

74. IN MEMORIAM. HARRY MENGDEN SCARTH, M.A., FRANCIS HENRY DICKINSON, F.S.A., AND CHARLES ROACH SMITH, F.S.A.—This year the county of Somerset has lost two of her greatest Archæologists in the persons of Prebendary Scarth and Mr. F. H. Dickinson.* The former was the highest authority on all matters connected with 'Roman Britain,' and his book, bearing this title and published by the S.P.C.K., is a concise and invaluable work on this interesting subject.

Of Mr. Dickinson it may be justly said that no one knew the county, its history and nomenclature, better than he did, or was more kind in imparting that knowledge to his numerous correspondents.

His last published work was "Kirby's Quest for Somerset," which he edited last year for the Somerset Record Society.

Others will speak of his Public Life and Correspondence, of his work for the Church, which he loved so well and served so truly. We will be content to record the fact that *S. & D. N. & Q.* has lost a warm supporter and a constant friend.

Since writing the above, another distinguished Archæologist has passed away, Mr. Charles Roach Smith, F.S.A., the author of numerous archæological works. He contributed much to the antiquarian journals of the county of Kent, and received the first medal of the London Numismatic Society, of which he was for some years Secretary.

THE EDITORS.

75. THE PEN PITS. (II. x. 50).—It always seems unnecessary "twice to slay the slain," but since Mr. Napper in the last Number of *S. & D. N. & Q.* has thought it worth while to reopen the subject of Pen Pits, it becomes necessary to answer it.

The controversy has always ranged itself under two heads which unfortunately have not been kept so distinct as they should have been.

First, the *raison d'être* of the Pits themselves, and secondly, the existence of a "Primæval British Metropolis" at or near Penselwood.

As to the first, "*Solvitur effodiendo*," and, as General Pitt-Rivers, H.M. Inspector of Ancient Monuments, said, the controversy is at an end.

In the old quarries (pits), the half-formed hand-mill stones (querns), with the tool-marks looking quite fresh owing to the crushing the green particles of augite in the sandstone, were found abundantly, and in the cottage gardens and elsewhere near the pits, it is by no means difficult to find whole ones, even now

*The Rev. H. M. Scarth, M.A., Prebendary of Wells, and Rector of Wrington, died at Tangier, 5th April, 1890, aged 75. Mr. F. H. Dickinson died at Kingweston, 17th July, 1890, aged 77. Mr. Charles Roach Smith died at Temple Place, Strood, 2nd August, 1890, aged 85.

lying about. Specimens are in our Museum at Taunton. Thus undoubtedly shewing the object sought by the quarry men of old, viz., the hard layer of Cherty Sandstone in the upper greensand of Pen Common for making querns.

To one who was present at the digging, and saw the way in which the refuse stones were laid aside with the unsuccessfully worked mill-stones and covered up with fresh refuse, there can be no doubt about the reason why the pits were made.

Mr. Godwin Austen's theory that the pits were holes out of which iron-stone was dug will not hold. The sandstone, though stained with iron, does not contain enough, or anything approaching enough, to have made it worth while to have dug for that metal. The entire absence of cinder heaps, ashes, scoriæ, or tools negatives the supposition.

Castle Cary, if workable iron ever was found there, is on the lower oolite, and Pen pits on the upper greensand (cretaceous), and some 10 miles apart.

I would refer those who are interested in this subject to the report of the Committee of the Somerset Archæological Society Vol. xxv. p. 7, &c., of the New Series of their transactions, and to the Report of Gen. Pitt-Rivers, H.M. Inspector of Ancient Monuments. These give the *raison d'être* of the pits.

Now an interesting question arises as to their age.

In Sir Richard Colt Hoare's time there were some 600 acres covered with pits, and then he adds, many had been filled up. From this we may conclude that they were the work of many generations.

In the course of the exploration in 1878 a cutting was made through the rampart of Castle Orchard, at the extremity of the peninsula above the River Stour, on which there are a large number of pits; and the rampart was found to have been formed directly over one of the old quarries—thus giving a "*terminus a quo*" as to age; for Gen. Pitt-Rivers had no hesitation in asserting the Norman origin of this small earth work.

This then carries us back into Saxon times, and proves that these pits were there before 1066, and probably for centuries. Another interesting question presents itself. Where did the quarrymen live who made the mill-stones, and where did the people live who used them?

This brings us to the second question, the existence of a "Primæval British Metropolis," and to Mr. Thomas Kerslake's ingenious pamphlets. It is a pity that Mr. Kerslake used such a grandiloquent title, for though not in any sense a Metropolis there was probably a large population around these pits in olden times.

The name "Pensavelcoit," "Penselwood" (the spellings are endless), *i.e.*, "The head of the High Wood," would naturally

be of very extended application. Wherever a wood of any extent was found, there the "high head" was sure to be at hand.

The identification of the place mentioned by Nennius, &c., formerly supposed to be Pevensey in Sussex, with our Penselwood, depends mainly on the identification of draeth talnas=traeth twtneis of Brut Tysilio with the Isle of Wight or with Portland, and this is conjectural.

Totnes in Devonshire comes far nearer in sound. Nennius' list does not contain *Caer-talnas* but does contain *Caer tain*=Teyn Grace in Devonshire. Mr. Kerslake's pamphlets are worth study. But the identification of names with places in the old Chronicles will never satisfy, unless sufficient remains of former occupation can be found.

With regard to Penselwood the total absence of any such proof is quite remarkable. No kitchen-middens, refuse heaps, bones, tools, weapons, or even traces of fire (except little heaps of fresh charcoal in the bottoms of some of the pits, such as idle boys or picnic parties would leave) have yet been found there. Inside Castle Orchard the traces of fire were considerable, but then they were accompanied by Norman harness-buckles and pottery.

The fatal objection to Mr. Napper's "reflection" that Pen Pits were a "huge intrenched Camp of Refuge" is that no such intrenchments exist there, though plenty exist in other parts of the County and not far distant, *i.e.*, Wheatsheaf Castle, Cadbury Camp, &c. Some supposed fortifications on the edge of the escarpment round these pits do not really exist; what were taken for such are either natural terraces or comparatively modern banks and hedge rows. (Cf. Gen. Pitt-Rivers' report.)

Again, who were the users of these handmills? In Roman times, and subsequently, this part of the country seems to have been as, or almost as, thickly inhabited as at the present time—*Teste*—The Roman mines, camps, roads, villas, pottery kilns, cemeteries, coins, found throughout Somerset, which would denote from that time downward a population quite sufficient to use up all the hand-mills made from time to time at Pen Pits.

These mill-stones are at most 18 inches in diameter, and would cease to be in request when water-power was used in grinding corn. Most of our water-mills are mentioned in Dooms-day Book. I therefore conclude but little was done in quarrying at Pen after that date, for stone for hand-mills.* Even to the present day stones are quarried for building and road making, but not especially the hard layer used formerly for mill-stones, the cherty nodules in which are not large enough for making mill-stones required for water or steam power.

*[Querns are bequeathed in two Somerset Wills, dated 1541 and 1543. William Toly 'quernepykker,' 1441, is mentioned in "Bury Wills" (Camden Society) p. 256, where we also read of 'mustard querns' and 'malt querns.'—

The circular character of the pits has been too much relied upon. The majority are not truly circular. Time and weather have smoothed down the angles, and the natural falling in of the surface when the under stone was removed, has caused a somewhat circular appearance. Those that are most truly circular do not correspond with the shape of the quarries that formed them.

Mr. Kerslake's mistake was not chiefly in the use of the word "Metropolis," but in the assertion that these pits were human dwellings,—hut circles. That battles were fought all around this neighbourhood, the camps, place-names, &c., abundantly prove, and that our ancestors should use the "Heads of high woods" to resist the disciplined charges of the Roman legions goes without saying, but we want far more than this to prove Mr. Kerslake to be right.

G.E.S.

76. I had been under the impression that General Pitt-Rivers' Report on his examination of several of these pits in 1884 had finally settled the question, confirming as it did the opinion of others who had personally done so, although with less thoroughness. The Report plainly showed that the pits had been opened to obtain the Greensand rock beneath, for its economic properties, and not for human habitations. Unfinished querns, or millstones, occur in the pits, and several have been met with here and there in the neighbourhood, and the material was used as well for building purposes. Blocks of it, which had been removed from the bed and found at the sides of the pits, bear the marks of the workmen's tools on the surface and edges. Owing to the deep inclination of the bed, the workmen would be obliged to abandon the pit, when they reached the level, from which they found it difficult to bring the rock to the surface and would have to commence a fresh one from the top, and so on, thus in course of time their number would be multiplied. The irregular shaped holes would soon assume their present superficial circular forms, through weathering and the falling in of the superincumbent sands. The pits, or some of them at least, are anterior to the ramparts and the Castle Keep, which are of Norman date. Had this elevated spot been "a huge entrenched Camp" as suggested by your Correspondent, evidence of occupation, however short, would be apparent; on the contrary there is an absence of any evidence in support of such a theory. The few pieces of pottery and remains of fire-action, with other insignificant *ejectamenta*, are just what might be expected to have been left by the workmen. The Normans evidently recognised the strategical advantage of the locality, by the ramparts they erected there, and it is not improbable, as hinted by General Pitt-Rivers, that the decisive battle between Vespasian and

Gwaysidd was fought at or near Pen-pits, but that they were incidents of the struggle we have no reason to suppose.

As your Correspondent quotes my eminent friend Mr. Godwin Austen, I venture to argue the question on its geological features. It is evident that Mr. Godwin Austen had not personally visited the Pen-pits, but founded his opinion referred to in the 'Note' upon a series of holes near Farringdon, in Berkshire, called Cole Pits which he had examined,* and which differ from the Pen-pits only in the stratum upon which the superincumbent beds rest, the former upon iron-stone, the latter upon the Greensand. The Cole Pits pass through a thick bed of gravel, covering a bed of iron-stone under the Kimmeridge clay, and like the Pen-pits, were at one time referred to ancient human habitations. Tradition pointed them out to have been the Castle of King Cole. Mr. Godwin Austen unreservedly decided that they were the remains of open workings for the iron-stone underlying the sands. The ferrous rock, like that of Abbotsbury in this County and Westbury in Wiltshire, &c., are fragments of some ferruginous beds which escaped removal by denudation before the Kimmeridge clays had been laid down. The beds of quartzose sand-stone (Lower Greensand) at Sende near Westbury, like those of Penzelwood (Upper Greensand), were used in ancient times for making querns. "*Killing Pits*" near Goathland, "*Hole pits*" near Westerdale, and a group of pits between Danby Beacon and Weplay, Yorkshire, are associated with heaps of iron-stone slag, and pieces of the stone scattered about in the neighbourhood, and supposed to have been pit-dwellings, are now admitted undoubtedly to be old iron-stone workings. The last supporter of the pit dwelling theory of these pits in a letter to Mr. Clement Reid in 1882, said, "I give up the idea of British settlements entirely now." I have not sufficient room in this limited space to shew that Sir R. C. Hoare's allusion to the situation of the pits on the precipitous sides of the hill points rather to the deep plunge or dip of the bed, which prevented a continuous extraction of the rock, under the method adopted, rather than to a "*press of population*."

J. C. MANSEL-PLEYDELL, Whatcombe, July 24th, 1890.

77. BADBURY RINGS.—By the kind hospitality of Canon Berrard I have enjoyed a pleasure which I had long vaguely promised myself, and had still left unattained. From High Hall it is a pleasant drive of three miles to Badbury Rings, the spot which Dr. Guest identified with the Mons Badonicus of Gildas. Here the Britons mustered in great force and dealt their enemies a severe blow. It was with these wars of the

* Journ. Geol. Soc. Vol. vi., p. 450.

Britons against the invading Saxons, that the heroism of King Arthur was associated in the romances that celebrate his fame.

I have visited many hill-fortresses, but I never saw any like Badbury Rings, a wide eminence rising to a peak, girt with triple rings of circumvallation, some of them even now retaining a height of (I suppose) twenty feet, and the whole making a strong impression as of a mighty national work of fortification.

An important feature in the whole effect of Badbury Rings is the wide and open view of the country spread below;—the extensive and distant horizon being unintercepted all around. The situation is as striking in a strategical point of view, as the work is impressive by the vastness of its circuit and structure. The grandeur of the scene is enhanced by a vast silence reigning around a monument which is suggestive of multitudinous activity, aggregation of masses, and intense struggle.

Among the services which Dr. Guest rendered to our early history I do not know whether any was greater than that of identifying this ancient fortress with the Mons Badonicus of Gildas. This historical theory bears examination, and the probability of it grows with increased acquaintance. From the data supplied by Gildas the battle of Mons Badonicus appears to have been fought about A.D. 520. The arrival of the West Saxons upon the southern coast took place about A.D. 490, and this allows a reasonable time for their progress inland, if they are found at Badbury Rings in 520. By 577 they are at Dyrham, where a great victory makes them masters of Akeman, Gloucester, and Cirencester. These spaces of time agree with the character of the Saxon invasion which was guided, not by lust of conquest, but by desire of settlement. So the identification for which we are indebted to Dr. Guest fits in well with the data of history.

And if we reflect upon the confusion which surrounded the subject before Dr. Guest's time, we shall see reason to increase our sense of obligation. The doctrine of the older antiquarians, according to which Mons Badonicus was Banner Down near Bath, was then in possession of the field. This identification seems to have assumed that 'Badonicus' was equivalent to 'Bathonicus'; and that it pointed accordingly to the region of Bath. But when this comes to be examined, it turns out to be downright absurd. For at the time Gildas wrote, the name of 'Bath' had as yet no existence; that city was still called Akeman or Akemanceaster.

The change of name was due to the desolation into which Akeman fell when it was taken and dismantled by the Saxons. For the new settlers who tilled the soil in the neighbourhood, ignorant or negligent of the old historic name, naturally spoke of the place by description, as 'at the baths' AT THAM BATHUM. The last word of the phrase was left surviving when the others had been dropped, and this hardened into a name. The form

bathum or *bathon* was an old dative plural, and in English the inflection was neglected. But in Latin it was kept and was embodied in the Latin name *Bathonia*, which came not into existence before the tenth century. How then could *Badonicus*, a word of the sixth century, be the adjective of *Bathonia*, which did not appear until 400 years later?

It may be asked:—How are we to understand the general use of this great fortress? Are these the walls of a great city? or only of a citadel and garrison? In Wareham we see earthen walls encircling a living town; and the same has been the use of the earth-works at Old Sarum within the historic period. Inside the third of the Badbury Rings there is an area which might have accommodated a large population. Was it then permanently inhabited;—or are we to see in the fact that Gildas called it ‘mons’ and not ‘urbs’ or ‘oppidum,’ an indication that these vast earth-works were not city walls, but rather a natural stronghold of refuge for extraordinary emergencies?

J. EARLE.

78. DORSET ADMINSTRATIONS—*Continued*—(II. ix. 10, x. 49).

1st January, 1581, to 30th September, 1583, continued.

Folio.	Name of Deceased.	Parish.	Grantee and Relationship to Deceased.	Date of Administration.
65	Cave, Thomas, son and heir of Peter Cave	Lodborne p'ish of Gillingham	Joan Cave al's Batt, mother (admn. granted in Dec. cancelled)	22 Apl., 1583
29	Chapman, John	Langton	Richard, brother, and Thomas Champnan, son of Thomas, kinsman	18 Jan., 1581
19	Cresbyn al's Snooke, Christian	Stalbridge	William Cresbyn, brother	5 Sept., 1581
50	Davy al's Piddle, William	Chidiock	Nichole, relict	10 Nov., 1582
23	Edwards, John, maryner	Poole	Amie Deane al's Edwards, relict	7 Nov., 1581
40	Goddard, Matthew	Blanford For.	Edith, relict	22 June, 1582
32	Grauntham, William	Netherbury	Walter Dolling, of Netherbury—Alice, relict and exix, not administering	3 Feb., 1581
49	Grove, William	Shaston	Thomasine, relict, and John, son	13 Oct., 1582
67	Hobbes, Michael	Middleton al's Milton	Isabelle, relict	15 May, 1583
41	Hoskyns, Henry	Bemyster	John, son	3 July, 1582
38	Jesopp, John	Chikerell	William, brother, Thomas and John Jesopp, kinsmen	26 May, 1582
76	Newman, Catherine	Melcome	John Webb, brother	31 Aug., 1583
36	Owthwaite, John	Sherborne	Joane, relict	2 May, 1582
50	Piddle, William	see Davy		
12	Prince, William	see Barber		

Folio.	Name of Deceased.	Parish.	Grantee and Relationship to Deceased.	Date of Administration.
37	Pynney, Robert	Chardstoke	Agnes Pynney, widow, mother, John, brother, Agnes Chepman, sister, Simon Chepman, husband of Agnes	19 May, 1582
10	Seller, John	Dorchester	Alice Miller al's Seller, sister	28 April, 1581
19	Snooke, Christian	see Cresbyn		
61	Wilkins, John	Cranborne	Rabinette, relict	27 Feb., 1582
1st October, 1583, to 31st December, 1586.				
182	Beamont al's Scudamore, Margaret, widow	Shaston	Ann Beamont, daughter	25 Aug., 1586
117	Bonner, John	Lime Regis	Elizabeth, relict	9 Oct., 1584
114	Brettal's Tuberville, Anna	Whitechurch	Alexander Brett, husband	7 Aug., 1584
105	Burge, John	Bristol	George Trew, of Corff Castell, Merchant	11 May, 1584
111	Candell, William	Shaston	Joan, relict	2 July, 1584
121	Candell, William	Shaston	Thomas Laurence, of Shaston, clerk, and John Compton, of (blank), in co. (blank), yeoman,—Joan Candell, relict, not administering	14 Nov. 1584
170	Chrich, Richard	Gillingham	Edith, relict	20 Apl., 1586
194	Cifrawast, Barbara	Poole	Avice Cifrawast al's Stradling, daughter	1 Dec., 1586
170	Coles, Thomas	Sturminster Marshall	Anne, relict	22 Apl., 1586
140	Daniell al's Morris, Agnes	Lyme Regis	Dorothy Morris, of Stowey, Somt, widow	10 May, 1585
157	Dannell, William	Quarleston	Joan Woodroff al's Dannell, sister, with Francis Chaldicott, of Quarleston, arm.	9 Nov., 1585
192	Davye, William	Lyme Regis	Alice, relict	22 Nov., 1586
103	Dinnynge, Henry	Wambrook	Joan, relict	9 May, 1584
165	Downton, Thomas	Dorchester	Edith, relict	7 Feb., 1585
102	Forks, Robert	Poole	Frances, relict	30 Apl., 1584
103	Fowle, Susan	Wareham	Robert Fowle, brother	12 May, 1584
156	Gally, John	Stanbridge	James, son, with consent of Elizabeth, relict	4 Nov., 1585
195	Gawler, Morgan	Tarraunt Hinton	Dorothy, relict	15 Dec., 1586
87	Hannyngton, Isabella	see Oram		
104	Hayward, John	Cheselbourne	William Saunders, of Turnors Puddle, yeoman	20 May, 1584
121	Hooper, John	Boveridge	Edward Hooper, of Boveridge, gen. during minority of Agnes and Alice, sisters	6 Nov., 1584
158	Hooper, John	Boveridge	Alice Hooper al's Manners, mother	26 Nov., 1585

Folio.	Name of Deceased.	Parish.	Grantee and Relationship to Deceased.	Date of Administration.
138	Hussey, John	Clenston	Edith Sparke, daughter	4 May, 1585
192	Larke, John	Birport	Peter Larke, next of kin	30 Nov., 1586
139	Levett, Thomas	Wareham	Grace Gerrard al's Levett, relict	11 May, 1585
99	Lintern, John	Poole	Dorothy, relict	9 Mar., 1583
105	Lodwyn, John	Folke	Isabelle, relict	20 May, 1584
107	Long, John	Whitechurch	Cicilie, relict	3 June, 1584
82	Lymbery, John	Chartmouth	John Shattock, creditor	15 Oct., 1583
140	Morris, Agnes	see Daniell		
99	Nicolls, John	Poole	Anne, relict	9 Mar. 1583
87	Oramal's Hannyngton, Isabelle	Wootten Glanvilde	Richard Hannyngton, brother (cancelled)	18 Nov., 1583
105	Osbourne al's Webber, Stephen	Charmouth	Honor Osbourne al's Webber, relict	9 May, 1584
188	Partridge, William	Lyme Regis	Elianore, relict	10 Oct., 1586
166	Prichell, John	Lyme Regis	Elizabeth, relict	4 Feb., 1585
184	Purchas, John	Hawkchurch	Joane Purchas, sister	17 Sept., 1586
89	Reynolds, Launcelot	Melcombe Regis	Emme Reynolds and Launcelot Reynolds, creditors	13 Dec., 1583
167	Samwaies, John	Toller Fratrum	Robert and Barnard, sons	3 Mar., 1585
182	Scudamore, Margaret	see Beamont		
112	Snooke, William	Motcombe	John, brother	22 July, 1584
194	Thornton, Thomas	Lyme Regis	Joane Thornton, sister	10 Dec., 1586
114	Tuberville, Anna	see Brett		
114	Tuberville, Nicholas	Winterbourne Whitchurch	Alexander Brett, arm., Anna Tuberville al's Brett, wife of Alexander, and later relict of deceased, not administering	7 Aug., 1584
83	Twynho, Christopher	Turneworth	Edith, relict	8 Oct., 1583
115	Wallis, Walter	Poole	Grace, relict	22 Sep., 1584
91	Webber, Thomas	Mylbourne Porte	Alice, relict	21 Jan., 1583
105	Webber, Stephen	see Osbourne		
192	Welshman, John	Netherbury	Alice, relict	30 Nov., 1586
154	Willyams, Mary	Shaftesbury	William Willyams, brother	29 Oct., 1585
129	Wilshire, Edward, junior	Chardstoke	Philippa Sanford al's Wilshire, sister, in person of Baldwin Sanford, her husband	12 Feb., 1584
132	Wynes, Joan	Withihook	Agnes Buckerell, sister	19 Feb., 1584
144	Wynes, Joan	Withiok p'ish of Yetminster	John, Alice, Mary, and Joan Buckerell, kinsfolk, of goods left unadministered by Agnes Buckerell	22 June, 1585

GEO. S. FRY.

(To be Continued.)

79. SPEKE AND AFRICA.—In a publication, a portion of which is devoted to Somersetshire subjects, it may not be wholly out of place, at the present moment, to call attention to a passage

in the local history of a West Country Townlet, written in 1880, in which reference, in the following terms, is made to Captain Speke's explorations in central Africa in the years 1862-3.

"It is a comparatively easy matter to venture there now, Speke having shown the way; but although the honoured names of Barth, Livingstone, Stanley, Baker, and others, seem in recent times to monopolize the theme of African discovery, posterity must never forget that it was in the persons of JOHN HANNING SPEKE, and his colleague CAPTAIN GRANT, that British enterprise; that European civilization, nay! that the very sound of the word "Christian," was first carried to those mystic regions that surround the sources of the Nile."*

Although actually born in the adjoining county of Devon, Speke was by descent, by education, and by residence from a very early age, essentially a Somersetshire man. Hence, my object in giving the above extract is not far to seek, although I would not, for an instant, wish to snatch a single ray from the brilliant halo that surrounds one who is deservedly the hero of the day in all affairs relating to the "Dark Continent."

July, 1890.

NEMO.

80. M.P.S FOR DORSET AND SOMERSET IN 1491-92.—In the Parliament which met from Oct., 1491, to March, 1491-2, (7 Henry VII), the following represented the Counties and Boroughs of Dorset and Somerset.

DORSET—John Turbervyle, Knight, John Byconnell, Knight.

Shaftesbury—William Wyneygh (?), John Percy.

Wareham—John Flaxley, John Claryle.

Dorchester—Thomas Kyrkeby, Richard Wytmore (?).

Bridport—William Wadham, Thomas Motern (?).

Melcombe—John Gylbard, esq., William Rushe.

Weymouth—Nicholas Taylor, Richard Hawthorne.

Poole—William Downstow, William Bolde.

Lyme—John Burghe, John Tynhand (?).

SOMERSET—William Willoughby, Knight, William Case.

Wells—William Tyler, Roger Bocher.

Taunton—John Tycheborne, John Watt.

Bridgewater—John Andrewe, John Baker.

Several of the foregoing names are somewhat difficult to decipher, and possibly are rendered not quite accurately. Possibly some correspondent can correct. "Wyneygh" and "Motern" have the appearance of abbreviations.

W. D. PINK, Leigh, Lancashire.

81. THOMAS SHEPPARD, ESQ., M.P. FOR SHAFTESBURY IN 1621.—He is described in the Return as "of Shaftesbury." On 15 Feb., 1621, he was expelled the House for his speech on

* "South Petherton in the Olden Time," by H. Norris. Appendix, p. 142.

the Bill for keeping the Sabbath, otherwise called Sunday. "The House doth remove him from the service of this House as unworthy to be a member thereof." Is anything further known of this unfortunate member, whose tenure of his seat was so abruptly terminated within a few days of the meeting of this Parliament? His colleague, "William Beecher, esq., of London," having been returned also for Leominster, and preferring his alternative constituency, a new writ was ordered for both the Shaftesbury seats, which thereupon were filled by the election of Percy Herbert, of London, and Ralph Hopton, of Witham Friary.

W. D. PINK.

82. MATTHEW DAVY OF SHAFTESBURY, CO. Dorset, compounded for his estate before the Parliamentary Commissioners in the sum of £300. Is anything known of him? He clearly was the "Matthew Davis, Esq., of Shaftesbury," who was elected M.P. for Christchurch, in Hants, in 1640, and who was disabled for his royalism in March, 1644. He was present in the King's Parliament at Oxford.

W. D. PINK.

83. M.P.'s FOR TAUNTON IN THE LONG PARLIAMENT.—These were Sir William Portman, Bart., and George Searle, Esq., elected in 1640. Portman was disabled in 1644 for attending the King at Oxford, and died in 1646. Searle, who was a pronounced 'Rumper,' sat until the forced Dissolution of 1653, but was, I think, dead before the Restoration. On September 25th, 1645, a new writ was ordered for a successor to Portman, when John Palmer, M.D., was elected. I shall be much obliged by any information as to Searle.

W. D. PINK.

84. PHELIPS LETTERS, ILLUSTRATING THE SEDGMOOR CAMPAIGN.—The two following letters illustrating a portion of the Sedgmoor campaign are now published for the first time. In the regrettable absence of the lost diary of Sir William Portman, they serve to elucidate a critical part of the campaign. These letters have been preserved in our family archives since 1685; letter I, however, has in recent years been presented to the archives of Montacute House. I must tender my best thanks to Mr. John Batten for invaluable co-operation, and for pointing out the collateral information in the Historical MS. Commissioners' Reports. The original spelling is preserved in both letters.

Letter I.

Brother Berkley,

I am to write to you the shamefullest story y^t ever you heard, the Duke of Albemarle wri(o)te he would be at Exminster (=Axminster) yesterday by 12 o'clock, Coll. Luttrell with his regim^t and 4 companies of mine and the horse went towards it, and Captaine Littleton said he saw the enemy, and said they were drawn thither to have their throats cut: for be god they would be, wⁿ no enemy really appeared (:) upon this some of both sorts (i.e. foot and horse) ru(a)n as he bad y^m which was most shamefully, yet they returned to Chard, and after a short time before a refreshment Captaine Hawley came from the Duke of Albermarle as he told us he was in battle and wee must hasten and would undertake (to show us) the best way and the souldiers being weary before sore in their feet and hungry marched cheerfully but (i.e. except) this day, it was by the same advice to march before day was cleare seen contrary to my advice, and yⁿ after all night lying on the heath wee marcht to meet the Duke as told on Shute Hill, a long march of 6 miles and at Stockland where the souldiers staid to drinke they were told it was to no purpose to goe on for the 2 Dukes shooke hands the night before and dranke to each other, and yet they went on but wⁿ they came to the place and saw nor heard of any Duke of Albermarle they cried out they were betraied and would not march a foot farther. Coll. Luttrell's to Taunton though ten miles and Chard ten miles and no persuasion could prevaile. I pressed mine for Honiton, they told mee the Dukes were agreed and they would not stay, and I desired them for honour's sake to goe thither, and yⁿ they would see the truth of it—and se(e)ing no persuasions nor intreaties would prevaile but to goe to Chard into the enemies mouth I left them though Captain Long with a good party of horse was there to secure them to Honiton where he is gone; I am sensible I have lost honour never to be gained and if both our lives lay at stake not to (be) helped, yet I advise you to take surer measures and better informers (for I am afraid it will come to that): I am resolved however to give a push for my own life, for the satisfac-

tion of the world if you proceed and I heartily beg a line what you intend for mine is only for my own consideration, and so with my humble service

to rest

yours to be comãded

E. PHELIPPS

Montacute

Directed "For Coll. Berkeley

June 16, 1685.

or Coll. Helyar

These."

Old seal with Phelips arms.

Mr. Batten, who carefully transcribed this letter some years ago, remarks thereon "Brother Berkeley" to whom it was written was Col. Edward Berkeley, of Pylle, Somerset. He commanded one of the Somerset Regiments of Militia and was with them in the battle of Sedgmoor. [His son William, afterwards took the name and arms of Portman.]

'The name 'brother' probably means Brother Colonel as there was no relationship.

'Col. Helyar, to whom the letter is also directed and by whom it was received and preserved, was William Helyar of Coker, who raised a troop of horse at his own expense for King Charles I in 1643, was a zealous supporter of the Royal cause, and became Colonel in the King's army. Under Charles II he was High Sheriff and had also served in Colonel Maurice Berkeley's regiment ('Mounted Trained Bands). He was now in his 65th year.

'The writer of the letter was Sir Edward Phelips, son of Sir Robert Phelips of Montacute. He was also Colonel of one of the Somersetshire Militia Regiments. The letter itself, though obscurely and hurriedly written, and occasionally difficult to understand, throws considerable light on the occurrences of June 15th, 1685.

'It was on the 7th or 8th of that month that Col. Luttrell and Sir Ed. Phelips were ordered with their regiments to Taunton, in anticipation of a rising in favour of Monmouth who was daily expected; the Duke of Albemarle, the Lord Lieutenant of Devonshire, being at the same time commanded to Exeter. Monmouth landed at Lyme on the 11th. By order of the Duke of Albermarle the Somersetshire militia were ordered to meet him, in order that by a junction of their forces Monmouth might be blocked up in Lyme,—Shute Hill, half amile from Axminster, being, as the letter says, the place of rendezvous. Col. Phelips had been informed of the landing early on Friday the 12th, by a special messenger despatched from Crewkerne by Dassell and Thorold,

the two Lyme men on their way to the King in London, and also by Mr. C. Hucker of Taunton, to whose brother the Duke of Monmouth had sent word.

'It is difficult to understand from the published account the cause of the confusion and retreat which took place in the militia regiments on the 15th.

'Monmouth left Lyme on that day and took the road to Axminster, to which place also both the Devonshire militia under the Duke of Albemarle, and the Somersetshire militia under Col. Phelps and Col. Luttrell, were likewise marching. Roberts (p. 287) says the scouts of the latter force had entered the town, but retired upon the forces of Monmouth hastily marching in—and he then took possession of the place and secured the approaches and lanes with strong guards. Col. Wade commanded the advanced post at Shute Hill, and the Duke of Albemarle's horse, when within half a mile of the place discovering the guards, retreated, and Col. Wade was about to follow them, but Monmouth, wishing to exercise his forces and discipline his men before risking an engagement, commanded him not to do so, and at the same time informed him of the retreat of the Somersetshire people.

'Monmouth has been much condemned for not taking advantage of the confusion in the ranks of his opponents, and had he followed them up successfully it might have changed the fortune of his enterprise.

'Whether Col. Phelps' men were really deceived by the report of the alliance between the two Dukes, for which there could be no foundation as they had not even the opportunity of meeting, or whether they invented it as some excuse for refusing to engage with the Duke to whose cause they were not unfriendly, cannot now be determined. But Col. Phelps' account gives some explanation of the motives which animated them, and clears up the mystery previously hanging over this transaction.

'Ralph says the Duke of Albemarle's forces wheeled about in confusion, but gives no reason. The contemporary account in the Axminster Chapel Book says, in the quaint language of the day,—“The Lord sent a hand of fear among them,” etc.

'Oldmixon attributes it to cowardice, and says that the Somersetshire militia had no sooner entered a narrow lane on their way than, observing the mouths of two or three hollow trees unluckily pointed to their front, they immediately turned tail and fled every man to his home, except such as staid for the Duke of Monmouth's coming and then went over to him.

'Mr. Axe thinks they went to Monmouth under an idea that he would defend their religion, but it is probable that all these causes combined.'

In the Historical MS. Commissioners' Reports, vol. I., is a letter of Lord Churchill's to the King of about June 16 or 17,

1685, giving almost an identic account of this occurrence. Churchill remarks "Unless speedy course be taken we are like to lose this county to the rebels," and again, in describing the affair, "One Captain Littleton cried out 'We are all betrayed'; so the soldiers immediately looked one upon another and fled, *leaving their officers and colours behind; half if not the greatest part is gone to the rebels.*"

Writing about the same date to the Duke of Somerset to ask a reinforcement of 4000 men, Churchill says "I suppose it is no secret to tell your grace of the mischief that is like to come of those two regiments that are run away from their colours, the one is Sir Edward Phelips' and the other Colonel Luttrell's both their regiments have fled, and would give no reasons why or wherefore; but they have left their officers to themselves" "if the Duke of Monmouth should take the advantage of the flight [which I don't doubt but that he will] he would get together more men than we are aware of; besides *these two regiments are either all gone to him or most of them.*"

On June 16th, the Duke of Somerset wrote "I find all the gentlemen very well inclined to doe the King service, and the militia is in very good order for militia, and I hope with encouragement of their officers will doe their part well, it would be very much for the King's service to send here a foot regiment to leade on the militia, for you will find by Sir Edward Phylips' letter that almost any report will startel them soe that there is an absolute necessity if the King can spaire them to send some forces here, *for the common sort of people if they durst would rise every minule, but here is now soe good order, &c., &c.*"

These quotations together with Sir E. Phelips' own letter show pretty plainly that the rout of Shute Hill was due to disaffection as Axe states, and not to cowardice as supposed by Oldmixon. Churchill's language hardly leaves room for doubt on the point. The men were disaffected and ran away:—the officers were true and stuck to their colours. Compare Macaulay (I. 575): "Such was Monmouth's popularity that if once the trained bands had caught sight of his well-known face and figure they would probably have gone over to him in a body."

The militia behaved well later in the campaign, and showed a satisfactory temper. The seven days between our two letters (June 16-23) were critical; but Churchill was moving and reinforcements began to come up.

On June 17th Viscount Fitzharding wrote from Bruton to the Duke of Somerset "I find there is little trust to be placed in these new men I would not willingly be left here alone which I shall be if I draw without more strength too near the enemy now in Crewkerne."

The Duke of Beaufort wrote the same day from Bristol to the Duke of Somerset "Send to Lord Churchill who is on this side Salisbury to march towards you with the King's forces he has with him, there being as you see so little relying on the militia; all yours as you tell me fled."

On the same day Colonel Thomas Strangways wrote from Bridport to Colonel William Helyar "I received Sir Edward Phelps' letter with your postscript" "send word to the chief officers of the militia of your county that to-morrow morning we march hence with all our militia who are very courageous" "if your militia will show themselves to be good subjects, now is their time, &c."

About this date Colonel William Helyar, marching on Crewkerne from Ilchester with Colonel Berkeley's force, writes to the Duke of Somerset "Here is fighting every day and horse and foot [anywhere else but where the enemy is] are useless, and we were as good have none at all as to have them anywhere else but where they are necessary. The way to restore our peace is to beat those who disturb it and not to be afraid of those that may do it If your grace will be pleased to order pay for this regiment to be sent them it will do well; else they will leave their colours as divers of them have done already. P.S. One company only here received four days' pay, and this is a way to destroy a regiment without fighting them."

Want of pay added to the other difficulties of the situation! May we not suspect that here was another cause at work to produce the rout of Shute Hill?

Writing immediately afterwards from Crewkerne Col. Helyar and others say "He would be a bad soldier.who should advise such a regiment as this is to march further without horse to attend them or money to pay their quarters" "Monmouth may march and fight us all severally and so being master of a small victory give cluck to the courage of a great many, &c."

On the 17th June Churchill, ordered to the rescue with some regulars from Wilts, was already at Bridport, (see Col. Strangways' letter of June 17,) and on the 18th at Axminster within touch of Albemarle, resting after a long march (see the Duke of Albemarle letter of June 18). On the 19th he entered Chard (Roberts) and was promoted Brigadier. Sir William Portman with the Somerset militia and some Devon militia entered Chard the same day (Roberts). On the 19th also Lord Ferversham was made Lieutenant General and given the chief command. (Sunderland's letter of June 19.) On the 20th Churchill wrote from Chard to the Duke of Somerset in good spirits; "I shall join you by following the Duke of Monmouth so close as I can on his marches which I think is the only way for me to join you or to do the King service." Again on the 21st to the

same;—"I will certainly be on Tuesday at 11 in the morning at Bridgwater where I hope you will meet me with what militia you have. I have forces enough not to apprehend the Duke of Monmouth; but quite contrary should be glad to meet with him; my men are all *in so good heart this afternoon*." And again, "I march to-morrow" (*i.e.* 22nd) "to Langport, so that I will follow him" (Monmouth) "as close as ever I can. I intend to be at Wells on Tuesday, &c." Note the hopeful tone of these letters.

When Monmouth sent to Chard to summon Churchill to surrender, the latter only laughed.

The small skirmish near Ashill having, as Axe says, decided Monmouth to leave Taunton, he marched on Bridgwater on the 21st, and on Glastonbury on the 22nd. Churchill broke up from Chard on the 22nd in pursuit; and this brings us to our second letter:—

Sir,

Letter II.

I am sorry for your lameness at this time. I came from Wells Sunday night, finding our Duke soe uncertaine, and resolved for the Chard campe which I mett this morning, by Langport, and truly it is a brave campe and most of them well resolved men, and I believe if they were on even ground in battle, they would doe easily the sparkes' businesse, my Lord Duke in a modest tearme retired yesterday to Bristoll, and I intend to be at home this night and to be at Somerton toomorrow morning early to follow in the campe who are resolved to follow him as fast as may be, he is at Wells this night and I believe toomorrow will be for Shepton and Frome, two factious townes where he hopes to increase his number, but wee heare nothing of Albemarle yet, but this force is resolved to attaque him, and he goes Eastward, my Lord Feversham with more forces from London is at Chippenham and soe comeing to Warminster; I hope you will send down some armed men toomorrow early to fill up our number, for I am unwilling to come under my command only as a troop of reformadoes, and will doe His Majesty what service lies in my power; the carriages are all come to Somerton, the ammunition and provisions, soe with my humble service

I rest

Northover,

your humble servant

June 23rd, 1685.

Directed

E. Phelipps

To His honoured friend

Coll. Helyar—at East Coker—These.

The difference in tone of this letter is striking. The arrival of the regulars, and above all of Churchill, had changed the face of things. Nothing more is heard of disaffection; instead we have 'a brave campe'—'well resolved men.' Churchill's *original* orders had been to march on Bridgwater. His route lay through Langport to Glastonbury, where he arrived on the 23rd. Sir E. Phelips was to rejoin at Somerton on the Wells road, after a few hours at Montacute. A militia force had been at Wells, but on Monmouth's advance on the 22nd through King's Sedgmoor and Weston Zoyland to Glastonbury, they retreated on Bath and Bristol (Roberts), and Sir E. Phelips evidently preferred more active service to following the retreat.

Monmouth left Glastonbury on this same day (23rd), and marched on Bristol through Bridgwater with Churchill at his heels. Comp. Macaulay (I. 591). "Monmouth advanced harassed throughout his whole march by Churchill."

The same day Churchill wrote to the Duke of Somerset—"I . . . shall send to Lord Feversham to join at Wells to-morrow; for I do not doubt but that the Duke of Monmouth will be marched from thence; if he be not we will try to do what we can upon him and you may be sure the next night we will be close upon him for we can march as well as he."

"The cheerful anticipations of Sir E. Phelips' second letter respecting the militia were to be borne out. At Philip's Norton the Somersetshire militia behaved creditably under fire. Compare the "Account of Lord Feversham's progress, &c." (Hist. MS. Comm. Rep.) Again at Sedgmoor, though the militia were quartered at Middlezoy and the battle was practically over before they had time to come up, yet "they came up to our assistance in good order and made great haste." (Feversham's progress).

The word 'reformadoes' means *unattached* soldiers. (See Warburton's Rupert). These are probably the 'new men' alluded to in Fitzharding's letter of June 17. Sir E. Phelips was in fact trying to raise a new regiment, and Colonel Helyar who was a Deputy Lieutenant recruited for him. All the letters quoted are from the Reports of the Historical MS. Commissioners, Vol. I., reports 1, 2, and 3; and Vol. VII., report 9.

July, 1890.

H. A. HELYAR, British Legation, Munich.

85. S. BIRINUS AND THE WEST SAXON BISHOPRIC.—Reasons for believing that the See of S. Birinus, first Bishop of Wessex, was established at Dorchester (Dorset), not at Dorchester (Oxon).

Passages from the Saxon Chronicle and from Bede's ecclesiastical history which relate to the first reception of Christianity by the West Saxons, and to the establishment amongst them of a Bishop's See at Dorchester.

A. S. Chronicle. "A.D. 634. And this year also Bishop Birinus first preached baptism to the West Saxons under King Cynegils. Birinus came thither by command of Honorius, the pope, and he there was bishop until his life's end."

'A.D. 635. This year King Cynegils was baptised by Birinus, the bishop, at Dorchester, and Oswald, King of the Northumbrians, was his godfather." (*Monumenta Historica Britannica*, p. 310).

Bede, Lib. III, cap. VII. "At that time the race of the West Saxons, anciently called Gevissæ, in the reign of Cynegils, accepted the faith of Christ, having the word preached to them by Birinus, who had come to Britain by the advice of Pope Honorius; promising that under his auspices he would scatter the seeds of the holy faith in the furthest recesses of the English, whither no teacher had gone before him. Whereupon, by the command of the same pontiff, he was consecrated to the episcopal order by Asturius, Bishop of Genoa. But arriving in Britain, and first coming to the tribe of the Gevissæ, since he found all there most heathen he thought it more profitable to preach the word there rather than go further and seek out those to whom he ought to preach. And so, as he was preaching the gospel in the aforesaid province, it happened that at the very time the king himself, after being catechised, was, with his tribe, being washed in the fountain of baptism, Oswald, the most holy and victorious King of the Northumbrians, came up and found him emerging from the font, and by a tie most beautiful and worthy of God first took as his own son, dedicated to God by second birth, the man whose daughter he was to receive as his wife; and both kings gave the same bishop the city called Dorcic, to make his bishop's seat there; where, after churches built and dedicated, and many people called to the Lord by his pious labour, he passed away to the Lord, and was buried in the same city, and after many years, when Hoëdda was bishop, was thence translated to the city of Venta, and there is laid in the church of the blessed apostles Peter and Paul.

Bishop Birinus, then, landed on the shores of Wessex. At what port did he land?

Wareham was a town of great importance in Saxon times; in King Edward's reign it was the largest and most populous town in Dorset. The Saxon Kings had a residence there, and it contained hospices or town houses for all the great men of the county. The Reve (sheriff) of the county lived there (Dorset Domesday). It appears to have been a favourite residence of the W. Saxon Kings, and one king at least, Bertric, A.D. 800, besides the Edward who was slain at Corfe Castle, was buried there. Wareham was a very important port also. It is recorded in the Saxon chronicle that the Danes repeatedly landed there; the first descent of the Danes upon the shores of Britain appears to have been made at Wareham. What better port on the shores of Wessex could Bishop Birinus have chosen than this, which was one of the most important in the kingdom? At Wareham he would in all probability be in close proximity to the king and his court, whom before all others he would be anxious to propitiate and convert, for once gain the king to the faith, and there would be little difficulty in reaching the people. The king *was* converted, and he and his people were baptized at Dorchester in the year following the arrival of S. Birinus; the famous S. Oswald,

King of the Northumbrians, standing as his godfather, and "both kings," we read, "gave to the bishop the city called Dorcic (Dorchester) to make his bishop's seat there." There is good reason why Dorchester (Dorset) should have been chosen. It was situated in one of the most populous districts of the kingdom of Wessex, and being a royal manor, the king had complete control over it, and could dispose of tithe or lands as he pleased. The situation, too, was central, and it was not far from Wareham. The Saxon kings had a residence at each place, and a good road connected them, so that he might have remained under the bishop's teaching and received baptism without going far from home. It is not easy to understand why the bishop and the king should have gone to the other extremity of the kingdom, as they would have done had the see been fixed at Dorchester (Oxon), or that both would have placed themselves on the borders of the kingdom where they would have been within the power of the pagan Mercians. King Oswald married King Cynegil's daughter, and if some of the royal lands of Dorchester formed part of her dowry, we can understand why the consent of both kings was necessary to the establishment of the Bishop's see here.

The narrative goes on: "Where, after churches built and consecrated and many people called to the Lord by his pious labour, he passed away to the Lord." What evidence is there of the existence of churches in Dorchester (Dorset) in Saxon times? The Domesday survey was taken by several, probably nine corps of commissioners. The circuit of each corps may be determined by certain characteristics of its work. It is a distinguishing feature of the work of the south-western commission that it was heedless of the registration both of parish churches and of parish priests. The Dorset Domesday makes accidental mention of both, but this is usually in relation to church lands rather than to churches, and the accident does not extend to more than 18 instances (Eyton). We must not, therefore, expect to find in Domesday a list of the churches which existed in Dorchester in Saxon times, yet notwithstanding the fact that so few of the churches in Dorsetshire are mentioned in the Domesday survey, the Holy Trinity Church, if not the whole of the churches of Dorchester, are alluded to in one passage, where, under the title of "*Terra Elemosinariorum Regis*," it is stated "*Bristuard Presbyter tenet ecclesias de Dorcestre et Bere et decimas*"—sufficient evidence that the Holy Trinity Church at least existed in Saxon times. That the original Church of St. George was built by the Saxons seems more than probable from the fact that in 1091 Bishop Osmond gave the Rectory of S. George to his Church at Salisbury. As to the other churches, all that can be positively stated of them is that it is unlikely that the king after his conversion would be satisfied to leave his own manor insufficiently provided with churches, and that there is nothing in the dedication of such churches to S. Peter

and All Hallows (All Saints) inconsistent with the belief that they were originally of Saxon origin. As to St. Peter's, the Saxon Chronicle records the hallowing of two great churches about this date, the minster of Peterborough and that of Winchester; both of these were dedicated to S. Peter, and the latter was in the Kingdom of Wessex. And further the peculiar relation between the parishes of the Holy Trinity and S. Peter's, Dorchester, which has never been explained, though it has once been the subject of a lawsuit (July 17, 1826—*Doe v. John Morton Colson*), is made clear on the supposition that the original S. Peter's Church was the Saxon Cathedral built by S. Birinus, and that it was united with the Church of Holy Trinity (also built by him) on the removal of the see from Dorchester to Winchester.

The improbability that Dorchester (Oxon) would be chosen as the seat of the see for Wessex may be gathered from

(I) *Its position*. There appears to be no evidence that Dorchester (Oxon) was at this time within the Kingdom of Wessex, it certainly was not so later, when it became the seat of the Mercian See, which according to Mathew Paris was removed from thence to Lincoln in the year 1085. A passage in Domesday confirms this " . . . de Lincolia, in qua nunc est episcopatus " (Domes. tom. i, fol. 336).

(II) *The restlessness of the Mercians and their readiness to make war upon their neighbours*. Of the two kings who are said to have given Dorchester as the seat of the episcopal see of Wessex, the one Oswald, king of the Northumbrians, " was killed in a great battle by the same pagan nation, and pagan king of the Mercians who had slain his predecessor Edwin " (A.S.C.), and Coinwalch, the son of the other, was attacked and driven from his kingdom by the same people. Knowing the disposition of the Mercians, is it likely that the king would have placed the seat of his see upon their frontier?

(III) *The supposition that Dorchester (Oxon) was the seat of the See* does not agree with the spirit of Bede's statement, which relates that " arriving in Britain and first coming to the tribe of the Gevissæ, since he found all there most heathen he thought it more profitable to preach the word there, rather than go further and seek out those to whom he ought to preach." If Dorchester (Oxon) was the place of his settlement we must read these words: ' Since he found all there most heathen, he thought it most profitable to go as far away from them as he possibly could go without actually going out of the kingdom,' if, that is, Dorchester (Oxon) was within the kingdom, which seems very doubtful.

The following are the facts which are relied upon as showing that Dorchester (Oxon) was the seat of the Bishop Birinus' See, with some comments upon them:—

(1) *Long tradition to that effect.* The claims of Dorchester (Dorset) have never been fairly considered; there is no existing work known to the writer in which they have been even set forth. That there may be a consensus of opinion at the present time in favour of Dorchester (Oxon) does not necessarily show more than that some learned man, who had not sufficient interest or local knowledge to examine the claims of Dorchester (Dorset), has pronounced in favour of Dorchester (Oxon), and that others have accepted his opinion without examining the grounds on which it is given. That ancient tradition is entirely in favour of Dorchester (Oxon) requires proof. In Capgrave's *Chronicle of England*, written in the reign of Edward IV, it is stated "The seconde kygndom was in Southsex, which hath Kent on the est side; and on the south side the sea; on the west Hamphire, on the north Suthrey. The first Kyng was Elle: and than his III sons. The V was Ethelwold; and he was convertid be Byryn bischop of Dorsete." There is internal evidence that he is not giving his own opinion, but is quoting the opinion of some historian before him; but whether this is so or not, there must have been a tradition in his days that S. Byryn was Bishop of Dorchester (Dorset), unless Capgrave invented.

(2) *The Church there is dedicated to Birinus.* This seems one of the strongest evidences that S. Birinus had nothing to do with it. One imagines that the old missionary bishops were too modest to dedicate their Cathedral Churches to themselves as the patron saints. Would not the fact that the Church is dedicated to Birinus prove that it was built long after the death of S. Birinus, after indeed he had been canonized?

(3) *The Church is of Cathedral dimensions and dignity.* This might be an argument in favour of a Saxon Church built at the later age when Dorchester (Oxon) was the seat of the Bishopric of the *Mercian* see, but would it tell in favour of a church built circa 640?

(4) *Dorchester (Oxon) was on the borderland of the West Saxon Country, and in the line of their advance towards Mercia.* That Dorchester (Oxon) was on the borderland of the West Saxon Country seems, as stated before, a strong reason why the see of Wessex should not be placed there in the *seventh* century; an additional reason would be the hatred which the heathen nations bore towards Christianity, and towards those (especially of their own race) who gave up the worship of their forefathers to embrace it. The establishment of Christianity upon the frontier of a heathen nation would be likely to act as an incentive to war.

Is there any evidence that the advance of the West Saxons through Mercia was gradual? The entry in the *Saxon Chronicle* A.D. 851 (200 years after this time) would show that the frontier of the kingdom of Mercia was, even at that date, the Thames, and Dorchester (Oxon) is on the Mercian bank of the Thames

(5) *Dorchester (Dorset) is Dornwaraceastre, while Dorchester (Oxon) is Dorcic or Dorkeceastre.* Dorchester (Dorset) is called in old documents by various names. In the pipe rolls of 14 John it is called by the sheriff of Dorset, who ought to have been able to describe it correctly, Dorkeceastre, one of the names by which Dorchester (Oxon) is said to be distinguished.

W. MILES BARNES.

86. "PROFITS OF THE PRAYES."—In the accounts of the Cheddar Moorwardens, 1633—1650, such entries as the above are of frequent occurrence. For instance, in 1633, "Received the pfts of two prayes, 14s. 6d."; in 1650, "the pft of one prey, 8s. 10d." I conclude that these sums were derived from fines levied on persons who had put stock on the Common without a right to do so, when "the driving of the prey," (that is, all the cattle,) into one herd, took place, at Lady Day and at Michaelmas. Is this so? and have the customs of the Commons in our two counties ever received attention? J. COLEMAN.

[Prey, The herd of cattle driven from the common pasture and impounded; if any among them belong to persons in an adjoining parish, a trifling sum is paid to redeem them. In Wright's Provincial Dictionary it is said to be a *Norfolk* word. EDITOR FOR SOMERSET.]

87. KING ARTHUR'S GRAVE. (I. viii. 362, II. x. 46.)—I am now in a position to answer my own query. In "The West of England Magazine," for March, 1888, is an article by the Rev. S. Baring-Gould, entitled 'Tintagel, King Arthur's Castle,' which contains the following reference to the stone. He writes thus:—"The scene of the battle is traditionally pointed out at no great distance from Tintagel, indeed, in the next parish, on a little stream, called the Camel or Alan. The bridge over the river is called "Slaughter Bridge." A curious Romano-British inscribed stone marks the site; but the inscription "*Latin hic jacet filius Maccari*" refers to one Latin MacCar, unknown even to tradition. With regard to the King's place of sepulture, the learned author states that Arthur was carried to Glasynnis, the Green Isle, more likely to be "the mythical island of perpetual bliss in the western ocean," than Glastonbury.

JOHN LL. WARDEN PAGE, Williton.

88. DORSET PECULIARS. (II. x. 65).—A list of Peculiars in the Diocese of Bristol, which comprised nearly the whole of the County of Dorset, will be found in Vol. I. of the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, published by the Record Commission in 1810. The Royal Peculiars, besides Wimborne Minster and Canford Magna, were Corfe Castle, Gillingham, Poole, and Sturminster Marshall.

J.B.

[A valuable list of Somerset Peculiars is given on pp. 456-7 of the same Volume. EDITOR FOR SOMERSET.]

89. COMMONWEALTH MARRIAGES, SOMERSET, 1653-6.—
Continued. (II. x. 73.)—

- 1655 May 30 George Hull of Cudworth and May Walkedon of Dowlishwake. W.
- „ June 4 John Guy and Margery Read, both of Chellington. W.
- „ „ „ James Browne and Joane Robbins, wid., both of Buckland St. Mary. W.
- „ „ 19 George Palfry of Broadway and Mary Wyatt of Buckland St. Mary. W.
- „ „ „ John Lumbert of Thornecombe in Devon, and Katherine Pinney of Wayford, co. Somerset. W. on Tuesday.
- „ „ „ Markes Poole and Ann Owsley, both of Winsham. W.
- „ „ 28 Thomas Plummer and Elizabeth Brooke, wid., both of Chard. W. on Thursday.
- „ „ „ Edward Walter and Elizabeth Blewett, both of Combe St. Nicholas. Mar. at Wadford.
- „ „ 30 Richard Williams of Combe St. Nicholas and Katherine England of Chard. W. on Saturday.
- „ July 3 Clement Hart of Barrington and Elizabeth Temple of Ilminster. W.
- „ „ 5 John Sweete of Marshwood, co. Dorset, gent., and Mrs. Ann Bale of Wigborrow in South Petherton, co. Somerset. Mar. at Wigborrow.
- „ „ 6 William Wyatt and Agnes Tucker, both of Buckland St. Mary. W.
- „ June 7 John Hutchins als. Chaple and Alice Perry, both of Dowlishwake. Mar. at Ilchester.
- „ July 9 George Bagwell and Eleanor Perry, both of Winsham. Mar. at Crewkerne.
- „ „ „ John Conway and Alice Markes, both of Merriott, at Crewkerne. Noe cer.
- „ „ „ Henry Vildew and Elizabeth Lawrence, both of West Chiniocke. Mar. at Crewkerne.
- „ „ „ Robert Hallett and — Baker, both of North Perratt. Mar. at Crewkerne. Noe cer.
- „ „ 13 Joseph Weetherall and Ann Poole, both of Ilminster, and there mar.
- „ „ 16 John Diomond and Phillip Spure, both of Martocke. W. Noe cer.
- „ „ 26 Thomas Smith of Chard, the younger, and Ann Cooke of Thornecombe, co. Devon. W. Noe cer.
- „ „ 26 Thomas Hawker of Tatworth in par. of Chard and Mary Carswell of the same place. W. on Thursday. Noe cer.

- 1655 Aug. 1 William Good and Lydia Davey, both of Winsham. W.
 " " " Henry Lush of Thornecombe, co. Devon, and Joane
 Kender of Winsham, co. Somerset. W.
 " " 8 Simon Chicke and Sylva Jeffe, both of Ilminster.
 W.
 " " 13 Thomas Keene of Membury, co. Devon, and Agnes
 Booby of Buckland St. Mary, co. Somerset. W.
 " Sept. 4 Richard Chicke, the younger, and Agnes Bennett,
 both of Ilminster. W.
 " July 7 Jeremiah Staple and Frances Hitchcock, both of
 Winsham. W.
 " Sept. 13 Thomas Stower of Cudworth and Grace Pyke of
 Dowlishwake.
 " " 15 Osmond Gange and Julian Hawker, both of
 Ilminster. W.
 " " 18 William Barrett and Joane Kinge, both of Donyatt.
 W.
 " " 19 John Pitte and Grace Foxall, wid., both of Chard.
 W.
 " " 26 William Elved and Mary Miller, both of Crewkerne.
 W.
 " " 27 Robert Tyler and Katherine Chalkeway, both of
 Crewkerne. W.
 " " " John Paull of Broadwinsor, co. Dorset, and Joane
 Slimdter of Chard, co. Somerset.
 " " 28 Robert Bowbere, clerk, and Barbara Yard, both
 of Staple Fitzpayne. W.
 " Oct. 1 Robert Tutchin of Chedzoy and Susanna Shipin
 of Whitelackington. W.
 " " 2 John Crocker of Taunton and Joane Prigge of
 Chard. W.
 " " " Thomas Coxe of South Petherton and Ann Colebert
 of Otterford. W.
 " " 8 George Coxe and Ann Voare of Crewkerne. W.
 " " 11 Thomas Speed and Winefried Aplin, both of Chard.
 W.
 " " 16 Daniel How of Whitelackington and Eleanor
 Atwell of Buckland St. Mary, married at Crew-
 kerne. Tuesday.
 " " " Andrew Olford and Joane Pexford, both of Crew-
 kerne. Mar. there. Tuesday.
 " " 17 William Baker of Weston Zoyland and Bridget
 Bicknell of Hinton St. George. W. on Wed-
 nesday.
 " " " Merideth Joanes and Elizabeth Owsley, both of
 Merriott. W. on Friday.
 " " 23 William Paull and Mary Townesind, both of
 Ilminster. Mar. there on Tuesday.

- 1655 Oct. 23 Robert Nutt and Elizabeth Knatt, both of Ilminster.
Mar. there.
- " " " Robert Wills and Eme Drewe, both of Ilminster.
Mar. there on Tuesday.
- " " " William Hayman and Rabidge Owsley, both of
Ashill. Mar. at Ilminster on Tuesday.
- " " 24 Robert Stembridge of Merriott and Mary Markes
of South Petherton. Mar. at Crewkerne.
- " " 25 John Dollen of Clement Danes, co. Middlesex,
Poulterer, and Dorothy Chicke of Ilminster.
Mar. at Crewkerne on Thursday.
- " " 26 John Doble of Chard, co. Somerset, and Marrian
Doble of Chardstocke, co. Dorset. W.
- " " 30 John Palmer and Margaret Cossins both of
Henton St. George. W. on Tuesday.
- " " 31 Richard Aplin of Broadwinsor, co. Dorset, and
Mary Hilcombe of Kingstone, co. Somerset.
W. on Wednesday.
- " Nov. 1 Joseph Carter and Ann Balch, both of Chard. W.
- " " 15 William Carswell, the younger, of Chard, weaver,
and Joane Shoote of the same place. W.
Noe. cer.
- " " " Joseph Smith of Ilton and Mary Vinson of Buck-
land St. Mary. W.
- " " 21 Richard Gillett of Chellington and Mary Dollinge
of Cudworth, widow. W.
- " " 26 Thomas Oton of Churchstanton, co. Devon, and
Joane Hooper of Combe St. Nicholas. W.
Noe. cer.
- " " 27 Robert Smith and Elizabeth Chicke, both of
Ilminster. W.
- " " 28 Richard Parrocke of Whitestanton, co. Devon, and
Joane Pittard of Stocklinch Magdalen. W.
Noe Cer.
- " " 29 George Dewnell and Elizabeth Chaple, widow,
both of Chard. W.
- " Dec. 4 Christopher Jenninge of Thurlbeare and Mary
Hare of Staple Fitzpayne. W. Noe cer.
- " " " Robert Evered and Alice Mills, both of Crewkerne.
W. Noe. cer.
- " " " Richard Mory of Wayford and Elizabeth Batten of
Broadwinsor, co. Dorset. W.
- " " 5 Robert Evered of Chard and Blanch Smith of
Ilminster. W.
- " " 17 Alexander Key and Elizabeth Rocke, both of
Ilminster. W.
- " " " George Bennet and Mary Goble, both of Combe
St. Nicholas.

- 1655 Dec. 18 Nicholas Stuckey and Joane Becke, both of Chellington. W.
- " " 25 Thomas Single and Joane Cole, both of Kingstone. W.
- " " 19 Edward Lake and Mary Wardall, both of Winsham. W.
- " " 26 William Fowler of Thornecombe, co. Devon, and Edith Hawker of Laymore in Crewkerne, co. Somerset. W.
- " " " Robert Banckes of Chard, co. Somerset, Clothier, and Alice, dau. of Thomas Hand of Dalwood, co. Dorset, Yeoman. W.
- " " " Robert Poope and Eleanor Chubb, both of Crewkerne. W.
- " " 27 Joseph Pedon, Carpenter, and Rebecca Harcombe, both of Chard. W.
- " Jan. 1 John Beddle and Elizabeth Barter, both of Crewkerne. W.
- " " 3 John Jeanes and Judeth Hull, both of Cudworth. W.
- " " 24 Thomas Becke and Thomazine Phillips, both of Chellington. Mar. at Dinnington on Thursday.
- " " 31 John Leakey, junr., of Dowlishwake and Joane Parriott of Cudworth. W.
- " " " Joseph Berriman and Fryddiswide Gaylord, both of Whitelackington. W.
- " Feb. 12 Richard Gould of Allnishay (Allowenshay) in Kingston and Elizabeth Trot of East Coker. Mar. at Ivelchester (Ilchester.)
- " March 4 Robert Warry, the younger, and Elizabeth Legg, both of Chard. W.
- " " 8 Anthony Frecke and Elizabeth Dymond, both of Chard. W.
- " " James Glover of Moore in South Petherton and Margaret Perry of Cudworth, at Crewkerne.
- 1656 April 7 Christopher Barnes of Crickett Thomas and Grace Hay of Staple Fitzpayne. W.
- " " " John Hawkins and Joane Burton, both of Chard. W.
- " " " John Skinner, labourer, and Joane Kallander, both of Chard. W.
- " " " Elias Shepherd and Eme Jeffery, both of Ilminster. W.
- " " 10 Anthony Tassell of East Chinnock and Winifred Rendole of Odcombe. At Ilchester on Tuesday.
- " " 23 Thomas Deomont of Yarcombe, co. Devon, and Christian Austin of Whitestaunton, co. Somerset, wid. W. [? Beomont.]

- 1656 April 24 Edward Parke of Cosecombe, co. Dorset, and Elizabeth Geere of Crewkerne, co. Somerset, mar. at the latter place on Thursday.
- " " " John Clarke and Catherine Partridge, both of Crewkerne. Mar. there on Thursday.
- " May 6 Thomas Carver and Ann Stuckey, both of Winsham. W.
- " " 13 William Collins and Phillip Chirke, both of Ilminster. W.
- " " " Osias Richards and Gertrude Woolmington, both of Chard. W.
- " " 24 Francis Pyne of Wellington, worsterwiner, and Joane Morcombe of Chard. W.
- " " 26 William Robbins and Mary Townesin, both of Buckland St. Mary. W.
- " " 27 William Tutchter and Elizabeth Baker both of Donyatt. W.
- " " " Francis Pyke of Bemister, co. Dorset, and Ann Smallen of Ilminster. W. on Tuesday.
- " " " Thomas Maine and Joane Fend, both of Donyatt. W.
- " " 29 Edward Scriven and Joane Pexford, both of Crewkerne. W.
- " " " William Bovett of Winsham, co. Somerset, and Aves Hooper of Chardstoke, co. Dorset. W. On Thursday.
- " June 5 William Bartholomew, the younger, and Elizabeth Shattock, both of Norton Fitzwarren. At Taunton.
- " " " Robert House of Capland in Broadway and Elizabeth Gullocke of Beercrocombe. At Taunton.
- " " 16 George Dabniot and Zealy — both of Broadway. W.
- " " 24 John Mutter and Elizabeth ———, both of Otterford. W.
- " " 26 Francis Carter, of Broadway and Elizabeth Harvey of Ashill, wid. W.
- " " 30 Michael Trumpe of Curland and Ellen of (sic) Buckland St. Mary. W.
- " July 1 John Batt and Margaret Scriven, both of Donyatt. W.
- " " 7 Simon Combe of Donyatt and Ursula Nicholas of Ilminster. W.
- " " 16 John Burrige of Chard and Ann Walker of Combe St. Nicholas. W.
- " " 17 George Jenninge and Edith Trot, both of Cudworth. W.
- " " 16 Stephen Browne and Elizabeth Torry, both of Ilminster. Mar. there.

- 1656 July 22 Roger Mitchell and Elizabeth Bevis, both of Chard. W.
- " " 24 Daniel Kerle and Joane Brooke, both of Henton St. George. W.
- " " 26 Gamaliell Baunton and Agnes Bragge, both of Chard. W.
- " Aug. 11 Thomas Cranoe of Gregory Stoke and Elizabeth Paull of Hassilborough, wid. W.
- " " 19 Henry Gullocke of Ashill, husband, and Frances Rixe of Ilton. W.
- " " " George Devenish of Clapton and Julian Bard of the same. W.
- " Sept. 1 Humphry Pedon of Chard and Joane Bettie of Kilmington. W.
- " " 16 John Rogers and Margaret Rowswell, both of Shepton Beauchampe.
- " " 25 Matthew Turner of Wotton Fitzpaine, co. Dorset, and Agnes Warren of Chard. W. on Thursday.
- " " " John North and Joane Norton, both of Chuffecombe. W.
- " " 27 William Goddard of Broadway and Elizabeth Palmer of Staple Fitzpaine. W.
- " Oct. 3 William Willis of Castle Cary, gent., and Elizabeth Rowsewele of Ashill. W. on Friday.
- " " 14 Thomas Gawler and Elizabeth Dunster, both of Broadway. W.
- " " 24 William Bodie als. Markes and Sibbell Hawkins, both of North Perrat. W.
- " Nov. 1 Thomas Goodyn and Ann Goodland, both of Ilminster. W.
- " " 6 Jeffery Pysinge of Hilton, co. Dorset, and Elizabeth Lumbard of Worth in Chard parish, co. Somerset. W.
- " " 8 John Farthinge and Katherine Word, both of Combe St. Nicholas. W.
- " " 19 George Crocker and Elizabeth Greneway, both of Woolmiston in Crewkerne. W.
- " " 20 Michael Potter of Whitestanton, Mary Row of North Curry. W.
- " " 27 William Wyatt of Chardstoke, co. Dorset, Phillip Radford of Chard. W.
- " " " George Johnson and Joane Mitchell, both of Chard. W.
- " Dec. 1 Thomas Samford of Broadway and Chessa Pinney of Ilminster. W.
- " " " Richard Chicke of Ilminster and Magdalen Tutchter of Donyatt. W.

- 1656 Dec. 9 Richard Dollinge of Wilton and Eleanor Sherwood of Pitminster. W.
- " " " Anthony Goodland of Ilminster and Elizabeth Wilcoxe of Donyatt. W.
- " " 27 William Masie of Chaffecombe and Elizabeth Hunt of Donyatt, wid. W.
- " " 18 Thomas Bonner of Waston in the parrish of Combe Saint Nicholas, co. Somerset, gent., and Mrs. Elizabeth Nutcombe of Nutcombe in the parrish of Clehanger, co. Devon, were married at Venn in the house where one James Whipple now liveth in the parrish of Chepstable. co. Somerset, on Thursday.
- " " 25 William French and Edith Lumbard, both of Chard. W.
- " " " John Culliford and Grace Glyde, both of Chard. W. on Thursday.
- " " " George Webber of Chard, miller, and Susanna Smith of Ashill. W. "Pd 2s. but must bee 4 more."
- " " 30 Roger Locke of Eastborne, co. Sussex, gent., and Adeodata Triggs of Chard, co. Somerset, mercer. W. on Tuesday.
- " " " Thomas Symes, tailor, and Joane Baunton, both of Chard. W. by Hen. Bonner esqr.
- " Jan. 1 Thomas Butson and Joane Hooper, both servants to George Mitchell of Chard. W.
- " " 19 George Sampson, thelder, of Lupon, gent., and ——— of the same place. W. on Monday.
- " " 20 John Taylor of Wilton and Joane Robbins of Buckland St. Mary. W. on Tuesday.
- " " 26 John Bagge and Agnes Causse, both of Winsham. W.
- " " 30 John Gibbens of Middle Chinnocke and Joane Adley of Odcombe. At Wigborrow.
- " Feb. 4 James Stockes of Ottery St. Mary, in Devon, and Anna Trott of Chard, in Somerset. W.
- " " 12 Arthur Parris of Combe St. Nicholas, co. Somerset, and Sarah Harris of Chardstoke, co. Dorset. W.
- " March 2 George Membry of Cudworth, co. Somerset, and Susan Bennett, of Broadwinsor, co. Dorset. W.
- " " " Thomas Hill and Margaret Hill, both of Ilminster. W.

In the 4th Series of Somerset Wills by the late Rev. F. Brown, p. 94, occurs the will of this Henry Bonner, of Waterleston, dated 14 Nov., 1668, and proved 15 March, 1668-9. It names his son Thomas Bonner; his grandson Thomas Bonner, son of Thomas

Bonner the elder; his grandsons Henry and John, sons of his eldest son Henry Bonner; also his son-in-law Giles Combe. Henry Bonner, the younger, is commemorated by a monument in Combe S. Nicholas Church, which states he died Dec. 1680, aged 65. A Robert Bonner and Joane Rapson were married at S. Cuthbert's, Wells by licence, 18 March, 1627.

I am indebted to Canon Church, the Sub-Dean of Wells, for bringing the volume containing these marriages to my notice, and to the Dean and Chapter of Wells for permission to print them.

ARTHUR J. JEWERS, F.S.A., Wells.

90. VERSES INSCRIBED IN BOOKS. (I. vii. 321, viii. 387, II. ix. 20.)—At the end of a copy of "Marcus Tullius Ciceroes three bookes of duties," published in 1558, are the following rhymes in a very old handwriting:—

My master's name above you see
 Take heed therefore you steal not me.
 And if you doe without delay
 Your neck to hime for me shall pay.
 Bow downe beneath plaine maist thou see
 The picture of the gallows tree
 Take heed therefore of that in time
 * * * * *
 (last line illegible).

Samuel Winne."

Then follows a rude sketch of the gallows, with a man suspended by the neck, who appears to be wearing trunk hose. Beside him is the hangman in the act of removing the ladder,—a realistic detail which would probably not occur to a modern mind. The book, which has both the Latin and an English version by Nicolas Grimalde, printed in parallel columns, has evidently been used as a "crib" by many generations of schoolboys, who have signed their names and scribbled remarks about the margins.

CHARLES NEWTON-ROBINSON.

91. The four last lines quoted by "C.H.M." in your March number (p. 26), were commonly used, with some variation, at Sherborne School; but always, as well as I recollect, with two additional. The six lines with us ran as follows:—

"Steal not this book for fear of shame
 For in it is the owner's name;
 And when you die the Judge will say
 Where is that book you stole away?
 And if you say you cannot tell
 He'll turn you off and you'll go to H——."

The rhyming inscription most in favour at that time was :—

“This book is one thing
My fist is another,
Touch not the one
For fear of the other.”

In an old book, date about 1770, I saw the following lines many years ago, and as I have never happened on them since they may be new to some of you readers. (I cannot remember the title of the book nor the name of the owner.)

————— “his book

God give him grace therein to look,
Not only to look but understand
Learning is better than house or land ;
When house and land are gone and spent,
Then learning is most excellent.”

W.

92. From the cover of “An Historical, Genealogical, and Classical Dictionary,” printed in London, 1743, I take the following :

“H. King Ejus Liber, Anno Domini 1793, Ætat. 16 Scripsit.

Hujus si cupias dominum cognoscere libri
Supra suspicias, atque videbis ibi.

Hoc nomen pono
Quia vendere nolo
At si voluissem
Hoc nomen non posuissem.”

A copy of the Lexicon of Schrevelius, of 1725, contains the following :

“Hujus si cupias Dominum cognoscere libri
Nomen declarant hæc duo verba suum.

Roe King. 1744.”

Δ.

93. LABORHAM—LAVERHAM.—These are Field names in the parish of Wookey. They are also the names of a Drove and a district in Cheddar Moor. In the history of Wookey, page 133, the explanation given is “An early settlement near Callow Hill,” as though derived from the termination “ham.” I am disposed to think that the real word is “Labrum” a Latin word for the brink of a ditch, or as the word “Labrum” occurs in Bailey’s Dictionary coupled with “Veneris,” and is there said to mean Fullers’ weed or Teazel, for a Teazel ground. These entries occur in the Cheddar Moor-warden’s accounts for 1631. “Paid for a Laveran and hanging the same.” “Paid for making wall at Laveran yeat.” Do these Field names occur elsewhere?

J. COLEMAN.

[We find three Lavers in Essex, Lavernock in Glamorgan, Laverstock in Wilts, Laverstoke in Hants, and Laverton in Somerset. The last is *Lauretona* in Domesday, and it is possible that A.S. *lauwerbeam*, the laurel, enters into some of these names ; see Cod. Dip. vi. 308.

EDITOR FOR SOMERSET.]

94. *TEGULÆ AND IMBRICES*.—From the often finding of Roman tiles here and in many other parts of our two counties a query about them may be held to be a local one, it is hoped. That query is:—"What are Tegulæ and Imbrices?" I had always supposed Smith's description (*Dict. of Antiq.*, p. 939), although most imperfect, yet to be final on this point. He calls the Tegulæ "broad," the Imbrices "narrow" and "semicylindrical." But then Gell is also an authority, and (*Pompeiana*, p. 162), he says:—"Two forms of tiles were used in ancient buildings; the imbrex, placed in regular rows, to receive the shower, and the tegulæ which covered and prevented the rain from penetrating the joints. The latter were finished at the eaves with upright ornaments." That is, his Imbrices are broad and flat and his Tegulæ semicylindrical.

H. J. MOULE, Dorchester.

95. *INSECTS PURSUED BY SWIFTS*.—In fine summer weather, as we all know, swifts fly at an enormous height. This, as we all suppose, is in pursuit of insects. But of what are the insects in pursuit at that elevation?

H. J. MOULE, Dorchester.

96. *BARBER FAMILY*.—A Somersetshire family named Barber owned the estate and advowson of Ashmore, Dorset, from 1634 to 1765. George Barber, the purchaser, married Lucy Harbin; not John Barber as is stated in the Appendix to the 1623 Visitation of Dorsetshire. The owners of Ashmore also held a Manor of Moortown, or Moreton, in Somersetshire, at least till 1744, when it occurs in a Marriage Settlement. Collinson does not mention the family in his account of Swell, in which there is a Manor of Moortown; he states that in 1791 William Barber was joint owner of the Manor of Curry Rivell, but gives no account of him. Robert Barber, who sold Ashmore in 1765, was then at least 60 years old; he had four daughters all unmarried, and one son, a lunatic. I should be glad to know anything of the history of the family before George Barber, who purchased Ashmore, and of the times when they acquired and lost their Somersetshire estates. Some account of the family will be found in Hutchins, iii., 370; and two extracts from the 1623 Dorset Visitation are given by him, which probably relate to the same family.

E. W. WATSON, Palace, Salisbury.

97. *DORSET ARCHÆOLOGICAL MONOGRAPHS*. (I. vii. 333).—As a contribution towards the "Dorset Archæological Monographs," suggested by Mr. Moule at the reference given above, I would call attention to the representations in "The Bells of the Church," by H. T. Ellacombe (privately printed) of

(i.) The initial cross and stop, with specimens of three very richly ornamented letters on a broken bell at Batcombe, inscribed "Sancta Maria Maddelene."

(ii.) A curious shield (probably the stamp of the bell-founder) found on the treble at Steeple, with "Sancta Anna ora pro nobis." The same shield is said to have been found on bells in other parts of England.

(iii.) Specimens of very uncommon letters on an ancient bell, the tenor at Haselbury Bryan, bearing the legend "Scancta (*sic*) Maria ora pro nobis."

(iv.) Initial cross and shield (bearing a spread eagle) on an Ave Maria bell at Osmington.

Also to the illustrations of the fonts of Bradford Abbas (perpendicular) and West Chelborough (Norman), contained in "Illustrations of Baptismal Fonts," by F. A. Paley.

W. MILES BARNES.

98. TIN MINES IN SOMERSET.—[Extract from a Letter from William Hartgill to Sir John Thynne, dated Oct. 27th, 1548, communicated by the Rev. Preb. Warburton, R.D., Rector of Kilmington].

"Also I trust my Lord's Grace shall like well the proceeding of your workes as touching your moynnars [miners] for in one place by Yarnfield in the common they have searched about vj fadom depe, and they finde suche matter that they say shortely they shall fynde there other [either] tynne or els leade without fayle: they be skylful men and do apply their business effectually, and what your pleasure shall be further I pray you declare to this Bearer."

M. WARBURTON.

99. THOMAS & MARGERIA LETTERFORD.—In the De Banco Roll 15 Richard II, I notice, under co. Somerset, John Letterford, plaintiff for himself as for the King in a suit. And in a Manor Roll *temp.* Hen. VI. this same Thomas Letterford & Margeria his wife are mentioned. The latter is buried here in our church, where there is a very curious old brass to her memory. Can anyone give me any information respecting Thomas Letterford and tell me who his wife was? She may have been a St. John.

CONSTANCE RUSSELL, Swallowfield, Reading.

[Lotterford or Lattiford is in N. Cheriton. In an Exchequer Lay Subsidy, *temp.* 20 Ed. III., "Domina de Loterford" is mentioned. See "Somerset Record Society," III. 123.

EDITOR FOR SOMERSET.]

100. SILVESTER ROUNSEHALL.—This person was the Puritan vicar of Cheddar from 1655, or thereabouts, until 1660. His name does not occur in Calamy. Can any one give me any information as to his antecedents?

J. COLEMAN.

101. GYPSIES IN DORSET.—In the first number of the *Journal of the Gypsy Lore Society*, July, 1888, (T. & A. Constable, Edinburgh,) a periodical of very considerable interest, is an article by H. T. Crofton, entitled "Early Annals of the Gypsies in England," which contains, on pages 14-16, an account of the fortunes of a band of these wanderers in Dorset, early in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. This account is well worth transferring to the pages of *S. & D. N. & Q.*

"In the summer of 1559 a very large number of gypsies were apprehended in Dorsetshire, and committed for trial at the Assizes under the Statutes of Henry VIII. and Philip and Mary. The authorities were apparently perplexed by the number and the wholesale slaughter that would follow a conviction, in case the laws were strictly enforced. Lord Mountjoy, the Lord-Lieutenant of, the county therefore wrote to the Privy Council for instructions, which were sent to him by a minute in Queen Elizabeth's name. This is dated 'the last of August, 1559,' and states that 'in our late dere sistar's tyme some exāple was made by executiō of some of the lyke which yet hath not proffited to teare theis sort of people as was mēt beside y^e horrible and shamefull lyffe y^t they doe hant.' The Queen thought it 'very cōvenient that some sharpe example and executiō should be made uppō a good nōber of them;' therefore no favour was to be shown to 'fellons or such like malefactors,' to old offenders, 'or to such as have frō there youth of long tyme hanted this lewd lyffe nor to such as be y^e pncipall captens and ryngledars of the cōpany;' but 'y^e childrē being under y^e age of xvjth and of such as very lately have come to this trade of lyffe and that apper to have bene ignorāt of y^e lawes in this behalfe provided and of womē having childrē ethr, suckyng uppō them or being otherwise very yong so as w^tout their mothers attendāce they might perish or other womē being w^t child,' were left to the discretion of Lord Mountjoy and the Justices of Assisees at the comīg thither,' with the remark that 'we thynk it very cōveniēt that they be cōveyed owt of y^e realme as in lyke casees hath been used.'

"At the Dorchester Assizes, on the 5th of September, 1559, these gypsies were tried and were acquitted on the technical grounds that they had imported themselves, and had not come over seas, for 'upon throughe examinacon' they alleged 'that in Decembre last they cam out of Skotland into England by Carlysle w^{ch} ys all by land,' perhaps on hearing of Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne, November 17th, 1558. The 'justicees of assisees, [Serjeants] Rychard Weston and Rychard Harpo^r,' however directed them to be kept in custody until the Queen's pleasure was known, and on the 23d of September James Lord Mountjoy wrote from Canford, explaining that he had 'caused learned counsayll to sett in hand the drawyng of their endytement,' but they and also 'the Justyce of Assyse

judged they not to be wthin the daunger of felonye, . . . therefore I have taken order that they shalbe dyspatched, wth as convenient speede as may be, as vagabonds, according to the lawes, to the places wher they were borne.' (*State Papers—Domestic—Elizabeth*, Vol. vi., Nos. 31, 39, 50, pp. 137, 138, 139).

"It is highly probable that this same band, upon leaving Dorchester to go to Scotland, passed through Gloucestershire, and were, on the 26th of October, 1559, reapprehended at Longhope, in that county, by George Jones, the county escheator, by direction of William Pytte, bailiff of the borough of Blandford, Dorsetshire, acting as Lord Mountjoy's messenger. (*State Papers*, Vol. vi., No. 20, p. 141). The escheator's return furnishes their names, viz., James Kyncowe, George Kyncowe, Andrew Christo, Thomas Gabriells, Robert Johanny, John Lallowe, Christopher Lawrence, and Richarde Concow. Their ultimate fate beyond being taken to Gloucester Castle is not mentioned, nor is the cause of their reapprehension; but probably in Lord Mountjoy's opinion they were not fulfilling their promise to return to Scotland."

△

102. COURT ROLL OF SHAFTESBURY ABBEY. (I. vii. 295, II. ix. 32).—*Continued.*

SHASTONIA.

Curia ffeodorum baronie tent' ibidem decimo nono die Decembris Anno xxxij^o rrs Henrici Sexti Et Anno Dñe Edithe Bonham Abb'isse xij^{mo}.

CO'IS SECT'.—Ad hunc diem Joh'es Mercer' fac' sectam sua' coi'em et h' diem ad sect' suam hic it'um de nouo fac' ab hac die in tres septim'.

ATTACH'.—Adhuc attach' Joh'em ffecchere de Kulmyngton ad r' Will'mo Bayly in pl'ito deb'i.

ATTACH'.—Et att' p'fat' Joh'em ad r' eidem Will'mo in pl'ito iñs.

ATTACH'.—Et att' Joh'em Godard de Hanleygh ad r' Thome Baker et Emmote vx' eius executric' test'i nup Joh'is Randolf in pl'ito deb'i.

DISTR'. M'IE. iiijd.—Adhuc bedellus in m'ia quia non h'et Thomam Sawcer (iiijd.) de Henton ad r' Joh'i Andrew in pl'ito deb'i.

DISTR'. M'IE. iiijd.—Idem bedellus in m'ia quia non h' Rob'tum Shevenham (iiijd.) de Henton p'dict' ad r' Thome Petour' (esson'est) in pl'ito deb'i.

Et distr' ip'os meli^s erga p'x'.

DISTR'. M'IE. iiijd.—Idem bedellus in m'ia quia non h'et Joh'em Chylde (iiijd.) de Tyssebury ad r' Agneti vx' et executrici test'i nup Vincent' Smyth in pl'ito deb'i. Et distr' ip'm melius erga p'x'.

REMAN' LOQUELA USQ' P'X', VNDE LEX, &c.—Ad hunc diem loquela int' Joh'em Payn (esson' est p' J. Potecary) querent' et Thomam Benet defendent' in pl'ito tñs rem' vsq' p'x' p' ession' ex p'te defendent' p' Thomam Sheve vnde lex fuit in Cur' p'x' p'cedent'

DISTR. M'IE. jd.—Ad hunc diem bedellus in m'ia quia non Joh'em Holcombe ad r' Walto Style in pl'ito tñs.

FI. FA.—Adhuc fieri fac' xjs. vjd. cum dampn' viijd. de bonis et catall' Joh'is Laueranns ad opus Joh'is Knyght q' idem Joh'es Knyght versus dict' Joh'em Laueranns recup'auit vt p' in Cur' iij^{ta}. p'cedent'.

Et fieri fac' vjs. viijd. de bonis et catall' Will'i Martyn' ad opus Rob'ti Mounketon q' idem Rob'tus Mounketon versus dict' Will'm recup'auit vt p' in Cur' ij^a p'cedent.

P'X' LEX.—Rob'tus Rydeowte (esson' est p' J. . . .) po' se ad legem se iij^{cia} manu versus Thomam Baker in pl'ito deb'i de eo qd non debet neq' iniuste detinet ijs. iijjd. p' vno vitulo a dict' Thoma emp' infra iur' hui^s Cur' ad fest' Nat' beate Marie Virginis in Anno xxix^o rrs Henrici sexti ad dampna sua de xijd. nec, &c. Et inde dat' est ei dies ad fac' legem erga p'x'.

M'IE. xd.—Will'i^s Hygon (iijjd.) in m'ia quia non p's querel' suam versus Rob'tum Shephurd in pl'ito tñs. Will'i^s Martyn (ijjd.) in m'ia quia non p's querel' sua' versus Rob'tum Mounketon in pl'ito tñs.

Idem Will'i^s (ijjd.) in m'ia quia non p's querel' suam versus eundem Rob'tum in pl'ito tñs.

Walt'us Doly (ijjd.) de Hanleigh in m'ia p'lic' con. [pro licencia concordandi] cum Rog'o Blake in pl'ito tñs.

P'X' EX^o.—Robtus Shephurd (fi. fa. viijs. ijd. cu'damp' viijd.) q' op se p' Joh'em Brokeway att' suu' v'sus Will'm Higoñ in pl'ito deb'i qui dic' p' p'fat' Joh'em att' suu' qd id'm Will' ei deb' viijs. ijd. p' vna petra lane a p'fat' Rob'to empt' infra iur' hui^{us} Cur' ct^o die in Anno xxiiij rrs H. vjt^u quos soluiss' qu'cumq' p'dict' Rob'tum requisit' fuisset q' non sol' set ill' deti' ad damp' d'ti' Rob'ti de xijd. Et postea exact' p'fat' Will'o Higon in plena Cur' non dedis' dict' denarios Ideo consid'at' est p' Sen^{tu} qd id'm Rob'tus recup'et antedict' viijs. ijd. p' lana p'dict' et viijd. de dampn' p' iniust' detent' eorund'm Vnde fiat ex^o cu' dampn' p'dcis, &c., ad p'x' si, &c.

ATTACH'.—Joh'es Nurs q' v'sus Joh'em Buryman' de Henton in pl'ito tñs qui nondum attach' est. Ideo, &c.

SUM'.—Thomas Baker p' Walt'um Janyⁿ att' suu' (sum' est Ideo att', &c.) q' v'sus Rob'tum Ridowte in pl'ito deb'i, qui no'dum sum' est. Ideo sum' ip'm erga p'x'.

AFFERAT'.—Joh'nes Mercer.

Sñ p'quis' hui^s Cur' xxiijd.

SHASTONIA.

Curia ffeodorum baronie tenta ib'm Nono die Januarij Anno xxxij^o rrs H. vjt^u.

Co'is SECT'.—Ad hunc diem Joh'es Mercer fac' sect' sua' coi'em et h'et diem ad sect' sua' hic it'um de nou' faciend' ab hac die in tres septimanas.

ATTACH'.—Adhuc attach' Joh'em Godard (adh' att') de Hanleigh ad r' Thome Baker et Emmote vx' eius executrici test'i nup Vincent' Smyth in pl'ito deb'i.

ATTACH'.—Et attach' Rob'tum Rydeowte ad r' p'fat' Thome Baker in pl'ito deb'i.

DISTR'. M'IE. ijd.—Adhuc bedellus in m'ia quia non h'et Joh'em Chylde (p lic' .) de Tyssebury ad r' Agneti vx'i et executrici test'i nup Vincent' Smyth in pl'ito deb'i. Et distr' ip'm melius erga p'x'.

DISTR. M'IE. jd.—Idem bedellus in m'ia quia non h' Joh'em Holcombe ad r' Walt'o Style in pl'ito deb'i. Et distr' ip'm melius erga p'x'.

REM' LOQUELA VSQ' P'X' VNDE LEX, &c.—Loquela int' Joh'em Payn querent' et Thomam Benet defendent' in pl'ito tñs rem' vsq' p'x' p' ession' ex p'te querent' p' Joh'em Potecary vnde lex fuit in Cur' ija p'cedent'.

LOQUELA REM.—Et loquela int' Thomam Petour querent' et Rob'tum Shevenhñ defend' in pl'ito deb'i rem' vsq' p'x' p' ession' ex p'te querent'.

REM' LOQUELA VSQ' P'X' VNDE LEX, &c.—Et loquela int' Thomam Baker quer' et Rob'm Rydeowte def' in pl'ito deb'i rem' vsq' p'x' p' ession' ex p'te def'. Vnde lex fuit in Cur' p'ced'.

DISTR'. M'IE. iiijd.—Ad hunc diem bedellus in m'ia q' non h' Joh'em fflecchere (ijd. p lic' ::) de Kulmyngton ad r' Will'o Bayly in pl'ito deb'i.

Idem bedell' in m'ia quia non h'et eundem Joh'em (ijd. p lic' ::) ad r' eid'm Will'o in pl'ito tñs. Et distr' ip'm melius . . . [the rest decayed].

FI. FA.—Adhuc fi. fa. xjs. vjd. cum dampn' viijd. de bonis et catall' Joh'is Lauerans ad opus Joh'is Knyght q' idem Joh'nes Knyght versus dict' Joh'em Lauerans recup'auit vt p' in Cur' vta p'ced'.

Et fi. fa. vjs. viijd. de bonis et catall' Will'i Martyn ad op^{us} Rob'i Munketon q' id'm R. vers^{us} dict' W. recupau' vt p' in Cur' iijcia p'ced'.

Et fi. fa. viijs. ijd. cu' dampn' viijd. de bonis et catall' Will'i Hygon ad op^{us} Rob'i Shephurd, q' idem Robtus versus dict' Will'm recup'auit vt p' in Cur' p'cedent'.

M'IE. vd.—Ad hunc diem Thomas Sawcer' (iijd.) de Henton in m'ia p lic' con. cu' Joh'i Andrew in pl'ito deb'i.

Joh'es Nurs (ijd.) in m'ia q' non ps' querel' suam versus Joh'em Buryman' in pl'it' tñs.

ATTACH.—Joh'nes Buryman p' Walterum Janyn attornat' suu'

q' versus Joh'em (Nichin) Nurs de Henton (adh' att') in pl'ito tñs qui non du' att', Ideo, &c.

AFFERAT'.—Joh'es Mercer.

Sm' p'quis' hui^{us} Cur'. xijd.

(To be continued.)

103. HOWARD FAMILY.—I am desirous of tracing the family of a certain James Howard, who is said to have been born at Bruton, Somerset, 16 Nov., 1736, though his baptism does not appear at that date in the parish register. He was a clothier, and resided at Bradford, where he died, 8 Jan., 1805. He married Anne Elizabeth Hammet, said to be of Shaftesbury. James Howard left four sons, James, Charles, Thomas, and John, of whom the youngest only has left descendants. He had also a brother whose name is believed to have been Samuel, and who left descendants now in America. Any clue to the parentage and ancestry of this James Howard will be very welcome.

W. P. W. PHILLIMORE, 124, Chancery Lane, London.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

104. 1. WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL DOCUMENTS. 1541-7.

Ed. by Dr. Kitchin and Rev. F. T. Madge.

2. AN ANCIENT MANUSCRIPT. Ed. by W. de Gray

Birch. (Hampshire Record Society, 1889.)

These two handsome volumes are the first-fruits of the Hampshire Record Society. The names of the Editors are a guarantee of the best kind of work, and an inspection of the volumes fully bears out this assertion.

With regard to the notes on pp. 23, 26, on the entry "in expensis factis fratribus nostris jejuna frangentibus" we are glad to be able to offer an explanation.

A breakfast (*Jantaculum*) was given in every Convent when a monk said his first mass, and a sum of money was paid to him to enable him to feast the brethren. (See Noake's *Monastery of Worcester*, p. 297).

The first of these volumes contains a valuable Glossary of Medieval Latin Terms.

The Ancient MS. of the 8th or 9th Century, which forms the second volume, formerly belonged to St. Mary's Abbey or Nunnaminster at Winchester, a short history of which (with a list of Abbesses) is given in the Introduction. The MS. consists of selections from the Gospels, followed by a series of Prayers or Collects.

We congratulate the Hampshire Record Society on the issue of these volumes, and hope that it has a long career of usefulness before it.

105. THE REGISTERS OF WADHAM COLLEGE, 1613-1719. Edited with biographical notes, by Rev. R. B. Gardiner. 1890.

Wadham College, Oxford, founded in 1613 by Nicholas Wadham of Merifield in the County of Somerset, and Dorothy his wife, has always been a great resort of the sons of West Country families; and therefore this book is of peculiar value to the Somerset, Dorset and Devon Genealogist. Thus, on page 98, (1629), occur two Dorset *alumni*:—Thomas Chafin, and Richard, son and heir of John Joiliffe of East Stour; one Somerset—Thomas, son of Thomas Baynard of Wanstrow; and one Devon—Robert, son of Emanuel Forde of Honiton.

Mr. Gardiner has done the work exceedingly well, and we hope that he will soon make use of his further collections, and bring this valuable work down to the present time.

106. EXMOOR AND THE HILL COUNTRY OF WEST SOMERSET by John Lloyd Warden Page. London, Seeley and Co., 1890. Pp. [xv.] 318, with a Map and 18 Illustrations, 8vo. cloth.

This is a very pleasant book and a valuable companion to any one who is thinking of making a tour in Exmoor. The author (who has written a similar book on Dartmoor) warns us, however, in the Preface that "it is not written so much for those addicted to the study of the past, as for the world at large," and so we are not surprised to find that the "Notes on Archæology," mentioned in the title-page, are for the most part a mere *réchauffé* of Collinson, Savage and Phelps, and we look in vain for new facts, which can only be brought to light by original historical research.

But as a guide-book to the district, written by one who lives in the neighbourhood, and who evidently knows Exmoor with that thorough knowledge, which frequent visits to the spots themselves alone can give, we can heartily recommend this book to our readers' notice.

The district described covers an area some thirty miles in length by fifteen in breadth, and stretches from the Quantock Hills to Lynton; and it is not too much to say that it comprises some of the most beautiful country in England. If this book reaches a second edition (as we hope it will) it would be an improvement to give a larger map; in the present one we miss the name of Oare Oak Hill, that grand hill which affords the shortest "cut" from Two Gates to the famous Doone Valley; the traveller who attempts this path should have plenty of daylight before him, as it is very easy in the dusk to lose one's way, and in that case he may have to spend a night on the moor. Mr. Page gives a useful Table, showing the heights of the twelve principal Hills in West Somerset, Dunkery (the highest) being 1707ft., and Fire Beacon on the Quantocks (the lowest), 1019ft.

There is a good Index, and the illustrations add greatly to the value of the volume, the view of Dunster (facing p. 192) being particularly good.