry Bonner* we are at present very much in the dark; he was probably a son of a younger son of Bonner of South Petherton. Waston, short for Waterleston, now Weston, is in the parish of Combe St. Nicholas not far from South Petherton. The Thomas Bonner, whose marriage is recorded on the 18th December, 1656, was doubtless a son of the writer of this register. In the parish register of S. Cuthbert, Wells, we find the marriage by Licence, 18 May, 1706, of Henry Bonner, of Comb St. Nicholas, and Charity Swadell, of St. Cuthbert, Wells, the baptism on 25 May, 1708, of Henrietta, (born 18 May,) daughter of Mr. Henry Bonner of Coxley (in S. Cuthbert parish) and on 8 Jan., 1709, of Elizabeth, (born 1 Jan.,) daughter of the same. On 3 Dec., 1730, Mr. Bonner, of Coxley, was buried. Possibly this was a grandson of the commonwealth Justice of the same name.

[* See pedigree in 1623 Visitation of Somerset, Harl. Soc. xi. 9.

It will be seen that most of the marriages took place at Justice Bonner's own house, though he appears to have officiated at several other places round that neighbourhood: whether he sought to make up for the neglect of other Justices, or consulted the convenience of his clients, or his own advantage, he was certainly a great marrying man, for the list will be found to far exceed the record in the register of the largest parish for the same period.

It will be needless to make any further remark, except the important one that the document appears to be quite unique.

In the following entries *W.* stands for "*married at Waston*," to save repetition.

Somerset. A noate of the names of all Registers names (sic) whoe were sworne and approved of By mee Henry Bonner esqr one of the Justices of peace wthin the said County together wth the daies of the moeth and yeare.

Otterford	John Hill	sworne the xxi Sept. 1653
Whitestaunton	John Smallcorne	„ 17th day of Oct. „
Ilminster	John Gray	„ 24 „ „
Dolishwarke		„
(Dowlishwake)	John Leaky	„ 24 „ Nov. 1653
Knowle	John Wood	„ 9 „ Dec. „
Curland	Robert Harwood	„ 10 „ „ „
North Parrate	John Hallett	„ 30 „ „ „
	Dismissed and	
	Robert Geare	sworne in his place 19th Jan. „
Seaborough	Ezeekell Wills	sworne the 30th Dec. „
East Chinnocke	Richard Elford	„ „ „ „
Buckland St Mary	William Gudridge	„ 5 „ „
Wayford	Robert Lumberd	„ 22 „ „
Staple Fitzpayne	James Turner	„ 9 January, „
Winsham	Thomas Paule	„ 12 „ „
Misterton	Richard Farnham	„ 19 „ „
Middle Chinnocke	Hugh Holland	„ 3 March, „
Doneyeate		
(Donyatt)	Thomas Gillett	„ 7 „ „
Kingstone	James Meinford	„ 20 „ „
Broadway	Samuel Harvy	„ 27 „ 1654
West Coaker	Francis Sherwood	„ 29 „ „
East Coaker	Walter Cuckney	„ „ „ „
Closseworth	William Dibble	„ „ „ „
Whitelackington	Humphry Miller	„ 3 April, „
Chellmington	Richard Silly	„ 28 March, „
Aishill	John Broome	„ 10 April, „
Charde parrishe	Tho: Pitte	„ 1 May, „
Crickett Thomas	Richard Scriven	„ 19 „ „
Beare Crocombe	Richard Tisse the elder	sworne at Waston, 4 Aug. 1654
Cudworth	Thomas Stower of the same pishe	sworne at Waston 11 Aug. „

Crickett Malherbe William Lawrence of the same parrishe
was sworne at Waston the third of March 1654

(Note. Here two leaves have been missed over apparently for the continuation of the above list but never used; then the register of marriages proceeds.)

A Register of all the marriages Sollomnized and published By Henry Bonner esqir one of the Justices of the peace accordinge to an Acte of Purliam bearinge date the 24th day of August 1653. Togeather wth the daies of the moneth and yeare when each couples were marryed followeth.

(Note. The following is an abstract of all the entries.)

- 1653 Dec. 19 William Murford and Johane Gauge, both of Ilminster.
- „ „ 26 Thomas Gale and Mary Moone, widow, both of Curland.
- „ Jan. 11 Richard Lincolne of Crewkerne and Eleanor, dau. of Eleanor Furser, widow. of Knowle.
- „ „ 16 John Browne and Elizabeth Stower, both of Crewkerne.
- „ „ 27 Richard Morcombe and Ann Dewnell, both of Donyea:te.
- „ Feb. 6 John Glanfield and Elizabeth Varman, both of Shepton Beauchampe.
- „ „ 14 Thomas Sillie and Agnes Hort, both of Henton St George.
- „ „ „ Cuthbert Smith of Henton St George and Mary Clarke of Crewkerne.
- „ „ 23 John Hutchins and Elizabeth Coles, both of Ilminster.
- „ March 6 Thomas Berryman of Ilminster and Mary Berryman of Whitelackington.
- „ „ 7 Henry Slape and Elizabeth Waggas, both of Mitchelney.
- „ „ 14 William Goodinge and Jane Parsons, both of Ilton. W. Cer. made.
- „ „ 21 William Sellicke of Adstoye, gent., and Ame Baron of Bromefield. Married at Mansell in North Petherton.
- „ „ 23 Robert Baber of Ilton and Mary Drayton of Barrington. W.
- „ „ 27 Laucelott Gritton and Dorothy Poydon, both of Whitelackington. W.
- 1654 „ 28 John Marsh of South Bradon and Susanna Hoyte of Chastecombe. W.
- „ April 10 James Johnson of Ilminster, Clothier, and Thomaszine Miller of the same pish. W.
- „ „ 17 Marmaduke Crate of Hambridge in pishe of Curry Rivell and Mary Prigge of West Lambrooke in Kingsbury Pish. W.

- 1654 April 22 Alexander Litten and Mary Selwood, both of Donyatt. W.
- " " 12 James Kember and Ann Fry, both of Misterton. Mar. at Crewkerne. Cer. fact.
- " " 27 Thomas Husse of Puckington, husband., and Philip. Cutbeard of Stocklinch. W.
- " " " Thomas Everie of Donyatt, yeoman, and Margaret Bennett of Combe Saint Nicholas, widow. W.
- " May 1 Thomas Law and Frydaieswide Knight, both of Broadwaie. W.
- " " 10 Thomas Browne of Ilminster and Mary Hancocke of the same. W.
- " " 8 John Isacke the younger of West Lambrooke in Kingsbury and Susanna Buckerell of Stavington Dennise. W.
- " " 9 Roger Olsford and Florence Collinge of Crewkerne. W.
- " " 15 George Balsome and Thomasine Marshe, both of South Bradon. W.
- " " 24 John White of Bere Crocombe and Anne Adames of Ilton. W. Noe cer.
- " " 25 John Rockett of Holditchin par. of Thornecombe, co. Devon, and Joane Warrey of Perristreet in par. of Chard, co. Somerset. W.
- " " 30 Nicholas Summers and Thomazine Smith, both of Ilminster. W.
- " June 6 John Barnes and Joane Partridge, both of Crickett Thomas. W. Noe cer.
- " May 7 John Hame of Chellington and Mary Hodges of Middle Chinocke. W. Noe cer.
- " June 8 William Palfrey and Alice Woodborne, both of Curry Rivell. W.
- " " 19 John Cudbell of Curry Mallett and Tibitha Taylor of Lorton in par. of Ilminster. W.
- " " 20 Nathaniel Slade and . . Way, both of Donyatt. W.
- " " 22 William Palfrey of Winsham and Edith Boyte of Chard. W.
- " " " Thomas Lombard and Elizabeth Hody. W.
- " " 27 John Troode of Wambrook, co. Dorset, and Mary Potter of Whitelackington, co. Somerset. W.
- " July 3 John Reynell and Christian Dabniott, both of Shepton Beachampe. W.
- " " 6 William Towell and Katherine Hobman, both of Ilton. W.
- " Aug. 3 Thomas Woolmington and Thomazine Standerwerke, both of Broadwaie. W.
- " " " William Sharlocke of Buckland St. Mary, co. Somerset, and Ann Adamss of Broadwinsor, co. Dorset. W.

- 1654 Aug. 7 William Rosse and Mary Baker, both of Donyatt. W.
 " " 10 Andrew Holt otherwise Gill of Crewkerne and
 Elizabeth Gardner of Middle Chiniocke, widow.
 W.
 " " " John Hollwaie of Crewkerne and Jane Aller of the
 same. W.
 " Sept. 4 John Kimpstone and Elizabeth Stevens, both of
 Ilminster. W. on Munday.
 " " " Robert Baker of Puckington and Mable Edward
 of Drayton. W. on Munday.
 " Aug. 31 Zachary Cooke and Thomazine Maylard, both
 Stocklinch Ottersey. W.
 " Sept. 5 Gyles Mudford and Faith Humphries, both of
 Combe Saint Nicholas. W. on Tuesday.
 " " 6 Thomas Greneway of Winsham and Susanna Hore
 of Crickett Thomas. W.
 " " 12 John Pettin of Ilton and Eleanor Holeman of
 Puckington. W.
 " " 19 Arthur Ames of Ilminster and Elizabeth Norris of
 Donyatt. W.
 " " " Edward White and Joane Jenninge, both of Ashill.
 Mar. at Ilminster.
 " " " John Smith and Katherine Chicke, both of Donyatt.
 W. Noe cer:
 " " 25 Thomas Key and Frances Longe, both of Ilminster.
 W. Noe cer:
 " " " George Vinson and Katherine Sander, both of
 Knowle. W. Noe cer:
 " " 29 John Bennet of Combe St. Nicholas and Bridget
 Marne of Ilminster. W. Noe cer:
 " Oct. 2 Robert Hill otherwise Thrasher of Ilminster and
 Mellony Welch of Puckington. W.
 " " " Thomas Gaylar of Church Staunton, co. Devon,
 and Katherine Hardman of Pitminster, co.
 Somerset. W. on Munday.
 " " 10 Joseph Traske of Membury, co. Devon, and Frances
 North of Ilminster, co. Somerset. W. on
 Tuesday.
 " " " Mr. Robert Studdier of Bishops Lydiard and Grace
 Johnson of Chard. W. on Tuesday.
 " " 12 Edward Mitchell and Ursula Hallett, both of North
 Perratt. W.
 " " " John Sellwood and Joane Bowditch, both of
 White Stanton. W.
 " " 14 Francis Perkford and Elizabeth Leavermore, of
 Crewkerne. Mar. there on Saturday.
 " " 16 Robert Barber als. Burridge and Hannah Davie,
 both of Ilminster. W.

- 1654 Oct. 31 John Foord and Dorothy Slade, both of Crewkerne.
Mar. there.
- „ Nov. 1 Mr. Hugh Pym of Clehanger, co. Devon, clerk, and
Mrs. Elizabeth Hody of Norton Fitzwarren, co.
Somerset. W. on Wednesday.
- „ „ „ William Guppie and Prudence Nosse, both of
Donyatt. W.
- „ „ 6 John Classe of Ilton and Mary Tice of Whitelack-
ington. W.
- „ „ „ Mr. James Lovell of Batcombe and Mrs. Elizabeth
Brome of Forton in Ilminster. W. on Munday.
- „ „ 15 Mr. Benjamin Collins of Norton under Hambden,
clerk, and Mrs. Frances Hawker of Wigborrow
in South Petherton. Mar. at Wigborrow on
Wednesday.
- „ „ 16 Lancelott Hill and Martha Daves, both of Huishe
in Crewkerne. W. on Thursday.
- „ „ 23 John Barter and Elizabeth Guppie, both of Crew-
kerne. Mar. at Mr. Gyles Combes house in
Buckland. Noe cer.
- „ „ 30 Nathaniel Townssind and Dorothy Greneway, both
Crewkerne. W.
- „ Dec. 13 Stephen Brownesey of Whitestanton and Elizabeth
Standerweeke of Broadway. W. on Wednesday.
- „ „ 26 John Pulman of Pitminster and Mary Hake of
White Stanton. W.
- „ „ „ John Mutebury of Ilton and Mary Caslake of
Chard, widow. W.
- „ „ 27 John Pasley of Puckington and Grace Phelps of
Stocklinch Magalen. W. Noe cer.
- „ Feb. 3 John Pettie and Thomazine Thorne, both of
Ilminster. W. on Wednesday.
- „ Jan. 3 William Easton of Combe St. Nicholas and
Margaret Troode of North Curry, widow. Noe
cer. r. 2s. 10d.
- „ „ 22 William Leonard and Mary Coxe, both of Crew-
kerne. W. on Munday. Noe cer.
- „ „ 24 Thomas Mantle and Margaret Seward, both of
Crewkerne. W. on Wednesday.
- „ Feb. 5 Edward Andrewes of Evershott, co. Dorset, and
Joane Golde of Crewkerne, co. Somerset. W.
- „ „ 6 Henry Whitle and Margaret Wills, both of Merriott.
W.
- „ „ 8 John Fry and Susanna Loaringe, both of Winsham. W.
- „ „ „ George House of North Curry and Avis Slander-
weeke of Broadway. W. on Thursday. Noe cer.
- „ „ 12 George Humphry of Combe St. Nicholas and
Christian Vincent, widow, of the same. W.

- 1654 Feb. 12 William Hellier of Chellington, the younger, and Margaret Philips of the same. W.
- " " 13 Joseph Tyler and Jane Coxe, both of Crewkerne. W. on Tuesday.
- " " 15 Henry Kinge of Winsham, co. Somerset, and Joane Lumbard of Thornecombe in Devon. W. on Thursday.
- " " 20 John Clare of Chard and Ann Wiseman of the same. W.
- " " " Alexander Plummer of Ilminster and Joane Beale of Buckland St. Mary. W.
- " " 21 Matthew Cornish and Alice Gillett, both of Chard. W.
- " " 22 George Williams and Edith Stuckey, both of Chuffewinte. On Thursday. W.
- " " " Hugh Harris and Prudence Koake, both of Combe St. Nicholas. W.
- " " 27 Thomas Legge and Hester Squibes, both of Chard. W. on Tuesday.
- " " " Thomas Dunster of Donyatt and Joane Chicke of Ilminster. W.
- " March 6 George Maylord and Maudlen Hart, both of Whitelackington. On Tuesday. W.
- " " " Robert Fidgett of Hassiborough and Susan Leigh of Lymmington. W.
- " " 7 Robert Poole and Elizabeth Hull, both of Cudworth. On Wednesday. W.
- " " " John Gover and Edith Dinham, both of Ilminster. W.
- " " " Richard Smith and Joane Wheadon, both of Ilminster. W.
- " " 15 Edward Suttier of Crickett Malherbe and Elizabeth Vickers of Ilminster, widow. W.
- 1655 " 26 John Basley and Agnes Sayle, both of Broadway. W.
- " " 28 John Genkins and Mary Selwood, both of Chard. W.
- " April 4 Hugh Jennings of Ashill and Mary Tuttier of Crickett Malherbe. W.
- " " 9 John Rosse and Agnes Hemberry, both of Donyatt. W.
- " " 12 Philip Rawlins and Joane Loaringe, both of Combe St. Nicholas. Noe cer.
- " " " Thomas Beer and Elizabeth Hallett, both of Crewkerne. W.
- " " " Barniby Hallett and Alice Baunton, widow, both of Chellington. W.
- " " 17 John Wootten and Joane Raymond, both of Ilminster. Mar. there.

- 1655 April 17 John Godfree and Alice Hutchine, both of Knowle.
Mar. at Ilchester.
- " " " Thomas Marder of Combe St. Nicholas and Mary
Dyte of Ilminster. Mar. there. Noe cer.
- " " 18 Alexander Baunton of Chard and Joane Serrel of
the same. W.
- " " " Thomas Robbins of Cudworth and Grace Sondsead
of Wayford. W. Noe cer.
- " " 19 John Bevis of Bicknell and Elizabeth Crosse of
the same. W.
- " " 16 Clement Stone of Huishe in Crewkerne and
Dorothy Bevis of the same. W.
- " " 26 John Leatie and Joane Callaway, both of Ilminster.
Mar. there. Noe cer.
- " " " George Louth and Isott James, both of Ilminster. W.
- " May 2 John Wills of Combe St Nicholas and Eme
Kempson of Ilminster.
- " " 3 Thomas Hallett of Misterton the elder and Aves
Merefield of Woolmiston, widow, both of
Crewkerne. W.
- " " 2 John Willis of Combe St. Nicholas and Eme
Kimpson of Ilminster. W. (repeated.)
- " " 9 Richard Leasie of Dinnington and Mary Stuckey
of Chaffecombe. Mar. at Crewkerne.
- " " 10 Edward Paulfrey and Elizabeth Reynold, both of
Kingstone. Mar. at three Barrowes.
- " " 14 Robert Smith and Dorothie Hutchins, both of
Hassilborough. W. Noe cer.
- " " " John Norris of Broadway and Philipp Paul of
Ilminster. W. Noe cer.
- " " " Robert Holewaie of Crewkerne and Elizabeth
Mitchell of North Perratt. W. Noe cer.
- " " 15 Nicholas Heydon and Dorothy Row, Ilminster.
- " " " John Paull and Prudence Markes, widow. W.
- " " 16 John Prigge and Joane Collins, both of Chard. W.
- " " 7 Edmund Laurance and Joane Stuckey, both of
Barrington. Mar. at Combeshead.
- " " 19 Richard Lumbard, son of Richard Lumbard of
Chard, and Dorothy Pitte of the same place. W.
- " " 21 Thomas Davie and Dorothy Griffin, both of
Donyatt. W.
- " " 22 Whitewell Cornelius (sic) and Joane Collins, both
of Ilminster. W.
- " " 24 Stephen Merymonth of Chardstoke, co. Dorset, and
Mary Manning of Chard, co. Somerset. W. on
Thursday.

ARTHUR J. JEWERS, F.S.A.

(*To be continued*).