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THE ISLE OF WIGHT

ITS HISTORY, TOPOGRAPHY AND ANTIQUITIES

A HAND-BOOK SPECIALLY ADAPTED TO THE WANTS OF TOURISTS & EXCURSIONISTS

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VIEW OF THE NEEDLES FROM THE SEA.

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THE ISLE OF WIGHT:

Its History, Topography, and Antiquities.

WITH NOTES UPON ITS PRINCIPAL SEATS, CHURCHES, MANORIAL HOUSES, LEGENDARY AND POETICAL ASSOCIATIONS, GEOLOGY, AND PICTURESQUE LOCALITIES.

ESPECIALLY ADAPTED TO THE WANTS OF THE TOURIST AND EXCURSIONIST.

By W. H. DAVENPORT ADAMS.

NEW AND REVISED EDITION,

With Sixteen Pages of Sectional Maps and Plans, and Large Map of the Island printed in Colours; all from the Maps of the Ordnance Survey: together with Eight Views printed in Tints.

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Introduction.

1. Separated from the mainland by a narrow strait or channel, called the Solent, varying from five miles to three-quarters of a mile in breadth, lies the Isle of Wight.....

> "Of all the southern isles who holds the highest place,
> And evermore hath been the great'st in Britain's grace."—DRAYTON.

Of "an irregular, rhomboidal form," its northern apex pointing almost directly to the mouth of the Southampton Water; in length, from east to west, about 22½ miles; in breadth, at its widest part, from Cowes to St. Catherine's Point, upwards of 13 miles; it occupies an area of 136 square miles, or 98,320 statute acres (92,702, according to some authorities), and had a population, in 1871, of 66,219; in 1881, of 73,045 souls. The circumference of the island may be roughly estimated at 60 miles, though the voyage round it must be calculated at 65.

2. To the north its shores are generally low and shelving; on the east, south, and south-west, they rise into formidable and precipitous cliffs, varying from 400 to 700 feet in height. A bold range of chalk hills, or *downs*, runs through the whole island, from east to west, like a gigantic backbone. From this striking chain branches off, about half-way, another range of heights, which, running southward, terminates in the abrupt headland of St. Catherine Point; and here commences a *third* range, following the coast line as far as Shanklin, and the promontory of East End. The scenery of the eastern division of the island is generally of a diversified character—abrupt hills, deep shadowy vales, and broad green meadows succeeding each other in rapid and picturesque succession. In the western division the northern district is flat and monotonous, relieved only by the young firs of Parkhurst and the pleasant fields of Newtown; but the southern

landscape and the extreme west are again distinguished by a delightful alternation of hill and valley.

3. The principal *rivers*, or rather streams, are, the MEDINA (from the Latin *medius*, midmost, middle), which, dividing the island into two nearly equal divisions, known as the *East* and *West Medine*, rises at the base of St. Catherine's Hill, and after a course of three and twenty miles, broadens into a noble estuary between the towns of East and West Cowes; the EASTERN YAR (Celtic, *garw*, "rough"), which rises near Niton, and flows into the upper part of Brading Haven; and the WESTERN YAR, which forms the peninsula of Freshwater, rising at Freshwater Gate, within a few yards of the sea, and emptying itself into the Solent at Yarmouth. There are other streams—the Lugely, Newtown River, and Wootton River, but not of sufficient importance to claim special notice at our hands.

4. The most remarkable features of the littoral scenery are its abrupt, craggy, precipitous headlands, such as Bembridge Point, the Foreland, Dunnose, East End, Rocken End, St. Catherine Point, Atherfield Point, Brook Point, the Needles, and Headon Hill. Some of these are names with an ominous sound to the mariner, seldom a winter passing without flinging upon them the odium of additional disaster.

The *chines*,* or ravines formed by the action of running water upon yielding strata—from the Saxon *cinan*, to cleave (compare also the word *chink*)—are numerous along the eastern and southern coasts; as, for instance, Shanklin, Luccombe, Blackgang, Barnes, Ladder, Compton, Grange, Jackman's, Whale, Walpan, Cowleaze, and Brook.

5. The *downs* or *dunes*,† conical hills of chalk, from whose summit

* The chines are "deep fissures which have been cut in the cliffs by the action of a streamlet falling over the summit. All of them have the same general features. There is a wide opening seaward which contracts inland with more or less rapidity, according to the hardness of the rock, the greater or less quantity of water which ordinarily falls over, or other circumstances. In some cases the ravine reaches for nearly a mile inland, and is lost at length in the ordinary bed of the brook; in others, it terminates abruptly in a waterfall. Although the stream must in every instance be regarded as the chief agent in cutting the chine, its enlargement is perhaps as much, or more, owing to other influences. The action of the waves during great storms, when the sea is driven violently against the cliffs, has tended considerably to enlarge the opening of the chines, while the landslips, which continually occur after severe frosts, must have caused the steep slopes to fall in from time to time; but the deepening of the chines is always brought about by the stream, as may be observed in any of them where measures are not taken to prevent the constant wearing away of the rock" (*Knight*).

† "Two parallel chains of hills stretch in a direction east and west through the whole extent of the landscape. The northern range is of moderate height, and slopes towards

may be obtained the most beautiful imaginable panoramas, are all of more than average height, and some, from their steep and precipitous character, are really noticeable. The tourist through the island will not fail to have his attention directed to Bembridge Down, Ashey Down, and the heights of Arreton, Shanklin, Bonchurch, Wroxall, Span, Gatcombe, St. Catherine's, Brighstone, Bowcombe, Montjoy, Lymerston, Mottistone, Chessell, Afton, and Chillerton.

6. The *geological features* of the island have been elaborately examined by Sir Henry Englefield, by Mantell (whose *Geological Excursions round the Isle of Wight* should be one of the tourist's inseparable companions), and Professor Edward Forbes. The northern division is formed by "the eocene strata deposited on the chalk when the latter was in a horizontal position" (*Mantell*). The southern division is "almost entirely composed of the different members of the cretaceous system. The white chalk forms a range of downs from the eastern to the western extremity, and is flanked on the south by the lower beds of this formation. These are succeeded by another group of chalk hills that expands into a broad and lofty promontory, in some parts between 800 and 900 feet high, crested by St. Catherine's, Boniface, and Shanklin Downs. On the southern escarpment of this chain the inferior deposits of the cretaceous system re-appear, and fallen masses of these rocks form the irregular line of terraces which constitute the Undercliff. The downs on the southern coast are separated from those inland by an anticlinal axis which extends through this part of the island, and is produced by the upheaval of the firestone, gault, and greensand. The promontory of the Undercliff is flanked both on the east and west by extensive bays, which have been excavated in the clays and sands of the Wealden and inferior cretaceous deposits by the long-continued encroachments of the sea. The Wealden occupies an inconsiderable extent of surface; but in Sandown Bay on the east, and in Brixton, Brook, and Compton Bays, on the west, the cliffs, which are formed of the upper clays and sands of this formation, are exposed to unremitting destruction from the action of the waves. The sea-shore is therefore strewn with the detritus of these fluviatile strata, and the shingle

the shore; the southern rises with a bolder sweep and to a much greater elevation, and exhibits the smooth and rounded aspect and undulated outline, which are so characteristic of the mountain masses of the white chalk as to indicate their geological character, even when seen from a considerable distance. The first line of hills consists of freshwater strata, which are superimposed on the eocene marine deposits. The southern range is the chain of chalk downs that traverses the island throughout its entire length, forming on the east the promontory of Culver Cliff; and on the west that of the Needles" (*Adapted from Mantell*).

contains innumerable water-worn fragments of the bones of reptiles and other organic remains" (*Mantell*).

7. The botanist will find in this picturesque island—"which he who once sees never forgets, through whatever part of the wide world his future path may lead him" (*Sir Walter Scott*)—a greater wealth of floral beauty than in any other part of England. And the amenity of the climate is such, that even far into the winter bloom delicate plants which elsewhere have shrunk into decay—fuchsias, myrtles, and geraniums bearing the bleak winds without shelter or protection. The hedgerows, as the tourist observes with admiration, are, from May to September, literally alive with wild flowers. Every brake is rich in blossoms; every dell is prodigal of the daintiest odours and the most sparkling hues.

Within the limits prescribed to us it is impossible to offer anything like a satisfactory catalogue of the *Flora* of the Isle of Wight; and the tourist will do well to provide himself with the elaborate and valuable *Flora Vectensis* of Dr. Bromfield, as edited by Dr. Bell Salter. He will find *Ivy Crowfoot* at Alverstone, Rookley, and Pan Common; *Stinking Hellebore*, about St. Lawrence; *Climbing Fumitory*, at Bordwood, Queen's Bower, Alverstone, Newchurch; *Hairy Rock Cress*, round Newport and Carisbrooke; *Perennial Hedge Pepperwort*, on banks and ridges at Sea Grove, Alverstone, Cowes, Thorley, Ryde; *Wild Mignonette*, at Ashey, Bowcombe, St. George's Down, Arreton, Ventnor; *Nottingham Catch-fly*, on the cliffs of Sandown and St. Lawrence; *Knotted Spurry*, at St. Helens Spit; *St. John's-wort*, in various parts of the Undercliff; *Red-berried Briony*, on St. George's Down, Ashey, Knighton, Arreton, Shorwell, Brighstone, Gatcombe, Freshwater; *Elecampane*, Binstead, Quarr, Ashey, Luccombe, Thorley, Shalfleet, Totlands; *Ivy-leaved Bell-flower*, Rookley Wilderness and Buck's Heath; *Great Broom-rape*, Ninham Heath and Bridlesford Heath; *Wood Calamint*, Apse Down Valley; *Common Calamint*, Apse Heath, Bonchurch, Carisbrooke, Quarr, Thorley; *Portland Spurge*, on the Culver Cliffs; *Bog Myrtle*, along the Eastern Yar; *Dwarf Orchis* and *Fragrant Orchis*, at Carisbrooke, Freshwater, Calbourne, Bonchurch; *Bee-orchis*, tolerably common; *Fly-orchis*, Ashey, Quarr, Brading, Arreton, Gatcombe, Calbourne; *Bird's-nest Orchis*, Binstead, Priory Woods, Quarr, Calbourne, Steephill; *Marsh Helleborine*, Colwell Bay, Easton near Freshwater, Luccombe, and Bonchurch; *Italian Wake-robin*, in the Undercliff (found nowhere else in Great Britain); *Sweet Galingale*, at Castle Mead, near Niton; *Borrer's Sea-grass*, in the marshes about

Sea View, Brading, Newtown, and Freshwater estuary; *Sea Fescue-grass*, St. Helens Spit; and *Sea-bird Grass*, at Wootton River, King's Key, Newtown, Norton, and Yarmouth.

Among the principal *Ferns* may be mentioned:—*Asplenium Trichomanes*, Quarr, Chale, Shorwell, the Undercliff, Carisbrooke Castle; *Asplenium Adiantum nigrum*, common in most parts; *Asplenium Ruta muraria*, Freshwater, Calbourne, Arreton, Ryde; *Blechnum Boreale*, neighbourhood of Sandown and valley of the Medina; *Botrychium lunaria*, Rookley Wilderness, Luccombe, Shanklin, Nunwell; *Ceterach officinarium*, Brading, Bembridge, Carisbrooke; *Lastræa thelypteris*, Alverstone, Compton, Newchurch, Ninham, Rookley; *Lastræa oreopteris*, Apse Wood; *Lastræa spinolosa*, Apse Wood, Rookley, Centurion's Copse, Bembridge; *Osmunda regalis*, valleys of the Medina and the Yar; and *Polystichum aculeatum*, Alverstone, Bembridge, Calbourne, Cowes. The common *Polypody*, the soft *Shield fern*, the *Male fern*, the dark-scaled *Broad fern*, the *Lady fern*, the *Hart's Tongue*, and the *Adder's Tongue* are of very frequent occurrence.

8. We have already alluded to the geniality of the climate, which renders the island a favourite resort for invalids. "From the variety," says an eminent physician, "which the Isle of Wight presents, in point of elevation, soil, and aspect, and from the configuration of its hills and shores, it possesses several peculiarities of climate and position that render it a highly favourable residence for invalids throughout the year." The Undercliff especially claims this honourable distinction: "It would be difficult to find in any northern country a district of equal extent and variety of surface—and, it may be added, of equal beauty in point of scenery—so completely screened from the cutting north-east winds of the spring on the one hand, and from the boisterous southerly gales of the autumn and winter on the other" (*Sir James Clark*).

9. The Isle of Wight is nominally under the control of a *Governor of the Island* (the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Eversley, G.C.B.), but for all general purposes it forms a portion of the county of Southampton or Hampshire. It returns *one* member to Parliament; and its metropolis, Newport, returns *one*. It is divided into two Hundreds or Liberties:—

(1.) The East Medine, containing 14 parishes: Arreton, Binstead, Bonchurch, Brading, Godshill, Newchurch, Niton, Shanklin, St. Helens, St. Lawrence, Whippingham, Whitwell, Wootton, and Yaverland.

(2.) The WEST MEDINE, containing 16 parishes: Brighstone, Brook, Calbourne, Carisbrooke, Chale, Freshwater, Gatcombe, Kingston, Mottistone, Newport, Northwood, Shalfleet, Shorwell, St. Nicholas, Thorley, and Yarmouth.

The *principal Towns* are, *Newport*, the capital, on the river Medina; *Ryde*, on the sea-shore, nearly opposite Portsmouth; *Ventnor*, on the south-eastern coast; *Yarmouth*, at the mouth of the Yar, opposite Hurst Castle; *East* and *West Cowes*, at the mouth of the Medina; *Brading*, at the head of Brading Haven; and *Sandown*, on the bay of the same name. *Cowes*, *Ryde*, and *Yarmouth* are the principal ports of communication with the mainland.

10. The *Military Establishments* of the island are at *Parkhurst*, where are capacious barracks capable of accommodating 2000 soldiers; *Sandown*, *Yaverland*, and *Bembridge Forts*, strongly armed; *Yarmouth;* and the *New Defences* at *Sconce Point* (*Fort Albert*), *Fort Warden*, and *Freshwater* (*Fort Victoria*).

11. For *Ecclesiastical Purposes* the island is included in the see of Winchester, and is divided into two rural deaneries—one in the East and one in the West Medine. A *Public Grammar School* flourishes at Newport; and there are *Cemeteries* at Ryde, Binstead, Newport, Carisbrooke, Cowes, Brading, and Ventnor.

12. The *Population* of the Isle of Wight are chiefly occupied in agricultural pursuits, and the exports are confined to corn and cattle. Considerable activity in the brewing trade is manifested at Newport; at Cowes, the ship-building yards employ several hundred hands; and along the coast many small fishing villages exist.

13. The *Antiquities* of the island, on which, in their proper places, we shall dwell at some length, are,—*Celtic*, consisting of barrows, earthworks, and a curious relic of the past called the Longstone; *Roman*, including the villas at Carisbrooke, Morton, and Gurnard Bay; *Saxon*, barrows and architectural fragments; and *Norman*, including some portions of the ruins of Carisbrooke Castle and Quarr Abbey. There are two museums—at Ryde and Newport—devoted to the collection and preservation of memorials of the island history.

14. The *Churches* of the island may be arranged, with reference to their architectural characteristics, as under:—

Trans. Norman: Brading, Carisbrooke, Freshwater, Niton, Shalfleet (tower), Wootton, Yaverland. *Early English:* Arreton, Calbourne, Niton, Shalfleet, Whitwell, Wootton. *Decorated:* Brighstone, Mottistone, Shorwell. *Perpendicular:* Chale, Carisbrooke, Gatcombe, Godshill (towers), Shorwell.

THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

HISTORY OF THE ISLAND.

" I dived in a hoard of tales that dealt with knights.
Half legend, half historic, counts and kings,
Who laid about them at their wills, and died;
And mixed with these, a lady." TENNYSON.

SECTION I.—THE ISLE OF WIGHT DURING THE CELTIC PERIOD.

THE Isle of Wight having formerly been ignored by historical students, as offering little in its annals to interest the reason or amuse the fancy, its chronicles were usually restricted to the bare enumeration of names and dates, a few unmeaning generalizations, and some sonorous platitudes. But of late years it has been discovered that its history was not without its scenes of excitement and its picturesque illustrations of bygone days; and archæologists have accordingly directed their studies to the elucidation of what was obscure, with the usual result of discovering much that was unexpected. And even in the narrow limits to which we are here confined, we think we shall bring forward enough of novel and important matter to convince the reader that the annals of the sea-girt Wight are well worthy the strict investigation they now receive; that they are fraught with suggestive episodes and romantic incidents, and adorned by names which the world has been unwilling to let die.

The word *Wight* is generally accepted as a corruption of the Celtic *gwyth*, or "a channel;" its original name being *Ynys-wyth*, the "channel-island" (*Dr. Guest*). By Ptolemy it is referred to under the name of Οὐικτῆδις; and the Romans called it *Vecta*, *Vectis*, and

Vectesis. The Saxons preserved, to a certain extent, the sound of the old Celtic appellation in their *Whitland* and *Wiht-ea.*

The aboriginal inhabitants of the Isle of Wight were, undoubtedly, a Celtic race; and there is some reason to suppose that they were by no means so barbarous as it has been the fashion to represent them. The Celtic antiquities still extant evidence their possession of some degree of artistic ingenuity and military skill; and we know not anything more deserving of attentive examination than the Celtic villages and earthworks which may yet be traced in the neighbourhood of Gallibury, Rowborough, and Newbarns. They have also left to the restless investigation of a later age numerous *tumuli*, barrows, or sepulchral mounds, most of them containing specimens of their weapons and implements, their dress, and even their personal decorations. These barrows are found in great abundance on Chillerton, Brooke, Afton, and Mottistone Downs; on Brixton Down is a notable cairn; while on Shalcombe, Bembridge, Ashey, Wroxhall, St. Catharine, and Bowcombe Downs, are also many of these last resting-places of our remote ancestors.

The principal contents of these barrows—specimens of which are preserved in the Ryde and Newport Museums—are urns of baked clay, of different sizes and designs; and a bronze implement, not unlike the head of a chisel, called a *celt.*

There exists another memorial of the Celtic Period of the island history in the remarkable *Longstone*, near Mottistone, to which we shall hereafter direct the reader's attention.

According to Cæsar, the Belgæ, a Celtic tribe, invaded the southern coasts of England, subdued Hampshire, and colonized the Isle of Wight, which they named *Ictis*, about 85 years before the birth of Christ. This simple record of an important occurrence opens to the historian a wide field of speculation. For Diodorus Siculus, the Greek historian, also speaks of an island named *Ictis*, whither the Britons conveyed the tin dug from the mines of Cornwall—as to a central depôt—until it could be removed to France, and afterwards dispersed over the Continent.

85 B.C.

The Greek historian* also records that this tin was conveyed from the mainland in carts, "at low tide all being dry between it and the island;" and from this passage, and from a reference immediately preceding it, to the promontory of Bolerium (the Land's End), it has been conjectured that *St. Michael's Mount* is really the

* See Diod. Sicul., v. 2.

Ictis alluded to by Diodorus Siculus. But a recent writer* has attempted to demonstrate that the ancient Ictis is the modern Wight, and we offer a brief summary of his arguments for the consideration of the reader:—

1. It is true that *now*, at low water, no cart could cross from shore to shore; but then it is evident that great natural changes have taken place in the configuration of the northern coast of the island since the days of Diodorus Siculus; and it is well known that formerly between Anglesea and the mainland lay certain shallows, though now the Menai waters render it inaccessible to the pedestrian.

2. Evidence exists in the local appellations that a great highway, or main road, once traversed the island from Gurnard Bay—through Rue Street, Gonneville and Carisbrooke—to Niton, where may even now be traced the remains of a large Celtic encampment. Close to Niton is Puckaster Cove, a natural harbour, well adapted to shelter the light craft of the Greek and Phœnician merchants who traded with the British for their valuable metal.

3. The Greek *Ictis* may evidently be traced in the Latin *Vectis*, and this similarity of sound may be accepted as no inconsiderable proof of the validity of our argument.

4. And we have conclusive evidence that St. Michael's Mount could never have been the Ictis of the tin-merchants, because—in the Celtic era—*it was not an island, even at high water.* Florence of Worcester says, "It was originally enclosed in a very thick wood, distant from the sea six miles;" and its separation from the mainland only occurred, according to the Saxon Chronicle, in 1099.

For these reasons, then, we think it may finally be concluded that the Isle of Wight was the ancient Ictis, and the great depôt of the famous tin trade.

SECTION II.—THE ISLE OF WIGHT UNDER THE ROMANS.

"Vespasian was the first that brought the Isle of Wight to the subjection of the Romans, while he served as a private person under Claudius Cæsar" (*Speed*). Crossing from Gaul into the southern provinces of England, he fought there thirty battles, and reduced under the Roman power two powerful nations,—the Belgæ and the Damnorici,—captured twenty towns, and subdued the Isle of Wight (*Suetonius*). Two hundred and forty years later (296 A.D.), Constantius, the Roman Emperor, who

43–45 A.D.

* See Journ. Brit. Arch. Association.

had been dispossessed of the British throne by the treachery of Carausius, and afterwards by the crimes of Allectus, collected a large fleet and army, and prepared to struggle with the latter for his lost crown. On nearing the British coast, we are told by the historian, "The mists so covered the whole surface of the ocean, that the enemy's fleet, which was stationed off the Isle of Wight to surprise us, knew not of our proximity, and we passed through them in security, without hindrance or delay."

These passages are all, in the wide circle of Latin literature, which refer to the Isle of Wight; and its history for upwards of four centuries can only be pieced out, as it were, from the Roman memorials which time has suffered to survive. Enough remains, however, in Roman handiwork to attest the significance of Roman dominion. At Brighstone, Clatterford, Morton, and Gurnard Bay, have been discovered traces of Roman villas. At Bonchurch, within the memory of living men, the sea has washed away the last vestiges of a Roman encampment. At Barnes are numerous indications of a Roman pottery. Puckaster was once the site of a Roman stronghold; and off Puckaster, and in the Channel, was stationed, or cruised, the Roman fleet (*Von Muller*). A recent and important discovery of a Roman villa of more than ordinary elegance has been made at Carisbrooke. "Many traces of Roman occupation are still to be seen in the neighbourhood of Ventnor. Wise men, indeed, tell us that the dark hair and brilliant eyes of the natives of this district are derived from a Roman ancestry" (*Rev. James White*). A great Roman road, there is reason to believe, once traversed the island from north to south, passing the principal Roman stronghold—originally a Celtic fortress—Carisbrooke, *Caer-broc*, the Fort upon the Stream. "There are, besides, many roads called *Streets*, which, if not always planned by the Romans, were adopted by them. These streets have, by their unusually large number in the island, the impress of extensive Roman residence. Thus, parts of the adopted British tin road, from north to south, are called Rue *Street*,* North *Street*, Chillerton *Street*, and Chale *Street*. On the west there are Thorley Street and Street Place. On the east, Arreton Street, Bembridge Street, Haven Street, and Play Street; and again Elderton Street and Whippingham Street from north to south in the East Medina. There is some appearance of arrangement in the roads running from the north to the south, and of a reference to Caris-

* *Stread*, Celtic; *stratum*, Latin; *stræt*, Saxon.

brooke Castle as a centre in the streets from east to west" (*Rev. E. Kell*).

The ancient name of Newport, as shown in certain borough muniments, was *Meda*—apparently Roman, and indicating its position in the centre of the island. Grounds for believing that Newport, or Meda, was of Roman origin, and a town of no inconsiderable importance, are briefly stated in the subjoined note.* The matter is one of great obscurity; but this, at least, is certain, that both there, and in other parts of the island, have been found Roman vases, gems, rings,

* We abridge from some interesting lectures by the Rev. Edmund Kell, M.A. (*Hampshire Independent*, 1852), the following synopsis of the arguments advanced by those who maintain the Roman origin of Newport:—

1. *The regularity of the plan* on which the ancient town was built. Four streets—Crocker Street, Holyrood Street, Corsham Street, and West Lane—form nearly a square, and are crossed by the intermediate streets at right angles. Probably it was built before 137 A.D., as a coin of the Emperor Hadrian's was found enclosed in a stone wall in a house in the Corn Market.

2. Another point deserving of attention in the laying out of the town is, that it exactly fulfils the condition of the Roman towns in being placed *near a position of defence;* also *by a river side*, and, where practicable, at the confluence of two streams, so that the population might have a copious supply of water—the Medina flowing at the east, and the Lukely stream upon the north, exactly fulfilling these latter conditions. It will also be observed that it has been conveniently situated in relation to the Roman station at Carisbrooke Castle, its main street, Castlehold, pointing directly to it; thus fulfilling the former.

3. Another proof is its *name*, which is deserving of particular attention, as being undeniably Latin, and a term significant in that language of its locality. In all ancient records it is referred to as *Medina*, from the Latin word *medium*, or the middle. Of the ten streets which make up the town, the names of seven are Latin. Thus, Pyle Street, from *pylum*, a gate or port; and until the last seventy or eighty years Pyle Street was the way out, the gate, or port, from Newport to Ryde, over the ford at the bottom of Pyle Street. Lugley Street is from *lux*, light, as in Luguvallum (Carlisle), and Lugum (Lowth). Crocker Street reminds us of *Crocolana* (the town of Brough in Nottinghamshire), and seems to be from *crocus*, yellow. Scarrots Lane may be derived from *scarrosus*, rough. Castlehold is from *castellum*, the castle. Corsham is Roman in its first syllable, *cor*, a heart. The rivers Medina and Lukely are both Roman in name; so is Pan Down, and Mount Joy may be a corruption of *Mons Jovis*.

4. Mr. Kell adduces, in further confirmation of his position, the Roman remains discovered at Newport, consisting principally of Greek and Roman coins of various dates, which it is not necessary to particularize, and which would probably have been more numerous but for the desolating attacks to which the town was exposed in its earlier history. "In the thirteenth year of Edward III., for instance, the population was greatly alarmed, and took extraordinary means of defence; and it is supposed that 4000 silver pennies lately found in Castlehold were deposited about this period. The attack from the French was repulsed by the brave Theobald Russell, with the loss of his own life and many of his men. Other plunderings took place in the reigns of Henry V. and Henry VIII.; but the principal attack was made by the French in the second year of Richard II.; when, with the exception of Carisbrooke Castle, they seem to have roamed over and to have completely mastered the island, and violence and depredation of the most deplorable kind was committed."—The reader will probably be of opinion that these arguments are somewhat insubstantial. At all events, the etymologies are very fanciful, and many of them seem to us without the slightest foundation.

fibulæ, swords, coins, bracelets, and urns. The coins discovered in different quarters range over the whole period of the Roman occupation of Britain, and even descend to a later date. The Romans left England in 414 to 420 A.D.; and at Shanklin, in 1833, were discovered coins of the emperors Arcadius and Honorius, the latter of whom did not reign until 424 A.D.

It is evident, then, that the Isle of Wight was regularly colonized by the Romans, who founded here a busy town, built important strongholds, and, charmed by the amenity of the climate and the beauty of the landscape—reminding them, perhaps, of their own fair Italy—reared their summer villas in its fairest nooks.

> "The Roman saw its waters ebb and flow,
> Flush, and with quick and fiery sparkles glow,
> Primeval woods and dewy glades between;
> He saw the water-weed wave to and fro,
> Amid the lucid lapse, in glossy sheen;
> And owned a pensive power, a purity serene."—EDMUND PEEL.

SECTION III.—THE SAXONS IN THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

Our brief *resumé* of the island annals now approaches a period when we shall have more trustworthy authority to guide us than the conjectures of enthusiastic archæologists.

Between the withdrawal of the last Roman legion from the shores of Britain and the coming of the Saxons, intervenes a period of clouds and shadows, wherein, so far as concerns the Isle of Wight, it is in vain we attempt to grope for aught authentic or satisfactory. The first record in the Saxon history of the island occurs in the year 530, when "Cerdic and Cynric (two Jutish warchiefs) conquered the Isle of Wight, and slew many men at Wihtgaras-burh, or Carisbrooke" (*Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*). From the statements of other historians, it would seem that the islanders defended themselves with considerable courage, and all agree that their subjugation was not effected without great slaughter.

530 A.D.

In 534, Cerdic, who founded the kingdom of the West Saxons, died; and Cynric, his son, succeeded to "the throne of spears." The Isle of Wight then passed into the hands of Cerdic's nephews, Stuf and Wihtgar, the latter of whom appears to have enjoyed the real sovereignty of the island, and to have founded a new city at Carisbrooke, or enlarged the old Celtic and Roman stronghold; and some authorities pretend that he gave it his name—Wihtgaraburh. He reigned ten years, died in 544, and was buried in the fortress which he had created.

Again we lose all trace of our island-kingdom for upwards of a century, and it is not until 661 that it reappears in the Saxon chronicles. Then, indeed, an important event is recorded: Wulfhere, king of Mercia, having defeated Cenwalt and the West Saxons, "passed through their province with a vast army, made war against the Isle of Wight, and conquered it. And by his agency, too, Ædelwald, king of the South Saxons, was first converted to the true faith. And in acknowledgment thereof, he gave to him, as he received him from the font, the Isle of Wight; and that he might convert it to the religion of Christ, he sent unto him Eoppa the priest, to preach it. Nevertheless he could not then convert it."

The cross and the sword, in the old days, were constant companions; and at length, in 686, the warrior succeeded in placing the priest—who blessed his arms and prayed for the success of the battle—in ecclesiastical superiority over the Wight. Ceadwalla, king of the West Saxons, aided by Mul his brother, "praiseworthy and gracious, terrible in power and excellent in person, beloved by all, and of a widespread fame," subdued the island, and "caused it to be converted to the faith" (*Henry of Huntingdon*). This notable event is duly recorded by Bede, and in such simple language, that the reader will probably not be indisposed to have the old ecclesiastic's own words placed before him:—

"After that Ceadwalla had conquered the kingdom of the Gevissi, he also subdued the Isle of Wight, which up to that time had been abandoned to idol-worship; and he sought to exterminate the natives by a terrible slaughter, and in their place to establish his own followers. And he bound himself by a vow, although not then regenerated in Christ, that if he gained the island, a fourth part thereof, and of the spoil, he would dedicate to God. This vow he fulfilled by bestowing it, for God's service, upon Wilfrid the bishop, who was present with him. Now, the measurement of the said island, according to the English standard, being twelve hundred families, there was given unto the bishop the land of three hundred families: and the portion which he thus received he intrusted to the care of a certain one of his clergy—Bernuin, his sister's son; and he gave him a priest named Hildila, that he might preach the word, and administer the waters of life to those who should desire salvation. 686 A.D.

"Now I think it should not be passed over in silence that, amongst the first-fruits of those who were saved in that island by belief, were two princely youths, the brothers of Arvald, king of the island, who

were crowned with the special grace of God; inasmuch as when the island was menaced by the enemy, they took to flight, and crossed over into the next province of the Juti, and being conveyed to a place which is called *Ad Lapidem* (Stone, or Stoneham), where it was thought they might be hidden from the search of the victorious monarch, were foully betrayed, and doomed by him to death. Whereupon a certain abbot and priest, named Cyniberct, who governed a monastery not far distant, at a place which is called *Hreutford*, that is, *Reedford* (Redbridge), went to the king, who was then concealed in that neighbourhood, that he might be healed of wounds received while fighting in the Isle of Wight, and besought of him that if it needs must be that the young princes should die, at least he might first be suffered to administer to them the sacraments of the Christian religion. To this the king consented; and the priest having taught them the word of truth, and washed them in the waters of salvation, rendered them sure of admission into the kingdom of heaven. And so, when the doomsman appeared, they gladly endured a temporal death, not doubting that thereby they would pass to the eternal life of the soul. Thus it was, that after all the provinces of Britain had accepted Christianity, the Isle of Wight also received it; though, on account of the heaviness of foreign domination, no one was appointed to the ministry thereof, nor to the bishop's seat, until Danihel, now bishop of the East Saxons" (*Bede, Ecc. History*, iv. 16).

The island became the seat of the bishopric alluded to by Bede about 730 A.D., when Daniel, bishop of Winchester, obtained its jurisdiction; and it has ever since remained a portion of that wealthy see. To Winchester, in 826, Egbert, king of Wessex, granted, by a charter still extant, a portion of the lands of "*Cawelburne*," or Calbourne, which remained for many years in its possession (*Hillier*).

Another gap in the island history now confronts us, which we can fill up only from the conjectures suggested by an examination of the Saxon, or, as Mr. Freeman would call them, Old English antiquities of the island. These are remarkably numerous, and point to the existence among our forefathers of a high degree of luxury.

The principal *tumuli* or *barrows*, identified as Saxon in their origin, are to be found on Arreton and Chessel Downs, and have been examined with great care, on different occasions, by competent authorities. The first recorded discovery of Anglo-Saxon remains occurred in the month of April 1815, and from that date to the present the discoveries have been numerous, and their results considerable. Relics have been obtained which indicate, with remarkable force, the

gradual progress of the Saxon islanders from barbarity to civilization. The bone combs, iron buckles, rude spears, and coarse urns of the early race, contrast very vividly with the gold fibulæ and armlets, the polished weapons and artistic ornaments of their descendants. Among these strange memorials of the fathers of modern England are beads, finger-rings, buckles, childish toys, and armlets—swords, spears, and knives—hair-pins, ear-rings, and needles—arrow-heads, bowls, buckets, and pails; and the curious observer, by spending an hour or two at either of the island museums, where many of these relics are preserved, will gather a more distinct idea of the manners and customs, the mode of life, and even the character of the Anglo-Saxons, than from long and patient perusal of volumes of elaborate description.

We have, indeed, sufficient evidence that the islanders had attained to a very considerable degree of refinement. They had learned the manufacture of glass, and the construction of stone edifices. Something, too, of workmanship in metals must have been generally known. The articles of domestic adornment, discovered by various explorers in their researches into the *tumuli*, so numerous on the island, are often distinguished by their elegance of design and superiority of workmanship. The wealthier Saxons appear to have delighted in the decoration of their persons. They girded their tunics round the waist by a belt which probably held their swords or knives, and which was gaily adorned with buckles of bronze or of silver. They fastened their cloaks at the neck with bronze-gilt fibulæ, or clasps of precious metal, sometimes enriched with ruby-coloured glass. Globelets of crystal of great value they suspended round the neck. Their fingers sparkled with rings of gold, and gems set with no common skill. The females had their beads of glass and amber, their bronze pins, their "spindle balls." The Saxon boy and girl played with their rattles, and strung their perforated cards together, like the children of a later day. In many of his domestic articles the Saxon displayed a refined taste, absent, perhaps, from our modern households. His bronze bowls, his wine cups, his funeral urns were characterized by a graceful simplicity of design. And when he committed to the earth the remains of his friends or neighbours, the sepulture was marked by a decency, we might almost say a splendour, which of itself would be a sufficient proof that the Saxon dwellers in the Isle of Wight were acquainted with many of the arts and customs of civilized life.

The Danes appear to have first planted their ominous standards in

the island in the year 897, when "there came six ships and did there serious harm.....Then King Alfred commanded nine of the new ships [long galleys, which he had built to compete with the swift, narrow *esks*, or war-ships, of the Danes] to go thither; and they obstructed their passage from the port towards the outer sea. Then went the Danes with three of their ships out against them, and three lay in the upper part of the port in the dry, for the men were gone ashore. But the Englishmen took two of the three ships at the outer part of the haven, and slew the men, and the other ship escaped; but in that also all the crew were slain except five, who got away because the other ships were aground. The English vessels were also aground very disadvantageously; three lay ashore on that side of the deep where lay the Danish ships, and all the rest upon the opposite bank, so that none could reach the other. But when the water had ebbed many furlongs from the ships, the Danes crossed from their three ships to the three which were left by the tide on their side, and then they fought against them." Of English there fell in the struggle 72; of Danes, 120. And when the flood-tide rose, it reached the Danish ships before those of the Angles, and so they rowed out to sea; but "were so injured that they could not row round the Sussex land, where the sea cast two of them on shore" (*Saxon Chronicle*). And the crews were brought before King Alfred at Winchester, and by his decree most righteously were hanged.

About 998 the Danes again visited the Isle of Wight, and the chronicler records that whenever they occupied it, "they obtained supplies from the South Saxons and the county of Southampton" (*Florence of Worcester*). In 1001 they ravaged the unfortunate island with even more than their ordinary ferocity. "They roved about even as they pleased, and nothing could withstand them; nor durst any fleet by sea oppose them, nor land forces either, howsoever far into the land they penetrated. Then was it in every way a grievous time, inasmuch as they never rested from their evil doings" (*Saxon Chronicle*). "Therefore," says Florence of Worcester, "no slight grief affected the king; and a sadness, not to be described, the people." In this incursion the Danes destroyed a town which the Saxon Chronicle calls *Waltham*,—supposed by some authorities, though on slight grounds, to have occupied the site of the modern *Werrow*, near Thorley,—and many "cotlifs," or villages. Then a treaty was entered into with them; a certain ransom was paid, and a temporary peace prevailed.

Prevailed, however, for five years only. In 1006 they once more plundered the ill-fated island, and again in 1009. In 1013 they obtained, under Sweyn, such an ascendency in southern England that Ethelred the Unready was compelled to flee, and "at mid-winter" betook himself "into Wiht-land," where he remained during the winter months, departing in the spring of 1014 to the court of Richard, Duke of Normandy.

Sweyn was succeeded on the English throne by the sagacious Cnut, who appears to have visited the island in 1022—the last occasion on which it trembled before "the Raven" of the Norsemen. The Saxon Chronicle, indeed, records that in 1048 "Sandwich and the Isle of Wight were ravaged, and the chief men that were there were slain;" but we believe that this passage refers to an incursion made by the great Earl Godwin, or his son Harold, in revenge for the maltreatment they had received at the hands of Edward the Confessor and his Norman favourites.

The Danes have left no trace of their frequent occupancy of the island, unless we except a small intrenchment on the elevation called Castle Hill, near the Longstone, in the parish of Mottistone.

In the struggle between Earl Godwin and the Norman court, which clouded the later years of Edward the Confessor's reign, the Isle of Wight, from its position, naturally became a favourite rendezvous of the powerful English chief. There he obtained provisions, sheltered his ships, and reinforced his crews. He probably visited it in 1050, when he was at Bosham with his ships. In 1052, with his sons Sweyn and Harold, he landed there, and according to the Saxon Chronicle, "did not much evil except that they seized provisions; but they drew unto them all the land-folk by the sea-coast, and also up the country." Another version, it is true, paints their proceedings in blacker colours.

In 1066, "on the 8th of the kalends of May, there was such a token seen in the heavens as no man ever before saw. Some men said that it was the star *Cometa*, which others called *the hairy star*, and it shone seven nights. And soon after came Tostig the Earl (the victorious brother of King Harold), from beyond sea into the Isle of Wight, with as large a fleet as he could draw together; and there they yielded him money as well as food." And during "the summer and harvest" of the same year, King Harold gathered together his fleet in the secure waters of the Solent, and went himself into the Wight, keeping his royal state, it may be, in the Keep of Carisbrooke. This was the prelude to that decisive battle of Hast-

ings, which exercised so strong an influence upon the fortunes of England.

SECTION IV.—CONDITION OF THE ISLAND AT THE PERIOD OF THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

From the curious but valuable compilation known as the *Domesday Book*, made by order of William the Conqueror, we may gather some interesting facts in illustration of the condition of the Isle of Wight at the epoch of its occupation by the Normans. It is true that the Domesday Book was not compiled until 1086; but there is no reason to believe that any material changes were made in the general arrangements of the island by the Conquest, which there affected only the landed proprietary. Apparently the island passed into the hands of the stranger without let or hindrance; and it may well be that the spirit of its inhabitants had been completely broken by the long tyranny of the Danish sea-chiefs. Probably they submitted to the Norman invaders with instant readiness; at all events, they could not have been in a position to withstand them with the scantiest prospect of success.

At the date of the Norman Conquest, the Isle of Wight possessed a population of between 6000 and 7000. The Domesday Book thus registers the number of villeins, borderers, and serfs employed upon the lands of the different proprietors:—

On the Crown Lands were 198 villeins, 191 borderers, and 142 serfs.
On William Fitz-Stur's lands were 36 villeins, 56 borderers, and 24 serfs.
On William Fitz-Azor's lands were 16 villeins, 75 borderers, and 16 serfs.
On Gozelin Fitz-Azor's lands were 30 villeins, 44 borderers, and 18 serfs.
On lands belonging to the Chapel of St. Nicholas (in Carisbrooke Castle) was 1 borderer.
On lands belonging to the Abbey of St. Mary of Lire in Normandy were 5 villeins.
On lands belonging to the Abbey of St. Mary of Wilton were 7 villeins and 12 borderers.
On lands belonging to the See of Winchester were 30 villeins, 38 borderers, and 23 serfs.
On lands belonging to the King's Thegns (or immediate retainers of the Crown) were 33 villeins, 47 borderers, and 11 serfs.
Total—355 villeins, 464 borderers, and 234 serfs; in all, 1053 souls.

Allowing, therefore, for armed retainers of the feudal chiefs, the garrison of Carisbrooke, women, and children, the population of the island may fairly be estimated as between 6000 and 7000; or, in fact, at about the same number as when, three centuries before, it was converted to Christianity.

The Domesday Book also records, as existing in the island, nine churches: three parochial—Calbourne, Carisbrooke, and Shalfleet;

and six bestowed by William Fitz-Osbert upon the Abbey of Lire—Arreton, Freshwater, Godshill, Newchurch, and Niton.

A toll existed at Bowcombe; there was a *bake-house*, belonging to Count William, at Chiverton (Cevredone); and a *fishery*, in connection with the mansion—*piscaria ad aulam*—at Periton (Prestitone).

No fewer than thirty-three *mills* are named; two at Avington, one at Alverston, two at Sandford and Week, five at Shide, two at Sheat, one at Wroxall, four at Whitfield, one at Shalcombe, one at Ford, one at Horringford, one at Brooke, one at Kingston, two at Bowcombe, two at Calbourne, one at Gatcombe, one at Westover, one at Woolverton, three at Whitfield, one at Yaverland, and one at Shorwell.

Three *salterns* are mentioned — at Whitfield, Bowcombe, and Watchingwood; nine *woods*, *feeding thirty-seven hogs*, at Shalfleet, Wroxall, Bowcombe, Heldelie, Watchingwell, Periton, Selins, Brading, and Shalcombe; six *woods* or *copses* "*furnishing wood for making fences*," at Lemerston, Shorwell, Shide, Calbourne, Gatcombe, and Chiverton; and three *small woods*, *free from pannage*, at Sandford and Week, Hardley and Lepene.

A *park*, supposed to be the first in England, existed at Watchingwell (*Sir R. Worsley*).

SECTION V.—THE LORDS OF THE ISLAND, FROM WILLIAM FITZ-OSBERT TO ISABELLA DE FORTIBUS.

WILLIAM FITZ-OSBERT.

The Isle of Wight, after the conquest of England by William the Norman, fell to the share of his kinsman and chief councillor, William Fitz-Osbert or Osborne, of whom an old chronicler speaks as "a man of vast influence, noteworthy for his intellectual powers, as well as personal strength" (*Guil. Gemett. Hist. Normann.*), and whom the Conqueror, from his boyhood, "had loved and favoured beyond all other Norman barons" (*Guil. Pictaviensis*). Of the spoils of unhappy England, indeed, his share was such as to indicate the esteem in which he was regarded by his sovereign. He was created Count of Hereford, Seneschal and Marshal both of Normandy and England, Chief Justiciary of the North of England, Governor of the castles of York and Winchester; and, finally, the Isle of Wight was bestowed upon him "for his own use and profit." These favours, indeed, his courage and prudence merited, and they were but a just recompense of his important services; for "by his advice William was encouraged to invade England, and by his

1066 A.D.

valour was assisted to preserve it" (*William of Malmesbury*). Not but what, at times, his wrathful sovereign could hold him in disfavour. On one occasion when, as steward of the household, he served the Norman Duke "with the flesh of a crane scarcely half roasted, William was so highly exasperated that he lifted up his fist and would have struck him, had not Eudo, appointed *dapifer* (or napkin-bearer), immediately warded off the blow" (*Warner*).

He divided the Isle of Wight among his principal followers—the Fitz-Azors and Fitz-Sturs—reserving some of the richest manors for his own behoof, and bestowing others upon the Benedictine Abbey of Lire (in the diocese of Evreux, in Normandy), which he had founded and always liberally supported. With six of the island churches he endowed this priory. He strengthened and perhaps enlarged the castle, and founded and endowed the priory of Carisbrooke, conferring the latter upon the aforesaid monks of Lire. He appears to have exercised an absolute supremacy in the island, and to have dispossessed without remorse all the Saxon landholders, but those who, as the king's thegns, had held their fiefs directly from the crown.

The history of the great Norman's chequered career has no relation with that of the Isle of Wight, and we shall content ourselves, therefore, with recording his death on Septuagesima Sunday 1070, in a skirmish at Cassels, in Flanders.

He was twice married. By his first wife, Adeliza, daughter of Roger de Toëni, standard-bearer at Hastings, he had three sons—William, who succeeded to his estates in Normandy; Ralph, who became a monk in the Abbey of Cormeilles, which Fitz-Osbert had also founded; and Roger, surnamed De Breteuil, or Bretteville, who became Count of Hereford, and second Lord of the Isle of Wight. He had also a daughter, Adeliza.

His second wife was Richildis, daughter of Reginald, Count of Hainault; and to his passionate love for this lady his death is attributed by the ancient annalists. "For a long time had Flanders been disturbed by intestine commotions. This could not Fitz-Osbert, who was much enamoured of Richildis, endure; but he entered Flanders with a body of troops, and being warmly welcomed by those he came to protect, after some days had passed he rode hastily from castle to castle, with but a few attendants. Then Friso, being aware of this imprudence, decoyed him into an ambuscade, and slew him—fighting bravely, but in vain—together with his step-son, Ernulph" (*William of Malmesbury*).

ROGER DE BRETEUIL.

The sole circumstance that connects Roger de Breteuil—so named from the place of his birth—with the Isle of Wight, is an entry in Domesday Book to the effect that Raynauld, son of Croc, held a portion of the lands of Wilmingham, which Count Roger had given to his father. 1070 A D.

In 1075 Count Roger incurred the wrath of the Conqueror, and broke out into a rash revolt, which ended wofully for him and his race. The circumstances are so graphically detailed by the chroniclers, and so vividly illustrate the peculiar manners and customs of the time, that the reader may not be displeased to have them placed before him at greater length than their slight connection with the island history of itself would warrant.

As guardian of his youngest sister, Emma, whose dowry he had undertaken to provide, Roger de Breteuil contracted for her a marriage with a potent noble of Bretagne, one Raulf de Gaël, created by the Conqueror Count of Norfolk. But King William, fearing, perhaps, that the intimate alliance of two nobles of such vast power and haughty spirit might be fatal to the peace of the realm, or for some other weighty reason, sent over from Normandy expressly to forbid the nuptials. The proud counts, however, thought fit to despise their monarch's prohibition, and the marriage was celebrated at Norwich, the chief city of De Gaël's earldom, where—

> "Was held that bride-ale
> The source of man's bale,"
> *Saxon Chronicle*—

a nuptial feast fatal to all who attended it. Many bishops, abbots, and barons were present, and many stalwart warriors. There were Normans, and Saxons allied by marriage to those Normans; and Welshmen—the good friends of Count Roger of Hereford and Count Waltheof, who ruled the fair earldoms of Huntingdon, Northampton, and Northumberland. In due time the heart was opened and the tongue loosened by large draughts of wine, and out spake Count Roger in fierce denunciation of the tyranny of King William in seeking to prohibit his sister's alliance. It was an affront, he cried, to the memory of his father, who had won for the Bastard his kingdom (*William of Malmesbury*).

Then out spake the Saxons, who, indeed, had received far deeper injuries, and on all sides arose fierce expressions of wrath. "They

began unanimously, and with loud cries, to plot the betrayal of their king."

Said a Norman: "He is a bastard, and hath no right to a crown."

"He poisoned Conan, our gallant Breton count," muttered a Breton.

"He hath rashly invaded the noble realm of England," cried a Saxon; "hath unjustly slain the true heirs thereof, or cruelly forced them into exile."

"And those who aided him," was the reproach of others, "and through whose valour he is raised higher than all his race, he hath treated with cold ingratitude. To us, victors and wounded, he gave but sterile fields, and these he has taken away, or diminished at the dictates of his avarice." So they protested solemnly that he was abhorred by all men, and that many would rejoice were he but to perish.

Whereupon Count Roger said boldly to the powerful Count Waltheof: "Brave Saxon, now is the much-longed-for hour for thy revenge. Do thou unite with us, and we will establish the English monarchy even as it was in the days of Edward. One of us shall be king, and the other two shall be his generals, and we will govern all. William assuredly will not return here, seeing that in Normandy he hath enough upon his hands. Unite then, with us, O Saxon earl, and do that which is good for thee, and thy family, and thy fatherland, down-trodden under foot."

And these words were hailed with a mighty shout of applause, and Normans and Saxons sware to aid each other, and to overthrow King William.

But this conspiracy was crushed before it was fairly afoot, by the energy and vigour of Lanfranc the primate, Odo of Bayeux, and William de Warrenne. Levying a numerous army, they attacked Raulf de Gaël's forces at a place called *Vagadune*, and completely defeated them—cutting off, it is said, the right foot of every prisoner they captured. In the west the king's troops also defeated the army of Count Roger, and he himself was taken prisoner.

Then King William hastily returned to England, and held a court at Westminster, where the Count of Hereford appeared, and was unable to deny his treason. In accordance with the Norman laws, he was condemned to lose his hereditary estates, and to be imprisoned for life in one of the royal prisons. But haughty was the spirit and unconquerable the pride of Count Roger, and even in his dungeon he derided the king, and by his contumacy implacably offended him. One Easter-tide King William, desirous, it may be,

of soothing the haughty baron, sent to him a complete suit of costly stuffs. Straightway Count Roger ordered his attendants to kindle a great fire, and into the flames cast the royal gifts,—a silken tunic, and a mantle, and a short cloak made of precious furs. When the king heard of this affront, he was justly angered, and swore, "Very proud is he who hath done me this dishonour; and by the splendour of God, out of my prison, while I live, he shall not go." And the oath was kept.

Count Roger died in 1086, and the vast estates of the Fitz-Osberts, and their sovereign rights in the Isle of Wight, were resumed by the crown.

On one occasion only did the Conqueror visit his island fortress, and that was in an hour of peril which strongly brought out the dominant qualities of his kingly mind. His half-brother, Odo, bishop of Bayeux, half warrior, half priest, who had received from him the earldom of Kent, and fat estates and manifold honours, collected during the Conqueror's absence in Normandy a large and powerful following in the Isle of Wight, with the view of crossing into Italy and intriguing for the Popedom. 1085 A.D.

The king, apprised of his brother's ambitious design, suddenly returned, and summoned to Carisbrooke Castle his knights and men-at-arms, and other vassals.

They met in the Royal Hall (*regalis aula*), by the shifting lights of a hundred torches, which wavered and flickered merrily enough upon the glittering armour of the knightly crowd. William sat awhile in stern silence upon the dais; but when the murmur of voices was hushed, he recounted, one by one, the offences which Odo had done against him.

"Excellent peers," he cried, if we may believe the old historian, "I beseech you hearken to my words, and give me your counsel. At my sailing into Normandy I commended England to the government of Odo, my brother, the bishop. In Normandy my foreign foes have risen up against me—yea, and inward friends, I may say, have invaded me; for Robert my son, and other young lords whom I have brought up, and given arms, have rebelled, unto whom my false clients and other bordering enemies have given their assistance. But they have not prospered—God (whose servant I am) ever defending me; neither have they gotten anything of mine besides iron in their wounds. They of Anjou prepared against me; whom, with the fear only of war, I have pacified. These businesses, you know, have drawn me into Normandy, where I have stayed long, and employed

my painful endeavours on public behoofs. But, in the meantime, my brother hath greatly oppressed England, spoiling the Church of lands and rents; hath made it naked of ornaments given by our predecessors; and hath seduced my knights, with purpose to train them over the Alps, who ought to defend the land against the invasion of the Danes, Irish, and other enemies over strong for me: but my greatest dolour is for the Church of God, which he hath afflicted, and unto which the Christian kings that reigned before me have given many gifts, and with their loves honoured; for which now (as we believe) they rest, rejoicing with a happy retribution in a pleasant state. But my brother, to whom I committed the whole kingdom, violently plucketh away their goods, cruelly grindeth the poor, and with a vain hope stealeth away my knights from me, and by oppression hath exasperated the whole land with unjust taxations. Consider thereof, most noble lords, and give me, I pray you, your advice what is herein to be done" (*Speed*, book ix.).

But Odo was a prelate, and sacred, a noble wealthy and powerful, and not over slow in his punishment of an enemy. No wonder, therefore, that out of all that knightly train not one dared raise his voice against him.

"Seize him!" shouted the Conqueror, as if resolved to construe their silence into an acknowledgment of his brother's offences—"seize him, and let him be closely guarded."

But not a knight laid his finger upon the prince of the Church. All stood mute and aghast at the wrath of the king, who, with instant decision, sprang from his seat, strode through his astonished followers, and grasped his brother's robes.

Whereupon Odo exclaimed, "I am a priest and a servant of the Lord. None but the Pope has the right to judge me."

The monarch, prepared for the crafty excuse, replied, "I do not punish thee as a priest, but as my own vassal, and as a noble whom I myself have made."

And Odo, surrounded by armed men, was borne from his sovereign's presence, and in due time despatched across the seas, to wear out many years in a Norman fortress.

Great spoil fell into William's hands. "Heaps of yellow metal did move admiration in the beholders; and many of his bags were taken up out of the bottom of a river [the Medina?], where they were hidden, full of gold ground into powder" (*Speed*).

RICHARD DE REDVERS I.

In those times lived a powerful knight, Richard de Redvers (*de Riviers*, or *de Ripariis*), so named from Riviers, near Creuilli, in Normandy, who safely sided with King Henry I. in his contest with his brother Duke Robert, and whose loyalty so won that monarch's favour, that, in addition to the honours and estates which had descended to him from Count Baldwin, his father, he created him Count of Devon, with a yearly pension of one-third the revenue of the county, and bestowed upon him the town of Tiverton, the honour of Plympton, the manor of Christ Church, and finally, the lordship of the Isle of Wight. **1101-2 A.D.**

He enjoyed his honours until his death in 1107. By his wife Adeliza, daughter of William Fitz-Osbert, he left issue; and his son, Baldwin de Redvers, succeeded to his power and titles.

BALDWIN DE REDVERS I.

Count Baldwin, fourth Lord of the Island, was a type of the true Norman Baron; restless, gallant, impatient of control,—but a pious son of the Church, ever ready by the gift of a fat acre to deserve its blessings. He lived and reigned in the Isle of Wight, and probably in such state as romancists and poets have loved to paint, weaving their thick fancies upon the scanty details afforded by the ancient chroniclers. He founded *Quarr Abbey*,* a monastery of the Cistercian order, choosing for it a pleasant site in an ample meadow-land, bordered by a thick wood, and opening out upon the blue waters of the Solent. There he placed a colony of monks brought over from Savigni, in Normandy, and he liberally endowed the monastery he had founded (A.D. 1135). Upon the town of *Eremuth* or *Yarmouth*, situated at the mouth of the Yar, he conferred a charter—thus creating the first municipality in the Isle of Wight. **1107 A.D.**

Count Baldwin espoused the cause of the Empress Maude, in her struggle with Stephen for the English crown, and suffering a severe defeat in the fens of Ely, betook himself with great haste (A.D. 1139–40) to his island fastness. He greatly strengthened and enlarged it, and invented, we are told, many new and surprising engines of war for its defence. These did not avail him against the

* *Quarr*, from *Quarrariis*, in allusion to the quarries in its vicinity, which had been worked as early as the preceding reign, and were perhaps not unknown to the Romans.

superior military skill and strength of Stephen, who drove him from the island, and confiscated all his possessions. Nor were they restored to him until 1153, when peace was made between Stephen and Henry Plantagenet. Then the count returned from Normandy to his Castle of Carisbrooke, and there resided undisturbed until his death in 1155.

His wife, Adeliza, bore him three sons—Richard, William, and Henry—and a daughter, named Adewisia, or Hadewisa, who is recorded to have possessed lands in the island. Baldwin, his countess, and his son Henry were buried at Quarr Abbey.

RICHARD DE REDVERS II.

The fifth Lord of the Island, and third Count of Devon, was Richard de Redvers, eldest son of Count Baldwin, who married Dionysia, daughter of Count Reginald of Cornwall; begat two sons, Baldwin and Richard; followed his father's excellent example in enriching the Abbey of St. Mary of Quarr; and bestowed a charter upon the rapidly rising town of Newport.

1156 A.D.

He died in 1161, at Cenomanes, in France, leaving a son, Baldwin, still a minor.

And here we pause to enumerate, very briefly, some of the privileges of the lords of the island. They themselves held their estates and honours from the crown, and owed it military service, being bound in *escuage* at fifteen knights' fees and a half (about 4700 acres). They alone possessed dominion in the island. Their tenants could not be taxed by the crown, but held their lands of the castle, or, as it was sometimes termed, the *honour* of Carisbrooke. When the lord's eldest son was admitted to the order of knighthood, or when his daughters were married, they were bound to defray the attendant expenses. If the castle were besieged, his tenants were bound to defend it, at their own cost, for forty days. When he visited the island, they were required to receive him; when he left it, to attend him to the place of embarkation. All minors were placed under his guardianship. He had the return of the king's writs, appointed his own constable and bailiffs, and was coroner within the island. For his pleasaunce, he had a chase in the forest of Parkhurst, and free warren over the lands lying east of the Medina. All wrecks on the coast, all waifs and strays, were his; and the tolls of the fairs and market at Newport and Yarmouth. Finally, he had his own judicial tribunal in the *Knighten Court*, or *Court of Knights*, established by William Fitz-Osbert, and continued until a comparatively recent

period, where he and his knights presided, and adjudicated on all insular claims without let or hindrance from superior authorities (*Worsley*).

BALDWIN DE REDVERS II.

The second Count Baldwin, sixth Lord of the Wight, who had married Avicia, daughter of Ralph de Dol, died, without issue, one year after the death of his father, and was buried at Christ Church (*Lansdowne MSS.* 40, art. iv.). **1162 A.D.**

RICHARD DE REDVERS III.

Of this Count Richard de Redvers, the historian of the Wight has nothing to record, except that he was the first to assume the De Redvers' coat of arms, *or*, a lion rampant, *azure*. He died without issue, and was buried at Mantzbourg, in Normandy. **1163 A.D.**

WILLIAM DE VERNON.

One of the most illustrious of the lords of the island was William, surnamed De Vernon, from a town in the Cotentin, where he was born, or, according to some authorities, educated. He was the second son of the first Baldwin, Count of Devon and Lord of the Wight, and succeeded to the dignities and estates of the De Redvers, in default of male issue to his nephew Richard. **1184 A.D.**

A gallant baron was William de Vernon, and loyal to his king, the famous Cœur de Lion;—at whose second coronation, celebrated on his return from his Austrian prison (A.D. 1194), Count William was one of the four barons who supported the silken canopy over the royal head.

As a firm adherent to Richard, he was necessarily an object of suspicion and hatred to the crafty John. In the first year of King John's reign, therefore, the count—fearing confiscation of his estates—made over to Hubert de Burgh, the Grand Justiciary of England (who had wedded his daughter Joanna), the lordship of the island and the manor of Christ Church. It was but a nominal surrender; and on the death of Hubert de Burgh, in 1206, De Vernon obtained the restitution of his honours on payment to the crown of the enormous fine of 500 marks, and placing his grandson as a hostage in the king's hands.

De Vernon was one of the great barons who wrested from the reluctant John that famous title-deed of English freedom, *Magna Charta*.*

* After signing this charter, King John fled to the sea-shore, and it has generally been asserted that he retired to the Isle of Wight. But the king's Itinerary, or journey book (edited by Sir Thomas Duffus Hardy), conclusively shows that the statement is erroneous.

He chiefly resided, it is believed, in his Castle of Carisbrooke, which had undergone many changes since the days of Fitz-Osbert. Here he exercised, we may well suppose, the splendid hospitality of a feudal chieftain, and gathered about him his knights and vassals to hold high revel or enjoy the vigorous pleasures of the chase. The squire, under his regal roof, may have learned those principles of chivalry which made the civilization of the feudal times; and have practised those athletic exercises which strengthen both the body and the intellect. Here the page may have waited on the Lady of the Island, have whispered love to her maids of honour, or at the banquet ministered to the service of his lord.

"The fretted wall,
Beneath the shade of stately banneral,
Was slung with shining cuirass, sword, and shield:
Light-footed damsels moved with gentle graces
Round the wide hall, and showed their happy faces."—KEATS.

William de Vernon imitated his predecessors in liberal donations to the Abbey of Quarr, within the stately walls of which he raised a mausoleum for his father and himself at a cost of £300, or nearly £6000, computed at the present value of money. He died on the 14th September 1216, and was interred therein. His son Baldwin—the *third* De Redvers of that name—had "passed away" a few days before him (1st September), and his titles, honours, and estates, therefore, devolved upon his grandson,—

BALDWIN DE REDVERS IV.

This Baldwin, the son of Baldwin de Redvers and Margaret Fitzgerald, had been placed, as we have shown, in the hands of King John as a hostage for his grandfather's fidelity. On the death of his kinsman, being still a minor, the king placed him as a ward in the care of the notorious Fulk de Breauté, whom his mother had been compelled by the king to marry—an unnatural union, which excited the disgust of all thinking men. Thus, "this high-minded lady," says Matthew Paris, "became the wife of a murtherous traitor. The noble was linked to the ignoble; the pious to the blasphemous; the beautiful—against her will, indeed, and constrained by the tyrant John—to the base. So that of this marriage a certain poet has sung with sufficient elegance:—

1216 A.D.

'By law, by love, by household feelings bound—
Yet say, what law is this? what love, or peace?

Law without law, and love that hate hath found,
And concord strange whose discords never cease.'" *

But this unworthy minion fell from his proud estate in 1224, was deprived of his ill-gotten treasures, and banished the country. Whereupon the wardship of the young Count Baldwin was intrusted to Richard, Count of Cornwall, the able brother of Henry III., by whose influence a marriage was contracted with Amicia de Clare, daughter of Gilbert, Count of Gloucester (A.D. 1227),—the latter being constrained to pay to the royal treasury a fine of 2000 marks on the union of his daughter with so wealthy a young noble (*Rotul., xi. Henry III.*). A son, Baldwin, was born to the youthful couple in 1235; and a daughter, Isabella, in 1237.

At Christmas tide, in 1240, when the third Henry held a brilliant court at Winchester, Baldwin, *adolescens primæ indolis, miles elegantissimus*, a youth of noble disposition, and skilfully practised in all martial exercises, was knighted, and formally invested with the lordship of the Wight (*Matthew Paris*),—the privileges of that high dignity having been previously enjoyed by his guardian, the Count of Cornwall. Five years later, and Count Baldwin died (15th February, 1245) while still in the prime of manhood.

AMICIA DE CLARE.

At the period of his decease, his son Baldwin, the fifth De Redvers of that name, was only ten years old, and his wardship was intrusted to one Henricus de Wengham. He married, at the immature age of fifteen or sixteen, Avicia of Savoy, a cousin of Queen Eleanor; had a son, John, who died at the early age of ten; was knighted on the occasion of the nuptials of King Henry's daughter Beatrice with the Duke of Brittany; and deceased in September 1252, of poison administered to him at the table of Peter de Savoy, Earl of Richmond, when Richard of Gloucester also met his death by the same foul means. He was buried at Breamore.

1245 A.D.

The lordship of the Isle of Wight formed a portion of the dowry of his mother Amicia de Clare, who enjoyed it from the death of her husband until her own decease in 1283, when the estates and honours of the De Redvers became the undisputed inheritance of her daughter, the celebrated Lady of the Island,—

* Lex connectit eos, amor, et concordia lecti.
Sed lex qualis? amor qualis? concordia qualis?
Lex exlex; amor exosus; concordia discors.

ISABELLA DE FORTIBUS.

Isabella, daughter of Baldwin de Redvers and Amicia de Clare, married, in her early youth, William de Fortibus, Count of Aumerle or Albemarle, and at the age of twenty-three was left a widow, her husband dying at Amiens in 1260. She had had by him three sons, John, Thomas, and William; and two daughters, Alice and Aveline. The latter alone survived her; the others died in infancy.

1260 A.D.

On the death of her mother she succeeded, at the ripe age of forty-six, to the vast inheritance of the De Redvers, while in right of her marriage she enjoyed the large estates of the Aumerles. Her abilities and administrative capacity appear to have been considerable, and she supported her weighty honours with becoming dignity. She resided principally in her Castle of Carisbrooke, where she maintained an almost regal splendour. With knights and pages in her train, and a body-guard of men-at-arms, we may imagine that she swept in exceeding pomp along the broad highways of her island realm; often visiting, we may be sure, that new and important borough of *Medina* or *Newport*, upon which she had conferred extensive privileges; and the municipalities of Yarmouth and Francheville (Newtown), founded by her ancestors.

She was very bountiful to the Abbey of Quarr, bestowing upon it several manors, and fully confirming the donations of her predecessors; and to the Norman Abbey of Mantzbourg she granted her possessions at Appuldurcombe and Week. To other religious foundations she was equally liberal. But nevertheless she knew how to preserve her own dignities from ecclesiastical encroachment. She claimed certain lands enjoyed by the Abbey of Quarr, and so prompt were her proceedings that the monks were forced to seek the protection of the Crown; and Edward I. intrusted their defence to William de Braybœuf, Sheriff of Hampshire. She quarrelled also—history does not record the *why*—with the convent of Breamore, which received *gravissima damna*, such heavy damages in the strife, that the King judged it right to command the Bishop of Winchester, in consideration of its losses, to endow it with the church of Brading. "On the vacancy of a prior of Christ Church, she assumed the power of holding the lands of the convent in her hands; and a prior of Carisbrooke being elected without her approbation, she summoned him to answer in her court."

Isabella de Fortibus died at Stockwell, in Surrey, in 1293, aged

fifty-six. On her deathbed she executed a deed by which, for the sum of 6000 marks—upwards of £60,000—she parted with all the powers, privileges, and lands of the lordship of the Wight to Edward I.* The king had previously sought the concession from her daughter, the Lady Aveline, but her untimely death abruptly terminated the negotiation.

Henceforth, then, we are to regard the Isle of Wight as an appanage of the Crown, the lordship of which "was rarely granted, except for life or during pleasure, to such as the king delighted to honour."

SECTION VI.—FROM ISABELLA DE FORTIBUS TO SIR JAMES WORSLEY.

The Wardens of the Island.

The government of the Isle of Wight, under Edward I. and his successors, was, with few exceptions, administered by Wardens, or *Custodes Insulæ*, appointed by the Crown, and removable at the Sovereign's pleasure. With these were often joined in commission the Constable of Carisbrooke Castle, the Bishop of Winchester, or some one or two notable knights, for the purpose of regulating and investigating its defences. For the Wight, during the stormy reigns of the Plantagenets and their incessant wars with France, was necessarily a position of considerable military importance.

The first Warden appointed by Edward I. was John Fitz-Thomas, of whom "nothing further is known, but that he was also steward of the New Forest." He was succeeded in 1295 by Richard de Affeton (*Afton*), with whom was joined in commission Humphrey de Donasterre, Constable of Carisbrooke. And, in the following year, another commission was appointed for the purpose of examining into the defensive forces of the island,—Sir Richard de Affeton, the Bishop of Winchester, and Adam de Gourdon. 1293 A.D.

This Adam de Gourdon, we may observe *par parenthèse*, had been a famous freebooter, and in the days of the feeble Henry III., the terror of the Hampshire hinds. His bands ravaged the shire from east to west, issuing forth, ever and anon, from their strongholds in the bowery glades of the New Forest, where their leader maintained a sovereign state, to carry off the beeves, the corn, and, it may be,

* Hugh de Courtney, her heir, the founder of the Courtneys of Devon, disputed the testament of the countess, and declared it a forgery. His charges were formally investigated by the Parliament, and pronounced unfounded.—*See Parliamentary Rolls, ix., Edward II.*

the brown-cheeked daughters of the panic-smitten farmers. Against this redoubtable robber-knight Prince Edward at length led a troop of men-at-arms, and came up with him at Alton; but it was agreed, in accordance with the chivalrous spirit of the times, that the fortunes of the day should be decided by a passage-at-arms between the two leaders. So the sword of the rebel crossed the sword of the heir of England. Sharp and obstinate was the combat,—long afterwards celebrated by the old ballad minstrels,—but the prince succeeded in disarming his opponent, and brought him to the ground. He spared his life, with a rare generosity, and procured him the royal forgiveness. Finally, recognizing in him certain chivalrous qualities, he appointed him to a post near his own person; and a trusty servant of King Edward became the rebel whom Prince Edward had doubly vanquished.

From 1302 to 1307, Sir John de Lisle of Wootton, surnamed *De Bosco* (of the Wood), was warden of the island, and also held the constableship of the Castle of Carisbrooke. This John de Lisle was a knight of weight and influence, and appears to have been, so to speak, "the representative man" of the island-chivalry. "With divers other great men," he was summoned (23 Edward I.) "to consult of the important affairs of the realm." He accompanied the great Plantagenet, "well fitted with horse and arms," on his expeditions into France and Scotland. His son, John de Lisle, was one of the many noble youths who received the honour of knighthood with Prince Edward—"by bathing, and divers sacred ceremonies"—at "the famous solemnity," held by King Edward in the thirty-fourth year of his reign (*Dugdale*).

Nicholas de Lisle, in 1307, the year of Sir John's death, was appointed to the wardenship, and commanded by Edward II. to place the island in the possession of his infamous minion, Piers Gaveston, Earl of Cornwall. But the gentlemen of the Wight, and the English nobility, remonstrated so strongly against this appointment that the weak king was compelled to rescind it; and he shortly afterwards bestowed the lordship, with all its privileges, and the Castle of Carisbrooke, on his eldest son, the gallant Edward, then styled Earl of Chester. "That prince kept them in his possession as long as he lived, governing by wardens, as had before been practised by his grandfather. These he generally chose out of the chief gentlemen of the island, judging them the fittest to defend their own land" (*Worsley*).

Sir John de Lisle, son of the former warden, was appointed to this

important office in 1310. He was succeeded in 1321 by Sir Henry Tyes, who was beheaded for treason in the following year. In 1325, the wardens were John de la Hure and John Lisle; in 1336, John de Langford, Lord of Chale; and, in 1338, Theobald Russel, Lord of Yaverland.

And here we propose, in accordance with our general plan, to pause for awhile in this arid summary of names and dates, and to put before the reader, with such skill as we can command, a view of the curious defensive military arrangements of the Wight under the Plantagenets. At the present time, such a subject cannot be without interest, and may not be without profit.

It is difficult, however, to approximate to any correct estimate of the number of men which formed the militia of the island. Every able-bodied inhabitant was liable, in the event of its invasion, to be called upon to bear arms; and those were the days when the English peasant knew how to draw "the tough bow-string" with a strength and a skill which rendered it a formidable weapon. From various ancient rolls we also gather that the Earls of Devon, in right of their feudal service, contributed to the insular forces 70 men-at-arms; the King, 100 bowmen; the City of London, 300; while several religious houses and the principal landowners together supplied 127 men-at-arms and 141 bowmen. Every person owning land of the yearly value of £20, was bound to provide a horseman fully armed. The island was parcelled out into *nine* military districts, over each of which was set its principal landholder or most distinguished knight. If the reader will take his map, and follow upon it the arrangement we are about to indicate, he will see that the division was ordered with considerable skill:—

1. *Yaverland*, *Bembridge*, *Northill*, and *Brading* were under William Russel, Lord of Yaverland.
2. *Stenbury*, *Whitwell*, *Wroxall*, *Bonchurch*, *Cliff*, *Apse*, *Niton*, and *Sandown*, under Peter de Heyno, Lord of Stenbury.
3. *Knighton*, *St. Helen's*, *Kerne*, *Ryde*, *Quarr*, *Binstead*, and *Newchurch*, under Theobald de Gorges, Lord of Knighton.
4. *The Borough of Newport*, under the Bailiff of Newport.
5. *East Standen*, *Arreton*, *Whippingham*, *St. Catherine's*, *Rookley*, *Nettlecombe*, and *Wootton*, under John Urry, Lord of East Standen.
6. *Kingston*, *Shorwell*, *Carisbrooke*, *Park*, *Northwood*, and *Watchingwell*, under John de Kingston, of Kingston.
7. *Brixton*, *Calbourne*, *Mottistone*, and *Newtown*, under Thomas Chyke, Lord of Mottistone.
8. *Brook*, *Shalfleet*, *Thorley*, and *Yarmouth*, under the Lord of Brook.
9. *Compton*, *Afton*, and *Freshwater*, under Adam de Compton, Lord of Compton.

On the chief eminences and exposed points of the coast, watches

were stationed by day and night, and beacons* kept in readiness. Thus, in the East Medina, were thirteen of these stations; in the West Medina, sixteen. If a hostile squadron sailed up the eastern entrance of the Solent, straightway the fire blazed upon St. Helen's Hill, meeting with instant response from the ready sentinels who kept watch on the heights of Shanklin—on the down which towers above Appuldurcombe—at Niton, and rocky Atherfield. Thence the signal sped afar into the very heart of the island, to Standen and to Avington; and so away, on the one hand, to Ryde, Wootton, and Cowes; on the other, to Freshwater and Mottistone, and "the sea-shore at Brighstone."

> "And soon a score of fires, I ween,
> From height, and hill, and cliff, were seen;
> Each with warlike tidings fraught,
> Each from each the signal caught;
> Each after each they glanced to sight,
> As stars arise upon the night."

Other regulations made by the inhabitants for their security have been preserved by Sir Richard Worsley (*History*, p. 31), and are curious enough as illustrations of the iron conditions under which the islanders then "held their own:"—

1. That there should be but three ports in the island—namely, La Riche (Ryde), Shamblord (East Cowes), and Yarmouth.

2. That three persons should be appointed wardens of these ports, who were to prevent any one from retiring from the island, or exporting provisions from thence without license.

3. That none but licensed boats should be permitted to pass, except the boat belonging to the Abbot of Quarr, a boat belonging to Sir Bartholomew de Lisle, and another belonging to Robert de Pimely.

The Warden of the Island possessed extensive powers:—could array, at his pleasure, the horse and foot forces; could raise new levies, if necessary; could provide them with weapons; could draw additional men from Hampshire; could compel the return of all absentees on pain of forfeiture of their lands, tenements, goods, and chattels; and, in case of non-compliance, provide men to supply their places. The King supplied the Castle of Carisbrooke with ten tuns of wine, one hundred quarters of wheat, the same quantity of malt,

* A beacon was "a long and strong tree set up, with a long iron pole across the head of it, and an iron brander fixed on a stalk in the middle of it, for holding a tar barrel."

and oats; fifty quarters of pease and beans; with coals, wood, salt, and other munitions. And to encourage the military spirit of the inhabitants, he conferred upon them great and peculiar privileges.

We may add that the landholders of the island were compelled, by the terms on which they held their estates, to defend the Castle of Carisbrooke in time of war at their own expense (*sumptibus propriis*) for forty days (7 Edward III.).

A few words* in elucidation of the ecclesiastical condition of the island at this period may perhaps be permitted us before resuming our historical narrative. Most of those quiet village churches which lend such a charm to its picturesque landscapes—nestling away in shadowy combes, and among leafy copses, or looking out afar from lonely heights upon the distant sea—echoed with matin and with vesper in the days of the Norman barons. But the chapels or oratories which existed in connection with their stately mansions have passed away—passed away like the names of their founders, like the noble old manorial houses which once were so numerous in the island, but of which not a gray arch or ivied buttress can now be traced.

Thus, of the chapels once existing at *Alfredston* (Alverston), *Briddlesford*, *Lymerston*, *Whitfield*, and *Standen*, the antiquary seeks in vain for a relic; and keen must be his regret that memorials of the past so full of interest have not been spared by Time and "sacrilegious hands." But at *Arreton* still rises a gray old tower. At *Chale*, bleak, desolate, and lonely—in the leafy village of *Brighstone*—on the abrupt hill of *Carisbrooke*—at *Godshill*, looking down upon the fertile mead—at *Thorley*, *Shalfleet*, sequestered *Shorwell*, and pleasant *Gatcombe*—at quiet and sequestered *Mottistone*, still stand the churches, repaired, "restored," and somewhat changed in aspect, it is true, which gave up their revenues five centuries and a half agone to the Norman Abbey of Lire and the Island Abbey of Quarr. The hamlet of *St. Helen's*, now as then, supports a church, though the *Priory* long ago passed from the memory of man. *Carisbrooke's* rich *priory*, the small "*cell*" of monks at *Appuldurcombe*, and the *priory* of *St. Cross* at *Newport*, have utterly vanished from the earth. But the churches of *Calbourne*, *Yarmouth*, *Freshwater*, *Newchurch*, *Brading*, and *Wootton*, and the dependent chapels of *Northwood*, *St. Lawrence*, and *Newport*, are still among the ecclesiastical edifices of the island. Within the walls of Carisbrooke Castle was a small but parochial

* From a *Return made by the Dean of the Island* to Henry Woodlock, Bishop of Winchester, in 1305.

church, that of *Sanctus Nicolas in Castro*, whose memorials now-a-days are without interest or importance.

In the Isle of Wight, then, about this time, existed no fewer than sixteen churches and eleven chapels, many of them possessed of considerable wealth and some degree of architectural beauty. There were also an opulent abbey, that of Quarr; the priories of St. Helen's, Carisbrooke, and St. Cross; the cell of Appuldurcombe, and a chantry at St. Catherine's. Altogether a liberal ecclesiastical provision for a population which probably did not exceed 12,000.

The courage of the islanders and the value of their military preparations were first tested in the year of grace 1340, when a French force landed at St. Helen's point and rapidly pressed forward into the interior. Sir Theobald Russel, at the head of the insular forces, coming up with them, drove them back to their ships, but unfortunately fell in the brief though sanguinary action. Stow, by the way, calls him *Sir Peter;* a pregnant illustration of the truth of Byron's dictum,—

> "Thrice happy he whose name has been well-spelt
> In the despatch!"

In 1377 the French again invaded the island, and succeeded in forcing their way as far as Newport. The inhabitants retired for shelter to Carisbrooke Castle, which, says Stow, Sir Hugh Tyrill "kept manfully." A body of the invaders, approaching the castle, were decoyed into an ambuscade, and so completely cut up that the exulting islanders named the place where they fell "Noddies' Hill" (now *Node Hill*) and "Dead-man's Lane" (*Worsley*). Unable to capture the castle, and perhaps apprehensive of the besiegers receiving formidable reinforcements, the French retired, "taking of the inhabitants 1000 marks to spare their houses unburnt" (*Stow*). In this invasion the towns of Yarmouth and Francheville were completely destroyed, and the whole island appears to have been in the temporary occupation of the enemy.

1386 A.D. The lordship of the Isle of Wight and the Castle of Carisbrooke were bestowed by Richard II., in the ninth year of his reign, on a potent and splendid noble, William de Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, who fills no unimportant niche in English history. This lord had enjoyed the special favour of Edward III., having fought with him at the siege of Caen and the battle of Creçy. He won two memorable sea-fights—defeating the Spaniards off Winchelsea in 1351, and burning seven large Spanish ships at St. Malo

in 1373. At the battle of Poictiers he commanded the rearward of the English army; "in the heat of which fight, it is said that he strove with the Earl of Warwick which of them should most bedew the land of Poictiers with French blood" (*Dugdale*).

This gallant baron, who was one of the first knights of the most noble Order of the Garter, was wont to maintain on ship-board 300 men-at-arms, 300 archers, 20 knights, and 279 esquires—a magnificent contribution, assuredly, to the naval strength of England.

Edward III., in 1377, made him Admiral of the fleet; and he was present at Sheen in the June of the same year, when the great sovereign who had so liberally recompensed his services "passed away." Never resting on his arms, we hear of him in the following year as harassing the French coast with his ships and capturing Cherbourg. Shortly afterwards he was appointed Governor of Calais.

A terrible calamity befell him in 1383. "In a tilting at Windsor," charging in the melée, he accidentally slew his only son—a misfortune which clouded all his later years. In 1386 Richard II. bestowed upon him "the Isle of Wight and the Castle of Carisbrooke," with all their royalties, rights, and privileges, "without paying any rent;"* honours which the magnificent earl enjoyed eleven years, dying at Christ Church, Twyneham, on the 3rd June 1397.

On the death of this earl, the *constableship* of *Carisbrooke* was bestowed, for his life, upon Thomas, Earl of Kent; the *lordship* of the *island* was conferred upon Edmund, Earl of Rutland, fifth son of Edward III., a man whose ambition, valour, and sagacious intellect enabled him to hold his own even in the stormy days of Henry IV. 1397 A.D.

Against Richard II. and his brothers of Lancaster and York, a conspiracy was formed, in 1397, by the Earls of Derby, Arundel, and Warwick, the Duke of Gloucester, and certain dignitaries of the Church, from which this Earl Edmund gained a great advantage. For the plot being discovered, and the leaders beheaded, Earl Edmund received a large share of the spoil of their vast estates. The Earl of Warwick was suffered to escape with banishment to the Isle of Wight, his sentence being pronounced in this quaint fashion:—

"Earl of Warwick! this sentence is very favourable, for you have deserved to die as much as the Earl of Arundel; but the handsome

* A great French invasion being apprehended in 1386, the Earl of Salisbury, inasmuch as "his lands were in the Isle of Wight, was ordered thither to guard and protect it with its men-at-arms and bowmen" (*Froissart*).

services you have done in time past to King Edward, of happy memory, and the Prince of Wales, his son, as well on this as on the other side of the sea, have secured your life; but it is ordered that you banish yourself to the Isle of Wight, taking with you a sufficiency of wealth to support your state so long as you shall live, and that you never quit the island" (*Froissart*).

The earl, created Duke of Albemarle, played an important part in the shifting drama of the reign of Henry IV.; but his treason and his ambition, his deeds of valour and wisdom, his subtilty and courage, rather belong to the history of England than to the annals of the Isle of Wight.

Having received his hereditary title of Duke of York, he accompanied Henry V. in that famous invasion of France which closed so gloriously with the battle of Agincourt; and upon that historic field terminated his turbulent career. "It is said that he desired of King Henry that he might have the fore-ward of the battle that day, and had it; and that by much heat and thronging, being a fat man, he was smothered to death" (*Dugdale*).

1415 A.D.

> "Suffolk first died, and York, all haggled over,
> Comes to him, when in gore he lay insteeped,
> And takes him by the beard; kisses the gashes,
> That bloodily did yawn upon his face;
> And cries aloud,—Tarry, dear cousin Suffolk!
> My soul shall thine keep company to heaven:
> Tarry, sweet soul, for mine, then fly abreast;
> As, in this glorious and well-foughten field,
> We kept together in our chivalry!"—SHAKESPEARE.

During the lordship of Earl Edmund the French made another descent upon the island. The old chronicle thus tells the tale:—"Waleram, Count de St. Pol, assembled at Abbeville, in Ponthieu, about 1600 fighting men, among whom were many men of noble birth, who had largely provided salted meat, biscuits, brandy, flour, and other things necessary for use at sea. From Abbeville the count led them to Harfleur, where they found all sorts of vessels ready to receive them. Having there abode some days to perfect their arrangements, and commend themselves to St. Nicholas, they embarked on board these vessels and sailed straight for the Isle of Wight. Landing there, they assumed a bold face to meet their enemies, of whom, on their landing, they had seen but little; most or all of them having retired to the woods and fastnesses. And now the count made several new knights; namely, Philippe de Harcourt, Jean de Frosseux, Le Seigneur de Guiency, and several others, who

1404 A.D.

went to burn some paltry villages, and set on fire some other places. Meanwhile there came to them an astute priest of the country to treat for the ransom and safety of the isle; and he gave the count to understand that to him and his knights would be paid a very considerable sum of money. To this did the count lend an eager ear; but it was simply a deception on the part of the priest, so that their movements might be interrupted until the strength of the island could be got together. Now of this plot Waleram at length was advised, but too late for him to avenge himself; and re-embarking his men with all speed, he set sail, and returned home without effecting anything more. Then were his lords sore displeased with him, inasmuch as they had invested largely in provision for this expedition, which had thus been utterly overthrown by a solitary priest" (*Monstrelet*, c. xix).

Earl Edmund's widow obtained from the king a grant for life of the lordship of the island, the castle and manor of Carisbrooke, the manor of Bowcombe, and the tithes of the church of Freshwater. She also possessed, as a portion of her dowry, the manors of Thorley, Whitfield, Pann, and Niton, so that she specially deserves a line of record among the historic men and women of the Wight. She died in 1430. **1416 A.D.**

"Towards the latter end of this year a body of Frenchmen landed on the island, and boasted that they would keep their Christmas there; but as near a thousand of them were driving cattle towards their ships, they were suddenly attacked by the islanders, and obliged to leave, not only all their plunder, but also many of their men behind." **1418 A.D.**

In the following year, or "about that time," they came again "with a great navie, and sent certayne of their men to demand in the name of King Richard, and of Queen Isabell, a tribute or subsedie of the inhabitants; who answered that King Richard was dead, and the queen, some time his wife, was sent home to his parents, without condition of any tribute; but if the Frenchmen's minde were to fight, they willed them to come up, and no man should let (*hinder*) them for the space of five hours to refresh themselves, but when that time was expired, they should have battayle given to them: which when the Frenchmen heard, they went away and did nothing" (*Stow*). Such confidence in their own valour had the battle of Agincourt and the victories of Henry of Monmouth excited in the men of the Wight.

The lordship of the island, "by virtue of a grant of the reversion

thereof," passed into the hands of the famous Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester (17 Henry VI.), on the decease of the Duchess of York. There is no reason to suppose that he ever set his foot upon its shores, and we therefore content ourselves with this brief notice of his temporary connection with it. During his lordship, Henry Trenchard, an island gentleman, held the post of warden.

1439 A.D.

A singular event in our annals is here to be noted. Upon Henry Beauchamp, Duke of Warwick, King Henry—"to whom he was very dear"—bestowed the nominal dignity of King of the Isle of Wight, and placed the mimic crown with his own hands upon his youthful brow. "He had the Castle of Bristol given him, with the islands of Guernsey and Jersey, the patronage of the Church and Priory of St. Mary Magdalene of Goldcliff, with leave to annex it to the Church of Tewkesbury. He confirmed the grants made by his predecessors to the Church of Tewkesbury; gave all the ornaments he wore to purchase vestments for the monastery; died in the twenty-second year of his age, and was buried in the middle of the choir."

1443 A.D.

1446 A.D.

Though titular king, he enjoyed neither power nor profit from his dignity, the lordship remaining with "the good duke" until his death in 1447.

Henry Trenchard then received from King Henry a grant of the constableship of Carisbrooke.

Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, father of Edward IV., was the next lord of the island; and one John Newport and Henry Bruin were successively his lieutenants. Against the illegal oppressions of the former, the inhabitants remonstrated forcibly, and laid their complaints both before the duke and the parliament. Duke Richard fell in the battle of Wakefield,—one of the most sanguinary of the great fights of the White and Red Roses,—in 1460.

1449 A.D.

Edmund, Duke of Somerset, in 1453, obtained a grant of the island and the Castle of Carisbrooke for himself and his heirs-male, in satisfaction of certain sums of money due to him from the crown. He was slain in the skirmish at St. Albans, May 22, 1455.

1453 A.D.

His son Henry, Duke of Somerset, succeeded to his honours, but revolted from the Yorkish party, to which his father had clung so stoutly. Thereupon, being taken by Lord Montague at the battle of Hexham, fought upon the banks of the Dilswater, May 15, 1464, his head was struck off without the formality of trial or sentence.

1455 A.D.

The gallant Anthony, Lord Scales,* next received a dignity illustrated by so many of the heroic leaders of feudal England. His royal brother-in-law, in recognition of his eminent services, bestowed upon him "a grant in special tail of the Isle of Wight, with the castle and lordship of Carisbrooke, and all other the castles, manors, and lordships in the island." The next year he was despatched as ambassador to Charles, Duke of Burgundy, to negotiate a marriage between the prince and the Lady Margaret, sister to Edward IV. In return, came to Edward's court a chivalrous nobleman, the Count de Charolois, or the Bastard, "having in his retinue divers brave men, expert in all feats of chivalry, and to the number of 400 horse in his train;" and great festivities were prepared for his welcome.

1467 A.D.

And here the reader will permit us to introduce a brief episode in illustration, not only of Lord Scales' mighty merits, but of the manners of the age wherein he lived. We shall borrow the words of a famous historian, but the lover of fact arrayed in splendid fiction will find the scene we are about to quote charmingly painted in glowing colours by the late Lord Lytton, in his "Last of the Barons." The king decreed a grand tourney, or tilting match, "whereupon lists were set up in West Smithfield, and upon Thursday next after Corpus Christi Day (1467), the king being present, they ran together with sharp spears, and parted with equal honour. Likewise, the next day, on horseback; at which time this Lord Scales his horse, having a long sharp jute of steel on his chaffron,† upon their coping together it ran into the nose of the Bastard's horse. Which making him to mount, he fell on the one side with his rider. Whereupon this Lord Scales rode about him, with his sword drawn, till the king commanded the marshal to help him up, no more being done that day.

"But the next day coming into the lists on foot, with pole-axes, they fought valiantly, till the point of this lord's pole-axe entered the sight of the Bastard's helm. Which being discerned by the king, he cast down his warder, to the end the marshal should sever them. Hereupon the Bastard requiring that he might go on of his enterprise, and consultation being had with the Duke of Clarence, then constable, and the Duke of Norfolk, marshal, whether it might be allowed or not, they determined that if so, then, by the law of arms,

* Edward IV., in the first of his reign, conferred the captainship for life on Sir Geoffrey Gates, who surrendered it in 1467 and received in compensation the governorship of Calais.

† *Chevron*, a head-piece, the head armour of the horse.

the Bastard ought to be delivered to his adversary *in the same condition as he stood* when the king caused them to be severed. Which when the Bastard understood, he relinquished (very wisely!) his further challenge" (*Dugdale, Baronage*, vol. ii.).

Lord Scales, on the death of his father, became Earl Rivers, but did not enjoy the earldom many years. Being a formidable obstacle in the upward path of Richard of Gloucester, he was put to death at Pontefract Castle on the 13th or 14th of June 1483.

> "O Pomfret! Pomfret! O thou bloody prison,
> Fatal and ominous to noble peers!"—SHAKESPEARE.

1483 A.D. On the death of Earl Rivers, Richard III. bestowed the captaincy of the island on Sir William Berkeley, and shortly afterwards on Sir John Savile. The battle of Bosworth Field, however, summarily disposed of King Richard's servants, and in 1485 the lordship and captaincy of the Isle of Wight were granted by Henry VII. to his wife's brother,—

SIR EDWARD WOODVILLE.

"A stout man of arms," and of famous excellence in all knightly exercises, who appears to have gained considerable influence over the knights and gentlemen of his miniature realm.* For being much affected towards the Duke of Brittany, who was then at war with the King of France, Sir Edward determined to lead a body of men-at-arms to his assistance. "And having plain repulse and deniall of the king, could not rest, but determined to work his business secretly without any knowledge of the king, and went straight into the Isle of Wight, whereof he was made ruler and captain, and there gathered together a crew of hardy personages, to the number of 400" (*Hall*, folio xv.). So, with forty gentlemen in four vessels, he set sail from St. Helen's for Brittany; joined the Duke's forces, and marched against the French army, with which they came into collision at St. Aubin. "To make the Frenchmen believe that they had a great number of Englishmen, they apparelled 1700 Bretons in coats with red crosses, after the English fashion. The Englishmen shot so fast, that the Frenchmen in the fore-ward were fain to recede to the battaile where their horsemen were." But they were finally outnumbered and outgeneralled; and notwithstanding the courage of the islanders, the

* He repaired and strengthened the Castle of Carisbrooke, and erected its noble gate-house, with its circular towers, still bearing the scutcheon of the Woodvilles, and the white rose of York.

Bretons were totally routed. So terrible, truly, was the carnage, that out of the four hundred English who had followed Sir Edward's standard, only one—a boy—escaped to relate the sad history of their misfortunes; their leader, and "many noble and notable persons" were among the slain. And there was scarcely a family in the island which had not cause to rue the fatal battle of St. Aubin's (A.D. 1488).

Sir Reginald Bray, a trusty servant of King Henry's mother, who had been "most happily instrumental in advancing King Henry to the royal throne by his faithful and sedulous transacting in that affair" (*Dugdale*), received a lease of the island, with the Castle of Carisbrooke and its appurtenances, the crown lands, and the manors of Swainstone, Brighstone, Thorley, and Wellow, on the condition of making a yearly payment to the crown of 307 marks (£205, nearly £2500 at the present value of money). It must have been during Sir Reginald's administration that Edward IV.'s daughter, Lady Cicely, retired to the Isle of Wight, and spent there the last years of her singularly chequered life, of which so little is known to the general reader, that a brief memoir may not be unacceptable.

1495 A.D.

THE PRINCESS CICELY.

Cicely, or Cecilia, the third daughter of Edward IV. and Elizabeth his wife, was born towards the close of 1469. Her first years were years of storm and shadow; for she was scarcely a twelvemonth old when her royal mother, on the outbreak of the Lancastrian rebellion, was compelled to flee with her to sanctuary at Westminster; and she had but just attained her fifth year, when she was betrothed by proxy (26th December, 1474) to James, the son of James III. of Scotland.

The contemplated marriage, however, was not carried out, King Edward's ambitious designs preventing its consummation; and the Lady Cecilia, instead of a throne and probable unhappiness, was left to consult at a future period the modest wishes of her loving heart, and to furnish English history with the rare instance of a daughter of one of its kings wedding "a man of mean estate."

On the decease of Edward IV., and the gradual development of Richard of Gloucester's ambitious designs, Cecilia and her elder sister were placed in sanctuary at Westminster. A scheme devised by their adherents for their escape to the Continent was betrayed to Richard, and he immediately placed a strong guard round the sanctuary, under the command of one of his creatures, John Nesfield.

Thus imprisoned, the royal ladies and the queen-mother remained for nine months, negotiating meanwhile with the subtle Richard relative to his proposed alliance with the Princess Elizabeth. His "messengers, being men of gravity, handled the queen so craftily, that anon she began to be allured, and to hearken unto them favourably" (*Harding*).

Richard at length solemnly undertook to provide for their safety, to put them "in honest places of good name and fame;" to marry "such of them as were then marriageable to gentlemen born," and to provide each with a dowry of lands and tenements of the yearly value of 200 marks (*Harl. MSS.*, 433). On these conditions the queen gave up her daughters, who received apartments in the palace, and "familiar loving entertainment."

1485 A.D.

It was, however, very speedily reported that Richard designed to marry Cicely beneath her condition, so that her offspring might not prove troublesome candidates for the crown; and when Henry of Richmond landed in England, resolved to wed her if her sister Elizabeth were already married to King Richard, he received assurance that this dishonouring marriage had really been contracted, and was "sore amazed and troubled" at the tidings. But their falsity was soon detected, and after the victory of Bosworth, and Henry's subsequent marriage to Elizabeth, she resumed her proper position in the royal court, and was treated with the distinction due to her birth and personal attractions.

1486 A.D.

At Elizabeth's coronation, in November 24, 1487, she also bore her sister's train; and her loveliness made her "the observed of all observers." Amongst these was a certain gallant soldier, a kinsman and favoured servant of the king, John, Lord Wells, who immediately proffered his suit to the beautiful princess; and though he was more than twice her age, was accepted by her, and, with the king's consent, they were straightway wedded. As husband and wife they attended the Christmas revels at Greenwich, which were held that year with extraordinary magnificence.

By Lord Wells the Lady Cicely had two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne, whose education, it is recorded, she sedulously attended to, while her lord waited upon his royal nephew in his expedition to France, and his progresses through his dominions. About 1495 or 1496—the date is uncertain—she lost her elder daughter; and in 1498 her husband died of pleurisy, "at Pasmer's Place, in Saint Swithin's Lane," bequeathing to his well-loved wife the whole of his large possessions. Shortly afterwards her sorrows were much increased by the death of her younger daughter.

We next find mention of the widowed lady as figuring in the grand pageantry of the bridals of Prince Arthur and Catherine of Aragon, whose train she bore; and the day afterwards, diligent chroniclers record, she performed "two bass dances" with Prince Arthur (Nov. 1501).

Two years later, and she suddenly retired from the splendour of the court into the obscurity of a private condition, wedding—from true love, we may surely presume—one John, or Thomas Kyme, of the Kymes of Kyme Tower, Lincolnshire, a gentleman by birth, but whom the old annalists, stout upholders of feudal distinctions, disdainfully speak of as "a man of mean degree." This singular event took place about the close of 1503, or the beginning of 1504. This gentleman is indifferently styled "John *Keime* of the Isle of Wight, knight," and "Sir John *Kime* of the Isle of Wight" (*Harl. MSS.*, 1139), and is reputed to have had two children by the Lady Cicely, named Richard and Margerie. With his wife he retired to East Standen, near Newport, where for a few brief years "the daughter of England" secluded herself among her quiet household joys, dying on the 24th of August, 1507, in her thirty-eighth year. She was buried in the Abbey of Quarr, and a stately monument erected to her memory. But of this "HIC JACET" not a stone now remains (*Miss Roberts' Houses of York and Lancaster*, ii., etc.).

Returning to our narrative, we can but barely record the captaincy of Sir Nicholas Wadham, who came of an ancient Devonshire family, and held, by virtue of his patrimonial inheritance, certain manors in the Isle of Wight. His second wife, Margaret, sister of the Jane Seymour who wedded Henry VIII., died at Carisbrooke, and was buried in the parish church, where her monument may still be noted. Sir Nicholas himself died in 1511, when the captaincy was conferred upon a gallant and distinguished knight, Sir James Worsley, whose career we shall briefly indicate in our next section.

SECTION VII.—FROM SIR JAMES WORSLEY TO COLONEL HAMMOND.

SIR JAMES WORSLEY.

Sir James Worsley was a younger brother of the Worsleys of Lancashire, who rose into high repute at the courts of Henry VII. and Henry VIII., and who, as page to the former, and keeper of the wardrobe to the latter, enjoyed considerable distinction, and received much of their confidence. 1511 A.D.

By his marriage with Anne, daughter of Sir John Leigh, and

heiress of the Hackets of Woolverton, he had become possessed of Appuldurcombe and other large estates in the Isle of Wight, occupying a position among its gentlemen which abundantly justified the king's choice of him for their captain.

He was appointed Captain-General for life, at a salary of 6s. 9d. per day (nearly £5, according to modern computation); and was made, moreover, constable of Carisbrooke; keeper of the forest; steward, bailiff, and surveyor of the crown lands; clerk of the market; sheriff, and coroner of the island. These weighty offices he held until his death in 1538.

SIR RICHARD WORSLEY

succeeded to all his honours, trusts, and estates, and maintained the dignity of his office with becoming splendour. At his mansion of Appuldurcombe he entertained, in 1540, King Henry, his minister Cromwell (then constable of Carisbrooke Castle), and a splendid retinue. What occasioned the royal visit it is difficult to conjecture, unless it was for the purpose of enjoying the pleasures of the chase in Parkhurst Forest.

Five years later, and the French made their last descent upon this "invincible isle." The circumstances are related with singular vigour by *Mr. J. A. Froude* in his *History of England*, and we need not apologize to the reader for illustrating our pages with his graphic pictures.

1545 A.D.

"With July," he says, "came the summer, bringing with it its calms and heat; and the great armament,* commanded by D'Annebault in person, sailed for England.....The king was at Portsmouth, having gone down to review the fleet, when, on the 18th of July, two hundred sail were reported at the back of the Isle of Wight. The entire force of the enemy, which had been collected, had been safely transported across the Channel. With boats feeling the way in front with sounding-lines, they rounded St. Helen's Point, and took up their position in a line which extended from Brading Harbour almost to Ryde. In the light evening breeze fourteen English ships stood across to reconnoitre. D'Annebault came to meet them with the galleys, and there was some distant firing; but there was no intention of an engagement. The English withdrew, and night closed in.

* The French fleet, under Claude d'Annebault, consisted of 150 large ships, 25 galleys, and 50 small vessels and transports (*Archæologia*, ii.). The English fleet, under Lord Lisle, was far inferior, but his ships were larger and better manned.

"The morning which followed was breathlessly calm. Lisle's fleet lay all inside in the Spit, the heavy sails hanging motionless on the yards, the smoke from the chimneys of the cottages on shore rising in blue columns straight up into the air. It was a morning beautiful with the beauty of an English summer and an English sea; but for the work before him, Lord Lisle would have gladly heard the west wind among his shrouds. At this time he had not a galley to oppose to the five-and-twenty which D'Annebault had brought with him; and in such weather the galleys had all the advantages of the modern gunboats. From the single long gun which each of them carried in the bow, they poured shot for an hour into the tall stationary hulls of the line-of-battle ships; and keeping in constant motion, they were themselves in perfect security. According to the French account of the action, the *Great Harry* suffered so severely as almost to be sunk at her anchorage; and had the calm continued, they believed that they could have destroyed the entire fleet. As the morning drew on, however, the off-shore breeze sprung up suddenly; the large ships began to glide through the water; a number of frigates—long, narrow vessels—so swift, the French said, that they could outsail their fastest shallops—came out with 'incredible swiftness;' and the fortune of the day was changed. The enemy were afraid to turn lest they should be run over; and if they attempted to escape into the wind, they would be cut off from their own fleet. The main line advanced barely in time to save them; and the English, whose object was to draw the enemy into action under the guns of their own fortresses and among the shoals at the Spit, retired to the old ground. The loss on both sides had been insignificant; but the occasion was rendered memorable by a misfortune. The *Mary Rose*, a ship of six hundred tons, and one of the finest in the navy, was among the vessels engaged with the galleys. She was commanded by Sir George Carew, and manned with a crew who were said, all of them, to be fitter, in their own conceit, to order than obey, and to be incompetent for ordinary work. The ports were open for the action, the guns were run out, and, in consequence of the calm, had been imperfectly secured. The breeze rising suddenly, and the vessel lying slightly over, the windward tier slipped across the deck, and, as she yielded further to the weight, the lee ports were depressed below the line, the ship instantly filled, and carried down with her every soul who was on board. Almost at the same moment the French treasure-ship, *La Maîtresse*, was also reported to be sinking. She had been strained at sea, and the shock of her own cannon completed the mischief. There was but

just time to save her crew and remove the money-chest, when she, too, was disabled. She was towed to the mouth of Brading Harbour, and left on the shore.

"These inglorious casualties were a feeble result of the meeting of the two largest navies which had encountered each other for centuries. The day had as yet lost but a few hours, and D'Annebault, hearing that the king was a spectator of the scene, believed that he might taunt him out of his caution by landing troops in the island. The sight of the enemy taking possession of English territory, and the blaze of English villages, scarcely two cannon-shot distance from him, would provoke his patience, and the fleet would again advance. Detachments were sent on shore at three different points. Pierre Strozzi, an Italian, attacked a fort, perhaps near Sea View,* which had annoyed the galleys in the morning. The garrison abandoned it as he approached, and it was destroyed. M. de Thais, landing without resistance, advanced into the island to reconnoitre. He went forward till he had entangled his party in a glen surrounded by thickets; and here he was checked by a shower of arrows from invisible hands. The English, few in number, but on their own ground, hovered about him, giving way when they were attacked, but hanging on his skirts, and pouring death into his ranks from their silent bows, till prudence warned him to withdraw to the open sands. The third detachment was the most considerable; it was composed of picked men, and was led by two of the most distinguished commanders of the galleys. These must have landed close to Bembridge. They were no sooner on shore than they were charged by a body of cavalry. There was sharp fighting; and the soldiers in the nearest ships, excited at the spectacle of the skirmish and the rattle of the carbines, became unmanageable, seized the boats, and went off without their officers, to join. The English being now outnumbered, withdrew; the French straggled after them in loose order, till they came out upon the downs sloping up towards the Culver Cliffs; and here, being scattered in twos and threes, they were again charged with fatal effect. Many were cut in pieces; the rest fled, the English pursuing and sabring them down to the shore; and but few would have escaped, but that the disaster was perceived from the fleet, and large masses of men were sent in, under shelter of the guns, to relieve the fugitives; and the English, being badly pressed in return, drew off, still fighting as they retreated, till they reached a stream (the Eastern

* The headland at Sea View still bears in ancient maps the appellation of Old Fort. M. Thais probably landed at Brading, and penetrated into the Barnsley woods.

Yar, probably), which they crossed, and broke the bridge behind them" (*Froude*, iv. 423–427).

The evening had now come on, and D'Annebault had to determine whether he should attack Portsmouth, or seize upon the Isle of Wight. The former plan was at once rejected, on account of the difficulty of the entrance to the harbour. "It remained, therefore, to decide whether the army should land in force upon the island and drive the English out of it, as they might easily do. They had brought with them 7000 pioneers, who could rapidly throw up fortresses at Newport, Cowes, St. Helen's, and elsewhere; and they could have garrisons strong enough to maintain their ground against any force which the English would be able to bring against them. They would thus hold in their hands a security for Boulogne; and as the English did not dare to face their fleet in the open water, they might convert their tenure into a permanency.

"D'Annebault, however, had received discretionary powers; and, for some unknown reason, he determined to try his fortune elsewhere. After three days of barren demonstration, the fleet weighed anchor and sailed. His misfortunes in the Isle of Wight were not yet over. The ships were in want of fresh water; and on leaving St. Helen's he went round into Shanklin Bay (July 21), where he sent his boats to fill their casks at the rivulet which runs down the Chine. The stream was small, the task was tedious, and the Chevalier d'Eulx, who, with a few companies, was appointed to guard the watering parties, seeing no signs of danger, wandered inland, attended by some of his men, to the top of the high down adjoining. The English, who had been engaged with the other detachments two days before, had kept on the hills, watching the motions of the fleet. The chevalier was caught in an ambuscade, and, after defending himself like a hero, he was killed, with most of his followers."

This invasion was productive of good fruits, as far as the island was concerned, by inducing the king to order the construction of several forts for its defence. These were circular towers, with a platform mounting two or three guns, and accommodating a small garrison—on which modern engineers would look with a great deal of contempt. At East and West Cowes, at Sandown, Yarmouth, and near Freshwater, these fastnesses were erected, under the superintendence of Richard Worsley,—the last being named after him Worsley's Tower. The indefatigable captain also persuaded the islanders to provide a train of artillery at their own expense, every parish providing their own gun.

In September 1547, the first of the reign of Edward VI., a return was made to the Crown of the condition of these fortresses, from which we shall extract a few details:—At Yarmouth, under the command of Captain Richard Ewdall, were two guns of brass, and eight small guns of iron, nineteen hagbuts, and one hundred and forty-one bows. At Sharpnode, under the charge of Nicholas Cheke, were two brass guns. At Carisbrooke, under Richard Worsley himself, were five iron "slynges, fowlers, and double basses," one hundred and forty hagbuts, and a tolerable provision of powder, bows, arrows, javelins, and bills. At Sandham (*Sandown*), under the care of Peter Smythe, were three pieces of brass, and eight of iron, seventy-eight hagbuts, one hundred and twenty bills, and a chest of bows and arrows. And at West Cowes, under Robert Raymond, captain, were two brass guns, eleven of iron, several basses "not liable to serve," and a small provision of bows, bills, and pikes. The Sandham captain received four shillings *per diem;* his under captain, two shillings; thirteen soldiers, sixpence each; one porter, eightpence; the master gunner, eightpence; and seven gunners, sixpence each. At West Cowes, the captain received but one shilling daily; two soldiers, one porter, and six gunners were paid the same rates as their comrades at Sandham (*Harl. MSS.*).

When Queen Elizabeth came to the throne she placed the defensive establishment of the island on a safer basis, as may be gathered from the instructions issued to the captain of the island in the second year of her reign, which we now condense:—

The said captain shall forthwith put in order and array the whole people of the isle as shall seem meetest for the defence of the said isle.

He shall cause every "centoner," twice a year, to call together the whole "centon," and bring together to such place within the said isle as by the said captain shall be appointed, "there to consult what is to be done for the better fortification and strength of the said isle."

He shall cause the able men in these centons twice a year to muster for practice.

He shall prohibit that neither timber, wood, nor coal shall be carried out of the isle to any place.

All manners of persons having lands to the clear yearly value of twenty marks, should find one "hasquebutier" furnished in time of war to remain in the isle under the rule of the captain during the time of war. And every other person having land valued at forty shillings shall join so many together as shall amount to the yearly value of twenty marks, and so be jointly charged with one hasquebutier.

It was also ordered by the queen that fire-arms should be introduced into the island; and an arquebus-maker was settled in Carisbrooke Castle to keep them in order.

Richard Worsley was one of the commissioners for the sale of church plate on the suppression of the religious houses, and therefore,

on the accession of Queen Mary, found it necessary to resign all his offices—a Mr. Girling, of whom history says nothing, succeeding him. In 1556, the captain of the island was one Nicholas Uvedale. He joined the Dudley conspiracy, and undertook to betray the island and Hurst Castle to the French, who were to assist in deposing Queen Mary. The plot was betrayed to Government, and Uvedale tortured into making a full confession (*Froude*). When Queen Elizabeth came to the throne, Worsley was reinstated, and employed by her in several important commissions. He died, full of honours, in 1565.

SIR EDWARD HORSEY.

Edward Horsey was descended from a reputable Dorset family of Melcombe-Horsey, and as a gallant sea-chief did good service against the French, clearing the Channel from their piratical cruisers. He was held in high esteem by the great Earl of Leicester, and at his patron's secret nuptials with the Lady Douglas Sheffield, gave away the bride; though we do not find, when at a later period the ambitious noble denied the marriage, that Sir Edward vindicated the lady's fair fame.

His government of the island was marked by energy and foresight. He encouraged trade, while he kept alive a military spirit among those he ruled. From certain MSS. still extant in that wonderful store-house of unpublished history—the British Museum—it is, however, to be inferred that his sway was somewhat lax; and we read of piratical doings in the Medina, wherein "Sir Edward Horsey's men" were openly concerned. Mr. Froude has shown us that their leader shared the audacious morality of Drake, Frobisher, and Hawkins—believing it to be a religion and a policy to oppress and defraud the Frenchman and the Spaniard. He was implicated in the Dudley conspiracy, which made Lady Jane Grey a "ten days' queen," but contrived to escape punishment.

It is recorded of this gallant sea-rover that he mightily interested himself in the preservation of game, and that he gave a lamb for every hare brought into the island. Sir Richard Worsley states that "he lived in perfect harmony with the gentlemen there;" and we may fairly suppose that his sea-life would give him a frankness of speech and manners calculated to render him popular.

He died of the plague at Haseley, on the 28th of March 1582, and was buried in Newport Church, where a handsome monument was erected to his memory. Sir Philip Sidney, our English Bayard, is said to have held the captaincy of the island about this period.

SIR GEORGE CAREY

was appointed soon after the decease of Sir Edward. It was his misfortune to succeed a popular governor, and the inhabitants accordingly drew a contrast by no means to his advantage. A preacher at Newport added fuel to the flame by conferring upon him, in the prayer before the sermon, the unauthorized title of "Governor." He stretched his authority, moreover, to an illegal extent at the epoch of the apprehended invasion of the Spanish Armada; but he probably was only desirous of adopting necessary precautions, which the ill-feeling of the inhabitants seized upon as arbitrary measures justifying an appeal to the Lords in Council. The commotion, however, appears to have subsided, and Sir George to have withdrawn his excessive pretensions; for Sir John Oglander eulogizes his splendid hospitality, and commends him for his constant residence at Carisbrooke Castle.

1588 A.D.

"I have heard," says Sir John, "and partly know it to be true, that not only heretofore there was no lawyer nor attorney in oure island, but in Sir George Carey's time, an attorney coming in to settle in the island, was, by his command, with a pound of candles hanging att his breech lighted, with bells about his legs, hunted oute of the island; insomuch as oure ancestors lived here so quietly and securely, being neither trouble to London nor Winchester, so they seldom or never went oute of the island; insomuch as when they went to London (thinking it an East India voyage), they always made their wills, supposing no trouble like to travel."

Sir John Oglander paints the condition of the island at this period in glowing colours:—"Money was plenty in the yeomen's purses, and all the gentry full of money and out of debt; the markets full, comodities vending themselves at most high rates. Prizes and men-of-warre at the Cowes, which gave great rates for our comodities, and exchanged other good ones with us. If you had anything to sell, you should not have needed to have looked for a chapman, for you could not almost ask but have. All things were exported and imported at your heart's desire, your tenants rich, and a bargain could not stand at any rate." In another part of his Memoirs, he states that he has seen 300 ships at one time in Cowes harbour.

During Sir George Carey's captaincy, Carisbrooke Castle was thoroughly repaired and considerably enlarged, under the direction of Gianibelli, an Italian engineer, who planned the fortifications of Antwerp, and destroyed the Duke of Parma's fire-ships in 1585 (*J. L.*

Motley). Towards the outlay the queen gave £4000, the gentry £400, and every able-bodied man his labour. The other island-fortresses were strengthened, and *Carey's Sconce* erected near Yarmouth.

In 1585, Newport, Yarmouth, and Newtown first sent members to Parliament.

Sir George Carey, on the death of his father, succeeded to the title of Lord Hunsdon. He was a kinsman of the queen, and much favoured by her, receiving from her hands the Order of the Garter and the Lord Chamberlainship of her household. Died on the 9th of September, 1603.

THE EARL OF SOUTHAMPTON.

The next captain and governor—for this title was now regularly assumed—was Henry, Earl of Southampton, known in history as the patron of Shakespeare and the friend of Essex. He regularly resided in his island-palace, and held, conjointly with the chief knights and gentlemen of the island, "an ordinary, twice every week," on St. George's Down, near Arreton, where they diverted themselves with the then popular game of bowls. **1603 A.D.**

The *Free Grammar School* at Newport was established during his governorship; and to the same period may be referred the erection of those manorial houses, of which, at Yaverland and Mottistone, two notable examples may still be admired.

King James visited the island twice or thrice during Lord Southampton's rule. He was at Beaulieu, the seat of Lord Chancellor Wriothesley, in August 1607, and during his stay there knighted an island gentleman, Bowyer Worsley. "It is highly probable that the king was afterwards in the Isle of Wight, and was then entertained at Nunwell, the seat of Sir W. Oglander" (*Nichols*); for Mr. William Knyveton, his attendant, wrote to the Dowager-Countess of Shrewsbury on the 22nd of June, "that his Majestie intends a progresse into the Ile of Wight;" and there yet lingers a tradition that the king (and Queen Elizabeth) honoured Nunwell with a visit. Notwithstanding his timidity, he was passionately fond of the chase, and Parkhurst Forest could not fail to supply him with abundant sport. And, at all events, the parochial register of Carisbrooke proves that he hunted there in 1609. "King James," runs the record, in the vicar's own handwriting, "landed at thè Cows, and saw a muster at Hony Hill, and saw in the afternoon most of the iland, with Prince Charles his sonne, and hunted in the park, killed a buck, and so departed again to Bowly, the 2nd of August, Ann. Dom. 1609, being

Wednesday" (*J. Baker*). And a later entry records a visit from Prince Charles: "Prince Charles landed at the Cowes, and came into the forest, and saw a skirmish there, and went from thence to Alvington Down, and looked over the island, and so thence to Newport, where he dined at Mr. James's house; and so his grace departed to the Cowes, and tooke ship and went to Portsmouth, in the year 1618, the 27th of August, being Thursday" (*Carisbrooke Parochial Muniments*).

At this time the principal gentry of the island were, Sir Robert Dillington;* Sir Richard Worsley; Sir Thomas Fleming; Sir Richard White, "a soldier and follower of the Earl of Southampton;" Sir John Meux; Sir John Leigh; Sir William Lisle; Sir John Richards; Sir John Oglander; Sir William Oglander; and Sir Edward Dennis; the Chekes of Mottistone; the Bowermans of Brook; the Urrys of Thorley; the Worsleys of Gatcombe; and the Lisles of Bridlesford (*Sir J. Oglander*).

The Earl of Southampton died in December 1625, and the government of the island passed into the hands of—

EDWARD LORD CONWAY.

This gallant gentleman was knighted by the Earl of Essex at the sacking of Cadiz in 1596, where he commanded a regiment of foot. He served under King James as one of his principal Secretaries of State, was created Baron Conway in 1625, and appointed Captain of the Isle of Wight on the 8th December in the same year (*Dugdale*). King Charles continued him in his secretaryship, and bestowed upon him an Irish viscountcy. As a further proof of the royal favour, he was created, in 1628, Viscount Conway of Conway; and shortly afterwards appointed Lord President of the Council.

He never resided in his government, but administered its affairs through his lieutenants, Sir Edward Dennis and Sir John Oglander.† Partly to this circumstance, and partly to the troubles which had already clouded the reign of the unfortunate Charles, must be attri-

* Sir John Leigh was knighted at Beaulieu by James I., August 30, 1606; Sir W. Oglander at Hampton Court, September 1606; Sir John Oglander at Royston, December 22, 1615; Sir W. Mewys (Meux) at Hampton Court, June 26, 1606; Sir J. Mewys, May 22, 1605, at Greenwich; Sir R. White at Whitehall, December 1605; Sir W. Lisle, May 14, 1606, at Whitehall; Sir R. Worsley at Whitehall, February 8, 1611; and Sir E. Dennis, February 20, 1607, at Oatlands.

† Sir John Oglander collected valuable MS. memorials of his native isle, which have never yet been published *in extenso*, but were made much use of by Sir R. Worsley, in the compilation of his heavy but valuable History. He was not only Deputy-Governor of the Isle of Wight (1624), but also of Portsmouth (1620). In 1637 he served as Sheriff of Hampshire. He married Frances, daughter of Sir George More of Loseley, Surrey, knight; and had several children by her.

buted the declining prosperity of the island, and the decay of its gentry—bitterly bewailed by the gossiping knight whose MS. Memoirs we have so frequently quoted. "It grieved me," he exclaims, "to hear and see the poverty and complaint of our poor island, April 1629. No money stirring, little market, a small assembly of the gentlemen, less of the farmers and yeomanry. Our ordinary down for want of company; little resort to our lecture [the weekly lecture at Newport]; the comely visages and wonted carriage of it clean altered." "The Isle of Wight, since my memory, is infinitely decayed; for either it is by reason that so many attorneys have of late made this their habitation, and so by suits undone the country; .....or else wanting the good bargains they were wont to levy from men-of-war, who also vended all our commodities at very high prices, and ready money was easy to be had for all things. Now peace and law hath beggared us all, so that within my memory many of the gentlemen and almost all the yeomanry are undone."

Lord Conway died in 1631, and was succeeded by—

RICHARD LORD WESTON,

whose "wisdom and integrity" were abundantly tested in the high offices of state which he held under James and Charles. He was created Earl of Portland in 1633, and died at Wallingford House, Westminster, March 1634. He was followed in the government by his son,—

JEROME, EARL OF PORTLAND,

who held it, much to the satisfaction of the island gentry, until removed by the parliament, on the ground that he was "popishly affected," but in reality because his loyalty to the crown could not be misunderstood. They further objected against him "all the acts of good fellowship, all the waste of powder, and all the waste of wine, in the drinking of healths, and other acts of jollity, which ever he had been at in his government, from the first hour of his entering upon it" (*Clarendon*).

During his captaincy an anonymous traveller, passing through the island in 1635, wrote down in plainest words his impressions of what he saw; and the narrative is curious enough, we fancy, to justify us in now, for the first time, embalming it in type.

THE ISLE OF WIGHT IN 1635.

"From this rich merchant and sweet maritime town [Southampton] I crossed over that broad stream [Southampton Water] to

Heath [Hythe], which is almost a league, with a blustering passage; and so, by a knight's place, leaving Calshot Castle, running with a hook a mile into the sea; and so, leaving Leap on my left, I there, with much ado, leapt my nag into the boat, and got passage to cross over that three miles' rough and untoward channel to Garnard [Gurnard Bay], and there set footing in that strong, healthful, and pleasant island of Europe. I hastened through a little forest to the chief town thereof, and to the chief inn in the town, where one of the captains of the island, with some merry Londoners, kept his quarter that night, and kept *me* sentinel—for rest I could not take more than *they* must upon their resting posture.

"The next morning I marched a short mile from this town to a spacious, strong, and defensible castle, which was built by a Saxon, but hath now a young lord to its governor [*the Lord Weston, son to the Lord of Portland, Lord Treasurer.* Sic in margine]. It is mounted on a hill, with long, deep ditches round about the walls, whereunto I was suddenly admitted by a brave old blade (the residing deputy-governor thereof), over a stately large bridge, through a strongly-built gate-house—the Deputy's lodgings—and within, thus I found it:—

"In that corner next Newport, on a mounted hill, stands a round strong tower, called the keep, to which I ascended by 60 stairs, wherein hath been watching and lodging rooms. Nothing therein now but the wall, and a deep well of water in the midst thereof.

"As I marched with my old keeper the rounds upon the walls, I viewed the large chambers [guns so named] and lodgings, the platforms, counterscarps, casemates, bulwarks, and trenches without the walls, whereupon were mounted many pieces of ordnance. I found it well guarded with arms, though not with men; for in the armoury, which is over against the chapel, in one room, were 500 good corselets; and in another room, by the other, 700 or 800 muskets.

"By this time I was pretty well informed of the strength of this castle and her warlike munition; and so I hastened back again to the rendezvous, where I left that mad captain, and in the same place I found him, fully resolved, by laying in good store of provision in his camp, to have lain leaguer there, if his nimble-spirited wife had not come and taken up the bucklers, and fetched him home, for his leading staff failed him.

"I found this town [Newport] governed by a mayor, and twelve aldermen, and two captains; and but one church, wherein is a fair

monument for a knight [Sir Edward Horsey] who had been governor of the island.

"This fertile and pleasant island, for her martial discipline, I found her most bravely and prudently guided by the government of two generous knights [Sir E. Dennis and Sir J. Oglander], lieutenants, and fourteen gentle and expert captains [see *post*], most of them all worthy knights and gentlemen, having pleasant situations in this isle; and having under their command 2000 foot soldiers, of ready exercise and well disciplined, trained men—most of them as expert in handling their arms as our artillery nurseries; which skill they attain to by taking pleasure in that honourable exercise, and training, and drilling, from their very infancy. Every captain hath his proper field-piece, which marches and guards him into the field, where they all often meet together, and pitch an equal battle of 1000 on each side, with an equal distribution of the captains—eight of each party, with the two lieutenants, who are also captains; the East against the West Mede, on St. George's Down, by the river that runs down to Cowes Castle. A brave show there is, and brave service performed by thundering echoes from those valleys by that sweet stream. They have, besides, in this island arms for 2000 more, if need should require. A safeguard for so small an island—of twenty miles in longitude, and but ten in latitude—to be so securely furnished with.

"As this precious island is well strengthened and fortified inwardly, so is she also well guarded and defended outwardly by Yarmouth Castle (*Captain Burley*), Cowes Castle (*Captain Tarry*), by the Needles, and Sandown Fort (*Captain Buck*); having no place of invasion either in or out, but such places as are safely defended; as Yarmouth against Hurst Castle (*Lieutenant Gorge*), Gurnard (*Captain Barret*) against Leap, Cowes against Calshot Castle (*Captain James*), and Ryde against Portsmouth—so as no daring approaching enemies can pass those channels without thundering gunshot from those commanding castles.

"I could willingly have spent some longer time in such a stately, safe, hedged-in paradise, but that it jogged me along by that sweet and delicate stream to their new, white-built maritime town of Cowes; from whence, after I had spent a little time in viewing that strong-built castle and her ordnance, I sailed thence with a fine gale of wind over the still and quiet waves to Southampton."*

* *A Relation of a Short Survey*, &c. By a Lieutenant of the Military Company at Norwich, August 1635. *Lansdowne MSS.*, 213.

THE EARL OF PEMBROKE

received the appointment of the captaincy in 1642. He immediately demanded from one Sir John Dingley, who had been Deputy-Governor, a report upon the condition of the island, and was presented with it on the 31st March, couched in sufficiently unsatisfactory terms.

In this interesting document Sir John points out that the park belonging to the captain is three miles in circuit; that there is a common for the whole country, to put in horses or beasts without stint, which is called by the name of Parkhurst Chase; that the said chase has been grievously neglected by its keeper and ranger; that Sandham Fort, though of great consequence, is but "poorly manned;" that Cowes Castle, also, is insufficiently garrisoned, and Yarmouth in like condition; that Worsley's Sconce had been taken down by order of Lord Conway; that the trained bands are much weakened and decayed, and the island nearly depopulated by reason of the lords of manors and the farmers getting together as many farms as they can; that there is a town called Newport, made by King James a municipal town ("mare-town"), which will not now be governed like other towns, and "hinder men from buying and selling at their pleasure;" and, finally, that the clergy of the island, for the most part, are "loose and idle livers, and neglect their charge" (*Worsley*, 111–114).

The militia of the island numbered at this time about 2000 men, divided into two divisions and fourteen companies—eight in the West Medine, six in the East Medine—led by fourteen captains, and commanded by the two lieutenants of the island. Of these 2000, nearly 1100 handled arquebuses; 33 had charge of the culverins or small cannons; 263 bore corselets; 196, pikes; 10, halberds; 297 were unarmed;* and 133 were officers.

The watches and wards that were kept in the island (September 20, 1638) are shown in a MS. of Sir John Oglander's:—

East Medine.—At *St. Catherine's*, a ward with two men; on the *Hatton Nightonfield*, a watch with two men.....under Captain Rice. A watch at *Lane's*, of two men, and another on *Wroxall Down*..... in Sir Edward Dennis's district. On *Ashey Down*, a ward of one man and a watch of two; and at *St. Helen's Point*, a watch of two .....under Sir J. Oglander. On *Knighton*, a watch of two men, and

* These men were soon afterwards armed.

at *Ryde* a similar watch.....under Sir R. Dillington. On *Appuldurcombe*, and at *Cripple*, near *Niton*, a watch of two men.....under Sir Henry Worsley. A similar watch at *St. George's Down*.....under Captain Cheke. A ward of one man and a watch of two men on *Bembridge Down*.....under Captain Basket. A watch of two men at *East Cowes*, at *Wootton*, and at *Fishhouse*.....under Sir W. Lisle.

West Medine.—The usual watch at *Ramsey Down* and *Chale Down*.....under Mr. Meaux. On *Lardon Down* and at *Atherfield* .....under Sir John Leigh. On *Harborough Down* and on the seashore at *Brixton*.....under Captain Urry. On *Avington Down*, on *Gatcombe Down*, and at *Northwood*.....under Captain Harvey. On *Freshwater Down*, a ward and watch of two men each, and a watch on *Mottistone Down*.....under Captain Bowerman. At *Hamstead*, a watch of two men.....under Captain Hobson. In *Newport*, two companies, which patrolled the town.

If the reader will take his map, and mark each of these stations with some distinguishing sign, he will, at a glance, perceive how skilfully they were distributed in reference to the general defence of the island.

Though much dissatisfaction, when the Earl of Portland was removed from the captaincy, was expressed by the knights and gentlemen who had served under him, it could scarcely have arisen from any feeling of wounded loyalty. On the contrary, from the very outset of the great civil war, the inhabitants of the Wight sided with the parliament, and so secured an immunity from the tumults and distractions which fell with such heaviness upon other parts of England. They were, indeed, so vehement in their zeal for the parliamentarian party, that they could not suffer the Countess of Portland to abide peaceably in the castle, where she had taken refuge with her five children and her husband's brother and sister, under the protection of Colonel Brett, the recently appointed custodian of Carisbrooke. The Mayor of Newport, Moses Read, at the head of the Newport train-bands and 400 naval auxiliaries supplied by the men-of-war in the Solent, and inspired by Harby, a stout Puritan and minister of Newport, besieged the castle, wherein Colonel Brett had but 20 men, and provisions for 3 days. The brave countess, however, made her appearance on the ramparts with a lighted match in her hand, and declared that she herself would fire the first cannon, and that the garrison would hold out to the last extremity, unless they were granted easy and honourable terms of surrender. A pacification was soon arranged, when, as we may reasonably conclude,

neither party was very much in earnest. Colonel Brett, his comrades, and their attendants, were permitted to go where they would, except to Portsmouth, then held for the king by dissolute Goring; and after a day or two's delay, the countess and her family were removed from the island.

The other fortresses, in like manner, were seized for the parliament; and the Earl of Pembroke, on his arrival at Cowes, was received with a cordial welcome by the leading inhabitants, who proffered him, in behalf of the good cause, their heartiest services.

The *Journals of the House of Commons* present numerous indications of the watchfulness exercised by the parliament in reference to the safety of the Isle of Wight; and though it is not our province to enter fully into these details, it may be permitted us to place a few significant passages before our readers in illustration of the remarkable contrasts existing between the present and the past.

We read on the 13th of August 1642:—

"Ordered, That it be recommended to the Earl of Warwick to furnish the town of Newport in the Isle of Wight with thirty barrels of powder, with all convenient speed, to be disposed of as the Mayor of Newport, Mr. Bunckley, Mr. Thomas Boreman, and Mr. Robert Urry of Freshwater, shall think fit, for the safeguard of that place and island.

"And it is further Ordered, That Mr. Venn and Mr. Vassall do write a letter of thanks to the Mayor of Newport, and those that joined with him in the certificate to the House of the state of that town, for their care of the safety of that place, and respects to this House; and to assure them that this House hath, in some measure, already taken care, and will take further care, in providing for the safety of that island."

We read on the 18th of February 1645:—

"Ordered, That there be forthwith provided and furnished out of the public stores, for the service of the Isle of Wight, forty barrels of powder, one ton of match, three hundred culverin shot, one thousand demi-culverin shot, one thousand Saker shot, and two tons of lead: And the Lieutenant of the Ordnance is required to take notice thereof, and to furnish these provisions accordingly."

The Earl of Pembroke was withdrawn from the captaincy in 1647, and Colonel Robert Hammond, a soldier of good repute, appointed (6th September 1647). The colonel was a nephew of Dr. Henry Hammond, one of the king's chaplains; but he owed his rise to Cromwell's favour, and was married to Hampden's daughter. At

the early age of twenty-two he had entered the army, and fought against the Royalists. His sympathies, therefore, were naturally with the statesmen of the parliament, and justified the confidence of those who intrusted to him so important a command.

SECTION VIII.—CHARLES I. IN THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

ARRIVES IN THE ISLAND.

Whilst pent up in Hampton Court, and surrounded by the soldiers of the parliament, Charles I. could not but feel that he was in reality a closely-watched and suspected prisoner. He felt, too, that the great Independent leaders, however sincere in their desire, would soon be without the power to assist him; that they themselves were, to some extent, the servants of their army. He had reason, perhaps, to dread the secret dagger. At all events, he was on the brink of an imminent peril; and he came to the conclusion that his escape would leave the Puritan chiefs at greater liberty to carry out their professed designs of serving him, while placing himself in a position to act with fuller confidence and freer energy.

So, on the evening of the 11th of November 1647, attended by Legge, the groom of the chamber, he effected his escape from the palace, and being joined by Berkeley and Ashburnham, crossed the Thames at Thames-Ditton, and rode with fiery speed through the dark and cloudy night to Titchfield House, a fair seat of the Earl of Southampton. The Dowager Countess welcomed him gladly, and spread before him the refreshment he needed.

He now deliberated with his attendants whither he should next proceed, and great confidence being professed by Ashburnham (a man apparently of very sanguine temperament) in the good intentions of Colonel Hammond, it was resolved that Ashburnham and Berkeley should repair to the island, and sound the colonel cautiously upon his feelings and sympathies. They bore a complimentary message from his sovereign, and were required to insist upon a pledge, that if the king placed himself under his protection, he would not surrender him to the army or the parliament, but provide him with an opportunity of effecting his escape. And if he refused that undertaking, they were not to disclose the secret of the king's present concealment.

They started from Titchfield on a windy and violent morning; they reached Lymington, but could not make the passage of the Solent on account of the stormy weather, and were detained there

the whole day. They arrived at Carisbrooke on the following morning; but Colonel Hammond had set out for Newport on matters of importance, and they were forced to follow him thither. When, at length, they found themselves in the presence of the governor, and explained their errand, he expressed considerable apprehension, but finally determined upon repairing with them to the king's retreat. Ashburnham and Berkeley weakly consented to this proposal, and, by so doing, betrayed their unfortunate sovereign into the hands of the very men he had endeavoured to avoid. There is no room, however, to suppose—in fact, their whole future conduct negatives the suspicion—that they were actuated by any traitorous motives. They confided too implicitly, not in Hammond's honour, which they had no reason to doubt, but in his power to secure the king's person for any length of time from the machinations of his bitterest enemies.

Colonel Hammond's letter to the Speaker of the House of Peers sets forth the circumstances under which King Charles entered the island:—

"My Lord,—I hold it my duty to give your lordship an account of the king's unexpected coming into this island, and of the manner of it, which was thus:—

"This morning, as I was on the way passing from Carisbrooke Castle to Newport, Mr. Ashburnham and Sir John Berkeley overtook me; and, after a short discourse, told me that the king was near, and that he would be with me that night; that he was come from Hampton Court upon information that there were some intended to destroy his person, and that he could not with safety continue any longer there; and that, finding his case thus, chose rather to put himself in my hand, being a member of the army; whom, he saith, he would not have left, could he have had security to his person, than to go to any other place. Being herewith exceedingly surprised at present, I knew not what course to take; but upon serious consideration, weighing the great concernment that the person of the king is of, in this junction of affairs, to the settlement of the peace of the kingdom, I resolved it my duty to the king, to the parliament, and kingdom, to use the utmost of my endeavours to preserve his person from any such horrid attempt, and to bring him to a place of safety; where he may also be in a capacity of answering the expectation of parliament and kingdom, in agreeing to such things as may extend to the settlement of those great divisions and distractions abounding in every corner thereof. Hereupon I went immediately with them over the water, taking Captain Basket, the captain of Cowes Castle, with me, and found the king near the water side; and finding myself no way able to secure him there, I chose, he desiring it, to bring him over into this island, where he now is.

"My lord, my endeavours, as for my life, shall be to preserve and secure his person. And I humbly desire I may receive the pleasure of the parliament in this great and weighty matter; and that the Lord will direct your counsels to his glory and the kingdom's good and peace, shall be my prayer; and my endeavour shall be ever to express myself in all things in my power.—My lord, your lordship's and the kingdom's most humble and faithful servant,

"Robert Hammond.*

"Cowes, Nov. 13, 1647."

* The Houses duly thanked Colonel Hammond, and issued instructions for his guidance, besides voting £5000 for "His Majesty's present necessities and accommodation,"—£10 daily for his table, and a provision yearly of £5000,—and liberally rewarding the governor on account of his increased responsibilities with a gratuity of £1000, and an annuity of £500 for himself and his heirs.

The unfortunate king, with Hammond, Captain Basket, Legge, Berkeley, and Ashburnham in attendance, landed in the island on the 22nd day of November, and, passing the night in a small and obscure ale-house, made their way towards Carisbrooke on the following day, being Sunday. He was received with respect by all, with scarcely-concealed affection by a loyal few. "A gentlewoman,* as he passed through Newport, presented him with a damask rose which grew in her garden at this cold season of the year, and prayed for him; which his Majesty heartily thanked her for" (*Herbert*). And so the king passed onwards into the Castle of Carisbrooke.

PRECAUTIONS.

Meanwhile the Parliament, which, as we have seen, had received due information from Colonel Hammond of these remarkable proceedings, had issued, on the 16th of November, instructions for his guidance. They ran as follows:— 1647 A.D.

"RESOLVED *by the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled,*

"1. That the securest place during the time the king shall think fit to continue him in the Isle of Wight be Carisbrooke Castle.

"2. That noe person who hath bin in armes, or assisted in this unnatural war against the parliament, be permitted to come or remain in the said isle during the king's residence there, unless they be inhabitants of the isle, and have compounded with the parliament.

"3. That no person who hath bin in armes, or assisted, &c., shall be permitted to come into the king's presence, or into any fort or castle in the said isle, during the king's residence there, although he be an inhabitant and hath compounded with the parliament.

"4. That no stranger, or person of a foreign nation, shall be permitted to come into the king's presence, without the directions of both houses, except such as have warrant from the parliament of Scotland, or from the committee of that parliament thereunto authorized, and are not disabled by the propositions agreed on by both kingdomes.

"5. That a sufficient guard be appointed by Colonel Robert Hammond, governor of the said isle, for security of the king's person from any violence, and preventing his departing the said isle without the direction of both houses" (*Journals, House of Commons*).

Colonel Hammond's position had thus become peculiarly difficult. If he neglected his trust, he could expect but little from the tender mercies of the dominant party; if he performed it faithfully, though mildly—if he "did his spiriting" ever so gently—he could not but incur the hatred of the Royalists. He appears to have adopted that "golden mean" the Roman poet unwisely commends, and with the scanty success he might reasonably have expected. The Royalist newsletters and pamphlets of the period load him with the foulest

* It is said her name was Frances Prattle.—*Hillier.*

abuse; and later writers, taking up the unjust prejudices conceived in a time of violent excitement, have shown his memory but little indulgence. Nevertheless, Sir Thomas Herbert, the most chivalrous of the king's adherents, who had opportunities of observing him closely, speaks of him in honourable terms, and confesses that the Roundheads suspected him of being "too much of a courtier." And Taylor, "the water-poet," a zealous Royalist, warmly vindicates him from the aspersions of his enemies. He says that he will speak of him without flattery, and he continues, "The plaine truth is, that myself, with many others, did hate him so much, that he was very seldom or never prayed for. The reasons and motives which possest most men with this mistaking and misapplied inveterate malice, was upon the flying lying reports that the governour had behaved himself most coarsely, rigid, and barbarously unrespective to his Majesty. The false weekly pamphlets and pamphleteers (being inspired by their father, the devil) were not ashamed to publish in print that the governour had proceeded so far in incivility, as to immure or wall his Majesty in a small, close roome, under many bolts, bars, grates, locks and keys, and debarred him the comforts of his soule, and of the society of men: and further, it was often printed (by severall lying villaines) that the said Governour Hammond did strike the king on the face, and gave him a black eye. These reports being invented by the devil's imps (the fire-brands of contention), printed and published by needy, greedy knaves and varlets, and believed by too many fooles and foolish Gotehamists (amongst which number I, with much simplicity, was one); and as by oath and duty I am bound to save, love, and honour my soveraigne lord and master, so (on the contrary) myselfe, with all true and loyall subjects, had no cause to be well affected to any man that should dare to affront his Majesty with such transcendent base indignities.

"But to give the world satisfaction of the truth, it is certaine that all these aspersions and rumours against the governour are most odious, scandalous, and malicious lies; for, according to the trust reposed in him, he hath always carried himselfe with such deportment and humblenesse of dutifull service to his Majesty, that he hath gained much love and favour from his soveraigne, and such good regard from all knowing men, as belongs to a gentleman of his place and quality" (*Journal of the Brit. Archæol. Association*, Dec. 1853).

Considerable liberty was allowed to the king and his attendants for the first few weeks of his detention. He was permitted to

pursue the chase in the green arcades of Parkhurst, to receive the visits of the gentry of the island, to enjoy the services of his most devoted adherents, and the ministrations of his chaplains, Drs. Sheldon and Hammond. The respect and something of the etiquette of a court were retained about his person. Colonel Hammond's mother, a lady of good family, superintended his household arrangements, and the king's own furniture was brought from his palaces, to give an air of splendour to the bare, bleak chambers of the castle (*Herbert, Clarendon, and others*).

DARK TIMES.

While the king was thus sheltered within the walls of Carisbrooke, and his partisans were everywhere scheming and designing his speedy restoration to power, the triumphant parliament—or rather, that imperious majority which controlled its proceedings—was busied in endeavouring to bring to some conclusion the troubles of the nation, and finally, on the 14th December, passed four resolutions, to which, as to an ultimatum, they required the assent of the king as a preliminary to entering upon a personal treaty with him (*Lingard*, x. c. 4, and *Journals*, vol. ix.). These resolutions, in effect, placed the royal prerogative in the hands of the parliament, vesting in it the command of the army for twenty years; limiting the creation of peers; empowering the houses to adjourn from place to place as they might deem it best; and insisting upon the king's acknowledgment of the justice of their cause. Buoyed up by the promises of his supporters, and by a treaty secretly agreed upon with the Scotch commissioners, the king warmly protested that "neither the desire of being freed from that tedious and irksome condition of life which he had so long suffered, nor the apprehension of anything that might befall him, should ever prevail with him to consent to any one Act till the conditions of the whole peace should be concluded" (*Clarendon*).

His adherents, meanwhile, had been concerting a plan of escape, and a ship, provided by the queen, had for some time been hovering off the coast. The evening of the day on which he forwarded to the parliament his peremptory refusal of their ultimatum was appointed for the enterprise; but Hammond obtained some inkling of it, and proceeded to enforce restrictions which he had hitherto avoided. His suspicions were further aroused by a singular *émeute*, which took place in Newport itself.

There lived in that busy borough at this unquiet time one Captain

Burley, who had served in the royal army, and afterwards had holden a military command in the island. As if seized by a sudden frenzy, or acting on some preconcerted plot whose particulars were never known, he caused a drum to be beaten, and drawing together a small gathering of curious and adventurous citizens, declared himself their leader, and proposed to attempt the rescue of the royal captive. But Berkeley and Ashburnham, apprehending no good consequences to the king, made haste to dismiss to their homes the noisy crowd. A company of soldiers was drawn out from Carisbrooke, Burley taken prisoner, and the riot abruptly terminated. A commission of Oyer and Terminer was instantly appointed by the parliament to sit at Winchester, under Chief Baron Wilde (January 22, 1648). The result may be easily guessed. Burley was found guilty of high treason, and on the 3rd of February expiated his loyalty by a terrible death. He was hung, drawn, and quartered; but suffered with invincible courage, exclaiming to the last, "Fear God, and honour the king!"

To take measures* for the monarch's safe custody was now appointed a special commission, known—from the place of their meetings—as the *Derby House Committee.* It included seven peers,—the Earls of Kent, Manchester, Northumberland, and Warwick, and the Lords Roberts, Say and Sele, and Wharton; and thirteen commoners, —Sir William Armine, Sir John Evelyn, Sir Gilbert Gerrard, Sir Arthur Haselrig, and Sir Harry Vane, the Lieutenant General Cromwell, and Pierpoint, Harry Vane the younger, Fiennes, Brown, Crew, H. John, and Wallop. They communicated direct with Hammond, the correspondence being conducted in cipher; and such was the subtlety of their measures, such the skill of their agents, that they learned every movement of the royalists, and often apprised Hammond of plots hatched in his very neighbourhood, to which he himself could gain no clew.

The appointment of this committee immediately affected the conditions of the king's imprisonment, and compelled Hammond to watch his captive with a closer vigilance.

Four conservators were appointed,—Herbert, Mildmay, Captain Titus, and Preston, who alternately, two at a time, guarded the doors of the royal apartments. When the king went abroad for a

* Sir William Constable, Lieutenant-Colonel Goffe, and Lieutenant-Colonel Salmon, were sent from the army to the Isle of Wight. Reinforcements of troops were poured in; the ports garrisoned and victualled; and Vice-Admiral Rainsborough's fleet ordered to cruise off the island.

walk he was always accompanied by Colonel Hammond; and his exercise was strictly confined within the limits of the castle walls. Most of his attendants were dismissed, and—what the king felt sorely—his chaplains were ordered to leave the island (February 1648).

Nevertheless, the governor did what he could to lessen the discomfort of this close confinement. He converted the barbican, or place of arms of the castle, "into a bowling green, scarce to be equalled, and at one side built a pretty summer house for retirement" (*Herbert*). His own manner was marked by a courteous deference, and he never intruded upon the monarch's privacy.

King Charles's daily life,* during this period, if monotonous, was not altogether an unpleasing one, and exhibits the better features of his character.

He rose betimes, prayed devoutly and read the Scriptures, then breakfasted, and afterwards took exercise "within the works, a place sufficiently large and convenient for the king's walking, and having good air, and a delightful prospect both to the sea and land." When he had dined—and during his dinner, always a temperate one, he entered into familiar converse with those who waited on him—he withdrew to his private chamber, and read or wrote until the evening meal. Then he took further exercise, and so, at an early hour, retired to rest.

His chief favourites among his books have been carefully recorded. "The Sacred Scriptures he most delighted in; read often in Bishop Andrews's Sermons; Hooker's Ecclesiastical Polity; Dr. Hammond's Works; Villalpandus upon Ezekiel, etc.; Sands's Paraphrase upon King David's Psalms; Herbert's Divine Poems; and also Godfrey of Bulloigne, writ in Italian by Torquato Tasso, and done into English heroic verse by Mr. Fairfax, a poem his majesty much commended, as he did also Ariosto, by Sir John Harrington, a facetious poet, much esteemed of by Prince Henry his master: Spenser's Faerie Queen, and the like, for alleviating his spirits after serious studies." He likewise amused himself in composition: wrote some commonplace verses,—the *Suspiria Regalia*, or *Royal Sighs*, and *Majesty in Misery;* and translated from the Latin Dr. Sanderson's book *De Juramentis*. Of his little library the faithful Herbert was the custodian.

* "His majesty takes usually every morning a walk about the castle wall, and the like in the afternoon, if fair; much time spent every day in private; he speaks most to us at dinner.... His majesty is as merry as formerly; all quiet and fair between his majesty and Colonel Hammond" (*Rushworth's Collections*, iv. 2).

The king was fond of writing Latin and Greek mottoes in his books, and especially affected the significant epigraph, *Dum spiro, spero*—"While I breathe, I hope;" and in one he wrote the following distich:—

"Rebus in adversis facile est contemnere vitam;
Fortiter ille facit qui miser esse potest." *

His scholarship was, indeed, considerable; and he was well acquainted with Latin, Greek, French, Spanish, and Italian (*Herbert*).

He told Sir Philip Warwick that his best companion was "an old, little, crumpling man," who "for three months together made my fire;" but this statement was either exaggerated or misunderstood by Sir Philip, for Sir Thomas Herbert continued in close attendance upon him (*Godwin*). From the time that he was deprived of his usual retinue, "he would never suffer his hair to be cut, nor cared he to have any new cloaths; so that his aspect and appearance was very different from what it had used to be; otherwise, his health was good, and he was much more cheerful in his discourses towards all men than could have been imagined after such a mortification of all kinds. He was not at all dejected in his spirits, but carried himself with the same majesty he had used to do. His hair was all grey, which, making all others very sad, made it thought that he had sorrow in his countenance, which appeared only by that shadow" (*Clarendon*).

THE FIRST ATTEMPT AT ESCAPE.

Such was the quiet tenor of the royal prisoner's daily life; but as the political complications of the kingdom rapidly increased in difficulty, and hourly became more ominous, his adherents bent all their energies to the perfection of a plan of escape.

Amongst the household was a gallant and ingenious man named Henry Firebrace,† who having resolved upon opening a communication between the king and his friends in the island, contrived to secure the confidence of Captain Titus, one of the conservators or wardens already named, who was a loyal servant of the king at heart. Charles was wont to retire "into his bed-chamber as soon as he had supped, shutting the door to him. I offered my service," says Firebrace,‡ "to one of the conservators (Captain Titus) to wait at the

* "It is an easy matter to speak slightingly of life when we are in sore distress; but the brave man is he who can calmly endure to be wretched."

† He was known to the king, and privately enjoined by him to repair to the island. To effect this, he applied to the speaker and to other commissioners for permission to wait upon the king as page of the bed-chamber. His prayer was readily granted.

‡ *Letter to Sir George Lane.* Published at Whitehall, 1675.

door opening into the back stairs whilst he went to supper—I pretending not to sup—which he accepted of; by which means I had freedom of speaking with his majesty." When Firebrace had any letters to deliver, they were placed in a certain concealment in the royal chamber, where in due time the king's answer was also deposited. In the wainscot, which was covered by thick hangings, an aperture was made, so that the king might privately communicate with his attendants, and on the approach of any suspicious person, instantly let fall the hangings.

The plan at length determined upon seemed feasible enough, and to present every prospect of a successful issue.

One of the attendants placed about the king, by order of the parliament, was a *Mr. Richard Osburne* (or *Osborn*), a "gentleman of an ancient family, and singular good parts," but of lax morals, having been educated by Lord Wharton, a nobleman of dissolute character. This Osburne had been converted into a zealous adherent of King Charles by the influence of the monarch's stately presence and fascinating manner. There were also *Mr. Edward Worsley* of Gatcombe, a gentleman of good descent, and *Mr. John Newland* of Newport, eager with life and purse to serve their king. With *Captain Titus* and *Mr. Henry Firebrace*, they formed the adventurous design so curiously frustrated. **March 20, 1648.**

The king, at a certain signal made by Firebrace (to toss a stone against his bed-room window), was to force himself through the window, and let himself down by a stout cord. [Firebrace had much misdoubted that the king would be able to make his way through so narrow an opening; but Charles declared that where his head would pass, surely his body would follow.] Firebrace, it was agreed, should then receive him, and conduct him across the court, where no sentinel was stationed, to the great wall. This the king would descend by means of a thick rope, with a stick fastened to it for a seat, and climbing the counterscarp, which was very low, would find a horse ready saddled, boots and pistols, with Osburne and Worsley, well mounted, to escort him. Riding across the island in the deep night shadows, they would speedily gain the sea-side, and join Mr. Newland, who held in readiness a properly furnished boat. The monarch's safety was then insured.

The night came. The king dismissed his attendants. Worsley and Osburne stealthily led their horses into the neighbourhood of the castle, and John Newland, on the bleak sea-shore, eagerly awaited his sovereign's coming. Firebrace took up his station beneath the

memorable window, and gave the appointed signal. Then "his majesty," says Firebrace, "put himself forward, but, too late, found himself mistaken, he sticking fast between his breast and shoulders, and not able to get backward or forward, but that, at the instant before he endeavoured to come out, he mistrusted and tied a piece of his cord to a bar of the window within, by means whereof he forced himself back. Whilst he stuck, I heard him groan, but could not come to help him, which (you may imagine) was no small affliction to me. So soon as he was in again, to let me see (as I had to my grief heard) the design was broken, he set a candle in the window. If this unfortunate impediment had not happened, his majesty had certainly then made a good escape."

Firebrace warned his confederates of the failure of their scheme, by flinging stones from the high wall at the place where the king should have descended. They took the alarm, and got away quietly and without discovery.

Some hints of the intended escape, however, reached the Derby House Committee, and Cromwell wrote to Hammond in reference to it, expressly naming Firebrace "as the gentleman who led the way;" and cautioning the governor against Captain Titus, Dowcett, and others of the king's household. Firebrace was shortly afterwards dismissed, though not before he had succeeded in arranging a mode of communication between the king and his friends, and rendering some help towards a future attempt at escape. He wrote to a Mrs. Whorwood, "a tall, well-fashioned, and well-languaged gentlewoman," a stanch loyalist, residing in London, and desired her to forward some files and aquafortis to sever the window-bars. She immediately betook herself to the famous astrologer Lilly, who, in his turn, had recourse to one George Farmer, a locksmith in Bow Lane. Of these fantastic devices the Derby House Committee obtained information, and warned Hammond to be upon his guard. The aquafortis, therefore, never reached the king, being "upset on the road;" but a hacker, intended to convert into saws two knives which the king had concealed, in spite of all his jailer's precaution, safely reached him.*

Charles was now removed from the apartments he had occupied since his entrance into the castle, to the chief officer's, "in a building on the left side of the first court." As the window contained but one

* In Mr. Hillier's "Narrative of the Detention of Charles I." will be found by the curious reader a very full account of these matters, with some interesting letters and novel details.

bar, a second was inserted by Hammond's orders, having scarcely five inches between each bar and the stone mullions. Beneath it was thrown up a platform of earth, where a sentinel was stationed, and ordnance was so placed as to command the various approaches.

Nevertheless the king, under certain restrictions, was still permitted to receive those who waited upon him. He often discoursed with a Mr. Troughton, chaplain to the governor, and an anti-Episcopalian, a young man of good parts, "who," says Herbert, "could argue pretty well." On one occasion, whilst disputing with him warmly, Charles suddenly took a sword from a lieutenant of foot who was in waiting, and drew it, much to the alarm of the young debater; but a gentleman present, better interpreting the monarch's intention, bent his knee, received the honour of knighthood, and rose "Sir John Duncomb." The king told him he had then no better method of acknowledging his services.

He sometimes received books proffered to him by their authors. Thus, one Mr. Sedgwick posted down from London to present him with his "Leaves of the Tree of Life." The king accepted it for perusal, read it, and returned it, ironically remarking, "that, by what he had read in that book, he believed the composer stood in some need of sleep."

THE SECOND ATTEMPT AT ESCAPE.

The project next designed for the king's release was simple in its details. The king, with a file or some aquafortis, was to sever the iron window-bars, let himself down, and crossing the bowling-green, descend the counterscarp, mount a horse ready saddled, and, accompanied by Osburne and Worsley, ride across the island to the sea-shore, then into Newland's boat, and so to the coast of Hampshire. There he would find horses in readiness to convey him to Sir Edward Alford's seat, near Arundel in Sussex, whence, at a fitting opportunity, he might proceed to Queensborough, and take ship for Holland. **May 1648.**

But of this well-devised scheme Rolfe, Hammond's chief officer, "a fellow of low extraction and very ordinary parts," a fierce republican, and a brutal soldier, obtained information, so that when, on the evening of Sunday, May the 20th, the king made the attempt, he found, on coming through the window, more persons in waiting than he had been led to expect, and apprehending danger, closed the windows, and tranquilly retired to his rest. Rolfe had stationed, at a suitable spot, a soldier in whom he could trust, with orders, it is asserted by some authorities, to fire at the king if he got through the

window ; others armed with pistols, stood in convenient proximity. Osburne and Worsley, taking the alarm, rode off, escaping uninjured the fire of the musketeers placed in readiness to intercept them ;* but on reaching Newland's boat the master refused to take them on board because they were unaccompanied by the king ; so, leaving their horses on the shore, they concealed themselves in the woods of Gatcombe for several days, finding means in the night, by the assistance of a kinsman of Mr. Worsley's, to obtain provisions, and at length to leave the island. They effected their escape to London, where Firebrace contrived to conceal them.

Osburne immediately addressed a letter to Lord Wharton, declaring his conviction that Rolfe had designed to murder the king, and repeating certain conversations to that effect which Rolfe had held when he believed him to be in the interest of the parliament. Lord Wharton treated the letter with silent indifference, whereupon Osburne laid his complaint before parliament, and the Peers received it in so serious a spirit as to desire the House of Commons to join with them in the necessary investigation.

Abraham Dowcett, whose fidelity to the parliament had previously been suspected, and who had assisted in the project of escape, was examined in support of Osburne's statement before the bar of the House of Peers ; and, being "imperfect in the English language," was permitted to put in the following written declaration (3rd July 1648) :—

"1. I am ready to make oath that Mr. Richard Osburne told me the king's person was in great danger, and that the said Rolfe had a design on foot for the conveying his majesty's person to some place of secrecy, where *onely three* should go with him, and where they might dispose of his person as they should think fit; which information from Mr. Osburne, and the assurance I had of his majesty's intentions forthwith to come to his parliament, was the cause of my engagement in this business.

"2. I am ready likewise to depose that the said Rolfe came to me (when I was a prisoner in the castle) and, in a jeering manner, asked me why the king came not doune according to his appointment; and then, with great indignation and fury, said he waited almost three hours under the new platform, with a good pistol ready charged, to receive if he had come."

To which Major Rolfe put in a counter-statement, which we abridge :—

"My Lords,—Knowing myself (I speak in the presence of that God who searcheth all hearts) to be perfectly clear and innocent of that foul and horrid crime charged upon me —that I abhor the very thought of it; earnestly desiring an opportunity of appearing for vindication of my innocency, or whatever else malice in wicked men can lay against me; resting fully assured that, whatsoever award I shall find at the hands of men, I shall enjoy the happiness of an upright and peaceable conscience with the same God in whose presence I stand.

"Edward [Edmund?] Rolfe."

* It is said that one of the sentinels was afterwards fired at and killed; by whom was never discovered (*Hillier's King Charles in the Isle of Wight*).

The charge brought against him by Osburne and Dowcett is improbable enough, or, at all events, not substantiated by any evidence we know of. Is it to be supposed he would indulge in such dangerous confidences with men whose attachment to the king had so long been suspected? Nor, at that time, would the king's death have been an event by which Rolfe's party could have profited. His guilt, however, was very generally credited by the Royalists, and provided the news-writers and pamphleteers of the day with a fertile and inexhaustible subject. Thus a rhymester exclaims,—

> "That he [the king] hath 'scaped the cursed plot,
> Thanks, Osburn, unto thee!"
>
> *Mercurius Bellicus*, 11th July, 1648.

Another:—

> "Now if the people do proceed to sing,
> God curse the parliament and bless the king;
> If they continue their unpleasant notes—
> Give us our prince or els we'll cut your throats;
> Then there may hap a treaty, Rolf may die,
> Else Osburn's trust for his discovery."
>
> *Mercurius Psittacus*, 10th July.

A third relates an incident of the king's captivity in the most exaggerated form,—

"And were it but onely for abusing their soveraigne lord the king in so vile and transcendant manner, they [the Puritan chiefs] could not but full expect the strictest vengeance, while, contrary to their oathes, their frequent solemn protestations, their publishing to the world in print that they intended nothing but his preservation, with the supportance and backing him in all his just privileges, they have shut him up in prison, put so strict a guard upon him that he enjoyeth not the liberty of the meanest of his subjects; have accused him for poisoning his father, thereby endeavouring as much as in them lay not onely to render him odious in the eyes of his subjects, but also to take away his life; have limited his meales, so that the meanest gentleman is served with more varieties; and, which is worst of all, have made Hammond, the worst of villaines, his jailor, whom they countenance—yea, authorize—to revile him on all occasions to his face; which hell-hound, the other day, upon a pretended order from them, in the dead of night, came and knockt at his majestie's doore; and when the king, all amazed, demanded who was there, he told him it was he, and he must come in. His majestie desired him to put off the business till the morrow; but he replied he neither could nor would, and that if he opened not the doore he would break it open. Whereupon the meek prince presently arose, and casting his cloak about him, admitted him. Being in, he told him he had an order from the Houses to search his cabinet for letters; whereupon his majestie, opening his cabinet, took thence two letters, and left him to view the rest, which the traytor perceiving, demanded them also. The king told him he should not have them, and, with that word, threw them into the fire; when Hammond endeavouring to gain them, the king tripe up his heeles, and laid him on the fire also. Whereupon the villaine bauld out for aide, when presently came in a ruffian, and laid hands on the king in such a rude manner as he would have strangled him, and, striving with him, pusht his face upon the hilt of Hammond's sword, whereby it was extremely bruised; and, attempting him further, hit him also against the pummel of a chaire, whereby his majestie's eye is black and blew; but maugre the utmost of the two devils, the letters were burnt, and Hammond, rising up, threatened his majestie in very opprobrious language, and so departed at that present" (*Declaration from the Isle of Wight*, 1648).

Another example must content us :—

"They have any time this six months frequently solicited Hammond (a mercenary slave, a fellow whose litterature lies in his heeles, and whose nature is so flexible that with small allurement he may be woo'd to act any kind of villanie), his majestie's demoniacall jaylor, to convey his majestie's person out of the Isle of Wight to some more obscure place (perhaps to immure him in some hollow cave cut out of from the intraills of the earth, and there to dispatch him by poyson, to depresse him beneath a feather-bed, or as hell should prompt his executioner" (*Mercurius Bellicus*, 5th July).

Rolfe was tried at Winchester on the 28th of August, acquitted, and shortly afterwards discharged from custody, when the Commons ordered him, as a recompense for his imprisonment, a gift of £150. He returned to the Isle of Wight, and resumed his position at Carisbrooke Castle.

THE TREATY OF NEWPORT.

"What though the faction are agreed
The kingdom still to cheat?
Doe what they can, it is decreed
The king shall come and treat."
Mercurius Pragmaticus.

On the 3rd of August it was resolved by the two Houses of the Legislature that a personal treaty should be entered into with the king, in the hope of securing a settlement for the distractions of the realm; and after much debate and conference with the royal prisoner, it was agreed that the negotiation should be conducted at Newport, the chief town of the Isle of Wight.

Fifteen commissioners were appointed to transact this important matter; *five lords*—the Earls of Middlesex, Northumberland, Pembroke, and Salisbury, and Lord Say and Sele; *ten commoners*—Thomas Lord Weuman, Sir Harbottle Grimston, Sir John Potts, Sir Harry Vane, Samuel Brown, John Bulkley (or Buckley), John Crew, Denzil Holles, William Pierrepoint, and John Glynn, the Recorder of London. It was estimated that £10,000 would defray the expenses. £300 were allowed the commissioners towards their outlay, and Messrs. Marshall and Rye were appointed chaplains. The restrictions upon the king's personal liberty were to a great extent removed; horses were provided for his pleasure; and a certain number of lords, prelates, clergy, and gentlemen, reputed for their loyalty, permitted to repair to the Isle of Wight to attend upon him. Amongst these attached adherents were the Duke of Richmond, the Marquis of Hertford, the Earls of Lindsey and Southampton, who were named Gentlemen of the Bedchamber; the Bishops of London and Salisbury, the Dean of Canterbury, Drs. Sanderson and Heywood, his chaplains; Nicholas Oudart, Charles Whitaker, Sir Edward Walker,

and Sir Philip Warwick, his secretaries; Henry Firebrace, clerk of the kitchen; and Anthony Mildmay, his carver. Drs. Brian Duppa and Juxon were also in attendance (*Oudart's Diary*).

The royal household was accommodated in Mr. Matthew Hopkins' house, near the *Grammar School*, at Newport; the *Bull* (now the *Bugle*) Inn was placed at the disposal of the Parliamentary commissioners; and the conferences were held in the *Town Hall*.

The king sat upon a raised dais under a canopy, attended by his lords, chaplains, and secretaries. The commissioners were seated on each side of a long table, at a convenient distance from him. When he sought to consult with his attendants, or to refresh himself, he retired to the adjoining chamber. The negotiations were conducted with much gravity, the king displaying so vigorous an intellect and so keen an apprehension as to astonish his foes and delight his friends. Even Sir Harry Vane pronounced him "a person of great abilities." "The Earl of Salisbury," says Clarendon, "thought him 'wonderfully improved of late.'"

This important conference, on which the eyes of all parties in the nation were fixed with intensest eagerness, was protracted for three months. A minute report of each day's transactions is preserved in Oudart's Diary (vide *Peck's Desiderata Curiosa*, b. ix.); but with most of its details we must not here concern ourselves. They relate to the history of the Wight only so far as that history is involved in the history of England.

We learn from this Diary, however, and from Herbert's Memoirs, in what manner the monarch passed his days at Newport. He rose early; performed at some length, as he was wont, his religious duties; breakfasted, and devoted the morning to discussions with the commissioners. Then he gave audience to the island gentry, to his friends, to poor invalids afflicted with *the king's evil* and desirous of receiving his healing touch. (Seven of these cases are recorded by Taylor, the water-poet.) Having dined, he conversed with his chaplain, and the bishops in attendance, upon national affairs, or the progress of the treaty. After supper he withdrew to his own apartment, to record the events of the day and dictate letters to the Prince of Wales.*

* A curious anecdote is recorded in "Rushworth's Collections," which may be quoted as an evidence of the feeling prevalent in the town itself: "His majesty last night at supper, the Bishop of London waiting on the right hand of his chair and the Bishop of Salisbury next to him, as usual, all were put into a great fear by reason of a fire near the court; but soon after came news that it was only a chimney, and quenched; but the same night one of the soldiers on the guard, and one of the king's footmen,

On Sunday, one of his chaplains, or some reverend prelate, performed divine service in the chamber in the Grammar School now occupied as the schoolroom, and he listened with that devoutness which always characterized his religious exercises. Oudart furnishes us with the names of the preachers and notes of their discourses :—

Sunday, the 8th October	Dr. T. Turner	*Text*,	John v. 14.
Sunday, the 15th October	Dr. Heywood.		
Wednesday, the 25th October, Fast Day,	Dr. R. Baylie	,,	Psalm xlii. 5, 6.
Sunday, the 29th October	Dr. T. Turner	,,	Matt. xi. 28.
Sunday, the 5th November	Dr. Heywood	,,	Psalm lxviii. 1.
Sunday, the 12th November	Dr. Jos. Gulson.		
Sunday, the 19th November, The King's Birthday,	Archbishop of Armagh.	,,	Gen. xlix. 3.
Sunday, the 26th November	Dr. Sanderson	,,	Heb. x. 4.

Oudart also preserves two quaint couplets, "written about this time in the king's own hand," and which were found among the royal manuscripts:—

> "A coward's still unsafe, but courage knows
> No other foe but him who doth oppose."

And—

> "A pickthank and a picklock, both are alike evil;
> The diff'rence is, this *trots*, that *ambles* to the devil."

Meanwhile the army had grown more powerful than the Parliament, and its leaders were evidently determined to get the person of the king into their own power. Fairfax summoned Hammond, whose fidelity to his trust was a weighty obstacle in their way, to the headquarters at Windsor; and Colonel Eure was ordered to repair to the island to take charge of the king, and remove him again to Carisbrooke.

But Colonel Hammond, though compelled to obey the general's orders in a matter of military discipline, refused to give up the trust placed in his hands by the Parliament; and before he repaired to Windsor, intrusted the government of the island and the security of the royal person to three deputies—Major Rolfe, Captain Bowerman, and Captain Hawes. He gave them strict injunctions to prevent the removal of the king.

On the 27th November the treaty was signed by Charles, but with

broke out into a great flame, and were parted, but so that the footman put a second affront upon him afterwards, and they were then a second time appeased; and that night his majesty's health went round lustily in the *George* cellars, whither some of the cooks and others came over from the court" (*Rushworth's Collections*, vol. iv., part 2).

manifest reluctance, for it bestowed all the prerogatives of the Crown upon the Parliament; and the commissioners, accompanied by Colonel Hammond, immediately set out for London. The king, a prey to bitter apprehensions, returned, with his suite, to Carisbrooke.

REMOVAL FROM THE ISLAND.

The leaders of the army, however, were not to be balked of their prey, and secretly despatched a troop of horse and a company of foot, under Lieutenant-Colonel Cobbit, to seize the Stuart, and repair with him to Hurst Castle.* Of their arrival one of the king's attendants was informed by a person in disguise, and much alarm was consequently excited in the king's mind. He summoned to his presence the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Lindsey, and Colonel Cooke, one of Cromwell's soldiers, but attached to the king. As the result of their deliberations, Cooke repaired to Rolfe, and acquainted him that the king wished to know whether the army had resolved to seize him that night.

"Not that I know of," replied Rolfe; and added, "You may assure the king from me that he may rest quietly *this night.*"

Colonel Cooke, observing the emphasis placed upon these words, pressed him further on the intentions of the army, but without obtaining any satisfactory answer. Rolfe promised, however, to give the king due notice of what they might purpose in reference to his removal.

Having acquainted the king with what had passed, Colonel Cooke, "though the night was extraordinarily dark," and the rain fell heavily, made his way to Newport. There he speedily found his worst fears confirmed. The streets were alive with soldiers—with faces of men whom he well knew; and he soon ascertained that every officer who was suspected of entertaining friendly feelings for the king had been removed, and his place supplied by a less scrupulous instrument. "The governor (Captain Bowerman) plainly told him he was no better than their prisoner in his own garrison, for they had threatened him with immediate death if he but so much as whispered with any of his servants" (*Colonel Cooke's Narrative*).

During his absence Firebrace had vainly endeavoured to persuade the king to take advantage of the confusion which prevailed, and make his escape, reminding him that Mr. John Newland's boat

* On their arrival Captain Bowerman sternly refused them admission into the castle; but Rolfe, who commanded at Newport, proffered his assistance.

might easily be procured. But the king having given his word of honour not to attempt an escape,* persisted in his refusal.

On Colonel Cooke's return to the castle, "he found," he says, "a great alteration at court. Guards not only set round the king's lodgings, and at every window, but even within doors also; nay, sentinels on the king's very chamber door, so that the king was almost suffocated with the smoke of their matches." After much entreaty, Colonel Cooke succeeded in relieving him from the intolerable nuisance.

Having related what he had seen and heard, the faithful colonel, conjointly with the Duke of Richmond and the Earl of Lindsey, besought the royal prisoner, while he had yet time, to accomplish his escape. But though they showed it was perfectly feasible, and adduced many serious arguments why it should be attempted, the king replied, "They have promised me, and I have promised them; and I will not break first."

So, after a while, King Charles retired to rest—his sorrowful attendants holding themselves in readiness for whatever might occur. "It was then about one o'clock; and though Colonel Cooke went not to bed all that night, yet all things were carried with such secrecy and quiet, that not the least noise was heard, nor the least cause of suspicion given.

"But next morning, just at break of day, the king, hearing a great knocking at his outward door, sent the Duke of Richmond to ask what it meant; who demanding, *Who was there?* he was answered, *My name is Mildmay.* (One of the servants the Parliament had put to the king, and brother to Sir Henry.)

"The duke demanded, *What he would have?* Who answered, *There were some gentlemen from the army very desirous to speak with the king.*

"Which account the duke gave the king; but the knocking rather increasing, the king commanded the duke to let them into the room. No sooner was this done, but before the king could get from his bed, these officers rushed into his chamber, and abruptly told the king they had orders to remove him.

"*From whom?* said the king. They replied, *From the army.*

"The king asked, *To what place? To the Castle,* said they.

"The king demanded, *To what castle?* Again they answered, *To the Castle.*

* "Not to go out of the island during the treaty, nor twenty days after, without the advice of both Houses of Parliament" (*Rushworth*).

"*The Castle*, said the king, *is no castle;* and added, he was well enough prepared for any castle, requiring them to name the castle.

"After a short whisper together they said, *Hurst Castle.*

"*Indeed*, said the king, *you could not have named a worse.* Whereupon immediately the king called to the Duke of Richmond to send for the Earl of Lindsey and Colonel Cooke.

"At first they scrupled at the Earl of Lindsey's coming; but the king saying, *Why not both, since both lie together?*

"Then having whispered together, they promised to send for both, but sent for neither" (*Colonel Cooke's Narrative*).

Meanwhile, Firebrace, by the king's desire, had caused a breakfast to be prepared;* but the rough soldiers hurried him into the coach which was in waiting without suffering him to taste it. After he had taken his seat Lieutenant-Colonel Cobbit,† "with his hat on," attempted to jump in; but Charles stoutly pushed him back, exclaiming, "It is not come to that yet; get you out." And so the lieutenant-colonel was forced to content himself with a seat beside the driver, while Herbert, Harrington, and Mildmay entered the coach. Then the king hastily bade his servants farewell, with an evident presentiment of coming evil. "At other times," says Herbert, "he was cheerful; but at his parting from his friends he showed the sorrow in his heart by the sadness of his countenance—a real sympathy."

Through the shadows of the sullen night the coach, escorted by two troops of horse, "went westward, towards Worsley's Tower, in Freshwater Isle, a little beyond Yarmouth Haven." Having rested there an hour, the king and his attendants went on board of a small sailing vessel, crossed the narrow sea, and landed at Hurst Castle.

SECTION IX.—THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH.

On the removal of Colonel Hammond, the government of the island was conferred upon Colonel William Sydenham, a zealous Parliamentarian soldier, who had defended Weymouth and Melcombe Regis against the royal forces. He was a brother of the famous physician, and a kinsman of Dr. Hopton Sydenham, for a brief time Rector of Brighstone. Cromwell trusted him so thoroughly as to appoint him one of his council, and at a later

1649 A.D.

* "The king said to me, 'I know not where these people intend to carry me, and I would willingly eat before I go, therefore get me something to eat'" (*Firebrace's Narrative*).

† Cobbit, according to Herbert; Rolfe, according to Firebrace.

period to raise him to the House of Peers which he attempted to establish.*

During his government Carisbrooke again became a royal prison, and received within its precincts two of the lineage of its late captive—the Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Gloucester. As the former died within its walls, and as her dust still lies in the church at Newport—as her history, moreover, has all the pathos of a tender romance—we apprehend that the reader will not look with disfavour upon the brief memoir we subjoin.

THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH.

"Doomed in her opening flower of life to know
All a true Stuart's heritage of woe."—*Agnes Strickland.*

This hapless daughter of the fated House of the Stuarts was born at St. James's Palace on the 20th January 1635. She was the second daughter and fifth child of Charles I. and Henrietta Maria, and seems to have inherited the melancholy temperament of the one and something of the delicate loveliness of the other. Her birth called forth a special embassy of congratulation from the States of Holland, and costly presents were forwarded to the royal mother—"a massive piece of ambergris, two fair and almost transparent china basins, a curious clock, and of far greater value than these, two beautiful originals of Titian, and two of Tintoret, to add to the galleries of paintings with which the king was enriching Whitehall and Hampton Court" (*Strickland*).

As she grew out of infancy into childhood a notable resemblance was observed between her and her sister, the Princess Mary, so that the poet Crashaw likened them to "two silken sister-flowers." Her portrait, painted by Vaughan when she was five years old, represents her as very fair, with long loose ringlets, and a tender expression of countenance. Beneath an engraving from this portrait, which was inserted in "The True Effigies of the Royal Progeny," are written some complimentary lines, justified, certainly, by her girlish beauty:—

"Here is the grace of Nature's workmanship,
Wherein herselfe herselfe she did outstrip.
Elizabeth the fair, the rare, the great,
In birth, and blood, and virtues full replete;
An high-prized jewel, an unvalued gem,
Of more worth than a kingly diadem."

* A contemporary writer gives a concise sketch of this Puritan leader: "Colonel Sydenham, a gentleman of not very much *per annum* at the beginning of the wars, was made governor of Melcombe Regis in the West; became one of the Long Parliament,

But from her earliest years her constitution seems to have been very delicate. She was "sad, and somewhat liable to complaints of the spleen;"* and when but nine years old (1643) she met with an accident while running across a room, which caused a fractured leg. But the debility of her frame was contrasted by the vigour of her intellect. "She proved a lady of parts beyond her age; the quickness of her mind making recompense for the weakness of her body." Her physical infirmity preventing her from joining with any vigour in the pastimes of her brothers and sisters, she sought recreation in letters; and so great was her progress, that before she was eight years of age she could read and write five languages besides her own —Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Italian, French. To the study of the first two her earnest and devout mind led her to apply with singular enthusiasm, and she read the Scriptures—an exercise in which she especially delighted—in their original tongues. Her theological acquirements must have been extensive, if she was able to understand the work which William Greenhill dedicated to her in 1644, an "Exposition of the first five chapters of Ezekiel." At a later period she accepted the dedication of Alexander Rowley's "Scholar's Companion," an English-Latin Lexicon of Hebrew and Greek words employed in the Bible. Rowley speaks of "the fame of her great inclination to the study of the Book of books, and of its two original languages—the Hebrew and Greek." And Greenhill says, "Your desire to know the original tongues, that you may understand the Scriptures better, your resolution to write them out with your own princely hand, and to come to the perfect knowledge of them, breed in us hopes that you will exceed all your sex, and be without equal in Europe."

Her first gouvernante was the Countess of Roxburghe; and for a few years, while under her care, she enjoyed the companionship of her brothers and sisters. But in February 1642 the queen set out for Holland with her eldest daughter Mary, betrothed to the Prince of Orange, to raise supplies for her husband's assistance in his struggle with the Parliament. Neither her mother nor her sister, there-

and hath augmented his revenue to some purpose: he helped in question, to change the government, and make those laws of treason against kingship; was also of the Little Parliament, and those that were since; one also of the Protector's council, hath a princely command in the Isle of Wight, is one of the commissioners of the Treasury: by all of which he is grown very great and considerable" (*A Second Narrative, etc.*, A.D. 1658).

* When, in 1640, there was some design of betrothing her to the Prince of Orange, the Secretary of State wrote that she might probably die before the contract was completed.

fore, did sad Elizabeth ever meet again. Her royal father's visits were necessarily few; with her brothers, Charles and James, it is doubtful if ever she felt much sympathy. So, lone and still, she brooded in the darkness of the times over the fate that dogged the steps of her unhappy sire. The battle echoes of Marston and Naseby broke in upon her solitude like death-music; and as earth grew more and more repulsive to her saddened soul, she turned with the greater eagerness to the consolations of heaven.

In October 1642, the plague becoming epidemical in the vicinity of St. James's, it was resolved by the Commons that her household should be removed to a suitable mansion in a more healthy locality, and for that purpose Lord Cottington's house in Broad Street was finally engaged.

Her establishment at this time was not on a scale of ordinary comfort, such as might be found in a tradesman's modest family, and she was so hedged round with rigorous restrictions that she could neither speak with nor write to any of her royal father's friends. The Countess of Roxburghe at length addressed an urgent remonstrance to the House, and due inquiry being made, the Speaker himself acknowledged its justice, by declaring that her poverty was such "he should be ashamed to speak of it." A monthly payment of £800 was, therefore, ordered to Colonel Holland to defray the expenses of her household, and at a later period a larger allowance was made.

In 1643 the Commons removed her gouvernante and servants, and placed her under the care, at first, of Lady Vere, and shortly afterwards of the Countess of Dorset. The princess remonstrated in a letter addressed to the Peers, which is pathetically simple:—

"My Lords,—I account myself very miserable that I must have my servants taken from me, and strangers put to me. You promised me that you would have a care of me; and I hope you will show it in preventing so great a grief as this would be to me. I pray, my lords, consider of it, and give me cause to thank you, and to rest your loving friend,

"Elizabeth.

"*To the Right Hon. the Lords and Peers in Parliament.*"

The Lords objected to these proceedings, and appointed a committee of inquiry, but without effect. The Commons would brook no interference from the Upper House, even in so small a matter, and of themselves determined upon the number of the royal lady's servants:—Two cofferesses, four chamber women, a laundress, and starcher; two physicians (of whom the senior was the eminent Mayerne); six chaplains, and one house chaplain; two gentlemen ushers, one French master, four pages, etc. They also ordered that

prayers should be read twice every day, and two sermons preached on every Sunday; the gates were to be locked at sunset, and on no occasion opened after 10 P.M., without the special license of the chief resident officer. For the house expenses £100 monthly were voted, and an additional sum for apparel.

In July 1644 she was removed to Sir J. Danver's house at Chelsea, and in September to Whitehall, where she received the instructions of Mrs. Makin, a noted linguist.

Early in 1645, on the death of the Countess of Dorset, her brother (the young Duke of Gloucester) and herself were placed under the care of the Earl of Northumberland, and resided for a few weeks at pleasant Sion House, on the banks of the Thames. He was allowed £3000 per annum for his labour, and £9500 for the diet of his wards. From Sion House they returned to St. James's Palace, where they were joined by the young Duke of York, after the fatal issue of the siege of Oxford. Weary days dragged on, each marked by the shadow of some dread disaster to their father's cause, until the tidings of his capture at Holdenby reached the ears of his unhappy daughter. Her sympathy for him, however, was reciprocated by his paternal love, which prompted him, at considerable risk, to seek an interview with her.

On the 16th July, therefore, the Earl of Northumberland accompanied the princess and the young princes to Maidenhead. Through streets gaily strewn with flowers they passed, until they reached the Greyhound Inn, where, about eleven o'clock, they were joined by King Charles. The interview was an affecting one. To the Duke of Gloucester, then a lad about seven years old, the king said, "Do you know me, child?" and when the little prince replied, "No," he continued, "I am your father, child; and it is not one of the least of my misfortunes that I have brought you, and your brothers and sisters, into the world to share my miseries" (*Whitelocke*, 259).

From Maidenhead the royal children went to Caversham, a quiet village on the green banks of the Thames, and stayed there two days, mightily enjoying themselves the while.

During the king's detention at Hampton Court, he was several times permitted to see them. On these occasions Cromwell was often present, and it is to be noted that he alone, of all the stern Puritan leaders, bent the knee to the sons and daughters of King Charles. A longer interval than usual having at one time occurred, the princess, it would appear, affectionately complained, and the king soothed her in these loving but guarded words:—

"HAMPTON COURT, *27th Oct. 1647.*

"DEAR DAUGHTER,—This is to assure you that it is not through forgetfulness, or any want of kyndenes, that I have not, all this tyme, sent for you, but for such reasons as is fitter for you to imagen (which you may easily doe), than me to wryte; but now I hope to see you upon Fryday or Saturday next, as your brother James can more particularly tell you, to whom referring you, I rest your loving father,

"CHARLES R."

Equally tender in spirit is the following, written at a later period, but which may here be fitly introduced :—

"NEWPORT, *14th October 1648.*

"DEAR DAUGHTER,—It is not want of affection that makes me write so seldome to you, but want of matter such as I could wishe; and indeed I am loathe to write to those I love when I am out of humore (as I have beene these dayes by past), least my letters should troble those I desyre to please; but having this opportunity, I would not loose it, though at this time I have nothing to say, but God bless you. So I rest, your loving father,

"CHARLES R.

"Give your brother my blessing with a kisse; and comend me kyndly to my Lady Northumberland by the same token."

Ellis's Orig. Letters, 2nd series, ii.

The aspect of affairs was now so menacing that the partisans of the royal family thought it advisable to remove the young Duke of York out of the reach of the Parliament. The king, while at Hampton Court, had foreseen that this would be necessary, and had enjoined him, "when a fit opportunity offered, to make his escape beyond the seas." They were at this period residing at St. James's, "where," says Clarendon, "they had the liberty of the garden and park to walk and exercise themselves in, and lords and ladies, and other persons of condition, were not restrained from resorting thither to visit them." One Colonel Bamfield, "a man of an active and insinuating nature," availed himself of this permission to devise means of escape; and the princess providing the duke with female apparel, when joining, as they were wont to do, in "hide and seek"—a favourite pastime of their younger brother, the Duke of Gloucester—he made his way unperceived into the garden, and thence by a private door into the park, where Colonel Bamfield met him, and conducted him to the river (April 21, 1647). He afterwards reached Holland in safety.

His escape caused considerable excitement, and the Parliamentary proceedings in consequence are thus alluded to by Rushworth :—

"*April 22, 1647.*—A message came from the Lords to the Commons, desiring a conference in the Painted Chamber, concerning the escape of the Duke of York last night from St. James's. At this conference report was made that the duke, with his brother the

Duke of Gloucester, and his sister the Lady Elizabeth, being sporting by themselves after supper, the duke privately slipt from 'em down the back stairs, without either cloke or coat, and having the key of the garden door, passed through the park, and so away."

Shortly afterwards, however, the royal children were intrusted to the guardianship of the Countess of Leicester, much to the relief of the Earl of Northumberland, whom nature had ill fitted to play the part of jailer. An allowance was made to the duke of £2500 per annum, and a suitable number of attendants was appointed to wait upon them. They had previously been removed to Sion House, where they remained in a captivity but thinly disguised, until, on the fatal morning of the 29th of January 1649, they were summoned to take their last farewell of their martyr-father.

Some lives are long, not from years, but events; the heart grows aged and the mind matured while the eyes are still full of the light of youth. It was so with the child-princess. She counted but thirteen summers, and yet she possessed the intelligence, and, alas! had undergone the experience of a woman thrice as old. In simple but expressive language she recorded, during her imprisonment at Carisbrooke, the particulars of this last sad interview between the children and the father—an interview which the shadow of the coming death must have darkened to their souls. This remarkable narrative runs in simple fashion, thus :—

"*What the King said to me 29th of January last, being the last time I had the happiness to see him.*

"He told me that he was glad I was come, for, though he had not time to say much, yet somewhat he wished to say to me which he could not to another, and he had feared 'the cruelty' was too great to permit his writing. 'But, sweetheart,' he added, 'thou wilt forget what I tell thee.' Then shedding abundance of tears, I told him that I would write down all he said to me. 'He wished me,' he said, 'not to grieve and torment myself for him, for it was a glorious death he should die, it being for the laws and religion of the land.' He told me what books to read against Popery. He said that 'he had forgiven all his enemies, and he hoped God would forgive them also;' and he commanded us, and all the rest of my brothers and sisters, to forgive them also. Above all, he bade me tell my mother that 'his thoughts had never strayed from her, and that his love for her would be the same to the last;' withal, he commanded me and my brother to love her, and be obedient to her. He desired me 'not to grieve for him, for he should die a martyr; and that he doubted not but God would restore the throne to his son, and that then we should be all happier than we could possibly have been if he had lived;' with many other things which I cannot remember.

"Then, taking my brother Gloucester on his knee, he said, 'Sweetheart, now will they cut off thy father's head;' upon which the child looked very steadfastly upon him. 'Heed, my child, what I say: they will cut off my head, and perhaps make thee a king. But mark what I say: you must not be a king as long as your brothers Charles and James live; therefore, I charge you, do not be made a king by them.' At which the child, sighing deeply, replied, 'I will be torn in pieces first.' And these words coming from so young a child, rejoiced my father exceedingly; and his majesty spoke to him

of the welfare of his soul, and to keep his religion, commanding him to fear God and he would provide for him. All which the young child earnestly promised.

"His majesty also bid me send his blessing to the rest of my brothers and sisters, with commendations to all his friends. So, after giving me his blessing, I took my leave"* (*Reliquiæ Sacræ*, 337, 338).

Many kisses, many embraces—such kisses, such embraces as love on the threshold of the grave well may bestow upon the loved ones—the royal sire lavished on his children, already fatherless in his sad eyes. And then he called to good Bishop Juxon to lead them from him. They sobbed bitterly. The father, still a man and a king, leaned his head against the window and strove to keep down his tears; but as they passed through the door his eyes chanced to light upon them, and hastening from the window, he folded them in one last, long embrace, and pressed upon their lips his last, long kisses, and then—cast himself upon his knees and told his sorrow and his love to God.

At this interview he gave to Elizabeth two seals, wherein were set two diamonds, and a yet more costly gift—a Bible—saying, "It had been his great comfort and constant companion through all his sorrows, and he hoped it would be hers." And it *was* hers: she died with her pale cheek resting on its open page.

After the execution of King Charles, his children were removed to Penshurst, thus adding another historic association to the home of Sir Philip Sidney. The allowance received from the Parliament was now reduced to £1000 per annum each, and their household was greatly curtailed. Orders were given "that they should be treated without any addition of titles, and that they should sit at their meat as the children of the family did, and all at one table." At Penshurst they were carefully tended by the Countess of Leicester, the mother of Algernon Sidney, who "observed the order of the Parliament with obedience enough, and," says Clarendon, with a somewhat ungenerous sneer, "treated them with as much respect as the lady *pretended* she durst pay to them."

While residing in this "the fitting abode of the noble Sidneys," the malady of the princess, which had lurked so long in her feeble frame, rapidly grew upon her, necessitating the constant attendance

* "He bad her remember to tell her brother James 'twas his father's last desire that he should no longer look on Charles as his eldest brother only, but be obedient to him as his sovereign; and that they should love one another, and forgive their father's enemys, but not trust 'em, seeing they had bin false to him, and he feared also to their own souls. He bid her read Bishop Andrews' Sermons, Hooker's Ecclesiastical Polity, and Bishop Laud's book against Fisher, to ground her against Popery" (*Rushworth's Collections*, vi. 604).

of her physician, Dr. Treherne. Otherwise her situation was pleasant enough; and, doubtless, to her cultivated mind the historic and poetic associations of "the ancient pile," which Ben Jonson had celebrated in stately verse, had a constant charm. The massive oaken table, whereat she took her place "with the children of the family," had been graced with the presence of "the chivalrous author of the *Arcadia*;" that virtuous Countess of Pembroke whom the poet's epitaph * has immortalized; the amiable Edward VI.; the royal Elizabeth; the magnificent Leicester; Cecil, astute, unscrupulous, and able; her grandfather, the pedantic James; and "the martyr-king" himself, while yet in his grave and decorous youth. There is still at Penshurst a relic of the times of our ill-fated maiden Stuart. In the south court, on a very simple frame of wood, hangs a great bell, bearing an inscription in raised letters to this effect:—*Robert, Earl of Leicester, at Penshurst, 1649.* The princess and her brother probably witnessed the elevation of this bell, and heard its earliest tones swell over the old pleasaunce and float far away down the waters of the Medway.† From "the broad beech and the chestnut shade," from "the mount to which the Dryads did resort" (*Ben Jonson*), the Princess Elizabeth—her health being sufficiently restored—and her brother were removed to Carisbrooke Castle, in pursuance of an order made by the Parliament for the removal of "the two children of the late king out of the limits of the Commonwealth" (*Journals, House of Commons*).

They landed at Cowes on Thursday the 13th of August 1650, having left Penshurst on Friday the 9th, and reached Carisbrooke, after some delay, on Saturday the 16th. The apartments allotted to them were elegantly furnished, and their charge was intrusted to Mr. Anthony Mildmay (see *ante*, p. 60), who, according to Royalist testimony, was "an honest and faithful gentleman." In attendance upon them were Mr. Lovel, the young duke's tutor; John Barmiston, gentleman-usher; Judith Briott, her gentlewoman; Elizabeth Jones, her "laundrie-mayde;" and John Clarke, groom of her chamber. To add to their comforts, Mildmay sent to Penshurst for a large quantity of their father's household furniture; but probably it "did

* "Underneath this marble hearse
Lies, the subject of all verse,
Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother."
Ben Jonson.

† We may here notice that at Penshurst Parsonage long dwelt Dr. Hammond, one of Charles the First's chaplains, and uncle of Colonel Hammond, the Governor of Carisbrooke (see *ante*, p. 59).

not arrive at its destination sufficiently early to afford any comfort to the princess" (*Journal, British Archæological Association*, Sept. 1855).

It is almost unnecessary to state that there exists no foundation for Hume's assertion that the leaders of the Commonwealth designed to apprentice the princess to a button-maker at Newport, and the young duke to a shoemaker. Reports to this effect, however, reached Queen Henrietta, and caused her much uneasiness. In the House of Commons, indeed, a debate arose on the question of providing for the maintenance of the royal captives, and Cromwell bluntly said, in that rough, vigorous way of his, that "as to the young boy, it would be better to bind him to a good trade;" but the Parliament carried their severity no further than to enjoin that "no person should be allowed to kiss their hands, and that they should not be otherwise treated than as the children of a gentleman."

The confinement of the princess was of briefest duration. On the Monday following her admission into Carisbrooke (August 19th), while playing at bowls, there fell a sudden shower, and the princess being of an infirm and debilitated body, "it caused her to take cold, and the next day she complained of headache and feverish distemper, which by fits increased upon her; and on the first three or four days she had the advice of Dr. Bagnell, a worthy and able physician of Newport, and then care was taken by Dr. Treherne, in London, to send a physician and remedies of election [an astrological nostrum] to her. But notwithstanding the care of that honest and faithful gentleman, Anthony Mildmay, Esq., and all the art of her physicians, her disease grew upon her; and, after many rare ejaculatory expressions, abundantly demonstrating her unparalleled piety, to the eternal honour of her own memory and the astonishment of those who waited on her, she took leave of the world on Sunday the 8th September 1650."

The Père Gamache, a capuchin attached to the court of Henrietta Maria, gives in his memoirs a somewhat different account of the last scenes of this sad drama, based, of course, upon the rumours which travelled from England, and accumulated in monstrosity on the way: "The princess, then about twelve years old, endowed with an excellent understanding, and justly appreciating her high birth, vexed at being obliged to leave the royal residence of St. James's, was absorbed in melancholy thoughts on approaching the castle to which she was going. There she made many doleful reflections, and they made such deep impression on her heart, and so heated her

blood, that a violent fever ensued. It seemed at first that it was too violent to last long, but the event proved otherwise ; for the disorder kept increasing, resisted all remedies, and at length put an end to the life of the afflicted princess" (*Court and Times of Charles I.*). According to Sir Theodore Mayerne, who was summoned to her assistance, but did not reach the castle until after her decease, "she died of a malignant fever, which constantly increased, she being far distant from physicians and remedies." Heath's account is somewhat more minute : "The Princess Elizabeth, coming from bowls with her brother the Duke of Gloucester, complained first of her head, and having lain sick a fortnight, died. Little care was there taken of her, the place affording no learned physician, yet Dr. Mayerne sent out some fitting cordials." But this accusation, as we have shown, was incorrect, Drs. Bagnell and Treherne being in constant attendance upon her, and Sir Theodore Mayerne's aid was immediately sought. The progress of her disease, however, anticipated his arrival. She expired in solitude, sitting in her apartment at Carisbrooke, "her fair cheek resting on a Bible, which was the last gift of her murdered father, and which had been her only consolation in the last sad months of her life" (*Strickland*).

From a recent examination of her remains, it has been satisfactorily shown that the princess died of a disease just introduced into England, and comparatively unknown to English practitioners — *Rachitis* or *Rickets*.* To natural causes, therefore, and not to the effects of a romantic melancholy, must her early death be ascribed by the impartial historian.

The princess's body was first embalmed, and then carefully disposed of in a leaden coffin. It lay exposed to the sorrowing gaze of her attendants for some fourteen days, and on Wednesday the 24th of September "was brought (in a borrowed coach) from the castle to the town of Newport, attended thither with her few late servants. At the end of the town the corpse was met and waited on by the mayor and aldermen thereof in their formalities to the church, where, about the middle of the east part of the chancel in St. Thomas's Chapel, her highness was interred in a small vault purposely made, with an inscription of the date of her death engraved on her coffin." Quaint old Fuller, who has preserved this simple narrative, makes thereupon a characteristic comment : "The hawks of Norway, where a winter's day is hardly an hour of clear light, are the swiftest of

* See Adams's *History, Topography, and Antiquities of the Isle of Wight.*

wing of any fowl under the firmament, Nature teaching them to bestir themselves, to lengthen the shortness of the time with their swiftness. Such the active piety of this lady, improving the little life allotted to her 'in running the way of God's commandments.'"

The coffin was made of strong lead, ridged in the middle. On the lid was placed a brass plate, with the inscription,—

"Elizabeth, Second Davghter
of y^e late King Charles,
dece'd Sept. viii., M.D.C.L."

It was interred in the middle of the east part of the chancel, and the letters E. S. were cut in the adjacent wall. But in the course of time the vault and its memorable occupant were forgotten, until, in October 1793, some workmen employed in opening a new grave discovered the coffin.

"In order that the spot might not be again overlooked, a plate with a simple inscription was placed on the stone covering of the vault; and advantage was taken of the opportunity to remove from the wall of the churchyard, where it had long administered a silent but potent rebuke of the then very prevalent practice of burying in the church, a tablet bearing the following singular inscription:— 'Here lyeth y^e body of Master George Shergold, late minister of New Port, who, during sixteen years in discharge of his office, strictly observed y^e true discipline of y^e Church of England, disliking that dead bodies should be interred in God's house, appointed to be interred in this place. He died, universally lamented and esteemed, January xxiii., 1707.' This old inscription being placed with the face to the stone, and economically supplying, by the reverse, the tablet for the more interesting record" (*Journal, Brit. Arch. Association*, Sept. 1855).

When the new Church of St. Thomas was erected in 1856, the princess's remains were therein interred, and a graceful monument, with a graceful inscription (see *post*), was raised within its walls to the daughter of the Stuart by her Majesty the Queen.

SECTION X.—A SUMMARY FROM 1651 TO 1881.

Carisbrooke, during the Commonwealth, was the prison of many gallant Cavaliers and independent spirits, whose loyalty rendered them obnoxious to the ruling powers, but none of these is it needful we should notice. At Cowes Castle, however, was confined a poet, a wit, a soldier, and a man of letters—Sir William

1651 A.D.

d'Avenant, the godson—by scandal said to be the son—of William Shakespeare.

While imprisoned at Cowes, and awaiting trial on a charge of high treason, he finished the first portion of his great poem, "Gondibert," of which a brother poet warmly sang :—

> "Here no bold tales of gods or monsters swell,
> But human passions such as with us dwell;
> Man is thy theme, his virtue or his rage,
> Drawn to the life in each elaborate page."—*Waller.*

He says, in the postscript to the first edition, "I am here arrived at the middle of the third book. But it is high time to strike sail and cast anchor, though I have run but half my course, when at the helm I am threatened with *Death*, who, though he can visit us but once, seems troublesome, and even in the innocent may beget such a gravity as diverts the music of verse." It is pleasant, however, to know that after his removal from Cowes to the Tower, to be tried, his life was saved by the good offices of two aldermen of York whom he had once obliged; and that he lived to interfere, in his turn, on Milton's behalf with Charles II. He has been characterized by the elder D'Israeli as "a poet and a wit, the creator of the English stage with the music of Italy and the scenery of France; a soldier, an emigrant, a courtier, and a politician!" Aubrey, in his own quaint fashion, describes the circumstances which led to D'Avenant's imprisonment. The anecdote is worth extracting: "He laid an ingenious design to carry a considerable number of artificers, chiefly weavers, from France to Virginia, and by Mary the queen-mother's means he got favour from the King of France to go into the prison and pick and choose; so when the poor wretches understood what his design was they cried, *uno ore*, '*Tous tisserans*' (We are all weavers). Well, he took thirty-six, as I remember, and not more, and shipped them; and as he was on his voyage to Virginia, he and his weavers were all taken by the ships then belonging to the Parliament of England. The French slaves, I suppose, they sold, but Sir William was brought prisoner to England. Whether he was at first a prisoner at Carisbrooke Castle,* in the Isle of Wight, or at the Tower of London, I have forgotten. He was a prisoner at both. His 'Gondibert' was finished at Carisbrooke Castle."

* Aubrey was in error. The postscript to "Gondibert" is dated from *Cowes* Castle.

GOVERNORS OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT SINCE THE RESTORATION.

When Charles II. was welcomed back to the throne he was so soon to disgrace, the old things passed away with a wonderful celerity, and dashing Cavaliers speedily usurped the seats of stern-browed Puritans. Colonel Sydenham, therefore, was compelled to quit his island-captaincy, and Lord Culpeper "reigned in his stead."

1660 A.D.

1. *Thomas, Lord Culpeper* (1660 A.D.), had been of some service to the Royalist cause, and was a gallant but imperious soldier, better fitted to shine in the arts of war than in those of peace. His government was so excessively unpopular, from its arbitrary character, that the islanders appealed to the king for redress, but obtained scant satisfaction from Lord Clarendon. Their principal grounds of complaint were: That he had enclosed a considerable portion of Parkhurst Forest, imprisoned several loyal subjects in "a noisome dungeon" in Carisbrooke Castle, neglected the defences of the island, and assumed the title of "governor" in addition to that of "captain." They also remonstrated, and with justice, against the piratical doings of his kinsman and deputy, Captain Alexander Culpeper, who plundered foreign vessels which put into "the Cowes" in distress, and committed other enormities recorded in the manuscript history treasured up in the British Museum.

Though shielded by Lord Clarendon, the Cavalier captain of the Wight deemed it advisable to surrender his post, and was succeeded, much to the joy of the islanders, by the famous sea-chief—

2. *Admiral Sir Robert Holmes* (1667 A.D.), whose rise in the service had been as rapid as his courage and skill were eminent. In 1661 we first hear of him as the commodore of a small squadron of four frigates despatched to the African coast to make reprisals on the Dutch; an expedition in which he was completely successful. Two years later, as captain of the *Jersey*, a 50-gun ship, he was again on the coast of Africa, and captured Goree.* He next reduced Cape Corse Island (1664 A.D.); and sailing to America, joined Sir Robert Carr's squadron, and subdued the Dutch settlement of New York.

His successes gained him the appointment of captain to a fine new vessel, the *Defiance*, of 66 guns; and on its launch at Woolwich he

* Dryden says of him in the *Annus Mirabilis*:—

"And Holmes, whose name shall live in epic song,
While music numbers, or while verse has feet;
Holmes, the Achates of the general's fight,
Who first bewitched our eyes with Guinea gold."

received the honour of knighthood from his royal patron, Charles II., who was present (27th March 1665). In the two great naval actions with the Dutch, which illustrate with a lurid splendour the dark pages of Charles the Second's reign (June 3, 1665, and June 25, 1666), he bore himself as became an English seaman, and won "golden opinions" from his countrymen.

He was selected by Albemarle to command the squadron destined to operate on the Dutch coast, and with a squadron of boats and fire-ships, entering the channel between the islands of Vlie and Schelling, where the Baltic fleet lay in fancied security, achieved a most brilliant success—burning two men-of-war, 180 merchantmen, and the town of Brandaris, with a loss of only twelve men killed and wounded (*Charnock, Biographia Navalis*).

Sir Robert Holmes was now appointed commander-in-chief of the Portsmouth squadron (answering to the modern dignity of port-admiral), and to the vacant governorship of the Isle of Wight.* He immediately took up his residence in the island, building himself a stately mansion at Yarmouth† (then a strongly fortified and well garrisoned town, approached from the east by a drawbridge). Here, in July 1671, he entertained King Charles, the Duke of York, Prince Rupert, and a brilliant company; and again in 1675 he was honoured by a royal progress. The Duke of York visited him in 1673.

He acquired great popularity in his government, from his zeal in furthering the interests of the island. His deputy-governor was the Sir Edward Worsley who so loyally served King Charles I. during his imprisonment at Carisbrooke.

Sir Robert Holmes died at Yarmouth, full of years and honours, on the 18th November 1692. He was buried in Yarmouth Church, and a splendid monument erected to his memory by his son.

3. *John, Lord Cutts* (1693 A.D.), was made governor in the year after Sir Robert's death. During the interval, it would seem, from the inscription on the monument in the church of Yarmouth, that Henry Holmes, Sir Robert's eldest son, had administered the affairs of the island.

Lord Cutts was of an ancient Cambridgeshire family; had been liberally educated; was a polished scholar, and a most daring soldier. In the Irish and Flanders campaigns of King William his heroic bravery was frequently displayed, and raised him, step by step, to the rank of lieutenant-general and the colonelcy of the Coldstream

* In the preceding year he had been appointed governor of Sandown Castle.

† Now the *George Inn*.

Guards. In the camp, where he spent the prime of his years, he acquired an imperiousness of temper and a habit of command which, when brought to bear upon his administration of the government of the Wight, involved him in ceaseless conflicts, and rendered him singularly unpopular. He interfered in the management of the corporations, disfranchised several burgesses of Newtown, threw a clergyman into the dungeon of Cowes Castle, and raised a feud between himself and the island gentry that promised to result in serious consequences.

Lord Cutts, however, had the frank heart as well as the rough hand of the soldier, and perceiving the difficulties in which he was involved, wisely hastened to withdraw his more objectionable pretensions. The gentry of the island were equally ready to lay down their arms; and in March 1697 a solemn pact or treaty was concluded between the governor and his subjects at Appuldurcombe (the seat of Sir Robert Worsley), which proved the beginning of a lasting peace. Lord Cutts grew excessively popular, and maintained a splendid hospitality. And at Carisbrooke Castle, already falling into pitiful decay, he caused to be repaired and refitted the governor's apartments.

This gallant soldier, whose bravery at the siege of Namur is historically famous, served under Marlborough in the glorious campaign of 1704, and on the field of Blenheim commanded a brigade of infantry. His successful attack upon the village of Blenheim greatly contributed to the completeness of that splendid victory.

For his services he was named Commander-in-Chief of the Forces, and one of the Lord-Justices of Ireland, where he died, while yet in the prime of manhood, in 1706.

4. A civilian was selected to succeed the brilliant soldier in his island-government—*Charles, Duke of Bolton* (then Marquis of Winchester), a Knight of the Garter, Warden of the New Forest, and Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire and Dorsetshire, and (in 1706) one of the Commissioners for negotiating the union between England and Scotland. As he was emphatically "an absentee," a lieutenant-governor was now formally appointed. Colonel Morgan was the first to fill the office, at a salary of £365 per annum.

5. In 1710 the Duke of Bolton retired, and *John Richmond Webb*, Lieutenant-General and Colonel of Foot, one of the soldiers of fortune bred up by William III. and the great Marlborough, who fought gallantly at Blenheim, and defeated La Mothe at Wynendale, was raised to the governorship. He was superseded in 1715 by—

6. *William, Earl Cadogan*, whose services form a portion of British history that need not here be recapitulated. A brother soldier of Cutts and Webb, he shared with honour in Marlborough's campaigns in Flanders and the Netherlands. At Oudenarde and Malplaquet he specially distinguished himself. On the death of Marlborough in 1722, he succeeded to his dignities as Commander-in-Chief and Master-General of the Ordnance. He died in August 1726.

7. *Charles, Duke of Bolton*, held the governorship (rapidly becoming a sinecure) until 1733, when, opposing the excise scheme of Walpole, he was forced by that powerful minister to resign all his offices, and the governorship was bestowed on a more tractable peer.

8. *John, Duke of Montague*, whose rule was a very brief one, inasmuch as in July 1734 he surrendered his appointment.

9. *John Wallop, Lord Viscount Lymington*, resigned the governorship and vice-admiralty of the island in July 1742, on the fall of Walpole, whom he had strongly supported. He was, however, rewarded by George II. with the Earldom of Portsmouth, and *reappointed* to the governorship of the Isle of Wight in 1745, *on the dismissal* of—

10. *Charles, Duke of Bolton*, who had enjoyed it for three years.

11. After the death of the Earl of Portsmouth, aged seventy-two, on November 23, 1762, the government of the island, for a brief interval, was administered by the lieutenant-governor. *Thomas, Lord Holmes*, Baron Kilmallock of the kingdom of Ireland, was appointed to the post in April 1763. Lord Holmes was the son of Henry Holmes, formerly lieutenant-governor of the island, and Mary, daughter of Admiral Sir Robert Holmes. He was born in 1699, and died without issue in 1764. During his year-long governorship he chiefly resided in the island, where he was well beloved. He was wont, it is said, to entertain his friends in two caverns in the cliffs of Freshwater, still traditionally known as *Lord Holmes's Parlour* and *Lord Holmes's Kitchen.*

12. He was succeeded by *Hans Stanley, Esq.*, a Lord of the Admiralty, and a gentleman of considerable property, who built and splendidly fitted up a cottage *ornée* at Steephill. The sad tale of his daughter's early fate is related by the poet Thomson in the second book of "The Seasons." *

* "And art thou, Stanley, of that sacred band?
Alas, for us too soon!" etc.—*Thomson's Seasons.*

She died in 1738, at the early age of eighteen, and was buried in Holyrood Church, Southampton, where there is a monument to her memory. Thomson wrote the epitaph.

13. *Harry Powlett, Duke of Bolton*, superseded Mr. Hans Stanley in 1766, and was in his turn superseded by Mr. Stanley in 1770, who held it until his decease in 1780. The House of Industry at Parkhurst, a species of prototype of the Modern Poor Law Union, was founded, we may here notice, in 1770.

14. *Sir Richard Worsley, Bart.*, Comptroller of the Royal Household, and a Privy Councillor, descended from one of the most influential of the old island families, and possessing large estates at Appuldurcombe and St. Lawrence, was next appointed. To his industry and research we are indebted for a ponderous but very valuable history of the island, published in 1782, and dedicated to King George III. He was removed from the government in 1782, and the Duke of Bolton reappointed. It was in this same year that, according to Horace Walpole, the French Government, presuming on the reverses sustained by the British arms in America, demanded the cession of the Isle of Wight as the reward of their neutrality.

15. In 1791 the office was bestowed upon the *Right Honourable Thomas Orde*, in whose patent it was first provided that the appointments to the military commands of Yarmouth, Cowes, and Sandown should be vested in the Crown. Mr. Orde built a house at Fern Hill, near Wootton, where he frequently resided. In 1795 he assumed the arms and name of Powlett, on succeeding, in right of his wife (a natural daughter of the last Duke of Bolton), to large estates; and in 1797 was elevated to the peerage with the title of Lord Bolton, of Bolton Abbey, Yorkshire. He is spoken of as "a man of very powerful talents, great industry in business, extensive political knowledge, and many amiable moral qualities" (*Collins*).

16. *John Harris*, first *Earl of Malmesbury*, a distinguished English diplomatist, Ambassador to the Courts of Paris and St. Petersburg, was appointed August 22, 1807.

17. The *Right Hon. W. H. Ashe A'Court Holmes, Earl of Heytesbury* (died 1860), formerly Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, received the appointment in 1841, on the understanding that the salary previously attaching to it (about £1300) would no longer be allowed. He resigned it in 1857, when the honour was conferred upon—

18. *Charles Shaw Lefevre, Viscount Eversley.* This distinguished statesman was born in Bedford Square, in 1794; was educated at Winchester, and afterwards at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated as Master of Arts in 1817. In the same year he married Helena, youngest daughter of the late S. Whitbread, Esq., and shortly afterwards entered Parliament.

From 1839 to 1857 he held the high office of Speaker of the House of Commons, and discharged its responsible and sometimes difficult duties with a dignity and courtesy which won him "golden opinions" from all parties.

Governor and Captain of the Isle of Wight.
Right Hon. the Viscount Eversley, G.C.B., P.C.

Member of Parliament for the Island—Hon. Evelyn Ashley (L.).
(1881) Registered electors, 5044.

Member of Parliament for Newport—Charles Cavendish Clifford, Esq.
(1881) Registered electors, 1332.

Coroner for the Island—F. Blake, Esq.

Population (in 1881), 73,045.
Inhabited houses, 14,630.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT;

ITS

Towns, Villages, Mansions, and Antiquities.

"And Wight who checks the western tide."—COLLINS.

DISTRICT I.—NORTH.

WEST AND EAST COWES.

THE tourist may enter the Isle of Wight either at Ryde *viâ* Portsmouth, at Cowes *viâ* Portsmouth or Southampton, or at Yarmouth *viâ* Lymington. The first is the most popular; but the Cowes route, as the most central, is perhaps the most convenient for the tourist who intends to examine the island thoroughly, and does not visit it simply *pour passer le temps* during the season which fashion loves to spend at the sea-side. The passage from Portsmouth to West Cowes is made through Spithead, where some of our ironclads may generally be seen; thence past the front of Osborne House and Norris Castle, with their beautiful and picturesque surroundings—making it, on a fine day, a most enjoyable trip.

The passage from Southampton (the fable-city of Sir Bevis) to West Cowes occupies about an hour, and on a bright summer noon is not without a certain agreeable character. The banks of Southampton Water are beautiful with associations of "antique verse and high romance," and as the rapid vessel bears him past the ruins of Netley, Hythe, Calshot Castle, and Eaglehurst, the traveller will not fail to recall historic memories and legendary fancies which will pleasantly beguile the time. As he approaches the mouth of the

Medina, he will observe with pleasure the picturesque aspect of its banks, crowned by the gardens, and villas, and winding streets of the two Cowes,—

> "The two great Cowes that in loud thunder roar,
> This on the eastern, that the western shore,
> Where Newport enters stately Wight."—LELAND.

Each of the sister-towns stands on a gently sloping hill, well surrounded with fresh green foliage. In the back ground of East Cowes rise the Palladian towers of Osborne. The river is always thronged with vessels of different sizes and rigging. The shore is busy with shipwrights, and crowded with the skeletons of unfinished craft. Altogether, a picture of varied and animated life.

WEST COWES

(*Hotels*—Marine, Fountain, Gloucester, Vine, Dolphin, Globe. *Steamers*, for Southampton, or Ryde and Portsmouth. *Railway* to Newport, and thence to Ventnor or Ryde)

is a town of considerable antiquity, and has always been the chief port of the island. In the days of Elizabeth and the earlier Stuarts its harbour was constantly frequented by English and foreign masts —"prizes and men-of-war, which gave great rates for its commodities" (*Sir J. Oglander, MSS.*).

1. *West Cowes*, in 1871, had a population of 5730, which, in 1881, had increased to 6300. In 1841 its population did not exceed 4107. In 1851 it had 814 inhabited houses; in 1881, about 1200; the total number in the West Cowes registration district being 2526. It is included in the parish of Northwood (pop. 9175), and, for municipal purposes, in the borough of Newport. Its government is in the hands of a local board, annually elected by the ratepayers, under the provisions of the "Health of Towns" Act.

2. *Cowes Harbour* is an estuary formed by the junction of the Medina (here half a mile wide) with the Solent. It is commodious, sheltered, and capable of admitting vessels of heavy tonnage. During the yachting season (May to November) it is the favourite rendezvous of the yacht clubs of the south of England, and then presents a peculiarly attractive aspect. The customs levied here in 1880 amounted to £4000. A steam-ferry crosses the harbour at stated intervals. The tourist should take a boat up the river (which is famous for its oysters), and also to Egypt and Gurnard Bay. Formerly the landing-place here was very inconvenient, but a new pier was constructed in 1867 opposite Gloucester House.

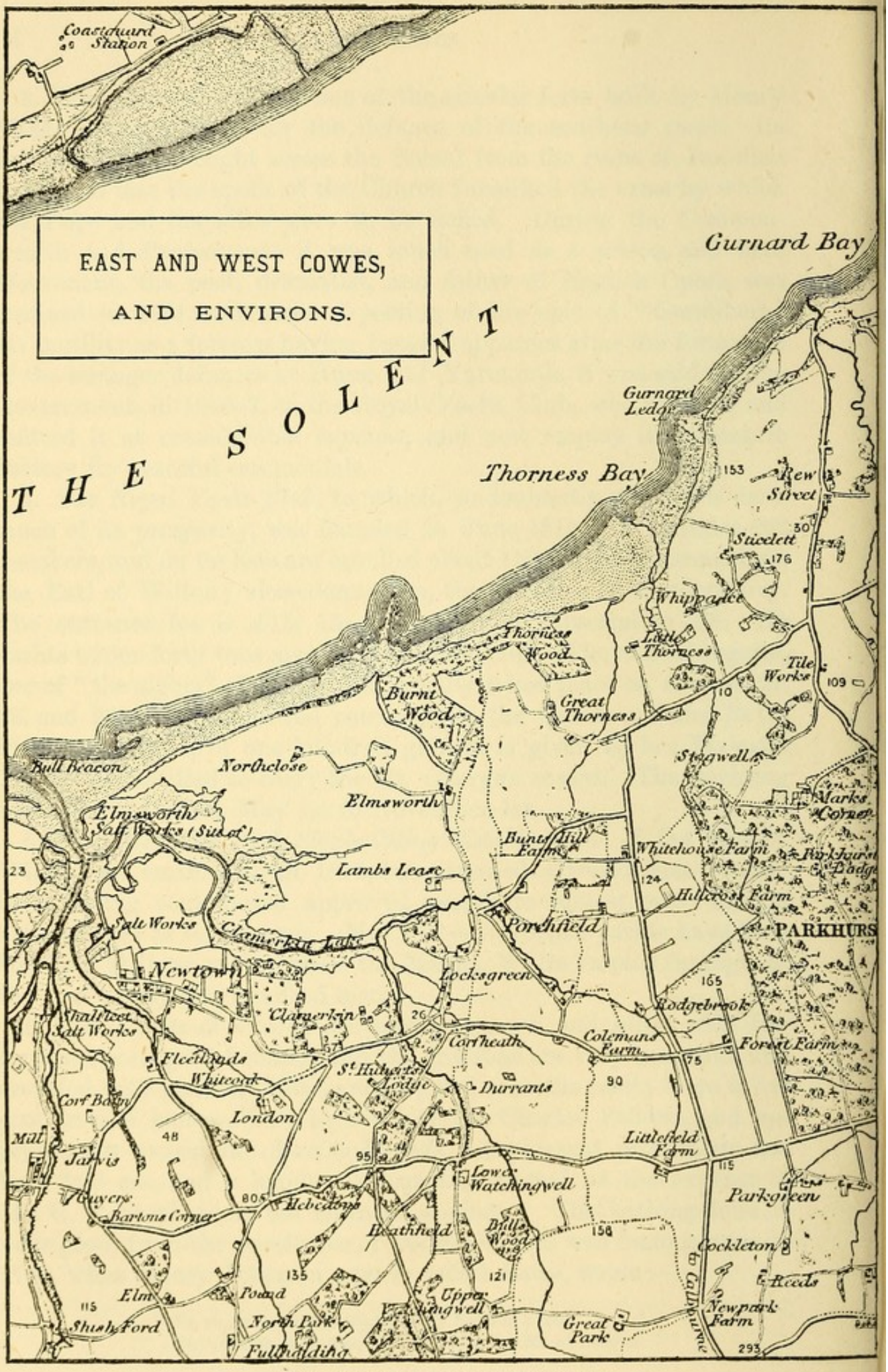
3. *West Cowes Castle* was one of the circular forts built by Henry VIII., about 1538–9, for the defence of the southern coast. Its materials were brought across the Solent from the ruins of Beaulieu Priory, so that the spoils of the Church furnished the arms by which the Pope and his allies were to be defied. During the Commonwealth and Protectorate it was much used as a prison, and here D'Avenant, the poet, dramatist, and father of English Opera, was confined in 1651, and wrote a portion of his epic of "Gondibert." Its inutility as a fortress having become apparent after the formation of the stronger defences at Hurst and Yarmouth, it was sold by the Government, in 1856–7, to the Royal Yacht Club, who repaired and refitted it at considerable expense, and now employ its miniature battery for peaceful ceremonials.

4. *The Royal Yacht Club*, to which, undoubtedly, the town owes much of its prosperity, was founded in June 1815. It includes 262 members, and on its lists are enrolled about 150 yachts. Commodore, the Earl of Wilton; vice-commodore, the Marquis of Londonderry. The entrance fee is £15, 15s.; the annual subscription £8. No yachts under forty tons are enrolled in the club. The annual regatta, one of "the sights" of the season, usually takes place on August 21, 22, and 23, and receives the patronage of the Queen and the Royal Family. A plate of one hundred guineas is given by her Majesty. The club is entitled to carry the St. George's ensign. The yachting season extends from May 1st to November 1st.

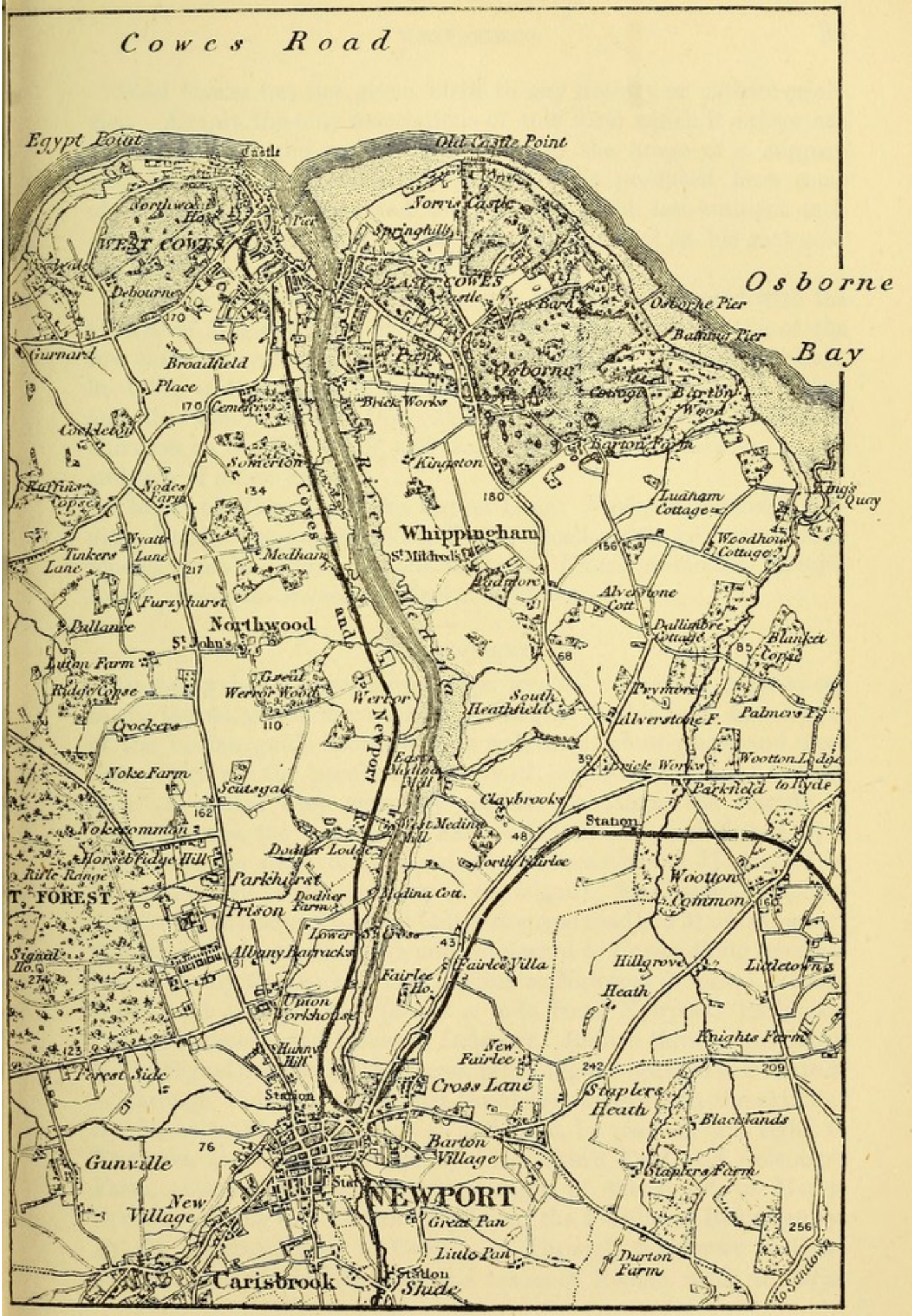
5. The *Dockyard and Shipbuilding Establishment* of the Messrs. White, first established in 1815, has attained a world-wide reputation, having contributed approved vessels to almost every foreign navy as well as to our own. Many of our swiftest yachts have been launched at these yards, where the Messrs. White employ throughout the year nearly five hundred men.

6. The *Streets* of Cowes are mostly narrow and hilly, with few large shops or good houses. But the environs are very beautiful, and crowded with pleasant villa-gardens; and near the castle there is *one* good row of houses, built by the late Sir Charles Fellows, and appropriately named the *Marine Parade*. A pleasant promenade has been laid out, and a handsome fountain erected, at the expense of Mr. G. R. Stephenson, the eminent engineer. The bathing here is very good, from the excellence of the beach, and was famous even in 1760, when Henry Jones, in a poem called *Vectis*, wrote:—

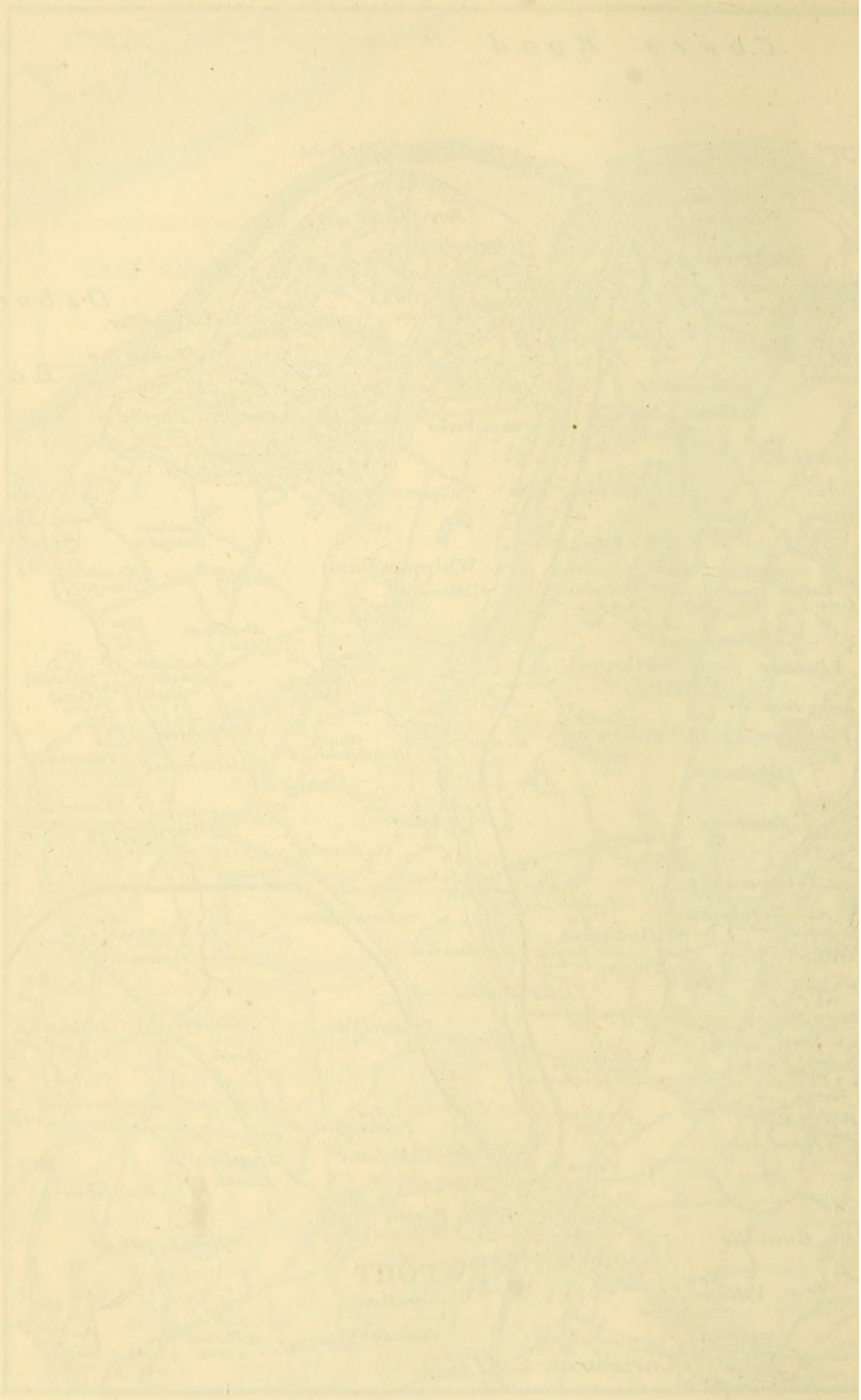
> "No more to foreign baths shall Britain roam,
> But plunge at Cowes, and find rich health at home."



On a Scale of One Inch to a Statute Mile.



The Figures indicate Height in Feet above Sea-level.



West Cowes has not given birth to any literary or artistic celebrity. Almost the only associations of this kind which it enjoys are connected with the residence in 1799, at the house of a surgeon named Lynn, of Morland the painter, who produced here some of his cabinet pictures; and the memory of the late eminent antiquary and traveller, Sir Charles Fellows, who died at his seat near the town.

7. There are two places of worship in the town connected with the Church of England;—*West Cowes Church*, remarkable as one of the few churches erected during the Commonwealth, but entirely rebuilt in 1867, and consecrated by Bishop Douglas of Bombay in 1868; and the *Church of the Holy Trinity*, which occupies a prominent situation on the West Cliff, and was improved some years ago by the addition of a new chancel.

Chapels:—*Roman Catholic*, Carvel Lane; *Wesleyan Methodist*, Medina Road; *Congregationalist*, Union Road, with new and large schools opposite; *Baptist*, Victoria Road; *United Methodist*, Victoria Road; *Primitive Methodist*, Market Hill.

DAY-JOURNEYS.

In laying down these day-journeys we shall endeavour to point out to the tourist all the fair nooks and "angles of this isle" that lie *out* of the beaten guide-book track, as well as the show-places and tame lions which are the peculiar property of excursionists, and "the flymen" in whom they generally confide. *a.* Along the Parade to Egypt House, the seat of the Earl of Hardwicke, and thence by a path along the shore to Gurnard Bay (where Charles II. landed in 1671, on a visit to the governor of the island). Southward, past Rew Street (notice traces of ancient Celtic-Romano road), to Mark's Corner; then into the Newport Road, and homeward to Cowes along the river bank. *b.* By the bank of the Medina to Newport (5 miles), passing Northwood Church, and (about a mile from Newport) Parkhurst Prison, Barracks, and House of Industry. Return through the forest by the Signal Staff to Mark's Cross, reversing the order of sub-route *a*. *c.* Through Fiddler's Green and Cockleton, keeping on the skirts of the forest to Shalfleet (5 miles), and then, by road on the right, to Newtown (1½ mile). Return by Clamerkin's Ford and Coleman's Farm, crossing the south-western angle of the forest to Hedge Corner, reaching the Newport Road near the Parkhurst Reformatory. By the highroad back to Cowes. *d.* Through the forest to Bowcombe Down (notice barrows and traces of Roman road), to Caris-

brooke Castle, returning *viâ* Newport. *e.* Cross the river by the ferry to East Cowes, and passing Osborne, take a bridle road through the royal estates from Barton to Wootton Church. Descend the hill to Wootton Bridge (a causeway over a considerable creek), and through Quarr Wood and Binstead into Ryde (7 miles). Return by the main road to Newport, and back to Cowes *viâ* Parkhurst. *f.* From Cowes to Northwood, and *viâ* Parkhurst to Newport. Through the town, and take the right bank of the Medina, passing Fairlie (notice the ancient house and fine glimpses of well-wooded country), to Whippingham, a quiet village with an interesting church; and *viâ* East Cowes, across the river, home.

EAST COWES

(anciently *Shamblord*) straggles along the left bank of the river and up a tolerably steep hill, where it forms a collection of elegant villas, called East Cowes Park, the unfortunate speculation of an enterprising builder, who relied too confidently on the attractions of its proximity to Osborne. From the summit may be enjoyed a panorama of exquisite beauty—the mouth of the river with its numerous masts, the town of West Cowes rising in a succession of terraces among leafy trees, the green landscapes beyond, the foliage of the New Forest, and the ripples of Southampton Water. About 30 acres were here arranged with taste and effect as a botanic garden. The park itself covered nearly 160 acres. The wood ascending the hill debouches, if we may use the term, opposite the principal entrance to Osborne—a picturesque archway with handsome iron gates. Observe, too, the entrance to East Cowes Castle, apparently intended as an imitation or a rival of that of Osborne.

Of the castle erected by Henry VIII., from the ruins of a religious house at East Shamblord, not a vestige exists.* It is referred to by Leland: "Ther be two new castelles sette up and furnishid at the mouth of Newporte; that is the only haven in Wighte to be spoken of. That that is sette up on the este side of the havin is caullid the Est Cow; and that that is sette up at the west syde is caullid the West Cow, and is the bigger castelle of the two."

1. *East Cowes Chapel*, dedicated to St. James. The foundation-stone was laid by her Majesty when Princess Victoria. The living is a vicarage; annual value, £200, and held by the Rev. F. Whyley, M.A.

* "This has been long totally demolished; the materials have from time to time been carried away; some within the memory of persons now living, in order to build a house at Newport, and for other erections."—*Grose, Antiquities*, ii. (A.D. 1776).

There are also places of worship for the chief dissenting denominations.

2. The *Trinity House* has here a district station, with a rather handsome frontage. The Queen's private landing-place is approached through it.

3. *Population* of East Cowes, in 1795, 300; in 1851, 1440; and in 1881, 2200. The chief hotel (well situated on the bank of the river, with a fine view) is the *East Medina*.

DAY-JOURNEYS.

Much pleasant rambling is to be enjoyed in the neighbourhood, which is thickly wooded, and alternates very agreeably between hill and dale; the river, from many points, producing a charming effect. *a.* From East Cowes through Barton (1½ mile) to Wootton Bridge (2 miles), and thence to the venerable ruins of Quarr Abbey (2 miles), returning through Wootton to Whippingham (4 miles), will offer a most attractive day's journey. *b.* Or by the river side to Newport (4 miles), passing the *Folly* inn, where oysters may be enjoyed fresh from their "beds" in the Medina, and through Newport to Carisbrooke (1 mile), thence returning by way of Northwood and West Cowes (about 5 miles). "The rambler may very well keep beside the river to Whippingham, occasionally ascending the uplands; and if he be a lover of river scenery, he will not regret the devious course it has led him. The broad sweep of the stream stretches before you in bold sweeping curves, its clear green water curling into light ripples, and reflecting in long tremulous lines the white sails that are gliding rapidly along; on each side are fine hanging woods, or slopes of 'glad light green;' in front the view is bounded by softly swelling uplands, or, when a turn in the path brings into sight the broad opening where the river falls into the sea, by the river Solent and the hazy coast beyond" (*Knight*). *c.* A boat voyage up the Medina, taking care to start just before high water so as to secure each way the advantage of the tide, is very enjoyable. *d.* From Cowes, through Wootton and Binstead, adopting the footpath that passes Quarr Abbey, to Ryde (6 miles) and back, will give the pedestrian a day's experience of the finest scenery of this part of the island.

ENVIRONS OF WEST COWES.

NORTHWOOD is the name of a village and parish in the West Medina liberty of the Isle of Wight. The parish is bounded north and north-west by the sea; west by Calbourne parish; south by Shalfleet

parish and part of Parkhurst Forest. Contains (including West Cowes) 5122 acres, and a population (in 1881) of 4578 souls.

The church, dedicated to *St. John the Baptist*, was a chapel of ease to Carisbrooke until the reign of Henry VIII. (A.D. 1545), when parochial privileges were granted to it. In its vicinity, prior to the time of the great destroyer, Henry VIII., stood a small religious house of "Brothers and Sisters of the fraternity of John the Baptist in the church of Northwood;" but not a trace of it is now discernible, nor is anything known of its history.

A church, dedicated to All Saints, was erected here in 1863, at a cost of about £600; is a neat brick building (Rev. B. Macnamara, M.A., incumbent). There is also a chapel belonging to the Primitive Methodists.

Gurnard Bay, a small cove, with pleasantly-wooded banks, is well worth a visit. The view of the Hampshire coast, and the mouth of the Beaulieu river, of the bold reach of the Solent, and the distant western heights of the island, is full of variety and interest. "Between Rue Street and Thorney is a small farm called *Whippence*, which deserves some notice, from its being finely shaded by a considerable range of tall elms, that are so disposed as to form a rich boundary to a wide and semi-circular lawn, which gradually descends from the farm-house towards the shore" (*Wyndham*). *Thorness* has also the charm of leafiness, and of an extensive range of wood and water. From the sea Gurnard Bay offers a delightful prospect.* In a cottage garden on the west side were discovered, in 1864, ruins of a Roman villa. Gurnard village and hotel are pleasantly situated on the high ground.

ENVIRONS OF EAST COWES.

WHIPPINGHAM is a parish and village in the East Medina liberty, evidently so named from its original Saxon holders, the Wepingas' *ham*, or *home*. Called *Wipingeham* in Domesday Book. The parish is bounded, east by Wootton, west by the Medina, south by Arreton, and north by the Solent as far as King's Key; contains 5208 acres, and (in 1871) 755 inhabited houses. The population was 3730, against 4578 in 1881.

Whippingham Church stands on a gentle eminence just above the river, its tower forming a prominent landmark to all the country-

* It is the traditional site of a sea-port to which the tin was brought from Leap, on the opposite coast. Charles II. landed here in 1671, on his visit to Sir Robert Holmes at Yarmouth.

side. Near it is the *New Cemetery*, which has been arranged with much taste; and the *Victoria and Albert Almshouses.*

The present building was erected at the cost of the Queen and the late Prince Consort, from the designs of Mr. A. J. Humbert. The first stone was laid by the Queen, May 23, 1860. The style is Norman. The stained glass windows are of good design and colour, and the decorations in admirable taste ; but the most notable feature is Theed's marble monument to the Prince Consort, bearing the following inscription :—"To the beloved memory of Francis-Albert-Augustus-Charles-Emanuel, Prince Consort, who departed this life December 14, 1861, in his 43rd year. This monument is placed in the church erected under his direction by his broken-hearted and devoted widow, Queen Victoria, 1864." There is also a memorial to Dr. Arnold's father.

Whippingham is a rectory, valued in the Clergy List at £757, occupied by the Rev. Canon Prothero, B.D., one of the Queen's chaplains, appointed in 1857. The parsonage commands a beautiful and extensive landscape. It was rebuilt, or modified, by Dr. Ridley, Lord Eldon's brother-in-law, and Dr. Hook, Dean of Worcester, son of the once popular musical composer, and brother of Theodore Hook, of pleasant memory. The late Dean Hook (of Chichester), author of "Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury," began his clerical life here as curate to his uncle, the aforesaid Dr. Hook.

Barton, or *Burton*, is an ancient manor, now forming a portion of the royal demesne of Osborne, between which and King's Key it lies. After the Conquest it belonged to the Fitz-Sturs, whose heiress, in the reign of Henry III., married Walter de Insula. Shortly afterwards (A.D. 1282) John de Insula, Rector of Shalfleet, and Peter de Winton, Rector of Godshill, founded here a religious house, and liberally endowed it, dedicating it to the Holy Trinity. The constitution and regulations of the society, which consisted of an arch-priest, five other priests, and a clerk, are preserved in the Winchester registers (A.D. 1289), and are exceedingly curious :—

"There shall be six chaplains and one clerk, to officiate both for the living and the dead, under the rules of St. Augustine. 2. One of these shall be presented to the Bishop of Winchester to be the arch-priest, to whom the rest shall take an oath of obedience. 3. The arch-priest shall be chosen by the chaplains there residing, who shall present him to the bishop within twenty days after any vacancy shall happen. 4. They shall be subject to the immediate authority of the bishop. 5. When any chaplain shall die, his goods shall remain in the oratory. 6. They shall have only one mess, with a pittance at a meal, excepting on the greater festivals, when they may have three messes. 7. They shall be diligent in reading and praying. 8. They shall not go beyond the bounds of the oratory without licens3 from the arch-priest. 9. Their habits shall be of

one colour, either blue or black; they shall be clothed *pallio Hiberniensi de nigra boneta cum pileo* (in the Irish vestment of a black bonnet and a cloak). 10. The arch-priest shall sit at the head of the table, next to him those who have celebrated the great mass, then the priest of St. Mary, next the priest of the Holy Trinity, and then the priest who says mass for the dead. 11. The clerk shall read something edifying to them while they dine. 12. They shall sleep in one room. 13. They shall make a special prayer for their benefactors. 14. They shall, in all their ceremonies, and in tinkling the bell, follow the use of Sarum. 15. The arch-priest alone shall have charge of the business of the house. 16. All of them, after their admission into the house, shall swear to observe these statutes. *Further Ordered*:—After a year and a day from entering into the Oratory, no one shall accept of any other benefice, or shall depart the house" (*Journal, Brit. Arch. Association*).

The patronage of the Oratory was bestowed on the Bishops of Winchester. In 1439 the Oratory and its endowments were entirely surrendered into the hands of Cardinal Beaufort, then bishop. William of Waynflete conferred it on Winchester College. It was dissolved by Henry VIII., but the lands remained in possession of the college, until purchased, about twenty years ago, by her Majesty.

Barton Court House was probably built in the reign of Elizabeth, and some portion of the Oratory used in its construction. When demolished by the Queen's orders, a very solid wall, the sole remainder of the original building, was brought to light. "One peculiarity of the house was, that it contained a room about twelve feet square, known as the Chapel, which had been apparently fitted up as a secret chapel for the performance of mass subsequent to the Reformation, and which, within the memory of living individuals, retained its altar, crucifix, and other Catholic accessories" (*Moody*). Two of the fronts—the southern and eastern—have been preserved in the new building, and are worth inspection as specimens of Tudor domestic architecture.

Osborne, a "household word" with Englishmen, was formerly called *Austerburne*, East Bourne, or the Eastern Brook. After being held for many years by an ancient island family, the Bowermans, it passed into the hands of the Arneys; then the Lovibonds; and, *temp.* Charles I., was purchased by Eustace Mann, who, according to a vulgar tradition, buried a large sum of money, during the troubles of the civil war, in an adjacent wood (still known as *Money Coppice*), and not marking the spot, was never able to recover his treasure. Mr. Mann's grand-daughter and heiress married a Mr. Blachford, whose son built *Osborne House*, then a plain but commodious mansion of stone. Their descendant, Lady Isabella Blachford, transferred the estate to her Majesty in 1840, who has enlarged it by later purchases, until it comprises 5000 acres, and stretches from the Medina west to Brock's Copse east. The old house was pulled down,

and the present mansion built, from the designs of T. Cubitt, Esq., assisted, it is said, by the late Prince Consort. The architecture is Domestic Italian; prominent features are the campanile or bell-tower, 90 feet high, and flag-tower, 107 feet. The Queen occupies the apartments in advance of the latter. The rooms are crowded with objects of taste and *vertu*, sculptures by our most eminent artists, rare specimens of the modern painters, and all the refinements which a cultivated taste could suggest. The gardens are arranged in terraces, with a lawn sloping to the water's edge, where there is a small jetty for her Majesty's convenience. The estate comprises many delightful varieties of scenery,—woodland, meadow, valley, glen, and broad, rich pastures. The Prince Consort's agricultural experiments were here conducted with skill and vigour. The *Model Farm* is arranged with excellent taste. There are spacious kennels on the estate, and numerous excellent cottages for labourers and others, constructed on the most approved sanitary principles. The *lodges* on the East Cowes road are of fanciful design. *Osborne Cottage* is a picturesque marine villa, frequently granted by her Majesty as a marine residence to members of the Royal Family. We may add that from the grounds and palace visitors are rigorously excluded.

King's Key, about two miles from Osborne, and three south-east from East Cowes, is a narrow but picturesque creek, formed by the small stream of Palmer's Brook, jutting in between high, sloping banks crowned with thick masses of wood. Its name is connected with a tradition that King John dwelt in its retired neighbourhood for three months, after the signature of Magna Charta (A.D. 1215). "Here he led," says Grafton, "a solitarie lyfe among reivers and fishermen;" but the king's *Itinerary*, or *Journey Book*, so ably edited by Sir T. Duffus Hardy, satisfactorily proves that the tradition cannot be supported by any historical evidence. It was formerly known as Shofleet Creek, and was a favourite resort of the sea-rovers in Elizabeth's reign.

SEATS OF THE GENTRY.

Fairlee lies in the parish of Whippingham, though it is scarcely a mile from Newport. The position is an admirable one, commanding a fine view of the Medina valley and the surrounding country, here eminently sweet and pastoral. The house is a substantial, unadorned building of glazed brick, fronting an ample lawn, which stretches down to the river (*Moule*).

Padmore House, near Whippingham Church, was formerly a farm,

but is now a comfortable family mansion, enjoying broad reaches of woodland, vale, meadow, and water. *Woodhouse Farm*, on the western bank of King's Key, and *Woodside*, a delightful little villa, nestling down amid fine old trees near the Wootton river, are only to be discovered by the tourist who leaves the well-trodden highway for "fresh fields and pastures new." He will gain, for instance, a very delightful day's strolling by taking a by-way on the left of the East Cowes road, a little below Osborne, and winding through the copses, past Barton Farm, Brock's Copse, and Palmer's Farm to Wootton Church, whence he may make his way into the highroad, and keeping Fern Hill on his left, after a mile or two of pleasant country lanes, cross Stapler's Heath, and so into Newport. He can then return to East or West Cowes by one of the sub-routes previously detailed.

Northwood (near West Cowes) is a large stone building, with wings, seated in a considerable park, and commanding a fine prospect of wood and water. It was the seat of G. H. Ward, Esq., formerly well known as the author of a curious book, entitled, "The Ideal of a Christian Church." Is now in the possession of G. W. Ward, Esq.

Norris Castle, finely situated on the brow of a hill, which slopes gently to the marge of the Solent, and commands the most beautiful views conceivable of land and sea;—of Stokes Bay, on the opposite coast; Portsmouth, and the sail-thronged roadstead of St. Helen's, with the wooded shore of the Wight away to the glittering villas of Ryde; Northwood, the broad waters of Southampton river, and the masts and roofs of Southampton; and to the west, the abrupt headland of Calshot Castle and the green masses of the New Forest. Norris Castle was built for Lord Henry Seymour by Mr. Wyatt (afterwards so well known as Sir Jeffrey Wyattville), and is an adaptation of castellated Gothic to modern purposes. The front is bold and picturesque, and admirably diversified with thick clusters of ivy. A stout sea-wall, built of Swanage stone, at a cost of £2000, was erected by the late proprietor, Mr. R. Bell. Here George IV. was entertained in 1819, and here the Queen (then Princess Victoria) and the Duchess of Kent resided in 1831–2. In 1859 the Duchess of Kent was again a resident. *East Cowes Castle*, in the immediate neighbourhood of Norris Castle, "combines the features of the castellated mansion of a late date with those of the baronial fortress of a much earlier period;" was rebuilt in its present rococo style by the architect John Nash (1798), the designer of Regent Street and Buckingham Palace; and passed through the hands of the

NORRIS CASTLE FROM THE SEA.

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Earl of Shannon, R. Barwell, C. R. J. Sawyer, and George Tudor, Esq. Lady Gort now occupies it. Many of the rooms are fitted up in a style of great magnificence. Observe especially the library and picture gallery. The conservatory is a fine one, 250 feet in length, and the gardens are picturesquely laid out. *Slatwoods* (Peacock, Esq.) is noticeable as the birth-place of Dr. Arnold, the eminent historian and reformer of our public school discipline. His father was the collector of customs, and died here in 1801. He himself was born at Slatwoods (June 13, 1795), and always looked back to it with singular affection. From "the great willow-tree" in the grounds he "transplanted shoots successively to Laleham, to Rugby, and to Fox How" (*Stanley's Life of Dr. Arnold*). He revisited it in 1836, and wrote to his sister, Mrs. Buckland: "Slatwoods was deeply interesting. I thought of what Fox How might be to my children forty years hence, and of the growth of the trees in that interval. But Fox How cannot be to them what Slatwoods is to me—the only home of my childhood" (*Stanley*). Arnold died June 13, 1842.

DISTRICT II.—CENTRE.

NEWPORT AND ITS ENVIRONS.

NEWPORT

(*Hotels:* The Bugle,* Warburton's, Green Dragon, Star, Newport Arms, Swan, Wheat Sheaf *Inn*)

is the metropolitan town of the island. Seated on the Medina river, in a pleasant valley, it is almost surrounded by lofty calcareous downs, the grassy slopes of which are always chequered with shifting lights and shadows. It is a market town and a borough, returning one member to Parliament. The market is held every Saturday, and brings together the whole produce of the island. The cattle market is held every other Wednesday, and being largely attended by the island farmers, is well worth seeing. Though almost surrounded by the West Medina liberty, Newport has a jurisdiction of its own; a court of borough petty sessions, which sits every Monday; and county petty sessions every Saturday. The County Court for the island is held here and at Ryde in alternate months.

THE MUNICIPALITY.

1. Newport, at the instance of Sir George Carey, Governor of the

* The word *Bugle* is from *buculus*, a young ox. The old sign of this long-established inn was an ox, and it was known as the *Bull*.

Wight, was summoned to return two representatives to the Parliament holden in the 27th Queen Elizabeth, 1585, and from that date has been regularly so represented; but by the Reform Act of 1867 the number was reduced to one. The right of voting was at first restricted to the free burgesses, and as they were limited to twenty-four, it was essentially a close borough until thrown open by the Reform Act. The ancient borough comprehended the whole of the chapelry of Newport, a part of the parish of St. Nicholas called Castle Hold, the river Medina and harbour of Cowes from the town to a shoal out at sea called the Brambles, and all the land on the contiguous banks where the tide has ever flowed. By an Act of Parliament the municipal boundary of the borough was completely changed.

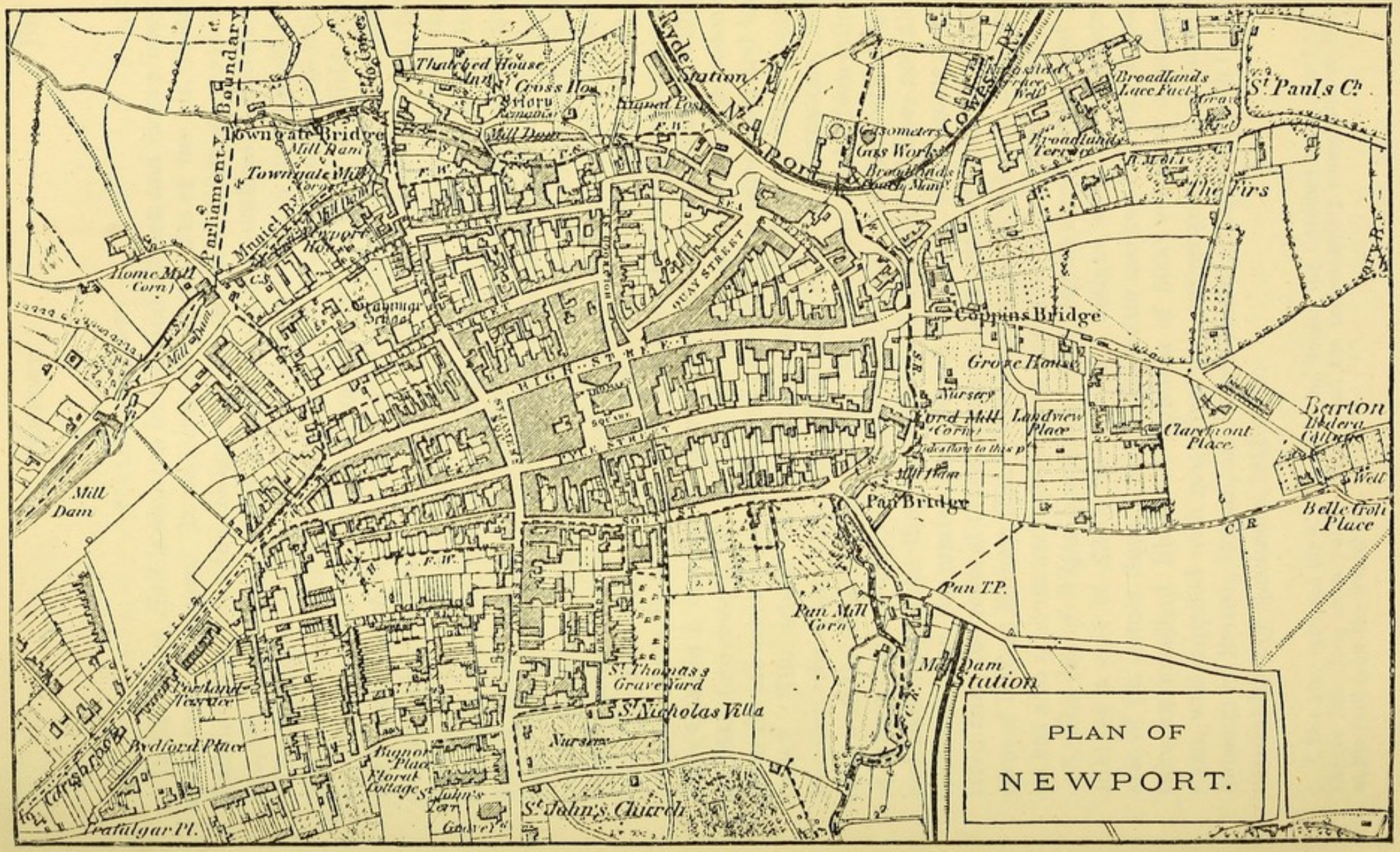
Among its representatives have been the famous Lord Falkland (1640), Admiral Sir Robert Holmes (1678–1689), gallant Lord Cutts (1648), Lord Palmerston (1790 and 1807), and the Right Hon. George Canning (1826). Since the Reform Bill the following have been its members:—Dec. 12, 1832—*Thomas Hawkins*, 216 votes; and *Thomas Ord*, 204. Jan. 8, 1835—*Thomas Ord*, 235; and *Thomas Hawkins*, 233. July 26, 1837—*Thomas Hawkins*, 264; and *James Blake*, 263. June 30, 1841—*C. W. Martin* (C.), 254; and *J. J. Hamilton* (C.), 252. July 30, 1847—*G. Plowden* (C.), 262; and *C. W. Martin* (C.), 252. July 9, 1852—*W. Biggs*, 310; and *W. N. Massey*, 306. Feb. 10, 1857, on resignation of Mr. Biggs—*R. W. Kennard* (C.), 270. March 28, 1857—*Capt. C. E. Mangles*, 305; and *Charles Buxton*, 296. April 1859—*R. W. Kennard* (C.), and *W. L. Powys* (C.). July 1866—*C. W. Martin* (L.), and *R. W. Kennard* (C.). Present member —*C. Cavendish Clifford*, Esq. (L.).

2. The registered electors number 1362. Population of the municipal borough in 1881, 9430; of the parliamentary borough, 9075.

3. The income of the Corporation is about £1300. The gross estimated rental is £16,968; and ratable value, £13,537. The Corporation is authorized to levy certain duties connected with Cowes Harbour.

4. The *Fire Brigade* consists of a superintendent, three engineers, three foremen, and five firemen. Annual cost, £60.

The town is well lighted, there being about two hundred *street lamps* within its precincts. Yearly cost, £360. The *Borough Police* consists of an inspector and four constables. The *Hants Constabulary Police* is under the direction of one superintendent, three sergeants, and thirty-seven constables.


Parliamentary Boundary
Thatched House Inn
Gross Ho
Priory
Ryder Station
Mill Dam
Town gate Bridge
Mill Ram
Town gate Mill
Corn
Meuriel Pl
Home Mill
Corn
Mill Dam
Grammar School
HIGH ST
QUAY STREET
Gas Works
Broadlands Lace Fact
St Paul's Ch
The Firs
Coppins Bridge
Grove House
Nursery
Lord Mill
Corn
Landview Place
Clarefront Place
Barton
Well
Mill Dam
Pan Bridge
Belle Grott Place
Pan T.P.
Pan Mill
Corn
Mill Dam Station
St Thomas's Churchyard
St Nicholas Villa
Nursery
Bedford Place
Bignor Place
Lord Cottage
St John's Terr
St John's Church
Trafalgar Pl.
PLAN OF
NEWPORT.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

1. The *Town Hall* is situated in the High Street, and faces a large open area or square. It was erected on the site of the old Town Hall in 1816, from the designs of the architect Nash, at a cost of £10,000, and though heavy in character, is a noticeable building. "The basement is opened on two sides by arches, surmounted by Ionic columns, which support a pediment in front. The columns only are of stone, the remainder being stuccoed." Here are held the weekly sittings of the magistrates, the meetings of the Corporation, and all public ceremonials. The council chamber has a portrait, by Owen, of the late Sir Leonard Worsley Holmes, recorder of the borough. Observe, also, a fine statue (12 feet high) of James the First's Lord Chief-Justice (Sir Thomas Fleming), presented to the town by his descendant, Mr. Fleming of South Stoneham. Underneath the Town Hall is held the weekly market, which on market days presents a lively and animated scene, and is very well attended.

2. The *Free Grammar School* (St. James Street), a plain stone mansion of the Tudor era, is noteworthy for its historical associations. Here Charles I. met the parliamentary commissioners in the autumn of 1648 (see *ante*, p. 69), and in the room now used as the schoolroom divine service was performed every Sunday before him and his *suite*.* The school was established in 1614–19, by Sir Thomas Fleming, Sir John Oglander, Edward Cheke of Mottistone, and others of the island gentlemen, for the education on the foundation of fifteen (now twenty) boys, entering at seven or eight years of age, and remaining until they are fifteen. Thirty day scholars are also admitted, and the master may receive boarders. The income is derived from the rents of three houses in Newport and about thirty-five acres of land at Hunny Hill. The master's yearly salary is £120, and he has also a house and garden rent free (*Carlisle's Endowed Schools*).

3. The *Isle of Wight Institution* is an elegant structure, erected in 1811, at a cost of £3000, from Nash's designs, and fronts the open area of St. James Square, where the cattle market is held. It contains an excellent library of upwards of 5000 volumes; a reading-room, well supplied with magazines and newspapers; and a valuable museum of British, Roman, and Anglo-Saxon antiquities, with fossils, natural history specimens, and coins.

* The king occupied Sir William Hopkins' house; the Cavaliers made merry at the George Inn (long since pulled down); and the parliamentary commissioners stayed at the Bull (now the Bugle) Inn.

4. The *Mall*, with its raised footpaths, leads into the Carisbrooke road. At the point of junction stands the *Simeon Monument*, a finely carved, floriated memorial cross, raised by subscription in honour of the late Sir John Simeon, M.P., an accomplished scholar and true English gentleman.

5. The *New Railway Station*, conveniently situated, forms the junction of the various lines to Cowes, Ryde, and Sandown; the latter giving access to Ventnor and all the southern portions of the island. A line is projected to run from Newport to Yarmouth and Freshwater, thus opening the western part of the Wight.

ITS ANNALS.

The *Corporation* of Newport consists of a mayor, six aldermen, and eighteen councillors (out of whom the aldermen are chosen), appointed under the provisions of the 6th and 7th William IV. There are also a town clerk, treasurer, and clerk to the justices.

The municipal constituency numbers about 1200.

The town (then called *Meda*) received its first charter from Richard de Redvers, Lord of the Island, *temp.* Henry II. A second and fuller charter, very liberal in its provisions, was granted by Isabella de Fortibus, to her "new borough of Medina." Fifteen charters, confirming and amplifying the above, were granted by different English sovereigns from Richard II. to Charles II. They are extant among the muniments of the borough, and many are adorned with well-executed portraits of the monarchs who bestowed them.

The first charter of incorporation was given by James I., and substituted for the bailiff of the town a mayor, twenty-four burgesses, and a recorder. The seal then used was of copper, and presented a figure of James I., in royal robes and crowned. On one side of him the initial J., on the other R., and round the seal the legend, "S'statvtorvm Mercator' Capt, Infra Bvrgvm de Newport in Insvla Vect."

A second charter of incorporation was granted by Charles II., and constituted a corporation of mayor, aldermen, and burgesses; the twelve aldermen elected from the twenty-four burgesses. A recorder was also appointed.

Newport was probably founded by the Romans as a port to their town at Carisbrooke, and was known to them by the name of *Meda*. What position it held at the epoch of the Norman Conquest it is impossible to ascertain; but it must have acquired some degree of prosperity in the days of Richard de Redvers, when the chapel of St. Thomas was erected at the cost of its inhabitants.

In 1377 it was captured by the French, who had invaded the island, and was so ruthlessly devastated that it remained unoccupied for two years afterwards. They next proceeded to assault the castle of Carisbrooke, but were repulsed by Sir Hugh Tyrril with such signal success, that the localities where the slaughter chiefly occurred were named (it is said) by the exulting islanders *Node* (or *Noddies'*) *Hill* and *Deadman's Lane.*

Newport was again set on fire by the French in the reign of Edward IV., when its church was injured.

It was almost decimated by the plague in 1582 and two following years, the captain of the island, Sir Edward Horsey, being one of the victims. The road to Carisbrooke was blocked up by the dead-carts, and so crowded was the cemetery, that license was accorded to the inhabitants of Newport to form a grave-yard round their own church.

Not the less the town continued to grow in prosperity and increase in influence. A town hall was built, and a jail, and an ordinary established, at which Sir John Oglander had known "twelve knights and as many gentlemen" to attend. In a report of the condition of the island in 1642, drawn up for the Earl of Pembroke, occurs a curious passage :—"Since y^e^ coming of King James," he says, "there is a toun in the island (called Newport) made a mare-toun, which heretofore was only a bayly-toun, and then y^e^ live-tenants and justices had y^e^ same power there they had in y^e^ rest of y^e^ country. But now they have gotten a charter to be a mare-toun, and have justices, a recorder, aldermen, etc., which y^e^ other two mare-touns have not, as Yarmouth and Newtoun ; they will not be governed as those two mare-touns and y^e^ rest of y^e^ island are, which is very prejudiciall to y^e^ country, and I wish it might be regulated. And in that toun of Newport y^e^ captain of y^e^ island is clerk of y^e^ market, and hath y^e^ ordering of y^e^ country ; this toun, notwithstanding, will take y^e^ power to themselves, and hinder men from buying and selling at their pleasure."

Camden speaks of it as, in his time, "a toun well seated and much frequented, populous with inhabitants, having an entrance into the isle from the haven, and a passage for vessels of small burden unto the key."

In the reign of James I., indeed, some considerable men dwelt in Newport and its vicinity;—the James family, at whose house the king refreshed himself when he visited the island in August 1618 ; the Fleming family, whose head was then Lord Chief Justice of Eng-

land; the Marches, and the Stephens. In 1614–19, the *Free Grammar School* was established.

In 1623 leave was obtained from the corporation, by Mr. Andrew James, to establish *water-works* for the supply of the town. His scheme never came into full operation, and "the principal part of the water used by the inhabitants was brought in water-carts from Carisbrooke" for more than a century later. But he probably commenced it, inasmuch as an historian, writing about 1796, says, "In digging lately in the beast market for stone to pave the town with, a large reservoir was discovered, and several pipes have likewise been found in the road from Carisbrooke, leading in a direct road to Newport" (*Tomkins*).

The privilege of carrying on a trade in the borough was chiefly confined, in the "good old times," to those who had served their apprenticeship within its limits, and were, so to speak, "native and to the manner born." Thus we find it recorded in the corporation books, Nov. 13, 1629, how the corporation determined that one John Wavell should be "opposed and resisted as farre as lawe and the charter of the borough would afford. And the charge thereof should be borne by the whole corporation." Nor was he allowed to open his store until he had ultimately paid a fine.

Here are some brief extracts illustrative of men and things as they were :—

"*September 3, 1624.*—It is thought fitt and agreed, that part of the vestrie where the mortar is usuallie made, shall serve to make a prison for the toun, if yt maie be admitted by the Chauncellor.

"In 1625, we find 'it being reported that King James is deceased, watch and ward are to be kept daily until the certaintie of the report be known, and longer if need require.'

"*May 28, 1628.*—It is reported 'that the plague is suspected to be in some tounes whereof the inhabitants might have recourse to this toune at Whitsun fair,' and therefore the said fair is not to be holden.

"*September 20, 1654.*—Every house is to provide a watchman at the householder's expense (except the minister and schoolmaster), or to pay double watch for every default.

"*April 8, 1656.*—'A disperse and sale of goods and chattels' to be levied on those citizens who have not duly paid their subscriptions towards 'the maintenance of Mr. Robert Tutchin, the minister.'

"*August 18, 1656.*—A dinner is to be given to the governor, and 'the whole charge of it shall be borne by the toun, for that it is intended the governor shall be moved about some things for the public good of the toun.'

"*March 13, 1647.*—All the able inhabitants to be called together 'to set down what each will give yearly towards the support of a godly minister.'

"*April 1648.*—A monthly taxation of £208, 2s. 6½d., imposed by ordinance of Parliament on the Isle of Wight for six months ending the 20th September last, is to be 'set on the town for three months more.' It is agreed that a petition shall be presented to the Houses, praying that Newport may be relieved from so onerous a burden.

"*August 25, 1651.*—A proclamation is received 'from the Parliament of the common-

wealth of England, declaring Charles Stewart and his agents, abettors, and complices, to be traitors, rebels, and public enemies.'

"*March 3, 1661.*—It is resolved that three aldermen and three chief burgesses *in their gowns* attend the mayor to church every Sunday.

"*October 14, 1662.*—The two seats before the governor's seat (in the church) are 'to be left to the disposal of Thomas, Lord Culpeper, to be reduced into a pew for his lady to sit in during the time of his government.'"

1. *Honours of Newport.*—Mountjoy Blunt was created Earl of Newport in the fourth year of Charles I. Succeeded, in 1655, by his son, also Earl of Newport. Charles Blunt died in 1665, and Henry Blunt died 1679. In the reign of Anne, a Lord Windsor was created Baron Newport, succeeded by his son Herbert, who died 1758.

2. *Charities of Newport.—The Blue School*, in Lugley Street, was founded in 1761, for the education and maintenance of twenty poor girls born in Newport, who are properly fitted for servants, and made "good Christians and useful subjects." Supported by voluntary subscriptions, and the interest of certain sums of money, bequeathed by Benjamin Cooke, Esq., and Mrs. Martha Cooke, in 1764. The school is regulated by the minister of Newport and six ladies. Every girl, on leaving, is presented with suitable clothing, a Bible, and a prayer-book. If she retains for one year the situation with which she is provided, she is rewarded with the gratuity of a sovereign.

Worsley's Almshouses were founded in 1618, by Sir R. Worsley, in pursuance of the will of one Giles Kent; they consist of six small tenements of one room each, inhabited by six poor widows.

The Upper Almshouses are four tenements, occupied by deserving families, established in 1623 by Daniel Serle of Westmill, in the parish of Carisbrooke.

Widow Roman's Almshouses were erected in 1752, in pursuance of the provisions contained in her will:—"I bequeath to such six widows as shall inhabit the Charity House in Newport, called the Lower Almshouse, situated in Crocker Street, and shall not receive alms from the town, the sum of £10 every year for ever, after the decease of my brother-in-law, W. Roman, from my property at Yafford, free from all taxes and deductions whatever; by equal portions, by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the parish of Newport, to be disposed of to the six widows equally, share and share alike." Each widow, therefore, at Michaelmas and Lady Day, receives 16s. 8d.

Bowle's and *Ruffin's Gifts* are two sums of £5 each, distributed yearly to the poor on Christmas eve. The first £5, Bowle's gift, are expended in bread; Ruffin's donation, in bread and beef.

3. *Religious Edifices.*—There is a picturesque new church in Newport, dedicated to *St. Thomas à-Becket*, the tower of which is everywhere so prominent a landmark, that the tourist cannot fail to find its locality without difficulty. *St. John's Church* is situated on St. John's Hill. There are also a *Catholic Chapel* in Pyle Street, which, in 1857, was attended by the Emperor Louis Napoleon and the Empress Eugenie, and in 1860 by the Archduke Maximilian of Austria and his wife; a *Baptist Chapel* in Castle Hold; *Primitive Methodist*, in Holywood Street; *Wesleyan*, in Pyle Street; *Congregational*, in St. James's Street; *Unitarian*, in High Street; also a handsome chapel belonging to the *Bible Christians*, in Quay Street.

4. "Newport stands nearly in the centre of the island, in a spot apparently marked out by nature for the site of the miniature capital. It is built on a gentle slope rising from the west bank of the Medina, which is navigable for vessels of considerable burden up to the town; and the nature of the surrounding hills allows of easy lines of communication to radiate from it to every part of the island. The town itself is neat, clean, cheerful-looking, and apparently flourishing. The streets are well paved and lighted, and filled with good, well-stored shops" (*Thorne*). "Newport is essentially a domestic town—the heart and centre of the Isle of Wight. Its streets are laid out with great regularity, the largest ones lying east and west, with cross ones north and south, dividing the area into chequers. The two principal ones are those which connect the great roads—St. James's Street, from Cowes road, to that which leads by Niton to the Undercliff; and High Street, which connects the Ryde road with the road to Carisbrooke, and the western roads which diverge from them" (*Mudie*). The original plan of the town appears to have contemplated three large squares, or piazzas, for markets of poultry, cattle, and corn, to be formed by the intersection of the main streets. In one of these now stands St. Thomas's Church; the Town Hall has encroached upon another; and a third is irregular enough, though not diverted from its original purpose.

At high water there is a depth, at the town quays, of about six feet; but at low water it does not exceed two feet. Many plans have been devised for deepening and widening the channel of the river—one by Sir John Rennie, the eminent engineer—but the estimated outlay has always deterred the inhabitants from embarking in the enterprise. And as railway transit now obtains between Cowes and Newport, the project is not likely to be revived.

"Set in the midst of our meridian Isle,
By wandering heaths and pensive woods embraced,
With dewy meads, and downs of open smile,
And winding waters, naturally graced,
The rural capital is meetly placed.
Newport, so long as to the blue-eyed deep
Thy river by its gleamy wings is traced,
Be it thine thy portion unimpaired to keep!"—EDMUND PEEL.

5. *Extinct Ecclesiastical Foundations.*—At *St. Cross* (long the seat of G. Kirkpatrick, Esq.) was formerly a small *priory*, dependent upon the French abbey of Tiron, and afterwards, on the dissolution by Henry V. of the alien priories, bestowed upon the college of Winchester. It was in existence before 1155, as the name of "Gerard, Prior de Sancta Cruce," occurs among the witnesses to a grant made by William de Vernon to the monks of Quarr. It is mentioned in the Lincoln taxation, 20 Edward I., and amongst the alien priories, 25 Edward I. In Part I. Richard II., it is called the *Hospital* of St. Cross, "Rex dedit Johanni de Coweshall custodiam hospitalis Sanctæ Crucis in insula Vectis ad totam vitam." (The king gave the charge of the Hospital of St. Cross to John de Coweshall for his whole life) —(*Dugdale* and *Tanner*).

The Chantry was founded by one John Garston, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. The Chantry House in Newport still preserves its memory.

At *Marvel*, near Standen, was a small college of secular priests, founded by Henry of Blois, Bishop of Winchester.

6. There has been little alteration in the ground-plan of Newport in the last two centuries and a half. In Speed's "Theatre of Great Britaine's Empire" (1635), there is a plan of the town "described by William White, senior," which might almost be used by the modern tourist. The five principal streets running from east to west, or rather south-west, are "Lugley Street, Crocker Street, High Street, Pile Street, and Cosham Street." These are crossed by "Holyrodde Street" and "St. James's Street." The key is connected with "Holyrodde Street" by Key Street, and with Lugley Street by "Shospoole Street." Sea Street connects Shospoole Street with High Street. "Sainte Cross," Castle Hold, and the Churchyard are also indicated.

DAY-JOURNEYS.

a. "The walks in the immediate vicinity of Newport are many of them very beautiful; but there is one spot in particular which affords so pleasant a prospect that it should on no account be left unvisited. We refer, of course, to Mountjoy, the lofty hill on the south of the

town. From the summit of this hill you see, on a clear day, the whole lower valley of the Medina and the surrounding country,—a rich, undulating tract, where shining meadows alternate with dusky lines of sombre foliage, and the broad Medina, winding through the midst, leads the eye along the curves of the valley to its union with the sea, where a forest of small craft and a light hazy vapour mark the site of Cowes. Bounding the valley on the right is a range of low hills, from the highest of which the tower of Osborne rises out of a dense mass of trees. On the left another range of uplands terminates near you in the brown, heathy tract of Parkhurst Forest. In the extreme distance are the purple hills of Hampshire; between which and the northern side of the island the Solent breaks upon the sight at intervals, between the depressions in the uplands, gleaming in the sunshine like a number of small lakes. And at the foot of the hill on which you stand lies the town of Newport, its regular rows of plain houses and dark red roofs partly concealed by noble trees, which, with the gray tower of the old church and the masts of the ships that are lying by the town quay, not only break the uniformity and loneliness of the buildings, but render the little town a bold and striking relief to the open country beyond, and assist it in throwing the whole landscape into exquisite harmony" (*Knight*). This, indeed, is "a morning walk" which we strongly recommend to the pedestrian tourist. *b.* From Newport to Carisbrooke (1½ mile), and view the famous old castle (see *post*, p. 117); thence, through a pleasant valley with sloping downs on each side, to one of the prettiest of the island churches, Shorwell (4 miles—notice the fine old mansion of Northcourt); to the leafy village of Brixton, or Brighstone, with its memories of Ken and Wilberforce (2 miles); back to Newport by the same road. *c.* Or, continue from Brixton to Mottistone (2 miles), and across the downs to Swainston and Calbourne (2 miles—see Route IV.); homeward *viâ* Parkhurst (4 miles). *d.* Or, from Newport to Wootton Bridge (4 miles); Quarr Abbey (1 mile); Binstead (2 miles); and Ryde (1 mile); returning to Wootton Bridge (4 miles); by a road to the left to Arreton (3 miles); and by a most picturesque road into Newport (4 miles). *e.* A delightful day may be spent in an excursion to the wild beauties of the Undercliff, thus: Newport to Standen (1½ mile); Pidford (1½ mile); thence by Rookley, keeping the left road, to Godshill, its quaint village and fine church (about 4 miles); from Godshill, passing Appuldurcombe—the ancient seat of the Worsleys, to Steep Hill, Ventnor, and Bonchurch (5 miles). Return through St. Laurence (2 miles) to Whitwell (notice interesting

church—1 mile); then, *viâ* Whitcomb, Black Down, and Appleford, to Kingston, one of the smallest of parishes, by a romantic and heathy road (5 miles); from Kingston, passing Billingham House, across the chalky height of Chillerton Down (2 miles), to Gatcombe, a charming little hamlet, nestled away amidst bright waters and green trees (1 mile); and homeward, *viâ* Marvel and Watergate to Newport (3 miles). A long tour, but a most enjoyable one, opening up the widest contrasts of scenery, and the amplest possible reaches of landscape and seascape. *f.* We must also recommend to the tourist our *hill-route*, as we were wont to call it in the days of our island pedestrianism. Leave Newport by "The Long Lane" (it well deserves its name), and cross Arreton Down (4 miles—notice the fine panoramic interchange of hill and dale expanding around you). Then by way of Messly Down to Ashey Down (3 miles), known afar off by its sea-mark. From its summit may be enjoyed *the* view in the island, which lies beneath, spread out like a many-coloured map. From Ashey Down a road bending slightly to the south leads to Brading Down (2 miles); descend into the valley, and take the Brading road to Yarbridge (where Izaak Walton's disciples will find good carp and dace—1½ mile). Then, up a steep lane which winds between blooming banks and chalky rifts, *viâ* Yaverland (notice Norman church), to Bembridge Down (1½ mile—notice its obelisk). Return through Yaverland, keeping the coast-road, to Sandown (3 miles), and its lovely bay; and thence, through the fair valley of the Yar, *viâ* Lake (1 mile) and Borthwood (1½ mile) to Newchurch (2 miles). Descending the hill, keep by the base of the downs to Arreton (2½ miles), and go into Newport, *via* St. George's Down and Shide, or *viâ* Long Lane (4 miles). *g.* A short but pleasant walk may be enjoyed from Newport, across Stapler's Heath, and through or by Briddlesford to Haven Street, returning *viâ* Combley Wood into Long Lane. *h.* Or, a well-trodden route is that which conducts the Newport flyman through Shorwell to Brighstone, and then away south to Chale and Blackgang (notice chine), returning *viâ* Kingston, Chillerton, and Gatcombe. *i.* The walks to West Cowes, or to East Cowes and Osborne, or *viâ* Parkhurst Forest to Newtown, Shalfleet, and Yarmouth, or by Calbourne, over a wonderfully picturesque and breezy road, which crosses Chessel, Shalcombe and Afton Downs, to Freshwater-Gate (about 13 miles), should by no means be neglected by the tourist, who, however, is advised to determine for himself *where* he will go, and by *what road* he will go; for if he confide in the mercies of the Newport flyman, he will see "the show-places,"

and miss the rarest beauties of the island. *k.* A day should be devoted to an examination of the curious pit-villages of the Celts still discernible at Gallibury, Rowborough, and Newbarns (see *post*). Rowborough and Gallibury are easily reached by the road to Shorwell, *turning off to the right* at Rowborough Farm (3¾ miles). The pits lie in Westover Bottom, and in Newbarn Bottom (towards Calbourne). The pedestrian should then cross Brixton Down to Mottistone Down, and in a little shadowy combe on its slope towards Mottistone, inspect the *Long Stone*, a curious cromlech or Celtic memorial (see *post*).

Many of the places mentioned above will be described *in extenso* under Districts IV. and V. We now proceed to sketch those which lie within a moderate distance of our starting-place—Newport.

ENVIRONS OF NEWPORT.

ARRETON, a parish and village of the Isle of Wight. The parish comprises 8833 acres; and, in 1881, had a population of 1920. It is 3 miles from Newport, 7 miles from Ventnor, and 8 miles from Ryde. Boundaries: East, the parishes of Newchurch and Binstead; north, Wootton and Whippingham; west, Gatcombe and Carisbrooke; and south, Godshill.

The village (which may be reached by rail, at a distance of about one mile from the Horringford station) lies in a rich and fruitful valley, "adorned with corn-fields and pastures, through which a small river winds in a variety of directions," at the foot of a lofty down; while "a fine range of opposite hills, covered with grazing flocks, terminates with a bold sweep into the ocean, whose blue waves appear at a distance beyond" (*Legh Richmond*). It consists of a long straggling street of scattered farms and cottages, with a small, neat public-house; the church and parsonage house are very pleasantly situated on the slope of a hill, at a slight distance from the main road.

On the road to Newport, below St. George's Down, lies *East Standen*, where, in the reign of Henry VII., lived and died the Lady Cicely, daughter of Edward IV. (1503–1507). A Norman knight, Sir Peter d'Evercy, built here a chapel in connection with his manor-house, of which we read as late as 1365; it was probably in existence in the days of Lady Cicely. Sir Richard Worsley says that, in his time, "the foundations of the chapel were still visible in the orchard behind the house;" but they long ago disappeared.

At Sullons, a neighbouring hamlet (to the north of St. George's Down), may be seen the phenomenon of the sudden disappearance of

a brook into a subterranean channel. It emerges again on Pan Down, near Shide (2 miles distant).

On the road to Sandown, to the right, stands a picturesque cottage, formerly inhabited by Elizabeth Wallbridge, Legh Richmond's *Dairyman's Daughter*, and still in the possession of her family. There are few persons, we presume, who are not acquainted with the details of her simple life, told so floridly, and yet effectively, by Legh Richmond. His books, by the way, contain some excellent sketches of the scenery of this part of the island. The village heroine's grave is in the churchyard.

From *Arreton Down* may be enjoyed a prospect of abundant beauty, —hamlets shining among leafy copses, venerable manor-houses and ancient farm-steads, meadows and uplands, streams, groves, and shadowy combes. On its summit, a few years ago, were opened two considerable *tumuli*, or barrows, and many interesting relics exhumed. *St. George's Down* is quite classic ground. Here, in the days of the Earl of Southampton (1607–9), was a famous bowling-green, "railed in" at the cost of the gentry of the island, and a sort of summer-house, maintained in a bountiful fashion. "I have seen," says Sir John Oglander, "with my Lord of Southampton at St. George's Down, at bowls, some thirty or forty knights and gentlemen, where our meeting was then twice every week, Tuesdays and Thursdays; and we had an ordinary there, and card-tables." "This is the most centrical elevation of the island. It is unconnected with any other hills, and the plain upon its top may be a mile in length. The views from it are not so exclusive as those from the higher hills, though they are sufficiently varied to arrest, occasionally, the progress of a passenger, and, particularly, on the spot where the whole length of the Newport River discloses itself, from that low town even to the harbour and streets of Cowes" (*Wyndham*).

In this extensive and fertile parish are also included *Briddlesford*, anciently the seat of a branch of the De Lisles, one of whom, Sir John de Lisle, built here a chapel, dedicated to St. Martin; *West Standen*, near Long Lane, formerly included among the possessions of Isabella de Fortibus; *Haseley*, granted by one Engelgerius de Bohun to the monks of Quarr, and by them converted into a pleasant grange, sold, with Quarr Abbey, to John Mills, a Southampton merchant (*temp.* Henry VIII.), and by his descendants to the father of Sir Thomas Fleming, James I.'s Lord Chief Justice,—here Sir Edward Horsey died of the plague 1582; *Merston*, *Periton*, *Budbridge*, *Pidford*, *Stapler's Heath*, from which there "is a very fine

view;" and *Blackwater*, or *Blackbridge*, at the head of Wootton River, "a region of the thickest shade, where antique and decayed oaks expose their half-naked roots from both the banks" (*Wyndham*). We may add that *Haseley* belonged to the great Harold who fell at Hastings,—"the last of the Saxon kings."

Arreton is a vicarage which has long been in the gift of the Fleming family (Rev. R. N. Durrant, M.A.), valued in the Clergy List at £285 per annum. The church was one of the six bestowed by William Fitz-Osbert on the Abbey of Lire. The manor was conferred by Baldwin de Redvers upon his new foundation at Quarr. At the dissolution of the religious houses Sir Levinus Bennett became possessed of it, and his son sold it to Lord Culpeper (or Colepeper), whose daughter and heiress brought it into the Yorkshire family of Fairfaxes, now represented by the present owner, Charles Wykeham Martin, Esq.

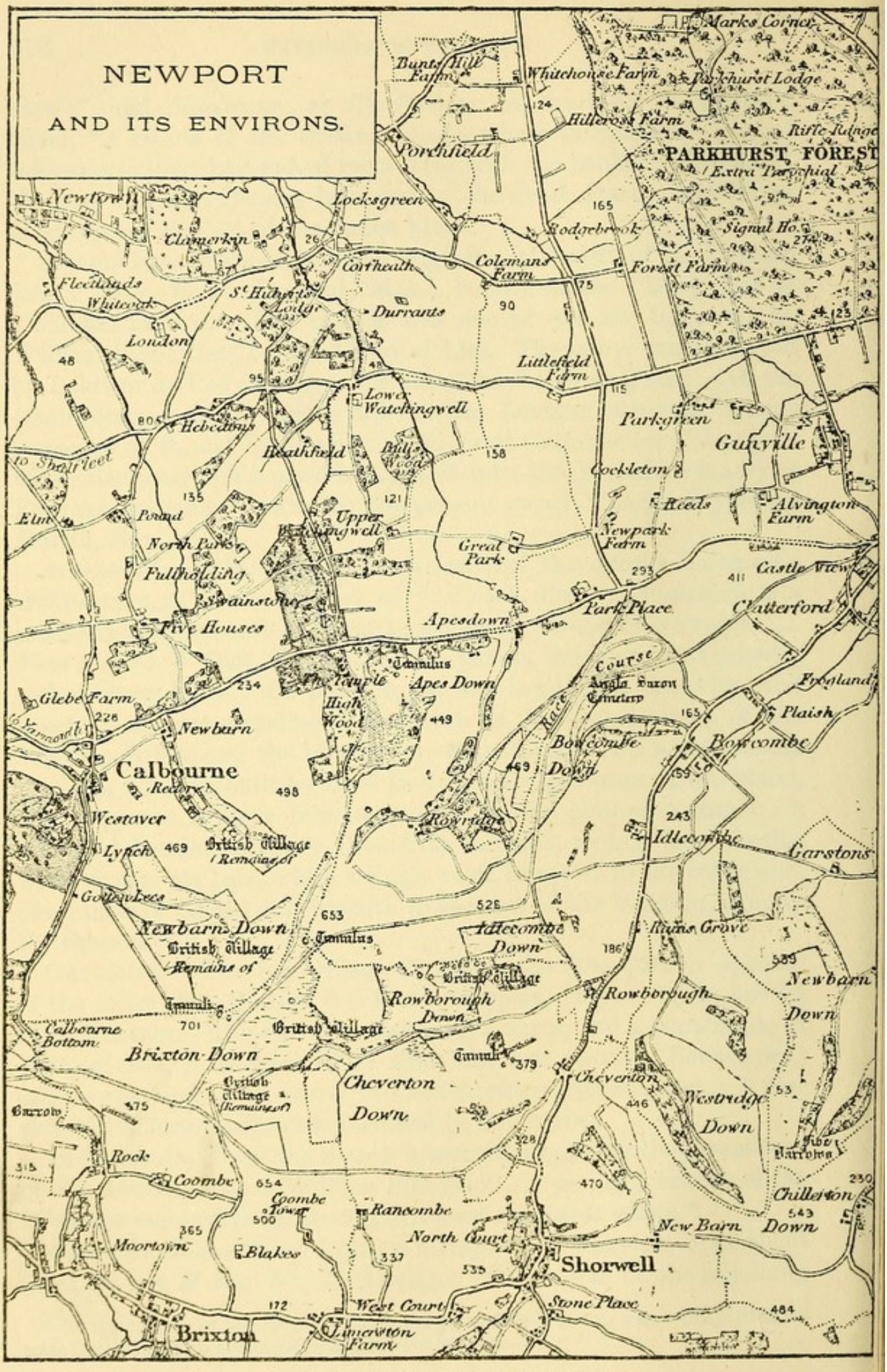
Arreton Farm-house is a good specimen of the Jacobean domestic architecture, in the occupancy of F. Roach, Esq.....*Stickworth* is a considerable seat, south of Arreton, 5 miles south-east of Newport..... *Fern Hill* (J. J. Galt, Esq.) is in this parish, but more conveniently visited from Ryde. Its position, on the brink of a declivity, well wooded, and commanding a fine view of the broad sweep of the Wootton River, and the blue sheeny Solent, renders it a noteworthy mansion. It was built by Lord Bolton, when governor of the island, and "appears to have been erected upon the plan of a church; a lofty and handsome tower rises from one end, with a large Gothic window near its base, while a single room annexed to the other end, of an inferior height and breadth to the rest of the building, denotes the chancel of it."

GATCOMBE.—The fair village of Gatcombe (the *gate* or *opening* of the *valley*) lies 3½ miles S.S.W. of Newport, 11 from Ryde, and 7½ from Ventnor. The parish contains 1392 acres, and a population, in 1881, of 223, a decrease of 17 since the last census. Boundaries: North-west and south, parish of Carisbrooke; Arreton, east. A portion of Chillerton hamlet is included in this parish.

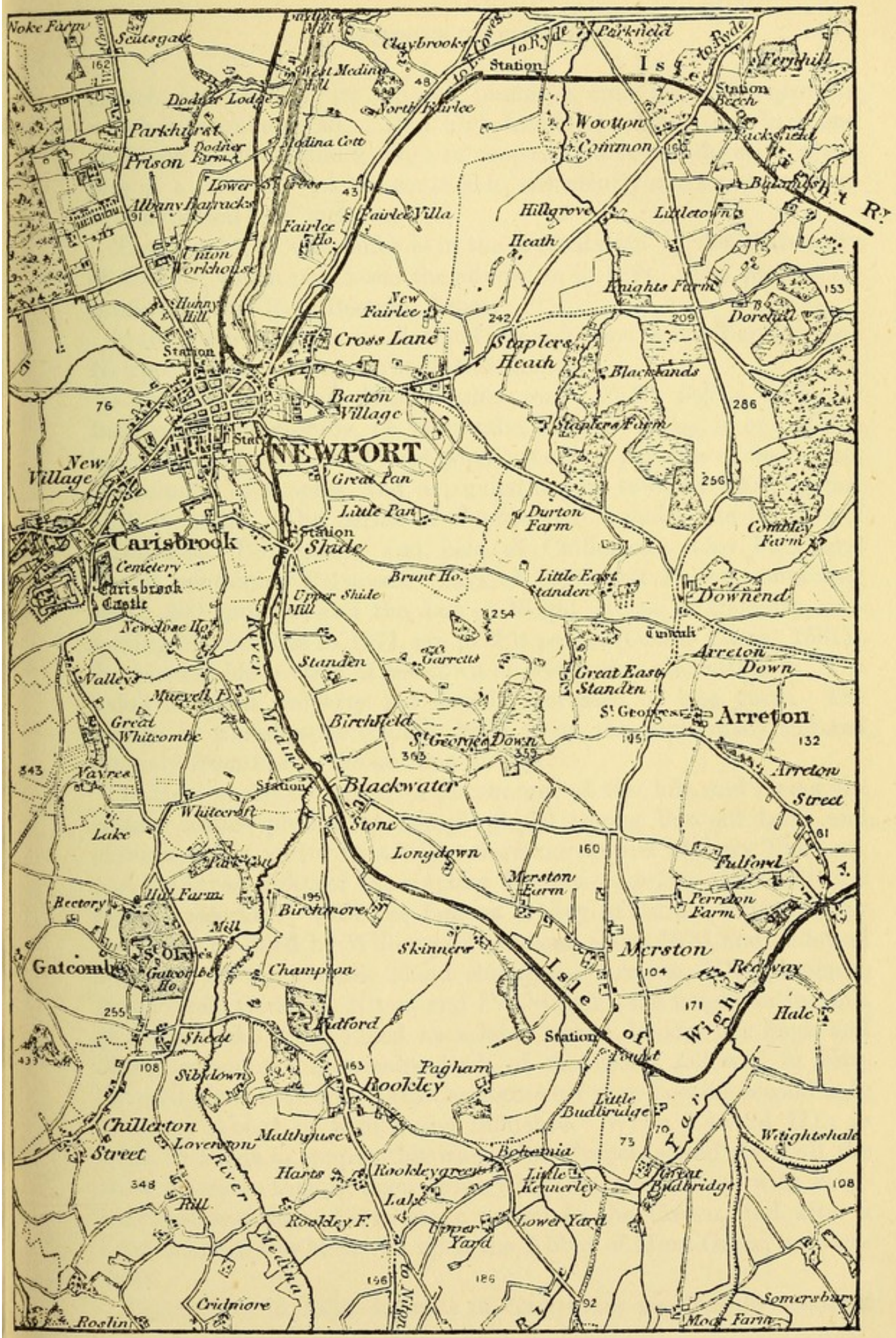
In Domesday Book the manor is mentioned among the possessions of the Norman knight William Fitz-Stur. A younger branch of the Worsleys enjoyed for centuries this most agreeable estate.*

Gatcombe House (Mrs. Lane) is a large stone mansion, built about 1750, by one of the Worsley family. "The tower of the adjoining

* Of this branch of the Worsleys came the gallant Sir Edward, who attempted to release Charles I. from his imprisonment at Carisbrooke.



On a Scale of One Inch to a Statute Mile.


NEWPORT
Carisbrook
Arreton
Merston
Gatcombe
Chillerton
Blackwater
Shide
Barton Village
Cross Lane
New Fairlee
Staplers Heath
Downend
Arreton Down
Great East Standen
Little East Standen
Durton Farm
Brunt Ho.
Upper Shide Mill
Standen
Birchfield
St George's Down
Longdown
Merston Farm
Ferreton Farm
Fulford
Arreton Street
Redway
Hale
Wroxall
Wroxall Down
Wroxall Farm
Wroxall Manor
Wroxall Ho.
Wroxall Mill
Wroxall Rectory
Wroxall Stream
Wroxall Wood
Wroxall Common
Wroxall Cross
Wroxall Lane
Wroxall Road
Wroxall Station
Wroxall Village
Wroxall Church
Wroxall Vicarage
Wroxall Parish
Wroxall Boundary
Wroxall Hill
Wroxall Valley
Wroxall Brook
Wroxall Bridge
Wroxall Ford
Wroxall Pond
Wroxall Well
Wroxall Spring
Wroxall Marsh
Wroxall Meadow
Wroxall Pasture
Wroxall Arable
Wroxall Woodland
Wroxall Copse
Wroxall Plantation
Wroxall Orchard
Wroxall Garden
Wroxall Yard
Wroxall Barn
Wroxall Stable
Wroxall Cottage
Wroxall Farmhouse
Wroxall Outbuilding
Wroxall Shed
Wroxall Gate
Wroxall Fence
Wroxall Hedge
Wroxall Ditch
Wroxall Bank
Wroxall Slope
Wroxall Top
Wroxall Bottom
Wroxall Side
Wroxall Corner
Wroxall Junction
Wroxall Crossroads
Wroxall Signpost
Wroxall Milestone
Wroxall Boundary Stone
Wroxall Trig Point
Wroxall Benchmark
Wroxall Spot Height
Wroxall Contour
Wroxall Relief
Wroxall Shading
Wroxall Hachures
Wroxall Form Lines
Wroxall Layer Tints
Wroxall Colour Wash
Wroxall Hill Shading
Wroxall Vertical Exaggeration
Wroxall Datum
Wroxall Sea Level
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church, just showing its top and pinnacles from above the grove in which it is embosomed.....the high knolls of timber that back and flank the building, and a range of coppice that covers the steep precipice of a lofty hill on the south side, sufficiently mark out its beautiful situation" (*Wyndham*).

The rectory of Gatcombe is in the presentation of the University of Oxford, which purchased the advowson in 1821. The present incumbent is the Rev. Bertram Jones.

During the summer coaches and chars-à-banc leave Ventnor and Newport daily, passing through Gatcombe.

CARISBROOKE (*Red Lion, Castle, and Eight Bells*), anciently Beaucombe, Bowcombe, or Buccombe, *the fair valley*, is one of the largest, most fruitful, and most populous of the parishes of the island. It includes 7409 acres, and a population, in 1881, of 8305, against 8178 in 1871. [The parish of Carisbrooke includes the hamlets of Bowcombe, Billingham, and part of Chillerton; also Parkhurst Forest, containing 2 houses. Part of Parkhurst Prison, containing about 200 inmates, and the Isle of Wight House of Industry, containing 500 persons in 1871, are in this parish (*Census Comm.*, 1881)]. A considerable portion of the town of Newport is also within it. The value of rated property has largely increased of late years. The village of Carisbrooke (chiefly built along the high road) suffered severely from fire in the autumn of 1881.

1. Here anciently stood, on the summit of the hill, and facing the stately castle—pleasantly enough placed among fine old trees and green uplands, and with a bright view northward of busy Newport, and the broad lights of the rippling Medina—a *priory* of Benedictine monks, associated with the famous Abbey of Lire. This wealthy house was founded by William Fitz-Osbert, about 1070, and endowed with six of the richest island churches,—Arreton, Whippingham, Newchurch, Godshill, Niton, and Freshwater; the neighbouring pile of Carisbrooke being added at a later period, besides fair lands and liberal revenues. Successive lords of the island followed in Fitz-Osbert's pious footsteps, until Carisbrooke Priory became second only to Quarr Abbey in wealth and influence. When Edward III., in want of funds to support his wars with France, seized upon all the alien priories—that is, upon those which were connected with religious houses abroad—Carisbrooke passed to the Crown, and, after a brief interval, was bestowed upon the Abbey of Mont Grace, in Yorkshire.

Henry IV., in 1399, desirous of confirming his friendly relations

with the French court, restored the priory to the Abbey of Lire; but it was again resumed by Henry V., and conferred upon the new abbey which he had founded at Sheen. After Henry VIII.'s celebrated *coup de grace*, the Sheen monks leased Carisbrooke, worth about £270 yearly, and the tithes of Godshill and Freshwater, to Sir James Worsley for £105, 6s. 2d. per annum,—a considerable sum in those days. A renewal of the lease was granted to his son Richard, on whose death it passed to the celebrated Walsingham (Elizabeth's great statesman), with the hand of Worsley's widow. It is said that Walsingham destroyed the offices of the monks. From him it was purchased by Sir Thomas Fleming, at the time that he obtained possession of Quarr Abbey; and the stately structure speedily fell into utter and lamentable decay. The site is now occupied by a farm, into the walls of which, apparently, have been built some portions of the ancient building, which "probably extended itself as far as the church, and had an entrance into it" (*Tomkins*).

A *chapel*, dedicated to St. Augustine, and in the Cartulary of Carisbrooke (which is still extant, and contains upwards of 200 deeds, records, grants, and papers) mentioned as "a chapel for lepers," formerly stood near the priory; but not a vestige of it remains.

2. *Carisbrooke Castle.*—The glory and boast of Carisbrooke, however, is the historic pile, so grand even in its very decay, which, with its crown of towers, circles the artificial mound rising with such abruptness out of the fertile valley, 239 feet above the sea. Between this mound, and the hill up whose ascent straggles the long street of Carisbrooke village, winds a branch of the Medina,—noted for the excellence of its shining waters,—and spreads a pleasant sweep of grassy plain. Along the horizon—southward and westward—rolls a range of lofty downs. At the foot of the hill clusters the town of Newport, with its church spires and tiled roofs presenting a curious picture; in the mid-distance rise the masts of Cowes harbour; and still farther off, the blue hills of Hampshire seem to melt into azure vapour. The massive tower of Carisbrooke Church, and the green masses of Parkhurst Forest, relieve the view in another direction. And so—

> "The pastoral slopes in noonday quiet sleep,—
> Green lanes run down into the valley green,
> Or climb, 'mid gleamy brooks, a bosky steep,—
> Towers over hill and dale the castle's haughty keep!"
>
> EDMUND PEEL.

In fact, Carisbrooke, from "the bravery" of its position, and the extent of its ruins, as well as its historical associations, cannot fail to



CARISBROOKE CASTLE.

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impress the thoughtful observer with peculiar force. "I do not think," wrote Keats, "I shall ever see a ruin to surpass Carisbrooke Castle." And he proceeds with some lively details: "The trench is overgrown with the smoothest turf, and the walls with ivy. The keep within side is one bower of ivy; a colony of jackdaws have been there for many years. I daresay I have seen many a descendant of some old cawer who peeped through the bar at Charles I., when he was there in confinement" (*Keats' Life and Letters*).*

The tourist from Newport proceeds along the ancient Mall, and crossing the *brooke* which, with the *caer* (a stronghold or fort) above it, gives name to the village, laboriously ascends the steep eminence on which the venerable pile is based. He then finds himself opposite the entrance, an archway of picturesque character, of the reign of Elizabeth, for it bears her initials, and the date 1598, on a stone shield over the arch. Crossing a stone bridge which spans the moat, now filled with wild flowers and verdant turf, he reaches the *Gate-house*, built by gallant Antony Woodville; a stately machicolated structure, still boasting of its ancient cross-barred, ponderous gates, and adorned with noble circular towers, which have been grooved for two portcullises. Some years ago these towers were shrouded in the most luxuriant ivy, but during the repairs of 1860–4 their rich overgrowth was carefully removed, much to the detriment of their picturesque character, though an advantage in the way of insuring them a longer existence. The Woodville escutcheon is discernible over the gate, flanked on each side by the "White Rose" of the house of York.

Having entered the castle area, you see, on your left, the ruins of the apartments which formed the *prison of King Charles* during so many months of heart-weariness and impending peril. The cicerone points out a window as that from which the unhappy monarch sought to escape,—but this is a pleasant fiction. The *true* window was an aperture "blocked up in after alterations, but nevertheless easily recognizable in the exterior of the wall, as it nearly adjoins the only buttress on this side of the castle" (*Hillier*). This part of the ruins is of the architecture of the fifteenth century.

To the right lie the scanty remains of the *Chapel of St. Nicholas.* It is of recent date, having been erected during Lord Lymington's governorship, but it has been suffered to moulder into complete

* Among the Carisbrooke ruins may be found the rusty-back fern (*Ceterach officinarum*) and false maiden-hair (*Asplenium trichomanes*). Also the fragrant orchis (*Gymnadenia conopsea*)

decay. It was built on the site of a former chapel, or oratory, founded by Fitz-Osbert. Over it was formerly an armoury, dismantled by orders of Lord Cadogan.

The *Tilt-yard*, or *Bowling-Green*, was converted by Colonel Hammond out of the ancient place of arms, for the amusement of Charles I. "The bowling-green on the barbican with its turf steps, the walls of the old castle frowning above it, and its beautiful marine view, is as perfect at the present moment as if it had been laid down but yesterday,"—as perfect as when the Stuart walked to and fro attended by Colonel Hammond, or the Princess Elizabeth played "at bowls, a sport she much delighted in."

The plain, indeed the somewhat ugly, mansion which faces you as you enter appears to have been modernized out of the original *Hall*, and divided into two stories. It was formerly connected with the keep by a strong wall. During the extensive repairs, so ably directed by Mr. Hardwicke, the architect, many interesting details, hitherto concealed, were discovered. A stalwart chimney, and one of the ancient windows on the side opposite to the keep, may now be seen. The *smaller* of the *two* chapels which once existed within the castle precincts,—the chapel erected by Isabella de Fortibus,—has been brought to light. The side window remains, and the beautiful arcade on both sides, but of the east window there is no trace but the position of the sill; it is now occupied by the great staircase which Lord Cutts put up when he repaired the governor's residence (*The Builder*, No. 739). "Adjoining the chapel, south, was the principal apartment of the castle, communicating with the chapel by means of a hagioscope. In this room is a very fine ancient staircase" (*Murray*). Some of the apartments in the governor's residence, with their coved ceilings of "the Georgian era," are worth examination.

The massive and venerable *Keep*, to the north-east, stands upon an artificial mound, bravely overlooking the rest of the castle, and commanding a grand panorama of the surrounding landscape. It is reached by a weary flight of 74 rather difficult steps, leading to a stout gateway grooved for a portcullis. The keep is a Norman erection, of what date is uncertain. In the interior a smaller flight of steps leads to the irregular polygon, 60 feet broad, formed by the massive walls of the old Tower. The donjon well (for there were two wells in the castle),—of a fabulous depth, according to tradition,—has long been choked up.

"One of the most curious things in the castle is the other well,

which is above 300 feet deep" (really 144 feet deep, with 37 feet depth of water). "The visitor is shown into the well-house (near the entrance); and while he is noticing the singular appearance of the room, one side of which is occupied by an enormous wooden wheel, a small lamp is lighted; and after being told to mark the time that elapses before a glass of water that is thrown down strikes against the bottom of the well, the lamp is lowered by means of a small windlass, making, as he watches its descent, a circle of light continually lessening till the lamp is seen to float on the surface of the water, at a depth that makes him almost dizzy. A grave old donkey is then introduced, who quietly walks into the huge tread-wheel, which he anon begins to turn,—as curs in days of yore turned spits,—whereby the bucket is lowered and drawn up again; which feat being accomplished, Jacob very soberly walks out again" (*Knight*). The building over the well (of the date of the fifteenth century) was carefully repaired and restored by Mr. Hardwicke. The well itself probably reaches the chalk-marl, which is in general the first water-shed when the white chalk is perforated.

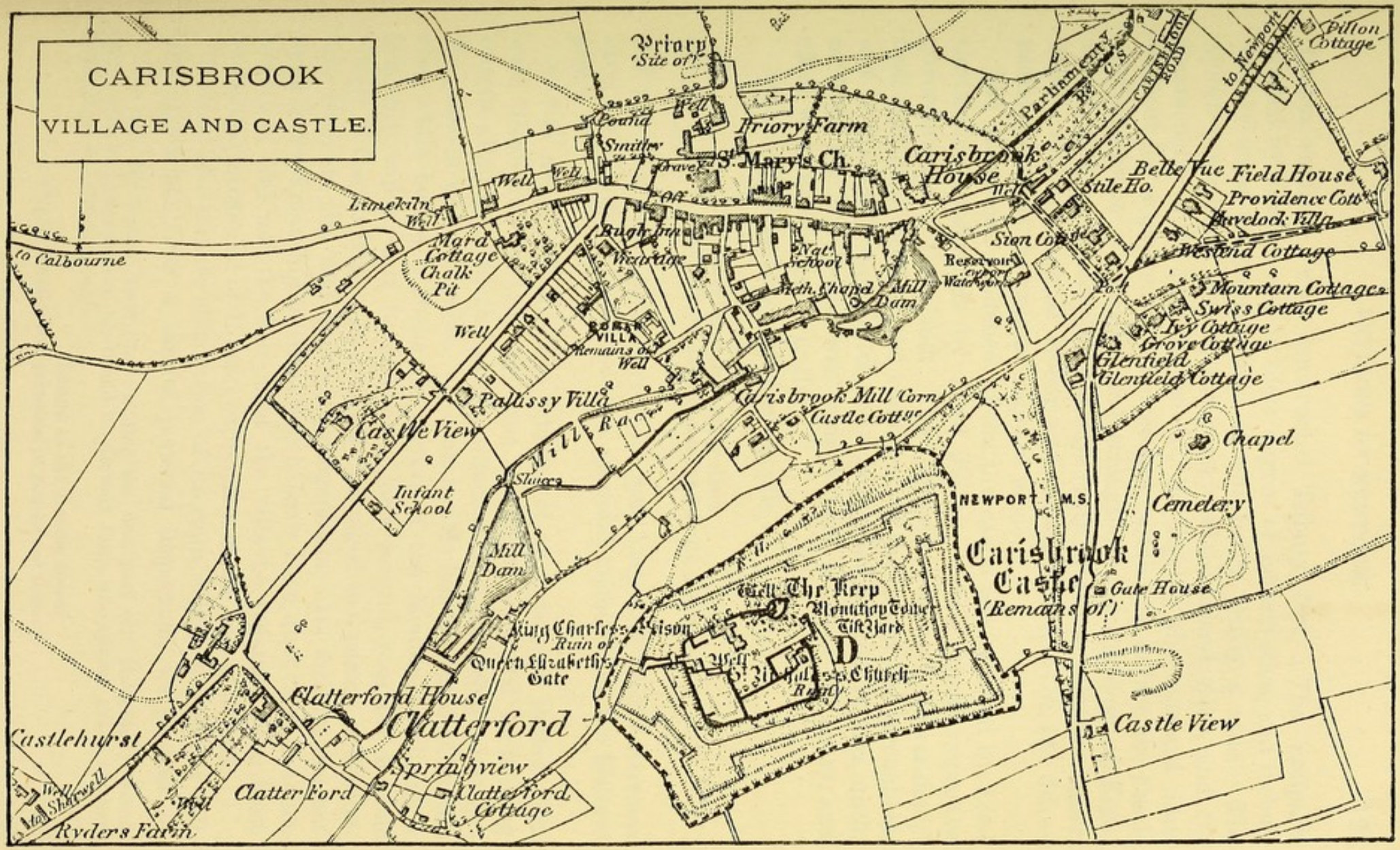
We need not dwell upon the history of Carisbrooke Castle, which is, in fact, the history of the island, as we have already given it at considerable detail in the earlier pages of our little volume. Its name is said to have been corrupted from that of the old Jutish stronghold, whose site it probably occupies,—Gwitigaraburg, Garsburg, Garsbrook, Carisbrooke. Warner claims for it a yet more fanciful derivation:—*Caerbroc*, the town among the yew trees. And another etymology is:—*Caer*, the fort; *brooke*, on the brook or stream; an appellation clearly descriptive of its peculiar situation.

There can be little doubt but that Carisbrooke was originally a British settlement, and that it commanded or overawed the great highway of the tin trade which crossed the island from Gurnard Bay to Puckaster Cove. By the Romans its eligibility as a military position was immediately recognized, and we have evidence that it was their principal island-settlement, only pushed from its pride of place by Newport, when the situation of the latter, on a navigable stream, rendered it commercially of greater importance. The old Roman road—laid down, we fancy, on the line of the British traject —may still be traced upon Bowcombe Down. The recent discovery of a large Roman villa, adjoining the parsonage, confirms the truth of this hypothesis.

To William Fitz-Osbert is due the erection of the present stronghold, and some parts of his handiwork are, probably, still extant.

Richard de Redvers largely repaired and rebuilt it, inventing, we are told, many new engines of war, and raising, perhaps, its massive keep, which is evidently of early Norman architecture. By Isabella de Fortibus it was completely restored, and considerably strengthened. In a recent work a very curious statement of the expenditure she incurred has been published—from the original document; and an *inquisition*, or *survey of the island*, taken shortly after her death, which is still extant, affords an interesting view of the then condition of the castle:—"The jury say, upon their oath, that the advowson of the free chapel of the blessed Nicholas, in the Castle of Carisbrooke, belongs to the abbot and convent of Quarrera. A house in the same castle, to wit, one hall, four chambers for straw adjoining the hall, with a solar (upper chamber); one small church, and another great church, which churches are supported at the expense of the Abbot of Quarrera; one large kitchen; one chamber for the constable, with a solar to the same; one small chamber beyond the gate, and another under the wall; one great chamber with a solar; one house which is called the 'Old Chapel;' one larder; one great house which is called 'the bakehouse and brewhouse,' in which there is a granary at one end; two great stables for corn and forage; two high towers, built with the chamber for straw, and other two towers built under the wall; one house, with a wall for a prison; one chamber near the same. Richard le Porter hath the custody of the prison in the castle, and of the castle-gate, for the term of his life, by charter of Isabella, formerly Countess of Albemarle, and receives yearly, from the manor of Buccombe, his pension." The chapel recently brought to light by Mr. Hardwicke is the "small church" herein mentioned, and was built by Isabella de Fortibus; for in the accounts already alluded to occurs an entry, "For cleansing and making a foundation for the new church."

The castle-walls, at this period, included only an area of an acre and a half, and were nearly "in figure a rectangular parallelogram, having the angles rounded" (*Worsley*). Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, did something towards its repair in the ninth year of Richard II., and great additions were made to its strength and beauty by Antony Woodville, better known as Lord Scales, during his captaincy of the island. At a later period it was thoroughly restored by order of Henry VIII., and the Mountjoy Tower at the south-east angle of the keep was then erected. When the alarm of invasion by the Spanish Armada echoed through the land, the fortifications were remodelled on the plan of those of Antwerp, by Gianibelli, the


CARISBROOK
VILLAGE AND CASTLE.
Priory (Site of)
Priory Farm
St. Mary's Ch.
Carisbrook House
Parliamentary C.S.
CARISBROOK ROAD
to Newport
Pillon Cottage
Belle Vue Field House
Providence Cott
Havelock Villa
Westend Cottage
Mountain Cottage
Swiss Cottage
Ivy Cottage
Grove Cottage
Glenfield
Glenfield Cottage
Stile Ho.
Sion Cott
Reservoir
Water Co.
Nat. School
Meth. Chapel
Mill Dam
Rugby Inn
Vicarage
Limekiln
Well
Mard Cottage
Chalk Pit
to Calbourne
ROMAN VILLA
Remains of Well
Pallissy Villa
Castle View
Carisbrook Mill Corn
Castle Cottage
Mill Race
Sluices
Infant School
Chapel
Cemetery
NEWPORT M.S.
Carisbrook Castle
(Remains of)
Gate House
Well
The Keep
Mountjoy Tower
Tilt Yard
King Charles's Prison
Ruin of Queen Elizabeth's Gate
Hall
Chapel
Ruins
D
Clatterford House
Clatterford
Springview
Clatterford Cottage
Clatter Ford
Castle View
Castlehurst
Mill Shaft
Ryders Farm

Italian engineer, who constructed Tilbury fort. The ramparts erected by him are still in some degree of preservation, and include twenty acres of ground, their circuit being nearly a mile. The Queen contributed £4000, the gentry of the island £400, and the commonalty their personal labour, by digging the outward ditch without fee or payment. The present building is, in fact, the Castle of Carisbrooke as enlarged and strengthened in the days of Elizabeth. The works occupied 245 days (25th March to 24th November, 1587); and the manual labour and materials cost £470, 18s. 5d.,—nearly £6000 at the present value of money.

The governor's residence within the castle was repaired by Lord Cutts, and afterwards by Lord Bolton, during their respective governorships of the island. Their successors being "non-resident," took but little heed of the condition of the grand old stronghold, and it gradually mouldered away into grievous dilapidation, until, in 1860, Mr. Hardwicke was commissioned to check the decay, and effect what reparation he could.

And now, let us hope, this famous pile,—

> Whereon the men of other times
> Have stamped their names, and deeds, and crimes,—

will raise, for many a long year, its gray keep and ivied buttresses upon the height of Carisbrooke, a splendid memorial of the historic past.*

3. *The Roman Villa.*—The remains of an extensive Roman villa were discovered in 1859 by some workmen employed in making certain alterations in the garden attached to Carisbrooke vicarage. Its position was admirable. A considerable hill sheltered it in the rear, while before it shone the waters of the Medina, fertilizing a fair, rich valley; and beyond, on a lofty mound, rose the Roman towers of Carisbrooke. It evidently belonged to a person of distinction, from its size and general arrangements. Its mosaics are not equal in workmanship to those which have been discovered in other localities; but not the less must the villa be regarded as a most interesting memorial of Roman supremacy in the Isle of Wight.

Instead of a minute elaboration of its ruins, which the tourist will best appreciate from a careful personal inspection, we propose to

* In 1807, Sir Walter Scott (then writing the first part of "Marmion") visited Carisbrooke in company with his friend W. Stewart Rose, who alludes to the journey in his poem of "Gundimore:"—

> "Bound to the gloomy bower
> Where Charles was prisoned in yon island tower."

extract Lord Lytton's popular and generally accurate description of the arrangements of a Roman villa, from the pages of "The Last Days of Pompeii," by way of affording the reader an insight into the "domestic economy" of the mighty conquerors of the world :—

"You enter, then, usually by a small entrance-passage (called *vestibulum*) into a hall, sometimes with (but more frequently without) the ornament of columns; around three sides of this hall are doors communicating with several bed-chambers (among which is the porter's), the best of these being usually appropriated to country visitors. At the extremity of the hall, on either side, to the right and left, if the house is large, there are two small recesses, rather than chambers, generally devoted to the ladies of the mansion; and in the centre of the tessellated pavement of the hall is invariably a square, shallow reservoir, for rain-water (classically termed *impluvium*), which was admitted by an aperture in the room above, the said aperture being covered at will by an awning. Near this impluvium, which had a peculiar sanctity in the eyes of the ancients, were sometimes placed images of the household gods; while in some corner of the most ostentatious place was deposited a huge wooden chest, ornamented and strengthened by bands of bronze or iron, and secured by strong hooks upon a stone pedestal so firmly as to defy the attempts of any robber to detach it from its position. It is supposed that this chest was the money-box, or coffer, of the master of the house; though, as no money has been found in any of the chests discovered at Pompeii, it is probable that it was sometimes rather designed for ornament than use.

"In this hall (or *atrium*, to speak classically) the clients and visitors of inferior rank were usually received. In the houses of the more 'respectable' an *atriensis*, or slave peculiarly devoted to the service of the hall, was invariably retained, and his rank among his fellow-slaves was high and important. The reservoir in the centre must have been rather a dangerous ornament; but the centre of a hall was like the grass-plot of a college, and interdicted to the passers to and fro, who found ample space in the margin. Right opposite the entrance, at the other end of the hall, was an apartment (*tablinum*) in which the pavement was usually adorned with rich mosaics, and the walls covered with elaborate paintings. Here were usually kept the records of the family, or those of any public office that had been filled by the owner. On one side of this saloon, if we may so call it, was often a dining-room, or *triclinium;* on the other side, perhaps, what we should now term a cabinet of gems, containing

whatever curiosities were deemed most rare and costly; and invariably a small passage for the slaves to cross to the farther parts of the house without passing the apartments thus mentioned. These rooms all opened on a square or oblong colonnade, technically termed peristyle. If the house was small, its boundary ceased with this colonnade; and in that case its centre, however diminutive, was ordinarily appropriated to the purpose of a garden, and adorned with vases of flowers placed upon pedestals; while under the colonnade, to the right and left, were doors, admitting to bedrooms,* to a second triclinium, or eating-room (for the ancients generally appropriated two rooms at least to that purpose, one for summer, and one for winter, or, perhaps, one for ordinary, the other for festive occasions), and, if the owner affected letters, a cabinet, dignified by the name of library—for a very small room was sufficient to contain the few rolls of papyrus which the ancients deemed a notable collection of books.

"At the end of the peristyle was generally the kitchen. Supposing the house was large, it did not end with the peristyle, and the centre thereof was not, in that case, a garden, but might be, perhaps, adorned with a fountain, or basin for fish; and at its end, exactly opposite to the tablinum, was generally another eating-room, on either side of which were bedrooms, and perhaps a picture-saloon, or pinacotheca.† These apartments communicated again with a square and oblong space, usually adorned on three sides with a colonnade like the peristyle, and very much resembling the peristyle, only usually longer. This was the proper *viridarium*, or garden, being commonly adorned with a fountain or statues, and a profusion of gay flowers. At its extreme end was the gardener's house; on either side, beneath the colonnade, were sometimes, if the size of the family required it, additional rooms. The apartments themselves were ordinarily of small size; for in those delightful climes they received an extraordinary number of visitors in the peristyle (or portico), the hall, or the garden: and even their banquet-rooms, however elaborately adorned and carefully selected in point of aspect, were of diminutive proportions; for the intellectual ancients, being fond of society, not of crowds, rarely feasted more than nine at a time, so that large dinner-rooms were not so necessary with them as with us. But the suite of rooms, seen at

* The Romans had bedrooms appropriated not only to the sleep of night, but also to the day siesta (*cubicula diurna*).

† In the stately palaces of Rome this picture-room generally communicated with the atrium.

once from the entrance, must have had a very imposing effect: you beheld at once the hall, richly paved and painted; the tablinum; the graceful peristyle, and (if the house extended further) the opposite banquet-room and the garden, which closed the view with some gushing fount or marble statue."

The villa at Carisbrooke seems to have occupied an area of about 120 feet by 50, and to have included among its apartments two large halls, one about 22 feet square, the other about 40 feet by 22 feet. Another apartment, 14 feet square, exhibits a good mosaic pavement, with a graceful vase and flowers in the centre. To the south-west is a semicircular bath. The remaining walls are from 1 to 3 feet high, and built of chalk, with mortar and flint.

4. *Carisbrooke Church* is a very fine specimen of Early English, and its noble tower is an admirable landmark for all the country side.

5. A *Roman Catholic Nunnery* has recently been erected in the vicinity of the village, by the Countess of Clare, at a cost of £18,000. The buildings possess no particular architectural pretensions, but are simple and even elegant in design.

6. *Carisbrooke Cemetery*, a spot to make one, as Shelley says, "in love with death," was formed in 1858, at a cost of £4500. Its two chapels are in the Early English style.

Parkhurst.—At Parkhurst three considerable buildings attract the attention of the tourist—the *Barracks*, the *Prison*, and the *House of Industry*.

1. The *Barracks* lie to the left of the road connecting Newport with West Cowes, about half a mile from the former. They were established in September 1798, and were originally called Parkhurst Barracks; but their name was afterwards changed to *Albany*, in compliment to the then Commander-in-Chief, the Duke of York and Albany. They occupy an area of 1211 feet by 700—or about 100 acres—and include five officers' houses, eight large and twelve small barracks, a house for the commandant, another for the chief accountant, a chapel, necessary offices, and a large parade ground, next in completeness to that of Chatham. There are three excellent wells worked by means of engine-pumps. Altogether, the arrangements of the Barracks, which will accommodate about 3000 men, are excellent, and their sanitary condition is superior to that of most of our English barracks. The depôts of several regiments are always stationed here. Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffrey is the present commandant, and the number of troops stationed here varies from 800 to 1200.

2. In 1838 the Government converted the hospital portion of the Barracks into a *reformatory prison* for juvenile offenders; and the experiment answered so admirably as to lead to the construction of a second prison, a little higher up the hill. Together the two buildings would contain 700 prisoners, but the average number of inmates did not exceed 400. The system adopted was a combination of punishment and prevention,—"the prevention of crime in the unconvicted, and the reformation and punishment of the convicted offender," —objects sought to be attained "by moral and religious instruction and industrial employment. The penal discipline consisted of deprivation of liberty, wearing an iron on the leg, a strongly-marked prison dress, and a regular diet reduced to its minimum. Silence was enforced, and the prisoners were subjected to uninterrupted surveillance." Of late years, however, this establishment has undergone very considerable changes. In 1863 it was remodelled, and adapted for the reception of female convicts; while in 1869 it was again subjected to modification, and set apart for the admission of male convicts under sentence of penal servitude, of whom it will accommodate about 700. It is now subject, therefore, to the same strict regulations as the prison at Portland or Dartmoor, and admission can be obtained only by special order and under exceptional circumstances. A large staff of warders is employed, and the most rigorous precautions are adopted to prevent the escape of the inmates. It may be regarded as hyper-sentimental to object to the location of such an establishment in the immediate vicinity of some of the finest scenery and most interesting places in the island, yet the visitor certainly feels a disagreeable impression when the gloomy pile rises before him, and is sensible of a certain incongruity between it and the surrounding landscape. It is a kind of plague-spot, indicative of disease, which he would gladly shut out from his thoughts and recollections; and he finds it impossible to suppress a strong desire that the Government would relieve the Isle of Wight from the heavy shadow of a criminal prison. This may be regarded as an æsthetic affectation; yet the mind must be indifferent indeed that can wholly throw aside such a feeling. We confess to a belief that Dartmoor or Portland is a much more appropriate locality, and would rejoice to know that the Isle of Wight was relieved from the unpleasant associations of this dreary structure. Admission to inspect Parkhurst Prison can be obtained only from the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

3. The *House of Industry* was established by the gentlemen of the

island in 1770, and is managed under a local Act. In some measure its system of management was the forerunner of that of the new Poor Law, and it has undoubtedly proved a great boon to the pauper population of the island. A grant of 80 acres of the waste lands of the forest was obtained from the Crown, and the present building—which will accommodate seven hundred inmates, though in 1871 it only contained four hundred—erected at a cost of £20,000. They are supported by a rate levied on the different parishes, and amounting to a considerable yearly income; and the management rests in the hands of a corporation styled *guardians of the poor*, consisting of landowners rated at £50 per annum, heirs-apparent to £100 per annum, and occupiers of land rated at £100 per annum. Out of these are annually elected twenty-four directors and thirty-six acting guardians.

The whole frontage of the house is about 300 feet in length, and 27 in depth, with a wing ranging southwards 170 feet by 24. The dining-hall is 118 feet long.

The grounds are divided into fields and gardens, and tended and cultivated by the inmates. There are also workshops for artisans and tradesmen, whose productions are regularly sold for the benefit of the institution.*

In the vicinity of Newport and Carisbrooke are many fine farms, numerous villas, and seats of the gentry, to which it is impossible for us to allude in our limited space. The *Parsonage* at Carisbrooke is most agreeably situated. *Shide House* is a respectable mansion; while, east of the town, on the Ryde road, are *Bellecroft*, well worthy of its significant name, and a deserted *Lace Manufactory*, formerly famous for the production of the Isle of Wight lace, "extensively patronized by Her Majesty and the court."

In the thickets between Rowledge and Apes Down, 2½ miles west, Sir David Brewster and other eminent naturalists discovered, in 1841, the *wood calamint* (*Calamintha sylvatica*), previously supposed to be confined to Switzerland.

"The country around Carisbrooke is very lovely. There are delicious green lanes, where the trees interlace overhead and form an exquisité roof to the informal avenue; there are again lone farmhouses, shaded by lofty, spreading elms, and environed by broad tilths of wheat; little playful brooks running wild among the alder-spotted meadows, and downy heights with wide-spread prospects,

* Parkhurst Forest is now under the control of the Chief Commissioner of Works. The annual receipts amount to about £1200; the expenditure to £950.

and shadowy copses, peopled only by the merry song-birds. You might roam about here for weeks, and not exhaust the affluence of gentle pastoral loveliness" (*Thorne*).

Places to be visited by the pedestrian—Apes Down, where may be seen a section of coloured clays resembling that at Alum Bay, 2½ miles; Clatterford, 1 mile, where Roman relics, especially the ruins of a villa, have been discovered; Bowcombe Down, and traces of a Roman road; Park Cross, 2 miles, a lovely nook; Chillerton and its chalky down, 4 miles; Sheat, a fine old gabled manor-house, containing some good Jacobean woodwork; Marvel, 1 mile, the site of an ancient religious house; Rowborough (see *post*); and Newbarns, for Celtic earthworks, 2½ miles, at the foot of Gatcombe Down (see *post*).

DISTRICT III.—SOUTH-WEST.

BRIGHSTONE AND ITS ENVIRONS.

HAVING taken COWES and NEWPORT as the centres of *two* considerable districts of the island, we shall select, as the best starting-point for our *third* great division, the delightful village of BRIXTON or BRIGHSTONE, situated on the main road from Ventnor to Freshwater, and Newport to Freshwater Gate, a distance of 7 miles south-west of Newport, 14 miles south-west of Ryde, 11 north-west of Ventnor, and 9 miles south-east of Yarmouth. (*Inns:* New Inn, and Five Bells.)

"A cheerful little village, on the sunny side of the Isle of Wight, sheltered from cold winds by overhanging hills, with a goodly church, and a near prospect of the sea"—(*Life of Ken*)—is not an inaccurate description of this pleasantest of the pleasant places on the south-western coast of the island; for it lies on a sunny table-land, open to the warm breezes of the south, and defended against bitter winds by a range of lofty downs, whose green sides are for ever dappled with changing shadows. All about it are blossomy gardens and clumps of green elms, and sequestered bowers hidden away among silent hills, and "eternal whisperings around" of the distant sea. And ever the wind goes—

> "With a musical motion towards the west,
> Where the long white cliffs are gleaming!"
>
> OWEN MEREDITH.

And the birds whir from copse to copse, and the soft rosy haze rises above the ample meadows, and onwards to the furthest angle of the isle rolls the great chain of abrupt hills, whose summits, we may

fancy, are guarded by the spirits of those who sleep within their bosom! So it lies—

"Deep-meadowed, happy, fair with orchard lawns
And bowery hollows crowned with summer sea."
TENNYSON.

BRIGHSTONE (OR BRIXTON)

(From *Ecbright's town*, the manor having been conferred on the see of Winchester by King Egbert [Ecbert or Ecbright] in A.D. 826)

is a parish and rural deanery in the West Medina liberty, containing 3251 acres, and a population, in 1881, of 540. A great portion of the land consists of bare chalky downs, and the population, therefore, is chiefly centred in the village of Brighstone, which is one of the largest in the island. On the west the parish is bounded by Mottistone, on the east by Shorwell, north by Calbourne and Carisbrooke, south by the English Channel. It includes Lemerston, part of Chilton, Atherfield, and Uggeton (now called Muggleton), formerly a possession of the Knights Templars.

Brighstone Church is an interesting edifice, which has recently been restored with considerable taste. Bishop Ken, the sweet singer of the "Morning" and "Evening Hymns," the honest prelate who refused to receive Nell Gwynne into his house at Winchester, held the rectory from 1667 to 1669. His yew-hedge is still shown as "a cherished memorial" in the rectory garden; and his name imparts to the church and village "a sweet savour of holy things." The late Bishop of Winchester was the incumbent from 1830 to 1840; and his father, the illustrious William Wilberforce, spent several months of the last year of his life in the pretty and cozy parsonage-house. A walk under Rough Down is still associated with his name. In this delightful neighbourhood he spent the summer of 1832, "climbing with delight to the top of the chalk downs, or of an intermediate terrace, or walking long upon the unfrequented shore."

Dr. Moberly, the present Bishop of Salisbury, a theologian of high repute, and formerly Bampton Lecturer, held the rectory for a brief period.

In 1860 the National Lifeboat Institution selected Brighstone as one of their stations; and their boat has been the means of saving many lives.

Lemerston or *Lymerston* lies about one mile eastward of Brixton village. The manor was anciently in the possession of the Crown, but soon after the Conquest was bestowed upon a family who took

their name from it—De Lymerston, or Lemerston. They founded here a chapel of the Holy Ghost for three priests, who were to officiate both for the living and the dead, under the rules of St. Augustine.

In the reign of Henry I., Sir Roger Tichborne married Isabella, the heiress of the Lemerstons, and the estate remained in the Tichborne family until about the middle of the last century, when it was purchased by George Stanley, the father of the Right Hon. Hans Stanley. It lately belonged to S. Stanley, Esq. of Paultons, Hampshire.

The oratory was in existence in 1349, but probably soon afterwards perished, as it was a private chapel, and the Tichbornes did not reside at Lemerston.

DAY-JOURNEYS.

The tourist who takes up his abode at Brighstone for a week will find six days' ample occupation in the following excursions:—*a.* Passing Lemerston, and the pleasant old mansion of Westcourt, to the village of Shorwell (2½ miles); let him then ascend the hill, by Sir H. P. Gordon's seat, Northcourt; turn to the right, and take the Chillerton road, which opens up some fine bursts of scenery, *viâ* Gatcombe (3½ miles) to Newport. Return by Carisbrooke and Rowborough. (See District II., Day-journey *b.*) *b.* From Brighstone to the west, by a picturesque road which winds up steep hills and down into green vales, with agreeable alternations; passing Mottistone (1 mile—notice a steep lane, by the church, which leads to the *Long Stone*, or Druidic *cromlech*), Brook (2 miles—notice the chine, and petrified forest), and taking the road to the north, *viâ* Shalcombe and Afton Downs to Freshwater Gate (3½ miles). Returning, if the tide permit, by the sands, past Brook Point with its petrified forest, Brook Chine, Chilton Chine, and Grange Chine (about 7 miles). *c.* From Brighstone, by Mottistone Mill, through Calbourne Bottom, and to Westover (formerly the seat of the Holmes family, now of the Earl of Heytesbury), to Calbourne (3½ miles) and Newtown (3 miles). Returning by Swainston (notice the seat of Sir Barrington Simeon), over the downs. *d.* From Brighstone to Woolverton, an old gabled Jacobean mansion, and across a wild moorland country to Kingston (4 miles). Then by way of Stroud Green (1 mile), passing Chale Farm (1 mile), with its bits of Early English architecture, to Chale (half a mile), and Blackgang Chine (half a mile). Ascend St. Catherine's Hill, and cross into Niton, whence the tourist may continue his tour to Godshill and Ventnor, or return *viâ* Atherfield to Brighstone.

e. A walk along the cliffs, passing Barnes Chine, Cowleaze Chine, Atherfield Point, Whale Chine, Walpan Chine, St. Catherine's Point, and Lighthouse, to Puckaster Cove. Returning by Day-journey *d.* *f.* A walk along the cliffs, westward, observing Grange Chine, Chilton Chine, Bull Rock, Brook Chine, Brook Point, and Compton Bay, to Freshwater Gate. Then across a delightful country to Freshwater and Yarmouth, returning *viâ* Calbourne, by Day-journey *c*; or, from Freshwater Gate to Alum Bay and the Needles, returning *viâ* Afton Down, by Day-journey *b*.

ENVIRONS OF BRIGHSTONE.

MOTTISTONE, a parish and village in the West Medina liberty. The parish contains 1107 acres; population, in 1881, 143. Bounded north by Calbourne, south by the Channel, east by Brighstone, west by Shalfleet. Most of this parish lies between the sea and the green slopes of Mottistone Down (698 feet in height), and possesses a good arable soil. The scanty population (8 to an acre) is chiefly occupied in agricultural pursuits. North of the church is a large farm-house, formerly the *manor-house* and residence of the Cheke family. It is an excellent specimen of the Tudor domestic architecture. It was built in 1557, and is popularly, though erroneously, supposed to have been the birth-place of Sir John Cheke,—

"Who taught Cambridge and King Edward Greek" (MILTON);

and who really *did* belong to the Mottistone family. "Mottistone Church is worth turning aside to see: it is of different dates, and has the peculiar picturesqueness that so many of those old churches possess which have thus grown into their present form by the addition of new limbs in different ages" (*Thorne*). The internal fittings are of cedar, obtained from a vessel which was wrecked on the neighbouring coast. A weather-worn pair of stocks is preserved in the churchyard. *Pitt Place* (Colonel Brown), a short distance beyond the village, lying left of the road, is a commodious mansion, enjoying a fine sea prospect.

The tourist, however, will visit Mottistone chiefly for the purpose of examining the singular relic of bygone days known as the *Long Stone*, which probably gives its name to the village. "It is a huge quadrangular mass of stone, bearing upon it no marks of the chisel, though somewhat rudely formed. It consists of stratified iron sandstone, from the lower green-sand formation,—the prevailing stone in that neighbourhood, abundance of which might be had from Comp-

ton Bay Cliff. The height of the upright stone is 13 feet, its widest side 6½ feet, its circumference 20 feet." Its depth is supposed to be considerable. At a slight distance from it lies a recumbent stone: "its length 9 feet 3 inches; its width, at the widest part, 4 feet; and its height, at the thickest end, 2½ feet. Besides these two contiguous stones, there is another, of a similar kind, about 300 yards distant from Longstone, to the east, on the wayside. This stone is 4 feet 3 inches wide, and 2 feet 2 inches thick. Another stone lies near the gate from the Calbourne and Mottistone road to the pathway to Longstone, from which it is distant 570 yards." By some authorities Longstone has been considered as simply a landmark; others have looked upon it as a place of public meeting, from the Saxon *mote*, as in the word "wardmote;" but unquestionably it and its companions are simply the remains of a *cromlech*, or British sepulchral chamber.*

About 200 yards north-east of it is Castle Hill, where stands an ancient earthwork, or fort, nearly square, probably of British origin. Its length, from north to south, is 191 feet; its breadth, from east to west (on the north side), 177 feet; and on the south side, 168 feet. The bank which surrounds it is 21 feet broad and 3 feet high. Behind it rises the huge tumulus of Black Barrow. There are other earthworks in the neighbourhood which the tourist may easily light upon; and from almost every point he will at least enjoy a delectable sweep of lea, and dale, and grove, farmstead and grange, white cliff and sparkling sea.

Brook, 3 miles from Brighstone, lies in a hollow betwixt the hills, looking out upon a rough and pebbled beach. The parish con-

* Mr. Wright's remarks upon these cromlechs, or British cemeteries, will interest the reader. "A cromlech," he says, "is a rude chamber constructed of massive flat stones, three forming usually its three sides, the fourth being open, and a fourth flat stone serving for a roof. There can be little doubt that monuments of this description belong to the ancient Britons, because they are certainly not more modern than the Roman period, while they are as certainly not Roman; and they are found in great numbers in Ireland, where a Celtic population was established. Increased knowledge on these subjects has left no room for doubt that the cromlechs are nothing more than sepulchral chambers. The ashes of the dead—for in most of those interments we find that the bodies of the deceased had been burned—were collected into an urn of rude pottery, and placed, with a few other articles, within the chamber, and the whole was then covered with a mound. In opening many such mounds in different parts of the kingdom, the cromlech, with the sepulchral deposit within, has been found perfect; when the cromlech is now found exposed to view [as here, at Mottistone], without a mound, it has been robbed of its covering of earth by accident or design at some remote period" (*Wanderings of an Antiquary*, p. 173). The reader will perceive that this description tallies exactly with that of the cromlech at Mottistone. The four stones are still extant, and their present positions may be accounted for by a variety of assumptions.

tains 713 acres, and, in 1881, 195 souls. Boundaries: North, Thorley; south, the Channel; east, Shalfleet; west, Freshwater. The church, a lonely building, has been recently rebuilt, after being destroyed by fire on the 16th of December 1863. The manor was in the possession of the Bowermans, an ancient island family, for many years, and afterwards of the Howes; but was recently purchased (about 1856) by C. Seely, Esq., M.P., whose seat, *Brook House*, upon the uplands, is a noble mansion, finely situated. It was here that Dame Joanna Bowerman received, in 1499, King Henry VII.; who, in acknowledgment of her hospitality, presented her with a drinking-horn, long preserved in the family, and granted her the yearly gift of a fat buck from Parkhurst Forest. And here, in 1864, Mr. Seely entertained Garibaldi, who planted some trees in the grounds, as he did also at Faringford.

From Brook Down we enjoy a goodly prospect, but perhaps it is even finer from Afton Down (500 feet in height). "Freshwater Bay stretches round in a splendid curve; the chalk cliffs, which rise perpendicularly to a height of some 500 or 600 feet from the sea raging constantly against their base, were formerly crowned by the Needles lighthouse. Beyond is the broad belt of the Channel, along which ships of all sizes are constantly passing to and fro. In the extreme distance lies the coast of Dorset, which is visible from Poole Harbour to Portland Bill; while the foreground obtains boldness and strength from the shattered and detached masses of rock that lift their heads far above the water at Freshwater Gate. Nor, though less grand, is that inland view less pleasing where the Yar winds 'its silver winding way' along the rich valley to which it gives its name, enlarging rapidly from a scarcely traceable rivulet, till, in a mile or two, it has become a goodly estuary" (*Thorne*).

The life-boat station at Brook is supplied by two-and-twenty men, besides the cockswains.

Passing Brook Church we see Dunsbury and Shalcombe Downs on our left, and Brook and Chessel on our right. "As we pass the manor-house the ferruginous beds of green-sand may be traced in the banks on the roadside, and Brook Church is seen standing high up the hill on a terrace of those deposits. The relative positions of the strata in this district are displayed in the cuttings on the side of the road from Shalcombe Down through the village of Brook to the seashore. If we proceed from the coast at Brook Chine through the village, and ascend the road by the church and over Shalcombe Down, we pass in succession the Wealden, the green-sand, the gault, the

fire-stone; and then cross the ridge formed by the highly-inclined strata of the white chalk" (*Mantell*).

SHORWELL.—We now turn to the pastures and green dells of the grateful inland village of Shorwell, which boasts one of the fairest of the island churches. The parish derives its name from a brook (*Shor-well*) which runs through it, rising on the grounds of North-court. It contains 3685 acres, and a population, in 1881, of 622. Boundaries: North, Carisbrooke; south, Brighstone; east and partly south, Godshill, Niton, and Chale; west, Brighstone. Shorwell is 5 miles from Newport, and 12 from Ryde. It lies in an agreeable valley, which forms the only pass or opening in the range of downs from Gatcombe to Freshwater, and debouches, so to speak, upon the table-land which skirts the chalk cliffs of Brighstone and Chale Bays.

The church is certainly an interesting edifice; has been restored within the last few years with commendable care; contains two or three very good brasses, and some monuments to the Leigh family. It dates from the reign of Edward III., when the parish was taken out of that of Carisbrooke, on the complaint of the inhabitants that they had to carry their dead five miles to burial, and when "the waters were out," in winter, the death of one person was the occasion of many more. There are two schools in the village. In the neighbourhood are the handsome seats of *Northcourt*, *Woolverton*, and *Westcourt*. (See *post*.)

BARNES is a cluster of small cottages south of Brighstone, which gives name to an inconsiderable chine, opening upon Brighstone Bay. It is noticeable on account of the remains of a *Romano-British pottery* which once existed here, and was probably of an important character, but has gradually been washed away with the crumbling cliff by the continual agency of the undermining waves of the English Channel. Fragments of urns, drinking vessels, and other pottery, were excavated some years ago.

KINGSTON, anciently *Chingeston*, or the King's Manor, lies about 5½ miles south-south-west of Newport, 4 miles south-east of Brighstone, and about 2 miles from Shorwell. It contains 883 acres, and a population, in 1881, of 69 souls. The church, one of the smallest and plainest in the island, dating from the fourteenth century, is pleasantly surrounded by elm-trees.

CHALE (*Clarendon Hotel*) is a very pretty village, 8½ miles south-south-west of Newport, lying, a short distance from the sea, at the foot of Chale Down. The name is derived by some from *schiele*, the hollow of a bowl or cup, in allusion to the shape of the bay, or per-

haps of Blackgang Chine. The parish contained, in 1881, 681 inhabitants. Acreage, 2375. The church is a good thirteenth-century building, well restored, with a noble Perpendicular tower.

Chale Abbey Farm, on the left, is a picturesque building, with several relics of decorated architecture wrought into it, and a fine old barn, 100 ft. by 30. It would seem to be of ecclesiastical origin, but its history is wholly unrecorded. The *Parsonage* on the right (from Kingston) is a pleasant house pleasantly placed.

"Here the country begins to expand itself into more level and extensive fields, and to disclose the boundless view of the English Channel, the proximity of which prevents the few trees that are scattered through this open region from showing any signs of luxuriance" (*Wyndham*).

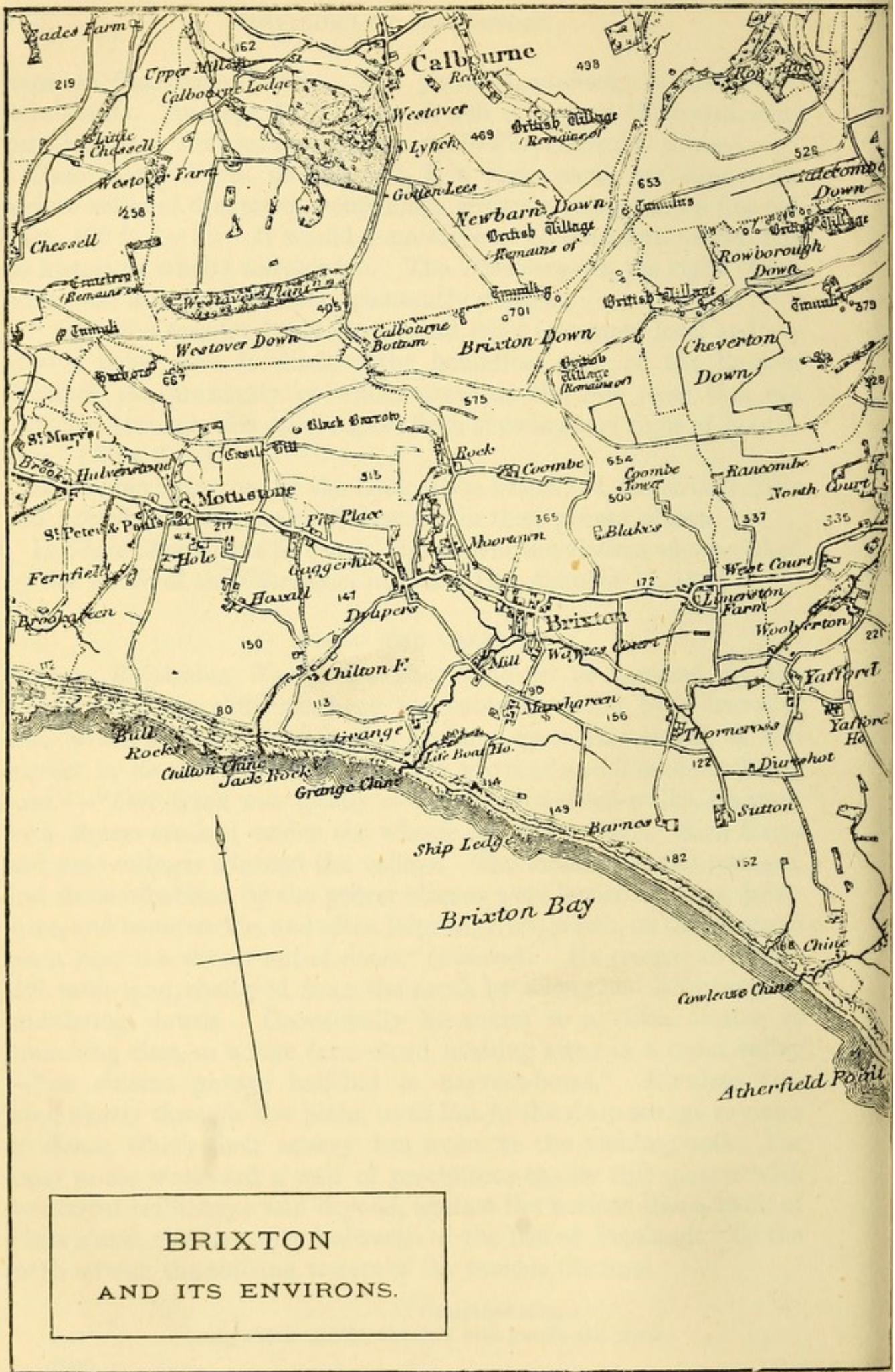
Blackgang Chine, one of the lions of the island; *St. Catherine's Hill;* and *Atherfield Point*, we shall describe in their proper places.

In *Chale Churchyard* lie buried eighteen of the victims who perished by the wreck of the *Clarendon* in Chale Bay, October 11, 1836.

ALONG THE COAST.

From Brighstone Westward.—The route to be pursued by the tourist along the cliffs has been agreeably described by a traveller who wrote and travelled half a century ago. His sketch is still correct in its details, though we now traverse a well-made military road:—"Our track was mostly over extensive sheep-walks, fragrant with thyme crushed under the wheels of the carriage. Rich farms and neat cottages adorned the valleys. The meanest of the cottages, and those inhabited by the poorer classes, were buried in roses, jessamine, and honeysuckle, and often large myrtles, which, on the southern coast, bear the winter out of doors" (*Simond*). He crosses an extensive table-land, sheltered from the north by a long and lofty range of undulating downs. Occasionally he comes to a thick cluster of branching elms, or a lone farm-stead nestling away in a quiet valley —"an ancient grange half-hid in harvest-home." Rivulets, too, wind slowly through the plain, until lost in the deep savage ravines, or *chines*, which their agency has worn in the yielding soil. Far away to the westward a wall of precipitous chalky cliff gleams with wonderful brilliancy; and beyond, against the horizon like a bank of white cloud, rise the steep bulwarks of the Isle of Portland. To the south stretch the shifting waters of the famous Channel.

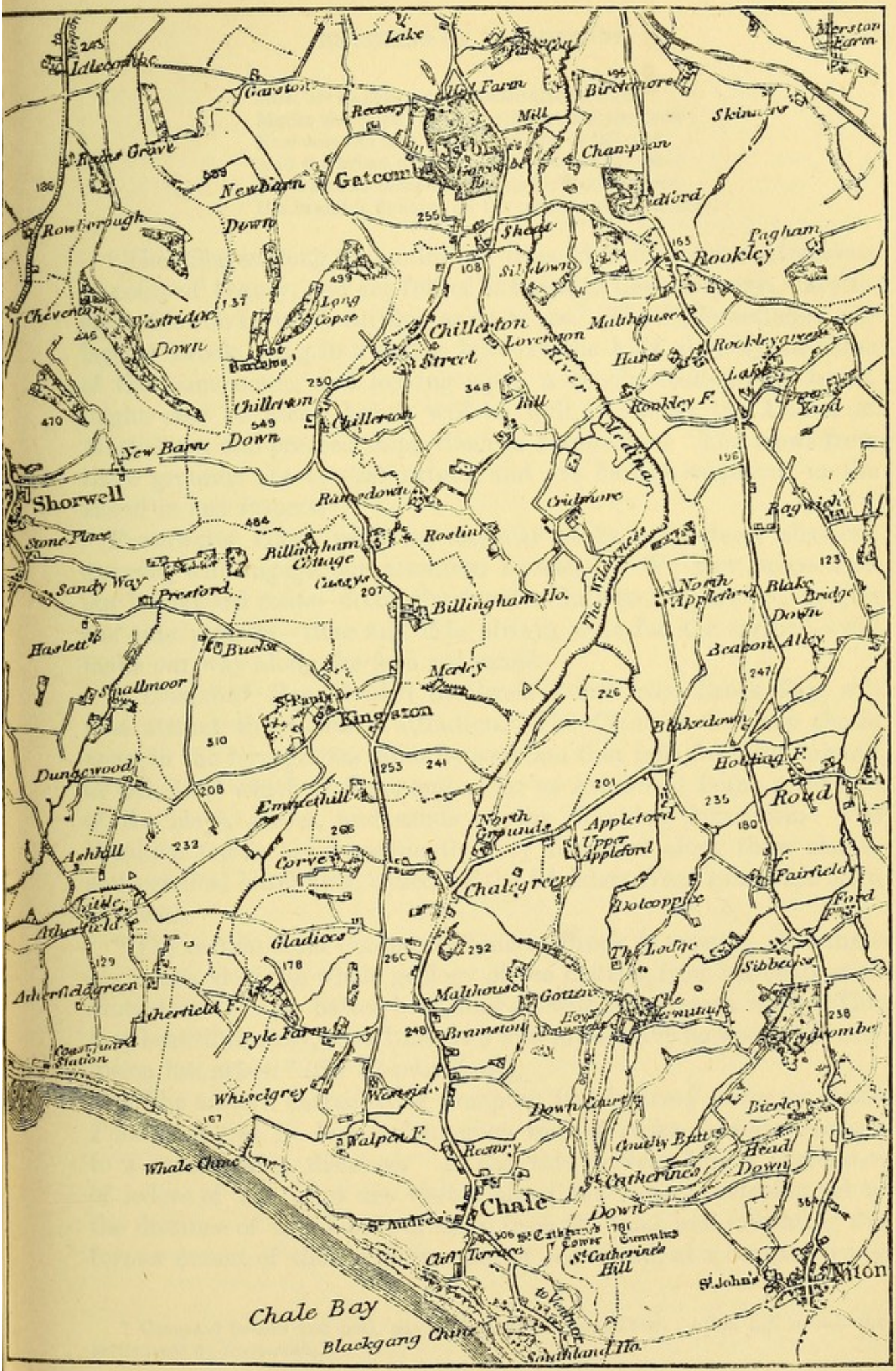
"Outspread is seen
Ocean's blue mantle, streaked with purple and green;



BRIXTON

AND ITS ENVIRONS.

On a Scale of One Inch to a Statute Mile.



The Figures indicate Height in Feet above Sea-level.

Now 'tis he sees a canvassed ship, and now
Marks the bright silver curling round the prow;
Now sees the lark down-dropping to his nest,
And the broad-winged sea-gull, never at rest—
For when no more he spreads his feathers free,
His breast is dancing on the restless sea."—KEATS.

"The villages along the summit of these cliffs have some attractions in point of beauty, and are full of interest to the antiquary. Mottistone Church is worth turning aside to see. The little secluded village of Brook, lying in a hollow betwixt the hills, close by the chine of the same name, and looking upon a rough, rock-strewn beach, might also be seen; but it will be well to ascend the Downs at Mottistone, and proceed along them to Freshwater. The views from these grounds are of vast extent, and are hardly surpassed in the island in any respect."

Freshwater Gate, with its singular rocks, and deep, shadowy caverns, will engage our attention hereafter. We now proceed on our homeward route—from Freshwater Gate to Brighstone; and, as the tide permits—time and tide always wait for the scribe!—will make our way along the firm red sands.

1. *Compton* Bay*, divided by Brook Point from Brook Bay, will first attract the tourist's attention. The *Chine* is "a deep chasm worn in the ferruginous sands by a stream that falls from the summit of the cliff," which is here, and as far as Atherfield Point, composed of the clays, shales, and sands of the Wealden formation. The Wealden fossils are consequently very abundant along these shores, and petrified hazel nuts, called by the islanders *Noah's nuts*, are often met with.

"The section from Compton Chine to Brook is superb. We there see at one view the whole geology of the district, from the chalk with flints down to the battel beds, and all within an hour's walk. This is so beautiful a key, that I am at a loss to conceive how so much confusion has arisen" (*Sir Charles Lyell*).

2. The eastern extremity of Compton Bay is *Brook Ledge*, or *Brook Point*, and "at its base a dangerous reef of rocks extends seaward to a considerable distance. If the tide is very low, a succession of ledges of this kind are visible along the shore, stretching out to the distance of half a mile or more from the land, and indicating the former extent of the southern coast of the island, at a comparatively

* Compton (*combe* and *ton*), the settlement in the hollow. Afton (*af*, *avon*), the settlement by the stream.

very modern period. These reefs and rocks consist of the harder masses of the Wealden sandstone, which have resisted the destructive effects of the waves, after the clays, sands, and softer materials have been swept away" (*Mantell*). Many disastrous wrecks have occurred upon this dangerous coast.

Here the attention of the tourist will be arrested by the remains of a singular and vast petrifaction—petrified trunks and branches of huge trees; which "evidently originated in a raft composed of a prostrate pine-forest, transported from a distance by the river which flowed through the country whence the Wealden deposits were derived, and became submerged in the sand and mud of the delta, burying with it the bones of reptiles, mussel-shells, and other extraneous bodies it had gathered in its course" (*Mantell*). To the geologist this scene, a sort of glimpse of a former world, cannot but suggest the most interesting conclusions. "The trees appear to have been submerged when arrived at maturity, and while fresh and vigorous. On a late visit there were two stems which could be traced to a length of 20 feet; and they were of such a magnitude as to indicate the height of the trees when living at from 40 to 50 feet. Many stems are concealed and protected by the fuci, corallines, and zoophytes, which here thrive luxuriantly, and occupy the place of the lichens and other parasitical plants, with which the now petrified trees were doubtless invested when flourishing in their native forests, and affording shelter to the iguanodon and other gigantic reptiles" (*Mantell*).

The sea-beach in Compton and Brixton Bays chiefly consists of chalk flints broken and rounded by attrition into boulders, pebbles, and gravel. Some of these are transparent, with bands and veins of quartz and chalcedony. There are "silicified chalk sponges," called by the lapidaries moss-agates; and the beautiful *choanites* (petrified sea-anemones), which are simply characteristic zoophytes of the white chalk. Pebbles of pure transparent quartz, others of jasper—dark-brown mottled, and opaque white—and boulders of petrified bone and wood, are also found in considerable numbers.

Passing Brook Chine, we notice, at low water, the ominous reef of *Bullface Ledge*, and find ourselves in the small cove or hollow of Brighstone Bay, as it is somewhat grandiloquently called. The cliffs are completely scored with *chines* of various degrees of interest; most of them, however, being fully as deserving of examination as the show-chines at Blackgang or Shanklin. The tourist will come to them, and other noteworthy points, in the following order :—

			Height of Cliff.
Brighstone Bay	Chilton Chine		80 ft.
	Grange Chine	Dutchman's Hole	114 "
		Ship Ledge	149 "
	Barnes Chine	Barnes Hole	182 "
	Shepherd's or White's Chine		
	Cowleaze Chine		
		Atherfield Point	120 "
Chale Bay	Fishing Cove		167 "
	Whale Chine		
	Walpan Chine		
	Ladder Chine		300 "
	Blackgang Chine		
		Rocken End	

From Brighstone Eastward.—At *Chilton Green* (*chil*, chalk, and *ton*, the settlement) rises a small stream which works its way to the cliff, and produces a chine of an interesting character. At Sudmore (towards Crab Point) is a small fishing hamlet. Near *Grange Chine* (a lifeboat station) is a cavern of considerable height, called *Dutchman's Hole*, from a Dutch galliot having been hurled into it. *Barnes Hole* is also a tolerably extensive cavern. Barnes Chine is of little importance. *Cowleaze Chine* is worth notice. The rivulet to which it owes its formation does not reach the cliff directly, but runs parallel with it for some distance. It is said at one time to have entered the sea at Cowleaze Chine, but to have been diverted by a shepherd, in order to secure the eels which nestled in its mud; and it hollowed out a new and deep channel so rapidly that he was unable to restore it to its former course. Here "the Wealden clay and its passage to the sands beneath are better displayed than in any other locality" (*Dr. Fitton*).

Walpan Chine (about 1½ mile from Blackgang) is worth visiting for the different shapes of its winding sides. It is 184 feet in height, and formed by a stream from Chale.

Ladder, or *Chale Chine*, is an excavation in the black clay cliffs, which in this place are about 200 feet in height. It runs deep into the land, is extremely narrow, and its sides in many places are perpendicular. "It is as naked as Blackgang Chine, and though much less deep, is more gloomy; but the most striking peculiarity of its character is the copious exudation of chalybeate springs from its sides, which are stained with ochreous tints to a very great extent, and their dusky red on the black clay ground gives the appearance of a vast extinguished furnace to the deep hollow." Some fishermen's huts are situated on the shore at the bottom.

Whale Chine, described by Sterling as resembling "a mighty gash inflicted by the sword of an Orlando," is 180 feet wide at its mouth, and extends inland for nearly two-thirds of a mile. It is easily reached from the military road.

Atherfield Point (*Aderfeldt*, the veined or streaked field) throws out a dangerous ledge of rocks into the sea—the scene of several wrecks, and the whilom haunt of a gang of smugglers. The cliffs at the point are about 120 feet in height, and almost entirely consist of the green-sand strata. The Wealden clay begins here, and stretches as far as Bullface Ledge, in a layer about six feet deep. "Near this place, after recent slips of the cliff, and the removal of the fallen debris by the waves, the uppermost of the Wealden deposits and the lowermost of the green-sand may be seen in juxtaposition; in other words, the line of demarcation between the accumulated sediments of a mighty river—some primeval Nile or Ganges, teeming with the spoils of the land and the exuviæ of extinct terrestrial and fluviatile animals and plants—and the bed of a vast ocean, loaded with the debris of marine organisms, of genera and species unknown in the present seas" (*Mantell*).

Blackgang Chine (*Black gang*, the black way, or path) is the most famous of the island curiosities, and has been *lionized* in the guide-books *usque ad nauseam*. Viewed from the sea, its aspect is wildly picturesque, and not without a certain savage grandeur. Viewed from a resting-place about half-way down, there is something exceedingly effective in the irregular combination of bare, bleak down, iron-coloured rock, abrupt precipitous cliff, and boundless sea, which the view presents. There is neither tree nor shrub; no bright masses of foliage relieve its sombre sides; and on a breezy day, when the south wind brings up the foamy waters with a heavy *thud* upon the shore, filling the dark hollow with its dreary echoes, anything more desolate or sorrowful it is impossible to conceive.

"The chine is on the west declivity of St. Catherine's Hill (769 feet*), and its upper appearance is not far below its high summit; two currents, from distant parts of this hill, have made their way to its brow, and from this height have excavated two large separate chasms, but their waters form a junction at the top of a high prominent point, the sides of which have been torn away by their respective torrents. The chasms at this junction become one, and consequently much deepened; from whence the united waters more rapidly hurry down the steep channel for about two hundred yards,

* Some authorities place its height at 830 feet.

BLACK GANG CHINE.

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till they arrive at an impenetrable precipice of rock (a layer of iron-stone grit), from whence they fall in a perpendicular cascade of 70 feet upon the shore" (*Wyndham*). Very little water is found in the chine, however, except after heavy rains. The cliff sides are but "of mean height and lumpish form," but above them tower majestic broken cliffs, 400 feet in height; and as a background to the singular picture, above *these* rises "the majestic escarpment" of St. Catherine's Hill.

"The country people in these parts once thought that they were possessed of a Pactolian sand, for they obtained for a certain time some gold dust from the sand of the bay; but, from a number of dollars having been from time to time cast on shore, it was justly suspected that it came from the wreck of some unfortunate Spanish ship" (*Pennant*).

Chale Bay was the scene, on the morning of the 11th October 1836, of a terrible wreck,* which has long held a prominent place in the dark roll of these mournful disasters. The good ship *Clarendon*, a West Indiaman of 345 tons, with a crew of 17 men and boys, and 11 passengers, was driven in-shore by a tremendous gale, and immediately went to pieces. Only three lives were saved. We may add that scarcely a winter passes without one or more wrecks, often accompanied by loss of life; and the adjacent churchyard is full of sad memorials.

"It may be as well to warn visitors against approaching too near the breaking waves, even when only exhibiting their ordinary grandeur. After bursting, they rush up the beach to some distance, and the *back draught* is so powerful as to throw down an individual who may be taken by surprise, and whose footing upon the loose shingle is necessarily so uncertain as to render him ill able to withstand its force. Should a wave overtake a person in this manner, during tempestuous weather, he would probably be drawn into the boiling surge, and almost certain destruction would be the result. A providential escape occurred in the summer of 1848 to a lady resident near the spot. She was walking with a female friend along the shore, when a wave, bursting with more than usual violence, dashed up to them, and bore her away in its retiring surge. Her struggles for assistance were in vain, and certain death appeared before her. With equal heroism and judgment her companion, instead of rushing immediately to her aid, and involving the loss of

* Here also, in 1830, was wrecked a Dutch galliot, the *Diana Frau;* but the crew were saved.

her own life, watched the opportunity of the return of a wave of less force than the others, ran to her assistance, and by an almost superhuman effort succeeded in rescuing her now almost lifeless friend, and in placing her in safety on the cliff above."

In 1844, however, a youth of nineteen was less fortunate. With some lads he was picking up oranges which had been washed on shore from a wreck in the neighbourhood, when a wave caught hold of him, dragged him from his companions, and in ten minutes flung him back again at their feet, a lifeless corpse.

From the beach at Blackgang Chine the tourist ascends to the upper cliff by a rough flight of steps, formed by small logs of wood embedded in the earth at somewhat irregular distances. At the summit is a large and well-stocked "bazaar," where the tourist is expected to purchase, or contribute 6d. towards the cost of keeping in order the paths, which, during the storms of winter, are often destroyed or seriously injured. This arrangement applies to all persons passing either up or down the chine, which is private property. In a large building adjoining the "bazaar," note the skeleton of an immense whale, 82 feet long: it was stranded at Gurnard in 1842; said to be the largest and most perfect specimen in existence. A commodious hotel and some lodging-houses are seated in excellent positions upon the cliff; very pleasant in the genial months of summer and autumn, but a little too exposed for winter residence.*

The tourist will next ascend *St. Catherine's Hill* (775 feet), the loftiest elevation in the island, which, with its two towers, offers for so many miles around a conspicuous and splendid landmark. Here, at least as early as the beginning of the fourteenth century, stood a hermitage, in strange solitude, on the summit of this precipitous height, where even on the stillest day the winds roam and whistle as they list! One Walter de Godyton built here a chantry (in 1323), dedicating it to St. Catherine, who, in the Roman Hagiology, is invariably the patroness of hills and mountains. In the registry of the diocese of Winchester, however, occurs an entry referring to the hermitage:—"Walter de Langstrell, admissus ad hermitorium supra montem de Chale, in insula Vectis, idib. Octobris, A.D. 1312;" which shows that it was erected prior to the foundation of the chantry. Walter de Godyton also provided an endowment for a mass priest, who should chant masses, and maintain a burning light at night for the safety of mariners passing that dangerous coast. This duty was

* A landslip took place in this vicinity a year ago, carrying away some portion of the carriage-road.

duly performed until the dissolution of the minor religious houses, when the priest was swept away, though the chantry, built of stone and massive masonry, remained, and may still be inspected by the curious. Many years since it was strongly repaired, in consideration of its value as a landmark, when "the foundation of the whole chapel was also cleared and levelled; by which, not only its figure was discovered, but also the floor and stone hearth of the priest's little cell at the south-west corner" (*Worsley*). Its height is 35½ feet; its form octagonal. Almost adjoining it is the shell of a lighthouse, erected in 1785 by the Trinity Board; but speedily discontinued, the mists which so often crown the summit of the hill rendering it of little service. In its place a beacon was established, under the charge of a lieutenant, a midshipman, and two seamen. St. Catherine's is "the western extremity of the southern range of chalk downs, which is separated by a considerable district of green-sand from the central chain of hills. This system of chalk downs varies in breadth from half a mile to 3 miles, and extends 6 miles in a direction E.N.E. and W.S.W., from St. Catherine's Hill to Dunnose, its eastern termination, which is 771 feet high. The intermediate parts of this range maintain an elevation of from 650 to 800 feet, with the exception of a deep valley on the east of St. Catherine's, through which the road to Niton passes, and another at Steep Hill, called the Shute, or Shoot, above Ventnor, traversed by the road to Appuldurcombe and Newport" (*Mantell*).

Enthusiastic travellers have frequently expatiated upon the splendid prospect to be enjoyed, on a clear sunny day, from the summit of this lofty down. "The view is really of wondrous extent—reaching over by far the larger part of the island, and including the New Forest and the hills of Hampshire, and the south coast as far as Beachy Head. In the opposite direction, the high lands about Cherbourg are said to have been occasionally seen, but it is a very rare occurrence. On a calm, clear day, the better part of the island lies spread like a map at your feet: its bare hills, and its long valleys dusky with the thick foliage that everywhere crowds them; the villages and the towns marked by the lighter or denser smoky vapour that hangs above them; the winding streams, growing sometimes into lakes ere they fall into the sea; and the silver ocean that encircles it, alive with mighty ships of war, and every kind of smaller craft; and, beyond that again, the far distant hills, losing themselves in a soft purple haze" (*Thorne*). Miss Sewell, in her "Ursula," describing the scenery towards Freshwater, says:—"The coast forms

part of a great bay indented by smaller ones. The shore is closed in with red sand cliffs, rather low, broken, and jagged; but away to the west the red sand changes into chalk, and the cliffs become very steep, and rise to a great height; standing out against the sky when the sun shines on them, until they almost dazzle the eye; and at other times covering themselves, as it were, with a bluish veil of mist, and looking out proudly from behind it. I always liked the white cliffs very much, yet my eye never rested upon them long, but turned to a distant stretch of gray land, looking like a cloud, which could be seen just where the sea and sky met." Such a scene, in fact, as the poet has touched with a glowing pencil in the following lines:—

"A land of streams! some, like a downward smoke,
Slow-dropping veils of thinnest lawn, do go;
You see the gleaming river seaward flow
From the inner land....
Through mountain clefts the dale
Is seen far inland, and the yellow down
Bordered with trees, and many a winding vale
And meadow, set with slender galingale;
A land where all things always seem the same!"—TENNYSON.

The chief points in the panorama are: to the north, the long chalk range of St. George's, Ashey, and Brading Downs, with Brading Haven to the north-east. To the north-west are the towers of Osborne and the roofs of Newport; and beyond, that "streak of silver sea," the Solent. On a hill in the centre of the picture rises Godshill Church. To the west sweep the undulating lines of Chillerton, Brighstone, Afton, and the High Downs, with, at their feet, the shore-belt which lines a long reach of bays. Finally, to the south, broad and beautiful, like a plain of molten glass, sleeps the English Channel.

SEATS OF THE GENTRY.

In that portion of the island which we have now surveyed,—a triangle, as it were, the three points of which are indicated by Rocken End, Freshwater Gate, and Gatcombe Down,—are some ancient mansions which deserve more than passing notice.

Northcourt, the seat of Sir H. P. Gordon, Bart., lies on the right of the road from Newport to Shorwell, about half a mile from the latter village, in a position of singular beauty. The house was begun in the reign of James I. by Sir John Leigh, and completed by his son, Barnaby Leigh, from whose descendant the manor was purchased by R. Bull, Esq. His eldest daughter, to whom it was bequeathed, devised it to her half-brother, R. H. C. Bennet, Esq., of

Beckenham, Kent, whose widow became the possessor on the death of their eldest son. From the Bennets it passed by marriage into the hands of General Sir James Willoughby Gordon, Bart., a distinguished Peninsular soldier, who died in 1851; and it is now in the possession of his son, Sir H. P. Gordon, Bart., one of the magistrates for the county. "The front of the house is adorned with a handsome central porch. On either hand is a large window, and beyond them, semi-octagon bows, two stories high, terminated by a battlement and pinnacles. Beyond these, to the right, the front terminates with a projecting building, which is wanting to the left. All these parts severally finish in gables, ornamented with slender pinnacles rising from projecting corbels" (*Neale*). The east front is the only portion of the ancient mansion which remains in its original purity, and with its square projecting windows, its casements pendent on their stone mullions, its seated porch, and gable-end roof, has a very picturesque appearance. Over the porch is a scutcheon, and the date 1615. The gardens are admirably laid out in terraces, and from certain points command the finest conceivable views of the English Channel. In a woody hollow, formerly a chalk pit, and overhung by a large ash tree, is a low stone building like a Gothic chapel, with a thatched roof and painted windows, containing a stately sarcophagus of white marble, on the front of which are carved, in bas-relief, a male and female figure hanging over an urn. This was erected to the memory of Miss Catherine Bull by her sister.* On a tablet, beneath the urn, are inscribed some mediocre lines by her father, R. Bull, Esq.:—

"Oft, in this once beloved retreat,
A father and a sister meet;
Here they reflect on blessings past,
On happiness too great to last:
Here, from their fond endearment torn,
A daughter, sister, friend they mourn;
Soothing the mutual pangs they feel,
Adding to wounds they cannot heal.
Strangers to grief while she survived,
In her their every pleasure lived;
She was their comfort, joy, and pride—
With her their every pleasure died!
Ah, shade revered! look down and see
How all their thoughts ascend to thee!
In scenes where grief must ever pine,
Where every bursting sigh is thine,
Prostrate they bow to God's behest,
Convinced whatever is, is best:

* On the neighbouring down is a small stone obelisk, also dedicated to this lady's memory, and very inappropriately called by the natives *Bull's Folly*.

In trembling hope they may be given
With thee, blest saint, to rest in heaven!
If, reader, thou canst shed a tear
At sorrow's asking, drop it here!"

On another tablet, detached from the monument, is an inscription to the *genius loci*:—

"Sweet Peace, that lov'st in placid scenes to dwell,
Extend thy blessings to this quiet dell;
Bring Resignation to the wounded breast,
And Contemplation, Reason's favourite guest;
Restore that calm Religion only gives,
Correct those thoughts desponding Grief conceives:
So shall these shades a brighter aspect wear,
Nor longer fall the solitary tear;
So shall Content from tranquil pleasures flow,
And Peace, sweet Peace, best happiness bestow!"

In the grounds a small stream rises, which, running southward through the village, has given to it the appellation of *Shorwell*. The main road passes through this pleasant estate, and over it has been thrown a picturesque rural bridge to connect the divided portions.

Westcourt, or South Shorwell, on the Brighstone road, is probably of the same date as Northcourt, and, though of smaller size, was evidently at one time the residence of a considerable family. This ivy-shrouded house derives its name from its position with regard to—

Woolverton (Wulfere's town), 1 mile south of Northcourt, a large mansion of the date of James I., which contains some good carvings, and is agreeably surrounded with luxuriant foliage. Near it may be traced the site of a more ancient house. No buildings are visible, but "a broad and deep moat, enclosing a square area, is entire. This was evidently the principal seat in the parish" (*Englefield*).

Waitscourt, a pleasantly-situated mansion, lies to the south of Brighstone Church, on a road to the left of the Parsonage.

To *Mottistone Farm*, *Pitt Place*, and *Brook House*, we have already alluded.

PLACES TO BE VISITED BY THE PEDESTRIAN.

Chilton Green, 1 mile south of Brighstone; *Yafford*, 1 mile south-west of Shorwell; *Down Court*, and *The Hermitage*, "the Dene" of Miss Sewell's "Ursula," situated at the foot of St. Catherine's Down; the *Alexandrian Pillar*, on the north-west extremity of St. Catherine's Down, and best reached from the Hermitage (this pillar, 72 feet high, was erected by a Russian merchant, Michael Hoy, while living at the Hermitage, to commemorate the visit to England, in 1814, of the Czar Alexander: a tablet to the memory of the heroes who fell in the Crimean War was placed on the base of this hand-

some column, in 1857, by Lieut. Dawes); *Stroud Green*, 2 miles north of Chale; *Ivy House*, a picturesque farm half a mile north-east of Kingston; *Rowborough* and *Gallibury*, about 3 miles from Brighstone, by a breezy route across the downs, or by the road to Newport, striking off to the left at Rowborough Farm. "This collection of ancient British pits may be regarded as constituting two villages, divided by natural boundaries, though connected by the intermediate pits and defences on the downs" (*Rev. E. Kell*). *Gallibury* means, we are told, the *burgh* or fastness of the Gaels (Kelts); *Rowborough*, the *village* in a *row* or *line*. The Rev. E. Kell, F.S.A., who carefully examined these ancient British habitations in 1854–5, measured sixty-two of the pits, or hollows, "some round, the majority oval, and a few double pits." He also observed noteworthy traces of the Celtic fortifications,—in particular, an embankment at the head of the valley on the side of Brighstone Down, 175 feet in length, 40 in breadth, and 8 in depth.....There is another and larger British settlement, about a mile distant, at the foot of *Newbarns Down*, which the tourist should examine. "This ancient village is located in three small valleys running from Newbarns Down into a larger valley, encircled by high hills. Through the centre of each of these valleys are pits, in number thirty-four; and nearly at the base, where the three valleys unite, is a pond of very considerable dimensions, which received its supplies from the neighbouring hills. Besides these thirty-four larger pits, there are in the basin of the valley sixty or seventy generally of a smaller size" (*Rev. E. Kell*). On the neighbouring downs are many other pits, barrows, embankments, and ditches, memorials of the earlier inhabitants of this beautiful isle.

DISTRICT IV.—NORTH-EAST.

RYDE AND ITS ENVIRONS.

☞ The district, of which we intend to regard the populous and prosperous town of Ryde as the centre, must be understood to comprise a portion of the parishes of Newchurch, Brading, Wootton, and St. Helen's; that is, the north-eastern angle of the Isle of Wight, bounded by a line drawn from Wootton Bridge on the Fishhouse or Fishbourne Creek to Newchurch, a base line from Newchurch to the Culver Cliffs, and the coast line, marked by Wootton Creek, Ryde, Bembridge Foreland, and White Cliff Bay. All the routes indicated within these boundaries are available for pedestrians.

RYDE.

Hotels—The Pier; Yelf's, Union Street; Kent, Union Street; York, George Street; Sivier's, Pier Street; Eagle, Pier Street; Esplanade; Crown, St. Thomas's Square; Belgrave, Nelson Street; Castle, High Street; Strand; Star, High Street.

Banks—National Provincial Bank, Union Street; Hampshire Banking Company, Union Street; Capital and Counties Bank, Union Street.

Post-Office (three deliveries a day), Union Street. *Pillar Boxes*—High Street, Dover Street, Spencer Road, Queen's Road, Esplanade, Monkton Street, near St. John's toll-gate; and at Binstead, Haylands, and Swanmore.

Libraries—Mills' Royal Marine, Union Street; Mason's, and Watts', Cross Street; Pittman's, and Wagner's, Union Street; Ticehurst's, Monkton Street. Also, in connection with the Philosophical Society, Melville Street; and Young Men's Christian Association, Lind Street.

School of Art and Museum, in George Street. The foundation stone was laid by the Crown Princess of Germany (Princess Victoria), August 17, 1874.

Railway Terminus—in connection with Ryde Pier Tramway—at corner of Monkton Street and St. John's Road. Trains to Brading, Sandown, Shanklin, Wroxall, and Ventnor; and, *viâ* Sandown, to Newport.

Newspapers—Isle of Wight Times, 1½d., Wednesday evening; Ryde News, 1d., Friday evening; Isle of Wight Observer, 1½d., Friday evening; and Ryde Ventilator, 1d., Saturday morning.

Baths—Kemp's, on Esplanade; and Victoria Pier.

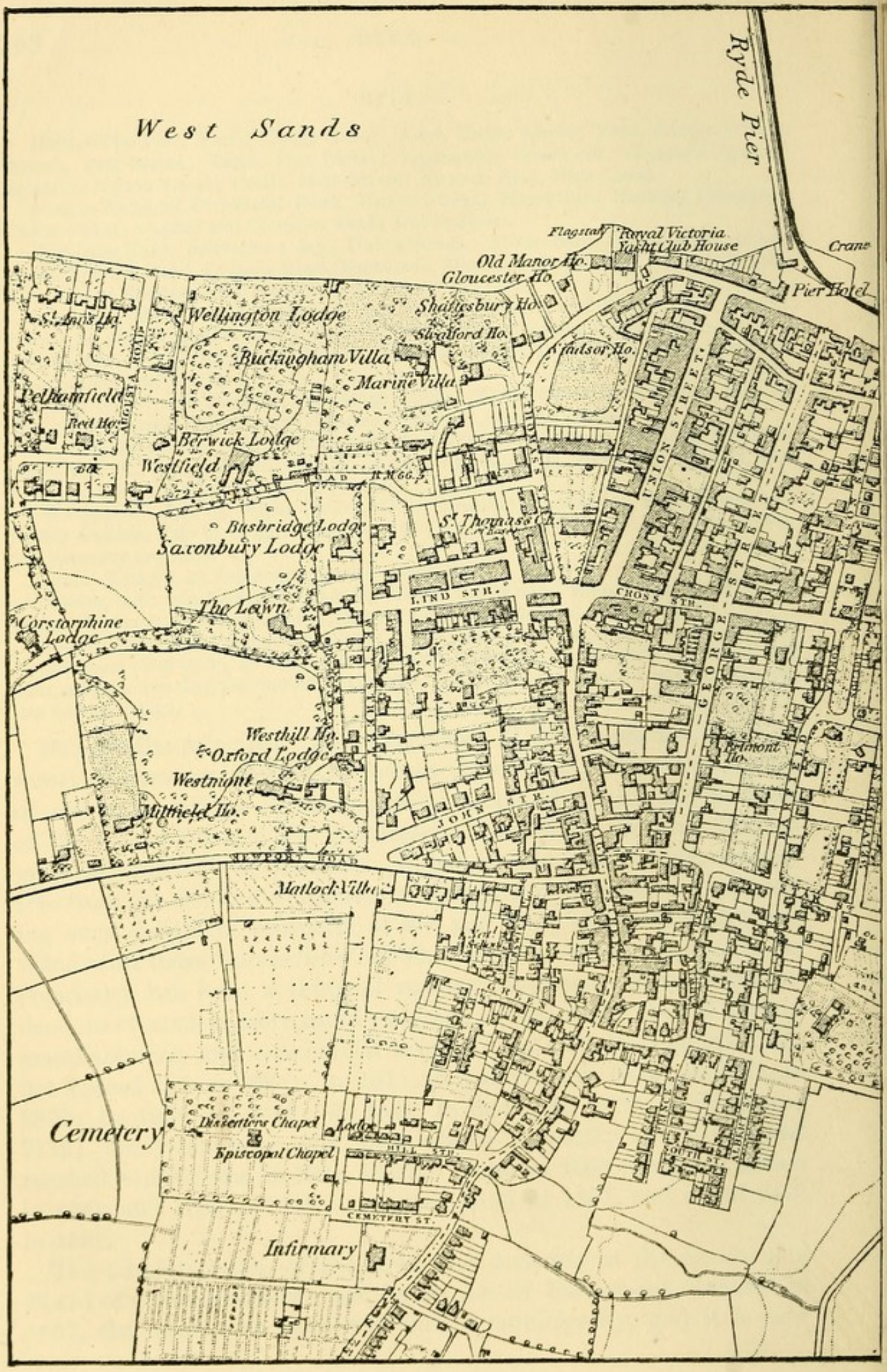
Coaches, from the Esplanade and the Castle Inn, several times a day, for Wootton Bridge, Newport, and Carisbrooke; also for Brading, Sandown, and Shanklin.

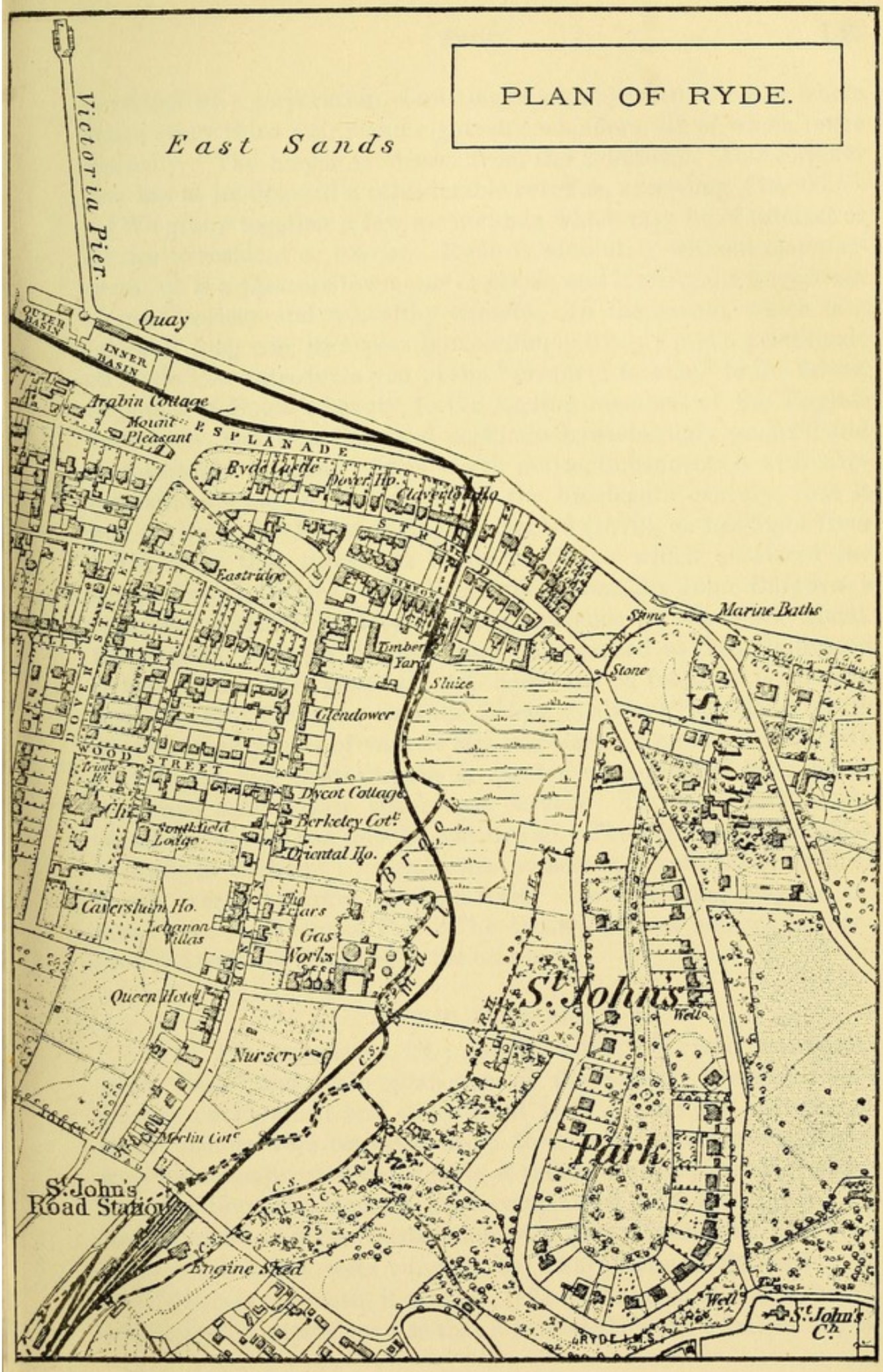
Boats—Usual charge for rowing-boats, 1s. 6d., and for sailing-boats, 2s. 6d. an hour.

Carriages—Per mile, 1s. 6d., and over three miles, 1s. 2d. per mile; or 2s. 6d. per hour, and 20s. per day, for one-horse carriage, and 2s. 6d. per hour, or 27s. per day, for two-horse carriage.

RYDE is the principal "watering-place" of the island, and the chief resort of summer visitors, for whom it is equally eligible as a place of residence and as a starting-point from which all the beauties of the Undercliff and the picturesque scenery of the East Medine may conveniently be reached. A bright and lively town, entirely free from the din and vulgarity of Margate or Ramsgate, commanding very delightful prospects of sea and land, and abundantly provided with those "amenities" which visitors so keenly appreciate, its popularity has been a thing of constant increase. Few towns, indeed, have made a more rapid progress, except in the case of certain manufacturing and commercial centres. In 1801 its population did not exceed 900 or 1000; in 1811, it had risen to 1601; in 1821, to 2876; in 1831, to 3676; in 1841, to 5840; in 1851, it numbered 7149; ten years later, the total sprang to 9629; in 1871 it had reached 11,260; and in 1881, 12,670. Against 1000 inhabited houses in 1841, and 1734 in 1861, it counted 2136 in 1871, and about 2450 in 1881.

The administration of the town was formerly in the hands of a Board of Commissioners: but, by an Act of Parliament obtained in 1867, the town was converted into a municipality, and it is now


West Sands
Ryde Pier
Flagstaff
Royal Victoria Yacht Club House
Crane
Old Manor Ho.
Gloucester Ho.
Pier Hotel
St. Anns Ho.
Wellington Lodge
Shaftesbury Ho.
Shalford Ho.
Buckingham Villa
Marine Villa
Pelhamfield
Red Ho.
Berwick Lodge
Westfield
Busbridge Lodge
Saxonbury Lodge
St. Thomas's Ch.
The Lawn
Corstorphine Lodge
Westhill Ho.
Oxford Lodge
Westnight
Millfield Ho.
Matlock Villa
Cemetery
Dissenters Chapel
Episcopal Chapel
Infirmary
UNION STREET
GEORGE STREET
CROSS STR.
LIND STR.
JOHN
NEWPORT ROAD
CEMETERY ST.
HILL STR.
SOUTH


PLAN OF RYDE.
East Sands
Victoria Pier.
Quay
OUTER BASIN
INNER BASIN
Arabin Cottage
Mount Pleasant
ESPLANADE
Eastridge
Marine Baths
Stone
Timber Yard
Sluice
Glendower
DOVER STREET
WOOD STREET
Dycot Cottage
Berkeley Cott.
Oriental Ho.
Caversham Ho.
Lebanon Villas
Gas Works
Queen Hotel
Nursery
Merlin Cott.
St. John's Road Station
Engine Shed
St. John's Well
St. John's Park
St. John's Ch.
Well
RYDE



governed by a corporation, consisting of six aldermen, three of whom retire every third year; and eighteen councillors, six of whom retire annually. The mayor is chosen from the aldermen. This corporation has at its disposal a considerable revenue, exceeding £19,000.

[We group together a few memoranda which may be of interest or service to resident or tourist. Ryde is absolutely without manufactures; it is a pleasure town, *pur et simple*, and it offers the attractions of good society and a healthy climate. In the season, which is a tolerably long one, its aspect is exceedingly lively; and a promenade on Ryde Pier introduces you to the "cream of fashion," to the fairest examples of English beauty, to the leading members of the English aristocracy, and to toilets and costumes bewilderingly graceful and astonishingly brilliant. It is worth notice, in connection with a remarkable episode of the history of the nineteenth century, that it was at Ryde the Empress Eugenie landed (1870), on her flight from Paris, after that disastrous battle of Sedan which shattered the second French empire. She disembarked from Sir John Burgoyne's yacht the *Gazelle*, and took up her residence at the York Hotel. The regatta week (in August) may be regarded as the culmination of the season; but concerts and balls are of frequent occurrence from June to October; and the Solent is always "speckled" with white-winged yachts of various rigs and sizes. Communication with Portsmouth and Southampton is regularly maintained by a handsome and commodious steam-boat service. To most parts of the island easy access can now be had by rail. The hotel accommodation of Ryde is excellent; lodgings are numerous, comfortable, and, as a rule, very moderate in their tariff. Good bathing may be enjoyed from the Victoria Pier. The theatre is neat and convenient; good concerts are frequent in the season.]

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

1. The *Pier* (admission, 2d.; annual ticket, 10s.) is, of course, the great "lion" and main attraction of the place. Previous to its erection only a small and dilapidated jetty existed; so that at low water visitors were conveyed from their boats by a horse and cart, or in sedans supported by a couple of sailors,—a *désagrément* of which both Fielding and Marryat have complained. In 1813 a local Act was procured, and the construction of a pier undertaken, by a company whose funds were supplied by 2400 shares of £50 each. At first 1740 feet in length, it grew in 1824 by 300 feet, and in 1860 and 1863 by other extensions; so that it is now about 2305 feet in length,

affording a delightful promenade, from which may be obtained a sea view of no ordinary beauty, including, as it does, the whole sweep of the Solent, from Osborne on the west to the Nab light-vessel on the east; Spithead, with its men-of-war; the Motherbank, with its merchant sail; Portsmouth Harbour, mast-thronged, and backed, as it were, by the blue Hampshire hills; the sunny Hampshire coast; and the well-wooded shores of the island stretching away, with many a gentle curve, on either hand. From the pier-head, looking back upon the town, the spectator may enjoy another attractive picture: the villas of Ryde rise one above another like an amphitheatre, diversified by clusters of foliage, by two or three tall church spires, and long lines of streets winding up the steep hill on which the town is built. The shores of the island assume the shape of a crescent, the eastward point of which is the wooded headland of Sea View, and the western, the sloping ridge crowned by the stately towers of Osborne.

It is difficult to match anywhere, even in Brighton or Scarborough, the animated and picturesque spectacle presented by Ryde Pier on a bright summer day. It is charming in itself, and charming in its accessories. Mr. Frith should sketch it as at once a companion and a contrast to his "Ramsgate Sands." Enlivening as is the scene, it is rendered doubly exhilarating by the purity and elasticity of the atmosphere. Moreover, it has all the advantages of variety, for it changes in character at different hours of the day. In the morning people resort to it for health; in the afternoon, for fashion; in the evening, for sentiment. Its afternoon aspect has been pleasantly described by a London journalist:—"Toilets," he says, "of an excruciatingly elaborate kind, costumes of the very latest description, fashion, beauty, demoiselles and dames, blondes and brunettes, heroes and heroines of a hundred drawing-room tales, faces that are as familiar to you, whether seen in the Park, the salons of Mayfair and Belgravia, watering-places English and Continental, as is your own front door; others again that inspire you with a certain sense of novelty and innocence; gossip, scandal, chit-chat, criticism—*que voulez-vous?*—you have them all galore on Ryde Pier. The hour four, and the band—no matter to which of the three regiments quartered within available distance of this place it belongs—playing at the termination of some race, momentarily expected, and you have Ryde Pier under one of its most favourable aspects, if not the most. For all practical purposes the Pier at such a period simply means the pier-head, and the pier-head is a promenade some two hundred feet

in extent. Into this space is compressed everybody in Ryde who is anybody,—and the anybodies number not less than half a thousand. Imagine a selection from the Row during the season—or, better still, the occupants of one or two drawing-rooms, at that hour of the day at which the modern Kettledrum is generally celebrated—placed on the wooden platform 'far above the melancholy main,' and you have a fair idea of the scene. To move at all is not an easy matter; to move swiftly is an impossibility. Skirts of every texture and every hue sweep the ground, and the sea-breeze as it comes in makes music with the silken and muslin folds, and infuses into the odours of Piesse and Lubin an aromatic element of saline."

In the evening the Pier becomes the favourite resort of happy young couples to whom sentimental nothings are still more precious than the words of the wise, and who appear to derive a singular enjoyment from a steadfast contemplation of the rippling sea,—a contemplation so profound as to render them heedless of all that passes around them.* In the morning, old gentlemen may be seen pacing up and down the half-mile of timber, in search, we suppose, of an appetite; and brisk young ladies scud merrily along, talking and laughing, as they perform their regular "constitutional." Where there are young ladies there will also be young men; and these make their appearance in every variety of attire, the predominant being that which is conventionally supposed to indicate the bold yachtsman or amateur sea-rover. Altogether, the visitor to Ryde will find something to amuse him on its Pier at all times of the day; and if he be poetically inclined, a promenade by moonlight, when the sea ripples in silver, and a calm radiance falls on the island-hills, may suggest to him an "inspiration."

A tramway runs the whole length of the Pier, conveying passengers and luggage direct from the steam-boat to the railway station. Fares (to end of Pier), 6d. first class, and 5d. second class.

2. The *New Railway Pier*, a massive structure on iron columns, runs parallel with, and almost touches, the Promenade Pier, having a noble landing-stage at the head, where passengers, under cover and

* "It was on Ryde Pier, and in the evening, what time the summer waters of the fair Solent stretched broad and smooth on either hand, and the lights of the ships at Spithead, the yachts in the roadstead, and of Southsea, five miles away, made long lines across this ocean lake; while the summer air was soft and warm; while the lazy water of the flowing tide lapped at the supports of the pier and gurgled among the planks below; while, as they two turned side by side, looking out beyond the pier, and picturing endless happiness, the steps of those who came and went upon the pier dropped unheeded on their ears, and the music of the band was only the setting of the love-song in their hearts."—Besant and Rice, *Monks of Thelema*.

in comfort, may pass from the boat to the rail, and without further change be deposited at Ventnor or any of the intermediate stations. This improvement has been carried out by the South Coast and South-Western Companies jointly. A new and powerful fleet of steam-boats are also being provided for the passage.

3. The *Esplanade* is another promenade, and not an unworthy rival of the Pier. It is of comparatively recent construction (1855–56), and provides a broad, straight, and open parade, defended from the sea by a wall of excellent masonry—length 1200 feet, and breadth, at the widest, 150. The sea wall is 19½ feet in depth, and coped with Swanage stone. The railway runs under the Esplanade in a tunnel. The foreshore in front is undergoing great improvements, and a boating lake is being constructed.

4. Almost parallel with the Pier, and opening upon the Esplanade nearly opposite George Street, is the *Victoria Pier*, built by an extinct "Isle of Wight Steam Ferry Company," whose managers proposed to furnish an easier communication with the mainland, in connection with the Stokes Bay Railway,—a feeder of the London and South-Western, which avoids the town of Portsmouth. The Pier, about 700 feet long, now belongs to the Old Pier Company, and has been provided with stages for the purpose of bathing. Tickets to the baths, 6d. each.

5. The *Town Hall*, in Lind Street, erected in 1829–31, at a cost of £5000. The frontage, including the wings, measures 198 feet. The centre has a slight projection, and forms a vestibule with a columned pediment, of elegant design. A handsome clock tower was erected by the late Miss Player : the clock, a gift to the town, cost £400. A portion of the right wing is occupied by the Literary Institute ; the left wing forms a market. The Town Hall, properly so called, forms the centre of the building ; and over the market is an Assembly Room, capable of seating 750 persons.

6. The *Yacht Club House* is an ornamental building west of the Pier, with a small battery seaward, and interior appurtenances of considerable elegance. The foundation-stone was laid by the late Prince Consort, March 1846, and the Club House opened in the following year. It was enlarged, and a new Italian façade erected, in 1864.

The *Royal Victoria Club* was established May 24, 1845, and, by Admiralty warrant of July 29, in the same year, was entitled to bear the St. George's ensign. The Club now enrolls 190 yachts, with an aggregate of about 121,000 tons. The entrance fee is £5, 5s., and the annual subscription, £5, 5s. The annual regatta is held about

the second week in August, and is followed, after a short interval, by a town regatta for the encouragement of the Ryde boatmen.

7. The *Royal Victoria Arcade*, in Union Street, is a covered promenade, with handsome shops on each side, and a sort of circular recess or show-room at the end of it. The design was furnished by Westmacott, and carried out at a cost of £10,000.

8. The *School of Art and Museum* is situated in George Street. The foundation-stone was laid by her Imperial and Royal Highness the Crown Princess of Prussia in August 1874, and the building was opened in December 1875. Within it is accommodation for the elementary classes, and rooms for study and drawing from the antique, etc. It is in connection with the South Kensington Science and Art Department. The Museum, originally established in 1857, contains a large and valuable collection of antiquities and specimens of the zoology and natural history of the island, with natural and scientific curiosities brought from all parts of the world. Open to the public usually from 10 to 4 o'clock.

The *Young Men's Christian Association*, a handsome building, situated in Lind Street, cost upwards of £2000. The library contains 7000 volumes, and the reading-room is supplied with the serial publications of the day.

[*Hazelwood*, in a measure connected with the above, is situated at Swanmore, about a mile from the sea. It is a large and handsome house, pleasantly placed on high ground, commanding good sea and land views. The object of the establishment is to provide a home for young men engaged in business in London, during their holidays or when needing change of air. A small weekly sum secures admission on certain conditions. The home contains a large dining-room, drawing-room, library, and reading-room, and ample sleeping accommodation for forty inmates. It is managed by a local committee. Samuel Morley, Esq., M.P., is president.]

9. The *Royal Isle of Wight Infirmary* is situated in the Swanmore Road, on ground presented by the lord and lady of the manor. It owes its prosperity to the exertions of the late Dr. Dodd, and has undoubtedly been of great advantage to the island poor. Its income averages about £1600. A fever ward was erected in connection with this institution in 1871.

10. The *Water-works* which supply the town are placed at the foot of Ashey Down, nearly 4 miles from Ryde, and cost the large sum of £22,500. They were constructed under the superintendence of Messrs. Easton and Amos, a well-known hydraulic engineering

firm. The reservoir will hold 504,000 gallons, and is about 250 feet above low-water mark. A considerable extension of the works is projected.

11. The Ryde *Theatre*, in St. Thomas's Square, was rebuilt in 1872, and is a neat and even elegant edifice. Its single interesting association is with the well-remembered actress Mrs. Jordan, who, on her way to France in 1816, made her last public appearance upon its miniature stage.

12. Ryde is well supplied with *Places of Worship;* both Churchman and Nonconformist will find ample accommodation. Belonging to the Church of England are—

All Saints', Queen Road, a handsome structure, designed by Sir G. G. Scott, and erected in 1869–72. Its altar, reredos, and pulpit are of excellent workmanship. Its organ is one of the finest in Southern England, and cost £1650. A spire, with a peal of bells, and other additions, is in course of erection at an estimated outlay of £6500.

Holy Trinity, Dover Street, occupies a good position, and is not without architectural merit.

St. James's, Lind Street, is a plain building, with a spacious and convenient interior.

St. Thomas's, St. Thomas Street, is a proprietary church, Early English in character, built of stone, in 1827.

St. John's, Oakfield, is a district church in the parish of St. Helen's, situated at the top of St. John's Hill.

St. Michael and all Angels, Swanmore, is a cruciform building in thirteenth-century style, with a lofty central tower. The services here are "Ritualistic."

The *Denominational Places of Worship* include — *Independent Chapel*, George Street, a building of some pretensions; *Baptist*, George Street, built from Mr. F. Newman's designs, by Sir Morton Peto; *Baptist*, Park Road; *Wesleyan*, Nelson Street; *Primitive Methodist* and *Bible Christian*, Newport Street; and *Plymouth Brethren*, Albert Street. The *Roman Catholic Chapel*, in High Street, is richly decorated.

The *Cemetery*, with a chapel dedicated to St. Paul, lies north of the town; consecrated in 1842; enlarged in 1862. Some of the monuments are exceptionally good: as, for instance, those to General Sir J. Caldwell, Captain Wyatt, the Rev. J. Telford, and Miss Bellina Lees.

13. Some *Almshouses* of picturesque design, in the Newport

Road, were erected by the late Mrs. Wilder as a memorial to her husband.

The town of Ryde can scarcely be said to have a history, its growth is of such recent date. The old town, *La Rye*, or *La Riche*, was a cluster of cottages upon the summit of the hill, with perhaps a few fishermen's huts straggling along the shore. It was burned by the French in the reign of Edward II.; was one of the places where a watch and ward were maintained for the safety of the island; and one of the three ports to which all communication with the mainland was restricted. About the close of the eighteenth century it began to struggle out of its insignificance, and many pleasant seats were erected in its neighbourhood. Its increase was such as speedily to necessitate the accommodation of a church, and the lord of the manor, in 1719, founded the chapel of St. Thomas.

Fielding, the inimitable creator of "Parson Adams" and "Joseph Andrews," on his voyage to Lisbon in 1753, was detained here for several days, and to his lively pen we are indebted for a picture of singular force and humour. He was then a dying man, and in a condition of deplorable weakness; but it was considered desirable that he should leave the wind-bound vessel, and enjoy, while he could, the repose and refreshment of a residence on shore. To leave the ship and get on board a hoy was possible, but from the hoy to reach the land was a task of surprising difficulty. For "between the sea and the shore," he says, "there was at low water an impassable gulf, if I may so call it, of deep mud, which could neither be traversed by walking nor swimming; so that, for one-half of the twenty-four hours, Ryde was inaccessible by friend or foe." He was therefore rowed in a small boat as near the shore as possible, and then "taken up by two sailors, who waded with him through the mud, and placed him in a chair on the land." At a later period, for this human vehicle was substituted a more suitable conveyance; "the wherries came in as far as they could, and were met by a horse and cart, which took out the passengers, and carried them through the mud and water to the hard ground" (*Marryat*, "*Poor Jack*").

In Fielding's time the town could boast of only one butcher, but, according to Fielding's landlady, "he was a very good one, and one that killed all sorts of meat in season—beef two or three times a year, and mutton the whole year round." When the great satirist wanted a cup of tea, he discovered that "the whole town of Ryde could not supply a single leaf; for as to what Mrs. Humphreys [his landlady]

and the shopman called by that name, it was not of Chinese growth," but "a tobacco of the mundungus species."

Notwithstanding these *désagréments*, the beauty of the place made a great impression upon Fielding's fancy. "Its situation," he exclaims, "is most delightful, and in the most pleasant spot in the whole island. It is true it wants the advantage of that beautiful river which leads from Newport to Cowes; but the prospect here extending to the sea, and taking in Portsmouth, Spithead, and St. Helen's, would be more than a recompense for the loss of the Thames itself, even in the most delightful parts of Berkshire and Buckinghamshire, though another Denham and another Pope should unite in celebrating it." Again: "This pleasant village is situated on a gentle ascent from the water, whence it affords that charming prospect I have above described. Its soil is a gravel, which, associated with its declivity, preserves it always so dry that immediately after the most violent rain a fine lady may walk without wetting her silken shoes. The fertility of the place is apparent from its extraordinary verdure; and it is so shaded with large and flourishing elms that its narrow lanes are a natural grove or walk, which in the regularity of its plantation vies with the power of art, and in its wanton exuberancy greatly exceeds it."

The later progress of the town may best be understood from a brief chronological summary:—

1. The Pier built.....1814
2. Steam Packets established.....1825
3. St. Thomas's Church rebuilt.....1827
4. St. James's Church built.....1829
5. Town Hall and Market.....1831
6. Gas introduced.....1838
7. Holy Trinity Church, and the } 1845
8. Roman Catholic Church, }
9. Yacht Club established.....1846
10. Isle of Wight Infirmary built.....1847
11. New Local Act passed.....1854
12. The Esplanade built.....1855-6
13. The Waterworks built.....1855-6
14. Railway to Ventnor opened.....1866
15. All Saints' Church erected.....1869-72
16. New Railway Pier.....1880

[The manor of Ryde and Ashey belonged to the Abbey of Wherwell; at the dissolution of religious houses was sold to the Worsley family; next became the property of the Dillingtons; and by Sir John Dillington was sold to Henry Player, Esq., whose descendants still possess it.]

DAY-JOURNEYS.

The neighbourhood of Ryde is peculiarly attractive to those who love a calm and gentle beauty—the loveliness of broad meadows and

plashing runlets, of leafy copses and balmy lanes, of wooded slopes washed by a sunny sea. There is nothing of loftiness, nothing of grandeur, but all is picturesque and blooming, like the "garden bowers" of Armida. The hedge-rows are prodigal of fragrance; the banks are loaded with primroses and cowslips, so as to justify the exclamation of the poet Keats, "This island ought to be called Primrose Island—that is, if the nation of cowslips agree thereto." At one time the traveller finds himself in a pleasant reach of woodland musical with the song of birds; at another,—

> "In a dell, 'mid lawny hills,
> Which the wild sea-murmur fills,
> And the light and smell divine
> Of all flowers that breathe and shine."
>
> SHELLEY.

In a word, the scenery in this "angle of the isle" has been faithfully reflected in the language of a graphic writer: "It possesses much of that kind of beauty which seldom sinks into tameness on the one hand, or rises into sublimity on the other. It is almost always such as to produce only placid and gentle emotions. Its charms arise from the sight of verdure and fertility spread over an undulating and often well-wooded surface, many points commanding fine views of the sea, and particularly of the strait which separates the island from the coast of England" (*Edinburgh Review*).

In every direction the tourist may open up a score of pleasant rambles; but the short tours we are about to indicate will embrace nearly everything which is worth seeing. Many of these may, of course, be shortened by a judicious use of the railway facilities now afforded to the public.

a. Leaving Ryde by the Spencer Road (notice Sir William Clifford's elegant seat of *Westfield*, and *Ryde House*, Mrs. Daly), by a pretty lane to Binstead (1 mile), and its picturesque little church (notice *Binstead House*, and the quaint old *Parsonage*, Rev. P. Hewitt); then through Quarr Wood to the ruins of Quarr Abbey, (2 miles), and by a pathway through a small coppice to Wootton Bridge (notice *Kite Hill*, D. Hollingsworth, Esq.). Return by the turnpike road to Binstead (2 miles—notice *Stone Pitts*, a remarkably pretty villa, lying in a hollow, left of the road, and *Corstorphine Hill*, ...) and into Ryde; or, turning to the right at Kite Hill, go through Firestone Coppice, across the meadows to Haven Street, (1½ mile), and back to Ryde, *viâ* Pound Farm. *b.* From Ryde to Wootton (4 miles); and turning to the left, take the road to Arreton, (3 miles); and crossing the slopes of Arreton Down, reach Newchurch,

(about 2½ miles). Then return *viâ* Knighton (notice ruins of an ancient manorial mansion), across Ashey Down (2 miles—notice the Ryde Waterworks on the right); and over Ashey Common, into Ryde (2 miles). *c.* From Ryde to Appley (notice *Sturbridge House;* and *Appley Tower*, Sir W. Hutt), and keeping the sea-wall, to Springvale. Pass the ancient salterns to Sea-View (3 miles); and by the sands, which here are very fine, to Priory Bay, St. Helen's Bay (notice portion of old St. Helen's Church, now used as a sea-mark), and Brading Haven. Cross by ferry to Bembridge (2 miles), and thence to White Cliff Bay and Culver Cliff (2½ miles). Climb Bembridge Down (now surrounded with military works: Bembridge Fort, on the summit; Red Cliff Fort, near the cliff edge; Yaverland Fort, just below; and Sandown Fort, on the beach), descend into Yaverland (notice manor house and church), and by a "leafy lane" to Yar Bridge (2 miles). Then by road to the right into Brading (notice church, and, at a short distance north-west, *Nunwell*, the seat of the Oglanders), and return by the main road to St. John's. Enter Ryde by the *Duver*. [*Duver*, or *Duyver*, land once overflowed by the sea. Here were buried the bodies of the ill-fated mariners of the *Royal George*, which foundered off Spithead, August 29, 1782. A line of handsome houses (*the Strand*) is now built upon this charnel-ground.] *d.* From Ryde, *viâ* St. John's Hill, to Appley Tower; then by a picturesque road, with fine views of the Hampshire coast, leaving *St. Clare* (1½ mile—formerly the residence of the late Colonel F. Vernon Harcourt), and *Puckpool* (from *Puck* the fairy), with its new fort (see *post*); on the left, to Westbrook (1 mile—notice *Westridge*, a white, spacious-looking house embowered amidst magnificent trees), and through Nettlestone, (1 mile—notice, to the left, on the road to Sea-View, the beautiful seat of *Fairy Hill*, W. A. Glynn, Esq.), passing St. Helen's Church (half a mile—notice the fine prospect on every side), and the *Priory* (Marquis of Cholmondeley), to St. Helen's village (half a mile). Return by the sea-shore to Ryde. *e.* From Ryde by the usual coach-road to Sandown (6 miles—notice new Sandown Fort), and *viâ* Lake (1 mile), through Cheverton to Apse (1 mile—notice here an ancient farm-house). From Apse, *viâ* Whiteley Bank, to *Appuldurcombe* (2½ miles). From Appuldurcombe and its Park, passing Park Farm, to Godshill (2 miles), and return *viâ* Bottlebridge, and *Stickworth* (R. Bell, Esq.), through Horringford, into Newchurch, or (leaving Newchurch to the south-east) to Hasely; and by Knighton (6 miles), and Ashey (1 mile), to Ryde (4 miles). *f.* As above, *viâ* Sandown (6 miles), to Shanklin (2½ miles—notice

Shanklin Chine); and back by a delightful route to a sequestered nook called America. Thence to Apse Farm, and crossing Apse Heath, to Queen Bower (so called, it is said, because one of our queens from this pleasant ascent was wont to view the chase—a traditional allusion to Isabella de Fortibus, Lady of the Island), and homeward, *viâ* Newchurch, Knighton, and Ashey. *g.* As above, to Shanklin, and crossing Shanklin Down to Wroxall Down; thence, by Span Farm to Stenbury (notice ancient house and moat), southward, to Whitwell (notice ruins of old church), and into the main road at St. Lawrence village (notice small church, Well, *St. Lawrence Cottage*, Mrs. Dudley Pelham; and *Marine Villa*, Countess of Yarborough). By *Steephill* (S. A. Hambrough), to Ventnor (14 miles), and by coach to Ryde; or, if not fatigued, *viâ* Bonchurch, keeping the cliff-road, to Luccombe Chine, and through Shanklin and Sandown into Ryde (12 miles). *h.* The usual and prescribed carriage-routes to Ventnor and Bonchurch (*viâ* Shanklin); to Blackgang and Niton (*viâ* Godshill); to Newport and Carisbrooke (*viâ* Arreton); to East Cowes (*viâ* Wootton); or to Brighstone (*viâ* Newport and Shorwell), do not require particular indication. *i.* An excursion may be made to the Roman villa at Moreton, near Brading (see *post*). And the routes we have already marked out may be diversified at the pleasure of the tourist. For instance, there is a pleasant walk to be found in this direction: Ryde to Springvale; by road to the right, passing Pondwell, to Barnsley; crossing the Brading road, through Whitefield Wood, to Ashey. Or, Ryde to Springvale; by road to the right, passing Barnsley to Westridge; crossing the Brading road, near St. John's; then take the footpath over the fields to the suburb of Ryde known as Canada, and enter Ryde by way of *Monk's Meads* (so called, it is said, because an abbot of Quarr bestowed on the owner or holder of the farm at Ninham, where he had been a constant and welcome visitor, the right of taking the first crop of hay, in alternate years, from these very meadows, so long as a certain stone image was there preserved. The tenure is still maintained).

ENVIRONS OF RYDE.

Binstead (*Inn:* The Fleming Arms) is a parish (and village), one mile from Ryde, and separated from the parish of Ryde by a small stream running into the Solent, at the base of the hill crowned by Binstead Church. It contains 1475 acres. Population in 1881, 813. The ground here is broken into deep hollows and grassy rifts, marking the position of the once-famous Binstead quarries, which sup-

plied much of the stone — "composed of comminuted shells, held together by a sparry calcareous cement" (*Mantell*) — employed by William of Wykeham in building Winchester Cathedral. The scenery is very pleasant, with water and woodland delightfully intermingled. In the neighbourhood of Denmark House, and on the Newport Road, some good villas have recently been built.

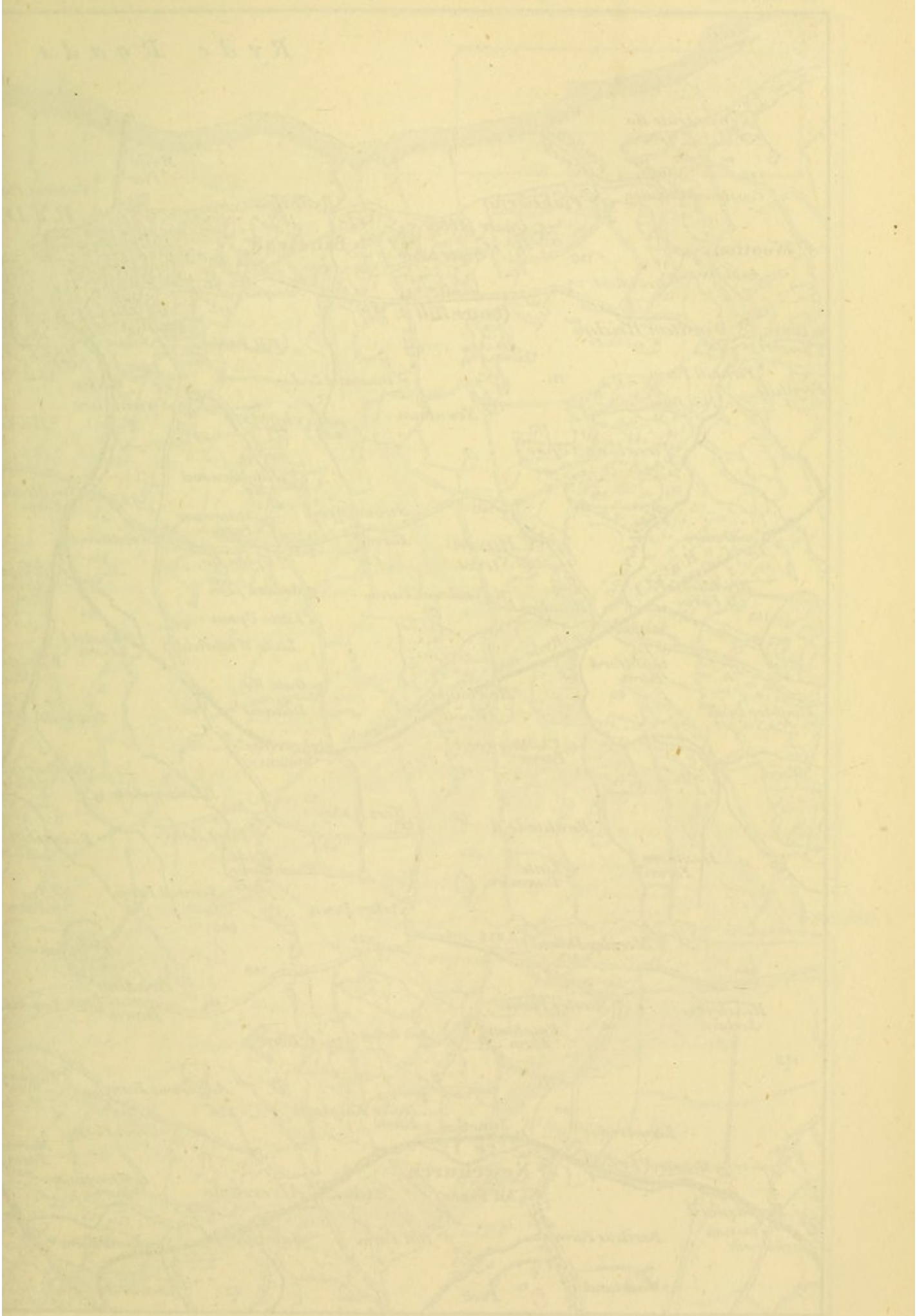
The most noticeable thing in this pretty parish, and the chief ecclesiastical antiquity of the island, is,—

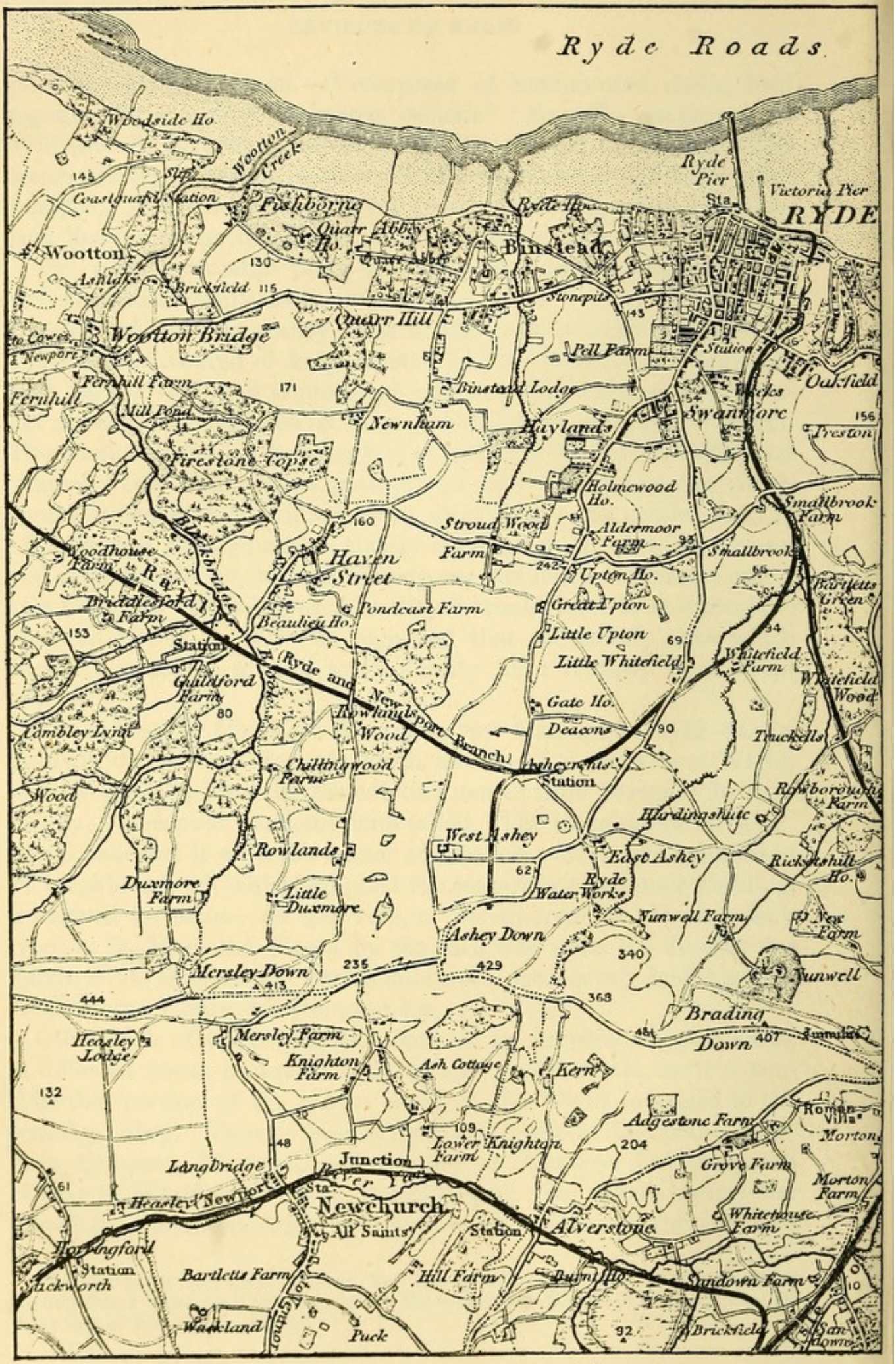
Quarr Abbey. The scanty ruins of this once wealthy and splendid abbey—the favoured of knights, and princes, and devout "ladies of high degree"—lie in a sequestered valley, which, watered by a pleasant rivulet, and sheltered by leafy groves, opens out upon the Solent. The monks of the olden time had a keen eye for the beautiful, and generally cast their lot in pleasant places. And when the woods spread, as once they did, for miles around, and the rivulet was full of light and sparkle, and a stately abbey, rich in slender columns and elaborate arches, towered among the luxuriant leafiness, a fairer spot than this "deep-bowered" valley it would have been difficult to discover. Much is it to be regretted that the stately elms which formerly added so greatly to its beauty have recently been swept away.

The Abbey of Quarr, or Quarrera, was founded in 1132–34, by Baldwin de Redvers, Earl of Devon and Lord of the Isle of Wight, who peopled it with some Benedictine monks from Savigni,* in Normandy,—whence it was sometimes called "The Daughter of Savigni," —and endowed it with the manor of Arreton. From the quarries in its neighbourhood, which supplied the materials of his new building, it derived its name—*De Quarrera*, or *De Quarrariis.* It was dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin by the earl, who upon his decease was buried in its chapel; and by his side were successively laid his wife Adeliza, and Henry, his youngest son.

Other lords of the island, and many of its knights and gentlemen, at different times bestowed upon it rich endowments, until a considerable portion of the fairest lands of the Wight belonged to the wealthy abbey. Thus it held manors and lands at Luccombe, Shalfleet, Compton, Shorwell, and Chale; at Haseley, Combley, and Niton; at Whitfield, Wellow, and Binstead. Its abbots were often joined in commission with the captains or wardens of the island to

* A few years later (1148), Savigni was united to the Cistercian order, and consequently Quarr became a Cistercian house, the second established in England, the first being that of Waverley in Surrey.





On a Scale of One Inch to a Statute Mile.



The Figures indicate Height in Feet above Sea-level.

regulate its military defences, and furnished four men-at-arms towards its militia. In 1340 the abbey was strongly fortified, and its demesne, covering an area of forty acres, enclosed by strong walls, with suitable loopholes, and portcullises at its gates.

William de Vernon was buried here, and a splendid monument—for which he bequeathed £300, nearly £4500 at the present value of money—was erected to his memory. In August 1507 Lady Cicely, one of the daughters of Edward IV., was interred within its precincts.

In the time of Cardinal Beaufort (A.D. 1404) a taxation was made of the abbey lands, and a result obtained of £96, 13s. 4d., or, in the money of to-day, about £1500. Its yearly income had augmented, when Henry VIII. confiscated the proud abbeys and rich priories of England, according to Speed, to £184, 1s. 10d.; according to Dugdale, to £134, 3s. 11d.—that is to say, upwards of £2000 per annum.

The monks of Quarr did not bear, we fancy, a high repute for sanctity. Isabella de Fortibus, and afterwards Edward III., came into collision with them; and Lambard, in the early part of the sixteenth century, spoke of them somewhat sarcastically. "Although," he says, "Paulus Jovius wrote that the inhabitants of this island be wont to boast merrily that they neyther had amongst them monks, lawyers, wolves, nor foxes, yet I find them all, save one (the lawyers), in one monastery, called Quarr, valued at 134 pounds of yearly revenue, and founded in the year 1132, after the order of Savigniac in France." The manorial records of Ashey show that they were persevering poachers, who were frequently fined for depredations among the pheasants.

The abbots of Quarr are stated to have followed each other in the following order: Gervase; William; Peter de York, 1205; Henry, 1218; Philip, elected 1234; Augustine; Andrew, 1256; Adam de Arundel, 1279–1301; Walter, 1323; John Winchester, elected 1378; Thomas Snell, elected 1396; Richard Bartholomew, elected 1399; John Morton, elected 1466; Thomas of London; Richard Tottenham, 1508; William Ripen, 1521.

A curious description of the abbey at the time of its dissolution is given in a *Paper Survey*, preserved in the "Augmentation Office." It states the yearly revenue from all sources at £181, 15s. 2d., and the expenditure in fees and certain annual payments at £54, 3s. 11d., leaving a balance of £133, 7s. 3d. at the disposal of the abbot. It then proceeds :—

"The name of the abbot is William Ripen, who hath no certain

portion allowed unto him, but is charged with the whole maintenance and governance of the monastery, like as faithful administrator, to minister, provide, and ordain everything vigilantly and honestly, according to the religion, and the rest to keep after his discretion to the use of that monastery.

"The president or superior's name is Dan. Richard Curlewe, who hath nothing appointed unto him but as the convent hath, but only, for his tender obedience, his abbot's reward.

"The second president's name is Dan. Richard Woodhill, and he doth serve the poor church of Binstead, and he hath by the year four marks.

"The monk of the bakehouse's name is Dan. Robert Smythe, who hath nothing but as others of the convent have, save, for his diligence and obedience, his abbot's reward.

"And every other religious man there being present, by the year, in ready money, £1, 6s. 8d."

The common seal of the abbey was round, and small in size, representing the Virgin seated, with the child Jesus in her lap. In the impressions still extant only the commencement of the legend—MARIA VIRGO—can be traced.

At the dissolution, Quarr was purchased by a rich Southampton merchant, George Mills, who dismantled it of its splendours. His son's widow, Mrs. Dowsabell Mills, became the mistress of Sir Edward Horsey. On her death, the estate was purchased by Chief Justice Sir Thomas Fleming, who completed the task of spoliation; so that little of the ancient building can now be traced. The refectory is said to have been converted into a barn, which may still be examined. Some portions of the wall, and a sea-gate—an arched window and a broken column—are all else that remain of the once magnificent pile.

Several stone coffins have, at different times, been excavated at Quarr; a few coins and some other relics have also been discovered, but not of a nature or in such abundance as to satisfy the antiquary, or throw any vivid light upon the history of the abbey. In 1857 a curious discovery was made by some labourers engaged in the construction of a new road through the old abbey grounds, of "three small stone boxes or chests, each chest being about two feet in length and one foot wide. They were placed side by side,—two of them nearly close together, and the third a foot or two to the south. Upon removing the heavy stones of which the lids were composed, three human skeletons in a good state of preservation were found.

The leg and arm bones were on either side, the ribs and small bones in the centre, and the skulls at the western end, the latter being in all three cases turned upside down. It was evident that these remains had been removed at some time or other from the place of their original burial; and that they were of persons of distinction was beyond doubt, or such care would not have been bestowed upon them" (*Isle of Wight Observer*). One of the skeletons was pronounced to be that of an aged man, another that of an aged female, and the third that of "a tall fine man about forty years of age." It has been suggested, and there is an air of probability about the suggestion, that they were the remains of Count Baldwin, his wife, and his son Henry. They are now in the Museum at Ryde.

This is just the spot where "the violet of a legend" might be expected to blossom; and the traditions connected with the abbey are of a fantastic character. One tells of a deep subterraneous passage, closed by a golden gate, and is evidently the offspring of the awe and wonder created in the minds of the vulgar by monastic wealth and power. Another is not less wildly fabulous:—"At a short distance south of the ruins of the abbey is a wood, formerly thickly timbered, but now only consisting of a few decayed oaks and brushwood; it is called Eleanor's Grove, from a tradition that Eleanor of Guienne, queen of Henry II., was imprisoned at Quarr, and frequented this secluded spot, where, after death, it is related, she was interred in a golden coffin, which is supposed still to be protected from sacrilegious cupidity by magical spells." About half a century ago a search was made for this golden coffin, with the result of discovering one of common character, containing a female skeleton.

Wootton, or Wood-town (*Inn:* The Sloop), is about equidistant between Ryde and Newport. The parish is bounded east by Binstead, south by Arreton, west by Whippingham, and north by the Solent. Population in 1881, 104; acreage, 1360. The church is a plain building, embosomed among trees. Near it stood the old manor-house of the Lisles, where Henry VII. passed a night in 1499. A farm-house now occupies its site.

Wootton Creek is formed by the junction of Wootton river—which rises near Mersley Down, and becomes tidal about two miles from its source—with the Solent. It is sometimes called Fishhouse Creek, from the small village of Fishhouse (or Fishbourne), on the easternmost of the two headlands between which it enters the Solent. There was formerly a good ship-building yard at Fishhouse, where yachts of 250 tons were laid down and launched. It is now only a small

boat-builder's settlement and coast-guard station. The causeway which carries the Newport road across the creek is 905 feet in length.

Wootton was originally the lordship of a branch of the De Insula or Lisle family, the most famous of whom were *Sir John Lisle*, the regicide, a stanch follower of Cromwell, assassinated at Lausanne, after the Restoration, by three Irish bravos; and his wife, *Dame Alice Lisle*, who, having generously and unwittingly sheltered two of Monmouth's unfortunate partisans after the fatal fight at Sedgemoor, was tried for high treason, foully treated by Judge Jeffreys, and cruelly beheaded, though an aged, gray-haired woman. The tragic tale is told by Lord Macaulay with power and pathos.

Sir William Lisle, a gallant Cavalier, who faithfully followed Charles II. in his exile, is buried in Wootton Church. The family is now represented in the female line by F. White Popham, Esq., lord of the manor.

Wootton Lodge, Mr. Popham's residence, was formerly the Parsonage. It contains few relics of the old house, which was reputed to be haunted by the ghost of a former rector, Dr. Thomas Lisle. At midnight this restless priest, in gown and cassock, regularly ascended the old oaken staircase. In the library here are preserved some books bearing the autograph of Izaak Walton, a cousin and namesake of whom once held the rectory, and is buried in the church.

Newchurch (population, 1356) was the largest parish but one (Brading) in the island, and at one time the most thickly peopled. It crossed the whole island from north to south-east, and formerly included the two most fashionable towns, Ryde and Ventnor. On the east it touched the parishes of St. Helen's, Brading, Shanklin, and Bonchurch; on the west Binstead, Arreton, Godshill, and St. Lawrence. It presented, therefore, considerable varieties of soil and scenery. But Ryde and Ventnor have of late years been constituted separate parishes.

Newchurch includes the manor of *Ashey*, formerly belonging to a rich religious house, a branch of the Abbey of Whorwell. The convent stood on the site of the present farm-house, and has been described as possessing ample revenues, and a goodly estate, with a stately hall, elegant chambers, a refectory, fish-ponds, and other adjuncts of luxurious ease. But it has passed away with a startling completeness—not a stone records its original splendour. The farm-house is worth examining. It is easily reached by a road from the Ashey railway station.

Here, as late as the reign of Elizabeth, a widow, named Agnes Porter, was burned at the stake for witchcraft.

Ashey Down (424 feet above the sea—Brading, 2 miles; Ryde, 4; Newport, 4½) raises its rounded and glittering crest just above the farm-house, and is easily recognized at any distance by its sea-mark, or beacon, a truncated pillar of hewn stone, erected in 1735.* From this spot the tourist may enjoy one of the finest, nay, *the* finest view in the Isle of Wight. "Southward it is terminated by a long range of hills (Shanklin, Wroxall, and St. Catherine's) at about 6 miles distant. They meet to the westward another chain of hills, of which the one whereon he sits forms a link; and the whole together nearly encompass a rich and fruitful valley, filled with corn-fields and pastures. Through this vale winds a small stream for many miles; here and there lesser eminences arise in the valley, some covered with wood, others with corn or grass, and a few with heath or fern. One of these hills is distinguished by a church (Newchurch) at the top, presenting a striking feature in the landscape. Villages, churches, country-seats, farm-houses, and cottages are scattered over part of the southern valley. In this direction also appears an ancient mansion (Knighton), embellished with woods, groves, and gardens. South-eastward is a broad expanse of ocean, bounded only by the horizon. More to the east, in continuation of the chain of hills (Ashey) on which he is sitting, rise two downs (Brading and Bembridge), one beyond the other; both are covered with sheep, and the sea is just visible over the farther hill, as a terminating boundary. In this point are seen ships, some of which are sailing, and others lying at anchor. On the north, the sea (the Solent) appears like a noble river, varying from 3 to 7 miles in breadth between the banks of the opposite coast and those of the island. Immediately underneath him is a fine woody district, diversified by many pleasing objects. Westward, the hills follow each other, forming several intermediate and partial valleys, in undulations like the waves of the sea, and bending to the south, complete the boundary of the larger valley we have described, to the southward of the hill on which the tourist sits. One hill alone (St. Catherine's), the highest in elevation, and about 10 miles to the south-westward, is enveloped in a cloud, which just permits a dim and hazy sight of a signal-post, a light-house, and an ancient chantry on the summit" (*Legh Richmond*).

* The tourist, arriving by rail, should take the footpath which runs by the side of the branch line, and at the chalk quarry strike into the Newchurch road.

Descending the down, southward, we come, in a leafy gorge of singular beauty, upon the scanty relics of a mansion, once the most considerable in the island; the ancient manor-house of *Knighton Gorges*, built in the reign of James I. (on the site of a yet older building, the residence of the De Gorges). In the early part of the reign of George III. it belonged to Mr. Fitzmaurice, who assembled here the Georgian wits, Wilkes, David Garrick, Mrs. Garrick, and others.

"Like many other mansions, Knighton House," we are told, "was reported to be haunted; but the exact nature of the unearthly visitant is not stated, though it was said to intimate its whereabouts by a noise resembling the clanking of heavy chains. In later times, however, this noise was confined to one room, which was never opened; and above its entrance was inscribed a Latin legend of such potency as to prevent the troubled spirit's egress. There is a strange story current respecting the death of the last male of the Dillington family, who for many years possessed the manor and house of Knighton. The party alluded to, Sir Tristram Dillington, lost his wife and all his children in rapid succession, and finally fell himself by his own hand through despair—leaving two sisters, who afterwards died single. To prevent the forfeiture of the estate by the *felo de se* of his master, the steward, directly he became aware of the tragedy, took the horse his master usually rode, and having reversed the saddle, drove it into the mill-pond close to the house. This countenanced a report, which he immediately spread, that Sir Tristram, returning home late at night, inadvertently rode into the pond; and through the slackness of the saddle-girth fell from his horse, and was drowned before assistance could be rendered. This occurred at least a century ago. It was easy to avoid an inquest, and the stratagem succeeded" (*Walks Round Ryde*).

Legh Richmond describes the old house as a large and venerable mansion, standing in a beautiful valley at the foot of a high hill, and embowered in fine woods, which were interspersed in every direction with rising, falling, and swelling grounds. "It had evidently descended through a long line of ancestry from a distant period of time. The Gothic character of its original architecture was still preserved in the latticed windows, adorned with carved divisions and pillars of stonework. Several pointed terminations also, in the construction of the roof, according to the custom of our forefathers, fully corresponded with the general features of the building. One end of the house was entirely clothed with the thick foliage of an immense ivy, which climbed beyond customary limits, and embraced a lofty

chimney up to its very summit. Such a tree seemed congenial to the walls that supported it, and conspired with the antique fashion of the place to carry imagination back to the days of our ancestors."

It was here that Legh Richmond first made the acquaintance of Elizabeth Wallbridge, the "Dairyman's Daughter," then a servant in the establishment.

The only remains of the old house are some garden-walls, grass-grown piles of masonry, and the entrance gates. In the immediate vicinity are a farm-house, a cottage, and a portion of the Ryde Water-works. Of these, however, the principal section is situated in the valley between Ashey and Brading Downs.

The village of Newchurch (*Inn:* The Pointers) is a long street of thatched cottages, 6 miles from Ryde. The church, a plain cruciform building, is finely situated on the bluff of an abrupt sandstone rock.

Brading (*Inn:* The Bugle) is the largest parish in the island, and lies between the parish of St. Helen's and Brading Harbour, on the east; the parish of Shanklin, south; Newchurch, west; and the Solent, north. Contains 10,107 acres, mostly of excellent arable and pasture land, kept in excellent cultivation; and had, in 1881, a population of 7918, as against 5648 in 1871, and 3046 in 1851. It includes the corporate town of Brading, the villages or hamlets of Bembridge and Sandown, and the hamlet of Alverstone.

The living of Brading is a vicarage (Rev. J. Glover, 1846) in the gift of Trinity College, Cambridge, and valued at £250. Dependent upon it is *Sandown* (vicar, Rev. S. G. Karney), presented to by the Church Patronage Society; as well as *Bembridge* (vicar, Rev. J. Le Mesurier), valued at £100.

1. *The Kyngs Towne of Brading* (so named from its early Saxon settlers, the *Bradingas*, or, as some say, from the Saxon *brad*, broad, and *ing*, a meadow) is probably the oldest town in the island; and possesses a peculiar interest as the spot where St. Wilfrid, Bishop of Selsea, landed in 704, on his apostolic mission of converting the men of the Wight from heathenism. Here he erected a church, on the site of a heathen temple. When recalled by the King of Northumbria to the bishopric of York, from which he had wrongfully been expelled, he intrusted his mission work to his nephew Beornwin, and his chaplain Hildila. The latter built a church at St. Helen's Spit, and resided there; the former ministered in his uncle's church at Brading.

The position of Brading, at the head of a broad and sheltered estuary, early secured it considerable importance; and it carried on an active trade in the supply of provisions to the vessels that anchored in the haven or the neighbouring roadstead. Its inhabitants, however, can hardly have rejoiced in any extensive opulence. If we may believe a very dubious tradition, they once returned members to Parliament, but, finding the payment of fourpence a day, then exacted, too heavy a burden, petitioned to be relieved of their parliamentary privileges! That Brading was ever a parliamentary borough may well be doubted; what is more certain is, that it sent to Parliament the first petition in favour of Parliamentary reform.

Brading is an old corporate town, and still retains its municipal government by a senior and junior bailiff, a recorder, and thirteen jurists. Of its various charters of incorporation the oldest extant is that of Edward VI., dated 1548, which alludes to its predecessors. The common seal is *argent*, a rose *gules*, barbed and seeded proper, and bearing the inscription: "*The Kynges Towne of Bradyng.*" Near the church is the Town Hall, recently rebuilt; inside it are preserved the ancient stocks and whipping-post. Some of the old houses—and they are very old, with timber joists and quaint diamonded casements—still show the iron rings used on festival days to support the tapestry decorations. And in a small open space, on the right hand of the principal street, may be seen the bull-ring, to which, when the cruel sport of bull-baiting was in vogue, the unfortunate animal was fastened to be goaded by the dogs. Another ancient relic, the town gun, was presented about eleven years ago to the late Sir Henry Oglander, who removed it to Nunwell. It was one of the pieces of ordnance provided by the parishes of the island in the reign of Edward VI., when alarms of French invasion were very frequent, and bore the inscription,—"John and Robert Owine, brethren, made this Pese, 1549, Bradynd." When the Reform Bill passed in 1832, the enthusiastic townsmen dragged it to the top of the Down and fired a salute: unfortunately, it burst. In a lane, also to the right, at the bottom of the hill, stands the rustic dwelling of Legh Richmond's "Young Cottager," whose modest grave is at the south-east angle of the old church-yard.

2. The church is a famous structure, ancient, spacious, and stately, principally of Transition-Norman date. Its interior has recently been restored with great care.

3. The village lies at the base of green and lofty Brading Down, surrounded by the woods of Nunwell, and stretching down the slope

to the head of *Brading Haven*, a pleasant sea-water lake, with an area of about 840 acres, which opens into the Solent between the headlands of Bembridge and St. Helen's. At low water the haven is mostly an expanse of mud, with a narrow channel, through which the Yar meanders to the sea. Many attempts have been made to reclaim this considerable tract. A part was taken in by Sir William Russel of Yaverland, *temp.* Edward I., and Yar Bridge erected. In 1562, the North Marsh, and adjacent lands, were recovered; and Mill Marsh, and other meadows, in 1594. The chief attempt, however, was made by Sir Hugh Middleton (the projector of the New River), in connection with Sir Bevis Thelwall, who gave one Henry Gibbs £2000 for the grant he had obtained from James I. The embankment across the mouth was commenced, December 10, 1620, and occupied two years. For eight years longer the enclosure answered the expectations of the ingenious adventurers, and then, on the 8th March 1630, the sea again burst over it, sweeping away houses, barns, and mills. A singular discovery was made, during the progress of the works, of a well, cased with stone, near the middle of the haven,—sufficiently demonstrating that it had once been dry land, and that the sea had overflowed it within the historical period. Thus an old tradition receives some support, that the basin now filled with shining waters was once a stretch of broad green pasture, occupied by grazing herds. Tradition adds that its submersion was due to the rapacity of adventurers, who, in seizing upon a vast treasure concealed in a well, and discovered in its hiding-place by the agency of magic, violated certain conditions imposed upon its discoverers.

Another attempt to shut out the sea, and reclaim the land, has recently been made, and seems to have been successful. But though the skill and perseverance of the engineer, Mr. Saunders, merit recognition, one cannot but regret that a delightful picture has been marred. Nor is it easy to conjecture how the company, which for some years has carried on the work of embankment, will be repaid for its outlay. The risk of destruction is very great. On one occasion (in February 1882) a spring-tide rose to within four inches of the sluice, and had a gale been blowing at the time, the sea would probably have once more filled the basin of the haven.

The Ryde and Ventnor Railway strikes across the head of the haven, and a branch line has been carried round the north side, which will be continued over the new causeway, so as to open up railway communication with Bembridge.

It is reputed that the mouth of the Haven was formerly near the old Church of St. Helen's; and, in confirmation of this, we may state that the sandy waste known as St. Helen's Dover is, as well as Bembridge, in the parish of Brading, and was part of the peninsula of Bembridge. Lands there are at Bembridge which entitle their owner to a right of common of pasturage for cows on St. Helen's Dover; but he is now excluded from it by the new course of the estuary.

Near the mouth, on the southern side, stands a small inn (*The Ferry Inn*), close to the point from which the ferry-boat plies for Bembridge.

In this neighbourhood, on the Spit and among the marshes, may be found the English scurvy grass, yellow horse-poppy, knotted spurry, smooth chickweed, marsh mallow, round-headed clover, suffocated clover, bird's-foot trefoil, slender hare's-ear, sea wormwood, small-flowered centaury, sea bindweed, creeping glasswort, shrubby orache, sea-knot grass, marsh sedge, bulbous pasture grass, tuberous fox-tail grass, Borrer's sea-grass, sea fescue-grass, and (on the sandhills) Le Gall's sea-fescue, which is found nowhere else in England.

The upper part of Brading, known as the Mall, contains some handsome villas of recent erection, which enjoy a healthy air and a fine prospect. Thence, the higher road leads along the Downs to Newport; and the lower to Alverstone, Knighton, Ashey, and Newchurch.

Half-a-mile from Brading, on the Sandown road, lies the little hamlet of *Yarbridge* (*Inn:* The Angler's Arms). We can remember when this was a well-loved haunt with Izaak Walton's disciples; but the fishing is not what it was, and the beauty of the place has been destroyed by the railway. The Yar still contains, however, some trout, carp, dace, and eels.

A bridge, built by Sir William Russel, in the time of Edward I., was broken down, in 1545, by a body of the natives in order to impede the advance of a French force. (See pp. 42, 43.)

Bembridge (*Inns:* Pilot Boat, Prince of Wales, Marine, Commercial) is situated on the north-east side of a peninsula, formed by the river Yar and its estuary to the north, White Cliff Bay to the south, and the Solent to the east. Among green trees its church and white houses form a pleasant group, extending down to the water's side, and commanding a variety of charming prospects. Now that it is being connected with Ryde by railway, it will probably grow into a prosperous watering-place, but at the same time

lose that charm of seclusion which has hitherto endeared it to the artist and the botanist.

It is said to derive its name from a bridge or causeway thrown across a portion of the haven by Sir William Russel; thus, "Within Bridge," "Binbridge," "Bembridge" (*Sir John Oglander's MSS.*).

A French invading force landed here in 1340, but were driven back to their boats by the inhabitants, under Sir Theobald Russel of Yaverland, who unfortunately fell in the hour of victory.

About three-quarters of a mile on the Brading road is Centurion's Copse, a favourite haunt with botanists, which retains in its name the memory of a chapel of St. Urian, built by the lords of Woolverton (Wulfhere's Town), of which some traces are said to exist among the brushwood.

On the other side of the peninsula, close to the Foreland, is Lane End, a small fishers' village, with a life-boat station. To the south is Bembridge Ledge, a dangerous reef of limestone, projecting a mile and a half into the sea, and bare at low water. At the Foreland we find a small colony of coast-guardsmen, with a few fisher folk's huts, and the Crab and Lobster *Inn.*

Bembridge Down (355 feet) is crowned by an obelisk of solid granite, 75 feet high, raised in 1849, by the Royal Yacht Club, in memory of their commodore, the Earl of Yarborough, and recently removed to its present position. The views from the summit of this Down are of extraordinary splendour. "Looking back over Brading Haven, and inland, they are as diversified as they are extensive; forward, the unbroken view over the sea extends to an amazing distance; eastward, the Sussex coast lies like a faint cloud on the distant horizon; while westward, Sandown Bay, with its reddish clay banks circling the light green waves, and softly swelling hills above, may be looked on from day to day with ever new pleasure."

On the seaward side the Down ends in a steep chalk cliff, 259 feet, known as the *Culver*, from *cofa*, a cave or cove; or, as some pedant etymologists will have it, from *culfre* (Saxon), a pigeon—alluding to "the abundance of those birds which made it their haunt." It was also famous for a valuable breed of hawks, on which Queen Elizabeth set such store, that in 1564 she issued her warrant to the captain of the island, to make diligent search after some that had been stolen, and also "for the persons faultie of this stealth and presumptuous attempt."

A cavern in the side of the cliff, about 30 feet beneath the brink, known as *The Hermit's Hole*, commands a very fine effect of sea-

prospect. A large hexagonal fort was erected in 1864 on the summit of the Down. It is surrounded by a deep fosse, and armed with six 110-pounders. Its barracks will accommodate 400 men. Yaverland Battery, on the right, lower down, mounts eight 7-inch guns; and Redcliff Battery, on the left, near the cliff-edge, four 7-inch. Taken in connection with the new works at Sandown, these defences seem of great strength, and completely command the approach to Spithead.

The Culver Cliffs form the southern extremity of *Whitecliff Bay*—the northern being named Bembridge Foreland. This is the point of junction of the fresh-water and marine series of the Isle of Wight eocene deposits, which abound with organic remains and fossils. Originally, the strata were horizontal; but by some amazing movement of elevation they have been raised to a nearly vertical position —lying, in fact, at an angle of 70°. So enormous has been the pressure, that the flints have been actually shivered, without, however, in the least altering their outward appearance; so that what seems a perfect flint splits into fragments at the slightest pressure.

Whitecliff Bay is thus described by Legh Richmond:—"A small cove, the shore of which consists of fine hard sand. It is surrounded by fragments of rock, chalk cliffs, and steep banks of broken earth. Shut out from human intercourse and dwellings, it seems formed for retirement and contemplation.....I descended a steep bank, winding by a kind of rude staircase, formed by fishermen and shepherds' boys in the side of the cliff, down to the shore.....The air was calm and serene. The sun shone, but we were sheltered from its rays by the cliffs. One of these was stupendously lofty and large. It was white as snow; its summit being directly over our heads. The sea-fowls were flying around it. Its whiteness was occasionally chequered with dark-green masses of samphire which grew there. On the other side, and behind us, was a more gradual declivity of many-coloured earths, interspersed with green patches of grass and bushes, and little streams of water trickling down the bank, and mingling with the sea at the bottom. At our feet the waves were advancing over shelves of rocks covered with a great variety of seaweeds..... Ships of war and commerce were seen at different distances. The noise of the flowing tide, combined with the voices of the sea-gulls over our heads, and now and then a distant gun fired from the ships as they passed along, added much to the peculiar sensations to which the scene gave birth."

YAVERLAND (or the Upper or Over Land) has an old Norman

church, an old Jacobean manor-house, and a dozen small cottages, on the brink of a steep escarpment of chalk, with an abundance of leafiness all about, and some good prospects inland and over the sea.

The manor-house, now converted into a farm-house, dates from the reign of James I. It contains some curious carved woodwork, such as two figures vulgarly called Nero and Cleopatra, and some men's heads with wings (cherub-like),—used either as brackets to support the staircase-ceiling, or as ornaments, with musical instruments appended to them. Acreage, 1834. Population, 153. The living is a rectory (Rev. W. M. Lee), in the patronage of Sir G. E. Græme Hammond-Græme, Bart., and valued at £230 per annum.

"The church is pleasantly situated on a rising bank at the foot of a bold chalk hill, and being surrounded by trees, has a rural and retired appearance. In every direction the roads that lead to this sacred edifice possess distinct but interesting features. One of them ascends between several rural cottages from the sea-shore, which adjoins the lower part of the village street; another winds round the side of the adjacent hill; and a third leads to the church by a gently rising approach between high banks covered with young trees, bushes, ivy, hedge-plants, and wild flowers" (*Legh Richmond*).

St. Helen's.—The parish occupies an area of 3676 acres, and contains a population of 3412. It includes the hamlets of Sea View, Nettlestone, Spring Vale, and Oakfield, and lies between the parishes of Brading and Ryde, with the Solent for its northern boundary. The village occupies the extreme northern bank of Brading Haven, lying upon the slope, and terminating in a spit of sand at its mouth; and is built, rather picturesquely, round an ample village green, being the only village so laid out in the Isle of Wight.

Here, on the site of the present *Priory* (the Marquis of Cholmondeley), anciently stood a foundation of Cluniac monks, established before 1150, but by whom is unknown. During the wars of Edward II. and III., as an alien priory it was seized by the Crown, and its revenues sequestered; but Henry IV. restored it to the abbey of Cluny. When the alien priories were finally suppressed, Henry VI. bestowed its rental on Eton College, and Edward IV. gave the priory itself to that foundation. The present mansion and estate are still held from Eton College.

The old *Church of St. Helen's* stood on St. Helen's Point, about 150 yards from the sea; but the ever-encroaching waves gradually undermined the sacred building, and in 1719 it was found necessary to raise a new structure in a securer position. The new church stands

about half-way between St. Helen's and Sea View. A new chancel, of good design, has recently been erected, and the traveller will hope that the remainder of the mean edifice may before long be replaced by something better.

St. John's, Oakfield, is an elegant little church, situated upon St. John's Hill, at the angle formed by the junction of the road from Brading with that from Nettlestone to Ryde. The vicarage, valued at £100 yearly, is in the appointment of the incumbent of St. Helen's.

Sea View (*Inns:* Crown and Oak), 3 miles from Ryde, is picturesquely situated on a somewhat steep declivity that terminates on the north-western side of Sea Grove or Priory Bay. The sands here are excellent, and stretch away to Spring Vale on the one hand and Brading Haven on the other. Bathing facilities are abundant; lodgings good, and not extravagantly rated. The headland here, Nettlestone Point, or Old Fort, was the scene of a descent by the French under D'Annebault in 1545, when the block-house that guarded it was destroyed.

A suspension pier, 1000 feet long, with a strongly-built head, convenient landing-stages, and ample depth of water for steam-packets at lowest spring tides, has recently been erected. This head is joined to the shore by a pier 15 feet wide, consisting of two end spans, each about 140 feet long, and three spans of 200 feet each. It is proposed to run a tramway, 2 miles long, to the nearest railway station, and to open up a steamboat service with Portsmouth.

Sea View has a neat new church, and Wesleyan and Baptist chapels. The shore-path to Ryde leads through *Spring Vale*, a group of houses fronting a noble breadth of sands, in the vicinity of the old Salterns.

At *Puckpool* (Battery *Hotel*), 1½ mile, a mortar-battery, armed with five 11-inch guns and thirty 11-inch mortars, was erected in 1864, in conjunction with the outer defences of Portsmouth Harbour (the St. Helen's Noman, Horseshoe, and Spit Forts).

SEATS OF THE GENTRY.

In our confined space we can glance only at the *principal* seats in this favoured district of the island, where Fashion has especially chosen to take up her residence. There are few houses, however, of any pretensions without a certain picturesqueness of aspect which will attract the traveller's admiring gaze.

Westfield, the seat of Sir W. J. C. Clifford, stands in the Spencer

Road, a short distance from the Club House, and, through the beauty of its grounds and the elegance of its appurtenances, is emphatically one of "the lions" of Ryde. The rooms are decorated with great taste and effect; and contain a choice collection of paintings by good masters, marbles, and other articles of *vertu*. In the drawing-room is a head of Lady William Bentinck, by Sir T. Lawrence; the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, by Romney; and Domenichino's Sibyl. In the music-room: a Madonna, by Guido; specimens of Angelica Kaufmann; and marbles by Canova, Tadolini, and Burgoni. In the dining-room are portraits by Phillips, and specimens of Herring and Cook. The picture-gallery is an elegant room, arranged with a nice attention to harmony of colouring. The gardens are in the Italian fashion, with terraces leading down to the sea-shore, from which a fine panorama of Spithead and the whole reach of the Solent is unfolded. The late Sir Augustus Clifford, to whom the beauty of Westfield is mainly due, was a K.C.B., Usher of the Black Rod, and an Admiral. He entered the navy in 1800; served at the reduction of St. Lucia and Tobago; and, in 1807, in the expedition to Egypt; distinguished himself at the capture of a convoy in the Bay of Rosas, 1809; and served on the coast of Italy in 1811. Was appointed Usher of the Black Rod in July 1832. Died in 1879.

Ryde House (Mrs. Daly), a large white mansion seated in its own extensive grounds, between Ryde and Binstead, was the seat of the Player family, founded in the Isle of Wight by Henry Player, Esq., who purchased the manors of Ryde and Ashey from the last of the Dillingtons. On the death of the late Miss Player, her estates passed into the hands of various descendants.

Binstead House is a pretty semi-villa, semi-mansion, combining the pleasantest characteristics of both, and seated in grounds of the most delightful order, sloping, with many a change of knoll, coppice, and lawn, to the very marge of the Solent. The estate has been long enjoyed by the Fleming family, and was devised by the late J. Willis Fleming, Esq., to his widow for her life. Mrs. Fleming was married again, 6th August 1846, to the late General Lord Downes, K.C.B., a distinguished Peninsular hero.

Quarr Abbey House (Lady Cochrane), on an elevated ground, sheltered by Quarr Wood, and commanding a fine sweep of inland and marine scenery, was the seat of the late Admiral Sir T. Cochrane, a gallant officer, who served in the expeditions against Belle Isle, Ferrol, Cadiz, and in Egypt, during the great revolutionary

war; was Governor of Newfoundland from 1825 to 1834, and Commander-in-chief on the East India Station, 1842–46.

Beachlands, at the bottom of Dover Street, Ryde, is a handsome mansion, the residence of Sir John and Lady Lees.

Appley, a spacious and well-looking mansion, stands upon a gentle ascent overlooking the town of Ryde, skirted by a leafy wood, and contiguous to the sea. There are few spots in the Wight richer in a soft and tranquil beauty. The estate formerly belonged to a Dr. Walker, and then passed to the Hutt family: the last proprietor of that name was Governor of West Australia; and the Captain James Hutt who commanded the *Queen* in Lord Howe's victory of the 1st June, and was slain in action, belonged to the same stock. Mr. Bennet was the next proprietor, and on his death, in 1839, it was purchased by a gentleman of the name of Hyde. The house was built by David Bryce, a notorious smuggler, a relation of Rich the actor, who used to conceal his stores in its cellars, and in the caves of the adjoining cliff. His nefarious trade was at length discovered, and he died in extreme distress in 1740.

Appley Tower, an elegant and picturesque Elizabethan mansion, in grounds contiguous to those just described, is the seat of Sir W. Hutt. The gardens are laid out with great effect, and the mansion is most elegantly decorated. It formerly contained a fine collection of the *chefs-d'œuvre* of English artists—now, unfortunately, dispersed by auction — which included Turner's "Plagues of Egypt;" "A Group of Bacchanals," by Sir David Wilkie; "A Landscape," by Nasmyth; "A Sea-piece," by Sir Augustus Callcott; two companion pictures, "A Calm Sea," and "An Agitated Sea," by Stanfield; "A Landscape," by Creswick; one of Webster's characteristic sketches; and a sea-piece, "At Ventnor," painted expressly for Mr. Young by W. Collins.*

St. Clare (the residence of the late Colonel F. V. Harcourt, a younger son of the late Archbishop of York, and formerly M.P. for the island) was originally built about 1823, by the late E. V. Utterson, Esq., but purchased by Lord Vernon in 1826, and greatly modified from the original design. It is a castellated mansion in the Tudor style of Gothic. Her Majesty and the late Prince Consort repeatedly honoured St. Clare with their presence; and the orphan princess Garumna Coorg resided here under the guardianship of the Lady Catherine

* Collins resided at Ventnor in 1844, and visited Bembridge August 1845, sketching the romantic beauties of the coast with great fervour and enthusiasm.—*Life of W. Collins*, by Wilkie Collins.

Harcourt. The much-lamented Princess Alice and Prince Louis of Hesse passed their honeymoon here in July 1862.

St. John's, a neat, plain mansion, on the hill above Ryde, eastward, was originally built for General Lord Amherst, who named it in commemoration of his victory at St. John's, New Brunswick, A.D. 1758. The grounds were laid out by Repton, the eminent landscape gardener.

The Priory (Marquis of Cholmondeley), in the parish of St. Helen's, about 3 miles from Ryde, "stands at the head of a spacious lawn that gently declines from the house to the brink of a high ridge, the steep bank of which is covered with wood down to the water's edge: through this wood various pleasant walks have been cut, of irregular breadths, according to the steepness of the declivity. In the southern part of the wood are the remains of an ancient watch-tower, supposed to have belonged to the Priory. The whole of the demesne is formed of a narrow strip of ground, about a mile in length, extending along the shore." Was formerly the residence of Sir Nash Grose, Justice of the Queen's Bench, of whom Erskine said pleasantly—

> "Grose Justice, with his lantern jaws,
> Throws light upon the English laws."

The Marquis of Cholmondeley is a member of the sect of Plymouth Brethren, and for the convenience of his co-religionists has built a small iron chapel near his mansion, where he generally preaches on Sundays when at home. The public are freely admitted.

Nunwell,* anciently Nounwell, has been the residence of the Oglander family for many centuries. At the base of a lofty down, embowered in venerable woods, and with a noble breadth of groves, hills, meadows, and seas spread out before it, certainly its position befits the mansion of the only one of the knightly families of the island under William Fitz-Osbert which has survived "the lapses of time." The house is a plain brick building, seated "on a rising ground at the end of a park-like lawn, and backed by a solemn grove of lofty ashes and limes." The park is about 2 miles in circumference, and contains some oaks of extraordinary size. The Oglander family have held lands in the island since the Conquest, when Roger de Okelandes accompanied William Fitz-Osbert. They came from the chateau d'Orglandes, in La Manche, which was afterwards held by Prince Henry (Henry I.) against his brothers, Duke Robert and

* So named, we are told, because the nuns of Ashey were wont to resort for water to the spring still rising in its grounds.

Prince William. In the reign of James I., John Oglander, lieutenant of the island, was knighted. Died 1665. His son, Sir William, was created a baronet, 1665. Then followed Sir John, died 1685; Sir William, died 1734; Sir John, died 1767; Sir William, died 1806; Sir William, died 1850; and Sir Henry Oglander, died 1874, whose widow now resides at Nunwell. On her death, the estate passes to J. Oglander Glynn, Esq., cousin of the late baronet.

Fairy Hill (W. A. Glynn, Esq.), on the uplands, above Sea View, well deserves its poetical appellation.

Puckpool, a charming spot, near Spring Vale; *Woodlands Vale* (Colonel the Hon. Somerset Calthorpe); *Westridge* (J. Young, Esq.), on the road to Nettlestone; *Westbrook* (Pakenham Mahon, Esq.); *Pownell* (General Whimper); *St. John's Lodge*, in St. John's Road, Ryde; *St. Helen's Castle* (J. Realey, Esq.); *Sturbridge House;* all are mansions of a superior order, and agreeably situated.

PLACES TO BE VISITED BY THE PEDESTRIAN.

Queen's Bower, 7 miles from Ryde, a lovely spot, whither Isabella de Fortibus, the Lady of the Island, was wont to resort for the pleasures of the chase, the forest being then well stocked with "red and fallow deer." In Henry VIII.'s reign trees were felled for the building of Sandown Fort, some of which were 30 feet in length. No such trees can be found now. *Bordwood* (or Borthwood), as it is still called, was bestowed by Henry V. on Philippa, Duchess of York, A.D. 1417; *Alverstone Mill*, 6 miles from Ryde, a quiet nook, rich in spoils for the botanist (at Alverstone village is a railway station); *Bloodstone Well*, in a wooded valley, north-east of Ashey Down, where the pebbles in the stream are covered with the crimson vegetable incrustation of the *byssus purpureus; Haven Street*, 3 miles from Ryde *viâ* Aldermoor Mill, a pleasant village, with a small inn (*The White Hart*), and a small but pretty church, dedicated to St. Peter. It probably owes its name to its position at the head of the Fishbourne Creek. To the south of it runs the Ryde and Newport Railway; *Aldermoor Mill*, 1½ mile south of Ryde, an elevation from which a very fine view of Ryde and the outlying country may be obtained; *Kern*, at the foot of Ashey Down, anciently *Lacherne*, a manor of the Knights Templars; and *Ninham*, 2 miles south-west of Ryde, where a curious stone image is let into the wall of the old farm-house (see *ante*, p. 159).

DISTRICT V.—SOUTH-EAST.

VENTNOR AND ITS ENVIRONS.

VENTNOR.

Hotels—The Royal (west end of the town); Marine; Esplanade (near the Pier); Queen's (Esplanade); Crab and Lobster; Crown; Globe; Prince of Wales; Commercial; Terminus; and Rayner's Temperance.

Banks—Hampshire Banking Company, and Capital and Counties Bank.

Post-Office—High Street, corner of Spring Hill (deliveries at 7 A.M. and 2.30 P.M.; post goes out 11.30 A.M. and 6.45 P.M.).

Libraries—Messrs. Knight and Sons', High Street; and Lemare's, Medley's, and Logan's.

Literary and Scientific Institutes—High Street and Albert Street.

Skating-Rink—Hamburgh Street.

Newspapers—Isle of Wight Mercury, 1d., Thursday; Isle of Wight Express, 1d., Saturday; Isle of Wight Advertiser, 2d., Saturday.

Carriages, 2s. 6d. per hour; saddle-horses, 2s. 6d. per hour.

Boats—Sailing-boats, 2s. 6d. per hour; rowing-boats, 1s. per hour (or with boatman, 1s. 6d.).

The Pier—Admission, 2d

VENTNOR, a town on the south-east coast of the island, and the "capital" of the Undercliff, lies about 12 miles from Ryde, and 10 miles from Newport, being connected with both towns by railway. Few of our English watering-places enjoy a greater popularity, and few are more deserving of it. Its position is singularly beautiful: it occupies a series of picturesque terraces which rise for some 300 or 400 feet from the shore of a shining sea to the lower declivities of a lofty chalk down rising 400 feet higher, and these terraces are amply clothed with glossy foliage. Its air is bland without being relaxing. In its immediate neighbourhood extend a series of charming landscapes, which attract by their variety of character and richness of colour, and in front of it spread the rippling waters of a sheltered bay.

The origin of the name "Ventnor" is a puzzle for antiquaries, who have sought to trace it to the Celtic *Gwent* and *nor*, words which are supposed to describe its situation on a chalky coast; but a more probable, if less imposing etymology, connects it with an old inn, *The Crab and Lobster*, which, with an adjacent mill, was held by one Barton, popularly called "the Vintner." Hence came *Vintner's* Mill and *Vintner's* Cove, easily corrupted into *Ventnor*. At all events, the town is of very recent growth. Wyndham, writing in 1793, has nothing more to say about it than this:—"The little cove of Ventnor is very well known for its romantic scenery and for a considerable cascade of fine water, which, after turning a corn-mill, falls upon the beach, as well as for its crab and lobster fishery, all of which are destined for the London markets." At first a mere cluster of fisher-

men's huts, grouped on the shore of the cove, it rose into sudden repute about 1830, when the public attention was first directed to its climatic advantages, and it began to attract patronage as a "health-resort," with the significant title of the "English Madeira." Sir James Clark, enlarging, in his book on "The Sanative Influence of Climate on Disease," on the relative merits of the watering-places of the South, expressed his surprise that the special advantages enjoyed by Ventnor, in point of shelter and position, should so long have been overlooked in a country like England, whose inhabitants for half a century had been traversing the globe in search of a climate. "From the variety," he wrote, "which the Isle of Wight presents, in point of elevation, soil, and aspect, and from the configuration of its hills and shores, it possesses several peculiarities of climate and position that render it a highly favourable residence for invalids throughout the year. The part most recommended is that denominated the Undercliff, on the south-east coast, about six miles in length, and from a quarter to half a mile in breadth. The whole tract is singularly well protected from the cold, and it would be difficult to find in any northern country a district of equal extent and variety of surface, and, it may be added, of equal beauty in point of scenery, so completely screened from the cutting north-east winds of the spring on the one hand, and from the boisterous southerly gales of the autumn and winter on the other.....The physical structure of this singular district has been carefully investigated and described by the geologist, and the beauties of its scenery have been often dwelt upon by the tourist; but its far more important qualities as a winter residence for the delicate invalid seem scarcely to have attracted attention, even from the medical philosopher. Nothing along the south coast will bear a comparison with it, and Torquay is the only place on the south-west coast which will do so. With a temperature nearly the same, the climate of Torquay will be softer, more humid, and relaxing; while that of the Undercliff will prove drier, somewhat sharper, and more bracing."

This eulogistic statement from an authority of so much competence and distinction set the whole world of invalids in motion, and Ventnor soon acquired an extensive and a permanent celebrity. The author of "The Land we Live in" wrote:—"Until the publication of Sir James Clark's work, its few inhabitants were nearly all fishermen. It was the most picturesque spot along the coast. The platform was broken into several uneven terraces. The huge hills towered far up aloft. Down to the broad smooth beach the ground ran in rough

slopes, mingled with abrupt banks of rock, along which a brawling rivulet careered gaily towards the sea; and the few fishermen's huts gave a piquant rustic liveliness to all besides. The climate seemed most favourable. In the open gardens of the cottagers myrtle and other tender plants flourished abundantly, and without need of protection even in winter; snow hardly ever lay on the ground; sunny and sheltered walks abounded; and the beach was excellent for bathing. Ventnor at once caught the attention of the crowd of visitors; and it was one of the first places to provide them suitable accommodation. In the tiny fishing hamlet soon sprang up hotels, and boarding-houses, and shops, and a church. Invalids came here for a winter retreat, as well as a summer visit. Speculation was stimulated. And then, as Fuller has it, 'the plague of building lighted upon it,' and it spread until every possible spot was planted with some staring building or row of buildings."

1. From 1844 to 1866 the affairs of this rising town were managed by a Board of Commissioners, elected under the provisions of a local Act. Under their auspices some considerable improvements were effected; one of the most important being the erection of a substantial sea-wall in 1848, and the conversion of a long stretch of beach into an agreeable esplanade, which is now skirted by a range of villas of quaint and various architecture, with spacious and comfortable hotels.

In 1866 the Local Government Act of 1858 was adopted; and the Board now consists of eighteen members, of whom six retire annually. To the spirited exertions of this body Ventnor is indebted for the completion of a really admirable system of drainage, and for great improvements in the construction and broadening of the principal thoroughfares; though, from the sudden growth of the town, which enabled proprietors and builders to indulge their individual vagaries *ad libitum*, a startling amount of irregularity has resulted. "The houses are scattered without any order or method; they appear to have just issued fresh from the mason's yard, and to have been set on one side when finished, ready to be fixed in more appropriate situations as opportunities might occur. The town consists of a medley of every possible known and unknown order of architecture, strewn broadcast and without design on the rocky slope of the amphitheatre formed in front of St. Boniface Down, and looking towards the sea. Breakneck precipices and zigzag roads, at every alarming angle of declivity, intercept the labyrinth of houses, which stand, to all appearance, on each other's heads, peep over each other's shoulders, and settle down on rocky ledges, out of which are scooped

baby gardens of more than baby loveliness, where fuchsias and geraniums grow into trees, and myrtles and heliotropes brave the 'ethereal mildness' which characterizes the fiercest winters" (*Cuthbert Bede*). Had the erection of Ventnor proceeded on a well-considered plan, its natural advantages might have been greatly aided by art; yet, with all its architectural defects, it will always remain one of the most charming and favoured "health-resorts" in the south of England.

2. It is but just to state that, next to Sir James Clark, Ventnor has been largely indebted to the late Mr. Hambrough of Steephill Castle, who displayed much public spirit, good taste, and munificence. To his liberality it owes the elegant church dedicated to *St. Catherine*, which, with the adjacent parsonage, was erected in 1836–7. He also rebuilt the National Schools in Albert Street.

A new and very graceful church, dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*, was erected in 1861–2 for the accommodation of the eastern districts of the town. The design (Early Decorated) was furnished by Mr. Giles of Taunton. The spire is 160 feet in height.

The *Congregational Church*, in the High Street, is a building of considerable architectural pretensions. It stands on the site of a small chapel, which was the first place for public worship erected in Ventnor, and dated from 1835. This was rebuilt in 1854, from plans by Mr. Raffles Brown of Liverpool, and enlarged by the addition of transepts and the extension of the nave. It cost between £4000 and £5000, and accommodates 650 persons.

New Congregational Sunday Schools are now (1881) in course of erection, the memorial stone having been laid on Wednesday, May 25th, by Mrs. Huish of Coombe Woods, Bonchurch, and E. Crossley, Esq., ex-mayor of Halifax. The buildings comprise a main hall 57 feet by 37 feet, and 40 feet from floor to ridges; a small hall, 38 feet by 19 feet; an infant schoolroom, 20 feet square; and eight class-rooms. Accommodation for 500 children; cost, £2200.

A *Wesleyan Chapel* will be found in High Street, and a *Baptist Chapel* in Mill Street; *Primitive Methodist* in Albert Street, and *Bible Christian* in St. Catherine's Street. *St. Wilfrid's*, Roman Catholic Church, is a neat substantial building in Trinity Road, and was erected in 1871.

In the High Street is situated the *Literary and Scientific Institute*, containing a library, reading-room, and lecture-hall. There is a smaller *Literary Institute* in Albert Street.

3. Ventnor offers the visitor an abundant choice of good hotels.

The *Royal* (Johnson), at the west end of the town, is situated in ample and pleasant garden-grounds. The *Marine* (Bush and Judd), recently enlarged, occupies a fine position about 100 feet above the sea. The *Queen's* (Vickers) and the *Esplanade* (Lambert), also recently enlarged, are close to both the beach and the Pier. The *Crab and Lobster* (Cass), lately rebuilt, retains by its side the original low, vine-trellised inn which witnessed the "beginnings" of Ventnor, and, in a town where all is so new, may claim the respect due to an ancient memorial. We may name also the *Commercial*, the *Terminus*, and the *Prince of Wales* hotels. The inns it is needless to specify.

Two or three excellent boarding-houses or private hotels are well patronized, and their situation is all that could be desired as regards the "view" and the "shelter." Lodging-houses abound; and the terms, it is only fair to say, are, on the whole, exceedingly moderate —much more so, in proportion to the accommodation afforded, than at Ramsgate, Brighton, or Scarborough. The visitor may make his selection according to his tastes and circumstances. Many new villas of a very superior kind have lately been erected; and these will be found in situations adapted either to invalids who require the mildest and sunniest air, or to more robust constitutions, who enjoy the fresh vigorous air on the higher levels.

4. A new *Pier*, about 600 feet in length, is the latest addition to the attractions of Ventnor. A light, graceful, almost airy structure, it is chiefly built of iron, with ornamental screens of glass and timber that effectually shelter the promenade from strong winds or glaring suns, while in no way interfering with the glorious panorama of cliff, and wooded terrace, and golden sands, green hills, and shining sea.

On three evenings in the week the town band plays at the head of the Pier.

A new landing-place has been constructed, and it is proposed to establish a direct steamboat service with Portsmouth, so as to place Ventnor within a three hours' journey of London. But at present, steamers seem unable to lie at the pier when anything like a strong wind is blowing.

5. To the west of the town, lying between the Steephill road and the sea cliff, lie the *Public Gardens and Recreation Ground*, recently secured to the town, and comprising about sixteen acres of terrace land, from which some very lovely seascapes and landscapes may be enjoyed. Though not much as yet has been done to add to their natural beauty, the plans of the local authorities have been well con-

sidered, and in a few years these gardens will undoubtedly become one of the greatest attractions of this attractive locality.

6. The *Undercliff Assembly Rooms*, in Albert Street, recently erected by a limited liability company, comprise a suite of rooms for the Local Board, a spacious room for public entertainments, balls, and concerts, with the necessary ante-rooms and offices.

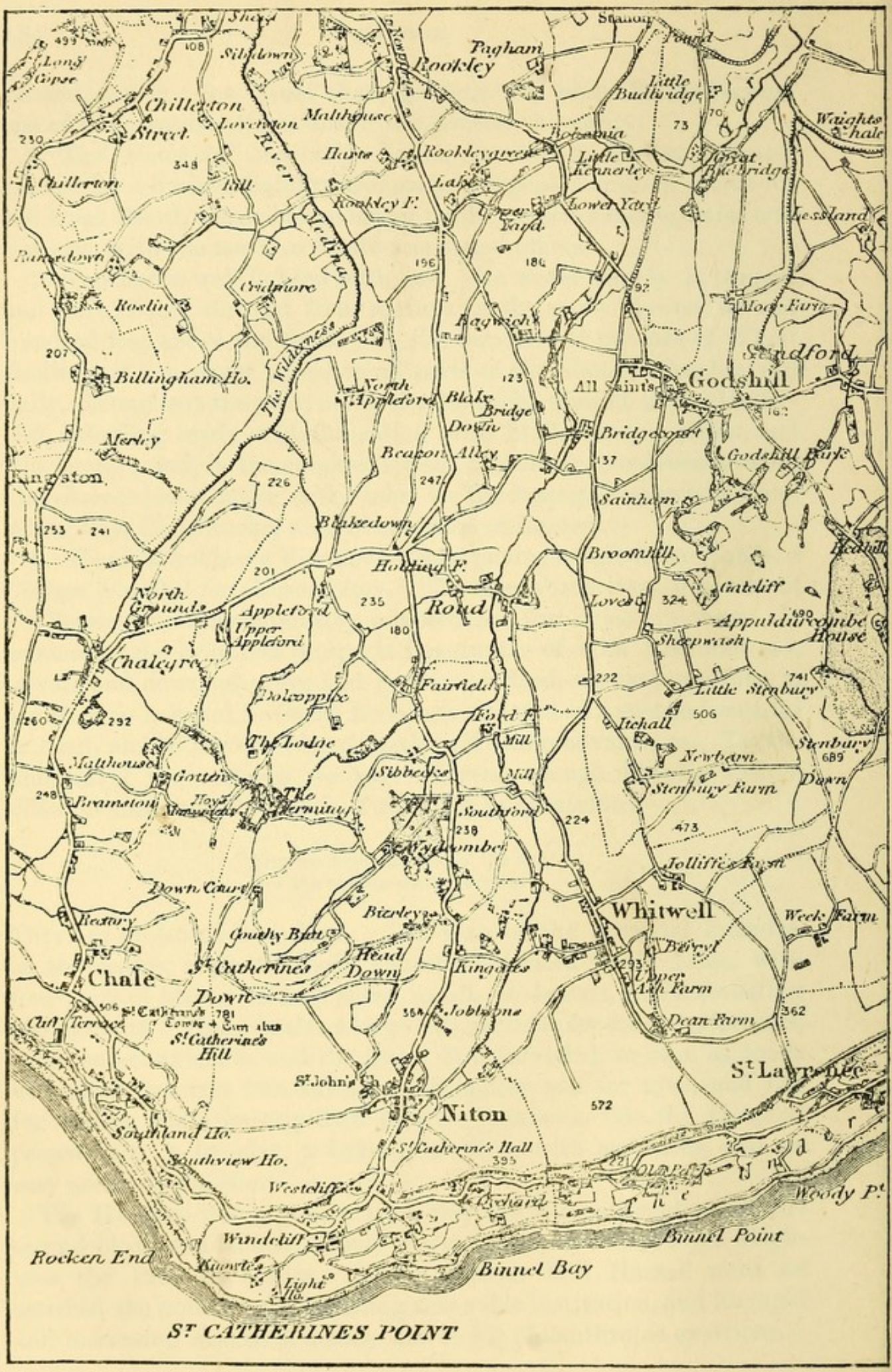
7. Ventnor is well lighted with gas. Its water supply is copious and pure, being derived from springs in the chalk downs, several hundred feet above the town. As the terminus of the Isle of Wight Railway, it has ready access to all parts of the island. Coaches run daily, throughout the year, along the beautiful district of the Undercliff, affording ready communication with St. Lawrence, Niton, and Blackgang; and, in the summer season, five or six four-horse coaches and *chars-à-bancs* make daily trips to Blackgang, Freshwater Gate, Alum Bay, Carisbrooke, and other places of interest.

8. We must not leave Ventnor without paying a visit to the *National Cottage Hospital for Consumption*. The site, about three-quarters of a mile westward, is admirably adapted for the object in view. It commands the brightest prospects imaginable of both land and sea, of vale and down, of grove and garden; indeed, we may venture to say that no hospital in Great Britain is situated in a spot so beautiful in itself, and so favoured by climatic and other advantages. To the inmates of the cottages we may address, though happily with a different meaning, the words of the song in *Cymbeline*,—

> "Fear no more the heat o' the sun,
> Nor the furious winter's rages."

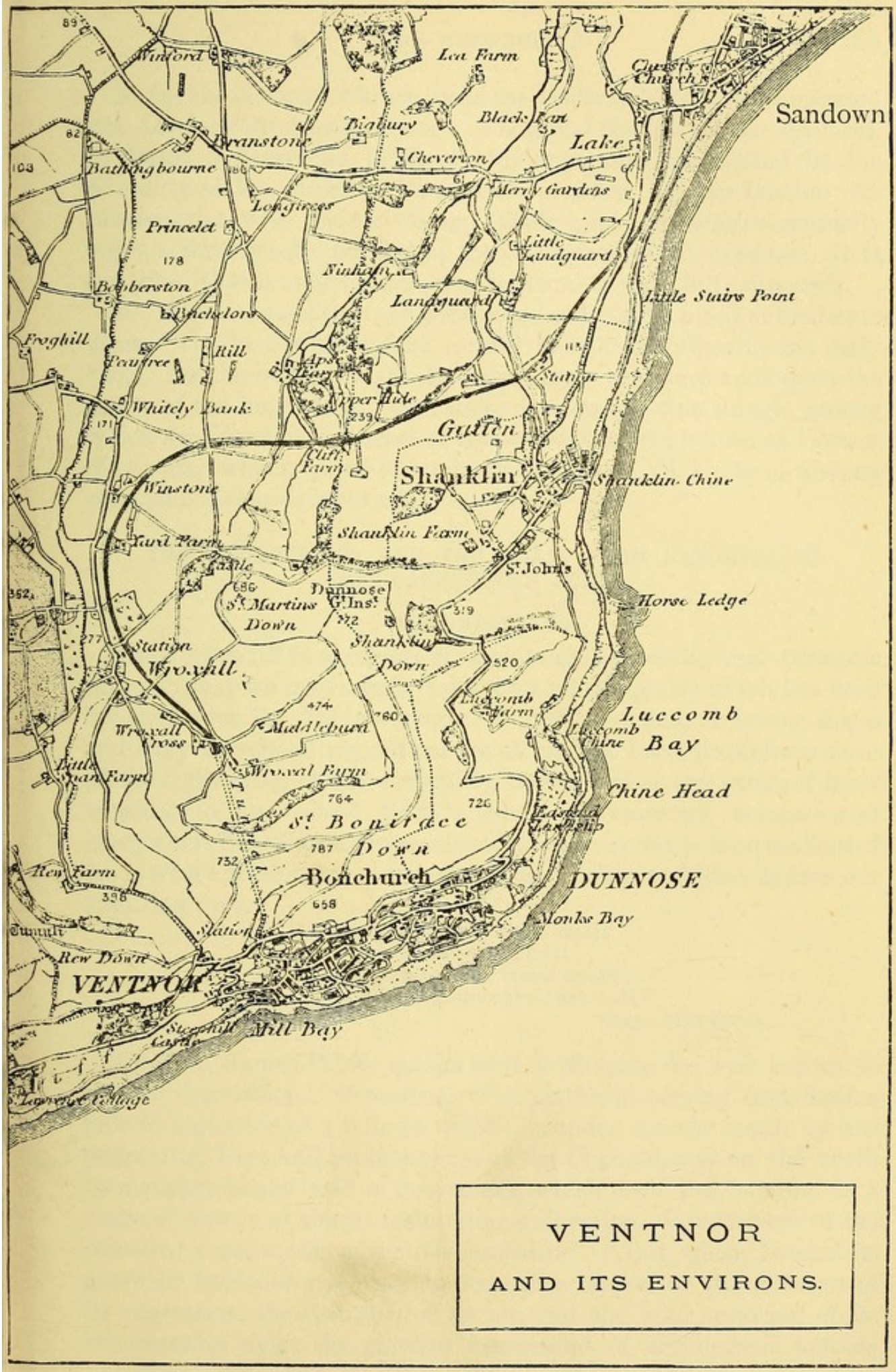
They are protected from both. The plan of the Hospital includes, in the centre, a prettily-built church, dedicated to St. Luke, with four pairs of houses on each side; in all, 16 houses, accommodating 100 patients. There is also a large hall, suitable for concerts, lectures, social entertainments, and the like. It is intended, so soon as funds will admit, to erect two subsidiary hospitals, one for men, and one for women, while waiting their turn for admission into the Hospital proper; also a laundry, a bakery, a dairy, with sea-baths, and an easy access to the shore.

The Hospital was begun in 1868, and the foundation-stone of the second block was laid, on behalf of the Queen, by Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise. To Dr. Arthur Hill Hassall must be ascribed the honour of originating this noble institution, and its rapid and increasing success is mainly due to his philanthropic exertions.



ST CATHERINES POINT

On a Scale of One Inch to a Statute Mile.



VENTNOR
AND ITS ENVIRONS.

The Figures indicate Height in Feet above Sea-level.

9. On the elevated terrace, near the Railway Terminus, is situated the *London City Mission Seaside Home*, 350 feet above the sea-level. It forms a handsome block of buildings, and was erected by the liberality of Mr. Huish of Bonchurch, in order that the London city missionaries, with their wives and families, may, in rotation, annually enjoy a three weeks' holiday at the coast, free of all expense. It is not often that munificence is so wisely and thoughtfully directed.

10. Bathing-machines are numerous, and can be hired at moderate rates. The bather should be careful how he indulges in his daily "dip," for the back draught is strong, and sometimes endangers the safety of the imprudent. The shore consists of a fine shingle, among which are found those pieces of transparent quartz known as *Ventnor diamonds*, which, polished and wrought into all kinds of shapes, command a considerable sale.

THE UNDERCLIFF: AND THE COAST FROM SANDOWN TO ST. CATHERINE'S POINT.

THE UNDERCLIFF.

The Undercliff is a region of such singular beauty and romantic interest, that we may admit it deserves all the praise which has been lavished upon it. Its interchange of rock and dell, of lawny slopes and leafy bowers, of rugged masses of cliff, of bare, precipitous ramparts of glittering chalk, of rippling brooks and sleepy pools, of lanes winding in and about thick clusters of blossomy copses—with everywhere "the murmurous noise of waves"—renders it an enchanted land, where fresh charms are continually being unfolded before our admiring eyes.

"A murmur from the violet vales!
A glory in the goblin dell;
There Beauty all her breast unveils,
And Music pours out all her shell."

OWEN MEREDITH.

The Rev. James White speaks of it as a region too well known to require description. Consisting of a platform varying from half a mile to a quarter of a mile in width—bounded on the south by the undulating bays and promontories of the Channel, and on the north by a perpendicular wall of gray rocks, which form the buttress to a range of downs of almost mountainous elevation—it unites two of the principal constituents of a noble landscape. "But when, besides its guardian hills and ever-varying ocean, we remember the richness of its vegetation, the clearness of its air, and the wild seclusion of its innumerable dells, the glowing expressions of enthusiastic tourists

would seem not much, if at all, beyond the truth.....In addition to its beauty, the district has acquired within a few years another and a better claim to admiration. The peculiarity of its position, guarded from the east and north by its barrier of rock, the mildness of its air, and the extraordinary dryness of its soil, have made it a chosen spot for the invalid, and a refuge from the attacks of the English destroyer, or, at least, a soother of the English disease—consumption." Equally warm is the eulogy of Jeffrey, *the* "Edinburgh Reviewer." "The chief beauty of the island," he says, "lies on the south, where it opens to the wide ocean, and meets a warmer sun than shines upon any other spot of our kingdom. On this side it is, for the most part, bounded by lofty chalk cliffs, which rise, in the most dazzling whiteness, out of the blue sea into the blue sky, and make a composition something like Wedgwood's enamel. The cliffs are in some places enormously high—from 600 to 700 feet. The beautiful places are either where they sink deep into bays and valleys, opening like a theatre to the sun and the sea, or where there has been a terrace of low land formed at their feet, which stretches under the shelter of that enormous wall, like a rich garden plot, all roughened over with masses of rock, fallen in distant ages, and overshadowed with thickets of myrtle, and roses, and geraniums, which all grow wild here in great luxuriance and profusion. These spots are occupied, for the most part, by beautiful ornamented cottages, designed and executed, for the most part, in the most correct taste. Indeed, it could not be easy to make anything ugly in a climate so delicious, where all sorts of flowers, and shrubs, and foliage multiply and maintain themselves with such vigour and rapidity. The myrtles fill all the hedges, and grapes grow in festoons from tree to tree, without the assistance of a wall" (*Lord Cockburn's Life of Lord Jeffrey*).* Mrs. Radcliffe, the once famous authoress of "The Mysteries of Udolpho," must be added to the list of panegyrists:—"The Undercliff," she says, "is a tract of shore formed by the fallen cliffs, and closely barricaded by a wall of rock of vast height. We entered upon it about a mile from Niton, and found ourselves in such a Druid scene of wildness and ruin as we never saw before. The road is, for the most part, close to the wall of rock, which seems to threaten the traveller with destruction, as he passes frequently beneath enormous masses that lean forward. On the other side of the road is an extremely rugged descent of about half a mile to the sea, where sometimes are amphitheatres of rocks,

* This was written by Lord Jeffrey during his stay at Ventnor in 1806, at the outset of his brilliant career.

their theatres filled with ruins, and frequently covered with verdure and underwood that stretch up the hill-side with the wildest pomp, sheltering here a cottage and there a villa among the rocky hillocks. We afterwards ascended, by a steep, rugged road, to the summit of the down, from which the views are astonishing and grand in a high degree; we seemed perched on an extreme point of the world, looking down on hills and cliffs of various height and form, tumbled into confusion as if by an earthquake, and stretching into the sea, which spreads its vast circumference beyond. The look down on the shore is indeed tremendous." "They drove," says another, "underneath the tall and crumbling precipices, with wood-pigeons suddenly shooting out from the clefts and jackdaws wheeling about far up in the blue. They passed by sheltered woods, bestarred with anemones and primroses, and showing here and there the purple of the as yet half-opened hyacinth; they passed by lush meadows all ablaze with the golden yellow of the celandine and the purple of the ground ivy; they passed by the broken, picturesque banks, where the tender blue of the speedwell was visible from time to time, with the white glimmer of the starwort. And then all this time they had on their left a gleaming and wind-driven sea, full of motion and light and colour, and showing the hurrying shadows of the flying clouds" (*William Black*).

This wild and wonderful tract of scenery extends from Luccombe to Blackgang Chine, is about seven miles in length, and varies in breadth from a quarter of a mile to nearly a mile. Briefly speaking, it consists of an irregular table-land,—or rather, a succession of terraces, backed by a chalk wall of unequal height, and raised 50, 60, and even 100 feet above the sea-level. Certain internal agencies—land springs and hidden waters—at work since the dawn of life and light upon the world, have resulted in the separation of this strip of land from the hills of which it was formerly a part, and the removal of it bodily to a considerable way below them—between *them*, in fact, and the sea. To understand the cause of this subsidence, it is necessary to be acquainted with the geological nature of the rocks, and the influences to which they have been subjected. The strata, reckoning from the bottom, are, first red ferruginous sand; then blue marl; next green sandstone; and at the top, chalk and chalk marl. "The stratum of blue marl is soft and easily acted upon by land springs, when it becomes mud, and oozes out; and the sandstone and chalk being deprived of their support, must of necessity sink down. The subsidence, if thus brought about, might be gradual and scarcely per-

ceptible, except in its ultimate results; but the sea was at the same time beating with violence against the lower strata, and washing out the sand and marl, which were already loosened by the springs. This double process would go on till the superincumbent mass became unable to sustain itself by mere adhesion to the parent rock, when it must necessarily break away and fall forward. That this was the way in which the Undercliff was produced, is evident from an examination of the phenomena it presents, and what may be observed still going on, though on a lesser scale. The great change in the level must have occurred at a very distant period; churches and houses of ancient date, which stand in different parts of the Undercliff, show that no very considerable alteration can have taken place for centuries" (*Thorne*). At East End, in 1810, a landslip destroyed 30 acres of ground; a second, in 1818, upwards of 50; and a large mass of rock fell in 1847. But the most considerable of these convulsions occurred in February 1799, near Niton, when a farm-house named Pitlands, and 100 acres of land, were hurled in wild confusion towards the shore. These, however, are local changes; and "no great further movement at all is to be dreaded within this district."

Here, in this Eden-nook the heliotrope, the myrtle, the fuchsia, the petunia, and the verbena, bloom in the open air throughout the winter. "I have counted," says the late Dr. G. A. Martin, "nearly fifty species of garden flowers blooming in the borders in December; and sweet peas blossom on Christmas day!" The bee is on the wing when, in less favoured districts of the island, a bitter frost parches all the meadows. The mean annual temperature is placed by observers at not less than 51° 72′; and as the result of eight years' calculations, Dr. Martin shows that the warmer and more genial winds blow here for the greater portion of the year. Thus: S.W., 96.97 days; E., 60.34 days; N.E., 54.61; W., 52.54; N.W., 30.95; S., 26.72; N., 24.46; and S.E., 18.85.

BONCHURCH.

(*Hotel:* Ribbands'.)

Bonchurch, anciently *Bonecerce* (one mile to the east of Ventnor, with which it is now connected by rows of villas), is one of the oldest villages in the Wight, and is truly "hallowed ground," if the popular tradition that it was the scene of the early labours of St. Boniface (*bonum facere*, to do good) has aught of truth in it. A little cove among its rocks still bears the name of *Monk's Bay*, and is reputed to have been the landing-place of the adventurous priests of the Abbey

of Lire, who brought the good tidings of Christianity to the untaught islanders. This, it is said, took place in A.D. 755, when they raised here a village church. Sir John Oglander makes it the scene of a descent of the French, under M. de Thais, in 1545.

But the *present* old church of Bonchurch cannot claim so remote an antiquity. Most probably it was founded by one of the De Lisles not earlier than the commencement of the fourteenth century. The new church, a graceful structure, built in 1847, was enlarged in 1874. In the graveyard a plain cross marks the last resting-place of the Rev. James White.

The parish of Bonchurch* contains 618 acres, and, in 1881, 170 inhabitants. Its boundaries are:—east, Shanklin; west, Ventnor; north, Godshill; and south, the Channel. Within its limits lie scenes of greater beauty than perhaps exist anywhere else in so confined a space. The sea-shore is continually presenting new features of interest; new surprises occur at every point. Inland is an unequalled combination of the sublime and the picturesque; of towering walls of glittering chalk; of glades odorous with flowers; of gardens rich in the rarest plants and most exquisite blossoms. The entrance to the village is eminently lovely. The road is bordered by a calm, sweet pool, on the bosom of which sleep the broad leaves of the water-lily, and, running under a perfect arch of elm boughs, it winds in and out of jutting masses of rock covered with prodigal vegetation. The huge wall of St. Boniface Down towers above the traveller to the height of 757 feet, and from its sides leap out little runnels in mimic cascades, filling the air with their musical chime and pleasant freshness.†

It is difficult, in our narrow limits, to note down *all* that the tourist ought to see in this agreeable neighbourhood. But he will ascend, of course, the steep sides of *St. Boniface Down*, to enjoy the surpassingly beautiful panorama which spreads beneath and around it. He will visit the Well—*St. Bonny's* or *The Wishing Well*—which once bubbled brightly out of the chalky bosom of the hill, but is now

* Bonchurch was the birth-place of the gallant old seaman Admiral Hopson (see *post*).

† The copiousness of waters is one of the characteristics of this charming nook, which does, indeed, seem like a bit of the "Garden of Armida" transported hither, between the cliffs and the sea, to show how fair nature is and can be. The scenery may be on a somewhat miniature scale, but it is perfect of its kind, and marked by a certain harmony of colour. Well might Dr. Arnold describe it as "the most beautiful place on the sea-coast on this side of Genoa." Well might John Sterling speak of it as "the best possible earthly fairyland, combining all the varied and fanciful beauty of enchantment with the highest degree of domestic, comfortable reality."

reduced to a sandy pool. It was first discovered, says the legend, by a certain bishop, who, riding across the hill on a misty night, lost his way, and found his steed, to his horror, slowly sliding down the precipitous side, until at length he suddenly drew up with his hoofs fixed in the hollow of this well. The bishop thereupon vowed to St. Boniface that if he reached the bottom securely he would dedicate to his honour an acre of land. The saint closed with the bargain; the bishop reached home without further let or mishap; and the land, known as *The Bishop's Acre*, still belongs to the glebe of Bonchurch. It lies at the foot of the hill, and is marked out by a ridge of turf.

In the old times, on the feast-day of St. Boniface, the village maidens were wont to ascend the down and place garlands of flowers about the well, in honour of the patron saint. A superstition attached to it, that a wish breathed inwardly by the stranger who for the first time drank of its water, would assuredly be fulfilled,—a pleasant enough fancy, which the lads and lasses of Bonchurch doubtlessly, in their love-making days, turned to good account.

Standing on the brink of this magnificent precipice, we must admit that the picture beneath us is perfect. "The cliff is exquisitely chiselled into horizontal blocks, richly mossed and ivied; and there the chough resorts and the jackdaw builds; and here and there a dove will wing its way, like a snow-flake among the gray and sable daws" (*Dendy*). And spreading afar, like a sheet of molten silver, ever flashes and gleams the apparently motionless sea.

St. Boniface Down is the general appellation of the mass or knot of chalk-hills rising between Bonchurch and Ventnor, but its different points have different local appellations. The hill immediately above Ventnor is called Little Tower Down (158 feet); the hollow behind it, with the rifle-target, is Combe Bottom; beyond is Ventnor Down, and to the north, Wroxall Down (764 feet). Above Bonchurch impends Bonchurch Down (784 feet), which thrusts a chalky arm into the sea at Dunnose Point. Luccombe Down (760 feet) rises eastward, above Luccombe Bottom and Luccombe Chine; over Shanklin falls the shadow of Shanklin Down (772 feet); and St. Martin's Down (686 feet), crested by Cook's Castle, forms the northern termination.

To reach the summit, take the path which starts from Trinity Church, and passes the Wishing Well; or, from the railway station, climb the Little Tower Down, by way of the reservoir. The view from the summit is grandly extensive,—embracing the coast-line and Undercliff; Ventnor and Bonchurch; St. Catherine's Down, with its

lighthouse and hermitage; the Worsley obelisk and Appuldurcombe Down; Brighstone and Chillerton Downs; the white range of Freshwater Cliffs; and the Needles.

A cart-road, entering Wroxall Down at the Ventnor cemetery, crosses the highlands from Ventnor to Shanklin, and opens up a series of striking and brilliant changes. Passing through a gate, the traveller sees before him the villages of Wroxall and Godshill, with the rounded summit of Appuldurcombe Down; and, beyond, the flashing lights of the Freshwater Cliffs. A little further, and his gaze embraces, as in a picture framed between sea and sky, the sweep of Sandown Bay, the white wall of the Culvers, the Ashey, Brading, and Bembridge Downs, the silver sheen of the Solent, and the long blue line of the Hampshire coast. At the point where the road bifurcates, one fork leading to Shanklin, the other to Cook's Castle and Wroxall, another wide, rich, and novel prospect is presented:—"To the north is a full view of the vale of Newchurch; and in the distance, over the summits of Arreton and Ashey Downs, is seen the northern part of the island, richly clothed with wood. The fleets at Spithead and Portsmouth are distinguished; and the horizon on this side is bounded by the long line of the Hampshire and Sussex hills, extending to Beachy Head. Towards the west appear St. Catherine's Hill with its tower, and Appuldurcombe with its fine woods. To the north-west are the Medina, the Solent, and the coast of Hampshire. Below, to the east, is expanded the beautiful Bay of Sandown, sheltered by the chalky promontory of the Culver, which stretches far out into the sea; and nearer is the village of Shanklin, embosomed in trees; an extensive view of the Channel, with its numerous sparkling vessels, completing this magnificent prospect."

The tourist may descend either into Wroxall, Shanklin, or Bonchurch (on the east).

A flight of steps near the pond conducts the tourist to the *Pulpit Rock* (400 feet above the sea), a bold and rugged mass of cliff (in the grounds of The Maples), now surmounted with a wooden cross in a wooden enclosure,—from which it derives its name,—but formerly bearing a flagstaff, and christened "Shakespeare Rock." The rustic wooden cross was erected, some sixty years ago, by Sir William Heathcote (long M.P. for Oxford University) and the Hon. and Rev. Arthur Perceval. In the beautiful grounds of *Undermount* (Lady Elizabeth Pringle) rises another and similar mass of crag, called the *Flagstaff Rock*, or Hadfield's Look-out. *Jacob's Ladder* is an ascent

of 101 steps, leading to the upper part of the village by way of *Balaam's Path.*

The drinking-fountain near the pond was erected by subscription as a memorial to the late Captain Huish, to whose liberality Bonchurch owes its *Public Rooms.*

Numerous pretty villas in pretty garden grounds are scattered about this singular district. Most noticeable are, *East Dene* (J. Henry Snowdon, Esq.), designed by Mr. Beazley (the architect of the Lyceum Theatre), with a picturesque Elizabethan interior, and an organ which, it is said, has been touched by Queen Bess's fingers; *Wood Lynch*, the seat of the late Rev. J. White; *Winterbourne*, the residence of the late Rev. William Adams, the author of many exquisite sacred allegories, to which we shall more particularly allude hereafter; *Westfield*, *Cliffdene* (J. W. Mitchell, Esq.), *Orchard Leigh*, *Combe Wood*, *The Maples*, *Ashcliff* (the residence of Miss Sewell), and *Hillside*, Ventnor, where John Sterling—Carlyle's John Sterling—spent the last few months of his life, and died September 18, 1844.

Bonchurch occupies an honoured place in our literary annals. It is associated, as we have seen, with the memories of the Rev. William Adams and John Sterling; and was long the well-loved residence of the Rev. James White, a littérateur and dramatist of no mean order, who is remembered as the "Fat Contributor" of *Punch*, and the author of "The Eighteen Christian Centuries," and of several plays, in one of which, *The King of the Commons*, Macready played the principal character. At his pleasant house here Tennyson was a frequent visitor, and Charles Dickens, Thackeray, John Leech, and Richard Doyle. At Underrock resided Mr. Edmund Peel, the author of an agreeable rhetorical poem on "The Fair Island." And at Ashcliff still lives and labours Miss Elizabeth Sewell, the novelist, whose "Amy Herbert," "Laneton Parsonage," "Ivors," and "Ursula," are household words in so many English families. She is the daughter of a Newport solicitor, and sister of Dr. Sewell, the Warden of New College, Oxford.

Near Monk's Bay, which lies to the south of Dunnose, still remain a few traces of a Roman encampment; and in the vicinity have been exhumed, at different times, urns, calcined bones, ashes, and other significant relics of the Roman occupants of the Undercliff.

Such is a brief, cold outline of the attractions of this fairyland, which includes within its enchanted limits a thousand varieties—a thousand charms of scenery. "Take barren rocks," exclaims an enthusiastic writer, "prolific soils, broken masses, elevated cliffs, and

precipitous descents, an expanded sea, a winding rivulet, and tranquil lake, the wild-flower dell and the rich pasture, the peasant's hut, the farmer's yard, and the admired villa; employ the colours of the bow of heaven; let the motions of animated nature be within observation; cover the whole with an expanded arch; light it with a summer's sun, and call it—Bonchurch."

SHANKLIN.

Hotels:—Hollier's; Daish's, High Street; Royal Spa, Esplanade; Clarendon, and Madeira, North Road; Falcon, Station Road; and Marine, near railway station.
Bank:—Capital and Counties, High Street.
Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club:—Secretary, Mr. G. Tizard, Daish's Hotel.
Literary and Scientific Institution, Prospect Road; reading-room open every evening.
Public Reading-Room, 2 High Street.
Post Office, High Street:—Deliveries, 7 A.M. and 2.15 P.M. Box closes, 9.10 A.M., 12.40 P.M., and 7.30 P.M. On Sundays, one despatch at 6.30 P.M.
Pillar Boxes:—Station Road, Esplanade, and Queen's Road.

SHANKLIN, one of the leafiest of leafy villages, if now, indeed, it may not aspire to the denomination and prerogatives of a *town*,—whose "romantic glades" attracted the attention of Tom Ingoldsby; whose beautiful scenery has been the admiration of artist and poet; whose dells are prodigal of blossoms; whose hills look out upon "the sounding sea,"—is about 2 miles from Sandown, 4 from Ventnor, 8½ from Ryde, and occupies a table-land 300 feet above the sea, at the base of the eastern extremity of the great chalk range of downs which forms "the backbone" of the island. The entrance into Shanklin from Ventnor is one of the fairest scenes in this fair country-side. The beach is very fine, and the views seaward are endless in variety and interest, so that the tourist, however hurried, will do well to spend at least a day or two in the neighbourhood, and examine its chief attractions.

"Shanklin," says Keats, "is a most beautiful place; sloping wood and meadow ground reach round the chine, which is a cleft between the cliffs of the depth of nearly 300 feet at least. This cleft is filled with trees and bushes in the narrow part, and as it widens becomes bare, if it were not for primroses on one side, which spread to the very verge of the sea, and some fishermen's huts on the other, perched midway in the balustrade of beautiful green hedges along the steps down to the sand" (*Life and Letters*). Here is a picture from another hand, not less graphic:—"This village is very small and scattery, all mixed up with trees, and lying among sweet airy falls and swells of ground, which finally rise up behind to breezy downs 800 feet high, and sink down in front to the edge of the varying

cliffs, which overhang a pretty beach of fine sand, and are approachable by a very striking wooded ravine which they call the *Chine*" (*Lord Jeffrey, in Life by Cockburn*).

"The corner to my mind in the Isle of Wight. There is no spot like Shanklin. There is no cool green corner in the island like Shanklin. Its wonderful variety, its woods, and streams, and brooks, and picturesque houses, give it the prize unquestionably for beauty. The great drawback to all sea-side places is the glare of the sun. The Isle of Thanet and the South Sussex coast are charming enough, but the white blaze from the chalk is often terrible. There is no need of blue spectacles at Shanklin. It is all green and soothing. You enter the village from the sea, through a tunnel of green, and the famous chine is all shady nook and babbling brook. Nor need it be said that Shanklin is dull or uninteresting.....There is archery on the sands, and boat-building, and bathing, and horses to ride, and croquet in the villa gardens, and all over the village cool corners for reading or working" (*Clement Scott*). A writer of agreeable *vers de société* sings :—

"When I am weary and alone,
Quite broken down or sadly undone;
When constitution lacks ozone,
And pores are stopped by dirty London—
The doctor recommends a nag
For change or cares in bosom ranklin';
But I pack up a carpet-bag,
And take an early train to Shanklin."

Shanklin would be scarcely recognized by any person visiting it after an interval of ten or fifteen years. The "everlasting hills" are the same; and the smooth sands, and the dark cliffs, and the broad sweep of blue waves are the same; and in the neighbourhood many a pleasant nook and leafy haunt happily remain unaltered; but the little village, which lay embosomed in "a wealth of greenery," has developed into a watering-place of considerable proportions. The cluster of pretty cottages has grown into a town, with its Local Board, its gas-works, its water-works, and all those comforts and conveniences which are so hostile to the picturesque. Still it is "beautiful exceedingly," and if the speculative builder will stay his hand, may long continue so. In illustration of its rapid growth, we may state that its population, only 477 in 1861, was 2035 in 1871, and is now estimated at 3000.

It has three churches. *St. Saviour's*, on the cliff, consecrated in 1869, but with tower and spire not yet complete;—a graceful Early English building, designed by Mr. Hellyer. The parish church,

dedicated to *St. John the Baptist* (but anciently to St. Blaize), is finely situated in the heart of a noble grove of elms. It has been considerably enlarged of late, and is now a cruciform structure of considerable proportions. *St. Paul's*, Gatten, near the railway station, is in the Early English style, and of handsome design. At present it is not completed.

The *Congregationalists*, *Wesleyans*, and *Bible Christians* have each a meeting-house. The *Literary and Scientific Institute* is situated in Prospect Road. It is in the Grecian style, with a spacious hall.

We commend Shanklin to the tourist as a convenient and very agreeable resting-place, from which he may explore some of the most characteristic scenery of the island. The wanderer in search of health will find it sheltered from cold winds, and gifted with an invigorating air; while the sea-side visitor will be able to boat, bathe, swim, drive, ride, walk, or saunter, under eminently favourable conditions.

A pleasant walk (1¼ mile) along the firm, broad sands, leads to *Luccombe Chine*, one of the most noticeable of these depressions. It forms a deep ravine or cleft in the bare, precipitous cliffs, about 100 yards wide at its mouth, but rapidly narrowing as it penetrates some 500 or 600 feet inland. It has been formed by the action of a small rill on the strata of ferruginous sand, which descends in one or two mimic cascades. At the foot, on a ledge or platform of whitish sand mixed with shale, clusters a group of fishermen's huts, with their picturesque adjuncts of nets and lobster-pots, boats and capstans. A path on the west side of the Chine ascends to the summit of the cliff, and returns to Shanklin at a point near Hollier's Hotel.

Or the tourist, passing Bowlwood (the fishermen's settlement already described), may keep along the terrace to Steel Bay, where the *Underley* was wrecked in October 1872, and thence climb up into the scene of the landslip of 1818. Here the rocks displaced by the great convulsion have been piled upon the shore in wild and even grotesque confusion. "A considerable portion of the cliff has fallen down, strewing the whole ground between it and the sea with its ruins; huge masses of solid rock started up amidst heaps of smaller fragments." Lying amid a thick growth of luxuriant vegetation, they might be taken for the playthings of the Titans, which they have flung away in scorn. "The lover of nature will not be content to keep to the beaten path, but will wander at will by the rough tracks which lead over the rifted rocks and through the tangled

hazel thickets, discovering fresh beauties at every step. He should by all means make his way to the base of the cliffs (which are about 150 feet high), where only the size of the huge masses of rock which have been rent bodily from the parent hill can be appreciated, and an estimate formed of the enormous force which hurled them from their height."

This is one of the botanist's "happy hunting-grounds." He will find here the rock sandwort, musk mallow, mountain St. John's wort, wood vetch, wild everlasting pea, milk thistle, common gromwell, ivy-rape, and Italian wake-robin.

A stroll *by the road* to Bonchurch and the Undercliff is also full of interest and variety. The road winds through open groves and green pastures up the flank of the hill of Dunnose, affording at every point the most delightful views. The village, with its leafy gardens, occupies the foreground; then, in succession, the eye surveys the fine sweep of Sandown Bay, terminated by the white walls of the Culver, the low marsh-land stretching away to Brading, and even, across the Solent, the shipping in the noble anchorage at Spithead. From the top of the ascent may be observed the chalky heights of Yaverland and the blue seas beyond, the distant hills of Hampshire and Sussex running from west to east in a long clean line, until they melt into the horizon; and the glittering cliffs from Brighton to Beachy Head are sometimes plainly visible.

We shall briefly indicate a few enjoyable excursions:—

1. *To the Landslip by the Cliff.*—Through Chine Hollow and across the Popham Road, entering the open breezy fields near the Hermitage: from this point the view is very fine in the boldness of its details and the depth of its colouring. Passing along the Thems, we catch a glimpse of Luccombe beach, and enter a gate close to the grounds of Chine Cottage. At Rose Cliff we strike into the Coppice, and emerge upon the Landslip.

2. *To Wroxall.*—From the old parish church we cross the fields to the top of Low Pitt Cliff, the northern section of Shanklin Down, and along the edge of the precipice proceed until the Worsley Obelisk looms in sight, when we cross a stile and enter a wood, which takes us to the belvedere, or turreted two-storied tower, of Cook's Castle, erected, it is said, to improve the view from Appuldurcombe. It is now used as a restaurant, where tea and hot water are supplied to picnic parties. The two small guns here belonged to the late Earl of Yarborough's yacht. From the "castle-roof" we command one of those glorious pictures which, once seen, are never after to be for-

gotten as long as "memory holds its seat." Included in it are the fertile valley of Newchurch, the downs of Ashey and Arreton, the gray tower of Godshill church, the towns of Shanklin and Sandown, and the expanse of Brading Haven, the long crest of the chalk downs extending to the west point of the island, Appuldurcombe nestling among luxuriant woods, and the ruined battlements of historic Carisbrooke.

We now descend to Wroxall (*Railway Hotel*), where we can take the rail, or return by the hamlet of Apse Reach and Cliff Farm.

3. *To Languard* (or *Landguard*).—Passing the Hide Farm, we enter the umbrageous seclusion of Tinker's Lane, and through the leafy woods of America, make our way to the old gabled manor-house now known as Apse Farm. Here in April and May the profusion of wild flowers makes it one of the most charming nooks in the neighbourhood of Shanklin and Ventnor. Primroses, blue hyacinths, violets, frail wood-anemones, purple orchis, wood-sponge, wake-robin, and other sweet spring flowers, edged in by ferny banks and numerous thickets, combine to enhance the attractions of a bower which the olden poets would have made the haunt of Oreades.

From Apse we proceed to Ninham (see p. 178), which is most pleasantly situated, and thence across the fields to Languard Manor House (erected by Colonel Atherley on the site of the old manor-house). Some fine yews are worthy of notice. At Merrygarden (from *merise*, a cherry) we enter the main road, and return through Lake to Shanklin.

4. *To Godshill.*—By Grange Road, up West Hill Lane, to Mount Pleasant; enter the fields, and keep straight on to Cliff Farm. Thence a footpath across the fields leads to the railway. Cross to Apse; keep to the left; pass into Apse Gulley and under the railway; cross some fields and the railway once again; and a straight footpath conducts you into the Ventnor Road at Whiteley Bank corner. We keep to the road past French Mill (so called from the French monks who held Appuldurcombe Priory), Sandford village, and Sandford House (M. Sportali; the grounds of which are open to the public), and arrive at Godshill (see *post*). "Hollow lanes burrowing in the red soil, overhung with banks bright in the spring with a profusion of daffodils, wind steeply to the church," the view from which will deeply gratify the lover of the picturesque.

Return through Appuldurcombe Park to Wroxall.

5. *To Newchurch.*—Take the road to Languard and Merrygarden; at the latter point turn to the left, and again to the right, which will

conduct us to Borthwood (Borwood or Bordwood), the leafy shades of which appeal irresistibly to the tired wayfarer. A diversion may be made to the knoll of Queen's Bower, where Isabella de Fortibus, "Lady of the Island," was wont to post herself to watch the chase in the neighbouring glades. Thence to Newchurch; returning by train from Sandown, or by road, through Winford, across Apse Heath to Cheverton, and by Whitecross and Languard.

6. *To Sandown and Bembridge.*—Along the edge of the cliff a footpath leads to Sandown, where, at the Battery, we enter the high-road, and continue along to the Fort; after which we ascend to the Culver Cliff (213 feet). Beneath us, to the northward, lies the woody dell once consecrated by the chapel of Woolverton; "if we take tradition for our guide, we shall believe that once, on yon green plain, stood a considerable city." Further on, the charming village of Bembridge nestles among the profuse verdure; and the rocky ledge of Bembridge Point extends its giant arm for more than a mile into the sea. The *Hermit's Hole* is on the south side of the cliff, about 30 feet below the brink. On the down the Yarborough pillar forms a conspicuous landmark; whence we may descend into the village, and return through Yaverland; or we may go on into Bembridge, and take the road along the side of Brading Haven to Yarbridge, where we re-enter the Sandown road.

7. *To the Cemetery.*—By the Languard road, past Languard Manor House, to Whitecross Cottage; and thence, by a leafy lane, to the cemetery. As Shelley says in the preface to his *Adonais:* "It might make one in love with death to think that one should be buried in so sweet a place."

> "Here pause. These graves are all too young as yet
> To have outgrown the sorrow which consigned
> Its charge to each."

Here lie interred the remains of some of the *Eurydice* crew whose bodies were washed ashore at Shanklin.

Shanklin, then, is not only an agreeable residence for invalids, but a capital centre for the hale and hearty pedestrian, who may "walk hither and thither for many a long day" before he finds a spot more delicious. It dates its popularity as far back as the reign of Charles II., when its chalybeate spring* drew to the place the butterflies of fashion. The Jacobites of the Isle of Wight resorted to it in the early days of the House of Hanover; and it is said that an old

* This spring is situated in a ferny grotto at the back of the Royal Spa Hotel. It was prescribed by Dr. Fraser, physician to Charles II., with much success.

summer pavilion in the Manor House Garden* was their favourite rendezvous, where, with the then Squire of Shanklin at their head, they pledged the health of "Charlie over the water" upon bended knee. Nor is it without its literary associations. Bishops Hind (of Norwich) and Hampden (of Hereford) were here in their undergraduate days, in the summer of 1812; and devoted themselves to their books, with the refreshment of an occasional walk along the sea-shore. Archbishop Whately is another of its "celebrities." Keats was here with his friend Brown in the early part of 1819, writing the play of "Otho the Great" (of which Brown invented the plot) and his fine poem of "Lamia." And in 1846, the year before his death, Lord Jeffrey was a visitor. "We enjoyed," he says, "three weeks' very sweet, tranquil, and innocent seclusion, which we left with much affection and some regret" (*Life, by Lord Cockburn*).

Among the "objects of interest" at Shanklin will probably be considered the house known as "Rose Bank," where for some time resided the clever but unscrupulous "Count" Yonge or Benson, notorious as the hero of the great Turf Conspiracy. The thatched cottages about the Crab Inn are representative of Old Shanklin. Close to the inn, at the entrance to Chine Hollow, stands a rustic fountain, ornamented with the British and American flags on a small shield, and bearing the following lines, written by the poet Longfellow while sojourning at Hollier's Hotel in 1868:—

"O traveller, stay thy weary feet;
Drink of this fountain, pure and sweet;
It flows for rich and poor the same.
Then go thy way, remembering still
The wayside well beneath the hill,
The cup of water in His name."

The Esplanade is a noble drive and promenade, extending to the Coastguard Station. The northern section, beyond the Royal Spa Hotel, was built about ten years ago; the southern section in 1880. A new pier (to measure 1000 feet in length by 26 feet in width) is in course of construction.

* The Manor House will be well known to the reader of Holme Lee's "Wind and Tide." "Holme Lee," Miss Harriet Parr, resides at Whitwell Mead.

SANDOWN.

Hotels: Sandown, King's Head, Esplanade, York, Station, Royal Pier.
Post Office, High Street: Deliveries at 7 A.M. and 2 P.M.; box closes, 9.20 A.M., 12.45, and 7.50 P.M.
Bank: Capital and Counties.
Skating Rink, on the Esplanade.
Railway: The Ryde and Ventnor line is here joined by the Newport Junction, which has stations at Ulverstone, Newchurch, Horringford, Merston, Blackwater, and Shide.

SANDOWN is a town and ecclesiastical district in the parish of Brading, skirting a bay of the same name, and lying in the lowlands between the heights of Bembridge on the one hand, and the huge bulk of Shanklin Down on the other. It is about six miles distant from Ryde and ten miles from Newport. In 1861 it contained a population of 1743 souls; but this, in 1881, had increased to 3500, so rapid has been the growth of the place through the exertions of some public-spirited residents, as well as its eminent advantages of position. Its semi-circular sweep of bay is very fine; the sands are firm and broad, and offer great facilities to bathers. Agates and other stones fit for polishing are found on the shore. To the east extend the grand chalk cliffs of the Culvers; on the west rises the dark sandstone headland of Dunnose Point; and between these extremes stretches a range of cliffs of sand and clay, interrupted only by the gap in which the town has been planted. The air is bland without being relaxing; good water is abundant; the drainage is arranged on an excellent system; the surrounding country is full of beauty and variety. What more need be said in its praise? It has, like other watering-places, its bathing-machines and baths; its pleasure boats and pleasure vehicles; its lodging-houses, churches, and chapels; a reading-room and croquet-grounds, attached to the new and spacious Town Hall; an Esplanade; and a Pier (350 feet long) of light and elegant construction. It has also a station on the Isle of Wight Railway (from Ryde to Ventnor), at its junction with the Newport line. And to some visitors it may be a recommendation that it was the residence for two months, in the summer of 1874, of the Prince and Princess Imperial of Germany (our Princess-Royal).

Sandown (anciently *Sandham*) Fort was a link in the chain of island defences erected by Henry VIII. The encroachments of the sea compelled the removal of this early block-house, in the reign of Charles I., to a site farther inland. But the development of the science of military engineering having rendered it useless, it was taken down in 1864, and a new and stronger "place of arms"

erected, nearer to the Bembridge Down. This new fort at first was faced with granite, but is now armour-plated; will accommodate 250 men; and is armed with ten 10-inch guns. At Yaverland is an earthen battery, with eight 7-inch guns, flanking the beach and also firing seaward. Farther on lies Red Cliff, another western battery, with four 7-inch guns, of which one is directed seaward, while the others command the bay. Then to the west of Sandown lies Sandown Barrack Battery, with five 7-inch guns, which meet the fire of Red Cliff, and completely sweep the beach.

Sandown contains two churches. *Christ Church*, in Upper Sandown, a graceful building in the Early English style, dating from 1847. It has been twice enlarged, and now comprises nave, aisles, chancel, with low tower and spire. Accommodates about 700. In the churchyard lie buried some of the unfortunate crew of the *Eurydice*, whose bodies were washed ashore. *St. John the Evangelist*, in Lower Sandown, was completed in the spring of 1881, from the designs of Mr. Lack, of London, at a cost of £7000. The *Congregational* and *Wesleyan Chapels* are both handsome buildings.

Many of the best sketches of William Collins the artist—the father of the novelist—were made in this neighbourhood and in that of Shanklin.

Here the notorious John Wilkes had a cottage, or, as in his correspondence he loved to term it, "a villakin." In May 1788 he obtained a lease of it from General Barker of Stickworth, and immediately fitted it up to suit his own fantastic ideas. From a floorcloth manufactory at Knightsbridge he brought various strange "pavilions," which he placed in prominent positions in his garden, and converted into aviaries and dovecots. To birds he was specially partial, and he found a constant source of amusement in watching their habits. Here he reared semi-classical tombs and pillars, and wrote inscriptions upon them in a stilted style. In the shrubbery a Doric column, raised on a model of Virgil's tomb (the interior of which was used as a wine-cellar), bore the following legend: "*Carolo Churchill, Divino Poetæ, Amico Jucundo, Civi optime de Patria merito*" (To Charles Churchill, the divine poet, the pleasant friend, the citizen who has deserved the best of his country); on a tablet in a "Tuscan" room were these words: "*Fortunæ Reduci et Civitati Londinensi, P. Johannes Wilkes, Insolæ*, 1789"; and in his sitting-room: "*To Filial Piety and Mary Wilkes. Erected by John Wilkes*, 1789."

In this pleasant countryside he spent his later years, visiting and

being visited by the island gentry—the Oglanders, the Bassetts, the Fitzmaurices, the Hills, and the Worsleys—and occasionally returning to the "strepitus fumusque" of London. Here he wrote his "Memoirs" and cultivated his little four-acre demesne. With his powdered *queue* neatly tied in a bag, his suit of gold and scarlet, his ample frills and ruffs, and his long boots drawn above his knees, he stalked about the neighbourhood of Shanklin and Sandown "the observed of all observers," and the *deus major* of the simple village folks.

His "villakin" has been pulled down, and a draper's shop now occupies its site. A library chair which belonged to him is preserved at the residence of Mr. Riddicks, the deputy-steward of Brading, who is also the possessor of a lock of hair shorn from the head of Elizabeth Wallbridge, the "Dairyman's Daughter."

Sandown Bay, on Sunday March 24, 1878, was the scene of a grievous calamity. The *Eurydice*, a training-ship, with upwards of 300 men and boys on board, homeward bound from the West Indies, was caught by a sudden squall, after doubling Dunnose Point, and before her canvas could be furled, heeled over, and went down in fourteen fathoms of water. Only two of her crew were saved.

The Roman Villa.—A fresh evidence of the Roman occupation of the island was discovered in April 1880, when, under the supervision of Captain Thorpe and Mr. W. Munns of Brading, portions of a Roman villa were excavated at Morton, near Brading. Other portions have since been revealed to the light of day, under the skilful direction of Messrs. J. E. and F. G. H. Price, with the result of showing that the villa was built on an extensive scale, and originally decorated with much taste and effect. Its situation was well chosen. Standing on the lower slope of a chalk hill, which runs from east to west, it overlooked the shining expanse of the creek now known as Brading Harbour, where perhaps the Roman galleys often lay at anchor. It is probable that the Yar was then navigable as far up as Street End. Thick woods clustered on the declivity of Bembridge peninsula, and spread away beyond the marshes in the direction of Ryde. There would seem to have been a direct communication between the villa and the Roman military station at Carisbrooke; and Mr. Nicholson * claims to have traced its route by means of place-names and disjointed bits of a bridle road which is still called "the old road." It began south-east of the villa at Street

* Mr. C. Nicholson, in *The Antiquary*, vol. iii. p. 7. See also his "Descriptive Account of the Roman Villa at Brading" (pub. by Mr. Elliot Stock).

End, on the Yar, and under the slope of the rolling downs struck inland by Adgestone (Agger-stone), Arreton Street, Standen (or Stone-den), and Gatcombe (the gate or opening through the valley). At Standen some tumuli have been discovered by the Ordnance Surveyors. These may be either of British or of Saxon origin: if British, they prove that the Romans adopted an old British way; if Saxon, they show that the Saxons made use of the road traced out by their great predecessors.

As to the date at which the villa was built, the fact that coins of the Emperor Gallienus have been found both here and among the ruins of the villa at Carisbrooke may be held to demonstrate that they were contemporaneous in their erection, and belong to the reign of Gallienus (about A.D. 250–260).

The whole of the villa has not yet been uncovered. The principal apartments, however, are thrown open; what is now wanted is the *porta*, or entrance, which would afford a key to their arrangement. In one suite of the building are a dozen reception-rooms, one of which, apparently a corridor or colonnade, measures 60 feet in length. Then there is a grand double room, with richly-decorated floor, measuring 40 feet by 18. This one suite is 52 feet in breadth, from east to west; while from south to north continuous walls extend 200 feet to the hypocaust and furnace. Several outer and inferior chambers, at a distance from the principal rooms, have been uncovered. Some of these, as their walls are stuccoed and painted, belonged perhaps to the *gynæceum*, or women's quarter. Beyond these again, to the east, stand the broken walls of several apartments in which were accommodated the numerous servants, slaves, and dependants of the proud patrician owner of the villa.

In the opinion of competent authorities, the mosaic pavements, in number and beauty, are unequalled by any in England. "What we may call the state apartment, 40 feet long by 18 feet wide, presents, from end to end, the features of a horizontal picture-gallery—a tesselated pinacotheca. It is a double room, divided by an inlet of solid masonry, constructed apparently for the support of an architrave from which a curtain or screen depended. Broken pieces of stucco, painted in imitation of veined marble, show that clusters of fresco ran round this and other chambers."

In the centre of the room which we have called a corridor, or colonnade, is a circular medallion, 4 feet in diameter, which represents Orpheus seated. He holds in his hand the magic lyre which has brought to his side, by the beauty of its strains, a monkey, a

fox, a peacock, and a chough. In the state apartment, or *atrium*, at the east end, may be observed a square of striking groups of figures. A circular medallion, forming the centre, represents a fine head of Medusa, with its tresses of snakes. Around it are arranged four smaller medallions, each containing a male and a female figure :—

1. Ceres, the goddess of harvest, offers some seeds or corns of wheat to Triptolemus, who holds in his left hand the single-shared plough which he is said to have invented.

2. Arethusa flees from the river-god Alpheus, as in the myth which Shelley has so beautifully rendered :—

> "Like a gloomy stain
> On the emerald main,
> Alpheus rushed behind,—
> As an eagle pursuing
> A dove to its ruin
> Down the streams of the cloudy wind."

It is quite possible, however, that the two figures may represent the pursuit of Daphne by Apollo.

3. Apparently intended for Hercules and the Lydian queen Omphale, who is receiving from him the double-headed axe, which he had taken from the Amazons.

4. In this group the male figure is supposed to be Daphnis, with his Phrygian cap on. He holds in one hand the Pandean pipe which Pan taught him to play, and in the other the shepherd's crook, which symbolizes his pastoral avocations. The female figure may represent Terpsichore, or, as she is not connected with the Daphnis myth, his mistress Piplæa ; she is dancing vigorously, and flourishes a tympanum or tambourine.

Placed opposite to each other in this square are four heads of Mercury, each with his winged cap ; two are blowing a straight trumpet, and two a *buccina* or conch.

Midway between the quadrangles of figure-groups, on an oblong panel, is the seated figure of a bearded astronomer ; probably Hipparchus, the father of astronomy and trigonometry. Placed by his side are the astronomical instruments to which he owed his fame ; namely, a sun-dial raised on a tall pillar ; a terrestrial sphere, to which he points with a wand in his right hand ; and a basin-shaped instrument on the left, with a staff, pike, or finger in the middle, supposed to be a planisphere, gnomon, or horologium (*Nicholson*). "The pictorial square of the western half of this state apartment is less perfect than the eastern portion, but the hand and skill of the

same artist are here, both in design and execution. Four heads are placed at the four angles of this square, appropriately adorned, representing the seasons of the year; and what is noticeable, as showing the nice observation of the designer, is the fact that winter is placed, as near as may be, to the north, summer to the south, spring to the east, and autumn to the west. Here, also, is a group of two figures, male and female, Perseus and Andromeda—Perseus holding at arm's-length his trophy of the head of Medusa, and Andromeda by his side chained to the rock." There are two corresponding ornamented margins at the eastern and western extremities of this state apartment; one filled up with tritons and mermaids; the other with a decorative arrangement of inch cones, in white, which it is impossible to believe exhibits "the Swashtika of the Buddhists, or Greek archaic cross."

In a smaller room, near the hypocaust, is a semi-circular bath, with stuccoed sides, nearly 8 feet long and 4 feet broad. The hypocaust, or heating chamber, contains fifty-four upright pillars of flat tiles, 8 inches square and 2½ feet high; these supported the floor, of which not a vestige is extant.

In a square apartment, one of the reception-rooms, and the first discovered, are five medallions of great interest. There were originally nine, but four were destroyed, it is conjectured, by the Saxon occupants of the villa. These five represent—

1. The head and face of a Bacchante, with flowing curls hanging down to the neck.

2. The fable of the fox and the grapes.

3. The figure of a god, which, from the sceptre or staff in the right hand, may be meant for Jupiter.

4. A gladiator (*retiarius*), armed with the trident and net, triumphing over his crouching adversary.

5. A composite creature, part man, part cock; it has a man's body, draped in a tunic, with a man's arms, hands, and legs, but the crested head of a cock, and cock's claws, armed with two long straight spurs.

In explanation of this last-named figure two hypotheses have been put forward:—"Classical histories, legends, and heathen mythology, fail to furnish us with a satisfactory interpretation; the key must therefore be sought in symbolism, to which the Roman artists frequently reverted. The pagans openly ridiculed and insulted, by pen and pencil, the Christian religion after its introduction into Italy." There is extant a satirical caricature "on the plastered face of a wall in a military guard-house on the Palatine Hill. It repre-

sents the figure of a man with the head of an ass fastened to a cross, there being no doubt that it is designed for Christ and the cross of Calvary; whilst a person stands before it in the act of adoration—the inscription, 'Alexamenos worships God,' clearly describing the scene." *Therefore*, "this incongruous human cock may have been intended as a symbol of Christianity, the 'new doctrine,' as the heathens called it at the time" (!); or, "may have been designed to represent St. Peter, personally symbolizing the 'new doctrine,' the spurs being intended to show antagonism to the pagan worship, while paganism is represented by the elevated temple alongside." We need hardly comment on the fantastic character of these interpretations. Not only would the symbol have been unintelligible as such to the Romans of the third century, but it is improbable that a Roman soldier or patrician in the remote Isle of Wight would care to work into the decorations of his villa a permanent caricature of a creed of which he probably did not know the name.

A third suggestion has been offered: that the proprietor of this villa may have been a discontented Roman, or auxiliar of Rome, who chose to caricature the then reigning emperor, Gallienus, at a safe distance, by a pictorial pun and emblem of his name. Here again we may point to the improbability that he would resort to a caricature of so permanent nature; nor does there seem any very close connection between *gallus* (a cock) and *Gallienus*. A more reasonable theory has been put forward by Miss Frances Power Cobbe, that the figure is neither more nor less than a pictorial representation of Alectryon, who was transformed into a cock. With this explanation we think the tourist will do well to rest content.

"What strikes almost all observers, now that a vista of the substructure of such extensive apartments lies before them, is the circumstance that these remains should have lain concealed 'under the ribs of death' for sixteen centuries, within two inches of the top soil, without being discovered. The ploughshare has gone over them thousands of times without disturbing their repose. And the probability is, that there are other similar remains in the neighbourhood, and possibly in other parts of the island, which would yield to the axe and spade a rich archæological harvest. What is revealed, however, is an encouragement to future investigators; and it is only by such efforts that we can find how the proud conquerors of the world lived in the distant provinces subject to their sway" (*Nicholson*).

EXCURSIONS.

1. *To Red Cliff.*—A pleasant walk of a mile and a half along the sands or cliffs, ascending or descending at the Cuckoo Road, or, beyond, at the Limpet Road, where the sandstone ends and the chalk begins.

2. *To Shanklin*, by the sands, about two miles. This walk should be taken when the tide is on the ebb ; at high water the headland of Little Stairs Point is impassable. The cliffs are almost perpendicular, and range from 100 to 150 feet in height, exposing sections of the lower beds of the green-sand, which are arranged with remarkable regularity of position. Occasionally the bare face of the precipice is relieved by broken ledges, on which a rank verdure clusters. The distinctness of the different beds will be noted by the most careless observer. The clay and the sand alternate ; sometimes they rise in "mural cliffs," the loamy surface of which is continually falling away in large patches ; sometimes they project in irregular shelves, covered with coarse vegetation, and bright in the early summer with the yellow golden lotus, or stained with ochreous tints by the streams of water, which, filtering through the sandy strata, ooze forth from the more retentive clay and trickle down the declivities.

3. *To Shanklin, by the Cliff.*—We start from a point at the west end of the town, near the Battery—observe that the Barracks are used at present as a convalescent hospital for soldiers—and come out near Shanklin Chine. It is said that this path, which commands indescribably beautiful views of the green downs and the shining waters, was a favourite resort of the late Bishop Wilberforce.

4. *To Bembridge Down and Whitecliff Bay.*—Passing the Sandown Hotel, the coast-guard station, and the new Fort, we take the footway along the edge of the cliffs, leaving Red Cliff Battery on our right, and Yaverland Battery on our left. The path then bifurcates: one fork proceeding to Bembridge Down and the Yarborough monument; the other ascending to the Fort on the summit of the hill. From the Fort we enjoy a panorama as beautiful as it is extensive. The sea shimmers with a magical glow; and the broad sweep of Sandown Bay is grandly terminated by the romantic outlines of Dunnose. The towns of Sandown and Shanklin are included in the picture, with a lofty background of chalk hills, Shanklin, and Appuldurcombe Downs; and noting the Worsley obelisk and Hoy's pillar, the eye ranges over the fair and fertile valley which is closed up by the acclivities of Chillerton. At one end of what was Brading

Haven lie the houses of St. Helen's and St. Helen's Fort; at the other, Brading village and its ancient church, with the mansion and woods of Nunwell. Nearer to us are the church and villas of Bembridge, rising out of a bower of foliage; and the pretty hamlets of Yaverland and Yarbridge. The picture is completed by a distant view of Upper Ryde, Swanmore Church, and Aldermoor Mill, with, across the Solent, the Hampshire coast to Southsea and Portsmouth. Seen in the freshness of a summer morning, this wide landscape has a thousand shifting lights and shadows which gift it with the charm of a constant variety of character. We have gazed upon it till from our heart has sprung the spontaneous exclamation—"Great are thy works, O Father of good! great, and glorious, and most beautiful to behold!"

The view from the Yarborough Monument, which formerly stood where now stands the Fort, is very similar in extent and details to the one just described.

A path winding through brake and bramble descends to Whitecliff Bay, a charming nook, sheltered by the Culver Cliffs and the Bembridge Foreland. The vari-coloured strata of sand, limestone, and marl produce an effect scarcely inferior to that which gives celebrity to Alum Bay.

5. *To Yaverland and Bembridge.*—The road passes the site of the old Sandown Fort, and strikes the new Fort, before it turns to the left, and rises gently to the picturesque hamlet of Yaverland, with its old manor-house, and older church, and leafy elms. Beyond the church it divides—the right hand branch striking away to Bembridge, the left abruptly descending to Yarbridge. Following the former, which commands a succession of attractive views, we continue to Knowles Farm (116 feet), and then descend into Bembridge. The return journey may be made by the cliffs, or, at low water, by the shore; passing Earl Fitzwilliam's secluded seat, then Lane End village, the Foreland, the Crab and Lobster Inn, Black Rock Point, Whitecliff Bay, the Culvers (200 feet); the semi-detached rock of the White Horse, the shallow caverns of the Nosters, and the Shag Rock. At Limpet Road, we ascend to the top of the cliffs, and by way of Red Cliff, Yaverland, and Sandown Fort, make our way back to our starting-point at Sandown.

6. *To Newchurch.*—Newchurch can be reached by rail, but the beauties of the country can be appreciated only by the pedestrian. We take the road to Lake; at the Stag Inn turn sharp to the right, and by Merry Garden proceed to Cheverton and Apse Heath. A

passing visit is made to the Dairyman's Cottage (nearly a mile from Horringford Station, opposite a Methodist chapel), with its low thatched roof and white-washed walls; then we retrace our steps to Winford, and follow the highroad into the village of Newchurch, "where all things always seem the same," such is the monotonous tranquillity of the place. The return journey may be arranged to include Knighton and Alverstone; or we may proceed northward, cross the Yar at Lang Bridge; keep eastward to Alverstone; turn to the left for Grove Farm; thence to Adgeton or Adgestone; at Morton we may inspect the remains of the recently-discovered Roman villa; and along a pleasant lane proceed to Yarbridge, where we strike the main road from Ryde to Sandown, Shanklin, and Ventnor.

7. *To Cook's Castle and Appuldurcombe.*—Through Lake to Merry Garden, Cheverton, and Apse Heath. Turn to the left, and past Princelet Farm and Batchelor's Farm, continue to Whitely Bank. Thence to Appuldurcombe. At Wroxall we may take the rail, or ascend the down to Cook's Castle, and return by way of Hatchet Close Cliff, descending to Upper Hide, America, and Ninham, where we turn to the right, pass Languard Manor House, and strike the main road, about 1½ mile below Sandown.

8. *To Brading and Arreton.*—This road is accessible to "carriage folk." But the pedestrian will proceed to Brading Mall, and by the road opposite the Congregational chapel will gradually ascend to the summit of Brading Down (437 feet), constantly opening up fresh vistas of delightful scenery, which, southward, extend to Shanklin, Appuldurcombe, and Chillerton Downs; northward, across the Solent, to the coast of Hampshire. In due time he gains the landmark on Ashey Down (429 feet), the view from which we have already described (p. 165), and continues his indefatigable course to Messly Down, distinguished by two ancient "barrows" or tumuli; thence, along the south side of Arreton Down, passing two more barrows, to the *Hare and Hounds* Inn. Here he may descend to Arreton, and after inspecting its "lions," go on to Horringford Station, and take the railway back to Sandown. Here are several easy descents from the downs:—from Ashey to Kern and Alverstone, or to Knighton; from Messly to Lang Bridge and Newchurch; and from Arreton, through Shepherd's Lane, to Haseley (where Sir Edward Horsey died of the plague in 1582).

ENVIRONS OF VENTNOR.

1. St. Lawrence.—The parish of St. Lawrence lies between the parishes of Ventnor, east; Godshill, north; and Whitwell, west;

the Channel forms its southern boundary. Acreage, 332; population, in 1881, 249 (an increase of 114 upon that of 1871).

St. Lawrence is the first village in the district of the Undercliff, and lies about one mile from Ventnor. Leaving the town behind us, we skirt the grounds of Steephill Castle, and arrive at the cottages which form the National Consumption Hospital. The first block of these was opened in November 1869. The Princess Louise laid the foundation-stone of the second block in July 1869; Bishop Wilberforce, in December 1871, that of the chapel. The Hospital demesne includes six acres.

The St. Lawrence Well, a little Gothic shrine, surmounted by a cross, is now, unfortunately, walled in within the grounds of St. Lawrence Cottage. At a point beyond the road divides, and brings us to the little church of St. Lawrence, one of the smallest—but not *the* smallest—in England. On the left hand side of the lower road a new church is in course of erection, for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the new colony of villas rapidly extending at Woolverton. Near the sea-shore lie the ivied ruins of the ancient manor-house of Woolverton; a gabled two-storied building, with lancet-windows, probably erected by John de Woolverton, in the reign of Edward I.

2. Whitwell.—This parish lies next to that of St. Lawrence, with the Channel as its southern boundary, Chale and Niton on the west, and Godshill on the north. Acreage, 1963; population, in 1881, 706.

The highest ground in the parish is Greenlid Hill, 522 feet.

From St. Lawrence Church a road ascends Whitwell Street, across Yarbury Hill, to Whitwell village, an old-world bit, which seems to defy as yet the evil influence of innovation. The church is an interesting edifice, which originally consisted of two chapels, one belonging to Whitwell, the other to Gatcombe. On the south wall of the interior have recently been discovered some frescoes, which represent, it is said, "the disembowelling of Erasmus."

Stenbury, about 1½ mile north, is a sequestered Jacobean manor-house, once the seat of the De Heymos. Afterwards it belonged to a branch of the Worsleys.

3. Niton.—The parish of Niton is bounded on the north and east by that of Whitwell, west by Chale, and south by the waters of the Channel. In its limits are included the wildest and rudest portion of the Undercliff, the dangerous coast from Old Park to Rocken End, Niton Down, and many a footprint of the Celt and the ancient

Roman. Acreage, 1397; population in 1881, 801. The living is a rectory, the patronage of which was bestowed by Charles I. on Queen's College, Oxford.

NITON (*Inn:* the White Lion) is a considerable village, lying at the foot of Niton Down, and in the shadow of St. Catherine's Hill (which may be ascended by a pathway from the village near the church), about 5 miles from Ventnor and 8½ from Newport. The church is a large and picturesque edifice of great antiquity, and was one of the six bestowed by Fitz-Osbert upon his favourite Abbey of Lire. There is (or was) a Literary Institute in the village. Several new houses have recently been erected; and tourists will find it a convenient spot from which to direct their explorations of the Undercliff. Its well-to-do air may result from the number of "seats" in its vicinity, and the constant employment thus provided for its inhabitants.

Dr. Thomas Pittis, an eminent divine (see *post*), was a native, and for many years a rector of Niton.

A curious camp, or perhaps tin-mart, will be found in a field on the *Beauchamp Farm*, near the church, of which the regularity of plan and massiveness of construction will be interesting to the antiquary. Through this parish, by a road still traceable, was conducted the tin traffic of the island, and probably the metal was shipped on board the vessels of the Phœnician merchants at Puckaster Cove. Near the northern boundary of the parish, at a place still called Bury (*byrig*, a walled or fortified settlement), may be observed an artificial mound of earth, now reduced to very small dimensions, but once occupying a base of 30 yards diameter. Near the village another mound of similar character is called *Old Castle*, and both are undoubtedly relics of the Celtic earthworks.

Niton is so pleasantly situated, and so much of interest abounds in its neighbourhood,—the cottages *ornées* of the Undercliff, *Mirables*, *Beauchamp*, *Verlands*, *The Orchard*, *Old Park*, *Mount Cleeves*, *Mount Ida;* the Royal Sandrock Hotel, with its cliff gardens; Puckaster Cove, where the Roman fleet used to ride securely, and Charles II. was once driven ashore by stress of weather; St. Catherine's Point, and its brilliant lighthouse; St. Catherine's Hill, and its panoramic prospects,—that it ought to be more generally frequented by those who travel with open eyes and ears to hear. It is sometimes called Crab Niton, to distinguish it from Knighton, near Ashey, and in reference to the crustacea so abundant on the adjacent coast. Hassell, who wrote in 1790, records that the term was by no

means acceptable to the inhabitants, who regarded it as implying that they were of a "crabbed disposition."

4. Godshill (*Inn:* the Griffin) is a delightfully picturesque hamlet, clustered round a steep knoll or hill, on which is built its stately and antique church. Like all the island villages, it consists of one long street of shops, cottages, and the better sort of houses strangely intermixed. It is distant from Newport about 5½ miles, from Ventnor 6, and from Ryde 11, and lies in a fertile country, divided into excellent farms, of which Wroxall, Rew, Span, Week, Park, Appleford, Moor, and Stenbury are the principal. The parish includes 6535 acres, chiefly of good arable land, and had, in 1881, a population of 1302 (an increase of 105 on that of 1871). The *tithings* of Stenbury, Roude, Sandford, and Rookley, with Week, as well as the manor of Appuldurcombe, are in this parish. The living is a vicarage. The village formerly boasted of a good *grammar school* (founded in 1595 by one Richard Andrews), whither resorted the sons of the leading gentry of the island, and where Sir Thomas Fleming was educated; but it is now of no account.

The *church* is one of the handsomest in the Wight. Erected upon the steep, lofty knoll already spoken of, and having a stately tower, it is conspicuously visible from every part of the wide and extensive vale. The interior is divided by a long range of rich Early English arches, and contains some superb memorials to the Worsley family.

About 2 miles south-east of the village lies *Appuldurcombe Park*, the ancient seat of the Worsleys, and once the great glory of the island, but now "a school for young gentlemen" (Rev. R. Pound, M.A., principal). It claims the tourist's admiration, from the beauty of its extensive grounds and the stateliness of the large Corinthian pile, with its projecting wings, which crowns the head of the green and ample lawny slope. "The park is very famous, and it deserves its celebrity. It is very extensive for the island; the ground is considerably diversified, and there are noble views over the wide glades. Oak, elm, and beech trees of stately size abound, and the plantations are well arranged. The park and the house are, in short, on a corresponding style of grandeur" (*Knight*). The mansion occupies the site of an Elizabethan building—the remains of the ancient Priory of Appuldurcombe—pulled down by Sir Robert Worsley about 1710; was begun by him immediately afterwards, and completed by his successor, Sir Richard Worsley, who made it the receptacle of a fine collection of ancient marbles, figured in his *Museum Worsleanum*, and an excellent gallery of pictures. "It is

situated at some distance from the road, within the park, and being built from the quarries of Portland, and unencumbered with adjoining offices, offers a magnificent object to the highroad and to the hills above it, particularly when the rays of the sun are reflected from its beautiful stone" (*Wyndham*).

Appuldurcombe is usually derived from the British *Y pul dur y cwm*—"the lake in the hollow"—but the correct etymology is evidently *Apuldre-combe*, "the valley of apple-trees."

On the highest point of this down are the remains of an obelisk of Cornish granite, erected in 1744 by Sir Richard Worsley, to the memory of Sir Robert Worsley, Bart., as "an emblem of the conspicuous character he maintained during a long and exemplary life." It was originally 70 feet high, but was shattered by lightning in 1831. From this point, 685 feet above the sea, the prospect is eminently beautiful, embracing almost the whole extent of the "Fair Island." On the eastern brink, bowered amidst trees, is the artificial ruin of "Cook's Castle."

The house and estate, as well as the furniture and a large portion of the rich collection made by Sir Richard Worsley, were disposed of by auction in 1855, by order of the second Earl of Yarborough. The best pictures, however, were removed to his lordship's mansion in London and his seat in Lincolnshire.

A brief account of the Worsley family, so long the principal one in the Isle of Wight, may be of interest to the reader.

1. *Sir James Worsley*, a scion of the Lancashire Worsleys, and a favourite page of Henry VII., was appointed captain of the island in 1517. By his marriage with Anne, the heiress of Sir John Leigh (Lady Anne Worsley, according to Sir John Oglander, was one of the last of the English female pilgrims to the shrine of St. Iago at Compostella), he obtained considerable estates in the island, to which his son succeeded in 1538.

2. *Richard Worsley* was also captain of the island, and lord of Appuldurcombe, where he entertained Henry VIII. in 1539. Died 1565. His two sons were killed "in the lodge or gate-house at Appuldurcombe," by an accidental explosion of gunpowder.

3. *John Worsley*, brother of Richard, married into the Meux family, and further increased the wealth and weight of the Worsleys. Died in 1581.

4. *Thomas Worsley* succeeded: "a brave scholar, a plain but worthy gentleman, and a most plentiful housekeeper." Died about 1604–5, leaving two sons, Richard and John.

5. *Sir Richard Worsley* was knighted at Whitehall, Feb. 8, 1611, by James I., and created a baronet, June the 29th, in the same year. He was probably well esteemed by the retentive Stuart, for when Prince Henry and the king were entertained at Oxford in 1601, and splendid gifts were offered by the students to the accomplished prince, the young Worsley presented him with "a book of verses, in foreign languages, beautifully written" (*State Papers, Domestic Series*). He lived in the island in great repute, and is spoken of by his contemporary and friend in most eulogistic language:—"A man of learning, patron of virtue, friend of good fellows, and credit both of his house and island,"—"whose good fame and virtue shall outlive all tombs," "both for natural and artificial gifts, he had not his fellow in the county" (*Sir J. Oglander*). He married Frances, a fair daughter of Sir Henry Neville, whose beauty was much applauded, even in those days of beautiful women; was Sheriff of Hampshire in 1616, and died of smallpox in 1631–33.

6. *Sir Henry Worsley* married Bridget, a daughter of Sir Henry Wallop, afterwards Lord Lymington, and had two sons, Robert and James. The latter was knighted by Charles II. Sir Henry died in 1666.

7. *Sir Robert Worsley* began the splendid mansion of Appuldurcombe in 1710; married Mary, a grand-daughter of the Earl of Pembroke; and had two children, Robert and Henry, the elder of whom left no surviving issue.

8. *Sir James Worsley*, younger son of Sir Henry, succeeded to the estates. He had several children, of whom only one, Thomas, survived him.

9. *Sir Thomas Worsley* married the eldest daughter of the Earl of Cork, by whom he had two children, Richard and Henrietta Frances. Died in 1768.

10. *Sir Richard Worsley* completed the house at Appuldurcombe, begun by Sir Robert in 1710. Having travelled through Italy, Greece, Turkey, and Egypt, he amassed a fine collection of specimens of ancient art, of which he published an illustrated description, entitled *Museum Worsleanum*. He also wrote and compiled a "History of the Island," from deeds and MSS. partly collected by his grandfather, Sir James. Was comptroller of the king's household, a privy councillor, Sheriff of Hampshire, and Governor of the Isle of Wight from 1780 to 1782. Married, in 1775, Miss Seymour Fleming, daughter of a Sir John Fleming, and had one son, Robert Edwin, who died before him. Sir Richard died in 1805, leaving his

large estates to his sister, Henrietta Frances, who had married the Hon. John Bridgman Simpson. Their daughter and heiress, Anne Maria Charlotte, married—

11. *Charles Anderson Pelham*, created *Earl of Yarborough* in 1837. This liberal-minded nobleman kept up a splendid hospitality at Appuldurcombe, and interested himself zealously in all that appertained to the weal of the island. He founded the Royal Yacht Club, of which he was commodore for many years, and he ardently supported it by his example and influence. Died somewhat suddenly on board his yacht *Kestril*, off Vigo, 5th September 1846, aged 55.

12. *Charles Anderson*, second Earl of Yarborough, died 1862.

The *Priory of Appuldurcombe* was bestowed by Isabella de Fortibus, towards the close of Henry the Third's reign, on the Abbey of St. Mary of Montebourg. According to Speed, one Nicholas Spencer and Margaret his wife were the founders; but no mention is made of them in any document until the reign of Henry IV., when one of the priory granted them a lease. The Norman Abbey maintained here a prior and two monks, who had supervision of all its demesnes at Sandford and Week. During the wars with France, it was seized by the crown as an alien priory, and in the 2nd of Henry V. was dissolved. Then it was granted—20 Henry VI.—to the nuns in "the minories without Aldgate," who leased it to the family of Fry. Agnes Fry, an heiress, married Sir John Leigh, of the Isle of Wight, and their daughter Joan conveyed the manor of Appuldurcombe, by marriage, to Sir James Worsley, as already stated.

GENERAL SURVEY OF THE UNDERCLIFF.

FROM EAST END TO ST. CATHERINE'S POINT.

Coaches from Ventnor, every day but Sunday, to Blackgang, 2s. and 3s.; Freshwater, 5s. and 8s. 6d.; and Alum Bay, 5s. 6d. and 9s. 6d.

Having thus described the parishes included in our south-eastern section, we proceed, for the convenience of the tourist, to accompany him along the entire range of the Undercliff, and to note down its objects of interest and things of beauty, from its beginning at East End to its termination at St. Catherine's Point.

The East End Landslip begins close to old Bonchurch Church, and forms a tract of land, about eight hundred yards long and six hundred yards broad, between the base of a rocky precipice and the

edge of the sea-cliff. It presents us with the result of a series of landslips, of which one in 1810 carried away thirty acres, and another in 1818 fifty acres. A tourist, in 1811, describes the scene of devastation visible after the former landslip:—"A considerable portion of the cliff had fallen down, strewing the whole ground between it and the sea with its ruins: huge masses of solid rock started up amidst heaps of smaller fragments, whilst immense quantities of loose marl, mixed with stones, and even the soil above with the wheat still growing on it, filled up the spaces between, and formed hills of rubbish which are scarcely accessible. Nothing had resisted the force of the falling rocks. Trees were levelled with the ground, and many lay half buried in the ruins. The streams were choked up, and pools of water were found in many places." Nature, however, soon brought her vivifying influence to bear upon the waste, and clothed it with a beauty of its own, until every rift and rock bloomed with shrub and fern and flower. The Rev. William Adams, in his beautiful allegory of "The Old Man's Home," published in 1847, adopts this scenery, and describes it with all the eloquence of living admiration. "Nature," he says, "has only suffered the convulsion to take place in order that afterwards she might bestow her gifts upon this favoured spot with a more unsparing hand. The wild and picturesque character of the landscape is now almost lost sight of in its richness and repose. The new soil is protected from the storms of winter by the cliff from which it has fallen, and, sloping towards the south, is open to the full warmth and radiance of the sun. In consequence of this, the landslip has, as it were, a climate of its own; and often, when the more exposed parts of the country still look dreary and desolate, is in the enjoyment of the blessings of an early spring. Such was the season at which I first visited it. The gray fragments of rock which lay scattered on the ground were almost hid by the luxuriance of the underwood, and countless wild flowers were growing beneath their shade. Below, the eye rested upon a little bay, formed by the gradual advance of the sea; and all was so calm and peaceful that, as I watched the gentle undulation of the waters, I could fancy them to be moving to and fro with a stealthy step, lest they should disturb the tranquillity of the scene."

Through Bonchurch and Ventnor we pass on to Steephill Castle (D. Hambrough, Esq.), the Gothic tower of which is the great landmark of the country as it rises out of a green sea of foliage. It was erected, for the late Mr. J. A. Hambrough, on the site of a marine cottage, built by Hans Stanley while governor of the island; and



LANDSLIP - EAST END page 215

was designed by Sanderson, the architect who "restored" Henry the Seventh's chapel in Westminster Abbey. The entrance hall is considered "a happy effort." The peculiar charm of Steephill, however, lies in the variety and loveliness of its terraced grounds, which were laid out by Page of Southampton, and embrace the most delightful diversities of landscape scenery. Here are fig-trees of gigantic size; exotic plants blooming vigorously in the open air; lawns, bowers, fountains, and luxuriant foliage. Referring to the westward prospect from the drawing-room terrace, the late Sir John Paxton exclaimed, "I have visited nearly every place of note from Stockholm to Constantinople, but never have I seen anything more beautiful than this."

Near the edge of Guy's Cliff, just above Steephill, some Roman remains (pottery and coins) were discovered in February 1882.

Passing the *National Cottage Hospital* (p. 184), St. Lawrence Cottage (Hon. E. C. Anderson Pelham), erected in 1781 by Sir Richard Worsley,—who planted a vineyard here, and removed from Hampton Court an entrance gateway, designed by Inigo Jones,—we reach, on the right or upper road, old St. Lawrence's Church. It is almost within sight of the cliff, which all along this shore is honeycombed by caves and hollows, once the resort of the freetraders of the sea. Not so many years since the population of St. Lawrence were actively engaged in "illicit commerce;" and it is told that, one Sunday morning, a congregation could not be collected in the church, because all the villagers were busily employed in removing from a Dutch dogger, then lying off the shore, a contraband cargo.

To the left of the road, in a sequestered glen, lies Woolverton Farm, with the ivy-shrouded ruins of Woolverton's ancient manor-house. Passing the Whitwell road, we descry below us, embosomed in thick foliage, *Old Park* (Miss Cheape), with its beautiful gardens; and, at a short distance from it, the villa of *Mirables*, which really deserves its name, if it *be* derived, as some authorities assert, from *mirabel*—a beautiful prospect. "The broken foreground on the right, covered with its velvet herbage, its bold masses of rock, and miniature dells and brakes, backed by the towering cliffs, renders it a scene replete with beauty; whilst on the left, the bright foliage of its wooded glens, extending to the very strand, with a deep blue sea beyond them, form a prospect of surpassing loveliness" (*Dr. G. A. Martin*).

On the right a footpath leads to *Cripple Path*, a way cut by steps in the side of the cliff, with seats about half-way down, composed of projecting ledges of the rock, which, though fashioned by Nature,

have a curious artificial aspect. We now arrive at *Orchard Cottage*, a villa of stone and brick, irregular but picturesque, with terraced gardens of prodigal beauty; and at *Beauchamp*, originally named from the Beauchamps of Ancaster. Near this spot, in the summer of 1831, was blown from the cliff a young girl, Kerenhappuch Newnham, who fortunately fell upon the terrace below without other injury than the momentary fright. Thenceforward she was known by the sobriquet of "Happy Ninham."

The road now narrows considerably, and carries the traveller up to elevated ground, with the inland cliff on the right, and below him, on the left, a broad reach of shining waters. At Undercliff Niton, 4½ miles, it divides: one branch leading, by way of *Puckaster Cottage*, to Niton, and the villas of St. Catherine's Terrace; the other, passing *West Cliff*, skirts the grounds of *Verlands* (Mrs. Velmet), and again divides—the right arm striking off to Niton and Godshill, and the left to the Royal Sandrock Hotel. Nearer to the sea lie some lodging houses, and below these, on the sands of Ruth Bay, stands the Victoria Hotel. Close at hand is Puckaster Cove, in the old times a station of the Roman fleet. Here, after experiencing a terrible storm at sea, landed Charles II., on the 1st of July 1675.

The *Royal Sandrock Hotel* is an elegant and commodious villa, shrouded in profuse ivy, and situated in an out-of-the-world Eden, bright with blossom. It was visited by Dr. Arnold in July 1836, who pronounced it most beautiful. The popular author of "Madcap Violet" brings his heroine to this well-known hostelry, and introduces it in one of his happy bits of description as "a quaint little inn, placed high over the sea, and surrounded by sheltering woods and hedges.....A picturesque little house, with its long veranda half smothered in ivy and rose-bushes; with its tangled garden about, green with young hawthorn and sweetened by the perfume of the lilacs; with its patches of uncut grass, where the yellow cowslips drooped. There is an air of dreamy repose about the place; even that whirling and silvery gray sea produces no sound; here the winds are stilled, and the black shadows of the trees on that smooth green lawn only move with the imperceptible moving of the sun" (*William Black*). We have visited many places, and sought accommodation at many hotels and inns, but we do not think that we have ever fallen in with one more happily situated. Not the least of its charms is, that it does not *look* like an hotel; there is an air of home-privacy and sweet seclusion about it which contrasts delightfully with the ostentatious publicity of those huge barracks,

those "grand hotels," now so unfortunately numerous in our larger watering-places.

The Sandrock Spring, between Gore Cliff and the sea, is a powerful chalybeate, discovered by Mr. Waterworth, a Newport surgeon, in 1808. Dr. Martin praises it very warmly for its medicinal properties; and asserts that if they were more generally known, Blackgang and its neighbourhood would be "much more resorted to" in the summer.

Passing *Mount Cleeve*, we ascend to the locality of the great landslip of 1799, which involved the destruction of Pitlands Farm and one hundred acres. Miss Sewell, in her "Ursula," describes the character of the wild region in which this occurred:—"A broad tract of land, tossed up and down in little hills and valleys. It is scattered all over with huge rocks, which look as though giants had thrown them about in their play, and it slopes down in a steep descent towards the sea. A dreary-looking country it is; but it has a charm even for that very reason. As a child I only saw it occasionally, and always thought of it as connected with haunts of smugglers and wild storms; roaring waves and shipwrecks, and heavy sea-mists, gathering over the hills and shutting out the light, which was the only hope of the seaman's safety. It must have been a fierce time on earth when the land sank away from the upper cliffs, and the rocks were hurled down, and the streams, which have now worked their way through the lower cliffs, and formed deep chasms, first began to flow. But those days are not within the memory of man that I ever heard; yet even now it is solemn to stand and think of what once has been. When I first remember that part of the country, it was, so to say, unknown and untraversed. There was no road through it. Persons had to go by the road over the hill; only foot-passengers went over the cliffs, and with them it was a difficult task to find their way, especially on a dark night. They might stumble among the rocks or wander to the edge of the cliffs, and be over before they were aware of it. Some people at that time thought it an unsafe country to live in, and said that the rocks would fall again; but there was little enough really to fear, though certainly things did seem terrible to those who were unaccustomed to them."

On the right of the road, near the villa of *Southlands* (where Dr. Pusey at one time resided), stands a small votive shrine, or miniature temple, containing a bust of Shakespeare, erected by Mr. Letts, the well-known London stationer. It bears the following inscription:—

"He sits 'mongst men like a descended god;
He hath a kind of honour sets him off,
More than mortal seeming."

Below is a spring of crystal water, with the following inscription on a stone :—

"The water nectar, and the rocks pure gold."

We now retrace our steps to Buddle Farm and Inn, and passing the ancient farm of Knowle, we descend to the southernmost part of the island, Rocken End. Turning to the left—that is, towards Ventnor —we enter Watershoot Bay, and come upon St. Catherine's Lighthouse, occupying the summit of the chalk and green-sand rocks which form St. Catherine's Point.

This lighthouse was erected by the Trinity Corporation, on ground granted by G. P. Holford, Esq., in 1838–40, from the designs of Messrs. Walker and Burgess. On the 25th of March 1840, it was lighted for the first time; and its warning rays were visible at a distance of 22 miles. At that time, its height, from water-mark to level of terrace, was 81 feet; from the terrace to the top of the column of masonry, 70 feet; lantern and pedestal, 1½ foot; extension of glass frame, 10 feet; roof, ball, vane, and lightning-conductor, 11½ feet;—total height, 174 feet. But as its powerful light was often obscured by the sea-fogs, and the structure showed some signs of instability, it was reduced 38 feet in 1875. Its interior diameter is 14 feet; and the staircase to the lantern-room numbers 100 steps. The lighting apparatus consists of a lamp 3½ inches diameter, with four concentric wicks, reflected through a lens surmounted by 250 glass mirrors. Sperm and rape oil have been used in the burners; but since December 1875 a new lamp with six-wick burner and paraffine oil has been in use; and unpleasant smell and excessive heat are prevented by the employment of bell-mounted funnels. A fog-horn is kept in the detached building to the east.

VENTNOR TO BLACKGANG: BY THE CLIFFS.

Passing Hodnish Bank, we reach Grasspool Cove, where the Empress of Austria was wont to indulge in sea-bathing during her residence at Steephill Castle in 1874; and shortly afterwards come to Steephill Cove, where some pretty cottages cluster along the picturesque shore. From Orchard Bay we pass on into Pelham Bay, easily recognized by its toy batteries, one of eight and the other of three guns, and thence to Hoody Head (observe St. Lawrence Church), a convenient point for resting while we survey the romantic sweep of



St CATHERINE'S POINT & LIGHTHOUSE.

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the Undercliff, "varied," as it is, "by a constant succession of glens, crags, and gullies, gently swelling elevations and broken valleys." We descend into Hoody Bay,—observe the fine artistic effect of the ruined manor-house of Woolverton,—and double the Ross Rock into Ten-acres Bay, a name which records the encroachment of the waters upon a ten-acre field. It is separated by Binnel Point from Mirables Bay, where the cliff sinks almost to the level of the shore. Puckaster Cove is next reached, and Reeth or Castle Bay, from which a road leads to the village of Undercliff Niton. After passing the headland of St. Catherine's, with its lighthouse, we see before us the grand stretch of the vari-coloured cliffs right away to Freshwater; while cloud-like on the horizon looms the Dorsetshire coast in the neighbourhood of Purbeck Isle and St. Aldhelm's Head. "The coast westward," says Miss Sewell, "forms part of a great bay indented by smaller ones. The shore is closed in with red sand cliffs, rather low, broken, and jagged; but away to the west the red sand changes into chalk, and the cliffs become very steep, and rise to a great height; standing out against the sky when the sun shines on them, until they almost dazzle the eye; and at other times covering themselves, as it were, with a bluish veil of mist, and looking out proudly from behind it. I always liked the white cliffs very much; yet my eye never rested upon them long, but wandered still further, to a distant stretch of gray land looking like a cloud, which could be seen just where the sea and sky met."

Across the wild broken promontory of Rocken End we pass into Watershoot Cove, a hollow within the wider hollow of Chale Bay, and arrive at Blackgang Chine (see p. 140).

EXCURSIONS FROM VENTNOR.

1. *To Freshwater.*—It will be sufficient to indicate the different villages through which the traveller makes his way, as they are all described in their proper places:—St. Lawrence, 1½ mile; Undercliff Niton, 4½ miles; Blackgang Chine, 6 miles; Chale, 6½ miles; Brighstone or Brixton, 13 miles; Mottistone, 15 miles; Brook, 16 miles; and Freshwater, 20 miles. Thence on to Alum Bay, 24 miles. Coaches and chars-à-banc leave Ventnor for Alum Bay daily during the summer months. Fares:—Blackgang, 2s. single, 3s. return; Freshwater, 5s. single, and 8s. 6d. return; Alum Bay, 5s. 6d. single, and 9s. 6d. return. The return tickets to Freshwater and Alum Bay are available for two days. The coach route is somewhat

different from the above, passing the Royal Sandrock Hotel, and including Kingston and Shorwell.

2. *To Newport* (*coach route*).—We have already described the road to Blackgang, 6 miles. There we turn inland, and through Chale and across Chale Green, pass Billingham House on the right (formerly a seat of the Worsleys), and descend into the scattered hamlet of Chillerton. Next we reach Sheat, a Jacobean manor-house, which contains some good carved wood-work; and Gatcombe Park, with a fine background of high green downs and clustering foliage. The demesne was long in the possession of the Worsley family, one of whom erected the mansion in 1750.

Through Gatcombe village, which offers a charming and "truly English" picture of rural tranquillity and beauty, we pass on to Whitcombe House, where the noble ruins of Carisbrooke on their isolated height rise before us. Turning to the right, beyond Little Whitcombe, we pass the Cemetery, descend into the busy village of Carisbrooke, and along a pleasant leafy road enter Newport.

3. *To Newport, by Godshill.*—The traveller will proceed by Steephill Castle to St. Lawrence, and ascend Whitwell Shute to the quiet village of Whitwell; thence to Godshill. From Godshill the road runs northward, crossing the railway to Merston, and so on to Arreton. From Arreton we may take the Shide or Stapler's Heath road to Newport. The former passes East Standen, crosses St. George's Down, skirts Pan Down, and descends into Shide, where there is a railway station.

4. *To Godshill, by Appuldurcombe.*—Take the road (or rail) to Wroxall, and thence through Appuldurcombe Park to Godshill; returning by Sandford, Whiteley Bank, Wroxall Farm; cross the Down; descend into Bonchurch; and back to Ventnor.

5. *To Shorwell.*—By Steephill and St. Lawrence to Whitwell Shute; ascend to Whitwell, and keep on until the road divides. Turn to the left, and by way of the Hermitage and Gotten strike into the Chale road. At Chale Green turn to the left, and soon afterwards to the right, proceeding to Kingston, where the road passes Presford and Stone Place into Shorwell. The return route may include Atherfield, Chale, and Niton; or from Chale to Southlands, and through Rocken End.

6. *To Appuldurcombe, across the Downs.*—At the Cemetery the tourist ascends the verdant slope of Steephill Down, and through a gate enters upon Rew Down, whence may be seen the Rew and Span Farms, and a wide expanse of bold and undulating landscape. Crossing on the left to Week Down, we observe the villages of Whit-

well and Niton beneath us, and the hill of St. Catherine's, with its double beacon. Near the telegraph wires, a gate opens upon Span Down, and we come to a footpath which, on the right, leads to Wroxall, and, on the left, to Whitwell. We keep on, however, to Stenbury Farm, and thence across Appuldurcombe Down, with the obelisk in front of us as our landmark and goal. It is unnecessary to describe the prospect, as the various details are so clear and definite that a reference to the map will easily distinguish them. We descend to Appuldurcombe House, and return by rail from Wroxall, or by Span and Rew Farms, to the Cemetery, and so into Ventnor.

7. *To Newchurch.*—This is a delightful journey, through a fair and fertile country, constantly opening up new points of interest, and views which seem each to surpass the other in fulness of attraction. The first stage is Wroxall; thence we strike northward to Whiteley Bank, and on to Percelet. Leaving Branstone on our left, we enter Newchurch by way of Winford. The return journey may be made by way of Ninham and Languard to Shanklin.

DISTRICT VI.—NORTH-WEST.

YARMOUTH.

YARMOUTH is seated, as its name implies, at the mouth of the western Ere, or Yar, on a low sandy shore opposite the Lymington coast, 104 miles from London, 4 from Lymington, 10½ from Newport, and 12½ from Cowes. A weekly market is held on Friday, and on the 25th July an annual fair. Trade has increased since the opening of communication with London *viâ* Lymington; but the town is still a quiet old-world place, which seems to have been left behind in the general march of progress. The parish includes 143 acres, and a population, in 1881, of 779.

In its ancient charters (the first of which was granted by Baldwin de Redvers, 1135) it is styled *Eremuth*, and its present name does not occur until the charter conferred by James I., wherein it is alluded to as "Eremue *alias* Yarmouth." The provisions of this charter were not disturbed by the Municipal Reform Act, and the town annually elects its mayor and eleven chief burgesses. Up to the great reform of 1832, it was a close borough returning two representatives to Parliament, this privilege being virtually vested in the hands of the two principal landowners, who each elected his member. The number of electors seldom exceeded nine.

Yarmouth was originally of considerable extent, and its port was much frequented by coasting-vessels. King John landed here in April 1206, and again in 1214. It was burned by the French in 1277, and again in 1524, and has never recovered these serious disasters, especially since Cowes has risen into a more important position. After its losses in 1524, Henry VIII. erected at the eastern extremity of the harbour one of his favourite round forts, and called it *Yarmouth Castle.* A little to the west Sir James Worsley raised a fort, which he named *Worsley's Tower;* and a third in the reign of Elizabeth was erected still nearer to Yarmouth, at *Sconce Point*, by Sir George Carey.

When Sir Robert Holmes became governor of the island, he fixed his residence at Yarmouth, and built a large and stately mansion, now the *George Inn*, where, in 1661 and 1675, he splendidly entertained Charles II.* He embanked the marshes, which previously the sea had overflowed so as nearly to surround the town (A.D. 1664), and enlarged and improved its fortifications. At the eastern entrance the approach was secured by a drawbridge. Near Thorley Wood a redoubt for small arms was thrown up; three pieces of cannon placed on the common facing the sea, long afterwards called the *Bulwarks;* and some guns were also stationed at the landing-place near the castle.

In the reigns of the Georges the principal occupation of the Yarmouth burgesses seems to have been "free trade." Recently, in pulling down some old houses, it was discovered that each had its secret recesses, subterranean passages, and hearth-stones arranged to serve as trap-doors. "Some of the hiding-places still contained spirits, tobacco, and lace; but of course all was 'muddy for lack of use!'"

The defences of the peninsula may here be particularized. At Freshwater Gate is the Freshwater Redoubt, built in 1856, and commanding Freshwater Bay, with its ten 7-inch guns, ten 68-pounders, and three 8-inch howitzers. It can accommodate two hundred men. Inland, about 3½ miles, stands Golden Hill Fort, "the Malakoff of the island," and the key of the western system of fortifications. It is a regular hexagonal, armed with six guns, and will hold five hundred men. At the Needles Point stands the Needles Battery,

* Some interesting traditions of the royal visit are extant. In the mayor's possession is a handsome mace, which the king gave to a former holder of the office. At the back of the George Hotel are some iron railings; these were originally in the front, and over them the king stretched his hands to be kissed by his loyal subjects.

armed with six 9 and 10 inch guns; then comes the Heatherwood earthwork, with six guns. A battery at Warden Point, built in 1863, has eight 9 and 10 inch guns. Cliff End Battery, opposite Hurst Castle, was built in 1875, and is armed with nine heavy guns (three 10-inch and six 12½-inch). Beyond these are Cliff End Fort, built out in the sea, and armed with twenty-eight guns; and Victoria Fort, with three 7-inch, eight 10-inch, ten 68-pounders, and ten 32-pounders.

A new pier has been erected for the convenience of passengers to and from Lymington. The King of Sweden landed here in May 1881.

The ancient church occupied the site of the castle. It was destroyed by the French in 1524; and it is said that three of its bells are still preserved at Cherbourg, bearing the inscription—EREMUE, I. of W.

A church was then erected at the eastern extremity of the town; but this was pulled down at the request of the mayor, burgesses, and minister, by a faculty granted by the Bishop of Winchester, January 11, 1635, because it had fallen into decay, and was unfitted for public worship ("ruinosam, nullo que usui divino accommodatam"). The faculty is issued to James Gray, mayor; John Burley, soldier; and Richard Faulkner, vicar. The present church was then erected in the High Street, opposite the Town Hall.

The *Town Hall* is the only public building in Yarmouth—a plain, neat brick house, with this inscription over the entrance: "A.D., 1764. In the fourth year of the reign of his present Majesty, King George III., this Hall was rebuilt by Thomas, Lord Holmes, Governor of the Isle of Wight. Benjamin Lee, Esq., Mayor." The *National Schools* occupy an elegant Elizabethan building, erected in 1856.

There has long existed in the town a New Year custom of the children patrolling the streets singing the following carol:—

"Wassail, wassail to our town!
The cup is white and the ale is brown;
The cup is made of the ashen tree,
And so is the ale of good barley.
Little maid, little maid, turn the pin,
Open the door, and let me come in.
Joy be there and joy be here,
We wish you all a happy New Year!"

Daily communication with Lymington by steam-boat; and, during the summer, with Cowes, Ryde, and Portsmouth. A branch of the London and South-Western connects Lymington with London. The

boatmen of Yarmouth are skilful, and their charges moderate. Lodgings at Yarmouth, if not numerous, are reasonable. The *George Inn* is a commodious building, and at the *Bugle* the accommodation is also excellent. At the former is a curious coat-of-arms, the "winged griffons," which formerly belonged to the castle, and is the only coat-of-arms of the period existing in England. The latter boasts of a good collection of the birds of the island, made by the landlord, Mr. Butler, well known as a skilful taxidermist.

From Yarmouth, the western district of the island may be visited with the greatest facility. The *main routes* are—1. Through Shalfleet to Calbourne, and thence through Brook to Freshwater Gate; and 2. Through Freshwater village to Alum Bay, the Needles, and the adjacent coast. We proceed to indicate a few of the more attractive excursions.

DAY-JOURNEYS.

a. From Yarmouth, eastward, *viâ* Thorley, 1 mile (notice its curious barn-like church), through Welmingham, 1 mile, leaving Afton House to the right, and crossing the Yar at Blackbridge, *viâ* Easton, to Freshwater Gate, 2 miles (notice arched rock, caves, new fort, and other objects specified hereafter in our "coast route"). Ascend the High Down, passing the beacon, and examine the Needles Fort, mounting six thirty-ton guns, 3 miles; return and take the footpath to Royal Needles Hotel, and descend by the chine into Alum Bay, ½ mile (notice the Warren and its population of rabbits. There is a fine view of the Hampshire coast, Yarmouth, and the west of the island, from the topmost ridge of the Warren, near the coastguard station). Back to Yarmouth, about 4½ miles, through Middleton Green (notice *Faringford House*, Tennyson's residence), Freshwater village, keeping the northern road, past Freshwater House to the hamlet of Norton (notice *Norton Lodge*, Dowager Lady Hamond's seat). Cross the river by the New Bridge, and by its pleasantly shaded banks through Freshwater, 2½ miles, to Freshwater Gate, 1 mile. Ascend Afton Down (notice obelisk on the brink of the cliff to the memory of a little girl who fell over and was killed), and keep along the hills—a beautiful route—to Shalcombe and Chessel, 4 miles (notice the numerous *tumuli*, or barrows, on these heights). The road from Chessel passes some small farms to Ningwood, 2 miles, and by road to the right reaches Shalfleet, 1 mile (notice Norman tower of Shalfleet church. Newtown lies to the north-east about 1½ mile). Return by the main road, *viâ* Ningwood Green, Ningwood Common, and Bouldner, into Yarmouth, 4 miles. *c.* From Yarmouth,

viâ Thorley, to Wellow (supposed to be the *Wealtham* mentioned in the Saxon Chronicle as destroyed by the Danes, A.D. 1001), and through Stonewell to Calbourne, 5½ miles (notice church, and Westover, the seat of the Earl of Heytesbury). Then, *viâ Swainston*, the seat of Sir Barrington Simeon, Bart., passing the slopes of Apse Down to Park Cross, and *viâ* Carisbrooke to Newport, 6 miles. Return *viâ* Parkhurst Forest to Vittle Field, and through Watchingwell into Shalfleet, 6 miles; *viâ* Ningwood and Bouldner to Yarmouth, 4 miles. *d.* To Freshwater, 2½ miles, *viâ* Freshwater Gate, 1 mile, along the shore to Brook, 3 miles. By the road, and through Brook Green to Mottistone, 1½ mile (notice church and Longstone), and onward to Brighstone. The tourist may then adopt any suitable day-journey laid down in District III. From Brighstone he should, however, return across the downs to Afton, regaining Yarmouth *viâ* Welmingham and Thorley. [It is proposed to connect Freshwater with Newport by a railway, running through Shalfleet and Calbourne.]

ENVIRONS OF YARMOUTH.

THORLEY (perhaps *Tor*, the beacon, and *ley*, a pasture), a village, pleasantly surrounded with trees, about one mile south-east of Yarmouth. We find nothing to notice here but a curious church without spire or tower, a considerable farm, and a pretty vicarage. The manor successively passed through the hands of the Montacutes, Edward, Duke of York, and "George of Clarence."

Thorley parish contains 1574 acres, chiefly arable land and pasture, and a population in 1881 of 189. The living is a vicarage, in the gift of C. R. Colvile, Esq., valued at £110 per annum. The parish has Yarmouth on the north, Shalfleet east, the Yar on the west, and Brook to the south.

SHALFLEET is about 4 miles east of Yarmouth, and contains the manors of Shalfleet, Ningwood, and Wellow. Chessel, Hulverston, East and West Hampstead, and Watchingwell also lie within its boundaries. *Shalfleet* was probably derived from *shaw*, a woody glen, and *fleet*, a running stream. The village lies in a well-wooded and well-watered hollow. The church is ancient, with a square and massive Norman tower, surmounted by a wooden spire, the cost of which was defrayed by the sale of the bells and gun belonging to the church. "The Shalfleet people, poor and simple, sold the bells to build the steeple." Tradition ascribes its origin to William Fitz-Osbert. *Watchingwell*, or *Watchingwood*, claims to have possessed the first royal park formed in England. About 60 acres were enclosed

by William the Conqueror. It lies close to the manor of Swainston. Within the manor is a farm named Warlands, corrupted from Walleran, the name of its original Norman proprietor—Walleran Trenchard. *Ningwood* is a leafy little hamlet, with a good manor-house, the residence of the Vicar of Shalfleet. Ningwood Creek flows into the Newtown estuary. It has some attractions for the trout-fisher.

The parish of Shalfleet is bounded east by that of Carisbrooke; west by Yarmouth; south by Calbourne; and north by the Solent. Its acreage is 6623; and its population in 1881 numbered 1050. The living is a vicarage, value £200 per annum, in the patronage of the Lord Chancellor.

CALBOURNE was anciently a Hundred in itself, and was sometimes called *Sweyneston*, or *Swainston*. It was one of the demesnes of the Bishop and Convent of Winchester, and included Brighstone within its limits. "Calbourne" signifies the *caul*, or cold, *bourne*, or stream; and "Swainston" has been fancifully derived from *suanes*, or foreigners,—supposing it to be a settlement of the Danes, after destroying Newtown in 1001. It is obviously, however, from *swain*, a shepherd. The manor was surrendered to the Crown by John de Pontissera, Bishop of Winchester, in the 12th of Edward I.; passed through the hands of the Montacutes, Earls of Salisbury, the Earl of Warwick, the Duke of Clarence, the Countess of Salisbury beheaded by Henry VIII., and her grand-daughter, who bestowed it, with her hand, upon Sir Thomas Barrington. It afterwards came by marriage into the Simeon family.

The church is an interesting building, in the Early English style of architecture, with a recently-erected porch, and north transept, used as a mausoleum for the Simeon family.

The village (*Inn:* The Sun) is one of the prettiest in the island, and is situated in a well-wooded and well-watered valley. A fine walk may be taken to Brighstone, *viâ* Lynch Lane.

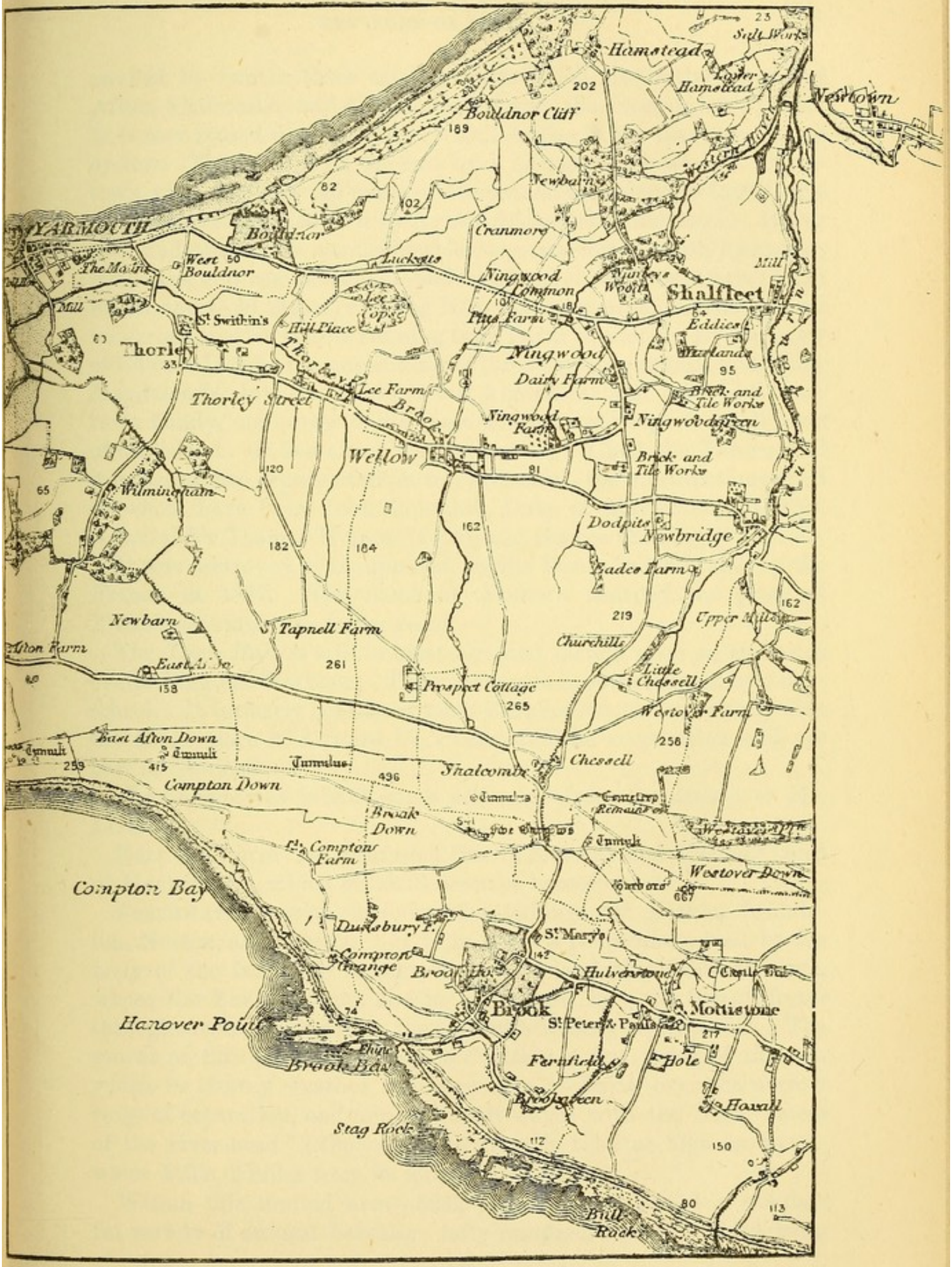
Calbourne parish contains (including the hamlet and chapelry of Newtown) 6397 acres, and a population in 1881 of 693. The living is a rectory, valued at £464 per annum, in the patronage of the Bishop of Winchester.

Of *Newtown*, 3½ miles north (1 mile from Shalfleet), 5 miles from Newport, and about 4½ miles from Yarmouth, it is enough to say that it is a small, curious-looking, and scattered village, seated on the bank of a wide estuary or haven, of depth sufficient to accommodate vessels of 500 tons. This harbour is in fact an inlet of the Solent,



YARMOUTH
AND ITS ENVIRONS.

On a Scale of One Inch to a Statute Mile.



The Figures indicate Height in Feet above Sea-level.

swelled by two or three small streams which rise in the Downs of Afton, Shalcombe, and Chessel, and water the intermediate plains. It is now rented by a company, which utilize it for the breeding of oysters. The salterns on the east bank are no longer worked. Newtown anciently bore the name of *Francheville* (or the free town), and had a charter granted to it by Aymer, Bishop of Winchester. It was then and afterwards a considerable corporate town,—with its mayor, burgesses, and common seal,—and consisted of two long streets (High Street and Gold Street) running from east to west, and connected by numerous shorter streets running from north to south. By a charter of Edward II. it had an ancient fair of three days, beginning on St. Mary Magdalene's, July 22nd, which was known far and wide as "Newtown Bandy," and drew to it a great concourse of people from all parts of the island. It had also a weekly market. Until the Reform Bill it returned two representatives to Parliament, the most distinguished of whom have been John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough (1678), Admiral Sir Thomas Hopson (1705), and George Canning (1793).

It was destroyed, it is supposed, by the Danes in 1001, and by the French in 1377. The name of *Newtown* usurped the place of *Francheville* after the latter event.

The *Town Hall* is still in existence, and stands upon an eminence overlooking the Harbour. The upper room is now occupied by a day-school. It formerly contained some Elizabethan chairs, which, with the silver mace of Edward IV.'s time, and the corporation seal, are now at Swainston.

The *Church* was rebuilt some years ago from the designs of Mr. Livesay.

Near Calbourne are *Swainston* (Sir B. Simeon) and *Westover* (Earl of Heytesbury), which we shall describe hereafter.

FRESHWATER parish includes the tithings of Easton, Middleton, Norton, and Weston. It is in effect a peninsula, joined to the body of the island by a narrow neck of land at Freshwater Gate, where the Yar rises, and, flowing northward into the Solent, forms throughout its whole course the eastern boundary of the parish. The source of this pleasant stream is "within a few yards of the sea, which in stormy weather has been seen to break over the narrow ridge of separation, and mingle its salt waves with the fresh waters of the river-head" (*Thorne*). The river is tidal as high as Freshwater Mills, 2 miles from its mouth.

Within this limited area—5242 acres — is contained a wonderful variety of natural beauties: lofty ramparts of chalk, white, bare,

and precipitous; green slopes of undulating downs; broad meadows, fenced in with hawthorn hedges, and dotted with clumps of venerable elms; meandering rills, wandering through depths of shadow; quiet farm-steads, hidden away in the recesses of silent hills; yawning caverns in the cliffs, where the wild sea ever beats with a restless anger; garden-bowers, odorous with blossoms! The river and the ocean fence in this magical land—

> "A narrow compass, and yet there
> Dwells all that's good and all that's fair!"—WALLER.

Freshwater *village* lies a mile inland, on the pleasant stream of the Yar. It has a good inn, and an ancient church, of noticeable architecture, with two or three good monuments, which has recently been restored. *Freshwater Gate*, so named from its position at the only *gate* or gap in the chalk downs between Brighton and the Needles, consisted, only a few years ago, of a cluster of small cottages; but it is now a thriving and picturesque watering-place, with two first-class hotels (*Lambert's* and the *Albion*), and several well-built, convenient, and handsome villa residences. About half a mile east lies Faringford, Tennyson's island-home. During the summer, communication with Newport and Ventnor is maintained by daily coaches.

About sixty years ago, the favourite resort of the bold smugglers and hardy fishermen of this neighbourhood, was a small inn named *The Cabin*, which, in 1799, was frequented by no less a celebrity than George Morland the artist. He much enjoyed its rough, rude company, and introduced them into many of his best sketches. His picture of *The Taproom* is a faithful representation of the interior of this hostelry. From its romantic neighbourhood he derived the subjects of his "View near the Isle of Wight," "View of the Needles," "Fishermen," "The Smugglers," "View over the Common," "The Castle," "Sea-view from the Isle of Wight," "A Storm-piece," and "Freshwater Cave at Moonlight, with a Group of Smugglers." On one occasion, while he was sketching at Yarmouth with two friends, they were arrested as spies, and a report of their capture forwarded to General Don, then commandant of the military forces of the island. By his direction they were removed, well guarded, to Newport, where, after undergoing an examination before the magistrates, they were duly released (*Hassell's Life; Collins's Memoirs*). Morland often recounted his island adventures with the most boisterous glee.

The beautiful and wondrous objects in this locality can best be

visited by water. We defer their description, therefore, for our "*Coast Route.*"

The SEATS in this part of the island are very numerous, and their localities agreeable. *Afton Manor*, *Weston*, *Faringford Hill*, *Marina*, *Norton Cottage*, *Middleton*, *Brooklands*, and *West Hill* are the most important.

At Alum Bay are two good hotels (the *Needles* and the *Royal*), and in various localities are comfortable and agreeably situated lodging-houses.

The parish includes 5242 acres. Its population in 1881 was 2754. The living is a rectory, valued at £710 per annum, in the patronage of St. John's College, Cambridge.

At Freshwater was born the famous philosophical experimentalist, Robert Hooke, whose father occupied this rich benefice for several years. Dr. Wood, the mathematician, died here as rector.

THE COAST ROUTE.

(*From Freshwater Gate to Yarmouth.*)

The tourist we will suppose to hire a boat and a couple of steady watermen at FRESHWATER GATE (charge, 10s.), taking care to begin his voyage round the peninsula at a suitable hour for the tide.

1. He notices, at the outset, on the eastern side of the small bay formed here by the curvature of the cliffs, *The Arched Rock*, a huge mass, originally part of the cliff, but now insulated from it at a distance of some 600 feet. The constant seas have not only effected this separation, but have beaten a way through it in the shape of a quaint Gothic-like arch. Another rude mass towers above the water close at hand ; it is called *The Deer Pond.* And in the face of the cliffs, below Afton Down, are several caverns of unequal depth, produced by the same unceasing agency.

2. *Freshwater Cave* will no longer attract the tourist's attention. In the lower beds of chalk the sea had worn away a considerable excavation, whose roof was supported by perpendicular masses of the harder rock hewn into irregular columns. Its depth was 120 feet, its height about 30. But the constant action of the water undermined its rocky bulwarks ; the larger part of the roof fell in some fifteen years since ; and what remained was built up to support the fort erected on the cliff above. Many smaller caves are in the vicinity.

3. The tourist will now observe the glittering wall of the *Freshwater Cliffs*, three miles in length, "a succession of mural precipices of

chalk from 400 to upwards of 600 feet in height. The face of these cliffs when seen from the sea at a short distance has a remarkable appearance, from the rows of flints which score the surface of the white rock with fine dark parallel lines, running in an oblique direction from the top to the bottom of the section" (*Mantell*). A sudden curvature in this immense and surprising sea-wall bears the name of *Watcombe Bay*. It contains four caverns. At its farther extremity rises a singularly-shaped rock, hollowed into two or three rude arches.

4. The western portion of these cliffs is the loftiest, and is known as the *Main Bench*, 617 feet in height. Their base is all along worn into fantastic caverns, and ledges, and arches, and pillars—all with fantastic names, and occurring in the following order:—*Neptune's Caves*, the larger 200 feet deep, the smaller 90; *Bar Cave*, 90 feet deep; *Frenchman's Hole*, of the same depth, where a fugitive French prisoner concealed himself, and was starved to death; *Lord Holmes's Parlour*, where it is said that nobleman, when governor of the island, entertained his friends; *Lord Holmes's Cellar*, where, perhaps, he cooled and preserved his wines; *Roe Hall*, 600 feet in height; *The Wedge Rock*, a singular mass of chalk fixed between a detached pyramid and the cliff; and another curious mass called *Old Pepper Rock*. These cliffs are the habitat, during the summer months, of a world of birds—gulls and guillemots, razor-bills, puffins, and cormorants. Fire a pistol, or sound a bugle, and they rise suddenly from a thousand ledges and hollows, and make the air dark with wings. "Their eggs and feathers were the plunder of the country people, who resorted to a well-known but daring feat of enterprise in order to obtain them. First driving a strong stake, or iron bar, into the top of the cliff near its edge, the adventurer secured one end of a rope to it, and the other to a piece of wood placed crosswise so as to resemble a rude seat. By means of this simple apparatus he descended the front of the precipice" (*Barber*).

5. Rounding *Sun Corner*, the voyager finds himself in *Scratchell's Bay*, a deep hollow curve of extreme magnificence, terminated northward by the high masses of glittering rock so widely celebrated as *The Needles*. "In the face of the cliff, from the destruction of the lower beds of the bent strata, a magnificent arch 300 feet high has been produced, and forms an alcove that overhangs the beach 150 feet" (*Mantell*). The tourist should land on the adjacent strip of shingle, and go forward to the extremity of the great arch, looking out from which he will be astonished at the sublime aspect of the

bay; the surrounding rocks and the vast overhanging arch assume almost a terrible majesty, especially if a stormy sky be gathering its forces over the distant horizon. Near the Needles, the *Needles Cave* penetrates 300 feet into the cliff.

6. Upon Needles Point, the westernmost extremity of the island, at an elevation of 474 feet, formerly stood a *Lighthouse;* but from its great height, it was found to be useless in foggy and hazy weather, when it was of course most needed. It had ten argand lamps, and the same number of plated reflectors; and in clear nights its radiance was visible at a distance of eleven miles. But generally it was wrapped about in mists, through which, as the present writer can testify, not a ray could be discerned. The Trinity House, therefore, in 1858–9, caused a new one to be erected on the outer part of the westernmost of the Needles, which was previously cut down close to the water's edge. The present "Pharos" measures about one hundred feet high from the base to the top of the ball, and has only one light with three concentrated wicks, but its brilliancy is so great that it can be seen ten miles at sea. The shades are alternately white and red. A fog-bell during unseasonable weather rings by mechanical agency; its sounds may be heard at a distance of five miles. The base of the building is thirty-eight feet in diameter. Viewed from the sea, its position is very striking.

7. The *Needle Rocks* (ingeniously derived by one authority from the German *nieder fels*, or *under cliff*) are five in number, but only three are conspicuously visible. Originally, they formed a portion of the western point of the island, and their present isolated condition is owing to the decomposition and wearing away of the rock in the direction of the joints or fissures with which the strata are traversed. "Their angular or wedge-shaped form has resulted from the highly inclined northward dip of the beds of which they are composed." There was formerly another rock—*Lot's Wife*, the sailors called it—which stood out alone, rising from the waves, like a spire, to the height of 120 feet. It is said to have given its name to the group. It fell in 1764.

"Nothing can be more interesting," says a good authority, "particularly to those who take pleasure in aquatic excursions, than to sail between and round the Needles. The wonderfully-coloured cliffs of Alum Bay; the lofty and towering chalk precipices of Scratchell's Bay, of the most dazzling whiteness and the most elegant forms; the magnitude and singularity of the spiry, insulated masses which seem at every instant to be shifting their situations,

and give a mazy perplexity to the place; the screaming noise of the aquatic birds, the agitation of the sea, and the rapidity of the tide, occasioning not unfrequently a slight degree of danger;—all these circumstances combine to raise in the mind unusual emotions, and to give to the scene a character highly singular, and even romantic" (*Sir H. Englefield*).

The dangers of the Needles' passage have long been felt by mariners; but that it is the grandest and most fitting approach to England foreigners unanimously acknowledge. Mr. Rush, the American Minister, writes of it enthusiastically:—"In due time we approached the Needles. The spectacle was grand. Our officers gazed in admiration. The very men, who swarmed upon the deck, made a pause to look upon the giddy height. The most exact steerage seemed necessary to save the ship from the sharp rocks that compress the waters into the narrow straits below. But she passed easily through. There is something imposing in entering England by this access. I afterwards entered at Dover in a packet from Calais, my eye fixed upon the sentinels as they slowly paced the heights. But those cliffs, bold as they are, and immortalized by Shakespeare, did not equal the passage through the Needles" (*Journal of a Residence*).

An association connected with Scratchell's Bay savours somewhat of the ludicrous. One John Baldwin of Lymington, having heard his wife threaten "to dance over his grave," gave directions in his will that he should be buried out at sea; and accordingly his body was submerged in Scratchell's Bay, *sans cérémonie*.

8. The voyager, having passed the Needles, finds himself suddenly thrown, as it were, into a world of enchantment, especially if the rays of the setting sun are just falling upon his path, and the cliffs are resplendent with their *purpureum lumen*. This is *Alum Bay* (5 miles); one side of it a wall of glowing chalk, and the other a barrier of rainbows! The contrast is very beautiful—the solidity of the chalky cliffs with these masses of many-coloured earth piled up in picturesque confusion. "The scenery of this bay is, indeed, very superior in magnificence to that of any other part of the island. The chalk forms an unbroken face everywhere nearly perpendicular, and in some parts formidably projecting, and the tenderest stains of ochreous yellow and greenish moist vegetation vary without breaking its sublime uniformity. This vast wall extends nearly a quarter of a mile, and is more than 400 feet in height; it terminates by a thin projection of a bold, broken outline, and the wedge-shaped Needle rocks, rising out of the blue waters, continue the cliff in idea beyond

its present boundary, and give an awful impression of the stormy ages which have gradually devoured its enormous mass. The pearly hue of the chalk under certain conditions of the atmosphere and light is beyond description by words, and probably out of the power even of the pencil to portray. The magical repose of this side of the bay is wonderfully contrasted by the torn forms and vivid colouring of the clay cliffs on the opposite side. These do not, as at Whitecliff, present rounded headlands clothed with turf and shrubs, but offer a series of points of a scalloped form, and which are often sharp and pinnacled. Deep, rugged chasms divide the strata in many places, and not a trace of vegetation appears in any part. All is wild ruin! The tints of the cliffs are so bright and so varied that they have not the aspect of anything natural. Deep purplish red, dusky blue, bright ochreous yellow, gray nearly approaching to white, and absolute black, succeed each other as sharply defined as the stripes in silk; and after rains, the sun, which, from about noon till his setting, in summer illuminates them more and more, gives a brilliancy to some of these nearly as resplendent as the bright lights on real silk. Small vessels often lie in this bay for the purpose of loading chalk and sand;* and they serve admirably to show the majestic size of the cliffs under whose shade they lie diminished almost to nothing" (*Sir H. Englefield*).

9. The northern extremity of the bay is *Headon Hill*, 400 feet in height. The geologist will observe that its geological character is precisely similar to that of Whitecliff Bay, at the eastern end of the island. The chalk joins the London clay and freshwater deposits at both places, though the dislocated strata of Headon Hill give the landscape so different an aspect. At both places the lacustrine and fluviatile deposits are the uppermost series; the London clay, occupying a vertical position, forms the middle; and is followed by the Bognor strata, and the mottled clays; and these abut against a bed of sandy loam, with pebbles and slightly rolled flints, that is in immediate contact with the chalk. The thickness of the eocene strata, from the chalk to the uppermost bed in Headon Hill, is stated by Mr. Prestwick to be 1660 feet, which is 300 feet less than the series at Whitecliff.

"The variegated and deeply-tinted sands, marls, and clays, which impart so remarkable and brilliant an aspect to the cliff, are the

* Mr. Wedgwood tried to use the fine white sand in his porcelain manufacture, but the experiment was unsuccessful. Glasses, bottles, paper-weights, etc., filled with these sands in various designs, are sold all over the island.

next in order, and form a total thickness of between 700 and 800 feet. The alternations and variety of the vertical seams or layers are almost innumerable." These strata belong to the London clay series, and are followed by a layer of pure white sand, which is exported for the glass manufactories of London and Bristol, at the rate of 3000 tons yearly.

From the summit of Headon Hill, which is crowned by a battery, a fine view may be obtained of the various windings of this wonderful coast, of the inland island scenery, of the green trees and misty hills of Hampshire. Yarmouth and the groves of Freshwater lie beneath, and the chalk downs rise up against the distant horizon.

10. The tourist now reaches *Totland*, or *Tolland's Bay*, where the cliffs entirely change their character, and exhibit alternations of marine and fresh-water strata. Here are bathing-machines, a small pier (450 feet in length), some lodging-houses, a bathing establishment with library and reading-room, and an excellent hotel. *Christ Church*, erected in 1875, is a neat building in the Early English style, with seats for 400 worshippers. The cliffs gradually decrease in height as the boat passes *Colwell Bay*, where, in *Bramble Chine*, "a thick bed of oyster-shells is exposed, apparently in its original state, the valves being in contact with each other as when living." Many beautiful fossil shells may be collected in this locality.

11. The extremity of Colwell Bay is called *Cliff End*, where the *Albert Fort* and *Cliff End Battery* guard the passages. This is the nearest point of contact with the mainland—the passage to Hurst Point not exceeding 1460 yards. Next comes *Sconce Point*, crowned by the heavy mass of the *Victoria Fort*, and then the voyager finds himself abreast of Yarmouth. Viewed from the sea, the island here assumes a very interesting appearance. The gradual rise of the northern side above the sea, the coloured strata of Alum Bay, those singular masses of rock the Needles, with the majestic chalk cliffs behind them of the most dazzling whiteness, and the precipitous face of the southern side of the downs above Freshwater, compose altogether a picture of the most romantic character.

SEATS OF THE GENTRY.

Swainston, about 1½ mile east from Calbourne, is the seat of the Simeon family. It is a large and handsome mansion of stone, in the Italian style, occupying the site of an ancient palace of the Bishops of Winchester—once visited by Edward II.—of the chapel of which some Early Decorated remains are still extant. The grounds are

very beautiful—agreeably alternated with hill and dale, and rejoicing in the most luxuriant foliage. The views, in every direction, are full of interest. The late Sir John Simeon was the eldest son of Sir R. Godin Simeon, by the eldest daughter and heiress of the late Sir Fitzwilliam Barrington, who brought the Calbourne estate into the Simeon family. Sir John was born at St. John's, near Ryde, in 1815; educated at Christchurch, Oxon., and graduated M.A. in 1840; married, in the same year, the only daughter of Sir F. F. Baker of Loventer, in Devonshire; represented the island in Parliament from 1847 to 1851 in the Liberal interest, resigning on becoming a convert to the Roman Catholic religion; and succeeded to the baronetcy in 1854. He, in his turn, was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir Barrington Simeon, at present (1882) private secretary to the Right Hon. John Bright, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Westover lies south of Calbourne, in an agreeable situation. The house is commodious, though not of spacious dimensions; its south front ornamented with a Doric colonnade in the centre, verandas above, and upon each side of it. To the east and north well sheltered by thick masses of ancient trees. The manor, formerly a possession of the Dillingtons, was sold by one of the Urry family to Lord Holmes, and so descended to Sir Leonard Worsley Holmes, whose daughter and heiress married, in 1833, the Hon. William Ashe A'Court, eldest son of the Earl of Heytesbury, and the present proprietor of Westover. This gentleman thereupon assumed the name and arms of Holmes. He was born in London in 1809; educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated as M.A. in 1831; married in 1833; represented the Isle of Wight from 1837 to 1847 on Conservative principles; and succeeded to the Earldom of Heytesbury on his father's death, 1859.

Afton Manor, the seat of B. Cotton, Esq., is a large mansion in a noble and well-wooded park, on the east bank of the Yar, about 2 miles from Yarmouth. Mr. Cotton was for some years the master of the Isle of Wight hounds.

Norton Lodge (the seat of Sir Græme Hamond-Græme), on the northern shore of the island, and the extreme western bank of the Yar, is a picturesque villa in very pleasant and agreeably diversified grounds. It commands a fine view of Yarmouth and the course of the river,—of the Hampshire coast, and the singular promontory terminated by Hurst Castle. The late Admiral Sir Graham Hamond, Bart., G.C.B., was born in 1779; served as midshipman on board the

Queen Charlotte in Lord Howe's action—"the glorious First of June;" distinguished himself at the blockade of Malta, and siege of Valetta; in the sanguinary action off Copenhagen, 1801; and at Flushing, in 1809. Promoted to be Admiral of the White, 1849.

Faringford, 1½ mile west of Freshwater Gate, a fine villa almost hidden amidst leafy trees, is the residence of Alfred Tennyson, Esq. In his "Maud, and other Poems," the poet-laureate pleasantly alludes to his island-home when addressing his friend, the Rev. F. D. Maurice:—

"Where, far from smoke and noise of town,
I watch the twilight falling brown
All round a careless ordered garden,
Close to the ridge of a noble down.

"You'll have no scandal while you dine,
But honest talk and wholesome wine,
And only hear the magpie gossip
Garrulous under a roof of pine.

"For groves of pine on either hand,
To break the blast of winter, stand;
And farther on, the hoary Channel
Tumbles a breaker on chalk and sand."

The poet took up his quarters here in 1853, and it was here he wrote the lyrical monologue of "Maud." Many passages were obviously suggested by the sights, scenes, and sounds of his island residence; as, for instance, the following:—

"All by myself in my own dark garden-ground,
Listening now to the tide, in its broad-flung shipwrecking roar,
Now to the scream of a maddened beast dragged down by the wave."

And again:—

"The voice of the long sea-wave as it swelled
Now and then in the dim-gray dawn."

Yet again:—

"Is that enchanted moan only the swell
Of the long waves that roll in yonder bay?"

At Faringford the poet was accustomed to receive his intimate friends and a few distinguished strangers from "over the sea." Sydney Dobell, who was at Shanklin in 1857, writes:—"I hardly think Tennyson has done well, as a poet, in fixing his house in such exceptional conditions. He lives, you know, about twenty-five miles from us along the same coast. The country people are much amazed at his bad hat and unusual ways, and believe devoutly that he writes his poetry while mowing his lawn. However, they hold him in great respect, from a perception of the honour in which he is held

by their 'betters.' Our housewife here is a friend of his servant, and she entertained us with an account of how said servant had been lately awed. Opening to a ring at the door, when the Tennysons were out, she saw a 'tall, handsome gentleman' standing there, who, on learning they were not at home, turned to go. 'What message shall I give?' quoth the maid. 'Merely say, Prince Albert called.'"

A few years later, Mr. Dobell writes to describe an evening which he had enjoyed under the poet's roof:—"We found the glorious old god as god-like as ever. Nothing could be kinder than both Mr. and Mrs. Tennyson—he in his great, blind, superhuman manner, like a colossal child; and his often-repeated disappointment that we could not stay longer near them was as unfeigned and straight-spoken as everything, large and little, that comes out of that mouth, with which he seems rather to think aloud than, in the ordinary acceptation, to speak."

In his "At Home and Abroad," Bayard Taylor, the American *littérateur*, narrates very pleasantly his experiences of Faringford:—

"I had so long known," he says, "the greatest of English living poets, Alfred Tennyson, not only through his works, but from the talk of mutual friends, that I gladly embraced an opportunity to know him personally, which happened to me in June 1857. He was then living at his house, the estate of Faringford, near Freshwater, in the Isle of Wight. I should have hesitated to intrude upon his retirement, had I not been kindly assured beforehand that my visit would not be unwelcome. The drive across the heart of the island from Newport to Freshwater was alone worth the journey from London. The softly undulating hills, the deep green valleys, the blue waters of the Solent, and the purple glimpses of the New Forest beyond, formed a fit vestibule of landscape through which to approach a poet's house.

"As we drew near Freshwater, my coachman pointed out Faringford, a cheerful gray country mansion, with a small thick-grassed park before it, a grove behind, and beyond all, the deep shoulder of the chalk downs, a gap in which, at Freshwater, showed the dark blue horizon of the Channel. Leaving my luggage at one of the two little inns, I walked to the house with lines from 'Maud' chiming in my mind. 'The dry-tongued laurel' shone glossily in the sun, the cedar 'sighed for Lebanon' on the lawn, and 'the liquid azure bloom of a crescent of sea glimmered afar.'

"I had not been two minutes in the drawing-room before Tennyson walked in. So unlike are the published portraits of him that I

was almost in doubt as to his identity. The engraved head suggests a moderate stature, but he is tall and broad-shouldered as a son of Anak, with hair, beard, and eyes of southern darkness. Something in the lofty brow and aquiline nose suggests Dante; but such a deep, mellow chest-voice never could have come from Italian lungs.

"He proposed a walk, as the day was wonderfully clear and beautiful. We climbed the steep combe of the chalk cliff, and slowly wandered westward until we reached the Needles, at the extremity of the island, and some three or four miles distant from his residence. During the conversation with which we beguiled the way I was struck with the variety of his knowledge. Not a little flower on the downs, which the sheep had spared, escaped his notice; and the geology of the coast, both terrestrial and submarine, were perfectly familiar to him. I thought of a remark which I once heard from the lips of a distinguished English author [Thackeray], that Tennyson was the wisest man he knew, and could well believe that he was sincere in making it.

"I shall respect the sanctity of the delightful family circle to which I was admitted, and from which I parted the next afternoon with true regret. Suffice it to say, that the poet is not only fortunate and happy in his family relations, but that, with his large and liberal nature, his sympathies for what is true and noble in humanity, and his depth and tenderness of feeling, he deserves to be so."

The vulgar pertinacity of the curious, who invaded the solitude he prized so highly, until he could hardly venture to move from the door of his house, induced Mr. Tennyson, in 1869, to remove to a new summer residence at Haslemere in Surrey. He is still, however, an occasional visitor at Faringford. We have hinted at the traces of island scenery in "Maud;" in his later works they are even more abundant, showing how well he loves the rounded downs, the bold cliffs of chalk, and the broad expanse of shining waters. Who will not regret that his intercourse with them was sundered by such a cause?

Alfred Tennyson was born at Somersly Rectory, in Lincolnshire, on the 5th of August 1809. His father was the Rev. Dr. G. C. Tennyson, his mother a daughter of the Rev. Stephen Fytche, vicar of Louth. At Louth he received his early education. To complete it he was sent to Cambridge, where his poem of "Timbuctoo" won the chancellor's gold medal; and he formed an intimate friendship with Arthur Henry Hallam, the son of the historian. In his eighteenth year he published, in conjunction with his brother Charles, a volume of poetry (240 pages duodecimo), under the title of "Poems

by Two Brothers." In 1830 he gave to the world his "Poems, chiefly Lyrical," containing many pieces which are now familiar to the heart of every lover of poetry, though at first they attracted but little attention. Some discriminating writers, however, such as John Stuart Mill and Leigh Hunt, discovered their rich promise of future excellence. In 1842, the publication of his "Poems," in two volumes, including many old pieces, revised and rewritten (the *labor limæ* Tennyson has never spared himself), and many previously unpublished, convinced the world that a new and genuine poet had arisen. "Locksley Hall," "The Two Voices," "The Dream of Fair Women," "The Talking Oak," "Œnone," and other exquisite compositions, became the delight of the critic, the love-sick maiden, the thoughtful student, and the reading public generally; there was a charm in them for all. Tennyson's fame was confirmed and broadened, in 1850, by his grand elegiac poem, "In Memoriam," a tribute to the beloved memory of his friend Arthur Henry Hallam, who had been cut off, in 1832, in the very flush and vigour of his young manhood. On the death of Wordsworth, in 1851, everybody felt that to him, and him alone, must be given "the laurel greener from the brows of him who uttered nothing base," and his appointment as poet-laureate was ratified by the applause of the public. In 1852 he issued his "Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington;" in 1852, a revised edition of "The Princess: a Medley," the first rude sketch of which had appeared in 1847; in 1855, "Maud, and other Poems;" in 1858, "The Idylls of the King," founded on the old Arthurian legends. "Enoch Arden" was the product of 1864; "Lucretius," 1868; "The Holy Grail," 1869. In 1875, Mr. Tennyson essayed dramatic poetry, and displayed the wide range of his powers in "Queen Mary," followed in 1877 by "Harold;" in 1879, by the one-act romance of "The Falcon," produced at the Haymarket; and in 1880–81, by the two-act tragic drama of "The Cup," produced at the Lyceum. A volume of fine ballads appeared in 1880. That the poet can still achieve a noble strain, though somewhat inferior to his ripest work, is shown by his Tyrtæan lyric, "The Charge of the Heavy Brigade," published in March 1882.

PLACES TO BE VISITED BY THE PEDESTRIAN.

Headon Hill, or The Warren, on the north side of Alum Bay—here is a small fort armed with six guns—prospect from the summit very lovely; Walcombe Bay, immediately beneath Freshwater Fort; Easton, 1 mile south of Freshwater; Compton, nestling in a hollow

of the downs, near Brook, and 3 miles south-east from Freshwater; the Needles Lighthouse, and examine Alum Bay, The Warren, Colwell Bay, and other places by a route along the cliff; Middleton, a small hamlet, near Freshwater; Cliff End, and Sconce Point; Hampstead, and its farm-house, designed by Nash the architect, 2 miles north-west of Shalfleet, and 3½ west of Yarmouth; Elmsworth, and its salterns, half a mile north of Newtown; and Bouldner-on-the-Sea, east of Yarmouth, where a limited liability company is endeavouring to force into existence a new watering-place.

DAY-JOURNEYS.

1. *From Alum Bay to Yarmouth*, by the sea-shore.—Round Hatherwood Point we pass into Totland or Tolland Bay. This is a good place for fossil-hunting. "The lowermost stratum visible on the beach is a pure white sand, largely exported for the glass manufactories: this is covered by a bed of yellowish clay. A series of variously coloured sands, marls, and clays, with layers of friable limestone, succeed. The predominating fossils are species of fresh-water genera; but in some of the beds are a few marine and estuary shells, and a layer of oyster-shells similar to one in Colwell Bay. Within fifty feet of the top of the hill is a stratum of reddish-brown and mottled clay with seams of lignite; and on this is superimposed whitish sand and marl, with interstratified layers of concretionary limestone, full of fresh-water shells. A thick bed of gravel forms the alluvial covering on the summit of the hill."

Totland Bay is growing into some repute as a fashionable resort for bathing. Passing the sea-wall which protects the site of Warden Battery, we enter Colwell Bay, at the other end of which are the Cliff End Battery and Albert Fort. The scenery here is of the most delightful character; the sands are firm and strong; and inland the country is very enjoyable. At Colwell is a small inn, *The Nelson Arms*. Thence a short walk leads to Golden Hill Fort.

We come to Cliff End, where, on the site of the present battery, James Worsley, the captain of the island, erected a clock-house ("Worsley's Tower") in the reign of Henry VIII. At Sconce Point is placed the Victoria Fort, close to which is the landing-place of the telegraph cable. On the site of Victoria Fort stood the battery raised by Sir George Carey, to replace Worsley's Tower, which had fallen into ruin. Passing Norton, we arrive on the bank of the Yar, and cross the wooden bridge to Yarmouth.

2. *Across the Downs to Alum Bay.*—From the *Needles Hotel* a path leads us up the green acclivity of the High Down, the summit

of which is 490 feet high, while its perpendicular chalk cliffs are 400 feet. It is needless to say that at every step of the ascent the traveller commands a prospect which enables him to realize the full meaning of the beauty and grandeur of nature. The peninsula of Freshwater lies beneath him like a map, and on either side the sea shines with a glow that is truly magical. The loftiest point of the down is marked by an old beacon ; and thence the prospect includes, in one direction, the southern coast of the island, from Rocken End to Freshwater Gate ; the surf-fringed Dorsetshire coast ; the rolling backbone of chalk hills that stretches through the island ; the pastures and marshes of the north-east, from Yarmouth to the mouth of the Medina ; the glittering Solent; and the green passes of the New Forest.

On the north side of Scratchell's Bay, the headland is occupied by a fort, and just beyond rise the wedge-shaped chalky masses of the Needles. From the fort a picturesque road runs to the *Alum Bay Hotel;* and a winding path leads thence to the geological wonders of Alum Bay, with its pier, boats, bathing-machines, and other adjuncts.

3. *From Yarmouth to Shalfleet.*—By the side of the sea the road runs on to Bouldner, and thence across Ningwood Common to Hampstead. At Lower Hampstead he will cross Ningwood Creek, and keep southward through the valley to Shalfleet. Or, by a more direct route, he may cross Ningwood Common, and keep straight on for Shalfleet. From Shalfleet he may visit Newtown, one mile north ; or he may strike southward, past Elm Farm and Stoney Cross, to Calbourne.

4. *From Yarmouth to Newport.*—Two routes present themselves : the first is to Shalfleet, as above, then by the Calbourne road to Elm Copse, where we turn to the left, and cross a country which still retains some traces of its old leafiness when included in Parkhurst Forest.* We pass Lower Watchingwell and Little Field Farm, and skirt the southern border of the forest, which opens up many agreeable vistas, to Hedge Corner. There we turn to the right and enter Newport; or keep on to the Cowes and Newport road, and enter Newport by Honey Hill, where King James I. "saw a muster" in August 1609.

The alternative route is by Calbourne. Passing Thorley Church Farm, we keep to the south-east, over an undulating country, with green hills on either hand, and afar to the south the rolling crest of the Afton, Shalcombe, Chessel, and Mottistone Downs, by way of Thorley Street and Wellow to Newbridge, where we cross Shalfleet Creek. The road to the left makes for Swainston ; we take that to

* This forest extended of old from the Medina to Newtown river, covered three thousand acres, and was well stocked with deer. Most of it was enclosed in 1815.

the right, and descend into Calbourne. After visiting its interesting church, we resume our journey, cross the woody grounds of Swainston; round the slope of Apse Down by a road which runs almost parallel with a Roman road (to the south); and descend Alvington Down into Carisbrooke village; thence to Newport.

5. *From Freshwater to Calbourne.*—This road runs past Afton House and Afton Farm, and by Chessel Down, into Calbourne.

6. *From Freshwater Gate, across the Downs, to Carisbrooke.*—From the hotel we climb a gradual ascent of verdurous greensward to the summit of Afton Down. Thence to East Afton, where we note two large and several smaller Celtic tumuli or barrows. Leaving behind us the lonely farms of Compton and Dunsbury, and crossing Compton and Tapnel Downs, we gain the crest of Dunsbury Down, with its six barrows. As five of these are seen from Brook, the villagers call it Five Barrow Down. To the north is Shalcombe Down. Crossing the road from Brook to Yarmouth, we ascend Brook Down (689 feet), marked out for us by its two large barrows; through a gate emerge upon Mottistone Down (with the Longstone on the right); cross the Brighstone and Calbourne road; climb up Brighstone Down, and, where the path divides, taking the *right hand branch*, leave the Rowborough and Westcourt Bottoms, with their Pictish pit-villages on the left, come upon Lemerston Down and Cheverton Down, with the Idlecombe valley beneath; cross the Shorwell and Carisbrooke road; pass Cheverton and Rowborough Farms on the left; emerge upon Newbarn Down, near Newbarn Farm; turn to the left, and over Ganson Down descend abruptly to Ganson Farm, and by Love Lane make our way to Carisbrooke. We have not attempted to describe the views along this magnificent route, because at every point they undergo a change. The tourist should have a good map as his companion, and he will have no difficulty in identifying the various objects that meet his gaze. The greater part of the island is included in the richly-coloured and profusely varied panorama.

On Brighstone Down, if the tourist take the *left hand* road or track, he will cross the upper part of Calbourne Bottom, and pass the Pictish villages of Rowborough and Gallibury on the right, and Newbarn on the left. Thence he will follow up the line of a supposed Roman road across Bowcombe Down, which was ascended by Prince Charles, afterwards Charles I., in 1618, for the sake of the prospect, and descend to Clatterford, where remains of a Roman villa have been discovered, into Carisbrooke.



ARRETON CHURCH.

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THE CHURCHES OF THE ISLAND,

WITH

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES OF ITS WORTHIES.

ARRETON.—*St. George's*—one of the churches given by William Fitz-Osbert to his Abbey of Lire; valued in Cardinal Beaufort's roll at 50 marks, and the tithes of the vicarage at 8; value of superfluous plate and fittings sold by Edward VI.'s Commissioners, £34, 3s. 4d.—consists of an Early English double-gabled chancel, with Norman window in north wall, and traces of three similar windows in west gable, with south aisle, and dwarfed embattled tower. It is said to have been built in 1141. The oak ceiling in the chancel, and the stone pulpit, are recent additions. The chancel was restored in 1863.

Brasses.—In the south aisle is a *brass*, date 1430, with the effigy of a man in plate-armour, his feet upon a lion. Inscription,—

> "Here is y. buried under this grave
> Harry Hawles. his soule God save.
> Long tyme steward. of the Yle of Wyght,
> Have m'cy on hym. God ful of myght."

On a brass plate on one of the pillars is graven the following quaintest of quaint rhymes:—

> "Loe here under this tomb incoutcht
> Is William Serle by name,
> Who, for his deedes of charetie
> Deserveth worthy fame.
>
> "A man within this Parish borne,
> And in the house called Stone,
> A glass for to behold a work
> Hath left to every one.

"For that unto the people poor
Of Arreton, he gave
An hundred pownds in redie coyne,
He will'd that they should have.

"To be ymployed in fittest sorte,
As man coulde best invent,
For yearely relief to the Poore,
That was his good intent.

"Thus did this man, a Batchelor
Of years full fifty nyne;
And doeing good to many a one,
Soe did he spend his tyme.

"Untill the day he did decease,
The first of Februarey,
And in the year of One Thousand
Five hundred neyntie five."

The bequest here described "was laid out in the purchase of a farm called *Garots*, on St. George's Down, from the profits of which a supply of bread is given to the poor of the parish in the winter season" (*Walks round Ryde*).

On the exterior wall is another brass :—

"THE REWARDE OF SINNE IS DEATH. EVERLAS
TINGE LIFE IS THE GIFTE OF GOD THROVGH OVR
LORD AND SAVIOVR JESVS CHRISTE. WHEREFOR
ALL YE THAT LOVE THE LORD DOE THIS' HATE
ALL THINGS THAT ARE EVELL FOR HE DOTHE
KEPE THE SOVLES OF HIS FROM SUCH AS
WOVLD THEM SPILL." *George Serle.*

Another metal plate records the death of *William Colnett*, 1594; and a *brass* in north aisle, *David Wavil*, 1629.

Monuments.—To *Richard Fleming Worsley*, drowned in the river Hamble (ætat. 22), bas-relief by Westmacott. To *Sir Leonard Worsley Holmes, Bart.* (ætat. 38, in 1825), executed by a native artist, named Haskoll.

The Bells.—There are five bells, but only four can be used. On one, in raised letters, is graven—"WILLIAM . GRIF . FIN . VICOR . GEO . OGLANDER . HENRY BVLL . CHVRCHWARDENS . CLEMENT . TOSIEAR CAST . MEE . IN . THE . YEAR . OF . 1699." On another, "GOD IS MY HOPE . 1691." On the smallest,—Jhus : nickolaus : scerle : t : alicia : uxr : ejus : dedit : me. *Jesus! Nicholas Serle and his wife Alicia gave me.*

Epitaphs.—In the church-yard are numerous epitaphs.

On *James Urry of Combley*, ætat. 33, 1815 :—

"Death is most certain you may see
For suddenly it came to me,

In perfect Health to me 'twas sent,
By Accident most violent."

On *James Barton*, ætat. 66, 1768:—

"My Sickness was Great I under Went
God gave me Time for to Repent;
My Change I Hope is for the best,
To dwell with Christ and be at rest."

On *Daniel Barton*, ætat. 32, 1778:—

"My parents Dear Grieve not for Me,
I hope in heaven you Both to See;
It was God's will he thought it best,
To take me to A place of rest."

On *John Barton*, ætat. 40, 1781:—

"In love I lived, in peace I died,
My Life Desir'd but God deny'd;
Now on my Children pity take,
And love them for there fathers Sake."

On *Elizabeth*, wife of the above, ætat. 64, 1804:—

"Calm was her Death, pious was her life,
A careful mother, and a virtuous wife:
Dutiful to her Children and a friend,
Possessing those bright duties to her End."

On *Hannah* and *William Rayner*:—

"Skill'd in the mystery of the pleasing Peal,
Which few can know, and fewer still reveal;
Whether with little Bells or Bell sublime,
To split a Moment to the truth of Time;
Time so oft truly beat, at length o'ercame,
Yet shall this Tribute long preserve his Name."

On *Elizabeth Wallbridge*, the heroine of Legh Richmond's popular narrative, "The Dairyman's Daughter." This epitaph was written by Mrs. W. C. Bousfield:—

"Stranger! if e'er by chance or feeling led,
Upon this hallow'd turf thy footsteps tread,
Turn from the contemplation of the sod,
And think on her whose spirit rests with God.
Lowly her lot on earth,—but He who bore
Tidings of grace and blessing to the poor,
Gave her his truth and faithfulness to prove,
The choicest treasures of his boundless love,—
(Faith, that dispell'd Affliction's darkest gloom;
Hope, that could cheer the passage to the tomb;
Peace, that not hell's dark legions could destroy;
And Love that fill'd the soul with heavenly joy).

Death of its sting disarm'd, she knew no fear,
But tasted heaven e'en while she linger'd here.
Oh, happy Saint! may we like thee be blest;
In life be faithful, and in death find rest!"

A desk here supports a copy of Foxe's "Book of Martyrs," sixth edition, 1631.

Arreton is a vicarage in the patronage of Mrs. Graham, valued at £220 *per annum*.

Bembridge.—The church here was first erected in 1826, at a cost of £1300, and endowed with £5 annually by the late Edward Wise, Esq. Consecrated in 1827. The foundations proving unsafe, it became necessary in 1845 to erect a new edifice, which is small, but commodious, and Early English in character.

Bembridge was formerly dependent on the parish of Brading, but is now a vicarage valued at £100 *per annum*.

Binstead.—*St. Peter's*—architect, T. Hellyer, Esq., of Ryde (Early English)—stands on the site of the ancient church, which was probably erected and supplied by the monks of Quarr, and on account of its poverty was not included in Cardinal Beaufort's roll, 1404. For some years after the dissolution of the abbey the abbot's privileges of proving wills, marrying without license, and the like, were enjoyed by the rector, who was popularly styled "Bishop of Binstead."

Over the outer gate of the church notice a curious ancient keystone, or corbel, representing a human demi-figure which terminates in a ram's head. This is popularly called *the Idol;* and by some writers is regarded as of Saxon origin. Some singular emblems in stone of Eternity, Sin, the Holy Dove, etc., from the old church, are preserved in the walls of the new, which consists of a nave and chancel, divided by Early English arch. The octagonal font is remarkable for its workmanship, representing Eve's Temptation, the Expulsion from Eden, the Doom of Labour, Death, Christ's Baptism, Crucifixion, Ascension, and the Last Judgment. The reading-desk is supported by a figure of Moses with arms upheld by Aaron and Hur (Ex. xvii. 8–13). The communion table is finely carved.

Epitaphs.—In the grave-yard are some old tombstones, but mostly uninteresting. One records the death of *James Goodlad*, a former "minister" of Binstead, and *Sarah* his wife, ætat. 66, A.D. 1620; and another, *Thomas Sivell*, "cruelly shot on board his sloop by some officers of the customs at the port of Portsmouth, June 15, 1786, at the age of 61 years."

Bonchurch.—There are here two churches, the *Old* and the *New*. The *Old*, seated on the wave-worn cliff, was dedicated to St. Boniface, Archbishop of Mentz, and "the apostle of Central Germany;" hence *Bonifacechurch*, corrupted into *Bonchurch*. Architecture, Norman; chancel and doorway without ornament. Consists of a body and chancel, compass-roofed, and ceiled circular, and chancel separated from body by a square stone partition. Was probably founded about 1070–80, on the site, perhaps, of an older building.

Notice, in the interior, remains of *mural paintings*, representing the Last Judgment, discovered by Mr. Saxby of Ventnor; and *cross*, carved in black oak, on the altar, brought, it is said, from a Norman abbey (*Lire?*) thirty-five or forty years ago.

Tombs.—In the church-yard, which is surrounded with trees, and within hearing of "the murmurous waves," stands the tomb of the Rev. W. Adams; a plain stone, coffin-shape, with a cross of iron placed over it horizontally, so as to cast a continual shadow (in allusion to his book, "The Shadow of the Cross"). Inscription:—

William Adams, M.A., late Vicar of St. Peter in the East, and Fellow of Merton College, Oxford; deceased January xvii., mdcccxlviii. "Patient in tribulation, continuing instant in prayer."

[Rev. William Adams, second son of late Sergeant Adams, born 1815; educated at Eton and Merton College, Oxon, of which he was elected fellow and tutor, 1836. Afterwards presented to the vicarage of St. Peter's in the East, Oxford, where he delivered the lectures published under the title of "Warnings of the Holy Week." Removed to Bonchurch in a consumptive state in 1842, and during his brief residence endeared himself to all its inhabitants, who still speak of him as the "Good Gentleman." Wrote his "Shadow of the Cross," 1842; "The Distant Hills," 1846; "Fall of Crœsus," 1846; "The Old Man's Home," 1847; and "The King's Messengers," 1847. Died, ætat. 33, January 17, 1848.]

A plain slab marks the grave of John Sterling, the friend of Hare and Carlyle, who died at Hillside, Ventnor, September 18, 1844, aged 38. "The most perfectly transparent soul I have ever known... A man of infinite susceptibility, who caught everywhere, more than others, the colour of the element he lived in, the infection of all that was or appeared honourable, beautiful, and manful in the tendencies of his time...He sleeps now in the little burying-ground of Bonchurch; bright, ever young in the memory of others that must

grow old; and was honourably released from his toils before the hottest of the day" (*Carlyle*).

The *New Church* was erected 1847–8, the foundation stone being laid by the Rev. W. Adams, June 24, 1847. A simple but elegant edifice, Norman in character, from the designs of B. Ferrey; consists of a nave, transepts, chancel, south porch, and bell-gable at the west end. "The west and transept windows contain some good, ancient stained-glass." Notice *the Font*, inscribed—"Domine! agimus tibi gratias pro Gulielmo Adams hujus ecclesiæ benefactore rogantes ut nos unâ cum illo ad resurrectionis gloriam immortalem perducamur per Christum Dominum nostrum. Amen." [We give thee thanks, O God, for William Adams, the benefactor of this church, beseeching thee that, together with him, we may arrive at the deathless glory of the resurrection, through Christ our Lord. Amen.]

The site of the church was given by the Rev. James White, and that of the schools and parsonage by Rear-Admiral and Lady Jane Swinburne.

The painted windows in the transept and at the west end were the gift of the Rev. W. Sewell, D.D., vicar of St. Nicholas-in-Castro, and a brother of Miss Sewell the novelist.

Brading.—*St. Mary's.* A spacious, ancient structure, chiefly Trans. Norman in style; consists of a nave and chancel, separated by Norman arch; tower; north and south aisles separated from the nave by Early English arches, and each with a small chapel at the eastern end. The picturesque interior, recently restored with great care, and the Oglander chapel, claim the visitor's admiration. The clock was presented in 1869 by Sir Walter Stirling, Bart. The advowson was bestowed by Charles I. on Trinity College, Cambridge.

Brasses, etc.—Within the altar-rails (notice altar-table of the date of Queen Elizabeth) is a curious and elaborately engraved slab, with effigy of knight in armour, his feet supported by two dogs, and delicate ornamental work, representing a recess, and, apparently, the twelve apostles in side-niches—a very fine specimen, originally inlaid with silver. Inscribed—

Hic jacet nobilis vir Johannes Cherowin armiger, dum vivebat, Connestabularius Castri de Porcestre, qui obiit . anno domini millesimo quadringes^mo^ quadrag^o^ . primo die ultima mense Octobris . anima ejus requiescat in pace. Amen.

[Here lies the renowned John Cherowin, knight, while he lived Con-

stable of the Castle of Porchester, who died A.D. 1441, on the last day of the month of October. May his soul rest in peace! Amen.]

At the extreme end of north aisle are two altar-tombs, decorated with a rose *gules*. On one—

Jhu have mercie on Wylyam Howlys sowl. Amen. mccccxx.

And on the other—

Helizabeth hys wyf.

In the beautiful Oglander chapel, south aisle, are the altar-tombs of *Sir William Oglander*, and his son, *Sir John Oglander*, Lieutenant of the Wight and Lieutenant-Governor of Portsmouth, died, ætat. 70, in 1655. The effigies are of wood, and represent the knights in complete armour, extended at full length. Also a memorial of *George Oglander, Esq.*, eldest son of Sir John, a loyal cavalier, who died "at Cawne (Caen) in Normandy, July 11th 1652; of his adge 23d." On a monument near the altar—

Master Olgwer . Oglawnder—here ye 30th daye of December . ye yer of our lord God m°cccxxx . and for ye wyf of...Sir...Oglawnder.

Epitaphs.—The churchyard is peculiarly rich in noticeable inscriptions, some of them of more than average excellence.

On Mrs. Anne Berry (adapted with a very slight alteration from Mrs. Steele's "Lines on the death of the Rev. James Harvey"—see her "Poems by Eudoxia," 1760, vol. ii., p. 50—though generally ascribed to the Rev. W. Gill, a former curate of Newchurch. These verses were arranged by Dr. Calcott to a beautiful and well-known glee, composed by him "at St. John's, near Ryde, in the Isle of Wight, Thursday, September 24th, 1794")—

"Forgive, blest shade, the tributary tear
That mourns thy exit from a world like this;
Forgive the wish that would have kept thee here,
And stayed thy progress to the seats of bliss.
No more confined to grov'lling scenes of night,
No more a tenant pent in mortal clay,—
We rather now should hail thy glorious flight,
And trace thy journey to the realms of day."

On an adjoining stone is this inscription—

"It must be so—our father Adam's fall
And disobedience brought this lot on all.
All die in him; but hopeless should we be,
Blest revelation! were it not for thee.

"Hail, glorious gospel, heavenly light! whereby
We live with comfort, and with comfort die;
And view beyond this gloomy scene, the tomb,
A life of endless happiness to come."

On Jane, the subject of Legh Richmond's tract, "The Young Cottager" (written by Legh Richmond, or, as some say, by the wife of a clergyman of Cowes)—

"Ye who the power of God delight to trace,
And mark with joy each monument of grace
Tread lightly o'er this grave as ye explore
The short and simple annals of the poor.

"A child reposes underneath this sod,
A child to memory dear, and dear to God;
Rejoice, but shed the sympathetic tear—
Jane, the Young Cottager, lies buried here."

Here is an absurd, and therefore inappropriate, verse on a person whose name it is not necessary to record:—

"When she afflicted was full sore,
Still with patience it she bore,
And oft to the Lord did say,
The Lord have mercy on me, I pray;
And when her glass was fully run,
She closed her eyes without a groan."

An inscription near the entrance porch commemorates one *Robert Stacie*, 20th September 1649; and another near the chancel wall, *Peter Bryers*, butler, and *Mr. Tobye Kemp*, clerk, to Sir John Oglander of Nunwell, knight, 1637.

Bells.—There are four bells of excellent tone, with inscriptions resembling those of Arreton. On one—"†† BENIAMIN SALTER†RICHARD DAW†CHVRCH-WARDENS †† CLEMENT † TOSIEAR † CAST †† MEE IN THE YEAR † 1709†." And on the second—"GOD BE OVR GVYD. 1694."

The *parish registers* date from the year 1547. Here is a curious entry:—"*Burials*, Novemb. y^e^ 20th, 1677. Jowler (alias) John Knight, of Merton, whoe, rather than he would be charitable to himselfe (when he was capacitated), liv'd like a miserable wretch on y^e^ publick charity. He liv'd in a p'petuall slavery through feare and suspicion, and punish'd both his back and belly to fill y^e^ purse. He soe excessively idolized his poore heap of dung y^t^ it was death to him to think of p'ting. He was allwaies soe afraid of want, or y^t^ he should dy as he had allwaies liv'd, a beggar, y^t^ he dar'd not use wh't he had for his oune wellbeing, but liv'd and died with his beloved bagg in his nearest embraces; and at length, y^t^ he might pay his utmost homage both by life and death to his greate god Mammon, he

voluntarily sacrificed himself, and even dyed to save charges. *Left (which was found)* £06, 17s."

The living is a vicarage in the gift of Trinity College, Cambridge.

BRIGHSTONE (or *Brixton*) was anciently included in the parish of Calbourne, but was separated *ante* 1305. The church may have been built by one of the bishops of Winchester, to whose see it has always belonged. Value of plate sold by Edward VI.'s commissioners, £5, 9s. 6d.

The church was carefully restored in 1852 by the late rector, and is now a fine specimen of the old village church. It consists of an Early English chancel, Norman north aisle, Perpendicular side chapel, and low tower. Notice the Decorated arches which separate the south aisle. "Against the westward pier is a shelf for a book, surmounted by a small canopy; this marks out the original position of the font." The tower is low, with a square turret, terminating in a rather singular conical roof, which may at one time have been surmounted by a stone cross. In the progress of the restorations the arcade of Norman columns and arches on the left was found immured in the wall, showing that there had formerly existed a north aisle, now therefore rebuilt. It was also discovered that the floor line of the church had been raised about two feet above its original level. "The chancel floor is laid out in panels formed by the ancient tombstones and encaustic tiles. The tiles within the rails are the gift of Winchester College, in commemoration of Bishop Ken having formerly been rector of this place. The windows are all restored, and filled with stained glass. That in the tower is the gift of the Bishop of Oxford [Wilberforce, afterwards Bishop of Winchester], in remembrance of his ten years' connection with the parish as its rector" (*Rev. E. M'All*).

The church is dedicated to St. Mary. The registers date from 1566. In 1568 occurs a notice of a *Sance Bell*, or Saint's Bell, rung in the belfry when the priest intoned the Sanctus. In 1570 there is an entry for "The Paraphrase of Erasmus upon the whole New Testament, divided into two volumes." In October 1692, three shillings are paid to the ringers for ringing on "the Thanksgiving Day for the reducing of Ireland."

Incumbents.—Among those who have held this pleasant cure have been Hopton Sydenham, D.D., ejected for his lack of Puritanical principles in 1653; Robert Dingley, who died just before the Restoration, 1659; Thomas Ken, afterwards Bishop of Bath and Wells, whose Morning and Evening Hymns will keep his memory ever

green, 1667–69; Noel Digby, who was rector for fifty years, 1780–1830; Samuel Wilberforce, late Bishop of Winchester, 1830–40; and Dr. Moberly, Bishop of Salisbury.

Tombs, etc.—Neither in the churchyard, nor in the church itself, is there any memorial of interest, except a grave-slab, set into the pavement in front of the altar,—"Here lyeth y^e^ body of Mr. Robert Dingley, Minister of this place, 2nd son of Sir John Dingley, Kt., who dyed in y^e^ 40th year of his age, on y^e^ 12th of January 1659."

The living is a rectory (Rev. W. E. Heygate, M.A., favourably known by several works in prose and verse), valued at £696.

Brook.—*St. Mary's*, on rising ground near the shore. The old church was destroyed by fire in 1863, and the present one erected in 1864. It retains the ancient tower; consists of nave and chancel; and has stained-glass windows, and fine marble pulpit (presented by the Misses Bowerman) and handsome font. One of the Bowermans, who for centuries were lords of the manor, probably founded the old church, *ante* 1305, when it is named by the Dean of the Island "a chapel." "When it obtained parochial privileges is uncertain; but within the last hundred years the patronage was claimed by St. John's College, Cambridge, on the ground that it was a chapelry belonging to Freshwater. The dispute, however, terminated in favour of the lord of the manor." There was nothing of interest in the interior of the ancient building. A plain marble tablet recorded the deaths of the *Rev. T. Bowerman*, his *wife*, and his *daughter;* and a handsome tablet, with scutcheon, etc., those of *W. Bowerman*, 1745, his *wife*, 1749, and *daughter Margaret*, 1734.

The living is a rectory (Rev. J. Pellew Gaze), valued at £250, and, according to the *Clergy List*, is in the patronage of Mrs. Gaze.

Calbourne.—*All Saints'*. A church existed here at the time of the Domesday survey, for it is spoken of as "held by Malger," a Saxon, of the Bishop and Convent of Winchester; but the present building does not date farther back than the middle of the thirteenth century. In style it is chiefly Early English, but much modernized in many parts. The transept and porch were erected, and the arrangement of the arches of the nave altered, by Sir R. Simeon, in 1836. The lancet windows of the chancel are good, and copied from the east window in the south aisle. The tower is low (built about 1752), with a wooden spire.

The north transept, rebuilt by Sir R. Simeon, is used as the mortuary chapel of the Simeon family. Architect, Mr. A. F. Livesay.

Tombs, etc.—A *brass* of a knight in armour, with folded hands, and feet resting on a dog, lies in the floor of the south aisle. It was once inlaid in a slab of marble, and formed part of a stately tomb, with columns of Purbeck marble, which ornamented the north aisle. The columns are now inserted in the windows of the Simeon chapel. The effigy is supposed to be that of one of the Montacutes, Earls of Salisbury, to whom the manor belonged, and the date to be about 1360–80.

On a brass plate, set in the wall of the chancel north, is the following inscription:—

"Blest is the just man's memory
Both here and to eternity.
Being dead he yet speaketh.—Heb. xi. 4.

In Memory
of the
Revered, Religious, and Learned Preacher,
Daniel Evance,

Who was born at London, March 2, 1613,
And died at Calbourne, December 27, 1652.

This monument was erected by Hannah, his mournful relict.

Who is sufficient for this thinge,
Wisely to harpe on every stringe,
Rightly divide the word of truth
To babes and men, to age and youth.
One of a thousand where he's found
So learned, pious, and profound—
Earth has but few—there is in heaven
One who answers, '*I can deal even.*'

Daniel Evance. (Anagram), *I can deal even.*"

Incumbents, etc.—The parish registers date from 1599, and open with a memorandum by "Christopher Hamton, Doctor of Divinitie." Since 1616, the date of his decease, there have been sixteen rectors of Calbourne. The living, valued in the *Clergy List* at £668, is in the gift of the Bishop of Winchester.

Carisbrooke.—*St. Mary's*, one of the oldest, and certainly the handsomest, of the island churches, consists of a nave, south aisle, porch, and western tower. The Norman chapel and transept, "both in a state of decay," were pulled down by Sir Francis Walsingham,

when lord of the manor, *temp.* Elizabeth, and 100 marks were given to the inhabitants by way of compensation. "The tower, of very bold and good Perpendicular, is built in stages, embattled with an octagonal turret." A doorway, Early English, is plainly discernible in the north wall. A new east window has been lately inserted. The pulpit, date 1658, belongs to the period of Puritan ascendency.

"The church of the manor" (then called Beaucombe, or Bowcombe) is mentioned in Domesday Book, and the present structure *may* have been founded by William Fitz-Osbert. It formerly belonged to the Cistercian priory which he raised in its immediate neighbourhood, and underwent the same mutations of proprietorship. Its plate was returned by Edward VI.'s commissioners as worth £55, nearly £600 according to the present value of money. Its "two bells" are mentioned as weighing 16 cwt. By Charles I. Carisbrooke was granted to Queen's College, Oxon.

Northwood, Kingston, Newport, and Chale were formerly included in its parochial jurisdiction. Northwood rectory is still presented to by the vicar of Carisbrooke, and Newport has attained independence. Kingston and Chale were long ago severed from it.

Monuments and Epitaphs.—Most of the noticeable tombs and inscriptions in Carisbrooke Church are recorded in a MS. in the British Museum, written in 1719 by one William Pavey, and entitled "Church Notes in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight" (*Addit. MSS.*, 1410). The portion relating to Carisbrooke runs as follows:—

"It has a fine old steeple, octagonal and embattled, with two round turrets on the front. The body of the church is divided like two ridged houses closed—a cross on the west end. Nothing more remarkable on the outside, but, on a buttress at the west end, this date (A.D. 1710). On the steeple, cast on the old lead, this date—1064. The sacristan told me there had been an old bell in the steeple, with a Saxon inscription, and every letter crowned.

"What is remarkable in the church is as follows:—

"Against the pillar in the middle aisle is a board, on the top of which is painted a ship, with this inscription—on the anchor *Spes* (Hope); the card was a book open with this inscription—*Verbum Dei* (God's Word); Death sitting on the bowsprit blowing a trumpet, and behind him a banner flying, with *post mortem* (after death); in the maintop, χ. P. S.; on the foremast, *Fides* (Faith); on the mizzen-mast, *Fama loquitur* (Fame speaks). This is the epitaph:—

"'Here lyeth the body of the right worthy William Keeling, Esq., groom of the chamber to our Sovereign Lord King James, General

for the Hon. East India Adventurers, where he was thrice by them employed, and dying in this Isle, at the age of 42, Anno 1619, Sept. 12, hath this remembrance here fixed by his loving and sorrowful wife, Ann Keeling.

'Fortie and two years in this vessel frail,
On the rough seas of life did Keeling saile;
A merchant fortunate, a captaine bould,
A courtier gracious, yet, alas! not old.
Such wealth, experience, honour, and high praise,
Few winne in twice so many yeares or daies.
But what the world admired, he deemed but dross,
For Christ: without Christ, all his gains but losse;
For him, and his dear love, with verrie cheere,
To the holy land his last course he did steere:
Faith served for sails, the sacred word for card,
Hope was his anchor, glorie his reward;
And thus with gales of grace, by happy venter,
Through straits of death, heaven's harbour he did enter.'

"Under the door that goes to the communion table lies the one half of the effigy down to the waist of a monk or prior of the Convent of Black Monks, called St. Mary of Carisbrooke (made a cell first to Lyra in Normandy, and afterwards to the abbey of Montgrace in Yorkshire, and last of all to the Cistercians of Sheen), in his habit, and with a pastoral staff in his hand. By the largeness of the stroke on the stone, I guess it had been inlaid with brass. The lower half lies before the priory door, which is now a farm-house on the north side of the church. It had about six windows in front, low, and a large porch. Near at hand were their barns and brew-house. [The two portions have recently been joined.]

"Within a niche in the north wall kneels (as the sacristan told me) the Lady Wadham, a small figure,—whether very beautifully cut cannot be discovered, for it is white-washed over; and on each side of her three poor cripples, as a remembrancer of her—she having founded an hospital for poor old impotent people. [She was the wife of Sir Nicholas Wadham, governor of the island, and aunt of Queen Jane Seymour.]

"Over the niche is a cherub holding a book open, with these letters raised—ikr.

"On the south side of the church is a handsome mural monument, the chief part whereof is gray, but where the inscription is it is black marble, on which is engraven this epitaph:"—[To the memory of Sir W. Stephens, Kt., some years Lieut.-Gov. of the island, d. Oct. 26, 1697—also his wife, his brother Henry, and four children.]

In addition to "the remarkable things" recorded by Mr. Pavey,

the traveller will notice tablets to the memory of *Mary*, daughter of *Sir Richard Newdegate;* to *Caroline Kilderbee*, a descendant of Sir William de Horsey, warden of the island, *temp.* Henry II. (a lapidary's fiction?); and *Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Dennie, C.B.*, who served at Ghuznee and Bamian, and fell at Jelalabad.

In the church-yard notice the punning epitaph on *Charles Dixon*, a farrier and blacksmith. (It also occurs in Felpham Church, Sussex; at Bothwell, in Lanarkshire; and is said to be the composition of the poet Hayley):—

> "My sledge and hammer lie reclined,
> My bellows too have lost their wind;
> My fire's extinct, my forge decayed,
> My vice all in the dust is laid;
> My coal is spent, my iron gone,
> My last nail's driven, my work is done."

Incumbents, Registers, etc.—The parish registers date from 1578. Some of the entries are curious. We quote three: "King James landed at y^e^ Cows, and saw a muster at Hony Hill, and dined at the Castle, and saw in the afternoon most of the Iland, with Prince Charles his sonne, and the West Medeane, and hunted in the park, killed a bocke, and so departed again to Bowly [Beaulieu], the 2 of August, Ann. Dom. 1609, being Wednesday."—"Prince Charles landed at the Cows, and came into the forest, and saw a skirmish there, and went from thence to Alvington Down, and looked over the Iland, and came to the castle, and so thence to Newport, where he dined at Mr. James' house, and so his grace departed to Cows, and tooke ship, and went to Portsmouth, in the year 1618, the 27th of August, being Thursday."—"The 6 day of September, King Charles went from the Castell to treat, and the least day of November he went from Newport to Hurste Castell to prison, carried away by to [two] troopes of horse."

Alexander Ross was vicar of Carisbrooke from 1634 to 1650. He was a native of Aberdeen, a Doctor of Divinity, Chaplain in Ordinary to Charles I. prior to the commencement of the civil war, and afterwards master of the Free School at Southampton (*Wood, Athenæ Oxon.*). He wrote *Pansebeia*, a continuation of Sir Walter Raleigh's "History of the World;" *Virgilius Evangelizans*, and other devotional works. Butler, in his *Hudibras*, alludes to him sarcastically—

> "There was an ancient sage philosopher
> Who had read Alexander Ross over."

He died, ætat. 64, in 1654.

Carisbrooke is famous for its fine peal of bells, the sweet chimes of which are welcome sounds to all the country side. They have been commemorated in graceful verse by Miss Bessie Rayner Parkes (Madame Belloc).

The living is a vicarage, valued at £900. It is held by the Rev. E. B. James, who has introduced into his parish a very complete organization.

CHALE.—*St. Andrew's* was built by Hugh de Vernun, in the reign of Henry I. It consists of a nave, chancel, and south aisle, divided by four Trans. Norman arches, with a chapel at the east end. The tower is a good specimen of Perpendicular, resembling in many respects that of Carisbrooke, and apparently designed by the same builder.

Monuments, Epitaphs, etc.—In the west wall of the chancel is a tablet with the following inscription:—"Patri suo charissimo et matri dilectissimæ *Gulielmo* et *Annæ Legg* de Atherfield in hac insula parentibus optimis possimis meritissimis qui obdormiverunt in Domino: ille Anno Dom. 1688, illa Anno Dom. 1681. Gulielmus Legg filius natu maximus rector de Gretham prope Petersfield in comitatu Southton mærens posuit: Anno Dom. 1704.

"Pro magnis meritis, et dulci munere vitæ:
Vobis cum lacrymis sola sepulcra loco."

[To his very dear father and beloved mother, William and Anne Legg, of Atherfield, in this island, his most excellent parents, who have long slept in the Lord; he in 1688, she in 1681. William Legg, their eldest son, rector of Gretham, near Petersfield, in the county of Southampton, lamenting, placed this stone, A.D. 1704. For your great deserts and sweet gift of life, to ye with tears I place these solitary tombs.]

Also a memorial to *Richard Burleigh*, rector of Chale, 1734, and his wife Lydia, 1717; another, a handsome and massive monument in marble, surmounted with an escutcheon supported by two soldiers, to *Major-General Sir Henry Worsley, G.C.B.*, of the Bengal army, ætat. 73, 17th January 1841.

The churchyard is bare, bleak, and melancholy, with many sad witnesses to the fatal power of the sea which it lies so near. The unfortunate men, women, and children who perished in the wreck of the *Clarendon*, in the neighbouring bay, are, most of them, here interred. One tombstone preserves the names of *Walter Maynard*

Pemberton, ætat. 48, and his daughter Anne, ætat. 11, "who perished together in the wreck of the ship *Clarendon*, in Chale Bay, on 11th October 1836." Another is sacred to the memory of *Captain Samuel Walker*, ætat. 34, wrecked on the same occasion, "with twelve of the crew, and all the passengers, eleven in number;" and a third *Edmund Cosens*, ætat. 17. There are other memorials of deaths at sea.

A fragment of an old stone coffin, and some remains of a mural painting over the vestry door, with the words, "And Jacob awaked out of his sleep," are all else that is noticeable at Chale.

The parish registers date from 1588. The living is a rectory, valued at £334.

Cowes, West.—*St. Mary's* was built in 1653, but not consecrated until 1662. Enlarged and improved in 1811 by G. Ward, Esq., of Northwood Park; and the west tower, used as the Ward mortuary chapel, was then erected from the designs of Nash the architect. Rebuilt in 1867–8, and now consists of a nave, aisles, chancel, and porch. The exterior is boldly planned; the details belong to Decorated Gothic. The interior is enriched with red and white birch lining. Four well-proportioned arches, on pillars of Portland stone, divide the nave from either aisle. The chancel is apsidal, with organ-chamber on one side, and vestries on the other. The west end of the church is connected with the Ward Tower by a handsome arch. The stained-glass windows are of superior design and execution. There are seats for nearly 1000 persons. Cost £6000.

The Church of the *Holy Trinity* was built in 1831–2, and consecrated June 21st in the latter year. Mrs. Goodwin of West Cowes defrayed the cost, provided the site, and endowed it with £1000 in the 3½ per cent. consols. The white brick exterior, with stone mullions and window-cases, the long pointed windows, and general Early English character, render it an attractive edifice. The architect was Mr. Bramble of Portsmouth. A new chancel has since been erected.

West Cowes Chapel is a vicarage, valued at £165. *Holy Trinity* is also a vicarage, valued at £250, in the gift of Lieutenant-Colonel Lloyd.

Freshwater Church, dedicated to All Saints, consists of a nave, chancel, north and south aisles (each with chapels), and square embattled tower. In the latter there is a lofty pointed arch, with a window which lights the west end of the church. The general char-

FRESHWATER CHURCH.

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acter of the architecture is Trans. Norman. The whole has recently been restored at a cost of £3000.

The living of Freshwater was one of the six bestowed on the Abbey of Lire by William Fitz-Osbert. Its patronage in due course fell to the Crown, and James I. bestowed it upon William, Bishop of Lincoln, his Keeper of the Great Seal. The bishop, in 1623, presented the advowson to "the master, fellows, and scholars of St. John's College, Cambridge."

Monuments and Epitaphs.—A richly-decorated Norman arch in the north chapel enshrines a slab on which there *has been* a brass effigy. "This is supposed to have been the tomb of the founder of the church. There is a tradition that towards the end of the last century, upon opening this tomb, the skull of the person buried was found placed between his legs, from whence it is inferred that he had been beheaded; and it is also said that the brass, which is now missing, described the person to have been one of the lords of the manor of Afton" (*Tomkins*).

The rood-screen is of poor design; it is the only one in the island.

In the chancel, north side, close to the altar, is a curious memorial:—

"MEMORIÆ SACRUM.

The most vertuous Mrs. Anne Toppe, Daughter of Mr. Thomas Cardell, sometime of the Privy Chamber to Queen Elizabeth, and Wife to Mr. John Toppe of Wiltshire. In her widdowhood by a memorable providence preserved out of the flames of the Irish rebellion. On the 11th of September 1648, and 71st year of her age, expired under the roof of her nearest kinsman, then Rector of this place, to his unspeakable loss and grief.

"....repente
Sublatam ex oculis, prosequitur lacrimis
Nepos mœstissimus, CARDELLUS GOODMAN.

"If Beauty, Grace, or Vertue's Store
Might have discharged Nature's Score;
If Wit and Language, finely spent,
Or Musick, could the Fates have bent,
Her soul and body had been one
Until the Resurrection,
And then to Heaven (if any might)
Without a Change have taken flight.
The Prophet 'twixt his wheel of fire
Might faster mount, but not get higher
Than she was wont, who, righteous soule,
In Flames of Zeal did upwards rowle.

As Enoch then in Sacred Story
Made but a Step from Earth to Glory,
She needed only a remove
Whose conversation was above.

Scribendi certus, Dolendi vix terminus."

On the south side of the chancel are tablets to the *Rev. Benjamin Holmes, B.D.*, and *Robert Hicks* of Afton. Also to *William Michell, Esq.*, of Norton, and his two daughters.

The living, a rectory, one of the richest in the island, is valued at £710 per annum; in the patronage of St. John's College, Cambridge. It has been held by Dr. Hooke, the father of the well-known natural philosopher, and by Dr. Wood (afterwards Dean of Ely), the eminent mathematician.

GATCOMBE.—*St. Olave* consists of a nave and chancel, separated by an Early English arch, and a square embattled tower in the Perpendicular style. A new chancel was added in 1865. The church may have been founded by one of the De Lisles, lords of the manor. A recess in the west wall of the chancel contains an effigy in oak of a knight clothed in chain mail, his feet resting on a heraldic animal, a cherub with outstretched wings at his head. The villagers were wont to call it "the saint," but it probably commemorates a member of the Estur or De Lisle families, perhaps the founder of the church.

A small annual pension, in lieu of personal service, is paid by the rector of Gatcombe in support of the chapelry of St. Radigund at Whitwell, formerly a chapelry in connection with the manor of Gatcombe (*Cantuaria Manerii de Gatcombe*).

The living, a rectory, is valued at £646.

GODSHILL.—*All Saints'*, "a spacious cruciform edifice, with a singular bell-turret on the south gable," consists of a chancel, nave, cross aisles, and tower. From its architecture it is obviously of ancient foundation, and a portion of the present edifice may have stood upon the sacred hill when Fitz-Osbert gave it to the Abbey of Lire. Most of the building, however, is Trans. Norman. Its wealth was considerable, from the extent of the adjacent demesnes, and we read that in 1404 it was assessed at 100 marks yearly. When Edward VI.'s commissioners sold the superfluous plate, it realized not less than £54, 2s. 7d. The advowson was presented, in 1623, to Queen's College, Oxon, by Charles I.

Monuments.—The picturesque interior of this fine church is adorned by several stately memorials of the dead. Most noticeable is the altar-tomb, beneath an elaborately decorated arch-canopy of the latest Gothic, of *Sir John Leigh*, and his wife *Mary*, who died *temp.* Henry VIII. The tomb bears no inscription, but is richly adorned with rosettes and scutcheons. Observe, also, the monument of *Sir James Worsley* and his wife *Joan*, daughter of the said Sir John Leigh, legendless, but bearing the shields of the families of Worsley, Leigh, Hacket, and Standish. Note, too, the fine monument to their son, *Richard Worsley, Esq.*, with the following laboured inscription in Latin :—

"Richardo Worsley armigero nuper Insulæ Vectis præfecto, unico fratri suo, filio primogenito Jacobi Worsley de Worsley Hall in provincia Lancastriæ oriundi, equitis aurati, ejusdem item insulæ olim præfecti, ex Auna filia Johannis Ley, equitis aurati, apud Appledercombe in eadem insula nata, Johannis Worsley armiger posuit.

"En pia Worselei lapis hic tegit ossa Richardi,
Vectis præfectum quem gemit ora suum.
Et patriæ charus dum vixit, et utilis idem,
Mortuus in patria nunc tumulatur humo.
Quem pater adversa materq. aspectat in urna,
Matris et in medio spectat uterq. parens.
Ad latus hic nati pueri duo, sorte perempti
Præpropera, infesti pulveris igne jacent.
Felices omnes, vel quos sors dira coegit,
Tristia funestes claudere fata rogis.
Appledercombus genuit rapuitq. sepulcrum
Ossa habet: Hinc animas vexit ad astra Deus.

"Obiit idem Richardus 12 die Maii A. Dm. 1565. Johannes et Georgius filii dicti Richardi, obierunt 6 die Septembris A. Dm. 1567."

[*Englished:*—

This sacred stone covers the dust of Richard Worsley, whom Captain of the Wight his shores lament. While he lived he was both beloved by and useful to his country; now in death he is interred in her bosom. His father and his mother regard him from confronting urns, and between them look forth both parents of his mother. Here at his side lie his two children, snatched away by an untimely fate, by the fire of the fatal dust. But happy all, though a dread destiny has constrained them to shut up the gloomy lots in the mournful funeral urns! Appuldurcombe begat them, and snatched them away,—the tomb holds their ashes. Hence God has carried their souls to the stars.

The said Richard died 12th May 1565. John and George, his sons, 6th Sept. 1567.

To Richard Worsley, gentleman, formerly Captain of the Isle of Wight, his only brother, eldest son of James Worsley, of Worsley Hall, in the county of Lancashire, knight, also formerly Captain of this island, by Anne, daughter of John Leigh, knight, born at Appuldurcombe in the same island, John Worsley, gentleman, has raised this stone.]

A handsome monument was erected in 1822 to the memory of *Sir Richard Worsley:*—

"The Right Hon. Sir Richard Worsley, Bart., who was comptroller of the household, a privy councillor, and governor of the Isle of Wight, and who had been for some time the minister plenipotentiary at Venice, died August 8, 1805, aged 54, without issue, leaving his niece, Henrietta Anna Maria Charlotte, daughter of the Hon. Jonathan Bridgeman Simpson, of Babeworthy, in the county of Nottingham, his heiress. He had travelled a good deal abroad, particularly in the Levant; and the Museum Worsleianum, as well as his collection of paintings and sculptures at Appuldurcombe Park, affords a striking proof of his taste for the fine arts. The above-named Henrietta, his niece, married the Hon. Charles Anderson Pelham, of Brocklesby, in the county of Lincoln, who considered it as a duty to erect this monument to his memory."

Numerous other brasses, tablets, and tombs will arrest the attention of the stranger. The figures and inscriptions, in most instances, have been ruthlessly stripped off or effaced; but the following detailed account from *Sir John Oglander's MSS.* (A.D. 1635), affords some clue to their identity:—

"In the south aisle, next below the chancel, are two fair stones, under whom are buried the bodies of the Frys; in the stones are pictures of brass, but the inscriptions are stolen away.

"In the south chancel, on a fair stone, is this inscription:—'Hic jacet Johes Frye, filius Ric. Frye et Margaritæ uxoris suæ, qui obiit 11 die January, Anno Dom. 1512, cujus animæ propitietur Deus. Amen.'

"Those Frys were an ancient family, and farmers of Appledercombe, after it was taken away from the abbey of Montes Burgy in France.

"In the south cross is buried one of the Hacketts, with this inscription:—'Pray for the soul of William Hackett, Esq., on whose soul Jesus have mercy. Amen.'

"In this aisle the owners of Appledercombe were buried, as being partly founded by the priors thereof. Where one prior is buried, his portraiture on brass is on a stone.

"Between the two chancels there is a very fair tomb, in which is buried Sir John Leigh and Mary his wife, the daughter and heir of John Hackett, Esq. It is the fairest tomb in our island; in which tomb the said Mary, wife of Sir John Leigh, lieth in her coat of armour, embellished with Hackett's arms, her father, and Leigh's, her husband.

"In the north chancel, in the north side of the wall, is the tomb of Sir James Worsley, without any inscription, only he is there pictured kneeling; erected by his wife.

"Under a fair stone a little below in the same aisle, lieth buried the Lady Worsley, the widow of Sir James, who died a very old woman. There were her arms and an inscription in brass on her tomb, but now defaced.

"In the south wall of the south chancel is the tomb of Richard Worsley, son and heir of Sir James.

"In the north chancel are many fair stones that heretofore have had both portraitures and inscriptions on them in brass; under whom are interred the bodies of the De Hegnoes, who were Lords of Stenbury and Whitwell, an ancient family; many of them were knights of good account: for all Whitwell buried in Godshill Church till Queen Elizabeth's reign, at what time they had liberty to bury there.

"Also in this church lieth buried many of the De Awlas, or Halls, men of good rank and quality, many of them knights; but of them, and many more that have been buried, there now appeareth no mark of antiquity.

"In the south chancel, about the midst, lieth the body of John Worsley, coffined in lead, who died in London; next to him lieth the body of his son, Mr. Thomas Worsley, a brave scholar, and a plain but worthy gentleman, and a most plentiful housekeeper.

"Next to him in the same chancel lieth the body of his son and heir, Sir Richard Worsley, knight and baronet, a man of worth, learning, and judgment. He died of the small-pox in the 32nd year of his age, 1620, or thereabouts.

"Next to him, just by the side of Sir John Leigh's tomb, lieth the body of Ann Worsley, daughter of Sir Richard Worsley, and wife to one Sir John Leigh. She was one of the handsomest women that ever the island bred.

"Nearer to Mr. Richard Worsley's tomb lieth the body of Mr. Thomas Worsley's wife, who was married to one Sir Richard White, a soldier and follower of Henry, Earl of Southampton. She was Mr. St. John's daughter, of Ffarley in Hampshire.

"In the church porch there is on one side a half-obliterated tablet with a Latin inscription, which is translated upon a tablet fixed to the opposite wall:—

'Ecce cumbat Gardi corpus mortale Richardi
Hoc tumulo, verum spiritus astra tenet.
Cujus dona scholis largita et munera egenis
Annua, perpetuo non peritura manent.
Inclyta si pareret multos hæc insula tales,
Qualem jam tandem protulit nuncce virum
Tunc bene pauperibus, meliusq. scholaribus esset,
Sub pede quos pressos quisq. jacere sinit.

'Dictus Richardus Gard, sepultus fuit 5 die Februarii 1617.'"

[*Translation:*—

Here lies the mortal part of Richard Gard,
While his freed spirit meets with heaven's reward;
His gifts endowed the schools, the needy raised,
And by the latest memory will be praised.
And may our isle be filled with such a name,
And be like him whom virtue clothed with fame;
Blest with the poor, the scholar too was blest,
Through such a donor that is gone to rest.]

This Richard Gard appears to have been an unscrupulous French refugee, by no means deserving of so warm an eulogium.

The parish registers date from 1558. Dr. Cole, Dean of St. Paul's, was born at Godshill. (See *post.*)

The large painting of "Daniel in the Den of Lions" is a copy of the famous picture by Rubens. It came from Sir Richard Worsley's collection at Appuldurcombe.

The living is a vicarage, valued at £250 per annum, and in the gift of Queen's College, Oxon.

St. Helen's church, dedicated to the saint whose name it bears, is comparatively a new erection, having first been built in 1718–19, and consecrated by Sir Jonathan Trelawney on the 27th of June 1719, the same day that St. Thomas's, Ryde, was consecrated; and *rebuilt*, all but the chancel, in 1830.

The old church of St. Helen's stood upon St. Helen's Spit, the northern extremity of Brading Haven, until the encroachments of the sea compelled its removal. The tower, however, having been

found useful as a sea-mark, was faced with brick, repaired, and strengthened, and still occupies its original position. The monks of the neighbouring priory built the ancient church, and supplied its pulpit until the canon law compelled vicars to be resident. But even then, so small and poor was the parish, the bishop permitted mass to be celebrated and the sacraments administered by the Prior of St. Helen's. At the dissolution of religious houses the advowson of the vicarage, as well as the priory, was bestowed upon Eton College.

The new church is a small, uninteresting building, with chancel, transept, and low tower. There are sittings for 297 persons, 129 of which are free. "Over the altar is a well-executed painting of a cross surrounded by a glory" (*Barber*). The transept windows are rather handsome.

Monuments.—The only noticeable things in the interior are the memorials to the Grose family: one to *Sir Nash Grose, Knt.*, a Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench, of whom Lord Campbell says, he always showed his wisdom by being right when everybody else was in the wrong—died, 1814; and another to his son, *Captain Edward Grose*, of the Guards, killed at Waterloo, 1815.

Incumbents, Registers, etc.—The registers date from 1653. Several entries relate to the burials of seamen "washed on shore," arising from the fact that during the French convulsions of 1798–1815, when Spithead was crowded with men-of-war, those who died on board were sewn up in their hammocks, and incontinently committed to the deep. We quote one or two passages:—"*Mem.* The bishop of this diocese, Sir Jonathan Trelawney, came over from Gosport early on y^e^ 27th of June 1719, and the same morning consecrated the church of St. Helen's (which was built on new ground, the church as it stood before was too much expos'd to y^e^ wash of the sea); and presently after it, on y^e^ same day, he consecrated alsoe y^e^ chappel of Ride in this parish, built by Mr. Player, at whose house in Ride he din'd, and went over again the same day."—"The remains of a person, found on the shore in a hammock, were deposited in y^e^ old churchyard, Feb. 17, 1810."—"Ten persons were unfortunately drowned in going from Portsmouth to *H.M.S. Leviathan*, Feb. 18, 1804."

The living is a vicarage, in the gift of Eton College, valued at £121.

KINGSTON.—*St. Paul's*, a small and totally uninteresting edifice, consisting of nave and chancel, Early English, was probably founded by one of the De Kingstons, lords of the manor. Observe, on the

south wall, inserted in a stone slab, a brass, date 1436:—"Mr. Rychard Mewys, whych decessd the iii. day of March, in the yere of o^{r} Lord God, m°cccc°. and xxxb." The effigies represent a knight armed, three children, and a shield.

The living is a rectory, valued at £265.

St. Lawrence Church, dedicated to the saint of that name, is one of the smallest of our English churches—25 feet 4¾ inches long, 11 feet ¼ inch broad, and 11 feet 4¼ inches in height. The grave-yard is 90 feet long by 42 feet wide. It was probably founded by one of the De Aulas, lords of the manor, about the reign of Henry I., and appears to have been called "The Church of the Wath" (or Cliff). From the De Aulas, the manor and the advowson of the rectory passed to the Russells; then the Hacketts; next the Leighs; and afterwards into the Worsley family. The church originally was only 20 feet long, 11 wide, and 6 in height, but was enlarged by the late Earl of Yarborough, who added the chancel. The bell formerly belonged to the priory at Appuldurcombe, where it did duty as the dinner-bell.

The *New Church*, in the Early English style, was designed by the late Sir G. G. Scott, and built in 1876–8. The foundation-stone was laid in May 1876 by Mrs. Spencer Smith.

The living is a rectory, valued at £106 per annum.

Mottistone.—*St. Peter and St. Paul* is a quaint little church, of the Decorated period, consisting of a nave, tower, chancel, and aisle. "The two former appear the oldest portions, and were probably erected before the reign of Edward IV., in whose time the aisle was perhaps built as a chancel. This supposition is derived from the form of the pointed window at the east end of that aisle, as well as from the carved rose that decorates one of the terminations of its label. The *present* chancel seems to have been added about the time of Henry VIII.; the window at its east end being square-headed, as are all the other windows in the building, with the exception of one which is very obtusely pointed. The arches in the body are tolerably high-pointed, and supported by polygonal columns; those between the chancel and aisle are obtuse, the columns clustered and fluted, and were probably substituted, at the erection of this part of the structure, for the original south wall of the aisle, or first chancel" (*Barber*).

Observe in the interior a very massive old altar-tomb, the name

and date entirely obliterated, but probably for one of the Chyke or Cheke family, formerly lords of the manor. Also, tablets to *Sir Richard Bassett*, *James White Bassett*, and *Richard Bassett*, his son.

Close to the north gate is a time-defaced and weather-beaten pair of stocks—obsolete long years ago.

The church was restored in 1864, at the expense of Mr. Seely of Brook House. The chancel roof is of cedar-wood.

NEWCHURCH.—*All Saints'*, one of the plainest churches in the Isle of Wight, consists of nave, chancel, north and south aisles, and tower, —erected about the beginning of the thirteenth century, on the site of an older building, granted to the Abbey of Lire by William Fitz-Osbert. It afterwards came into the possession of the Abbey of Beaulieu, and on the dissolution of that religious house, was bestowed by Henry VIII. on the Bishop of Bristol (now Gloucester and Bristol).

Monuments, etc.—A good tablet to *Lieut.-Gen. Maurice Bocland*, twice M.P. for Yarmouth, died 1765; a memorial to *W. Thatcher*, died 1776; another to *W. Bowles*, died 1748; and in the chapel in the north aisle, eight inscriptions for different members of the *Dillington* family (1674–1749).

Registers and Incumbents.—The registers date from 1582. We quote a few entries: "*May 29, 1687.*—Received of Sir Rob^{t} Dillington, Bartt., the sume of fifty shillings, being one moyety of five pounds for Sir Robert his father, not buryd in woollen,—the other 50s. p^{d} to Mr. David Urry, informer."—"Paid William Callaway for ringing beer, when King George came to England, and when he was crowned, Sept. and Oct. 1714."—"At 20 m. before 3, on the morning of the 30th day of November 1811, was felt at Portsmouth, in Ryde, and other parts of the Isle of Wight, and in many other places on the Hampshire and Sussex coast, a very smart shock of an earthquake."

> "When these my records I reflecting read,
> I find what numerous ills these births succeed,
> What powerful griefs the nuptial ties attend,
> With what regrets these painful journeys end;
> When from the cradle to the grave I look,
> *This* I conceive to be a melancholy book."

Newchurch formerly included the chapelries of Ryde and Ventnor, and the district churches of Holy Trinity and St. James, Ryde, and St. Peter, Haven Street. The living is a vicarage, valued at £328.

NEWPORT. — *St. Thomas à Becket.* This ancient church was founded about 1180 (between 1173 and 1184) by Richard de Redvers, who covenanted with the priory of Carisbrooke that two monks should officiate there daily on payment to the priory of two marks per annum, and with the proviso that on high festivals the townsmen should continue to worship in the mother-church of Carisbrooke. The men of Newport laboured zealously on the sacred edifice, each *guild*, or trade, contributing according to its handicraft; and their distinguishing signs were accordingly wrought in stone upon the walls. It remained a chapelry of Carisbrooke until the late vicar consented to its separation. The townsmen, however, claimed the right of appointing their own minister, who at first was supported by voluntary contributions, and at a later period by a town-rate. During the latter part of Charles I.'s reign, and the Commonwealth, they were engaged in constant endeavours to render the church parochial, and the *Journals of the Houses of Parliament*, from 1640 to 1660, contain numerous proofs of their energetic exertions. Their proceedings are also detailed with curious minuteness in the books of the corporation, which record the frequent presentation of petitions, couched in Puritanic phrase, to the House of Commons. We must content ourselves with a single illustration (February 1, 1640) :—

"*The humble petition of the Maior and Burgesses, and other the chiefe inhabitants of the Burrough of Newport, in the Isle of Wight.*

"Sheweth,

"1. That the said Burrough is a Corporation, a port Towne, and auntient Markett Towne, w^{ch} serveth the whole Isle of Wight. Seated in the hart of the Island, consisting of about three thousand soules there in habitant, adourned wth a very convenient Church lately enlarged, and well-fitted, and bewtified by the greate expense of the Inhabitants.

"2. That the said Church being called St. Thomas Chappell is but a Chappell of Ease unto the p'ish of Carisbrooke, w^{ch} is a greater p'ish, the viccarage thereof, wth the other profitts thereto belonging, being reputed to be worth twoe hundred pounds at the least, and the obventions, oblations, and proffitts due to the Vicar, out of Newport, xx^{li} pound, or thereabouts, whereof Mr. Alexander Rosse, the nowe Incumbent (liveing out of the Island), alloweth but ten pounds p^{r} annum to the nowe curate, namely, Mr. William Harby, Master of Arts, an able and laborious preacher, and a man of honest conversa-

tion, whoe for the time of his abode in Newport, being about twelve yeares, hath not omitted preaching there on any Saboth day (unless by sickness or other necessity he hath been p'vented).

"3. That the cure of soules in Newport hath been but meanly served in times past, and like enough would be soe nowe, did not the Inhabitants, by a voluntary benevolence to the said Mr. Harby, make an addition to his meanes to keepe him wth them. And it is greatly feared that in time to come the Inhabitants may suffer much want of spirituall foode for their soules—if their preachers needes be not augmented.

"Y^{r} Pet^{rs} therefore most humbly pray that the p'misses may be taken into y^{r} ho^{ble} and pious consideration. And that y^{t} may be enacted and settled by Parliam^{t}, if that high and ho^{ble} house think it convenient, that the said Burrough of Newport may be a distinct p'ish of ytself. And that y^{or} Pet^{rs} and their successors may have the p'sentation of the parson thereof for ever, w^{ch}, if it may be obteyned, y^{r} Pet^{rs} (albeit the Towne is very poore, and they have ben at extraordinarie charge already unto the Church), yet for the advancem^{t} of preaching the word of God in the said Burrough, they are very willing that it be also enacted that twelve pence of every pound of the yearly rents of the houses and lands wthin the said Burrough (w^{ch} it is considered will amount to a competency) shall be raysed for an addition of means to the parson of the said Burrough for perpetuity, w^{ch} y^{or} Pet^{rs} conceive will be a greate worke of piety, and must tend to the glory of Almighty God, the greate comfort of the soules of his people in the said Burrough inhabiting and thither resorting, ffor w^{ch} y^{or} Pet^{rs} shall ever be bound to thankfulness."

The legislature duly considered these petitions, appointed committees, introduced bills to accomplish the wishes of the inhabitants, and finally, on the 30th March 1657, we meet with the following record: "A bill for raising maintenance for the minister of Newport, in the Isle of Wight, was this day read the third time, and, upon the question, passed. *Ordered*, that the Lord Protector's consent be desired to this bill."

The Lord Protector's consent was given June 9, 1657, but Newport nevertheless remained dependent upon Carisbrooke for two centuries later.

The church, it is said, when Newport was burned by the French in 1377, suffered considerably. When pulled down in 1854, signs of fire were visible on many stones. The plague broke out in Newport in

1580 with such severity that the grave-yard at Carisbrooke was unable to contain the dead. License, therefore, was granted to the townsmen to form a cemetery in connection with their own church.

A new and singularly carved pulpit of oak was bestowed on the church by Stephen March, a wealthy burgess of Newport, in 1631. It was the work of an artist named *Caper* (whose symbol, a goat, is upon it), and now adorns the *new* church.

A graphic description of the ancient edifice is given in a MS. in the British Museum, from which we have already quoted—"Church Notes in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight," by one William Pavey, March 1718–19. (See *Carisbrooke.*) As it fully records the monuments it contained, most of which are now preserved in the *new* church, the reader may not be displeased to have it placed before him *in extenso*:—

"The church is like, at first view, three ridged houses joined, embattled on the top. On the upper part are five windows between six leaden spouts, and underneath four large windows, with a large porch, which is the grand entrance, in the middle of the south side. The tower is pretty lofty, and embattled with four pinnacles.

"Within the church is one of the most curious carved *pulpits* that I ever saw, the work of one Thomas Caper (who now lies buried in Salisbury), An°. Dm. 1630, in which year the seats likewise were erected. It was a donation of one (Stephen) March, whose crest is against the back of the pulpit.* As for the carving, round the sounding-board of it is this inscription in neat, wrought, and gilded letters: '*Cry aloud and spare not; lift up thy voice like a trumpet.*' The pulpit is divided into two rows of bas-relief carved images. On the uppermost row are curiously described the four Cardinal Virtues and the three Graces, with their types; and on the lower rank the seven liberal sciences—namely, Grammatica, Dialectica, Rhetorica, Musica, Arithmetica, Geometria, and Astronomia, with the several symbols and characteristics of each science. 'Tis a true church militant, for there is a cannon placed to defend the church now it is in danger.† Nothing more remarkable in it, but a neat, light gray marble font. [This is now in the new building, and bears an inscription—'*The givet of Anne Keith, Widow*, 1637.']

"Underneath the step that goes up to the altar is the vault wherein

* This is an error. The *goat* is evidently a symbol of the artist's name (*Caper*).

† Every parish in the island was originally bound to provide and maintain a small cannon.

is interred the *Lady Elizabeth*, daughter to King Charles I.; and this is the inscription, as Mr. John Gilbert, jun., told me :—

'THE LADY ELIZABETH, DAUGHTER TO KING CHARLES THE 1ST, SEPT. 8, MDCL.'

"Against the south wall is the famed tomb of Sir Edward Horsey, Knt., who was often sent thither in Henry VIII.'s time, to defend it from any sudden invasion from France. It is a curious marble monument, on which lies his effigy at length, armed at all points complete, with his hands held up, and joined in a praying manner, and on an oval piece of black marble this epitaph :—

"'Edvardus qvi miles erat fortissimvs Horsey.
Vectis erat præses, constans terraq. mariq.
Magnanimvs placidæ sub pacis nomine fortis
Jvstitiæ Cvltor quam fidvs amicvs amico
Favtor Evangelii delectvs Principe vixit
Mvnificvs Popvlo mvltvm delectvs ab omni
Vixit et vt sancte sic stamina sancte peregit.
Qvi ob 23 die Marcii,
Anno Domini 1582.'

[Edward Horsey, who was a most gallant knight, was governor of the Wight,—firm and magnanimous both at sea and on land,—and brave, though with the appearance of great gentleness; a lover of justice, and a faithful friend. A confessor of the gospel, he lived beloved by his prince; and, liberal-handed, was much affected by the people. Died, 23rd March 1582.]

"This is all that is worth notice in the church.

"In the churchyard, which is about a quarter of a mile west of the church, neatly walled in, are the following remarkable inscriptions :—

"'Here lyeth the body of Mastr George Shergold, late minister of Newport, who, during sixteen years in discharge of his office, strictly observed the true discipline of the Church of England, disliking that dead bodies should be buried in God's house, appointed to be interred in this place. He dyed universally lamented and esteemed, January 23, 1707.'

[This tablet was afterwards removed, and on its reverse was engraved a simple inscription* relative to the burial-place of the Princess Elizabeth (Oct. 1793). It was then placed on the stone which covered her vault. See *ante*, p. 83.]

* "Underneath, in a lead coffin, rest ye remains of Elizabeth, second daughter of King Charles ye First. Obiit Sept. 8, 1650, ætat. 14."

"On a head-stone on the south side of the churchyard, this :—

"'Here lyeth ye body of John Smith, who departed this life ye 12th day of August, in ye year of our Lord 1712, in ye 24th year of his age.

Stay, gentle reader, spend a tear
Upon ye dust yt sleepeth here ;
And whilst thou read'st ye state of me,
Think on ye glass yt runs for thee.'

"On a brass plate on a fine raised tomb near ye middle of ye church-yard :—

"'Here is laid ye body of Mr. John Stanner, who departed this life ye 26th of March 1713, in ye 65th year of his age : a man exemplary for piety, and forward in works of charity, especially worthy of a good and lasting (*sic*) for an act of gratitude more than common, as in return for a seasonable (tho' noe great) benefaction, he bequeathed ye greatest share of his estate (gotten by an honest industry) to come to ye great-grand-children of that his benefactor.

"'See by this how ye bread that a man may have cast upon ye waves, cometh to be again found after many days.'

"On another stone in the north part of the church-yard, exactly transcribed :—

"'Johes Gilbert, de Pan, Geñ. : repentina morte, xxx. Julii, M.D.C.XC.VI.

'ΕΥΠΟΤΜΟΤΕΡΟΣ ΔΙΑ ΤΟΥΤΟ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΚΟΝ
ΑΠΕΙΓΑΤΟΣ ΕΤΕΛΕΥΤΗΕΝ.

'Subita morte modo non improvisa,
Felicius transitur ad portum.'

[By a sudden death, not unprepared for, he is borne more happily to the haven.]

"This is all I could gather during my short stay here" (*Addit. MSS.*, 14,296).

While on the subject of epitaphs and monuments, we may add that in the old churchyard is a tombstone to the memory of Lieutenant Shore and his children, drowned in the wreck of the *Clarendon*, in Chale Bay.

The complete decay of the old church rendering necessary its demolition or thorough repair, it was resolved, in 1853–4, to erect on its site a new and more elegant edifice, which should be worthy of the metropolis of the island, and a graceful specimen of modern ecclesiastical architecture. Funds were readily provided by the townsmen, by the gentry of the island, largely assisted by the Queen

and the Prince Consort, and the new building was begun under the most cheering auspices. Mr. Daukes was selected as the architect; the builders were Messrs. Dashwood of Ryde; and the carvings were intrusted to Mr. Baker of Kennington. The foundation-stone was laid by Prince Albert, August 24, 1854, in the presence of the Queen, the bishop of the diocese, and a large gathering of spectators. The new building was opened for divine worship, December 1856. The total cost was little under £12,000.

It consists of a nave with clerestory, side aisles, north and south porches and chapels, chancel, sacristy, grand west entrance arch and tower, in the architectural style known as Decorated Early English. It is, emphatically, a beautiful building, and reflects no little honour on the architect, who has displayed considerable fertility of invention, as well as skill in adaptation. The west entrance, a richly-decorated and elaborately-wrought arch of more than ordinary height, claims hearty admiration.

The interior is light and elegant, with timbered roof, corbels beautifully moulded, richly ornamented windows, and columned aisles of fine proportion.

The tower, to the top of the turret, is 132 feet high; the height of the roof of the nave, 65 feet; of that of the chancel, 56; of the side aisles, 48; of the chapels, 38 feet.

Observe, in the interior, the monuments from the old building grouped together at the west entrance. Notice also the *font*, already described; the *pulpit; Sir Edward Horsey's monument;* and that of the *Princess Elizabeth.*

The latter was erected at the sole expense of the Queen. It represents the princess reclining at full length on her side, her cheek resting on an open Bible,—open at the text, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest,"—the position in which, it is said, she died. The likeness is from a portrait in her Majesty's possession. The figure is of pure Carrara marble, and reposes in a gracefully ornamented niche or shrine. Altogether, this beautiful monument must be regarded as one of the late Baron Marochetti's happier efforts. The inscription on the *facia* runs as follows: "To the memory of the Princess Elizabeth, daughter of Charles I., who died at Carisbrooke Castle on Sunday, Sept. 8th, 1650, and is interred beneath the chancel of this church, this monument is erected as a token of respect for her virtues, and of sympathy for her misfortunes, by Victoria R., 1856."

Of the three memorial windows dedicated to the Lady Elizabeth,

one was presented by the Queen, another by the late Prince Consort, and the third ("the Maidens' Window") by the young ladies of the congregation.

A white marble medallion portrait, in memory of Prince Albert, affixed to the wall between the two side windows, testifies to the loyalty of the inhabitants of Newport.

The living is in the appointment of the Bishop of Winchester.

St. John's is a district church of no architectural pretensions, accommodating about 800 persons,—one-third free sittings. It contains absolutely nothing to attract the tourist's attention.

St. Paul's, or *St. Paul's, Barton*—a district church, supplying a populous suburb of Newport, though ecclesiastically included in *the parish of Whippingham*—is a pretty edifice, Norman in style, consisting of a nave, north and south aisles, apse, and tower, and spire at the west end of the south aisle. Was erected from the designs of Mr. J. W. Wild, the cost being defrayed by voluntary subscriptions and a grant from the Church Aid Society. The living is valued at £190. Accommodation provided for 400 (including 200 free seats).

Niton.*—*St. John the Baptist* consists of a nave and chancel, separated by an arch, Norman, a south aisle separated by four obtuse arches, south porch and west tower. In the north wall are some remains of Early Norman arches, but the present north aisle was erected in 1864. Observe the piscina. "In the chancel is a square opening, formerly the entrance into the rood-loft. The south porch is rather remarkable, being barrel-roofed, with stone ribs. The tower is low and battlemented, but surmounted by a small spire. On the north side of the tower is a building formerly a charnel-house. In front of the south entrance is the square base of a large cross, somewhat peculiarly placed—the angles, and not the sides, being opposite the cardinal points" (*Davis*).

A monument to Mr. Arnold of Mirables has a medallion executed by Flaxman and bas-relief by Riou.

The church was one of the six with which William Fitz-Osbert endowed his Abbey of Lire. Afterwards passing into the possession of the crown, Charles I., at the intercession of Queen Henrietta, supported by Lords Coventry, Carlisle, and others, gave it, with Godshill, Carisbrooke, Newport, and Northwood, to Queen's College, Oxon, November 12, 1626 (*MS. Ashmol. Museum*, F 28, fol. 95).

* At Niton was born Dr. Thomas Pittis (see *post*).

The registers date from 1560. The following entry is of historical value:—"July the 1st, Anno Domini 1675, Charles II., King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, etc., came safely ashore at Puckaster, after he had endured a great and dangerous storm at sea.

Ut regnet diu et feliciter
Vovit et exoptat Thomas Collinson,
Rector de Nighton."

[That he may reign long and happily, Thomas Collinson prays and ardently desires.]

In the churchyard are the remains of the steps and base of an ancient cross, on which was erected, in 1873, a cross of Celtic design, by J. Clark, F.S.A.

The living is a rectory, valued at £500, and in the gift of Queen's College, Oxon.

NORTHWOOD.—*St. John the Baptist* is built of stone, in some parts plastered; consists of a nave, north and south aisles, chancel, porch, and singular wooden turret. Was a chapelry to Carisbrooke until 1545, when parochial privileges were granted to it; but it is still included in the presentation to the vicarage of Carisbrooke. The two livings are in the patronage of Queen's College, Oxon, and are together valued at £1123 per annum.

The burying-place was consecrated in 1486. Previously the inhabitants of Northwood were compelled to bury their dead at Carisbrooke.

Observe monument to *Rev. Thomas Smith*, formerly minister of Northwood (died 1681); formed of one piece of chalk, 3 feet long and 4 feet wide, curiously carved with hieroglyphic characters. The late Dean Hook was once curate of this church.

RYDE.—*St. Thomas'*. The inhabitants of Ryde, in consequence of the insignificance of the village, originally worshipped at the *parish church* of Newchurch, six miles distant; but in 1719 Henry Player, Esq., lord of the manor, built, and endowed with a yearly stipend of £10, "the chapel of St. Thomas," a plain and inelegant structure. In 1827 this was pulled down, and on its site George Player, Esq., erected a more graceful building, Early English in character, with nave, chancel, west and south aisles, and a west tower with spire—the whole of Binstead stone, with coignes of white brick. The interior is inoffensive and unpretending. At the east end are three large lancet

windows of stained glass. Against the wall, under the west gallery, is a marble tablet, inscribed: "THOMAS PLAYER, Armiger, Domus Dei magis quam suæ, elegantia et nitoris studiosus hoc sacellum, tam advenis quam incolis, diu multumq. desideratum condidit (anno 1719). Æmulationis Opus non Invidiæ" [Thomas Player, gentleman, more solicitous for the splendour and elegance of God's house than his own, built in 1719 this sanctuary, by visitors as well as residents long and eagerly desired. A work for imitation, not for envy.]

Epitaphs, etc.—In the south aisle is a memorial to *Mrs. Margaret Collier*, died 1791, ætat. 77, commemorated by Fielding, in his "Journal of a Voyage to Lisbon," for her liberal hospitality. In the graveyard is buried the *Rev. Edward Cannon*, the "Godfrey Moss" of Theodore Hook's *Maxwell*, and the friend of the Rev. R. C. Barham (*Thomas Ingoldsby*). The Rev. E. Cannon was one of the king's chaplains, and always a welcome guest at Carlton House; but, his ambitious hopes receiving no fulfilment, he became a soured and disappointed man, and in his conduct grew so disdainful of social courtesies that he was at length dismissed from the chapel royal. He then retired to Ryde, where, after some years of painful seclusion and comparative poverty, he died, "almost forgotten and alone." In the "Life of Barham," prefixed to the complete edition of the "Ingoldsby Legends," are recorded many amusing anecdotes of this clever and eccentric man.

All Saints' is now the parish church. It was designed by Sir G. G. Scott; the foundation-stone laid by H.R.H. the Princess Christian in 1869; and the church consecrated by the late Bishop of Winchester in 1873. Consists of nave, aisles, transept, chancel, and tower, in the Decorated style, and from its handsome design is worthy of the town. The building is one of its able architect's successes. The nave is divided into six bays, and is separated from the chancel by a noble and well-proportioned arch. Accommodation is provided for about 1140, and the total cost (exclusive of tower and spire) was £15,000. The spire and other additions, in course of erection (1881), will cost upwards of £6000. The pulpit, of alabaster and marble, is an artistic work.

St. James's, a district church, erected in 1827, by W. Hughes Hughes, Esq., an alderman of the city of London, and immediately licensed by the Bishop of Winchester. The exterior is stuccoed, and its style of architecture *builders' Gothic*. The interior, however, is handsome and convenient, with accommodation for 800 (360 free seats).

Holy Trinity—a district and proprietary church, of elegant appearance, designed by Mr. T. Hellyer of Ryde ; style, Early English—consists of a nave, north and south aisles, divided by an arcade into seven bays, and a west tower and spire, 146 feet in height. This graceful edifice was erected in 1845–6, the cost being defrayed by voluntary contributions. The site and endowment were provided by Mrs. Lind of Westmont. Accommodates 1000 persons (500 in free seats).

St. John's, Oakfield (Rev. H. Ewbank), a district church, included in the parish of St. Helens, was designed by Hellyer, and consists of nave, aisle, transept, porches, and west end double bell-gable, in the Early English style. Erected in 1843; enlarged in 1870. Accommodates 300 persons.

St. Peter's, Haven Street (Rev. F. Stockdale), is a neat Early English building, from the designs of Hellyer, and comprises nave, chancel, south porch, and bell-gable at west end.

St. Michael and All Angels, Swanmore (Rev. H. E. Wix, M.A.), is a cruciform building in the thirteenth century style, with lancet windows, and in the interior an open timbered roof, picked out in colour. The lofty central tower is a conspicuous landmark for miles around. Schools and parsonage, in the same style, adjoin the church, which is celebrated for the "advanced" character of its services.

SANDOWN.—*Christ Church.* Style, Early Decorated English, from the designs of Mr. J. Woodman; was built in 1845–6, and consists of a nave, chancel, aisle, and tower with spire ; is an elegant building, with a commodious and well-arranged interior. The adjacent schoolhouse and parsonage are worth notice. The site was presented by Sir W. Oglander, Bart., and the expenses (£2600) made up by voluntary contributions and £400 from the Church Aid Society.

SANDOWN, LOWER.—*St. John the Evangelist.* This new church was opened on Thursday, June 2, 1881. It is in the Early English style of architecture, and is substantially built of local stone from the St. Boniface quarries at Ventnor. The nave roof is an open structure of pitch pine covered with the best Fareham tiles, is supported by eight massive Portland stone columns, with moulded caps, from which spring five graceful and well-proportioned arches, with clerestory above. The aisles are lighted by three-light windows with tracery heads, and the clerestory with double lancet window. The church will accommodate 600 persons—373 in the nave, 70 in the chancel, and 157 in the side aisles. Its length is 112 feet, width 58 feet, height from floor to plate 37 feet, and 60 feet to the ridge of

the roof. Surmounting the whole is a bell-turret, covered with oak shingle, and terminating with finial 100 feet from the ground. There is a porch on the south side, and a vestry, heating chamber, and organ chamber on the north side, of the chancel. The font is of stone, and good design; the pulpit of wood, with stone steps and foundation; and there are stalls for the clergy. On the marble tablet on the west wall is the following inscription: "This tablet records that the sum of £1200, contributed by 250 of the inhabitants of Sandown and other friends of the Rev. Gilbert Karney, M.A., in appreciation of his faithful and self-sacrificing labours as Vicar of Sandown from the years 1871 to 1881, was by his wish devoted to the completion of this church, which was the special object of his exertions and interest during the later years of his incumbency. W. A. Davidson, M.D., and James Dore, church-wardens; Beauvoir Brock, treasurer. March 1881."

Sea View.—*St. Peter's.* A neat Early English church, for the convenience of residents and visitors, was built in 1859, from the plans of Mr. T. Hellyer.

Shalfleet.—The church here is a peculiar and in many respects an interesting structure; the tower and north doorway Norman, the rest of the building Early English. "The windows of the south aisle are singularly beautiful, the heads being pierced with ovals, inclining towards the apex, surmounted by a circular aperture. The nave is divided from the aisle by Early English arches upon very beautiful Purbeck columns, which have recently been purified. The chancel arch is remarkable for a peculiarity of treatment at the impost, the increased width of the arch being terminated by a partial foliation. The church is lit, north and south, with lancet windows of good style. The entrance to the church, from the north, is by a Norman doorway, in the tympanum of which is a representation of David with the lion and bear (?) rather rudely and grotesquely carved on one stone. With the exception of this work, the doorway is nearly plain. The tower is Norman, with shallow buttresses; but the original windows have been foliated at a later period. It is now surmounted by a wooden spire, erected with money raised by the sale of the bells and the gun belonging to the church;* but from

* Whence the local rhyme:—

"The Shalfleet people, poor and simple,
Sold the bells to build the steeple."

the very large area of the tower, and the extreme thickness of the walls, the spire or tower has probably been of considerably greater elevation" (*Davis*).

This ancient and noteworthy edifice, according to tradition, was erected by William Fitz-Osbert. It was carefully restored, and reseated with low, open seats in 1866.

Monuments.—In the chancel observe a stone to the memory of *Robert Harvey*, died 1730; two shields, enclosed in a stone moulding, date 1630, in the south aisle; and a curious monumental slab, broken in two, with a shield and spear crosswise upon it, supposed to be of the date of the eleventh or early in the twelfth century, was dug up some years ago in the churchyard, where it probably marked the resting-place of one of the knightly Trenchards.

Remark the fragments of stained glass on the north side of the church blazoned with the arms of Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, and (on the south) of Isabella de Fortibus.

The living is a vicarage, valued at £210, and in the patronage of the Lord Chancellor.

SHANKLIN.—*St. John Baptist's*, originally founded by one of the De Insula or De Lisle family, retains no trace of antiquity. It was restored in 1859, and again in 1864; and now consists of nave, chancel, transept, and shingled spire, and is picturesquely situated. Its interesting objects are: an ancient *piscina;* and an oaken chest, elaborately wrought with the initials T. S., and round the lid, in bold characters, *Dominus Thomas Silksted, Prior* [last Prior of Winchester], *An. Dm.* 1512.

St. Saviour's on the Cliff, consecrated in 1869, and designed by Mr. T. Hellyer, consists at present of nave, aisles, chancel, and porch. A handsome vicarage-house stands near at hand, on the summit of the cliff.

St. Paul's, not yet complete, is a handsome building, consisting of nave, aisles, and apsidal chancel, to which a massive west tower will shortly be added.

St. Paul's, Gatton, was consecrated in July 1876. It is built of brick, from the designs of Mr. C. L. Luck; and is at present unfinished.

SHORWELL.—*St. Peter's* consists of a nave, side aisles, tower, and south porch. It faces the main road, and is enclosed in a trimly-kept churchyard, with some good trees about it, occupying a kind of sheltered hollow. With artists it is a favourite "bit." "It is almost

entirely of the Perpendicular style, with the exception of a few earlier fragments, and the Decorated base of the tower, which is crowned by a low stone spire, divided into two stages by a small band" (*Davis*).

Observe, in the interior, a stone pulpit (with the iron frame which used to contain the hour-glass), entered by a flight of steps through a segmental arch, piercing what would otherwise be a very massive pier, in a central position of the north aisle.

The church was carefully restored in 1847 by the Rev. E. Robertson, and is one of the most interesting edifices in the island. Over the north doorway, inside, are the remains of some very characteristic *mural paintings*, descriptive of the legend of "St. Christopher bearing the infant Jesus upon his shoulders." The fresco measures 11 feet wide by 6½ high, and is very distinct and graphic. The saint is depicted leaving his wicked companions (upper corner, to the left), and grasping the tree with which he is to ford the stream before him. A stone cross is by his side, surmounted with figure of Jesus crucified. On the bank is a person fishing, and hauling ashore a monster fish. Next, we see the saint, considerably increased in size, fording the stream, with the infant Jesus on his shoulder; a ship and a boat are shown upon the waters. From a hermitage in the distance comes forth a monk, holding a lamp to guide the wayfarers. Finally, we see the saint bound to a tree, and undergoing martyrdom. He is already filled with arrows, but two archers are incontinently shooting at him. The king who condemned him to death is at hand, with the executioner by his side, and an arrow in his right eye—a just punishment for his cruelty, as the well-known legend enforces.

Over the south door are the scanty remains of a mural painting of "The Last Judgment."

At the west end of the south aisle a blocked-up archway indicates the place where was kept the cannon which Shorwell (and every parish in the island) had to supply for defensive purposes in the reign of Edward VI.

Monuments and Epitaphs.—A *brass*, near the altar steps, with a curious effigy of a priest with his hands folded, bears the inscription,—

"Of yo^{r} charitie pray for the soule of S^{r} Richarde Bethell, late vicar of this churche of Sherwell, y^{e} which decessed the xxiii day of Marche, the yer of Lord MDXLIII, on whose soule Jhu have m'cy."

The north aisle is thronged with interesting records of the knightly family of Leigh. One is very singular,—

"To the remembrance of ye two most worthie and religious gentlewomen, His late deare and loyall wives, Mrs. Elizabeth Bampfield who died the viith March 1615, Having bin ye mother of 15 hopeful children. And Mrs. Gartrude Parsevall who died childles, the xxii of Decembr 1619, was this monument consecrated by their loving and sorrowful husband, Barnabas Leigh, Esq.

"Since neither penne nor pencill can set forth
Of these two matchles wives the matchles worth,
W' are forc't to cover in this silent tombe
The prayses of a chast and fruitful wombe,
And with Death's sable vaile in darknes hide
The ritch rare vertues of a barren bride.
Sweet saint-like paire of Soules in whom did shine
Such modells of perfection feminine,
Such pietie, love, zeale, that though we sinners
Their lives have lost, yet still themselves are winners;
For they secure heaven's happiness inherit
Whilst we lament their losse, admire their merit."

This is accompanied with an illustration of *the two wives*, one with her children, and the legends, *Sicut vitis frugifera*, and *Sicut plantulæ olivarum* (Like to the fruitful vine, and Like unto the olive branches); the other, with the legend, *An non ego melior tibi quam decem filii?* (Am I not better to thee than ten sons?) The *third* wife of the composer of this cheerful allegory is symbolled by a hand (with inscription, *Væ Soli*—Woe to the lone one) holding a ring which encloses a heart.

Observe the monument, with two figures of children, to "the religious and vertuous *Elizabeth Leigh*, daught. of John Dingley, Esqr., late wife of Sir John Leigh, Knt. Died ye 27 day of Octr. Ano. Dm. 1619. And lieth here interred.

"Sixteene a maid, and fiftie yeares a wife,
Make ye sume totall of my passed life.
Long thred, so finelie spunne, so fairlie ended,
That few shall match this patterne, fewer mend it;
What wealth I lately had, what parentage,
What friends, what children, what blest marriage,
Dead I forgette; living I light esteemed;
For thy deare love (O Christ), yt has redeemed
My soull from Hell, and shortly shall upraise
This mortail dust, in Heaven to singe thy praise."

A stone altar-tomb is raised on three steps, with the effigy of a knight kneeling and praying before a desk, whereon an open book is laid. Behind him kneels a child, also in the attitude of prayer. In the compartments underneath are inscriptions to the memory of *Sir*

John Leigh of Northcombe, died January 18, 1629, ætat. 83; and of *Barnabas Leigh*, his great-grandson, died January 25, 1629, ætat. nine months, and "was laide in the tomb of his great-grandfather, who saw his heir of the fourth generation." Then follows—

"Inmate in greive, he tooke his grandchilde heire,
Whose soul did haste to make to him repaire,
And so to heaven along as little page
With him did poast to wait upon his age."

A beautifully decorated marble records the death of *John Leigh* of Northcombe, Feb. 22, 1688, ætat. 38; and *Anna*, his son's wife, died Sept. 25, 1715, ætat. 32. Her daughter *Judith* is also commemorated. She died 1722.

A stone shield, with initials E. L., and date 1569, bears the following:—

"Elizabeth Leigh, Davghter of Francis Helton of Portsmouth, Gent. Having bin ten years ye most loving and vertvovs wife of Edward Leigh of Shorwell, Gent., departed this life ye first of July 1621, and together with her two sonnes, John and Tho. Leigh, lyeth here interred.

"In Christ's faith and feare to live and die
Directlie leads to immortalitie,
Glads saints and angells, grieves or foes infernall,
Conquers the worlde, and wins a crown eternall.
Thy late experience (deare Elizabeth)—
When, dying, thou didst triumph over death—
And with sole faith and innocencie armed,
Nimblie escape his bloodie hands unharmed,
Proves this most true,—now liv'st thou with the just,
And leav'st nought here imprisoned but thy dust."

Finally, we may note the eight tablets to different members of the *Bennet* family, and one in the north aisle to *General Sir James Willoughby Gordon*, Bt., died January 4, 1851, ætat. 79, father of the late owner of Northcourt and the manor of Shorwell.

The communion table (1661), the chalice (1569), and a curiously wrought paten, are worth inspection.

A blocked-up archway at the west end of the south aisle indicates the place where was kept the parish gun.

THORLEY—*St. Swithin's* consists of a nave, chancel, and south porch, without tower. Its erection is attributed to Amicia de Clare, Countess of Devon, who bestowed it upon the priory of Christchurch. One of its vicars was the Rev. William Petty, uncle of the celebrated

Sir W. Petty, and employed by the Earl of Arundel in the collection of the *Arundelian Marbles.*

A new church was erected in 1871.

TOTLAND BAY.—*Christ Church.* This neat little edifice, in Early English style, with west gable bell-turret, was erected in 1875. Seated for 400.

VENTNOR.—*St. Catherine's* is the parish church; a handsome building, designed by Mr. Robert Ebbels; consists of a nave, short chancel, aisles, and tower with spire 110 feet high. It was erected in 1837, at the sole expense (£3400) of J. Hambrough, Esq., of Steephill Castle, who also provided an endowment of £1000, built a parsonage at an outlay of £2500, and rebuilt the National Schools. Length, 59 ft.; width, 36 ft. 6 in. Enlarged in 1870.

Holy Trinity, near Bonchurch, a graceful structure, in Early Decorated style, was erected in 1861-2, at the cost of Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Tuttiett, and Miss Percy, on condition that a daily service was performed. It consists of a nave, aisles, chancel, transept, and recessed entrance. The tower, with open belfry windows, is crowned by a tall and shapely spire. Architect, Mr. Giles of Taunton.

WHIPPINGHAM.—*St. Mildred's* was one of William Fitz-Osbert's gifts to Lire Abbey. The present edifice (built on the site of an edifice dedicated in the twelfth century to Mildred, a Saxon princess) consists of nave, aisles, chancel, transepts, and central tower and spire, in Trans. Norman style, and owes its present dimensions and appearance to the liberality of her Majesty, who worships here during her residence at Osborne. The plans were created by the late Prince Consort, and the building was completed in 1861. All the windows are filled with stained glass. A splendid marble memorial to the Prince, with medallion by Theed, was placed in the chancel by her Majesty in 1864. The richly-carved font, in white marble, was designed by their Royal Highnesses the Princesses Christian and Louise.

The late Dean Hook of Chichester, famed for his parochial labours at Leeds, and for his "Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury," entered the service of the Church of England as curate of Whippingham, of which his uncle, Dean Hook of Worcester, was the rector.

St. James's, East Cowes, was designed and the site presented by the architect Nash, and the foundation-stone laid by the Queen (then Princess Victoria) and the late Duchess of Kent, September 6, 1831.

In 1869-70, at the cost of Lady Gort, the church was greatly altered and enlarged from the plans of Mr. Hellyer, and it retains little, if any, of its *Nashian* characteristics. A memorial to the Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse-Darmstadt, has recently been erected.

Whitwell Church, formerly a chapelry to Niton, but with parochial privileges, consists of two distinct chapels in one building,—that of *Our Lady of Whitwell* and that of *St. Radigund.* The latter is now the chancel, and was well restored in 1866 at a cost of £200. It formerly belonged to Gatcombe, whose rector was bound to pay an annual sum for its support. This payment dates from 1341. The former was supplied by the rector of Niton. The building is Norman and Early English, and most of it would seem to have been erected about the time of Henry III. The pulpit and reading-desk cost 51s. in 1623–4. De Estur, Lord of Gatcombe, founded "the chantry of Our Lady."

On the south wall may be seen a rude fresco representing the disembowelling of St. Erasmus.

The living has recently been separated from Niton, and Whitwell now forms an independent parish.

Wootton.—*St. Edmund's* consists only of nave and chancel, and is a small but ancient building, with little of interest in its architectural features. The doorway has a fine Norman arch.

Wootton was rendered independent of Whippingham by Walter de Insula, in the reign of Henry III., who then built a small chapel in connection with his manor-house, and endowed it with certain glebe, arable, and pasture lands. This edifice was destroyed by fire, and rebuilt, *temp.* Edward IV.

The patronage remained with the De Lisle (or De Insula) family for centuries, but, upon the extinction of the male line, passed into other hands, and finally into the Popham family.

The living is a rectory, valued at £240, in the patronage of F. W. Popham, Esq.

Wroxall.—*St. John's*, a plain stone building, in the Early English style, consists of nave, chancel, and small organ chamber, with seats for 170 persons.

Yarmouth.—*St. James's.* In our notice of the town we have sketched the fortunes of its church, which was built, as we have there

pointed out, in the reign of Charles I., and not, as is usually stated, in 1543. The edifice *then* erected stood at the east end of the town, and was pulled down on account of its ruinous condition. The present building, consisting of a nave, chancel, aisles, and small chapel near the chancel, was thoroughly repaired in 1831, chiefly at the expense of the late D. Alexander, Esq., who also raised the tower (30 feet) to its present height. The gallery was built by the corporation.

The clepsydra, or water-glass, formerly attached to the old pulpit, and reputed to be the only one in England, is now attached to a pillar in the nave. The lectern is elaborately carved, and studded with gems.

Monuments, etc.—In the chapel is a very fine marble statue of *Sir Robert Holmes*, in complete armour, placed in an arched recess, and supported by a massive pedestal. A long Latin inscription (written by Dr. Freind) records the deeds of this gallant admiral, once governor and captain of the Wight, but no translation or repetition is necessary, as these are set forth in full in the early pages of our volume. The monument was erected by his son, Henry Holmes, lieutenant-governor of the island.

Monumental tablets record the deaths of *Henry*, the son of Thomas Lord Holmes, June 11, 1751, ætat. 5 ; and of *Thomas*, Lord Holmes, himself, July 7, 1764, ætat. 65.

A tablet with urn, sculptured by Nollekens, purports to have been erected by Vice-Admiral Biggs, in 1802, to a *Captain John Urry;* and in the pavement are various slabs to the memory of *William Hide*, alderman of the town, died May 21, 1648 ; his wife, *Mary Hide*, died 12th April 1660 ; and his son *William*, died 8th March 1679. Also, to *Peter Pryavlx*, alderman of Southampton, died 11th June 1644. A painted window of good design was placed in the church by the Rev. S. Blackburn, the late rector, as a memorial to two of his children, representing the Saviour and the Virgin Mary encircled by little children.

Yaverland Church, a picturesque edifice, was built by Sir William Russell, lord of the manor, in the reign of Edward I., for the convenience of his family and vassals, who had found much difficulty in attending the church at Brading, owing to the frequent recurrence of floods. In the first of Queen Mary, this manor was purchased by German Richards, Esq., in whose family it continued for two centuries. It was then bequeathed to a Rev. Mr. Wright, and continued with his successors until the death of J. A. Wright, Esq., of

Crowsley Park, Oxford, in 1822. The manor and advowson of the church were subsequently purchased by Admiral Sir Graham Eden Hamond, Bart., of Norton Lodge, near Freshwater, and is held by his representative.

All that is noticeable in this ancient church is the fine Norman south door, and equally fine Norman arch which separates the nave from the chancel. Most of the ancient casements have been blocked up, and hideous modern windows inserted by those demons of misrule, the church-wardens of the last generation.

Legh Richmond, who at one time held the curacy here, furnishes a graphic description:—"It was pleasantly situated on a rising bank, at the foot of a considerable hill. It was surrounded by trees, and had a rural, retired appearance. Close to the churchyard stood a large old mansion, which had formerly been the residence of an opulent and titled family; but it had long since been appropriated to the use of the estate as a farm-house. Its outward aspect bore considerable remains of ancient grandeur, and gave a pleasing character to the spot of ground on which the church stood. In every direction the roads that led to this house of God possessed distinct but interesting features. One of them ascended between several rural cottages from the sea-shore, which adjoined the lower part of the village street. Another winded round the curved sides of the adjacent hill, and was adorned both above and below with numerous sheep feeding on the herbage of the down. A third road led to the church by a gently rising approach between high banks covered with young trees, bushes, ivy, hedge-plants, and wild-flowers."

The living is a rectory, valued at £210 per annum, in the gift of Sir Græme Hamond-Græme, Bart.

THE WORTHIES OF THE ISLAND.

DR. THOMAS PITTIS—ADMIRAL HOPSON—DR. ROBERT HOOKE—DR. THOMAS JAMES—MR. RICHARD JAMES—SIR THOMAS FLEMING—DR. THOMAS ARNOLD.

We propose to conclude our Handbook to the Isle of Wight with brief biographical sketches of those of its worthies whose careers have not been detailed in the preceding pages.

DR. THOMAS PITTIS.

Dr. Thomas Pittis, the son of Captain Thomas Pittis, was born at Niton, about 1635. Where he was educated his biographers have not

recorded, but in 1652 we find him entered as a commoner at Trinity College, Cambridge. After graduating as B.A., he removed to Lincoln College, where "he was esteemed by his contemporaries a tolerable disputant." But the monarchical principles which he introduced into all his speeches were then held in disfavour by the university authorities, and in 1658 he was expelled from his college.

After the Restoration he was amply compensated for his losses by being appointed to the rectory of Gatcombe. In 1665 he obtained the degree of B.D., and in 1670, D.D., and chaplain in ordinary to the king. Bishop Morley gave him the good living of Holyrood, Southampton, and the king bestowed the rectory of Lutterworth, in Leicestershire, which he exchanged for that of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate. The latter he held in conjunction with Holyrood and Gatcombe, and the lectureship of Christ Church, Newgate Street, until his death, December 28th, 1687. He was buried at Gatcombe, or, according to some authorities, at Niton.

His works consist of Occasional Sermons, a Private Conference on the Obligation of Oaths, a Discourse on Prayer, and a Discourse concerning the Trial of the Spirit (*Wood's Athenæ Oxon.*, and *Chalmers' Biographical Dictionary*).

ADMIRAL SIR THOMAS HOPSON.

This gallant seaman was born at Lingfield, about 1648, of reputable parents, from whom, it is said, at an early age, he ran away to sea. A curious story is told of his early adventures. He was apprenticed to a tailor at Niton, and one day, while sitting on his shopboard, observing a squadron of men-of-war off the coast, he suddenly ran down to the shore, sprang into a boat, and rowed to the admiral's ship, where he was received as a volunteer. His boat, which he cast adrift, was afterwards picked up ; and his hat being found upon the shore, his friends naturally concluded he was drowned. Meanwhile, the squadron fell in with a French fleet, and an engagement took place. Hobson, as he is sometimes erroneously called, or Hopson, grew impatient at its duration, and inquired of a comrade for what object the two fleets contended. "Being told that the action must last till the white *rag* at the enemy's masthead was struck, he exclaimed, 'Oh, if that's all, I'll see what *I* can do.' At this moment the ships of the two admirals were engaged yard-arm to yard-arm, and both obscured in smoke." Hopson, observing this circumstance, ascended the rigging, and, unperceived, gained the main-yard of the French vessel. Mounting with the utmost celerity to the main-top-gallant-masthead, he

seized the flag, and returned with it in triumph. "The disappearance of the flag was soon noticed:" the British shouted "Victory," the French were dismayed, and the battle was won. Whereupon Hopson was immediately promoted.

Notwithstanding the circumstantiality of this wonderful story, we are bound to pronounce it a fiction. All that is really known of Hopson's early career is that he left his birth-place while a boy and entered the navy. (He did not, by the way, return to his friends until he was an admiral, when he suddenly surprised them with a visit.) But victories are not won by such accidents as that which the compilers of the Isle of Wight guide-books have loved, for many years, to repeat.

Hopson served in the Dutch war in 1672, and, by a steady discharge of his duties, gradually obtained promotion. James II., in 1688, gave him the command of the *Bonadventure*, but did not succeed in binding him to his cause. Hopson cordially accepted the revolution which placed William III. on the English throne, and was rewarded with the command of a 60-gun ship, the *York*, which he handled skilfully in the battle off Beachy Head, leading the rear division of the red squadron under Sir George Rooke.

In 1693 he was promoted to be Rear-Admiral of the Blue, and in due time became Vice-Admiral of that division. He blockaded Dunkirk, August 1694, and gradually grew in public estimation as a trustworthy and gallant seaman.

Having been promoted in March 1702 to Vice-Admiral of the Red, he sailed as second in command to Sir George Rooke in the expedition against Cadiz, and gallantly led the van in the hot fight off Vigo, breaking the boom which the enemy had stretched across the harbour. For his services he was knighted (November 29, 1702), and Queen Anne settled upon him a pension of £500 per annum, with a reversion of £300 to his wife.

He represented Newtown in his native island in 1705, and after a long career of honour and service, died on the 12th October 1717, aged about 69 (*Charnock's Biographia Navalis; Campbell's Admirals*).

DR. ROBERT HOOKE.

Robert Hooke was born at Freshwater, where his father was rector, on the 26th July 1635. As a child he was of a very weakly frame, but his temper was sprightly and his mind active, and he gave such promise of future merit that his father determined to bring him up for the Church. His natural appetite, however, was

for mechanics. He invented curious toys; made a wooden clock which marked the time; and built a ship, a yard long, which fired guns by machinery.

After his father's death, which happened in 1648, he was placed with Sir Peter Lely, but the smell of the oils brought on intense neuralgic pains, and incapacitated him for work. Dr. Busby, of Westminster School, therefore, took charge of him, and supported him while he attended on that foundation. His mental powers here made a rapid development, and we are told that he taught himself the organ, and invented thirty different modes of flying!

He removed in 1653 to Christ Church College, Oxon, and speedily attracted the attention of the scientific notabilities of that learned university. He made the acquaintance of the Hon. Robert Boyle, and Dr. Seth Ward, the Savilian Professor, and applying himself to the improvement of the pendulum, invented in 1658 the pendulum watch. He also completed the air-pump, and perfected several astronomical instruments.

Such was his scientific reputation, that on the establishment of the Royal Society in 1662, he was appointed the Curator of their experiments. In the following year he graduated at Oxford as M.A., and, in 1664, the Royal Society elected him Professor of Mechanics.

His *Micrographia*, a description of the results of experiments made by magnifying glasses, appeared in 1665; his *Lampas*, on improvements in lamps, in 1667; and his *Philosophical Collections*, in 1681.

In the beginning of 1687 he lost his niece, Mrs. Grace Hooke, who had lived with him for many years, and his temper, always irritable, now became insupportably harsh and cynical. He had already quarrelled with Helvetius and Sir Isaac Newton, and for the remainder of his life was continually on the alert to attack a foe's error or a friend's weakness.

Robert Hooke died at his lodgings in Gresham's College, March 3, 1702, and was buried at St. Helen's, Bishopsgate (*Waller's Life of Hooke; Birch's Royal Society;* and *Ward's Lives of the Gresham Professors*).

DR. THOMAS JAMES.

Dr. Thomas James was born in Newport, about 1570, of a reputable family, which had been settled in the borough for many years. He was the fifth son of John James and Jane Annemon of Newport.

He received his education at Winchester, and afterwards removed

to New College, Oxon*—his fellow-student at both places being the famous Dr. Cole. At Oxford he laboured with such zeal and assiduity as speedily to distinguish himself among the learned, and gained the degree of M.A. in 1599.

Sir Thomas Bodley was at that time completing the valuable library which has worthily immortalized his name, and Mr. James, to prove his fitness for the post of librarian, collated the MSS. of the *Philobiblion* of Richard of Durham, and published a corrected text. In the following year (1600) he produced his *Ecloga Oxonio-Cantabrigiensis.*† These works, and his just repute for high scholastic attainments, procured him the position he coveted, and in 1602 he was appointed the First Keeper of the Bodleian Library, whereupon he left his college. So extensive was his erudition that he received the flattering appellation of "the Living Library," and gained from quaint old Fuller the following eulogium: "On serious consideration, one will conclude the library made for him, and he for it; like tallies, they so fitted one another. Some men live like moths in libraries, not being better for the books, but the books the worse for them, which they only soil with their fingers. Not so Dr. James, who made use of books for his own and the public good. He knew the age of a manuscript by looking upon the face thereof, and by the form of the character would conclude the time wherein it was written."

In 1614 he was honoured with the diploma of D.D., and shortly afterwards received, unsolicited, the rectory of Mungeham in Kent and the sub-deanery of Wells. In 1620 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace, and resigned his post as librarian, after having held it for eighteen years, with ever-increasing repute. In a letter to a friend, in 1624, he speaks of the studies which now engrossed him: "I have of late given myself to the reading only of MSS., and in them I find so many and so pregnant testimonies, either fully for our religion, or against the Papists, that it is to be wondered at." He writes also to Archbishop Usher, with whom he often corresponded, to acquaint him of his success in removing Papistical corruptions

* He removed to New College in 1593. The entry in the register runs as follows:—"A.D. 1593. Thos. James, de Insulâ Vectâ in com. South. Theologiæ Primus Bodleianæ Librariæ præpositus, et in eccle. Wellen. Sub-Decanus, etc. Sepult. in choro Coll. Nov."

† This was a catalogue of the college libraries at Oxford and Cambridge. Wood says that while employed in drawing it up, James, if he found any colleges careless about their MSS., borrowed and took away what he pleased, and placed them in the public library.

from the MSS. of the Fathers, and states that in thirty quires of paper he had restored no fewer than three hundred citations.

He felt so deeply the benefits that Protestantism would derive from a thorough purgation of the manuscripts of the early Christian writers, that in the Convocation held with the Parliament of Oxford, in 1625, he moved that a commission might be appointed for the purpose of examining the manuscript Fathers in all public and private English libraries, that the perversions of Papistical commentators might be detected and removed. To this design, it is supposed, the great Camden alludes: "Thomas James Oxoniensis, vir eruditus et vere φιλόβιβλος, qui se totum literis et libris involvit, et jam publici boni studio in Angliæ Bibliothecis excutiendis (Deus opus secundet!) id molitur, quod Reipublicæ literariæ imprimis erit usui." [Thomas James, of Oxford, an erudite man and an ardent lover of books, who gives himself up wholly to letters; and is now searching the libraries of England from a desire to benefit the public, designs (may God prosper his labours!) that which will be of notable assistance to the republic of letters.] He pointed out to the members of Convocation, as he had previously done to Archbishop Usher, the small expense at which his plan might be carried out, but he failed to secure their co-operation.*

This learned and enthusiastic Protestant, who well deserved the character given him by Anthony Wood, of being "the most industrious and indefatigable writer against Popery that had been educated at Oxford since the Reformation," died at Oxford in 1629, and was buried towards the upper end of New College Chapel, Oxon.

His principal works are—an edition of the *Philobiblion*, published in 1599; *Ecloga Oxonio-Cantabrigiensis*, 1600; *Cyprianus Redivivus*, and *Spicilegium divi Augustini*, published with the Ecloga; *Catalogus Librorum in Bibliothecâ Bodleianâ*, 1608, which Joseph Scaliger praised; *Apology for John Wickliffe*, 1608; *Treatise on the Corruption of Scriptures, Councils, and Fathers*, 1611; *Jesuits' Downfall threatened*, 1612; *Vindiciæ Gregorianæ*, 1625; *Specimen Corruptelarum Pontificiorum in Cypriano, Ambrosio, Gregorio Magno*, etc., 1626 (*Berry's Genealogies; Wood's Athenæ Oxonienses; Usher's Life and Letters; Fuller's Worthies; Biog. Britannica, Suppl. to*, etc.).

* In a letter to Usher, January 28, 1623, he says that he has secured the help of "the flower of the English divines," and needs only twelve more assistants, at £40 to £50 yearly—four to transcribe orthodox writers; four to compare old reprints with new; and four "to compare the Greek translations by the Papists." At his own cost he attempted something, but his useful labours were cut short by death.

MR. RICHARD JAMES.

Mr. Richard James, nephew of the preceding, was the son of Andrew James, third son of John James and Jane Annemon of Newport, by Dorothy, daughter of Philip Poore of Derington, in the county of Wilts.

He was born in Newport about 1592; was probably educated at Winchester; was certainly admitted a scholar of Corpus Christi College on the 23rd September 1608. His progress was rapid, for in February 1611, when he was scarcely nineteen years old, he obtained his degree as Bachelor of Arts. In January 1615 he won the higher honour of M.A.; and, after no long interval, the greatest university distinction which he ever obtained, a Bachelorship of Divinity. At this time he was in the habit of preaching frequently.

He travelled much, though at whose cost it is impossible to discover. He visited Wales, Scotland, Shetland, and even Greenland; and certainly extended his peregrinations to Russia (1618–19). According to one authority, he went to Newfoundland as "a minister."

On his return he resumed his pulpit duties, and, we are told, preached three sermons concerning the observation of Lent—one of them without a text, a second against the observance, a third "beside it" (*Wood's Athenæ Oxon.*, ii.). His fame for scholarship rapidly extended, and soon secured him the patronage and friendship of Sir Robert Cotton. Even the erudite Selden is constrained to speak of him as "vir multijugi studiique indefatigabilis;" and his greatest detractor, Sir Simond d'Ewes, while accusing him of being "atheistical and profane," admits that he was "witty and moderately learned." Wood affirms that, had he obtained a sinecure or a prebend, "the labours of Hercules would have seemed to him a trifle." "He was," Wood adds, "a very good Grecian poet, an excellent critic, antiquary, divine, and admirably well skilled in the Saxon and Gothic languages."

He arranged and classified Sir Robert Cotton's valuable library, but is accused by Sir Simond d'Ewes of lending out Sir Robert's most precious MSS. for money, and of neglecting many important works in his zeal for perusing the priceless volumes that passed through his hands.

In 1629 he incurred the displeasure of the Privy Council, and involved in his troubles the Earls of Bedford, Somerset, and Clare, his benefactor Sir R. Cotton, James St. John, Burrell, and the

erudite Selden. It is said that he lent a rare MS.—purporting to show "how a prince might make himself an absolute tyrant"—to young St. John, who, surprised at its contents, placed it in the hands of his friends.* At last it reached Sir Robert Cotton himself, who, we are told, was ignorant that the manuscript had ever had a place in his library, and employed a young man resident in his house to transcribe it. This "untrusty fellow" made several copies, and disposed of them for his own advantage. One got into the hands of Wentworth, afterwards Earl of Strafford, who brought it to the notice of the Privy Council. Sir Robert Cotton's library was thereupon sealed up; the offenders were committed to the Tower; and the terrors of the Star Chamber brought to bear upon them. After a brief interval they were released; but Sir Robert's anxiety brought on a fatal disease, of which he died on the 6th of May 1631.

The chief literary work in which James was engaged, but to the successful prosecution of which his poverty proved an insuperable obstacle, was a new "Life of Thomas à Becket;" and his uncle, in a letter to Archbishop Usher, eulogizes both the work and its author. After stating that his nephew's design was to paint Becket as "an arch-rebel," not "an arch-saint," he adds,—"He is of strength, and well both able and learned to effectuate somewhat in this kind, critically seen both in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin, knowing well the languages both French, Spanish, and Italian, immense and beyond all other men in reading of the MSS., of an extraordinary style in penning.....such a one as I could wish your lordship had about you; but *paupertas inimica bonis est moribus*, and both fatherless and motherless, and almost (but for myself) I may say (the more is pity) friendless."

He died of a quartan ague, induced by intense and unremitting study and great privations, at the house of Sir Thomas Cotton,† Westminster, in 1638, bequeathing to posterity a considerable number of valuable MSS., and a few published tractates, which display unusual erudition.

His principal works are,—*Poemata quædam in mortem clarissimi viri Roberti Cottoni, et Thomæ Allen*, published in 1633; several Sermons in Latin and English; and a translation of "*Minutius Felix*" and "*Octavius*," published in 1636. His more important MSS. (of

* Letters of Mead to Sir Martin Stuteville, given in "*Court and Times of Charles I.*," vol. ii.

† A satisfactory proof that the Cotton family considered James innocent in the unfortunate transaction whose worse result was Sir Robert's death.

which he left no less than forty-five) are,—*Decanonizatio Thomæ Cantuariensis et suorum*, in 760 pages, being the work alluded to by Dr. James; *Commentaria in Evangelium Sancti Johannis*, in two parts; *Notæ in aliquot locas Bibliæ; Epistolæ ad amicos suos doctos; Epigrams* in Latin and English; *Reasons Concerning the Attempts on the Lives of Great Personages; Two Sermons; Iter Lancastrense*, in verse, published by the Camden Society; *Glossarium Saxonicum Anglicum; Russian Dictionary; Observations made in his Travels* through some parts of Wales, Scotland, Shetland, Greenland, etc.; and *Observations on Russland*,—forming twenty-four volumes quarto, and seven folio. The "*Antiquitates Insulæ Vectæ*," hitherto unpublished, is preserved among his MSS. in the Bodleian, and though evidently the preliminary to a large and elaborate work, may be regarded as a favourable specimen of his Latinity (*Wood's Athenæ Oxonienses; Usher's Life and Letters; Nicholson's Historical Library; Sir Simond d'Ewes' Diary; Court and Times of Charles I.; Gentlemen's Magazine*, vol. xxxvii., etc.).

SIR THOMAS FLEMING, L.C.J.

Thomas Fleming, Knight, and Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, was born at Newport. His father was a mercer and general trader, occupying "a house on the east side of the entrance to the Corn Market from the High Street, on the site where the house now occupied by Mr. Avery stands." The family was of respectable extraction, and had long been connected with the Isle of Wight. One "John Fleming and Hawise his wife" were suitors against "Thomas Blake, for lands in Horingford," in the 52nd of Henry III. (1268). They had a son named Hugh. In 1497 (12 Henry VII.), a John Fleming is recorded as bailiff of Newport—an office he again filled twenty-three years later (1520). In the *Hampshire Visitation* made by the heralds in this reign, his name occurs—a proof of the excellence of his position. He died in 1531, leaving a son, by his wife Isabell, also named John, who married Dorothy Harris in 1543, and had a son, Thomas, born in April in the following year.

He received his education in the school at Godshill, then the principal resort of the sons of the opulent, and afterwards proceeded to Oxford. In 1570 (Feb. 13) he was married at St. Thomas's, Newport, to Mary James,* his cousin, the daughter of Dr. Mark James, physician-in-ordinary to Queen Elizabeth. He next entered upon

* "Thomas Fleming & Marie James married y^e^ 13 of Febrvary 1570" (*from the Registers*).

the study of the law; and his rise in his profession was so rapid that, in 1594, he was called to the degree of Sergeant; shortly afterwards made Recorder of London; and on the promotion of Sir Edward Coke to the Attorney-Generalship, was preferred by Lord Treasurer Burleigh to the dignity of Solicitor-General (1595). It has been conjectured that his rapid preferment was partly owing to the influence of the queen's cousin, Sir George Carey (afterwards Lord Hunsdon), then captain of the island, and resident at the castle, while Mr. Fleming resided at the Priory of Carisbrooke. The lease of the Priory he had purchased from Sir Francis Walsingham, the Secretary of State. "That some powerful influence," it has been said,* "was exercised [at this time] in favour of Newport interests, may be inferred from the fact that, at the same time that Fleming held the office of Solicitor-General, his two cousins, Drs. Edest and James, were also attached to the queen's household; the former, the son of a clothier who dwelt at the corner house in the Cattle Market, being chaplain-in-ordinary in addition to his preferments of Rector of Freshwater and Dean of Worcester; and the other, Dr. James, whose father, Mark James, was a merchant, and lived in the house in which Sir Thomas Fleming was born, was physician-in-ordinary, and daily read to the queen." It is worth noting that Francis Bacon was a rival candidate for the Solicitor-Generalship.

In 1601 he was returned to the House of Commons as the representative of a Cornish borough; but broke down completely in his maiden speech (November 20th), and was so dismayed by his failure that he never again addressed the House. Nevertheless, he was returned to several Parliaments as member for Southampton. On the accession of James I. he was re-appointed Solicitor-General; and in the following year (1604) was knighted, and elevated to the bench as Chief Baron of the Exchequer. In this capacity he tried, in conjunction with the other judges, the notorious Guy Fawkes and his fellow-plotters; but "followed," says Lord Campbell, "the useful advice for subordinate judges on such an occasion—'to look wise, and say nothing.'"

As a lawyer, however great his talents, he was not free from the prevailing vice of the great men of the age—a leaning towards the exaltation of the Crown; and his decision in the great "Case of Im-

* *Vide* a paper by J. Hearn, Esq., in the *Isle of Wight Mercury*, 1857.

† Laurence Edes married Alice, eldest daughter of Thomas James and Elizabeth Collins. Dr. Mark James was a son of Thomas James by his second wife, Alice Porter.

positions" was an injustice to the subject. The particulars of the case are briefly these: Shortly after the accession of King James, Parliament had imposed an import duty upon currants of 2s. 6d. per cwt. The king, of his own will, raised the duty to 10s. There is always to be found in similar conjunctures a man determined enough to assert the rights of the people. On this occasion, one Bates, a Levant merchant, refused to pay the monarch's additional 7s. 6d., and accordingly was prosecuted by the law officers of the Crown in the Court of Exchequer. The point at issue necessarily was—Could the sovereign, of his own volition, raise a revenue by the imposition either of taxes or import duties? Fleming decided in favour of the Crown—a decision legally correct, but opposed to the spirit of the English constitution, and calculated to annihilate English freedom.

In 1607, on the death of Sir John Popham, this able lawyer was elevated to the post of Lord Chief Justice of England. He enjoyed his high dignity, however, but six years, dying suddenly on the 7th of August 1613. On his return from the Northern Circuit, he had given to his servants and farm-labourers what is called in Hampshire a "hearing day." After joining in the revels, he went to bed, apparently in sound health, but was taken suddenly ill, and died before morning. He was buried in the parish church of North Stoneham, where a stately monument records the numerous successes of his career. It is ornamented with recumbent whole-length figures of the Chief Justice in his robes, with his official insignia; and his wife, with ruff and hood, and the singular waist favoured by ladies of the Tudor era. Underneath is the following inscription, as truthful, perhaps, as most monumental legends :—

"In most Assvred Hope of a Blessed Resvrection,
Here Lyeth Interred 'ye Bodie of Sir Thomas Flemyng, Knight, Lord Chief Jvstice of England; Great Was His Learning, Many Were His Virtves. He Always Feared God & God Still Blessed Him & ye Love & Favour Both of God & Man Was Daylie Upon Him. He Was In Especiall Grace & Favour With 2 Most Worthie & Virtvoos Princes Q. Elizabeth & King James. Many Offices and Dygnities Were Conferred Upon Him. He Was First Sargeant At Law, Then Recorder Of London; Then Solicitor Generall to Both ye Said Princes. Then Lo; Chief Baron of ye Exchequer & after Lo: Chief Justice of England. All Which Places He Did Execvte With So Great Integrity, Justice & Discretion that His Lyfe Was Of All Good Men Desired, His Death Of All Lamented. He Was Borne at Newporte In ye Ille Of Wight, Brough Up In Learning & ye Studie Of ye Lawe. In ye 26 Yeare Of His Age He Was coopled in ye Blessed State of Matrimony To His Virtvovs Wife, ye La: Mary Fleming, With whom He Lived & Continewed In that Blessed Estate By ye Space of 43 Yeares. Having By Her In that Tyme 15 Children, 8 Sonnes and 7 Davghters, Of Whom 2 Sonnes & 5 Davghters Died In His Life Time. And Afterwards In Ripeness of Age and Fulness Of Happie Yeares yt Is to Saie ye 7th Day of Avgvst 1613 in ye 69 Yeare of His Age, He

Left This Life For a Better, Leaving Also Behind Him Livinge Together With His Virtvovs Wife

6 Soones & 2 Davghters."*

In 1608 Sir Thomas obtained from James I. a Charter of Incorporation for his birth-town, which provided for the election of a mayor instead of the ancient bailiff. Just before his death he had assisted in the establishment of a free grammar school; but the completion of this project was reserved for his son, Sir Thomas.

It may be added that his liberality to his kin kept pace with the growth of his fortunes. Thus, in 1573, while living at the "Priorie of Carisbrooke," he transferred to his wife's father his corner tenement, with "the shoppes and loftes thereto belonging," which he held of the bailiff and burgesses of Newport, "in the south side of the High Streate at the west end of the Flesh Shambles," being the house formerly occupied by his father.

Sir Thomas amassed considerable wealth, and purchased various estates—the principal being Hyde Abbey, the Stoneham estate, and the Priory of Carisbrooke, of the Earl of Southampton; and the Quarr lands of two Southampton merchants, named John and George Mills (*Hearn's paper in Isle of Wight Mercury, Lord Campbell's Lives of the Chief Justices, Burke's Landed Gentry, Eng. Histories, Life of James I., Berry's Genealogies, etc.*).

DR. THOMAS ARNOLD.

It would be out of place here to attempt any exposition of the great educational services rendered by Dr. Arnold, or to consider his merits as an historian. We must simply confine ourselves to a succinct statement of the principal facts of his too brief career.

He was born at Slatwoods, near East Cowes, in the Isle of Wight, on the 13th of June 1795, and named after Thomas, Lord Bolton, then governor of the island. His father, of an old Suffolk family, was collector of customs for the port of Cowes. After being educated at Warminster and Winchester, he entered the University of Oxford in 1811. He took a first class at the degree examination in 1814; and in the following year was elected Fellow of Oriel College. While at Oxford he became acquainted with many men who, in after life, exercised a considerable influence on English thought; with the late

* His children were—Sir Thomas; Philip, Steward of the Isle of Wight; Walter; John; James; Sir Francis, master of the horse to Oliver Cromwell; and William; and Elizabeth, Mary, Jane, Eleanor, Dowsabell, Mary, and another (*Berry's Genealogies, Burke's Commoners, etc.*).

Sir John Coleridge, the lamented Keble, Copleston, Bishop of Llandaff, and Archbishop Whately. He was noted at college for the freedom and boldness of his political opinions, his erudition, his passionate love of poetry, and his scarcely less passionate love of country walks and bathing.

He remained at Oxford, studying hard, and taking pupils, till 1819, when he settled at Laleham, near Staines, in Middlesex; took unto himself a wife, Mary, daughter of the Rev. John Penrose, a Nottinghamshire rector, and began to receive pupils to prepare for the universities. He had been ordained deacon in the Church of England prior to his marriage, but delayed taking priest's orders until 1828, owing to the conscientious scruples he entertained in reference to some portions of the Thirty-Nine Articles, and the Athanasian Creed.

He remained at Laleham for nine years, and there six of his children were born. He was slowly acquiring a reputation as an able tutor and an educational reformer of large and liberal views; and his friend Dr. Whately, appreciating the resources of his intellect, and anxious to see them employed in a broader field, prevailed upon him, in 1828, to offer himself as a candidate for the head-mastership of Rugby Grammar School. His influential testimonials and high Christian character decided the trustees to appoint him to the vacancy. He entered upon his duties in August 1828; and, until his death in 1842, he continued in active superintendence of the school, which he completely re-organized, and raised from a failing and insignificant position to one of brilliant influence. But he not only reformed Rugby; he reformed, by his example and teaching, the public-school system of England; while, by his happy faculty of securing the love and confidence of his pupils, his clear insight into their character, and the force of his own personal purity and high-mindedness, he accomplished an amount of good in individual cases which it is impossible to over-estimate. His *modus operandi*, and his singular power over the minds and hearts of those with whom he came in contact, are very vividly illustrated in Mr. Hughes' popular work of "Tom Brown's School-Days."

In 1841 Dr. Arnold was appointed, by Lord Melbourne, to the Professorship of Modern History at Oxford. He delivered an inaugural course of lectures in the following year, which attracted a large and enthusiastic audience of students.

His contributions to historical literature were of an important character. They include a valuable edition of "Thucydides," and a

"History of Rome," to the end of the Second Punic War, which is remarkable for close reasoning, sagacious observations on men and events, and judicious and always dispassionate criticism. Among his miscellaneous works may be mentioned his "Sermons," his "Commentary on the New Testament" (unfinished), and the inaugural lectures on "Modern History." But it was as a man rather than as a writer that Dr. Arnold was great; and he must be judged not so much by his works as by his influence for good on his generation.

He died very suddenly—of *angina pectoris*—on the 12th of June 1842, in the maturity of his powers, but only at the threshold, as it appeared, of a long career of literary usefulness. His life has been ably written by Dean Stanley; and no one can read its interesting pages without appreciating the good and manly character, the noble truthfulness, the chivalrous generosity, and the earnest, unaffected piety of their hero.

THE TOURIST'S COMPANION.

VOYAGE ROUND THE ISLAND.

[*Steamers* leave SOUTHAMPTON, COWES, and RYDE for this excursion two or three times a week during the season; but the tourist will best enjoy it if he hire a stout *wherry*, and make the voyage at his leisure. If he sail from RYDE, eastward, he may stop for the night at *Niton* or *Blackgang*, landing in *Ruth Bay;* if he sail westward, his best landing-place will be *Freshwater Gate.* If he sail westward from VENTNOR, he may stop at *Yarmouth;* if eastward, at *Freshwater Gate.* If he start from COWES, his resting-place should be *Sandown*, or *Ventnor.* But much must, of course, depend upon "wind and tide."]

To describe the various places which the voyager round the Isle of Wight will successively observe, would be to repeat, to a considerable extent, the information already given. We shall, therefore, content ourselves with enumerating the objects of interest on the island-coast in the order in which they occur, referring the tourist for details to our preceding pages.

Starting from RYDE, westward, we pass—

Buckingham Villa; Westfield, Sir Augustus Clifford's seat (p. 174); *Ryde House*, lying back from the shore in the centre of deep, glossy foliage (p. 175); *Binstead* (p. 159), where bright and blooming garden-grounds descend to the very margin of the sea (p. 175); *Quarr Abbey*, whose wild ruins are clearly discernible (pp. 160–163); *Wootton Creek*, running inland through a wooded country (p. 163); *King's Key*, the small inlet associated by tradition with the memory of King John (p. 101); *Barton*, and *Osborne Woods* (p. 100); *Osborne*, with its exquisite terraces and lawn (pp. 100, 101); *Norris Castle* (p. 102); *East Cowes* (p. 96); conspicuous on the bluff of the hill, *East Cowes Castle* (p. 102); and the broad estuary of the Medina, with *West Cowes* on its farther bank,—Messrs. White's dockyard and the Royal Yacht Club House (West Cowes Castle) principally attracting the attention (pp. 93, 94).

From WEST COWES we pass on to—

Egypt, a picturesquely-situated mansion; *Gurnard Bay* (p. 98), and its low, uninteresting shore; *Rew Street*, the point where the old Romano-Celtic road across the island terminated (p. 95). The cliffs here are composed of "alternating beds of clay and limestone, the latter abounding in fresh-water shells and *gyrogonites*. In *Thorney Bay* [which we next reach] similar strata are exposed, with layers of blue clay and sand, containing marine shells." *Newton River*, and *Hampstead Ledge*, consisting of calcareous marls, where fluviatile shells are abundantly found, are next gained, and sweeping along a low, wooded coast, we soon arrive at *Yarmouth*, and the mouth of the river Yar (p. 223).

From YARMOUTH we proceed to—

The headland formerly crowned by *Worsley's Tower* (p. 43) and *Carey's Sconce* (p. 47), observing the new defences, which, in conjunction with Hurst Castle on the mainland, command the passage of the Needles. Next we enter *Colwell Bay* (p. 236), where marine and fresh-water strata are alternated; and "in the fissure called *Bramble Chine* a thick bed of oyster-shells is exposed, apparently in its original state, the valves being in con-

tact with each other as when living." Fossil shells are here abundant, and the *Cytherea incrassata* and *Neretina concava* are sometimes found. Doubling *How Ledge*, we enter *Totland Bay*, characterized by the same geological peculiarities (p. 236); round *Hatherwood Point* we pass into *Alum Bay* (p. 234), whose brilliantly-coloured vertical strata seem the phenomenon of a fairy world; and land to examine its wonders at our leisure. The height which overhangs its sandy shore is *Headon Hill* (p. 235), where the visitor may obtain an abundant supply of fossil shells. Dr. Mantell particularly enumerates the following:—"Potomomya gregaria, Potamides concavus, P. plicatus, P. ventricosus, Planorbis euomphalus, Linnæus fusiformis, L. longiscatus, Paludina angulosa, Melanopsis fusiformis, M. brevis, Psammobia solida, and Cytherea incrassata." Round the Needles into *Scratchell's Bay* (p. 233), and doubling Sun Corner, we sail in the shadow of the mighty cliffs known as *Main Bench* and the *Nodes* (p. 232), until we reach *Freshwater Bay*. The points of interest along this line of coast are fully described at pp. 231–236. At *Freshwater Gate* (p. 230), or at the village, one mile inland (p. 230), we pass the night, and resume our voyage the next morning.

From FRESHWATER GATE we proceed to—

Compton Bay (p. 137), looking across the water to the lofty, undulating chalk range of Afton, Chessel, and Shalcombe Downs; at *Brook Point* we land (if the tide serve) to examine its petrified forest (p. 138). Next we pass *Brook Chine*, leading up to the village, and voyage along an interesting coast to *Chilton Chine*, *Grange Chine*, *Ship Ledge*, *Barnes Chine*, and *Cowleaze Chine*, reaching the south-east boundary of *Brixton Bay* and *Atherfield Point* (see pp. 139, 140). Entering *Chale Bay* (p. 141), we recognize its swarthy, barren cliffs, so terribly ominous to the mariner, and notice *Whale*, *Walpan*, and *Blackgang Chines* (pp. 139, 140); over the last towers the lofty hill of St. Catherine's, crowned by its pharos and ruined cell. Passing *Rocken End*, we observe St. Catherine's Lighthouse (p. 143), and the commencement of the wonderful region of the *Undercliff* (pp. 215–220); at *Puckaster Cove* (p. 211), where King Charles II. landed in 1675, we moor our boat, and land for a few minutes' stroll. [The tourist will do well to walk from this point along the cliff to *Steephill Cove*, where he may again embark to continue his homeward voyage.]

From VENTNOR we sail by the cliffs of *Bonchurch* (pp. 188–192), with Boniface Down rising grandly against the sky; *Chine Head*; *Luccombe Chine* (p. 195); the cliff of greensand at Dunnose Point; *Shanklin Chine* (p. 194); the bold curve of *Sandown Bay*, with the village, church, and fort of Sandown (pp. 200, 201); the magnificent chalk cliffs of the *Culvers*, which form the eastern termination of *Bembridge Down* (p. 171), easily distinguishable by its obelisk; *Whitecliff Bay*, and "its highly inclined chalk strata;" the dangerous ledge of the Foreland; *Bembridge Point* and village (p. 170); the mouth of *Brading Haven*, with the new embankment (p. 168); the old church tower of St. Helen's (p. 266), now used as a sea-mark, on its north-west bank; *Watch House Point*; the well-wooded shores and pleasant sands of *Priory Bay* (p. 177), "a low bank or cliff of the fresh-water eocene marls and limestones being the only indication of its geological structure;" the village of *Sea View* (p. 174), on a declivity which descends sharply to the sea-marge; the low *Salterns*, bounded inland by a range of well-wooded hills; the little hamlet of *Spring Vale*; *St. Clare* (p. 176), formerly occupied by Colonel Vernon Harcourt; *Appley Wood* (p. 176); the long level of the *Esplanade*; and *Ryde Pier* (p. 149).

GEOLOGICAL TOUR.

1st Day.—From Ryde or Ventnor to Newport. Examine the chalk cliffs of Mountjoy. Thence to Calbourne, and visit the quarries of fresh-water limestone. Onward to the hotels at Freshwater Gate or Alum Bay, and pass the night.

2nd Day.—Examine the strata of Headon Hill and Alum Bay: a good locality for fossils. Cross the Downs to Freshwater Gate, and thence to Brook Point, where the fossil forest should be closely investigated. Proceed by Brixton, through Atherfield, to Blackgang Chine. Stop at Blackgang or Niton.

3rd Day.—Walk along the Undercliff, *viâ* St. Lawrence, Ventnor, Bonchurch, and Luccombe, to Shanklin Chine. Numerous fossils may be gathered in this vicinity,

and along the shore to Dunnose Point. Stop at Shanklin.

4th Day.—Walk along the shore to Sandown Bay; visit the Culvers and White Cliff Bay. Continue as far as Ryde, and examine the quarries at Binstead.

[See Dr. Mantell's "Geological Excursions round the Isle of Wight."]

ANTIQUARIAN TOUR.

1st Day.—From Ryde to Ninham and Quarr Abbey, and thence to Carisbrooke Castle, Carisbrooke Church, and remains of ancient palace at Swainstone; Shalfleet Church; Yarmouth.

2nd Day.—Through Freshwater across the Downs; observe the numerous *tumuli;* to Mottistone Church and the Longstone. Thence to Brighstone. Cross to Rowborough, Gallibury, and Newbarns (Celtic relics), and visit Shorwell Church. On to Newport.

3rd Day.—From Newport to Arreton Church. Thence to Kingston Church, Chale Church, and Ecclesiastical Relics in Chale Abbey Farm. Traces of Celtico-Roman road and encampment at Niton. Visit Kingston, and pass through Godshill (Church) and Appuldurcombe to Ventnor.

4th Day.—Visit St. Lawrence Church. Return to Ventnor, and then, through Bonchurch (Old Church), to Shanklin (Church) and Brading (Church). Cross to Ashey and Knighton. Back to Ryde.

POINTS OF VIEW.

NEAR RYDE.—Appley Wood. The road near Brading, looking down upon Brading Haven. Brading Down. Ashey Down, for view of Ryde, the Solent, and surrounding country. Newchurch. The hill near Binstead Church. The road above Wootton Bridge. From Bembridge Down. From Yaverland.

NEAR WEST COWES.—The hill above the town. A point near Northwood Church. The road to Osborne. The ascent above King's Key. A point near Whippence Farm, commanding views of Hampshire, as well as of the island-scenery.

NEAR NEWPORT.—Carisbrooke Castle. The Keep. Bowcombe Down. The road near Gatcombe. Arreton Down. Stapler's Heath. Mountjoy. The road near North Court. Shorwell. On the road to Brighstone, where, having ascended the hill, a fine prospect of the Channel and the south coast of the island is suddenly presented.

NEAR BRIGHSTONE.—Brighstone Down. Mottistone Down. On the brink of the hill over Calbourne. From St. Catherine's Down. The ridge above Niton. Looking out from Blackgang Chine.

NEAR FRESHWATER.—From almost any point on the long and lofty chalk-range known as Chessel, Shalcombe, and Afton Downs. From summit of Needles Down. From the Warren, looking down upon Yarmouth. Norton, at the mouth of the Yar river.

NEAR VENTNOR.—Godshill Church. Appuldurcombe Down. At any point along the Undercliff. Boniface Down. From Bonchurch Old Church. The hill overlooking Luccombe. Shanklin Down. The road near Sandown.

TRAVELLER'S ROUTES.

A Week's Excursion through the Island.

[This is mapped out for the pedestrian, who, of course, may vary it by making use of the railways.]

1st Day.—Start from Ryde: To Binstead (Church) 1 mile; Quarr Abbey, ruins of, 2 m.; Fish-house Creek, 1 m.; through the coppice into the highroad, and by Wootton, 1 m.; to Arreton (Church), 3 m.; cross St. George's Down, and across Shide Bridge, to Carisbrooke (Castle and Church), 4 m.; to Newport (St. Thomas's Church), 1 m.

2nd Day.—From Newport to Osborne, passing Whippingham Church, right, 4 m.; East Cowes (East Cowes Castle and Norris Castle), 1 m.; cross by ferry to West Cowes, and passing Northwood, right, to Parkhurst (Barracks and Reformatory), 3 m.; through Parkhurst Forest to Newton (new Church

and ancient Townhall), 3½ m.; Shalfleet (Old Church), 1 m.; and by Thorley (Church) to Yarmouth (Church, Fort, and pleasant "seats"), 4 m.

3rd Day.—From Yarmouth to Freshwater (Church), 2 m.; and across the Downs to Alum Bay (and the Needles), 3 m.; to Freshwater Gate (caverns, rocks, etc.), 2 m.; over Afton Down to Brook (Church, and petrified forest), 2½ m.; to Mottistone (Church and ancient cairn), 1 m.; across Brixton Down to Calbourne and Westover (two ancient "seats"), 2 m.; cross Bowcombe Down, and by the Celtic remains at Rowborough, to Shorwell (Church, and Northcourt House), 4 m.; to Brighstone, 2 m.

4th Day.—From Brighstone, along the cliffs, noticing the chines, to Chale (Church and Blackgang Chine, and St. Catherine's Hill), 5 m.; to Niton, 1 m.; back to Blackgang, and by the cliffs, to Puckaster Cove, 2 m.; to St. Lawrence (Church), 2 m.; to Ventnor (Boniface Down), 2 m.; and Bonchurch (Church, Cliffs, Downs, etc.), 1 m.

5th Day.—Ventnor to Appuldurcombe (House), 3 m.; to Godshill (Church), 2 m.; Newchurch (Church and fine views), 3½ m.; to Apse (old farm), 3 m.; by Wroxall to Ventnor, 5 m.

6th Day.—Through Luccombe (Chine) to Shanklin (Chine, Church, Sands, etc.), 4 m.; to Sandown (Bay, Fort, Church), 2 m.; Bembridge Down, 2 m.; Yaverland (Church and old Manor House), 1 m.; Brading (Church, Down, and Nunwell House), 2 m.; St. Helen's (Church and Village), 2 m.; Sea View, 1 m.; Spring Vale, 1 m.; Ryde, 2 m.

Four Days' Excursion from Ryde.

1st Day.—From Ryde to Brading, 4 m.; St. Helen's, 2 m.; cross, by ferry, to Bembridge, and over the Downs to Yaverland, 3 m.; Sandown, 2 m.; Lake, 1 m.; Shanklin, 2 m.; Luccombe, 1½ m.; Bonchurch, 1½ m.; Ventnor, 1 m.

2nd Day.—Ventnor to Steephill, and National Cottage Hospital, 1 m.; St. Lawrence, 1 m.; Sandrock, 2 m.; Niton, 1 m.; Blackgang, 2 m.; Kingston, 3 m.; Shorwell, 2 m.; Brixton, 2 m.; Mottistone, 2 m.; Brooke, 2 m.; Freshwater Gate, 3 m.

3rd Day.—Alum Bay, 3 m.; Freshwater, 3 m.; Yarmouth (by coach-road), 4 m.; or, crossing by ferry, 3 m.; Shalfleet, 4 m.; Newtown, 1 m.; Parkhurst, 4 m.; Carisbrooke, 1 m.; Newport, 1 m.; West Cowes, 4 m.

4th Day.—To East Cowes, by ferry, ½ m.; or by coach-road, through Newport and Whippingham, to Osborne, 7 m.; East Cowes, for pedestrians, through Barton to Wootton, 4 m.; and thence to Arreton, 3 m.; or, by coach-road, to Newport (Shide Bridge), 6 m.; Arreton 2 m.; Godshill, 4 m.; Appuldurcombe, 2 m.; Newchurch, 4 m.; Ashey Down, 2 m.; Ryde, 4 m.

Four Days' Excursion from Cowes.

1st Day.—Cowes, to East Cowes and Osborne, 1 m.; to Whippingham, 2 m.; Newport, 3 m.; Parkhurst, 1 m.; Carisbrooke, 2 m.; Arreton, 3 m.; Godshill, 4 m.; Appuldurcombe, 2 m.; Ventnor, 3 m.

2nd Day.—Ventnor to Steephill, 1 m.; St. Lawrence, 1 m.; Sandrock, 3 m.; Niton, 1 m.; Blackgang, 2 m.; Chale, 1 m.; Brighstone, 3 m.; Mottistone, 2 m.; Brooke, 2 m.; Freshwater Gate, 3 m.; Alum Bay, 3 m.

3rd Day.—Alum Bay to Yarmouth (by bridge from Norton), 3 m.; Thorley, 1 m.; Shalfleet, 3 m.; Newton, 1 m.; Parkhurst, 4 m.; Carisbrooke, 1 m.; Arreton, 3 m.; Ryde, 4 m.

4th Day.—Ryde to Brading, 4 m.; Yaverland, 2 m.; Sandown, 2 m.; Shanklin, 2 m.; Luccombe, 1½ m.; Bonchurch, 1½ m.; Ventnor, 1 m.; Newchurch, 4 m.; Ashey Down, 1 m.; Newport, 4 m.; by coach to Cowes, 4 m.

Three Days' Excursion from Ryde.

1st Day.—Ryde to St. Helen's, 4 m.; Bembridge, by ferry, 1 m.; Yaverland (Church and Manor House), 3½ m.; Sandown, 2 m.; Shanklin, 3 m.; Luccombe, 1½ m.; Bonchurch, 1½ m.; Ventnor, 1 m.; Steephill, 1 m.; St. Lawrence, 1 m.; Niton, 3 m.

2nd Day.—Sandrock, 1 m.; Blackgang, 1 m.; Chale, ½ m.; Kingston, 2½ m.; Northcourt, 2 m.; Brighstone, 2 m.; Mottistone, 2 m.; Brooke, 2 m.; Freshwater Gate, 4 m.; Needles Point, 3 m.; Alum Bay, 1 m.

3rd Day.—Alum Bay, by Freshwater and Norton, to Yarmouth, 4 m.; Calbourne, 6 m.; Carisbrooke, 4½ m.; Newport, 1 m.; West Cowes, 4 m.; East Cowes and Osborne, 1 m.; Whippingham, 1½ m.; Wootton, 3 m.; Quarr Abbey, 1½ m.; Ryde, 2 m.

DISTANCE TABLES.

	Ryde.	Newport.	Cowes, W.	Ventnor.	Sandown.	Shanklin.	Brighstone.	Bonchurch.	Yarmouth.
	Mls.	Mls.	Mls.	Mls.	Mls.	Mls.	Mls.	Mls.	Mls.
Afton	20½	13½	17	21	23	24	6	21	4
Alum Bay	24	13	21	25	22	24	10	25	6
Arreton	8	4	8	7	6	6	12	8	13
Bembridge	5 or 7	12	12½	11	4	6	18	10	23
Bonchurch	11	11	16	1	5	3	12	..	21
Brading	4	8	11½	8	2	4	17	7	22
Brighstone	13	7	10	11	12	15	..	12	10
Brooke	17	10	14	15	16	19	5	16	5
Calbourne	13	5¼	10¼	16¼	16¼	18¼	4	17¼	5
Carisbrooke	8½	1	6	9	10	13	5	10	11
Chale	16	10	14½	6	12	10	4	7	14
Cowes, East	8	5	½	14	13	19	11	15	11
Cowes, West	7½ or 11	5	..	15	13½	18	10	16	10
Freshwater Gate	18	11	18	18	20	21	8	19	3
Godshill	11	6	12	5	6	6	7	6	18
Lake	7	9	14	5	1	1	12	5	19
Luccombe	10	12	17¼	2½	4	2	10	1½	21½
Mottistone	15	9	12	13	16	16	2	14	8
Newton	13	6	5	16	15	16	8	17	6
Newport	7	..	5	10	10	10	6	11	10
Needles Point	21	14	18	21	23	25	10	22	6
Niton	16	8½	12½	5¼	11¼	9¼	7	6¼	17
Osborne	7	4½	1	13½	13½	13½	10½	14½	11
Puckaster Cove	17	10½	14½	5	11	9	7	6	17
Quarr Abbey	3	4	4	15	9	11	14	14	14
Ryde	..	7	7½	12	6	8	13	11	17
Sandown	6	10	15	6	..	2	14	5	20
Shanklin	8	10	15	4	2	..	13	3	22
St. Lawrence	14	11	16	2	7	5	10	2	21
St. Helen's	4	11	11	13	5	7	19	12	21
Thorley	16	9	9	19	17	17	9	20	1
Ventnor	12	10	15	..	6	4	11	1	20
Whippingham	5	3	2	12	13	13	9	14	12½
Yarmouth	17	10	10	20	20	22	10	21	..

Distances of Places from Ryde.

	Miles		Miles		Miles
Appley	¾	Cowes, E.	7½	Shanklin	8
Barnsley	1½	Fairy Hill	4	Ventnor	12
Bembridge (by ferry)	5	Quarr Abbey	3	Whippingham	7
Binstead	1	Sandown	6	Wootton	4
Brading	4	Sea View	3	Yaverland	6
Cowes, W.	8				

Distances of Places from Newport.

	Miles		Miles		Miles
Albany Barracks, Parkhurst	½	Carisbrooke	1	Ryde	7
Arreton	4	Cowes, E.	5	Shorwell	5
Calbourne	5¼	Cowes, W.	5	Westover	6
		Osborne	4	Wootton	3

Distances of Places from Ventnor.

	Miles		Miles		Miles
Appuldurcombe	2½	Brading	8	Ryde	12
Arreton	7	Godshill	5	Sandown	6
Blackgang	7	St. Lawrence	2	Shanklin	4
Bonchurch	1	Niton	5¼	Yarmouth	20

Distances of Places from Freshwater Gate.

	Miles		Miles		Miles
Afton Down	2	Needles	3	Wilmington	1
Alum Bay	3	Newport	11	Yarmouth (by bridge)	4
Blackgang	13	Ryde	18	Ventnor	20

WALKS AND DRIVES FOR TOURISTS.

FROM RYDE.

1. From Ryde, by Spencer road, and across the fields to Binstead (Church). Visit ruins of Quarr Abbey. Strike through the copse to Wootton Bridge, and return by the road. For carriages or equestrians this route is not available = 17 miles.

2. From Ryde, by route 1, or by turnpike road to Wootton. Ascend the hill, and at the Old Rectory turn off to the right. Visit Wootton Church. Keep across the fields to Palmer's Farm, and thence through Brock's Coppice and Whippingham Street, to Barton and Osborne. Descend through East Cowes Park (East Cowes Castle on the right) to the ferry, and cross to West Cowes. Return to East Cowes. Homeward by Whippingham Church, into the Newport road, and return by Wootton = 17 miles. Available for equestrians.

3. From Ryde, along the shore to Spring Vale, Sea View, and Brading Haven. Visit Bembridge. Return by ferry, and ascend the hill to St. Helen's village. A turning to the left leads to St. Helen's Church. Thence by a by-road to the Priory, and passing Nettlestone Green and Fairy Hill, cross the fields to Spring Vale. Turn to the right, and return to Ryde by way of Puckpool, St. Clare, and St. John's. Available for pedestrians only = 8 miles.

4. By road to Brading, visit the church, Bullring, Nunwell, etc. Ascend the hill, turn to the left, and crossing Yarbridge, proceed to Yaverland. Thence by the foot of Bembridge Down to Bembridge. Here the pedestrian may cross by the ferry, and return by route 3. Carriages must return by the road they came = 11 miles.

5. A favourite day's journey (for carriages) is through Sandown, Shanklin, and Bonchurch to Ventnor. The route homeward should be by Wroxall, Appuldurcombe, Godshill, and Arreton, or by Wroxall, Appuldurcombe, Whiteley Bank, Apse Heath, Newchurch and Ashey Down.

6. Another day's journey may be through Newport and Shorwell to Brighstone, returning by way of Gatcombe and Arreton.

7. Another day's journey should be to Blackgang Chine, through Arreton, Godshill, and Chale, returning through Niton, Whitwell, Godshill, Sandown (where stop to bait), and Brading.

8. Through Newport to Carisbrooke. After visiting the Castle, etc., proceed through Long Lane to Arreton. Thence, by Knighton, to Ashey Down, and back to Ryde by Aldermoor and Smallbrook = 19 miles.

9. From Ryde by Play Street and Copt Hall, into Haven Street. Return by Crook's Heath, pass the Aldermoor Mill and Smallbrook, cross the Brading Road, and keep down the hill, by Westridge and Westbrook, to Sea View. Return by the shore; or, for carriages, by the road, passing Puckpool, St. Clare, and Appley = 10 miles.

10. Leave Ryde by St. John's, and keep

along the Brading road to Whitfield Wood. Turn to the right, through the wood, and ascend Ashey Down. Return by the high-road = 10. For pedestrians.

[For other routes see pp. 157–159.]

FROM EAST AND WEST COWES.

[These routes, by means of the steam ferry, may be made available from both places.]

11. From West Cowes to Egypt. Turn to the left, and proceed by Debourn to Cockleton. Thence, by way of Tinker's Lane, to Great Thorness. Turn to the left, and skirt Parkhurst Forest, as far as Vittlefield Farm. Turn to the right, and keep along the wood to Parkhurst Barracks. Return by way of Northwood = 14 miles.

12. The pedestrians may keep along the shore to Gurnard Bay and Thorness. Ascend by Whippence Farm into the road, and return by Tinker's Lane and Conkleton = 5 miles.

13. From East Cowes to Whippingham, cross by Whippingham Street, through Brock's Coppice, and by Palmer's Farm to Wootton Church. Thence into the high-road, and keep (south-east) to Newport. Visit Carisbrooke, and return by Parkhurst and Northwood = 13 miles. For equestrians and pedestrians.

14. From East Cowes to Newport. Return by the passage boat, if tide serves.

15. From East Cowes to Whippingham. Descend to the river-side at the Folly Inn, and cross by boat to Werror Farm. Thence to Northwood Church, and home by the highroad = 7 miles. For pedestrians only.

16. By Tinker's Lane, Thorness, and Porchfield, to Shalfleet. Thence, by way of Ningwood, to Yarmouth. Return by Thorley and Shalfleet. For carriages and equestrians = 25 miles.

17. From East Cowes, by Wootton Bridge and Quarr Abbey, through Binstead, to Ryde. Return the same way. For carriages = 16 miles.

18. By route 11, to Vittlefield Farm. Turn to the right through Watching Well, and by Swainstone to Calbourne. Thence, by Stony Cross and Elm Copse, to Shalfleet. Return by Porchfield, Thorness, and Tinker's Lane. For carriages = 18 miles.

[For other routes see pp. 95, 97. The routes from Newport may also be adopted,—the tourist, in that case, riding to and from Newport, to save time and prevent fatigue.]

FROM NEWPORT.

19. To Carisbrooke, along the Mall, or, leaving Newport by Node Hill, cross Mountjoy, descend by the New Cemetery, and climb the hill to the Castle. A whole day should be devoted to the Castle, Church, and Roman Villa.

20. From Newport to Nodgen. Climb Bowcombe Down. Keep in the track of the ancient Romano-British road (the traject of the tin trade) to Rowborough Down. Examine the site of British village. Descend into the highroad by Rowborough Farm. Keep towards Newport for about a mile, to Watergate. Turn to the right, and proceed by Ganson's Barn across the hill to Whitcombe. Cross Mountjoy to Node Hill, and so into Newport = 11 miles. For pedestrians only.

21. From Newport, through Long Lane, to Arreton. Cross Arreton and Beuly Down to Knighton. Thence, by Ashey and Brading Downs, to Brading. By the highroad to Ryde. Return by Binstead, Quarr, Wootton, and Stapler's Heath. A day's journey for equestrians and carriages.

22. From Newport, through Parkhurst and Northwood, to West Cowes. Cross by Ferry, and return through Whippingham = 10 miles.

23. From Newport to Carisbrooke. Turn to the right, and proceed by way of Park Cross and Swainstone (on the left) to Calbourne. Carriages return by the same route. Pedestrians may proceed south to Calbourne Bottom. Cross Brighstone Down into Brighstone, and return through Shorwell = 17 miles.

24. From Shide to Rookley. Turn to the left, and proceed by Sheat Farm into Gatcombe. Through Snowdrop Lane, and by Ganson's Barn, into the Shorwell road. Return through Carisbrooke = 13 miles.

25. Carriage drive: Across Stapler's Heath, and by Wootton Bridge into Ryde. Return through Haven Street to Arreton, and by Long Lane into Newport.

26. Carriage drive: Through Shorwell to Brighstone. Thence to Chale and Blackgang. Return through Kingston and Gatcombe.

27. Carriage drive: Through Rookley, Godshill, and Appuldurcombe into Ventnor. Return through Shanklin to Lake,

and home by way of Apse Heath, Stickworth, and Arreton.

28. Carriage drive: Through Shalfleet to Yarmouth. Return by way of Thorley and Calbourne.

29. Through Calbourne, and across the downs, to Freshwater Gate. Return across the downs to Brook. Through Mottistone, Brighstone, and Shorwell, into Newport.

[For additional routes see pp. 111–114.]

FROM BONCHURCH AND VENTNOR.

30. Ascend St. Boniface Down near the railway-station, cross the summit by footpath to Cook's Castle; thence, by Cow Pit Cliff, into Shanklin, through the town, and return by the beach (if the tide serves) as far as Luccombe, up the Chine, and through the Landslip and Bonchurch into Ventnor = 9 miles.

31. Cross St. Boniface Down, and by Steven's Bush, Rew Farm, and Span, reach Appuldurcombe Down. Descend into Stenbury, and thence, through Whitwell, to Niton. Return by route 30 = 13 miles.

32. Along the Undercliff to Blackgang. Cross St. Catherine's Down into Niton, and thence, by Whitwell, to Godshill. Return by Whiteley Bank into Shanklin, and back by the highroad = 20 miles.

33. Through St. Lawrence to Sandrock Hotel. Return by Niton and Whitwell to Stenbury. Ascend the down, and return by Rew Farm and Steven's Bush = 13 miles.

34. From Ventnor, through Shanklin, Sandown, and Brading, into Ryde, and back by the same route. A carriage drive.

35. From Ventnor, through Wroxall, to Whiteley Bank. Thence, through Godshill, Rookley, and Gatcombe, into Newport. Visit Carisbrooke, and pass the night at Newport. A carriage drive.

36. From Newport, through Shorwell, to Brighstone. Thence to Chale, and back to Ventnor by the Undercliff. Available for equestrians and carriages.

FROM SHANKLIN OR SANDOWN.

37. From Sandown to Yaverland. Cross Bembridge Down, and through "the Peninsula" to Bembridge. Cross to St. Helen's. Keep through the village into the Brading road. Thence into Brading, and by Yarbridge to Sandown (or Shanklin) = 11 miles (Sandown). For pedestrians.

38. Through Sandown and Brading to Ryde. Thence, by way of Ashey Down, to Newchurch. Return by Queen Bower, Lower Northwood, and Cheverton, to Lake. Thence to Sandown (16 miles) or Shanklin (18½ miles).

39. Through Shanklin, Luccombe, and Bonchurch, to Ventnor. Return by Wroxall to Whiteley Bank, and thence into Shanklin. About 14 miles (Shanklin).

40. From Sandown to Lake and Cheverton. Thence to Apse Heath, and, turning to the left, keep south to Apse Farm. Cross through the woodlands of America into Shanklin, and return by the shore = 9½ miles.

41. From Sandown, along the shore, to Luccombe Chine. Ascend the cliffs, and proceed by the footpath through the Landslip to Bonchurch. Return by the road = 11 miles.

42. From Shanklin to Languard manor-house. Keep northward to Merry Garden, and north-east to Northwood, Queen Bower, and Newchurch. Return by Wacklands and (south-east) Pidford to Apse Heath. Then by Apse Farm and America, or by Apse Farm and Cliff, into Shanklin. About 10 miles.

43. From Shanklin, by Whiteley Bank, to Godshill, and thence by Lashmere Pond, Northground, and Stroud Green, into Chale. Visit Blackgang, and return by the Undercliff. For carriages = 24 miles.

44. From Shanklin, through the fields, to Cook's Castle. Cross Shanklin and Boniface Downs into Bonchurch. Return through the Landslip to Luccombe Chine, and thence, by the shore, or from Monk's Bay by the shore = 9 miles.

FROM BLACKGANG CHINE HOTEL.

45. Through Chale and Chale Street, and across Kingston Down, to Kingston. Then through a picturesque hollow lane to Shorwell. From Shorwell to Brighstone, and return along the cliffs to Blackgang = 13 miles.

46. Along the cliffs to Atherfield Point, and home by the shore, if the tide permits = 7 miles.

47. Along the Undercliff to Ventnor, returning by Whitwell and Niton. For carriages = 15 miles.

48. To St. Catherine's Down. Descend into Niton, and return by Westcliff and Sandrock to Puckaster Cove. Then along the Cliffs to Blackgang. For pedestrians = 9 miles.

49. Through Chale, Chale Street, and Stroud Green, to Godshill. Return by Appuldurcombe and Wroxall into Ventnor. Home along the Undercliff. For carriages = 15 miles.

50. Through Kingston, *viâ* Billingham, Ramsdown, and Chillerton, into Gatcombe, and thence to Newport. Return by Carisbrooke, Shorwell, and Kingston. For carriages = 21 miles.

FROM FRESHWATER GATE.

51. Along the Downs to the Needles Point. Descend into Alum Bay. Ascend Headon Hill, and cross by Weston, Colwell, and Hill Farm, to Niton. Cross to Yarmouth, and return by Thorley, Wilmingham, and Afton = 13 miles.

52. Descend Afton Down and Shalcombe Down. Descend through the valley to Brook. From Brook to Mottistone. Cross the Down to Calbourne Bottom, and return over Chessel Down to Shalcombe Farm. Return by road to Afton, Easton, and Freshwater = 15 miles.

53. By boat to Yarmouth. Cross the bridges to Norton, and return by More Green to Freshwater village. Thence into Middleton, and back by way of Faringford to Freshwater Gate = 9 miles.

54. To Middleton Green. Turn to the right, and keep towards the cliff. Then along the cliff to Colwell and Bramble Chines, Albert Fort, and Norton. Return by way of More Green and Freshwater = 9 miles.

55. Carriage-road to Alum Bay. Then proceed through Freshwater to Norton. Cross the bridge, visit Yarmouth, and return by way of Thorley, Wilmingham, and Afton.

[For routes from BRIGHSTONE, see pp. 131, 132; and from YARMOUTH, pp. 226, 227. The routes set forth above, and those contained in the body of the book, are nearly 100 in number, and comprehend a thorough exploration of every part of the Isle of Wight.]

THINGS WORTH SEEING.

Carisbrooke Castle.
Sandown Fort, and Forts at Bembridge and Yaverland.
Fort Victoria, the Forts and Defences at Freshwater and Yarmouth.
Quarr Abbey, Ruins of.
The Cromlech, Cairn, or Druid Stone, at Mottistone.
The Celtic Pits and Earthworks at Rowborough, Gallibury, and Newbarns.
The Barrows or Tumuli on Afton and Chessel Downs.
The Roman villas at Carisbrooke, Gurnard Bay, Merton, near Brading.
The Alexandrian Pillar at Appuldurcombe.
The Lighthouse and Hermitage on St. Catherine's Hill.
The Lighthouse on St. Catherine's Point.
View from Needles Down.
The Lighthouse on the Needles Rock.
The Culver Cliffs and Cavern.
The Chines at Shanklin, Luccombe, Blackgang, Walpan, Cowleaze, and Brooke.
The Natural Curiosities from Freshwater Gate to Yarmouth, Alum Bay, Scratchell's Bay, Arched Rock, Caverns, etc.
Churches at Arreton—A brass, and grave of "Dairyman's Daughter."
,, Bonchurch — Norman building, with mural paintings.
Churches at Brading — Oglander monuments, etc.
,, Brighstone — Interesting interior.
,, Brooke—New edifice.
,, Calbourne—Early English, an old brass, etc.
,, Carisbrooke — Perp., monuments, etc.
,, Freshwater.
,, Godshill — Rich altar-tomb, and handsome monuments.
,, Mottistone.
,, St. Thomas', Newport—Princess Elizabeth's and Sir E. Horsey's monuments.
,, Niton—Good church.
,, Swanmore, near Ryde — New edifice.
,, Shalfleet — Tower and north doorway Norman, the rest Early English.
,, Shorwell—Brass, stone pulpit, and Leigh monuments.
,, St. Lawrence—Small church.
,, Yarmouth—Sir Robert Holmes' monument.
,, Yaverland — Norman arches, the rest Early English.
Parkhurst Barracks and Prison.

ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS, POPULATION, PARISHES, ETC.

V., Vicarage; *R.*, Rectory.

EAST MEDINA.

Parishes.	Acres.	Population in 1881.	Name in Domesday Book.
1. Arreton, V.	8833	1920	Adrington.
2. Binstead, R.	1140	813	Benestede.
3. Bonchurch, R.	430	670	Bonecerce.
4. Brading, V.	9564	7918	Berarding.
5. Godshill, V.	6400	1302	Goddeshull.
6. Newchurch, V.	4680	1356	——
7. Niton, R.	1170	801	Neeton.
8. Ryde, V.	3812	12670	——
9. St. Helen's, V.	1880	4343	——
10. St. Lawrence, R.	350	249	——
11. Shanklin, V.	950	1780	Sencliz.
12. Ventnor, V.	387	5684	——
13. Whippingham, R.	4390	4578	Wipingeham.
14. Whitwell, V.	1920	706	——
15. Wootton, R.	530	104	Odetone.
16. Yaverland, R.	670	153	Evereland.

WEST MEDINA.

Parishes.	Acres.	Population in 1881.	Name in Domesday Book.
17. Brixton, R.	2700	530	——
18. Brook, R.	750	195	Broc.
19. Calbourne, R.	5090	693	Cauborne.
20. Carisbrooke, V.*	8627	8305	Bovecome.
21. Chale, R.	1880	681	Cela.
22. Freshwater, R.	4760	2754	Frescewatre.
23. Gatcombe, R.	1392	225	Gatecome.
24. Kingston, R.	833	69	Chenistone.
25. Mottistone, R.	1070	143	Motsetone and Modrestan.
26. Newport, V.	—	3233	——
27. St. Nicholas-in-Castro, V.	410	351	Ss. Nicolaus.
28. Northwood, V.	4270	8195	——
29. Shalfleet, V.	6260	1050	Seldeflet.
30. Shorwell, V.	4060	622	Sorewelle.
31. Thorley, V.	1574	189	Torlei.
32. Yarmouth, R.	50	779	Ermud.

* Newport, municipality of, 9075; the borough of, 9430.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

RYDE.

Parish Church of All Saints—Sundays, 8, 11, 3, and 7. First Sunday in every month, Litany and Catechizing at 2.30. Daily at 8.30 (Wednesdays and Fridays at 11) and 5.30. Rev. Alex. Poole, M.A., vicar.

St. Thomas's Church—Sundays, 11 and 3;

Wednesdays and Fridays at 11. Rev. W. N. Harrison, M.A., curate.

Holy Trinity Church—Sundays, 11, 3, and 6.30; daily, every morning at 8, except Wednesdays, at 11 and 8, Fridays and all holy days at 11. Rev. A. J. Wade, M.A., vicar.

St. James's Church—Sundays, 11, 3.30, and 6.30, and Thursday evenings at 7. Rev. W. H. Redknap, incumbent.

St. John's Church—Sundays, 11, 3.30, and 6.30. Rev. H. Ewbank, M.A., incumbent.

St. Michael and All Angels—Sundays at 7, 8, 10.30, 3.30, and 7; week days, 8 and 10.30; evensong, 8 o'clock daily. Rev. R. H. E. Wix, M.A., vicar.

St. Peter's, Haven Street—11 and 3. Rev. A. D. Crake, vicar.

BRADING.

St. Mary's—Sundays, 11 and 6. Rev. J. Glover, M.A., vicar.

YAVERLAND.

Church—Sundays, 11 and 3. Rev. W. M. Lee, M.A., rector.

SANDOWN.

Christ Church—Sundays, 11 and 6.30. Rev. E. Stoer, M.A., incumbent.

New Church—11 and 3.

SHANKLIN.

St. John's—Sundays, 11 and 6.30. Rev. G. W. Southouse, M.A., rector.

St. Saviour on the Cliff—Sundays, 11, 3.30, and 6.30; Wednesdays and Fridays, 11. Rev. C. I. Burland, M.A., vicar.

St. Paul's, Gatton—Sundays, 11 and 6.30. Rev. W. Pettitt, vicar.

VENTNOR.

St. Catherine's—Sundays, 11, 3, and 6.30; Wednesdays and Fridays at 11. Holy Communion every Sunday at mid-day. Rev. J. Marland, incumbent. Rev. C. Wills officiating.

Holy Trinity—Sundays, 11, 3, and 6.30. Holy Communion every Sunday after morning service and on the festivals. Daily prayers from April to November at 8; from November to April at 4; Wednesdays and Fridays at 11.30 throughout the year. Rev. A. L. B. Peile, M.A., incumbent.

Royal National Hospital Church, Steephill Road—11 and 3.

BONCHURCH.

St. Boniface—Sundays, 11 and 3.30; saints' days at 11. Rev. H. J. Maddock, M.A., rector.

ST. LAWRENCE.

Sundays, 10.45 and 3. Rev. C. Malden, M.A., rector.

NEWPORT.

St. Thomas's—Sundays, 10.30, 3, and 6.30; Wednesdays, 7. Rev. Canon Connor, M.A., vicar.

St. Paul's—Sundays, 10.45 and 6.30. Rev. W. L. Sharp, M.A., incumbent.

St. John's—Sundays, 10.30 and 6.30; Thursdays, 7. Rev. C. Seaman, incumbent.

EAST COWES.

St. James's—Sundays, 11 and 6.30; Wednesdays, 7. Rev. F. Whyley, M.A., incumbent.

WEST COWES.

St. Mary's—Sundays, 11, 3.30, and 6.30; saints' days, 11. Rev. W. Barker, incumbent.

Church of the Holy Trinity—Sundays, 11, 3.30, and 6.30; saints' days, 11; Wednesdays, 7.30. Rev. J. D. Middleton, incumbent.

DENOMINATIONAL PLACES OF WORSHIP.

RYDE.

Christ Church, Baptist, George Street.

Congregational (Rev. Theodore Hook), George Street.

Baptist (Rev. — Harrison), Park Road.

Wesleyan Chapel, High Street.

Primitive Methodist, Star Street.

Wesleyan, Nelson Street.

St Mary's Roman Catholic (Rev. J. B. Cahill), High Street.

NEWPORT.

Baptist, Castle Hold (Rev. Dr. Trestrail).

Bible Christian, Quay Street.

Congregational (Rev. M. Newland), St. James's Street.

Congregational, Node Hill (Rev. W. H. Hill).

Irvingites, Holyrood Street.

Plymouth Brethren, Union Street.

Primitive Methodist, Pyle Street.

The Friends, High Street.
Unitarian, High Street.
Wesleyan, Pyle Street.
Roman Catholic (Rev. — Fryer), Pyle Street.

VENTNOR.

St. Wilfred's, Roman Catholic (Rev. J. O'Morra), Trinity Road.
Bible Christian, St. Catherine Street.
Baptist, Mill Street.
Congregationalist (Rev. R. Allan Davies), High Street.
Wesleyan (Rev. J. Newman), High Street.
Primitive Methodist, Albert Street.

WEST COWES.

Bible Christian, Cross Street.
Independent, Union Road.
Free Wesleyan, St. Mary's Street.
Primitive Methodist, Market Hill.
Wesleyan, Birmingham Road.
Roman Catholic, Carvel Lane.
Baptist.

EAST COWES.

Congregational.

SANDOWN.

Wesleyan Methodist.
Bible Christian.
Congregational Church (Rev. J. Craig).
Primitive Methodist.

SHANKLIN.

Bible Christian (Rev. W. Heskin).
Congregationalist (Rev. G. Avery).
Wesleyan (Rev. D. Gill).

CONVEYANCES.

Steamboats.

Steamboats run several times daily between Ryde and Portsmouth, Stokes Bay and Ryde, Ryde, Cowes, and Southampton, and Yarmouth and Lymington; but as the times of their departure are constantly being altered, the tourist must consult the Monthly Time-Tables, or the advertising columns of the local newspapers, for information.

Railways.

Cowes to Newport; Newport to Ryde; Newport to Sandown.
Ryde to Brading, Sandown, Shanklin, Bonchurch, and Ventnor
[For times at which Trains start to and from these places, see *Monthly Time-Tables.*]

Coach Service.

Alum Bay to Newport—3.30 P.M.
Bonchurch to Ventnor—8.55, 11.35, 12.30, 2.30, 5.45.
Blackgang to Ventnor—10 A.M. and 3 P.M.
Freshwater to Newport—8.30 A.M. and 4.30 P.M.
Freshwater to Ventnor—4 P.M.
Newport to Freshwater—11.30 A.M.
Newport to Ryde—12.15 noon and 5 P.M.
Newport to Sandown—4 P.M. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays.
Newport to Shanklin—4 P.M. Wednesdays and Saturdays.
Newport to Yarmouth and Freshwater—4 P.M.
Newport to Ventnor—4.30 P.M.
Niton to Ventnor—10.15 A.M. and 3.15 P.M.
Ryde to Newport—10 A.M. and 2 P.M.
Ryde to Shanklin.
Sandown to Newport—10 A.M. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays.
Shanklin to Newport—10 A.M. Wednesdays and Saturdays.
Shanklin to Ryde.
Ventnor to Blackgang—12 noon and 4.30 P.M.
Ventnor to Bonchurch—9.12, 11.15, 12.45, 2.47, 4.4, 4.52, 6.4, 6.52.
Ventnor to Niton—12 noon and 4.30 P.M.
Ventnor to Freshwater—10.15 A.M.
Yarmouth to Newport—9 A.M.

Ryde Pier Dues.

Passengers—2d. each, for landing on or embarking from. Luggage—Packages of 14 lbs. weight, carried by the owner, exempt from toll; packages not exceeding 56 lbs., toll 1d.; not exceeding 112 lbs., toll 2d.; over 112 lbs., 3d. each cwt.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

	Box Closes. A.M.	Box Closes. P.M.	Deliveries. A.M.	Deliveries. P.M.
RYDE	6.0, 8.35, 11.50	12.30, 3.30, 8.30	7.0	6.30
NEWPORT	8.55	12.20, 7.15	7.0	1.30
COWES	9.15	12.0, 1.0, 7.30	7.0	1.0
SANDOWN	12.0	8.0	7.0	2.0
SHANKLIN	9.10, 12.40	7.30	7.0	2.15
VENTNOR	11.20	6.30	7.0	2.30

BANKS.

RYDE—Capital and Counties Bank. National Provincial Bank of England.

NEWPORT—Capital and Counties Bank. London and County Bank. National Provincial Bank of England.

SANDOWN—Capital and Counties Bank.

COWES—Capital and Counties Bank. London and County Bank.

VENTNOR—Capital and Counties Bank. National Provincial Bank of England.

SHANKLIN—Capital and Counties Bank.

DIRECTORY

To the Seats of the Gentry, Interesting Localities, etc.

Corrected up to 1882.

I. ARRETON.

[9 miles from Cowes, 4 miles from Newport, 8 miles from Ryde, 7 miles from Ventnor, 6 miles from Sandown, and 10 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, partly Norman, partly Early English; brasses, monuments, etc. (p. 245).

Arreton Manor House, date James I. (F. Roach, Esq.), near the Church.

Parsonage, near the Church (Rev. J. G. Packer).

Standen, East, near the foot of St. George's Down, 3 miles north-west; Barrows, on the Down; cottage of "Dairyman's Daughter;" Haseley (p. 115), 3 miles south-east, at the foot of Shepherd's Lane.

II. BEMBRIDGE.

[16 miles from Cowes, 11 miles from Newport, 8 miles from Ryde, 10 miles from Ventnor, 4 miles from Sandown, 24 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Early English (p. 248).

Bembridge Parsonage (Rev. Canon Le Mesurier), in Bembridge Street.

East Cliff (Earl Fitzwilliam).

Bembridge Down, White Cliff Bay (fossils), and Woolverton (Wulfere's Town), 3 miles south-west.

III. BINSTEAD.

[11 miles from Cowes, 6 miles from Newport, 1 mile from Ryde, 13 miles from Ventnor, 7 miles from Sandown, 15 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Early English; Norman gateway, and "The Idol" (p. 248).

Binstead Cottage (Sir Charles Locock).

West View (Col. Hill).

Binstead Rectory (Rev. G. Garland), near the Church.

Kite Hill, on the highroad, near Wootton.

Quarr House (Lady Cochrane), beyond Quarr Abbey, near Fishhouse.

Quarries for fossils and fresh-water shells; ruins of Quarr Abbey, about 1 mile west.

Stonelands (Lieut.-Gen. A. Beecher).

Quarr Wood Lodge (Rev. T. V. Tippinge).

IV. BONCHURCH.

[16 miles from Cowes, 11 miles from Ryde, 11 miles from Newport, 1 mile from Ventnor, 5 miles from Sandown, 14 miles from Brighstone.]

Old Church, Norman; New Church, Norman; graves of Adams and Sterling (p. 249).

East Dene (J. Harry Snowdon, Esq.), on the road to the Old Church.

Hawthorndene (Rev. C. Cubitt).

The Maples (G. Giles, Esq.), on the Upper Terrace.
Westfield (— Pope, Esq.), near Bonchurch Pond.
Combe Wood (Mrs. Huish).
Ashcliff (Misses Sewell).
Under Mount (Lady Elizabeth Pringle), on the highroad.
Underrock (Rt. Hon. Sir Lawrence Peel).
Pulpit Rock, Flagstaff Rock, St. Boniface Down, Monk's Bay, The Cliffs, etc.

V. BRADING.

[12 miles from Cowes, 8 miles from Newport, 4 miles from Ryde, 8 miles from Ventnor, 2 miles from Sandown, 21 miles from Brighstone.]

Old Church, Trans.-Norman and Early English; monuments, Oglander Chapel, epitaphs, etc. (p. 250).
Brading Vicarage (Rev. J. Glover, M.A.), below the Church.
Nunwell (Lady Oglander).
Brading Down; bull ring, stocks, old cannon (date 1549), and Nunwell Park; Roman villa at Morton; embankment of Haven.

VI. BRIGHSTONE.

[12 miles from Cowes, 7 miles from Newport, 14 miles from Ryde, 13 miles from Ventnor, and 12 miles from Sandown.]

Church, Norman, Early English, Dec., and Perp.; stained glass, piscina, encaustic tiles, etc. (p. 253).
Brighstone Parsonage (Rev. W. E. Heygate), adjoining the Church.
Brighstone Cottage (the Misses Wilson), in the village.
Waitscourt (Miss Arnold), near the Church.
Bull Rock, Chilton Chine, Grange Chine, Barnes Chine, Shepherd's Chine, Cowleaze (Cow-leas) Chine, on the coast; Brighstone Down, Barnes (Romano-British pottery), and Lemerston (1½ mile east).

VII. BROOK.

[15 miles from Cowes, 10 miles from Newport, 17 miles from Ryde, 16 miles from Ventnor, 16 miles from Sandown, and 3½ miles from Brighstone.]

Church, late Early English (p. 254).
Brook Parsonage (Rev. J. P. Gaze, A.M.).
Brook House (C. Seely, Esq., M.P.), on the right of the road into the village.
Shalcombe Down (barrows), 2 miles north-west; Mottistone Down, 1 mile north-east; Chessel Down (ancient Saxon cemetery), 3 miles north; Brook Point (fossil forest), Brook Chine, Compton Chine, Compton Bay, Afton Down (barrows), 4 miles north-west; Freshwater Bay, about 6 miles north-west of Brook Church.

VIII. CALBOURNE.

[10 miles from Cowes, 5 miles from Newport, 12 miles from Ryde, 15 miles from Ventnor, 14 miles from Sandown, 5 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Norman and Early English; brasses, etc. (p. 254).
Calbourne Rectory (Ven. Archdeacon Wilson).
Swainstone (Sir J. Barrington Simeon, Bart.), about 2½ miles north-east of the village.
Westover (Earl of Heytesbury), south of the village.
Chessel, Mottistone, Brighstone, and Gallibury Downs; remains of Celtic settlement at Rowborough; Calbourne Bottom; Watchingwell, 4 miles north-east of the Church.

IX. CARISBROOKE.

[6 miles from Cowes, 1 mile from Newport, 8 miles from Ryde, 10 miles from Ventnor, 10 miles from Sandown, 6 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Trans.-Norman and Perp.; monuments, etc. (p. 255).
Carisbrooke Vicarage (Rev. E. B. James, M.A.), south of the village, on the side of the hill.
Carisbrooke House (Major Puckle).
Marvel, 1½ mile south of Shide Bridge.
Parkhurst Barracks, on the Cowes Road.
Parkhurst Prison.
The Castle; Roman villa; Bowcombe Down, 2½ miles south-west; Clatterford, 2 miles south-east; Rowborough, 5 miles south-west; Parkhurst Forest.

X. CHALE.

[15 miles from Ryde, 13½ miles from Cowes, 8½ miles from Newport, 6 miles from Ventnor, 12 miles from Sandown.]

Church, Trans.-Norman and Perp. (p. 259). (Rev. C. Theobald.)
Blackgang Chine, and Hotel, 1 mile south; St. Catherine's Hill; St. Catherine's Point, and Lighthouse; Puckaster Cove; the Undercliff, etc.

XI. COWES, EAST.

[5 miles from Newport, 8 miles from Ryde, 15 miles from Ventnor, 14 miles from Sandown, 12 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, pseudo-Gothic (p. 96).
East Cowes Castle (Viscountess Gort), half a mile east of the town.
East Cowes Parsonage (Rev. F. Whylie, M.A.).
Fairlee (W. G. Beckingsale, Esq.), 3 miles south of Whippingham Church, on the road to Newport.
Norris Castle.
Osborne House (Her Majesty the Queen).
Slatwoods, on East Cowes Hill.
Broadlands, Barton, nearly 4 miles from East Cowes.
Whippingham Parsonage (Rev. G. Prothero, B.D.), near the Church.
Osborne; Whippingham Church, 2 miles south; Barton, 1 mile south-east of Osborne, adjoining the royal gardens; King's Key, 3½ miles south-east.

XII. COWES, WEST.

[5 miles from Newport, 12 miles from Ryde, 15 miles from Ventnor, 14 miles from Sandown, 12 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, recent design (p. 260).
Parsonage.
Egypt, on the sea-shore, north of the town.
Royal Yacht Club House.
Northwood Park (J. D. Lee, Esq.) south of the town, on the hill.
West Hill (Misses Ward).
Grantham House (G. R. Stevenson, Esq.).
Norfolk House (Lady Cosway).
Northwood Church, Norman and Trans.-Norman, 2½ miles south; Gurnard Bay, 1½ mile west; New Street, 2½ miles south-west; Parkhurst, 4 miles south; Medham, on the river-bank, 2 miles south; and Dodnor, 4 miles south.

XIII. FRESHWATER.

[14 miles from Cowes, 10 miles from Newport, 17 miles from Ryde, 20 miles from Ventnor, 19 miles from Sandown, 9 miles from Brighstone. Freshwater Gate is nearly 2 miles farther; Alum Bay, from 3 to 4 miles.]

Church, Trans.-Norman and Early English; monuments, etc. (p. 260).
Rectory.
Afton House (B. Cotton, Esq.), 1 mile north of Freshwater Gate.
Faringford (Alfred Tennyson, Esq.), 1 mile north-west of the Gate.
Marina, north of the village.
Middleton, nearly two miles south-west.
Norton Cottage, near Norton Lodge.
Norton Lodge (Sir G. E. Hamond-Græme, Bart., Dowager Lady Hamond-Græme), opposite Yarmouth.
West Hill (Rear-Admiral Crozier, R.N.).
Alum Bay, 4 miles south-west; The Needles; Freshwater Gate; Yarmouth, 2½ miles, through Norton, and across the new bridge; Afton Down; Brook, 7 miles south-east.

XIV. GATCOMBE.

[8 miles from Cowes, 3 miles from Newport, 10 miles from Ryde, 8 miles from Ventnor, 9 miles from Sandown, 9 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Norman, late Perp.; effigy; stained glass (p. 262).
Gatcombe House (Mrs. Lane), near the Church.
Sheat, manor house, date James I., 1 mile south-east; Chillerton Down, 2 miles south-west; Cridmore Wilderness, 3 miles south; Ramsdown, 2½ miles south-west.

XV. GODSHILL.

[10½ miles from West Cowes, 11 miles from Ryde, 6 miles from Newport, 5 miles from Ventnor, 6 miles from Sandown, 7 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Dec. and Perp.; effigies and ornaments (p. 262). (Rev. T. Ratcliffe.)
Appuldurcombe Park (Rev. W. Pound), about 1½ mile south-east, to the right of the road to Ventnor.
Stenbury, manor house, date James I., 1½ mile south; Wroxall Down, 2 miles south-east; Rookley, 2 miles north-west; Whiteley Bank, for scenery, about 2 miles east.

XVI. KINGSTON.

[13 miles from Cowes, 7 miles from Newport, 14 miles from Ryde, 10 miles from Ventnor, 11 miles from Sandown, 7 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Early English; brass; stained glass (p. 267). (Rev. B. Jones.)
Kingston Manor House (Mr. H. S. Morris).
Ivy House, half a mile north-east; Billing-

ham House, half a mile beyond Ivy House; Chale, 3 miles south.

XVII. MOTTISTONE.

[8½ miles from Newport, 13½ miles from Cowes, 15½ miles from Ryde, 14½ miles from Ventnor, 13½ miles from Sandown, and 1½ mile from Brighstone.]

Church, Early English (p. 268).
Mottistone Manor House, date 1557, near the Church.
Pitt Place (Colonel Brown), on the road to Brighstone.
Mottistone Down and Longstone; Brook Chine, and Point, 2 miles west; Calbourne Bottom, 2 miles north-east.

XVIII. NEWCHURCH.

[10½ miles from Cowes, 6 miles from Newport, 6 miles from Ryde, 6 miles from Ventnor, 3½ miles from Sandown, 11 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Early English and Dec. (partly), (p. 269).
Newchurch Parsonage (Rev. C. R. Butler, M.A.).
Queen's Bower, 1½ mile south-east; Kingston, ruins of manor house, 2 miles north-east; Ashey Down, 2 miles north-west; Apse, ancient manor house, 3 miles south.

XIX. NEWPORT.

[5 miles from Cowes, 7 miles from Ryde, 10 miles from Ventnor, 10 miles from Sandown, 10¼ miles from Yarmouth, 13 miles from Alum Bay, 7 miles from Brighstone, 6 miles from Godshill, 10 miles from Shanklin, 5 miles from Shorwell, and 9½ miles from Blackgang.]

Church, Early Decorated; tombs, etc. (p. 270).
Bellecroft (W. Major Coode, Esq., J.P.).
Holyrood House.
St. Cross (G. Kirkpatrick, Esq.), north of the town.
Free Grammar School, Town Hall, Museum, Parkhurst; Carisbrooke; Church and Castle, 1 mile south-west; Pan Down, 1 mile south-east; Gatcombe Park, 3 miles south; Stapler's Heath, 1½ mile east; Hunny Hill, 1 mile north; Arreton, 4 miles south-east.

XX. NITON.

[14 miles from Cowes, 8½ miles from Newport, 15½ miles from Ryde, 5½ miles from Ventnor, 10 miles from Sandown, 12 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Early English, and Dec.; piscina, rood loft, monuments (p. 276).
Rectory (Rev. G. Hayton).
Mirables (.....), on the Undercliff.
Old Park (Lady Cheape), 1½ mile from St. Lawrence.
Orchard (Sir H. P. Gordon, Bart.), half a mile west of Mirables.
Puckaster Cottage (F. L. Popham, Esq.), above Puckaster Cove.
Verlands (Mrs. Velmet).
Windcliffe (Miss Kirkpatrick).
West Cliff (Capt. Kerr), on the Niton road.
St. Catherine's Hill, 1½ mile west; Whitwell, 1½ mile north-east; Puckaster Cove, 1 mile south; Blackgang Chine, Sandrock Hotel, Rocken End, etc.

XXI. RYDE.

[12 miles from West Cowes, 7 miles from Newport, 12 miles from Ventnor, 6 miles from Sandown, 17 miles from Yarmouth, 20 miles from Alum Bay, 14 miles from Brighstone, 13 miles from Godshill, 9 miles from Shanklin, 12 miles from Shorwell, 16 miles from Blackgang.]

For the Churches, see p. 277.
Appley (N. Clayton, Esq.), east of the town, above Appley Wood.
Appley Tower (Sir W. Hutt, Bart.), on the road to Sea View.
Beachlands (Sir J. Lees, Bart.), at the foot of Upper Dover Street.
Beldornie Towers (W. H. Anderson, Esq.), Spencer Road.
Buckingham House, at the commencement of the Spencer Road.
Bucklands (Mrs. Alleyne Yard), Spencer Road.
St. Clare, on the road to Spring Vale.
Seagrove House (W. A. Glynn, Esq.), on the road from Sea View to St. Helen's.
St. John's (Gen. Carr Tate), at the top of St. John's Hill.
St. John's Lodge (.....), at the foot of St. John's Hill.
Oak Hill (H. Leacock, Esq.), near Fairy Hill.
Priory, The (Marquis of Cholmondeley, J.P.), about half a mile south-east of Nettlestone Green, on the shore.

Puckpool (.....), below St. Clare.
Saxonbury Lodge, at the top of West Street.
Sea View House (Thomas Le Marchant, Esq.), facing the sea.
Stonelands (Lieut.-Gen. A. Beecher), north of Ryde.
Stone Pitts (Miss Brigstocke), on the Binstead Road.
Thornbury House (Mrs. Kirkpatrick), in Spencer Road.
Uplands (C. Payne, Esq.), above Spring Vale.
Westbrook (Pakenham Mahon, Esq.), on the road from St. John's to Sea View.
Westridge (J. Young, Esq.), 2 miles from Ryde, on cross road leading to Sea View.
Westfield (Sir Spencer Clifford, Bart.), Spencer Road.
Woodlands (Hon. Col. Calthorpe, J.P.), on the road from St. John's to Sea View.
For interesting localities near Ryde, see pp. 159–178.

XXII. SANDOWN.

[15 miles from Cowes, 10 miles from Newport, 6 miles from Ryde, 6 miles from Ventnor, 12 miles from Blackgang, 22 miles from Alum Bay, and 12 miles from Brighstone.]

For Church, see p. 279.
Vicarage.
Cliff Villa, above the Bay.
Culver Lodge.
Beaufront (Mrs. Loveland).
Guadaloupe (Mr. Cartaret).
The Cottage (Rev. C. Bury).
Royal Heath Villa (Misses Wellings), on the main road.
New Pier, Shanklin Chine, 3 miles south; Roman villa, 1½ mile; Brading, 2½ miles north; Yaverland, Bembridge Down, Whitecliff Bay, etc.

XXIII. SHALFLEET.

[11 miles from Cowes, 6 miles from Newport, 13 miles from Ryde, 16 miles from Ventnor, 14 miles from Sandown, 7½ miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Norman and Early English (Rev. W. F. Fisher); monumental slab, etc.
Newtown Church (Rev. H. R. Venn).
Hampstead Hill, 2 miles north-west; Warlands (or Walleran's), half a mile south-west; Ningwood, nearly 2 miles west; Newtown, 2 miles north-east; Calbourne, 2½ miles south.

XXIV. SHANKLIN.

[15 miles from Cowes, 10 miles from Newport, 9 miles from Ryde, 3½ miles from Ventnor, 2½ miles from Sandown, 16 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Early English (p. 281).
St. Saviour's and St. Paul's, new churches.
Warren Villa (Dowager-Lady Hatherton).
Landguard (Col. F. H. Atherley, J.P.).
Glenbrook (J. Borrodaile, Esq.).
Whitwell Mead (Miss Harriet Parr).
Tower Cottage (Miss Cameron).
Rosecliff House (C. Freere, Esq.).
Lansdowne House (Lady Anson).
West Hill (Mrs. Scaramanga).
Old Manor House (F. White Popham, Esq.).
Beechwood (Captain Hargrove).
Rectory (Rev. W. B. Cole).
Parsonage (Rev. C. Burland, A.M.).
Shanklin Chine and Down; Sandown Bay; Luccombe Chine, 1½ mile; America, woods, 2 miles north-west.

XXV. SHORWELL.

[10 miles from Cowes, 5 miles from Newport, 12 miles from Ryde, 11 miles from Ventnor, 10 miles from Sandown, 2 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Early English; monument, fresco, etc. (p. 281).
Northcourt (Sir H. P. Gordon, Bart.), at the Newport entrance to the village.
Vicarage (Rev. R. S. Wilson), behind the Church.
Atherfield Point, 3 miles south; Gatcombe, 2 miles north-west; Woolverton, manor house, three-quarters of a mile south-west; Westcourt, manor house, half a mile west; Brighstone Down.

XXVI. ST. LAWRENCE.

[16 miles from Cowes, 11 miles from Newport, 14 miles from Ryde, 2 miles from Ventnor, 8 miles from Sandown, 11 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Norman (p. 268).
St. Lawrence Cottage (Countess-Dowager of Yarborough).
Cottage (Hon. Mrs. Dudley Pelham).
Woolverton, ruins of chapel (house?), half a mile south; the Undercliff to Blackgang; St. Boniface Down; Ventnor and Luccombe; Pelham Woods.

XXVII. THORLEY.

[11 miles from Cowes, 16 miles from Ryde, 9 miles from Newport, 19¼ miles from Ventnor, 18 miles from Sandown, 8 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Norman (p. 284).
Thornley Parsonage (Rev. A. Peat, M.A.); Yarmouth, about 1¼ mile north-east; Afton Down, 4 miles south.

XXVIII. VENTNOR.

[15 miles from Cowes, 10 miles from Newport, 12 miles from Ryde, 3½ miles from Shanklin, 13 miles from Brighstone, 6 miles from Sandown, 2 miles from Appuldurcombe, 6 miles from Blackgang, 23 miles from Alum Bay, and 4½ miles from Sandrock Hotel.]

For churches, see p. 285.
Royal National Hospital for Consumption, and Chapel.
Belgrave House (J. B. Martin, Esq.), in Belgrave Road.
St. Boniface Manor House (Mrs. Leeson).
Elm Grove (Mrs. Haskins), above the Church.
Hillside (late Sterling's residence), on the old Shutes.
Parsonage (Rev. W. Willan), near the Church.
Steeplehill Castle (D. A. Hambrough, Esq.), beyond the town.
Bonchurch, the Landslip Wishing Well, the Cove, and New Pier.
London City Mission Seaside Home.
St. Boniface Down, St. Lawrence, 2½ miles south-west; the Undercliff, Dunnose, Luccombe Chine, Rew, Week, and Wroxall Downs.

XXIX. WHITWELL.

[13 miles from Ryde, 9 miles from Newport, 14 miles from Cowes, 4 miles from Ventnor.]

Church, Norman and Early English (p. 286).
Down Court, at the foot of the Down, 1½ mile west.

XXX. WOOTTON.

[4 miles from Cowes, 3½ miles from Newport, 3 miles from Ryde, 10 miles from Ventnor, 9 miles from Sandown, 16½ miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Norman and Early English (p. 286).
Fern Hill (J. Galt, Esq.), on the road to Arreton.
Old Rectory, on the Newport Road.
Wootton Lodge (F. White Popham, Esq.).
Arreton Church and Down, about 5½ miles south from Wootton Rectory; Firestone Copse, 1½ mile south-east; Fishhouse, 1 mile north-east; Quarr Abbey, 2 miles north-east; Osborne, 3½ miles north-west.

XXXI. YARMOUTH.

[12 miles from Cowes, 10¼ miles from Newport, 17 miles from Ryde, 20¼ miles from Ventnor, 19¼ miles from Sandown, 9 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, date Charles I.; monument, etc. (p. 286).
Parsonage (Rev. C. T. Fisher, M.A.), in Bank Street.
For interesting localities in this neighbourhood, see pp. 227–244.

XXXII. YAVERLAND.

[14½ miles from Cowes, 9½ miles from Newport, 5½ miles from Ryde, 8 miles from Ventnor, 2 miles from Sandown, 13 miles from Brighstone.]

Church, Norman (p. 287).
Yaverland Rectory (Rev. W. M. Lee, M.A.), near the Church.
Yaverland Manor House, date James I., adjoining the Church.
Brading, 2 miles south-east; Sandown, 2 miles north-east; Bembridge Down, half a mile north-east; Culver Cliffs, 2½ miles east.

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