

**Colbran's new guide for Tunbridge Wells ... being a full and accurate description of the Wells and its neighbourhood, within a circuit of nearly twenty miles : illustrated with plates, wood engravings, etc. of most of the principal plates / Edited by James Phippen.**

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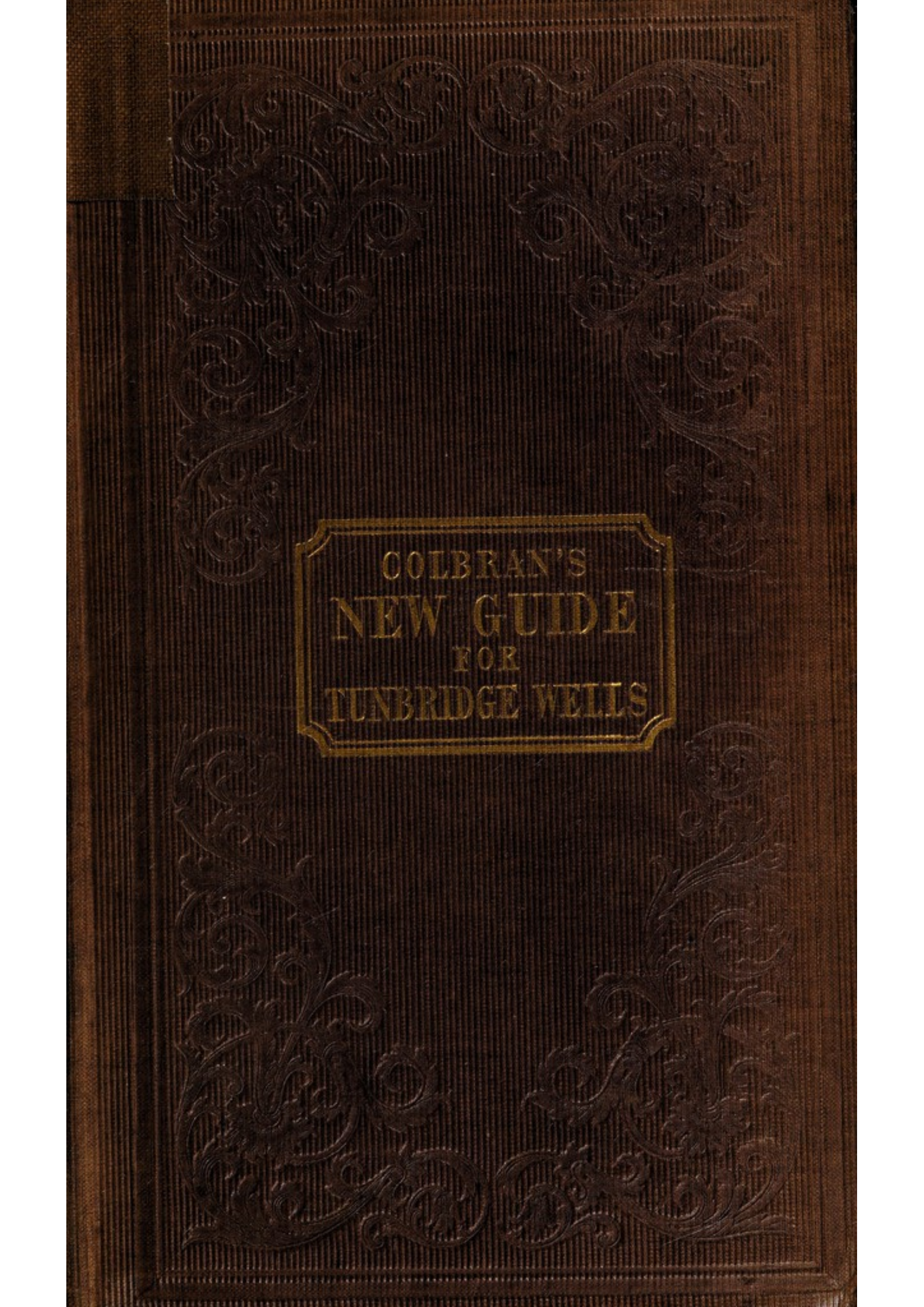
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COLBRAN'S  
NEW GUIDE  
FOR  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS



16

PHIPPEN



Map of  
**TUNBRIDGE WELLS,**  
*Showing the Principal Houses*  
**PLACES OF WORSHIP &c**  
*Engraved for Colburn's*  
**TUNBRIDGE WELLS GUIDE**  
**1839.**




Original & Copy of Tunbridge Wells.

FOR COLBURN'S TUNBRIDGE WELLS GUIDE

London: Printed and Sold by Colburn and Co. 25, Abchurch Lane.





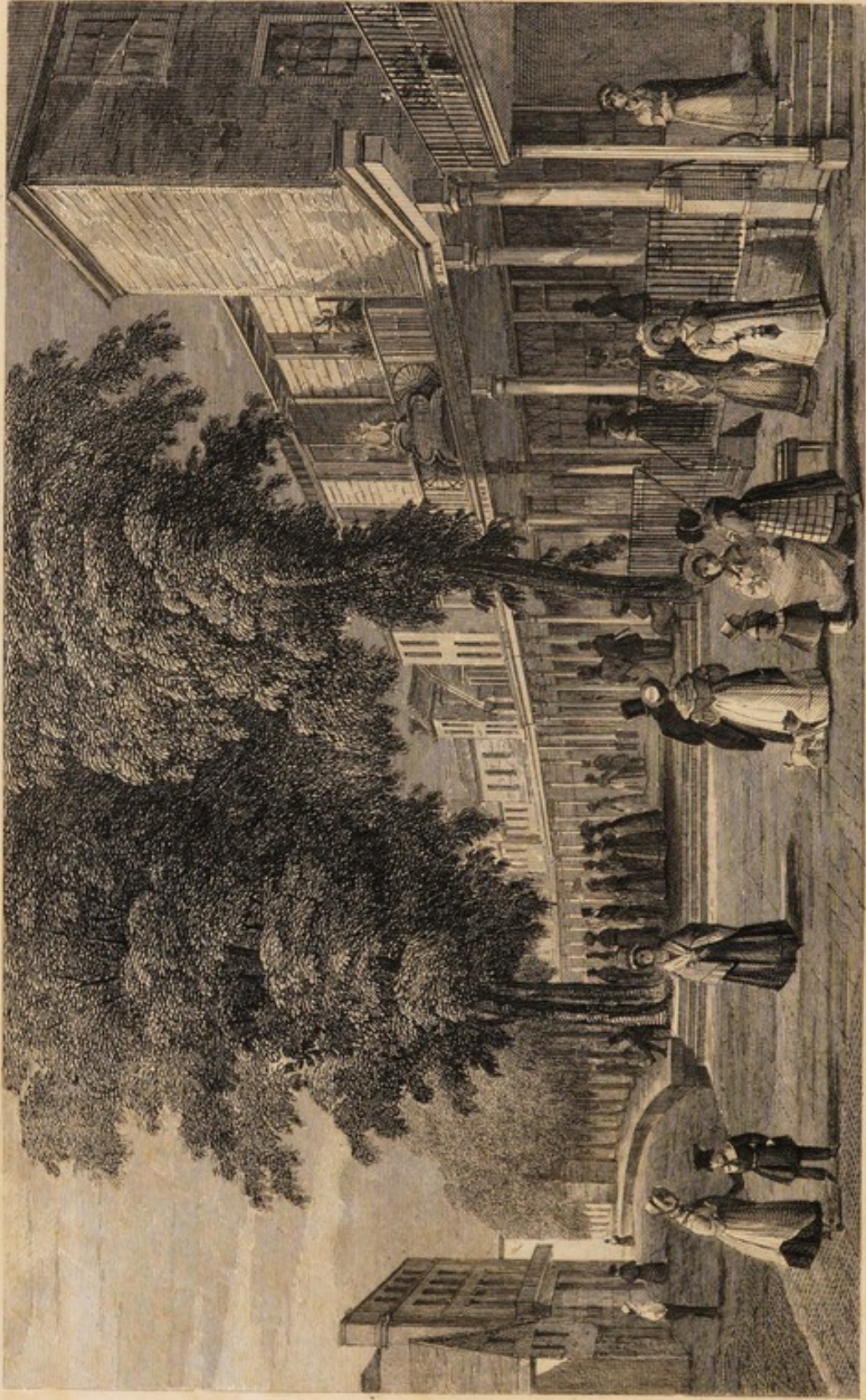
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PARADE TUNBRIDGE WELLS.



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COLBRAN'S  
NEW GUIDE  
FOR  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS,  
BEING  
A FULL AND ACCURATE DESCRIPTION  
OF  
THE WELLS AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD, WITHIN A CIRCUIT  
OF NEARLY TWENTY MILES;  
ILLUSTRATED  
WITH  
PLATES, WOOD ENGRAVINGS, ETC.  
OF MOST OF THE  
PRINCIPAL PLACES.

---

EDITED BY JAMES PHIPPEN.

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TUNBRIDGE WELLS:  
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY JOHN COLBRAN.

LONDON:  
A. H. BAILEY AND CO., CORNHILL.  
MDCCCXL.



GOVERNMENT  
NEW GUILD

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ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.

TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

LORD VISCOUNT NEVILL,

**This Work**

IS,

BY PERMISSION,

MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

BY HIS LORDSHIP'S OBLIGED

AND HUMBLE SERVANT,

J. COLBRAN.





## ADVERTISEMENT.

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WHEN this work was first announced, it was said by some to be superfluous, as there were already “plenty of Guides.” The numerous list of Subscribers, comprising as it does the great majority of the resident gentry, principal tradesmen, and inhabitants generally, proves how far the assertion was correct or otherwise. Indeed, of such a comprehensive nature is the list, that it has rendered unnecessary the publication of the Directory promised in the Prospectus, whilst it has caused both Editor and Publisher to feel doubly



anxious to present a work that shall be worthy the unprecedented patronage bestowed upon it.

The Publisher trusts he has performed his duty by extending the size of the Book to upwards of 200 pages more than were contemplated, and in the number and superiority of the embellishments, as well as having spared neither pains nor expense to render it a *cheap* and *complete* "Guide." But the Proprietor would be ungrateful did he not acknowledge the handsome and ready assistance afforded him by several Noblemen and Gentlemen in the embellishments of the work, and also the extensive patronage of his Subscribers. And most sincerely does he thank the Nobleman to whom the Guide is dedicated, for his kind and generous condescension; but whose readiness, on all

occasions, to promote every thing that has a tendency to benefit the place or its inhabitants, is too well known to need eulogy.

The Publisher cannot close these remarks without noticing the labors of both Editor and Artist, whose united exertions deservedly merit approbation. Those of the Editor will be seen in the general arrangement of the work, and his having given information of places hitherto unnoticed, or touched upon but slightly. The Artist, Mr. Dodd, has taken his sketches with a spirit and fidelity that require no comment. They will be appreciated by all who visit the objects they represent.

It may be necessary to remark, that as much of the matter in this Guide, whether it be "good, bad, or indifferent," is entirely original, the Pub-



lisher has secured his interest in it by entering the work at Stationers' Hall. Any infringement therefore of his right will be noticed.

JOHN COLBRAN.

*Tunbridge Wells,*

*January, 1840.*

## PREFACE.

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IN compiling this Guide the greatest care has been taken to render it accurate. A nice construction of phrases has been less regarded than correct information, and although there may be some inaccuracies, it is hoped they will not be found either numerous or important. With very few exceptions, and those of a minor nature, the places described have been visited by the Artist, Editor, and Publisher, and previous descriptions have been examined for the purpose of comparing the past with the present. Books, almost without number, have been consulted for facts, traditions and records, which were



Whatever inaccuracies may appear, whether of omission or commission, shall be rectified in a future edition, and for this purpose, authentic communications are respectfully solicited to be forwarded to the Editor or Publisher.

I now leave the "Guide" to the candid consideration of the public. Simple as it may appear, it has been a work of great labor; and if I do not presume upon any further merit, I will at least claim that of industrious, I had almost said, of laborious, research.

JAMES PHIPPEN

*Tunbridge Wells,*

*January, 1840.*

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TO THE BINDER.

*To arrange Plates, &c. see Index above.*

## TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

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TUNBRIDGE WELLS, notwithstanding the present state of its population, comprising as it does nearly ten thousand inhabitants, cannot be regarded as a very ancient settlement, for within fifty years it was the custom of the inhabitants at the termination of their fashionable season to close the shops of every description, whilst the Hotels, Lodging and Boarding Houses, were all hermetically sealed till the return of the ensuing season, which was as eagerly looked for by the original speculators, as the rising of the Nile by the Egyptians—the one fertilized the land—the other enriched the pockets, and it would require no great stretch of the imagination, with a slight anachronism, to represent Lord Dudley North and Beau Nash as the Isis and Osiris of our early inhabitants.

Tunbridge Wells is situated thirty-six miles from London, with the villages of Pembury on the East, Frant on the South,



Withyham on the West, and Southborough on the North. It is equi-distant from Brighton and Hastings thirty miles, and lies in three parishes and two Counties, the former being Tunbridge, Speldhurst, and Frant, and the latter Kent and Sussex. Dr. Rowzee, who wrote in 1632, describes it thus:—"The water commonly known here amongst us by the name of *Tunbridge* water, are two small Springs contiguous together, about some five miles southward from the towne of *Tunbridge*, in *Kent*, from which they have their name, as being the nearest Towne in *Kent* to them. They are seated in a valley compassed about with stony hills, so barren, that there groweth nothing but heath upon the same. Just there doe *Kent* and *Sussex* meete, and one may with lesse than halfe a breath runne from those Springs into *Sussex*." The two Counties are divided by a small insignificant stream, which runs under the road leading from the old chapel to the Springs, and here also the parishes of Frant and Tunbridge join, whilst Speldhurst borders upon both at the end of the Parade. Scarcely a century ago it was an inconsiderable village, but it

has been since then gradually, and within the last ten years rapidly, increasing in size, and in the year 1835, it was created a town by the passing of a Local Act for the watching, lighting, and otherwise regulating its affairs. Many places of this description are rich in legendary tales relative to the origin of them, which is generally traced to the interposition of some Saint whose miraculous powers have been exerted for the exclusive benefit of a particularly favored spot, the sanctity of whose inhabitants afforded him comfortable means of subsistence, which he acknowledged by performing various miracles that enabled them to obtain for themselves those worldly advantages which had heretofore been denied to them. Strange, however, as it may appear, the discovery of the chalybeate waters of Tunbridge Wells cannot be traced to supernatural sources. There is indeed a vague tradition of somebody "dreaming a dream" at Summerhill, about the virtues of the then undiscovered waters, but as this vision has not been properly authenticated, we must leave it altogether to the imaginative faculties of the reader. Nature seems to have impregnated the Springs with their



medicinal virtues, and as if she had been jealous of saintly interference, their efficacy can be traced to natural causes only.

It is more than probable that their qualities had been discovered, and the effects of them beneficially experienced long antecedent to the time generally attributed to them, and being the subject of conversation among the peasantry, by this means reached the ears of the nobleman who afterwards tried them—for it can be scarcely credited that a young courtier would have tasted water of such a ferruginous and uninviting appearance, unless some such rumour had been communicated to him.\* However this may be, it is indisputable that Dudley, lord North, was the

\* Benge Burr, however, appears positive upon this point, and cites two M.S.S. in his possession stating that the waters were discovered in the fourth year, or thereabout of King James. He further states, on the authority of "one of his own family, who had it from the grand children of Mrs. Humphreys, (who was the first water-dipper at Tunbridge Wells, and the very person that lent lord North the wooden bowl out of which he tasted the water :) that Mrs. Humphreys was married in the 30th year of her age, and soon after began to dip water from the spring for company attending the place. This trade she continued till her death, which happened in the



Founder of Tunbridge Wells ; and therefore, quitting all conjecture, we will proceed to facts.

In the year 1603, Dudley, lord North, was one of the favorites of Prince Henry, the Son of King James the first, in whose Court he was distinguished for his mental and personal endowments, and, what made him a still greater object of admiration in those times, for his numerous gallantries. In his twenty-fourth year the effects of these were felt in an impaired constitution and every symptom of a consumptive disease. Such indeed was his general state of debility that his physicians deemed it absolutely necessary to remove him altogether from the scenes of gaiety and dissipation in which he was involved, to some part of the country where pure air and peaceful pursuits might tend to invigorate his debilitated constitution. Perhaps no place could have been better selected for the purpose than that which was chosen by his advisers, by whose persuasions his lordship

year 1678, when she was an hundred and two years old. From hence it appears she was married in the year 1606, and began to make a profession of water-dipping a year or two afterwards."—Burr's History, p. 313.



determined upon visiting Eridge House, which is situated two miles from Tunbridge Wells, and was at that period a perfectly sequestered place. It was, in fact, a mere hunting seat, belonging to my lord Abergavenny, and far different in appearance to the present elegant building. There is no doubt, however, that when the park and scenery around it were described as “an assemblage of all nature’s beauties—hills, dales, brooks, lawns, groves, thickets, rocks, waterfalls, all wildly noble and *irregularly amiable*,”\* the description, though glowing, conveyed a correct idea of what met the eye of lord North, when in the spring of 1606, he found himself an inhabitant of Eridge House. But notwithstanding the natural beauties lavished on this famed spot, it is represented as being situated “in one of the most savage parts of the County of Sussex, and by its distance from all neighbourhood, secluded its inhabitants from all intercourse with the rest of mankind.”†

It will be readily believed that there was no exaggeration in this picture, and it can create no surprise therefore, to find that the

\* Aaron Hill’s works, vol. 2. † Burr, p. 8.



gay dissipated young Courtier, thus suddenly deprived of the fascinations of the brilliant scenes in which he had so conspicuously mingled, should become weary of a place in which the restorement of health appeared as nothing compared with the loss of those enjoyments which had formed so large a portion, nay, probably the whole business of his life. He resolved, therefore, to return to the metropolis, and mix again in those scenes from which he had been in a measure banished; and although by the persuasions of his friends he was induced to remain some time longer to give the country a fair trial, he at length took a somewhat precipitate departure for London. “Fortunately for him,” says Benge Burr (whose account is written with such a minuteness of detail that we feel bound to give it in his own words) “his road lay directly through the wood in which these useful springs were concealed from the knowledge of mankind; so that when his lordship came upon the spot\* at the begin-

\* It is perhaps, to be regretted that the precise spot cannot be pointed out, were it for no other motive than to gratify curiosity. So many chalybeate springs abound in the neighbourhood, that the original, like more important things, is a mere matter of conjecture.



ning of his journey, and while he had the day before him, he could not well pass by, without taking notice of a water which seemed to claim his attention on account of the shining mineral scum that every where swam on its surface, as well as on account of the ochreous substance which subsided at the bottom, and marked its course to a neighbouring brook. His lordship accordingly observed these uncommon appearances, the meaning of which he could not instantly comprehend; however, they induced him to alight from his carriage, in order to examine it more attentively; and at the same time he ordered one of his attendants to borrow a little vessel from the neighbouring hovel, that he might taste it: and the peculiar ferruginous taste of the water not only convinced lord North that it held its course through some undiscovered mine, contained in the dark cavities of the earth, but also gave him room to fancy that it was indued with some medicinal properties, which might be highly beneficial to the human race.

“As a drowning man is said to catch at a straw, so his lordship, as soon he had in imagination made this important discovery,



began to hope it would be useful to himself ; and therefore commanded his servants to bottle off some of the water, in order to consult his physicians upon this subject, as soon as he could get to London.

“ They were accordingly consulted upon its virtues, and their judgement so perfectly coincided with lord North’s opinion, that they immediately left town to examine it on the spot, and the result of their enquiries proved so favorable to this hitherto neglected spring, that they hasted back again to publish its valuable qualities, and to give their noble patient sufficient encouragement to try its efficacy on the return of the vernal season.

“ Accordingly, (in 1607,) as soon as the warm weather came on, and the roads were dry enough to render a journey practicable, my lord North returned to Eridge to add the power of the water to the purity of the air, and try how far their united force would contribute to restore strength and vigour to his shattered constitution.”

The experiment, it appears, perfectly succeeded, for “ the power of the water and the purity of the air ” so completely renovated his lordship’s health, that his death did not



take place until the year 1666, when he had reached the advanced age of Eighty-five.

That his lordship himself attributed the restoration of his health to these waters, is proved by his remarks in a work published by him in 1637, wherein he says—"The use of Tunbridge and Epsom waters, for health and cure, I first made known to London and the King's people: the Spa (in Germany) is a chargeable and inconvenient journey to sick bodies, besides," adds his lordship, with true *amor patriæ*, "the money it carries out of the kingdom and inconvenience to religion.\* Much more I could say, but I rather hint than handle—rather open a door to a large prospect than give it."

The return of his lordship to Court in the full enjoyment of health, when he had quitted it apparently in the last stage of consumption, naturally raised eager enquiries as to the causes which had effected this wonderful change. The virtues of the chalybeate waters were then made known to the higher circles of society, and corroborated as they were by the physicians and others who

\* Subjects of very little importance in the present *enlightened* age!

had analysed them, it became a matter of fashion to visit the spot and partake of the waters which had effected such a wonderful cure in so distinguished an individual.

As the spring which produced these wonders had its rise on the borders of lord Abergavenny's estate, his lordship inspected the spot in person, and foreseeing the advantages that would ultimately arise from the fashionables who would naturally visit it, he obtained permission from Mr. Weller, of Tunbridge, who was then lord of the manor of Rusthall,\* and commenced clearing the ground in the neighbourhood of the spring to make a readier and better access to it; and in order to obtain the fullest information on the subject, he procured the services of an eminent naturalist, under whose directions seven principal springs were discovered. Wells were sunk over them, a stone pavement laid round, and the whole were enclosed with wooden rails, placed in a triangular form.†

Thus was the first attempt made to afford those accommodations to invalids visiting the

\* See "Rusthall." † Burr, p. 19.



springs, which has continued to increase to the present period.

But the efforts of lord Abergavenny to improve upon the discovery do not appear to have been supported by others, for the springs seem to have remained in the same desolate condition for upwards of twenty years after they were discovered and their virtues first promulgated. The uncertain results of a speculation of this nature, the wild nature of the surrounding country, with the circumstance that Tunbridge, the nearest town to the springs, was six miles distant over roads that were sometimes impassable, no doubt tended much to check that spirit of enterprise which his lordship's example might otherwise have created, and to suspend everything in the shape of improvement beyond the mere clearing away of the bushes and underwood that might have incommoded the water-drinkers. An attempt, indeed, appears to have been made during this period to improve the road from Tunbridge to the springs, but judging from the modern appearance of these roads, it must have been attempted feebly, as it is within the last twenty-five years only that many of the

approaches to Tunbridge Wells could be travelled on without difficulty or danger.

It is evident that the mere discovery of the Springs, did not establish Tunbridge Wells as a place of fashionable resort, for long after that period we find it in a most languishing condition—drooping, we may almost say dying, for the want of proper sources of general amusement to cheer the convalescent, and to attract the healthy. “The sick had only the recovery of health in view, and proposed to themselves no other pleasures but such as were entirely rural. The amusements of the gentry were few, confined, and selfish. The great brought with them all the haughtiness of nobility, and knew not how to let themselves down with grace. In short, delicacy, politeness, and elegant pleasures, were then but just budding forth from amidst the rubbish of Gothic barbarism, and, till these were grown to such a height as to be discernible amongst us, Tunbridge Wells was not esteemed a place of pleasure, in which the people of fashion might depend upon being agreeably amused.”\*

\* Burr, p. 21.



In the year 1630, the resuscitation of the Wells might be considered to have taken place, for previous to this date there were no dwelling-houses near the Springs for the accommodation of the invalids who visited them, if we except a few hovels which were erected near them to afford temporary shelter in unfavorable weather. Tunbridge was the nearest town at which suitable lodgings could be procured, and from this circumstance the Wells took their name, although it has been said, they were originally called *Fant* (Frant) Wells.

In this year Queen Henrietta Maria, the beautiful but ill-starred consort of the first Charles, was recommended by her physicians to try the Tunbridge Wells Waters. It is reasonable to conjecture that Her Majesty's delicate state of health would not allow of her residing far from the Springs, therefore as there were no houses erected near them, Her Majesty and suite encamped on Bishop's Down, where they remained about six weeks. Although this visit did not produce any immediate benefit to the place, it is probable that the honor conferred by it was the means of causing buildings to be erected earlier than they would have been otherwise.

It is stated that in one of her pedestrian excursions in the neighbourhood, Her Majesty strolled up the Frant Road, and finding herself fatigued, rested upon a bank beneath a birch tree—upon quitting which, with that *gaieté de cœur* which was natural to her, she gave orders for a stone to be placed on the spot “as a memorial of her travels into Sussex.” The gallantry of the courtiers suggested a complimentary latin inscription to be engraven upon it, but no vestige of the stone or inscription now remains, although in the year 1766, a Public House, called “The Blue Bell,” formerly “The Queen’s Stone,” and afterwards “The Black Dog,” stood upon the spot where the stone had been originally placed. Since then the house has undergone another change, being now a private residence, called “Mount Nevill.” It is about quarter of a mile from the Springs, on the right of the road to Frant. Dr. Rowzee, who published a Treatise on the nature and virtues of the Waters in 1632, says, “It pleased our gracious Queen *Marie* to grace this Water by her presence two years agoe, so that those Springs may justly be called, as some doe call them now, *Queen Marie’s*”



*Wells.*" The troublesome times which soon after followed, possibly occasioned this name to be altered, and the original one restored.

Six years after the Queen's visit the first two buildings were erected in the immediate vicinity of the Springs. They were little better than cottages—one of them for the accommodation of gentlemen, and the other for ladies. It is supposed that one of these houses still remains in the corner of "Pink Alley," in a direct line from the Springs, and close adjacent; and a similar house to this has been recently converted into warehouses adjoining to it. One of them is said to have been the residence of Mrs. Humphreys, the original water-dipper.



Insignificant as these buildings must have been, they were so essential to the comforts of the place that they were greatly resorted to. The gentleman's house being called "The Pipe Office," where they assembled after taking the Waters to indulge in a Pipe,\* or join in the general conversation.

Two years afterwards a green bank was raised and a double row of trees planted on its borders to shelter the company from the heat of the weather. It was here that the Tradesmen stood to dispose of their merchandise at those hours when the company assembled to drink the waters, which was seldom more than once a day in consequence of the distance which visitors had to travel; but in the course of the next year, 1639, finding the company on the increase, and the complaints for want of accommodation loud and general, some parties interested in establishing the place commenced building a few small houses at Southborough, a village rather more than two miles from the Wells,

\* Diverse doe take Tobacco after their water, which I doe not dislike, especially if they hold it a good while in their mouthes, before they puffe it out. *Rowzee's Treatise*, p. 55.



and on the Manor of Rusthall, which immediately adjoins it. Some of the latter are still remaining. Inconvenient as these were, such was the reputation the Waters had now acquired that every other consideration was lost sight of in the necessity there appeared for all fashionable people to drink them; and when the new buildings were full, every description of cottage or hut was eagerly sought after without one thought of its attendant discomforts. So eager was the world of fashion to partake of the benefits of the newly discovered Chalybeate Spring.\*

The next twenty years, from 1640 to 1660, shew but a blank in the History of Tunbridge Wells. Brother was then fighting against brother, and father against son. The arts of peace were either wholly forgotten or utterly neglected, and the genius of

\* If Dr. Rowzee's statement can be relied on, the quality of the waters must be much improved since his time, (1632) or the human constitution proportionably degenerated, for he recommends the several patients "to begin at 30, 40, or 50 ounces, (about two pints,) and to arise by degrees to 100, 150, or 200 ounces, (*from six pints and a quarter to twelve pints and a half!*) more or less, as they shall be able."—No wonder at the *iron-ical* style of the wits of that period!

civil war stalked triumphantly through the desolated land. But upon the death of Cromwell, and the happy restoration of the rightful monarch, the Wells began to assume a more flourishing aspect.

The year 1664 was probably the gayest among the records of Tunbridge Wells, as it was then visited by Charles 2nd., His Queen, and the greater portion of the distinguished individuals belonging to that licentious Court. It is generally considered that the residence of their Majesties and principal suite, was at the large house facing Bishop's Down, for some years passed used as a Tunbridge-Ware Manufactory. The style of the building strongly favors the supposition, although by many it is considered that the court resided at Southborough. The latter, however, could not have been the case, if the following allusion to the habitations being "half a mile round the Wells" is correct. Count Hamilton,\* speaking of this visit says, "The court set out to pass about two months in that place, (the Wells) of all Europe the most rural and

\* Memoires de Count Grammont, vol. 2.



simple, and yet, at the same time, the most entertaining and agreeable. \* \* \* The company though numerous is always select, as the number of those who repaired thither for diversion ever exceeds the number of those who go thither for health. \* \* \* The company are accommodated with lodgings in little, clean, and convenient habitations that lie straggling and separated from each other, half-a-mile round the Wells: this place consists of a long walk, shaded by spreading trees, under which they walk while drinking the waters. On one side of this walk is a long row of shops, plentifully stocked with all manner of toys, lace, gloves, stockings; and where there is raffling, as at Paris, in the *Foire de Saint Germain*. On the other side of the walk is the market; and as it is the custom here for every person to buy their own provisions, care is taken that nothing appears offensive upon the stalls." The gaieties of the Court are thus described by the same author:—"The Queen even surpassed her usual attentions in inviting and supporting entertainments: she endeavoured to increase the natural ease and freedom of Tunbridge, by dispensing altogether with the ceremonies

that were due to her rank. \* \* The Queen sent for the Players. \* \* There was dancing every day at the Queen's House."\*

The Court remained at the Wells about two months, and it is probable that during their residence here many improvements were then commenced, or had been previously contemplated; for, about this time, Rusthall could boast of an Assembly Room, a Bowling Green, and other places of public diversion. The site of the Assembly Room is still to be seen on Rusthall Common. It stood about two or three hundred yards beyond the first mile stone, on the Langton road, on the right hand; immediately adjoining which, was a Bowling Green of upwards of two acres in extent, the boundaries of which are yet visible. A single tree,

\* Queen Katharine appears to have been a most amiable woman and deserving of a better consort, though her personal charms, according to the Viscountess de Longueville, do not appear to have been prepossessing. This old lady died in 1763, aged nearly 100 years, and has given this portrait of Her Majesty:—"She was a little ungraceful woman, so short legged, that when she stood upon her feet, you would have thought she was on her knees, and yet so long waisted, that when she sat down she appeared a well sized woman."

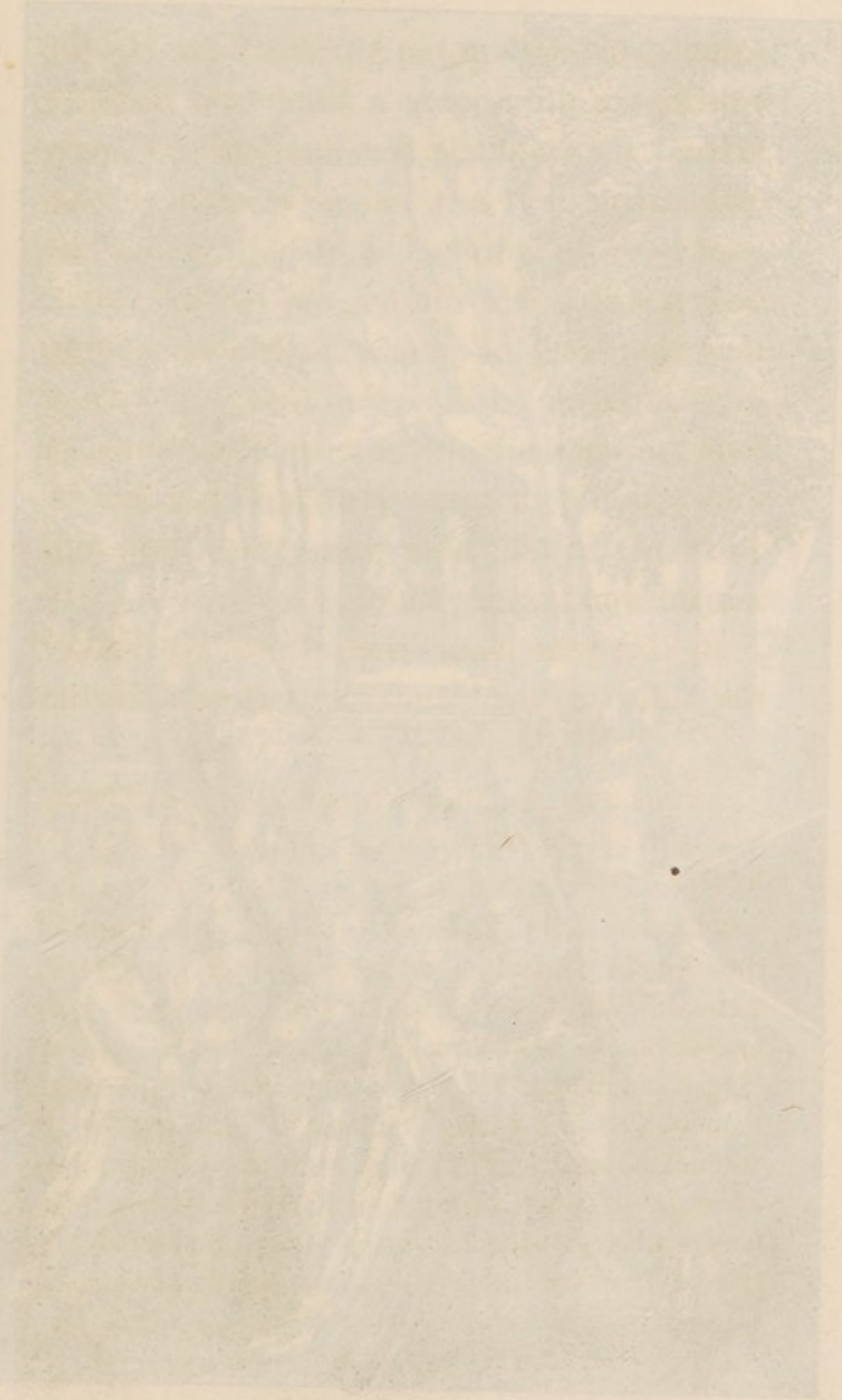


recently planted, appears to mark plainly the situation of the Assembly Room and Bowling Green. Southborough too, had not only materially increased in the number and quality of its houses, but had also a Bowling Green and Coffee House, and it was evident that the spirit of improvement was making rapid progress. Still, the inconvenience of living at such a distance from the Wells, or else residing in mere Hovels,\* was felt by all, especially to those who were *really* and not *fashionably* invalided.

In this year also, when Lord Muskerry† was lord of the Manor, he displaced the

\* Evelyn in his Memoirs, states that in 1652 he left his Wife and Lady Browne "in their little cottage by the Wells."

† Charles, Lord Viscount Muskerry was the son of the Earl of Clancarty, and was killed in an engagement with the Dutch in Southwold-Bay, which was fought on the 3rd. of June, 1665, when the English fleet was commanded by the Duke of York, Prince Rupert, and the Earl of Sandwich. The Dutch, by Admiral Obdam. The forces were nearly equal, but after an obstinate engagement, the Dutch were defeated with an immense loss. Lady Muskerry was the only child of the 5th. Earl of Clanrickarde, and was married three times—first, to Viscount Muskerry, second, in 1676, to Robert Villiers, called Viscount







THE SPRINGS AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS,  
IN 1664.



original wood fencing put up by lord Abergavenny, and built a stone wall round the Springs. The annexed plate, which is the oldest we have seen of the Wells, will give the reader an accurate idea of the appearance of the Springs previous to his lordship displacing the fence which is there shewn. His lordship also re-paved the interior, and placed a basin over the principal Spring, and at the same time built a Hall for the dippers. His lordship's arms were erected over the gateway that led to the springs, but during

Purbeck, who died in 1685,—third, to Robert Fielding, Esq. She died in August, in 1698. Their residence was at Summer Hill. “The two darling foibles of this lady were dress and dancing. Magnificence of dress was totally incompatible with her figure, which was that of a woman *enceinte* without being so; but she had a much better reason for limping, for, of two legs uncommonly short, one was much shorter than the other: a face suitable to this description completed the *tout ensemble* of this disagreeable figure—and though her dancing was still more insupportable, she never missed a ball at court: and the Queen had so much complaisance for the public, as always to make her dance.”—Memoires de Grammont, vol. 2, p. 143. According to these Memoirs, her ladyship must have been a sort of *Butt* for the maids of honor, as several ludicrous anecdotes are related respecting her.



the contentions that afterwards took place between the Lord of the Manor and the Tenants, upon a decision being given in their favour, they removed the arms as a token of Victory. They are now at the back of the Upper Assembly Rooms.

Between the years 1665 and 1670, the place began to assume more of its present appearance than it had hitherto. The Assembly Room at Rusthall was abandoned, and one established at Mount Ephraim House, in a field to the north of which, at the back of Chancellor House, a Bowling Green was enclosed. A Tavern was also built, and called "The Castle." It is now the residence of W. Congreve, Esq., but retains the original name. These alterations had been scarcely accomplished, when Mount Sion preferred its claim for a share of that prosperity which now began to shew itself throughout the Wells, and from its contiguity to the Springs, it not only proved a formidable rival to, but speedily eclipsed Mount Ephraim; and the republican party who patronised the latter, had once more to feel that the Cavaliers of Mount Sion were again the lords of the Ascendant.

“ Thus, in the course of a few years, we find Tunbridge forsaken ; Southborough and Rusthall raised and ruined ; Mount Ephraim drooping ; and Mount Sion in the full bloom of prosperity ; this last indeed not only rivalled, but despoiled her predecessors, and triumphantly transferred their ornaments to herself ; for many houses were brought from Southborough, Rusthall, and Mount Ephraim, to be rebuilt on Mount Sion ; and some, whole and entire as they were, were *wheeled on sledges*, to be fixed in this new seat of favor.”\*

A place called the Fish Ponds, situated behind Chancellor House, and adjoining the Bowling Greens, was also opened for the public amusement, but as the managers of it did not bestow proper attention upon it, it soon became the resort of low company, and was speedily abandoned.

In 1670, the place was visited by the Duke and Duchess of York, with their daughters, the Princesses Mary and Anne. From the following passage in the Rev. Dr. Owen’s life, it would appear that their Royal Highnesses continued to reside in Tents.—

\* Burr, p. 45.



“ Being in a very languishing state of health in 1674, he was at Tunbridge Wells when the Duke of York was there. The Duke sent for him, and had several conversations with him *in his tent* about the dissenters and conventicles.”\* His Royal Highness is said to have been the first distinguished Visitor who noticed the High Rocks in the neighbourhood—to which the Duke paid such frequent visits, and was so much pleased with them, that they became an object of general attraction and resort. So numerous indeed were the visits of the gentry to this romantic spot, that a house was soon built for their accommodation.

From the great increase of company which now resorted to the Wells, the Lord of the Manor of Rusthall, in 1676, thought it advisable to erect shops and dwelling-houses in the immediate vicinity of the springs;

\* This was the gentleman to whom Charles 2nd. at a subsequent interview gave a thousand guineas to distribute among those who had suffered most by the late severities, and making “strong professions of his regard for liberty of conscience, declared how sensible he was of the injuries that had been done to dissenters.”—Life of John Owen, D. D. p. 47.

and in order to carry his intentions into effect, he entered into an agreement with his tenants to allow them ten shillings a year each, for a fifty year's lease, in lieu of their right of herbage. He then began to build upon the "green bank" and other convenient places; but it does not appear that there was yet sufficient accommodation for the visitors, as we find from several allusions in a Play, called "Tunbridge Wells; or a Day's Courtship," published in 1678, that Bounds, Southborough, and Rusthall, were then the principal places of residence for the visitors.\*

*Fairlove.* Where do these Dotterels lodge?

*Owmuch.* Here at *Bounds*, under the same Roof  
with you. *Act 1. sc. 1.*

*Alderman.* Let's be jogging towards *South-borough*,  
'tis almost dinner time.

*Fairlove.* I've business at *Rust Hall.* *Act 1. sc. 3.*

\* The Rev. Mr. Oneley, in his "General Account of Tunbridge Wells and its Vicinity," (published in 1771) says, "This Comedy was written by a person of quality, who he was, is unknown. Langbaine says, he was informed it was written by Mr. Rawlins. There is prefixed to it a very curious and good print of the form of the old well, and the company surrounding at that time,"—p. 4. In the copy which we have seen, the plate was missing.



*Crack.* In the next close from *Bounds* you'll see  
an Oak carv'd full of love's names.

*Act 4. sc. 4.*

This play is amusing, as it gives us a glimpse of the nature of the company and the amusements of the Wells at this period :—

The Wells are discovered full of People washing\* and drinking Water.

They walk towards the Well, and the *Alderman*, &c. advance, follow'd by an Old Woman with Water.

Enter *Witless*, &c. as from Nine Pins.

*Quibble.* *Sussex, Sussex*, I'll be judg'd by the Alderman.

*Alderman.* I scarce observed it; what say you, Doctor?

*Farendine.* He's a Better, what says Poet *Witless*?

*Witless.* I vote against you, either tip from the Brook,† or bowl again.

*All.* Content. *Act. 3. sc. 1.*

*Mrs. Paywell.* Th' Alderman towards five will be in The Grove at Nine Pins.

*Act. 3. sc. 3.*

“A Morrice dance” is also introduced upon the Walks, and it is evident from other passages in this Comedy, that dancing under

\* *Sic orig.*—Probably a typographical error for “walking.”

† The Brook that divides the two Counties.

the Trees was by no means an uncommon practice.

From the increasing growth of the place, and the fashionable piety which rendered an appearance at Church, once a day at least, almost indispensable, the attention of the inhabitants was naturally turned to the erection of some place for Divine worship. A subscription was accordingly entered into, and continued in each succeeding season till the year 1684, when it amounted to one thousand three hundred and eighty-five pounds.\* The ground was given by Lady Purbeck,† who then resided at Summer Hill.‡

In 1687, a fire accidentally broke out at the end of the walks, which totally consumed all the buildings so recently erected on the Green Bank. But as good frequently springs out of evil, so the destruction of the whole of those houses led to the building of more

\* Mr. Amsinck says, it exceeded £3000, but the Rev. Dr. Walker, who preached in it in 1684, says in his Preface, that it was about £1100.

† Formerly Lady Muskerry.—See p. 14.

‡ The particulars of this and the other Chapels and Meeting Houses at the Wells, will be found under the head of "Places of Public Worship."



convenient ones. An assembly room, shops, dwelling-houses, &c. were erected with a portico in front, precisely, in fact, as the Parade is now seen, with the exception of some of the present houses having been lately modernised in their appearance.

In the year 1688, so memorable to Englishmen for the “glorious Revolution” that was effected, the Princess Anne of Denmark visited the Wells; and whilst residing here, it is said, sent her equerry, Colonel Sands, to enquire after the health of the new-born Prince of Wales. “At which visit of the Colonel’s, some remarkable circumstances are said to have happened, which, if the story may be depended upon, must greatly strengthen the opinion that this pretended prince was an imposition on the British nation.”\* On the 2nd. September, in this year, Archbishop Tillotson preached before the Princess Anne, in the chapel, his famous sermon on the parable of the ten virgins.†

\* Burr, p. 56.

† The Archbishop’s text was Matt. c. xxv. v. 1. & 2.—and he commenced his discourse as follows:—  
“My design at present is to explain the parable, and to make such observations upon it as seem most naturally and without *squeezing* the parable, to spring from it.”

During the next ten years the Princess Anne frequently honored the Wells with her presence, and in 1696, gave a basin to the Spring, which was afterwards called "The Queen's Well." She was also a great benefactress to the place, and in 1698, in consequence of her son, the young Duke of Gloucester, falling, while on the walks, she gave one hundred pounds to "one of the principal inhabitants" to have the walks, &c. paved by the ensuing season. Whoever this inhabitant was, he neglected to fulfil his commission, and it is singular that his name has not been handed down to posterity, for "men's evil deeds we register in brass, their virtues we write in water." The effects of the "principal inhabitant's" evil deeds were visible in the conduct of Her Royal Highness who, upon finding at her next visit no progress had been made in the work, quitted the Wells with strong expressions of disgust, and never visited the place again.

An important Cabinet Council appears to have been held at the Wells in 1698. "William the 3rd. was in Holland when he combined the vast plan of his foreign negotiations. When he came to open his design to his



ministers in England, even the sober firmness of Somers, the undaunted resolution of Shrewsbury, and the adventurous spirit of Montague and Orford were staggered. They were not yet mounted to the elevation of the King. The cabinet met on the subject at Tunbridge Wells, the 28th. August, 1698; and there, lord Somers holding the pen, after expressing doubts on the state of the continent, which they ultimately refer to the King, as best informed, they give him a most discouraging portrait of the spirit of this nation.”\*

The Princess Anne of Denmark having succeeded to the throne in the year 1702, the inhabitants of the Wells in testimony of the favors that had been conferred upon them by Her Majesty, planted a Grove on the Common, which was called “The Queen’s Grove.” The planting took place without any public ceremony. Whether it was owing to the nature of the soil, or to the birch

\* Burke’s “State of the British Empire at the close of the last Century,” 1796. It is not improbable that this Meeting of the Council gave rise to “Æsop at Tunbridge, or a few Select Fables in Verse,” which was published in 1698, and contains several strong political allusions.

trees with which it was planted not being adapted for it, the grove does not appear to have flourished, and its present appearance, contrasted with the young and flourishing trees in "The Victoria Grove," has but a melancholy effect.

In a Play, published the following year, written by Baker, called "Tunbridge Wells; or, the Yeoman of Kent," we find the following description of the company and their pursuits :—

This night our Author to divert your spleen,  
'Mongst Crowds o' Fools at Tunbridge lays his scene.  
*Prologue.*

*Loveworth.* But Tunbridge I suppose is the seat of pleasure; Prithee what company does the place afford?

*Reynard.* Like most publick assemblies, a Medley of all sorts, Fops majestick and diminutive, from the long flaxen Wig with a splendid Equipage, to the Merchant's Spruce Prentice that's always mighty neat about the legs; Squires come to Court some fine Town-Lady, and Town-Sparks to pick up a Russet Gown; for the Women here are wild Country Ladies, with ruddy Cheeks like a Sevil-Orange, that gape, stare, scamper, and are brought hither to be disciplin'd; Fat City Ladies with tawdry atlases in Defiance of the Act of Parliament; and Slender Court Ladies with French Scarfs, French Aprons, and French Complexions.



*Lov.* But what are the chief Diversions here ?

*Rey.* Each to his Inclination—Beaus Raffle and Dance, Citts play at Nine-Pins, Bowls and Backgammon, Rakes Scoure the Walks, Bully the Shop-Keepers, and beat the Fidlers. Men of Wit rally over Claret, and Fools get to the *Royal Oak* lottery, where you may lose fifty Guineas in a moment, have a Crown return'd you for Coach-Hire, a Glass of Wine, and a hearty wellcome. In short, 'tis a place wholly dedicated to Freedom, no Distinction, either of Quality or Estate, but every Man that appears well converses with the best.\*—*Act 1, sc. 1.*

In 1707, John, Duke of Buckingham, assigned to four Trustees four acres of land, part of Inham's and Waghorn's forests, for the use and benefit of all the Inhabitants, Lodgers, Servants, and others of Tunbridge Wells, with instructions for a coach road and two footpaths to be made through this ground, and the whole planted and preserved as a Grove. This grove lies to the left of Mount Sion as you ascend the hill, and is undoubtedly one of the coolest and pleasantest lounging places in the summer that can

\* The Kentish Yeoman, *Woodcock*, is rather libellous upon the worshipful Bench. In Act 2nd. he says, "At Maidstone, twice a year, we have the Devourers of the Law, that breed a Famine wherever they come; and if two or three Dozen of my best Poultry are not presented to my Lord Judge, I am put into Commission, and Plagu'd with all the Scolding Controversies in the Parish."

be well imagined. Whether it was ever much frequented is a matter of uncertainty, but it is now seldom resorted to except as affording access to other parts. At nearly the centre of the grove, there is a remarkably tall and strait Oak tree, which attracts much attention.

In the year 1708, a Mr. James Long of Marylebone, Middlesex, went to a considerable expence in erecting a Cold Bath and other buildings at Rusthall. The bath was well supplied with water issuing from the rocks, and the grounds around it displayed water works, fountains and other appropriate devices suitable to the situation, which is exceedingly romantic. This is one of the beautiful spots at Rusthall well worth visiting, for although the fountains, &c. have long since disappeared, there are beauties enough still remaining to gratify the admirers of nature. The house which now stands upon the site of the original bath house is almost hidden by trees, and the approach to it, from the common, descending what was once a flight of steps, but now nearly covered with turf, is extremely romantic. As you approach the house there are still the remains



of the original steps that conducted to the Baths, though much worn. Whilst at this spot, the visitor will notice some curious excavations in the Rocks that lie immediately under the common, and which have served occasionally as dormitories for gipsies, &c.

From 1707 to 1725, but little change appears to have taken place in the affairs of the Wells, if we may except the taste for rhyming which manifested itself particularly from 1713, and continued to a comparatively recent period. Mr. Oneley, to whom we have already referred, says, in speaking of the company and their amusements, "A few minutes are spent by some in making verses, as the waters or genius of the place, or as love and leisure inspire. A copy of them is usually left at the bookseller's shop, and entered into a book there for the inspection and entertainment of the company."\* A selection appears to have been made, each season, and published under the title of "Tunbrigalia; or Tunbridge Miscellanies for the year 1716."

\* "General Account of Tunbridge Wells," p. 11. It is said that many of these *brilliant* effusions are still preserved in M.S. Heaven help the taste and wit of those who treasure them with their other valuables!



A few extracts from those published between 1713 and 1730, will convey an idea of the fashionable rhymesters of that day. The following is from a letter dated "July 25, 1714," in which the writer thus humourously describes the place and company:—

"It is situated upon the side of a Heath, so barren and so poor, that had it not produc'd a Well, it would have yielded nothing. \* \* The Fidlers are as sawcy as Bum bailiffs at a Sessions-house, and tug you by the Sleeve for half a Crown the very first time of your appearance. The chief diversion at the Wells is to stare one at another; and he or she that is best dress'd, is the greatest subject of the Morning's Tittle-tattle. \* \* Their chiefest pastimes are these following—Dancing and Bowling at Mount Sion, where Fools lose their money and Knaves win it. Walking in the Grove, where the Ring-doves coo above, whilst the Lovers bill below, and gaming in the Shops upon the Walks, where every one strives to win, whilst the Box runs away with the money.—Lodgings are so scarce and dear, that a Beau is sometimes glad of a Barn, and a Lady of Honour content to lie in a garret: The horses being commonly put to Grass, for the Servants to lie in the Stable. My landlord was a Farmer, and his very Out-houses were so full, that having shear'd some Sheep, he abated me half a Crown a week, to let the wool lie in my Bed-chamber. \* \* The most noble of their provisions is a Pack-saddle of Mutton, and a Wheat-ear-pye, which is accounted here a feast for an



*Heliogabalus*, and is indeed so costly a banquet, that a man may go over to Amsterdam, treat half a dozen friends with a Fish dinner, and bring 'em back again into their own Country, almost as cheap as you can give yourself and your mistress a true *Tunbridge-Entertainment*. The liquors chiefly produc'd by this part of the Country are Beer made of Wood-dry'd Malt, and Wine drawn out of a Birch-tree; the first is infected with such a smoaky Tang, that you would think it was brew'd in a Chimney; and every Pint you drink, instead of quenching your drought, begets a thirst after a gallon. \* \* At Dick Pottinger's, the *Sussex*, you have better usage."

Much of the poetry in these volumes is highly objectionable, and however amusing it might have proved to the *belles* of that period, it is certain that the ladies of the present day would find it most offensive.—The following extracts for the year 1719, will afford a correct idea of the *brilliant wit* and *powerful imagination* of these water Poets, as they were designated:—

STREPHON'S COMPLAINT.

—  
 When you're gone,  
 I shan't be long;  
 You need not ask the reason;  
 For who can stay,  
 When you're away,  
 Whose absence ends the season.

The Rev. Doctor Dent appears to have excited the anger of the scribbling race, and thus do they launch a *biting Epigram* at the poor Doctor :—

Was Doctor D——t  
From Heav'n sent,  
To prate upon a *Sunday* ?  
Or did his muse  
The Dotard chuse,  
To scribble Rhyme on *Monday* ?

In the “*Tunbrigialia*” for 1730, is the following expressive couplet :—

For those who *Tunbridge* Poetry have read,  
Must think its streams impregnated with lead.

These few words pourtray with accuracy the truly no-meaning attempts at rhyme which characterise nearly the whole of those compositions.

A descriptive Poem under the usual title of “*Tunbridgiale*,” was published in the year 1726, by the author of “*my Time O ye Muses*,” &c. (Dr. Birom) which refers to practices prevalent even in the present day. It is a lively poem, as the following extracts will testify :—

“Some seven or eight Mile off, to give you the Meeting,  
Barbers, Dippers, and so forth, we send to you greeting—  
Soon as they set Eyes on you, off flies the Hat,  
Does your Honor want this, does your Honor want that ?  
That being a Stranger, by this *Apparatus*



You may see our good manners before you come at us.—  
 Now this, please your Honor, is what we call *Tooting*,  
 A Trick in your Custom to get the first Footing.

St. 2.

“To Morley’s you go, look about and sit down ;  
 Then comes the Young Lass for your Honor’s half Crown ;  
 She brings out the Book, you look wisely upon her,  
 What’s the meaning of this ? *To Subscribe, please your Honor* :  
 So you write, as your Betters have all done before ye,  
 ’Tis a Custom, and so there’s an End of the Story.”

St. 6.

A law suit was commenced in the year 1732,\* between Maurice Conyers, Esq., then Lord of the Manor of Rusthall, and the Tenants. Upon the expiration of the original lease between them at Michaelmas, 1732, the tenants contended that the erections, buildings and enclosures ought not to be continued without their consent ; and therefore that they were entitled to satisfaction for the same. This claim was resisted, and neither party being inclined to compromise, several tedious and expensive suits in law and equity were instituted and continued for nearly eight years. They were ultimately decided in favor of the tenants, who were declared entitled to one third of the buildings on the estate, in lieu of their right to the herbage.

\* Burr states that this misunderstanding took place in 1726, but the above is the correct date according to the legal documents.

The shops and buildings were then divided into three lots—of which the tenants were to draw one. Fortunately for them they drew the lot which included the Assembly Rooms, and which has proved the most profitable of the three. An agreement was afterwards entered into, and confirmed by Act of Parliament, 13. Geo. 2. cap. 11., to prevent an increase of buildings on Tunbridge Wells Common, and thus preserve it from any encroachments, that might tend to destroy any of its natural beauties. The Freeholders, entitled to right of Common, perambulate the Manor annually, to see that no infringement of their privileges takes place; and whilst they continue to guard them as vigilantly as they have hitherto done, there can be no fear that this lovely spot will ever be defaced by buildings.

It was about the year 1735 that the celebrated Beau Nash, the *arbiter elegantiarum* of Bath, made his appearance to give the laws for his new “colony” of Tunbridge Wells. Previous to his assuming the reins of fashionable government at the Wells, it appears that one of the fair sex, named Bell Causey, held them from the year 1725 to



1734, presiding, during that period, as absolute Governess over the whole territory, and declaring that she would not suffer the "great Beau Nash" to have any power there while she lived. This proved correct, as the "little king of a little people," as he was aptly called, did not arrive till the year succeeding her death, which took place in 1734. Many anecdotes are related of this woman, better calculated for the times in which they occurred than the present, but all tending to show her unbounded influence and consummate impudence. As the biography of Richard Nash may not be in the hands of many persons, a few extracts from it will be amusing to those who know him by fame only. "Bath, Tunbridge and other places of the same kind were then frequented only by such as really went for relief; the pleasures they afforded were merely rural, the company splenetic, rustic, and vulgar. In this situation of things, people of fashion had no agreeable summer retreat from the town, and usually spent that season amidst a solitude of country squires, parson's wives, visiting tenants, or farmers; they wanted some place where they might have each



others company, and win each others money, as they had done during the winter in town.”\*

His personal appearance and manners are thus described :—

“ Nature had by no means formed Mr. Nash for a *Beau garçon*; his person was clumsy, too large and awkward, and his features harsh, strong, and peculiarly irregular; yet even with those disadvantages, he made love, became an universal admirer of the fair sex, and was universally admired.\*\*\* With his superiors he was familiar and blunt, the inferiority of his station secured him from their resentment; but the same bluntness which they laughed at, was by his equals regarded as insolence. Something like a familiar boot-catcher at an inn, a gentleman would bear that joke from him, for which a brother boot-catcher would knock him down. \*\*\*

His equipage was sumptuous, and he usually travelled to Tunbridge, in a post-chariot and six greys, with out-riders, foot-men, French horns, and every other appendage of expensive parade. He always wore a white hat, and, to apologise for this singularity, said,

\* The Life of Richard Nash, Esq., Anon. 1762.



he did it purely to secure it from being stolen ; his dress was tawdry, tho' (and ?) not perfectly genteel ; he might be considered as a beau of several generations, and in his appearance he, in some measure, mixed the fashions of the last age with those of the present. He perfectly understood elegant expense, and generally past his time in the very best company, if persons of the first distinction deserve that title."\*

It must appear astonishing to the fashionables of the nineteenth century, that such a man as is here described could acquire so vast an ascendancy as he evidently possessed over the world of fashion. Nay, such was his power and popularity, that his mandates were issued with a kingly authority, and his proceedings described as important historical events. " We see a kingdom (Bath) beginning with him, and sending off *Tunbridge* as one of its colonies." † Yet it does not appear that his influence was ever so great at Tunbridge Wells as at Bath, for in the year 1756, a letter was addressed to him by Mr. Henderson, a quaker, relative

\* Life of Nash, p. 50. † Ibid—p. 27.

to a subscription for a Mr. Annesly, wherein he says, “I well remember, that thou then madest me a promise to assist him in soliciting a subscription, that was then begun at *Tunbridge*; but as that place *was not within the limits of thy province*, thou couldst not promise to do much there.” But with all his foibles, follies and vices, the death of Beau Nash, which occurred in Bath the 12th of February, 1761, in his 88th year, produced a powerful sensation in the world of fashion. A handsome funeral was awarded to him, and epitaphs innumerable were written—from one of which, written by Dr. King, the following is extracted :—

Una voce præterea, unoque omnium ordinum  
 consensu,  
 Ad imperium suum adjuncta est  
 Magni nominis Provincia :  
 Quam admirabili consilio et ratione  
 Per se, non unquam per legatos, administravit ;  
 Eam quotannis invisere dignatus,  
 Et apud provinciales, quod necesse fuit,  
 Solitus manere.\*

\* To his empire also was added,  
 By the consent of all orders,  
 A celebrated province †  
 Which he ever swayed with great prudence,  
 Not by delegated power, but in person.  
 He deigned to visit it every year,  
 And while the necessities of state demanded his presence,  
 He usually continued there—

† Tunbridge.



He is compared by one of these *after-life* flatterers to Solon and Lycurgus. Although this was hyperbole in the extreme, yet it may in truth be said, that some of the rules drawn up by him to regulate the fashionable company, may, and ought to be, printed in letters of gold in all watering-places in the kingdom, especially the following :—

Rule 10.—“That all whisperers of lies and scandal, be taken for their authors. N. B. *Several men of no character, old women and young ones, of questioned reputation, are great authors of lies in these places.*”

A three-quarter likeness of Nash is placed in the Assembly Rooms.

At a secluded spot in the forest, a short distance beyond the rocks, a spring of clear water was discovered in the year 1754, which was called “Adam’s Well.”\* This spring

\* Burr states that this Well was discovered in 1670, but at what period the discovery took place, cannot be positively ascertained. “A proof of its Antiquity,” says Sprange, “and the esteem it must have been formerly held in, is, that the whole had been fenced round, to prevent any one’s coming to it, and on Mr. Pinchbeck’s digging up into the rock to enlarge the bath, part of an old stone arch was found, full twelve feet from the pool or pond that remained



or well is still in existence, and is said to be the purest and most pleasant drinking water in the neighbourhood ; and it is also thought to be the coldest in England. Dr. Linden, on analysing it, stated “ he could not find that it was impregnated with any mineral, saline, nitrous, earthy matter, or sediment whatever, being what the ancients called a holy water.” The learned Doctor gives the following account of the Wells and its Inhabitants at this period :—“ The Air at Tunbridge Wells is as good as can be wished for, or expected in this Island : Provisions of all kinds are easy to be had there. The Houses are commodious and pleasant ; so that there can be no where greater conveniences, or beter accommodation for the Reception of Company of the first Distinction. The Inhabitants are very civil, and, as far as I could extend my acquaintance with them, I found them in general very just and reasonable in their Dealings, which is the more commendable, in that they chiefly consist of such as depend on their public Business ;

when he bought the estate.” Dr. Linden must have visited the Wells about the year 1754, as his work on the Mineral Waters is published the following year.



whereas most of these Places of occasional Resort are accounted to abound in Exacters, which indeed too often prove true: But I am heartily glad of this occasion, to do no more than Justice, in ranking *Tunbridge Wells* amongst the honourable Exceptions; and indeed it is the only Place of that Nature I have yet seen, where the Landlords use their Guests with any tolerable Conscience or Moderation, though I have been at a great many of the like noted Places for Mineral Waters, though not in England, except those near London. I hope and wish therefore, that all the Places of Resort to these Medicinal Waters, may afford as good Usage and Reception as *Tunbridge Wells*, of which I speak experimentally.”\*

Their Royal Highnesses the Princess Amelia and the Duke of Cumberland visited the Wells in 1762, and remained for some time.

In the year 1765, we find the first notice of any public proceedings in honor of Royal Visitors. On a visit from the Dukes of

\* A Treatise on the Origin, Nature, and Virtues of Chalybeate Waters.—By Diederick Wessel Linden, M. D. London.—MDCCLV.

York and Gloucester, who arrived about the middle of September, they “were welcomed by a triple discharge of eighteen pieces of cannon,\* and in the evening the walks were most splendidly illuminated.”† At this time the place appears to have been in a very flourishing state. The laws established by Beau Nash for the regulation of its amusements, had been attended with the happiest effects, and harmonised so well with the several grades of society, that one feeling appeared to actuate the whole.‡

In the winter of 1768, a Mr. Pinchbeck purchased the lands around Adam’s Well.||

\* These Cannon were placed in “The Folly,” at the back of the Sussex Hotel, but have been gradually lost or mislaid till scarcely one remains, their office being now performed by Smiths’ Anvils.

† Benge Burr, p. 63.

‡ The following smart “Epilogue” occurs in the Tunbridge Wells Verses for the year 1765:—

Our patron, Apollo, both wit and physician,  
At Tunbridge will grant us but half our petition;  
We find by the waters and what is here writ,  
That his physic he gives, but denies us his wit;  
No good can ensue while he plays us this trick,  
For the spring makes us well, and the verse makes us sick.

|| There is an apparent discrepancy in the notice of this Well at page 27, between the text and the note. It should be that the Well was discovered



The virtues of the water are said to have been "To cure the leprous and the lame," and also

"Scorbutic sores, rheumatic pain,  
Of which poor mortals so complain,  
Yield to its balmy power."

These, or similar qualities, Mr. Pinchbeck expected to find in the water at Adam's Well, and from a host of cures effected by them, it would appear that his expectations were not disappointed. He built a cottage, a stone bath, with an outside bath for the benefit of the poor, and one for dogs and horses. He declared also that the baths and waters should be free for the use of the public, proposing no profits to himself beyond selling the water in London, and the advantages to be derived from the increased company it would bring to the Wells.\* How far this speculation answered the proprietor's purpose, or when the use of the water was discontinued, cannot be ascertained, but the well itself still remains in one of the most

*about* the year 1754. From Dr. Linden having been requested to analyse the water in that year it is probable that it had been but recently discovered.

\* Sprange's Guide, p. 34.

romantic spots that can be imagined, within a quarter of a mile of the High Rocks.

The Rev. Mr. Oneley, Rector of Speldhurst, in 1771 published, anonymously, a "General Account of Tunbridge Wells and its environs," in which is the following description of the place and company resorting to it:—

"From the Well the Walks begin, on both sides of which, but chiefly on the right hand all along are traders' shops. \* \* \* And really the appearance of the company when assembled together, is quite beautiful and noble; in the day time moving along the parade, like a walking parterre; and at night, in the rooms, like a galaxy of stars in a bright nocturnal sky. \* \* \* The Ball nights are Tuesdays and Fridays; and Assemblies and Cards every other night, except Sundays."\*

The old stone basin at the Springs being in a decayed state, was replaced in the year

\* There are some, without thought or enquiry, who are in the habit of asserting that Tunbridge Wells owes its greatest attraction to its retirement and apparent seclusion, and not to those fashionable amusements which prevail in other watering-places. Now, what is the fact? Can it be contradicted that it is indebted to the splendour of a Court, and the consequent gay scenes accompanying it, for its very existence? And, looking at its after progress, can it be denied that its greatest prosperity has been in the times of its greatest gaiety? Why then should a system of bigotry, fanaticism, or what is worse than either, exclusiveness, be allowed for one moment to prevail, and by attempting to set aside the innocent and rational amusements of the place, ultimately and effectually destroy its prosperity?



1785, by a marble basin, presented by the lady of the manor, Miss Elizabeth Shorey ; but this not proving so anti-corrosive a substance as was expected, a Portland stone basin, given by the same lady, was substituted for it in 1822, which remained until the year 1833, when a marble one was again placed there.

From the year 1790 to 1827, scarcely anything occurred worthy of particular notice. The place gradually increased and improved both in the number of buildings and of population. It was regularly visited by the most distinguished characters in the literary, political, and fashionable world ; to enumerate whom, would be to republish the Court Guides and Peerage Books of the last half century. One thing, indeed, was introduced, which as it has since formed a principal feature in the amusements of most watering-places, may well deserve mention here. Previous to the year 1801, when ladies wished to take an equestrian excursion, they were accommodated by being mounted on a Pillion, in the good old Darby and Joan manner, but in 1801, Lady George Seymour being here, introduced the custom of riding

on donkies, which has continued the fashion ever since. In a letter of Mrs. Barbauld's to Miss Taylor, dated August 11th, 1804, she thus pleasantly alludes to the circumstance :—

“ Oh ! that you were here, Susan, to exhibit upon a donkey. I cannot tell whether my orthography is right, but donkey is the *monture* in high fashion here ; and I assure you, when covered with blue housings, and sleek, it makes no bad figure ;—I mean a lady, if an elegant woman, makes no bad figure upon it, with a little boy or girl behind : who carries a switch, meant to admonish the animal from time to time, that he is hired to walk on and not to stand still. The ass is much better adapted than the horse to shew off a lady : for this reason, which perhaps may not have occurred to you, *that her beauty is not so likely to be eclipsed.*”\*

In consequence of the increased number of residents, it was found that the old Chapel was insufficient to afford proper accommodation for the visitors, a new Church was therefore built, and was consecrated in 1829, in which year the most important alterations were commenced that the Wells had yet seen. These were made on the

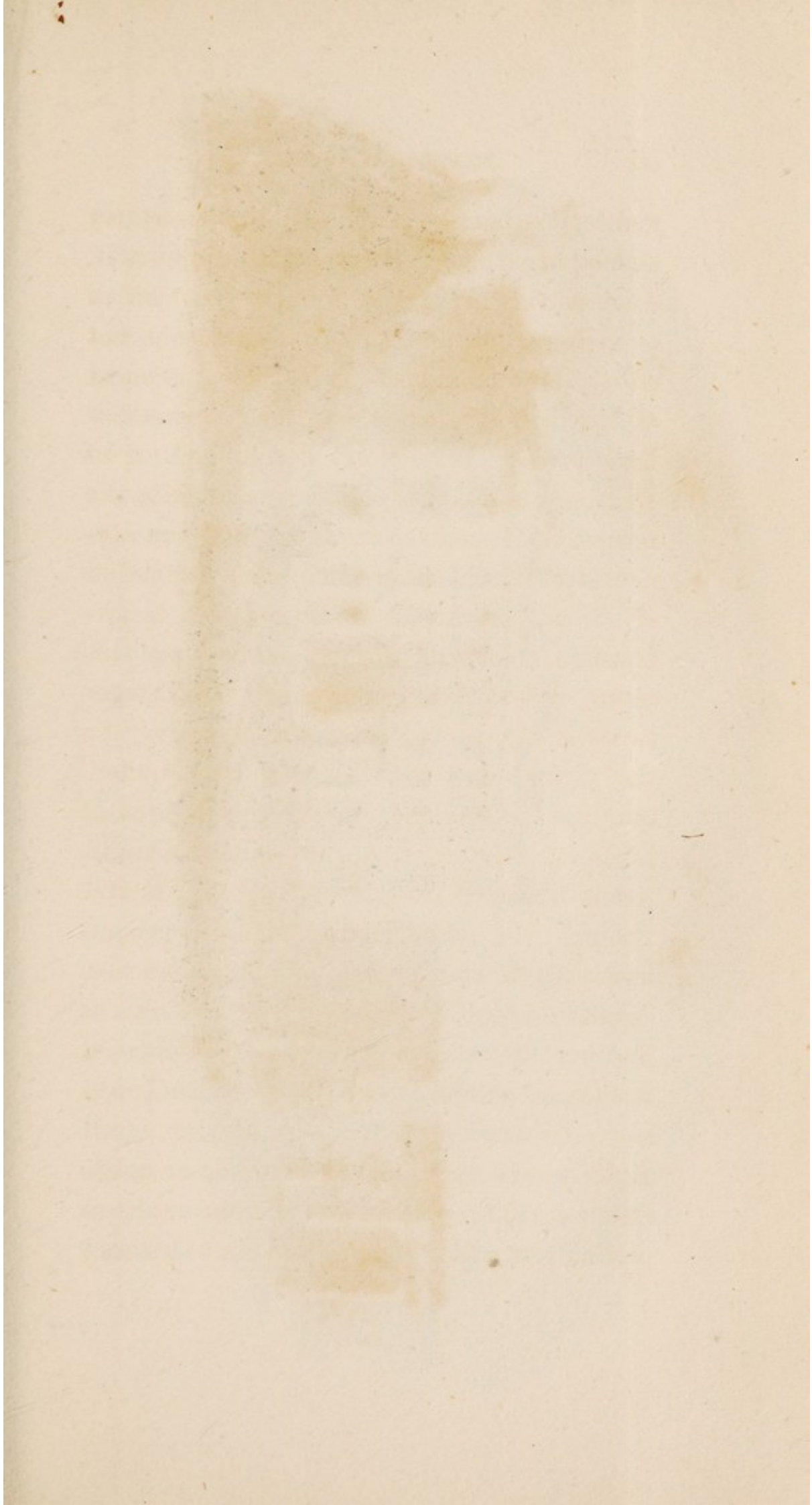
CALVERLEY ESTATE,

which is the property of John Ward, Esq. of Holwood, in the County of Kent. This

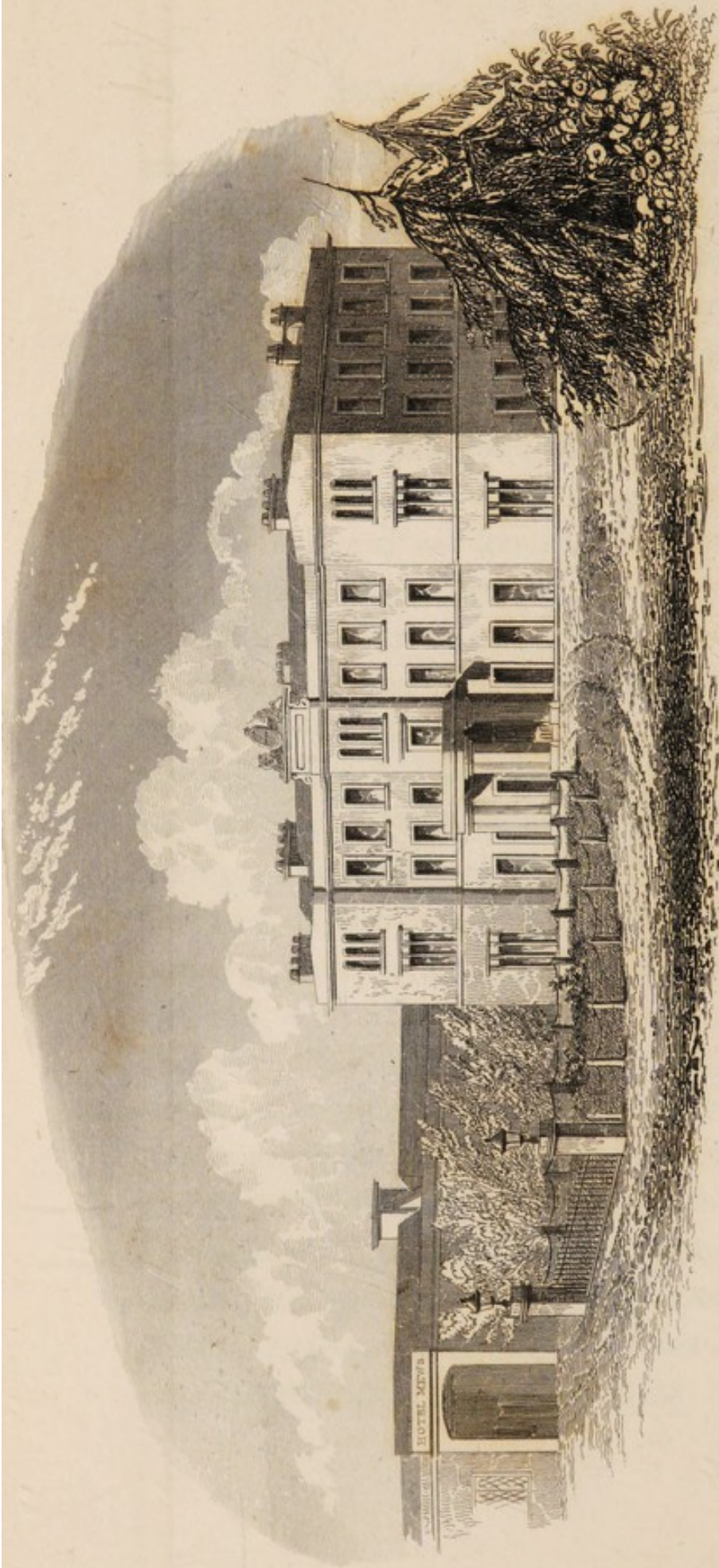
\* Aikin's Works and Memoirs of Mrs. Barbauld.



gentleman having purchased the Calverley and other considerable property adjoining it, some parties aware that from the great influx of visitors during the season there was not adequate accommodation for them, as many of the lodging-houses had been converted into private residences, determined upon erecting a number of edifices suitable to the reception of genteel families ; and simultaneously with the larger buildings, a number of shops, &c. in their immediate neighbourhood, so that the residents upon this estate might enjoy the same advantages as those who lived nearer the Springs. In the autumn of 1828, this extensive undertaking was commenced from the designs of Decimus Burton, Esq. the eminent Architect of Spring Garden, London ; the Messrs. Bramah, of Pimlico, having taken the ground necessary for the purpose, on a building lease. As these buildings progressed, it was evident that a new town was springing up—villas, a terrace, a parade, rows of shops, &c. soon began to develope themselves, and advanced steadily to completion. It would be unjust to this beautiful property, not to notice it more particularly than giving a mere cursory







CALVERLEY HOTEL,

ENTRANCE FRONT.



sketch of it. We shall therefore commence with CALVERLEY PARK, which comprises 26 acres, adjoining to and overlooking 20 acres of meadow and pleasure grounds in front of the Hotel, and contains twenty-four villas, chiefly of the Italian and Grecian style of architecture. The elegant appearance of these buildings attracts attention and excites admiration; and the views from the Park are at once extensive, diversified, and beautiful; equal, if not superior, to any at the Wells. Every few steps taken present a different view of the surrounding scenery—

Ever charming, ever new,

When will the landscape tire the view?

The pleasure grounds are tastefully laid out, and afford some very pleasant walks. There is a lodge at each entrance, called Victoria, Keston, and Farnborough lodges. The former is named after her present Majesty, as it adjoins Calverley House, (now an Hotel,) in which Her Majesty and her royal mother, the Duchess of Kent were residing when these buildings were commenced. The other lodges are named after two parishes in which Mr. Ward's estate at Holwood is situated. Farnborough lodge, at the en-

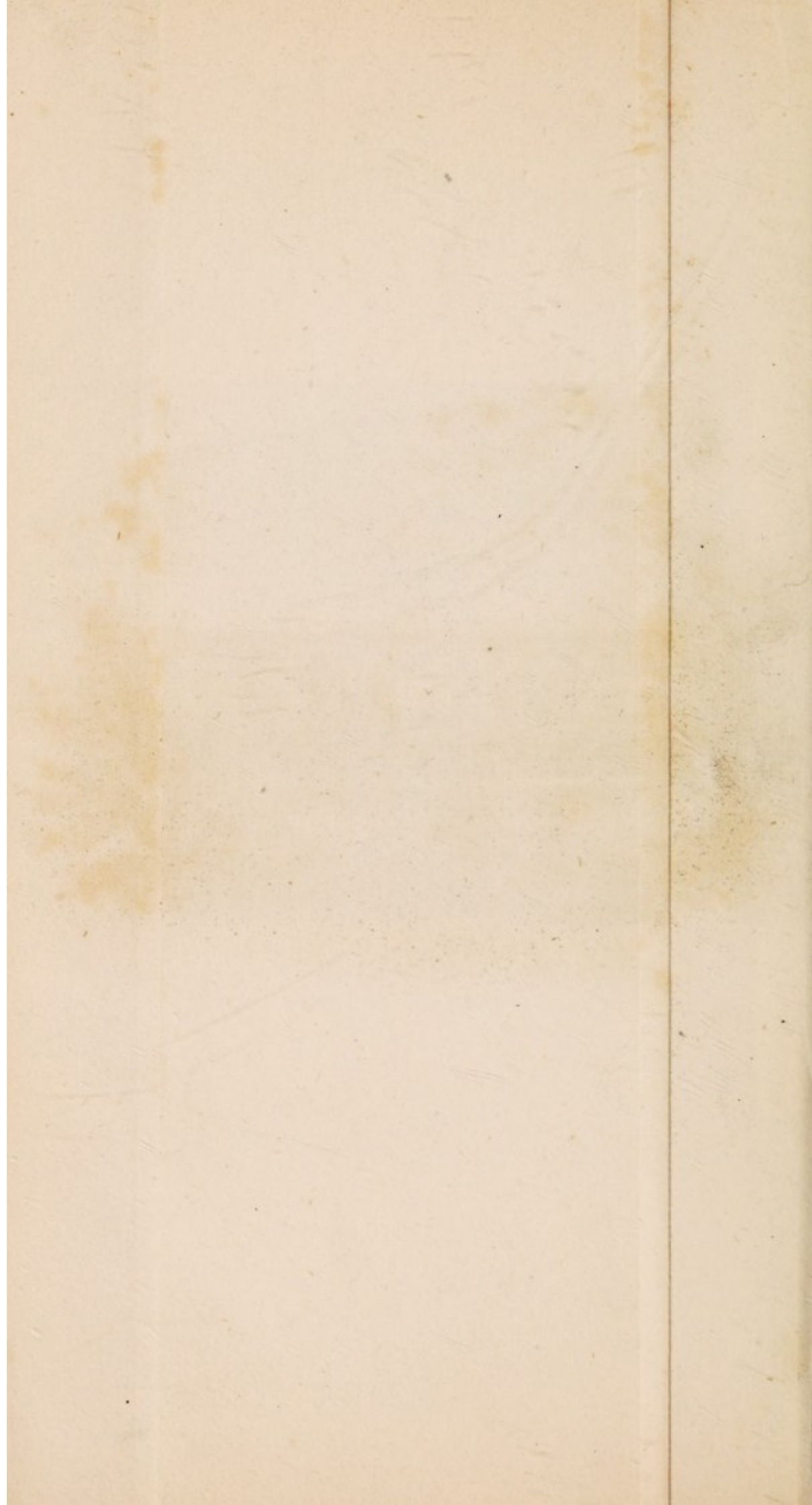


trance to the park from Grove Hill, is a neat rustic building. Formerly visitors of whatever rank, could obtain no admittance to this park without a ticket from the proprietors; but the difficulty of access which formerly prevailed has ceased to exist for some time, and persons of respectability no longer find an obstacle to their *entrée*. At the north west side of the park, is CALVERLEY PROMENADE, built in the form of a crescent. This row of buildings (seventeen in number) was originally intended for shops, but within the last two years several of them have been converted into dwelling-houses. At one end of the promenade there are Shampooing and Vapour Baths; in the centre, a Library, Reading Room, &c., opposite to which is a Fountain, and beyond that a temporary Orchestra has been erected, where, in the season, a band is stationed to amuse the company. Immediately adjacent to the promenade is the CALVERLEY HOTEL, which has been recently finished; the accommodations here are of the first-rate description, and the situation in which it is placed, commanding as it does an uninterrupted view over delightful scenery, renders it one of the



CALVERLEY PROMENADE.  
SHOPS WITH LODGINGS OVER.











CAMDEN INN.

CALVERLEY MARKET.

CALVERLEY PLACE,  
AND SHOPS.

most charming spots in the country. From its contiguity to the park, it appears to form a portion of it, and some ornamental water at the bottom of a gently sloping lawn, adds greatly to the picturesque appearance of the *tout ensemble*.

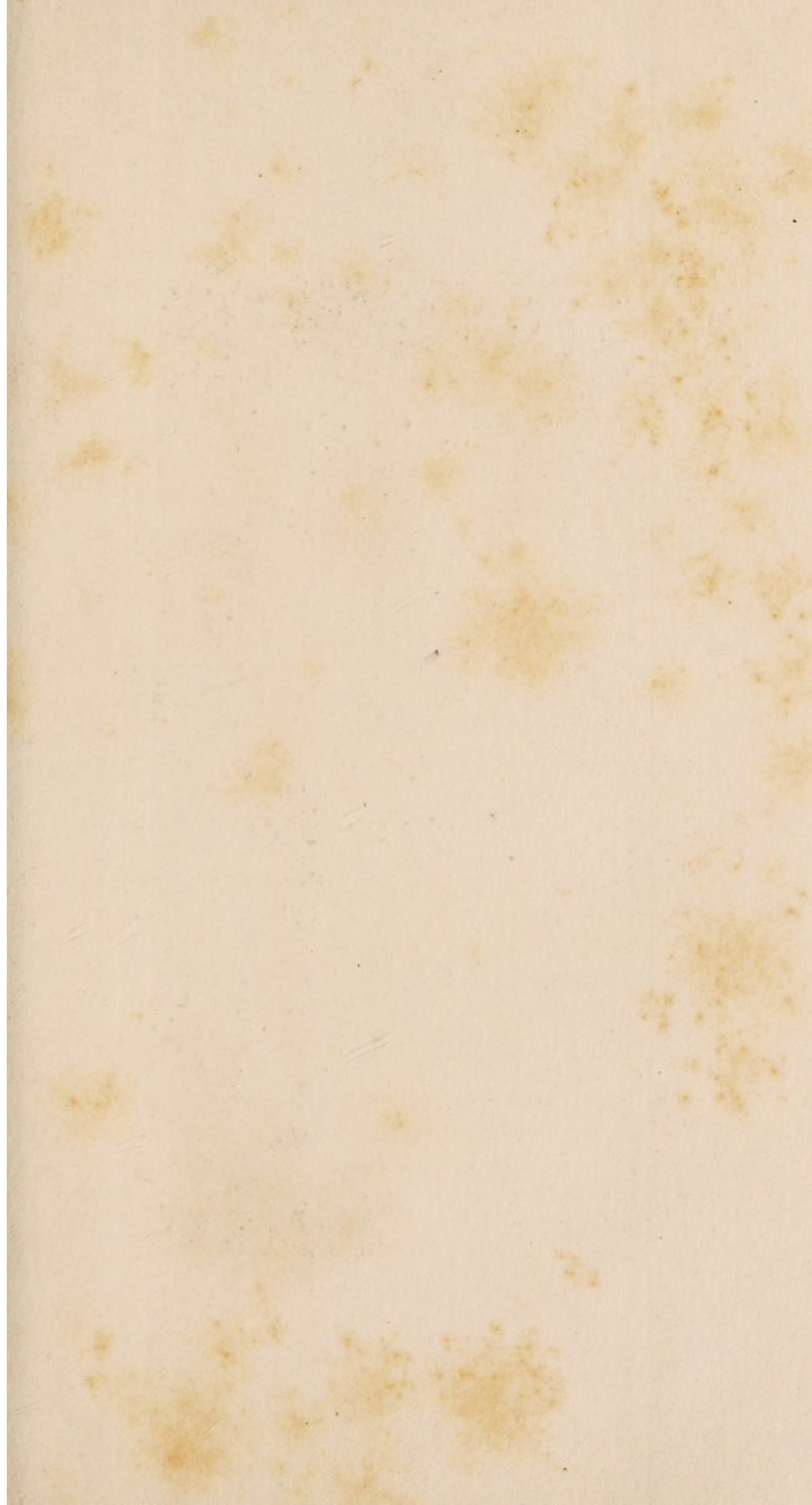
On the opposite side of the road from the Hotel is CALVERLEY TERRACE, consisting of four double Villas with pleasure grounds in front and gardens behind, communicating with the stables, coach-houses, &c. CALVERLEY PARADE, immediately adjoining, is a range of twelve houses (which were the first built) on a similar scale to those of the terrace, but smaller; and at the back of these are the Calverley Mews, which afford extensive accommodation for horses and carriages, independent of those which are attached to the houses on the terrace and parade. A short distance from the latter, is an excellent Commercial and Family Hotel, called the *Camden*; next to which is a *Market House*, one of the most elegant buildings in Tunbridge Wells. It is not yet opened, but we believe every preparation is made to commence operations very speedily, and we know that with visitors it is a



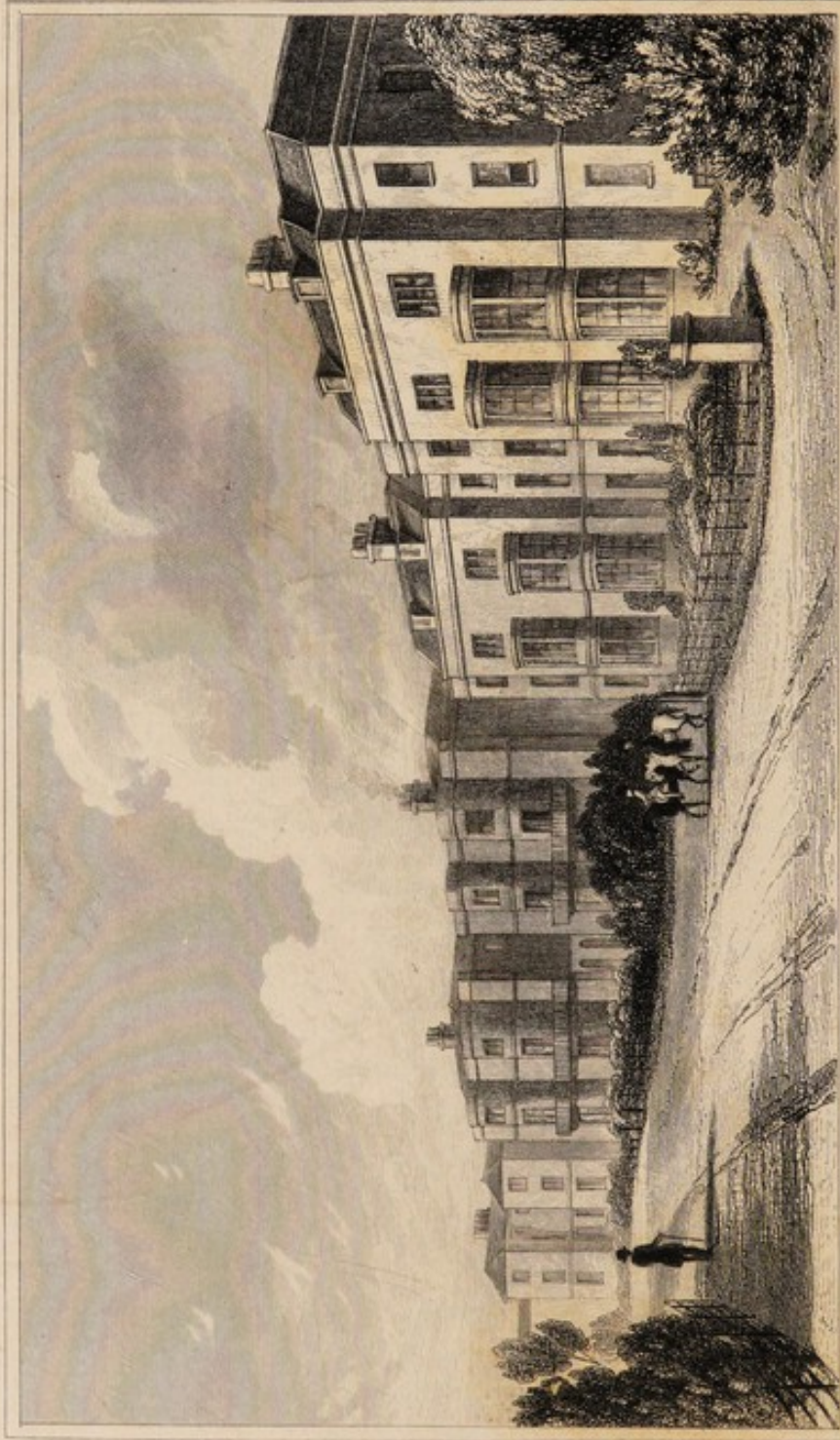
desideratum.\* On a line with this is CALVERLEY PLACE, consisting of twelve houses and shops.

There are also several four and six roomed cottages on this estate, for the humbler classes of society. The whole of the buildings are faced with stone from a quarry on the estate; near which Water-works have been erected to supply the inhabitants with

\* A great difference of opinion prevails with respect to establishing a Market. A modern writer has gravely assured us there are *two*, but the inhabitants were ignorant of the existence of *one* until this gentleman informed them of the fact. Of the utility of a Market, there can be no doubt, nor can the success of an establishment of this nature, be questionable. Benge Burr, from whom we have so liberally extracted, and whose thoughts were beyond the age in which he lived, thus expresses himself in 1766:—"If the inhabitants would get a market established, it would undoubtedly bring such an increase of trade as must be universally beneficial. A scheme of this kind will assuredly be attended with many discouragements at first, which it will require firmness and perseverance to overcome; but if the townsmen in general determine among themselves to go to no other, there are inhabitants in number, and substance enough to promote such a sale, as shall make it worth the neighbouring farmers while to bring their goods to them in preference to any other."—p. 289.







Drawn by C.I. Dodd.

GROVE HILL, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Engraved by J. Smith

*Drawn & Engraved for Colbran's Tunbridge Wells Guide.*



excellent water from the celebrated Jack's Wood Spring. Opposite one of the entrances to the Park is Baston Cottage, an elegant building in the Gothic stile of architecture. It is the property of Decimus Burton, Esq. There are some extensive pleasure grounds here, which are laid out with great taste. Immediately adjacent to Baston cottage, are the *Calverley Nursery Grounds*, in the occupation of Mr. William Piper, which always afford a most delightful lounge to visitors, and are well worth seeing. The building of the new town appeared to act as a powerful stimulus, for while this was going on the Windmill Fields in the neighbourhood of Calverley were covered with cottages, and much of the adjoining land was also built upon. Several detached villas have been erected, as well as a row of houses, called Park View, pleasantly situated, which command an extensive prospect. Adjoining these is

## GROVE HILL,

comprising a number of genteel residences and first-rate lodging-houses, which are eagerly sought after during the season. The gardens and pleasure grounds in front are



tastefully arranged, and kept in excellent order for the use of the residents on that property. The situation is airy and healthful, and the views from the pleasure grounds, looking across the Common, are of the first description, whilst the prospect from the back, over the Forest and adjacent country is very extensive and diversified. This estate is the property of Stephen and Josiah Wilson, Esquires. Immediately adjoining this is, "The Grove," which we have already described at page 34; and there is also a new road by Cambridge House, (the residence of the Rev. H. G. Randall,) which belongs to the Marquis Camden, and leads through the *Twenty-Acre Wood* to some extremely romantic and picturesque rural walks. In the neighbourhood of Bishop's Down, a new Park has been commenced, called

NEVILL PARK,

the situation of which for building, has been happily chosen. It commands a most charming prospect, and its short distance from the chalybeate springs, renders it a particularly desirable residence for those who wish to derive benefit from the waters. There is a pleasant walk through this park from Bishop's

Down to Rusthall Common, and four handsome houses are erected here. One of them, the property of the Rev. Mr. Bramley, is at present the residence of Lord Viscount Nevill. The gardens belonging to it are arranged with most exquisite taste, and form a perfect *bijou*. The views from all parts of the park are varied and extensive, and at each entrance is a remarkably pretty lodge, the rustic appearance of which harmonises well with the surrounding scenery.

There is also another part of the town where buildings, on an extensive scale, have been commenced. These are situated at the entrance to the Wells from the Metropolis, and are on the property of Captain Foreman. The houses already finished are exceedingly well adapted for small genteel families. They have gardens attached to them, and are at a pleasant distance from the springs. The back rooms have an uninterrupted prospect over a "singularly wild and beautiful" country.

#### MOUNT EPHRAIM,

too, the favourite lounge and drive of the fashionable frequenters of the Wells, appears determined to recover its ancient renown. It



has long been celebrated for lodging-houses and private residences of the first class, possessing very extensive views of the Kent and Surrey hills. A new HOTEL has been erected here, the prospect from which can be surpassed by few in the kingdom.

MOUNT SION,

also, continues its ancient rivalry with Mount Ephraim. There are some lodging-houses here upon a very superior scale. Many of them are modern buildings, and some of the ancient ones have been renovated. The situation is extremely pleasant.

Considerable alterations have been also made in *Jordan Lane*, (now called Church Road) by the erection of some elegant private residences and excellent lodging-houses, on the property of Dr. Thomson, John Stone, Esq., and Mrs. Roberts; and there is a row of neat lodging-houses, facing the Common, called *Clarence Terrace*.

The consequence of the vast increase of buildings has naturally been a proportionate addition to the number of inhabitants. Many families that formerly visited the place periodically have now become permanent residents, and their numbers increase every season.

But the inhabitants of the old part of the town did not look supinely on, whilst so many new buildings were flourishing around them. Although they felt that with the Assembly Rooms, the Springs, the Post Office, two Libraries, and the Hotels, the Parade must continue the primary and chief object of attraction, yet they saw clearly the necessity of embellishment. Many of the houses and shops therefore, on the Pantiles,\* have undergone a complete renovation; the orchestra has been altered and fresh decorated, and the general improvements of the parade have kept pace with the spirit of the times. It will be ultimately found that this generous and honorable rivalry between the different parts of the town, will tend to promote the stability and prosperity of the whole of it.

Her present Majesty, with her royal mother, the Duchess of Kent, having frequently honored Tunbridge Wells by residing there in the season, chiefly at Calverley House, the inhabitants were anxious to afford them a *growing* proof of their attachment

\* The Walks were called the Pantiles from their having been originally paved with a sort of baked tile, so designated.



and gratitude. At a meeting of the Freeholders of Rusthall Common, in the autumn of 1834, it was considered that the most appropriate record of their feelings would be shewn in planting a Grove on the common, adjoining Queen Anne's Grove, to be called the Victoria Grove. As this common belongs exclusively to the lord of the manor, and the freehold tenants, who have, as we have stated elsewhere, a right of herbage, it was but natural that they should take the lead in the business—but no sooner were their intentions made known, than the inhabitants of all descriptions felt desirous of participating in the proceedings on the occasion. Meetings were accordingly held, and all minor differences having been merged in the general wish to evince every mark of respect and gratitude towards the illustrious ladies for whom the compliment was intended, the interesting ceremony took place on Thursday, the 12th of February, 1835. Soon after one o'clock, notwithstanding the torrents of rain which were then falling, the committee of management with the magistrates, and a great number of the inhabitants, preceded by the local band, went in proces-

sion from the upper assembly room to the spot selected for the new grove. Precisely at half-past one, William Scoones, Esq. as representative of the Lord of the Manor of Rusthall, planted the first tree, a Lime, and spoke to the following effect :—“ In the name and on behalf of Thomas Christopher Gardner, Esq. I plant this tree, being the first of a series of trees to be called the Royal Victoria Grove ; and I hope they may flourish for ever and ever, as well as their Royal Patroness.” Three cheers were then given, and the band played the national anthem. The planting of the other trees was then proceeded with by those who were desirous of the honor, but the inclemency of the weather having prevented the attendance of many who were anxious to be present, the further planting was postponed until the following Monday, when it was continued for that and two or three succeeding days till the grove was completed. On the evening of the 12th upwards of two hundred of the clergy, magistrates, gentry, and inhabitants dined at the Upper Assembly Rooms in celebration of the event. The grove is 550 feet long and 50 feet wide, and consists of three rows of



trees, Elms, Limes, and Sycamores—the trees being planted 12 feet apart.\*

But little more of the historical portion of Tunbridge Wells remains to be recorded. The passing of the Local Act in 1835,† has been of most essential benefit to the place in every respect, more especially as regards the watching of the town by an efficient Police establishment, and the lighting of it by gas. These proceedings were at first warmly opposed, but we believe that all parties have long since agreed upon the beneficial effects to individual and general interests, produced by the working of the Local Act.

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GENERAL REMARKS ON TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

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“Some account of the air of Tunbridge Wells,” says Benge Burr, “will certainly be esteemed necessary to render this work tolerably compleat,”—the same might be said with equal truth of the water, but we do not so far concur with these opinions as to

\* Abridged from a Pamphlet, by the Editor of this Guide, and published by him in 1835, containing the particulars of planting the Grove, the Dinner, &c.

† See page 3.

inflict long dissertations upon subjects that must be seen and felt to be properly appreciated. Many learned Essays upon both these points have been ushered into the world, which few read, and still fewer comprehend ; whilst every medical treatise that we have seen on the subject of the mineral waters, from Dr. Rowzee, in 1632, to Dr. Yeats, in 1832, strongly reprobate the practice of drinking them without proper medical advice. Two short paragraphs from the life of Mr. Richard Cumberland are more to the purpose, as speaking practically, than volumes of speculative opinions. He says, " More than twenty years I lived at Tunbridge Wells inhabiting the same house,\* and cultivating a plot of garden ground, embowered with trees, and amply sufficient for a profusion of flowers, which my old servant, Thomas Camis, nursed and took delight in. Whilst I lived in town I had hardly ever passed a year without a long and dangerous fever, but in this salubrious climate, I never once experienced so much indisposition as to

\* Which has been named after him, and is now the residence of James Deane, Esq. It is pleasantly situated at the top of Mount Sion.



confine me to bed even for a single hour.”\* From this testimony of an experienced and disinterested individual, it is evident that the air partakes of those invigorating qualities for which the waters are so justly celebrated. It is in fact, dry, pure, and bracing—strengthening the attenuated frame, and tending much to exhilarate the spirits of the hypochondriac. In summer a gentle breeze prevails, which keeps the air delightfully cool and pleasant, whilst it wafts the fragrance of the wild thyme, the chamomile, and the innumerable sweet herbs that abound on the Common, and in every direction around it.†

#### THE WATERS.

Not only does the immediate neighbourhood of Tunbridge Wells abound with

\* Cumberland's Life, vol. 2. p. 330.

† Dr. Yeats in writing "On the temperature of the Atmosphere," has this remark:—"I am inclined to believe that, in addition to its purity, it is also indebted for its salutary influence to the actual presence, in suspension or solution, of the effluvia or aroma from the plants, particularly the broom and the heath on the extensive downs of what is called the Forest, and on Crowboro' Common, situated to the south and west of Tunbridge Wells; for it is from these points that the breezes bring the grateful feelings alluded to."—Britton's Descriptive Sketches, p. 69.

mineral springs, but they are found at distances of twelve to fifteen miles from it. None of them, however, appear to have attained the celebrity that these have, although experiments have been tried at other springs: one of them about the middle of the last century, at a spot adjoining the beautiful gardens of the Sussex Hotel, which was tried by Mr. Todd, then the proprietor of the Hotel, but his efforts to attract invalids to it, failed of success, and the spot was christened "The Folly," which cognomen it still bears.\* From this circumstance it is evident that it was not much frequented. Another was tried a short distance on the Pembury road, to the right of which it stands at a farm called the *Burnt House Farm*. This was apparently better attended than that at the Sussex, for a large square stone, which was recently remaining by the side of the spring, was much carved with initials

\* It is thought by some that this was the original Spring, but we think the opinion is erroneous, as it is said that Dame Humphreys, from whom the wooden bowl was borrowed for Lord Dudley North to taste the water, lived at that time in a hovel which stood nearly where Messrs. Elliott's forge now stands. The spring therefore must have been close by it.



and dates.\* “The water itself at the present spring is extremely clear and light, its taste is pleasingly steely.† In point of heat it is invariably temperate, let the atmosphere be in whatever state it will. When it is first taken up in a large glass its particles continue at rest, till it is warmed to nearly the heat of the atmosphere, then a few airy globules begin to separate themselves and adhere to the sides of the vessel; and, in a few hours more, a light copper coloured scum begins to swim on the surface; after which an ochreous sediment settles at the bottom.”‡

\* This spring is pleasantly situated on the property of John Ward, Esq. We visited the spot some few months since for the purpose of tracing the earliest date upon the stone—which had all the appearance of a monumental stone, but we were grievously disappointed to find that it had been broken up, and thrown into the adjoining lake. One of the dates upon it was 17—.

† Steely is not a correct term, it ought to be iron-y, or rather chalybeate.

‡ Burr’s “Historical Account,” p. 73.—Mr. Burr formed his opinion of the waters from the testimonies of Dr. Rowzee, and Dr. Linden. The former gentleman, who was the first that wrote any remarks on the Springs, published in 1632, “The Queene’s Welles—That is, a Treatise of the nature and vertues of Tunbridge Water.” It was dedicated to Edward,

These changes are accounted for in the following manner :—The water as it rises from the spring, contains a solution of carbonate of iron in an excess of carbonic acid—the excess of acid readily escapes in the form of gas, leaving the carbonate of iron in the state of an insoluble precipitate. Long continued rains sometimes give the water a milky appearance, but do not otherwise sensibly affect it. From the experiments of different chymists, it appears that the component parts of this water are—Iron in its mildest state of solution, being in combination with carbonic acid gas, or fixed air, with a slighter trace of earthy salts than is usually met with in spring water. The quantity of carbonate, or rather proto-carbonate of iron in a gallon of the water, amounts to about three grains and a half—that of saline substances in combination, four and a half

Lord Viscount Conway, and Kilulta, &c. The Doctor remarks with much *naiveté*, “If the resort to the Water continue, and that there be competent company at the same, I doe purpose by the grace of God to be there every Sommer, (for it is a place I like) and if any be pleased to conferre with me, I will be readie to afford them my best counsell.”—p. 63.



grains, making eight grains of solid matter in each gallon.

The following is an accurate analysis of a wine pint of it :—

GASES.				Cubic Inches.
Nitrogen	-	-	-	0.59
Carbonic Acid	-	-	-	1
Slight trace of Oxygen	-	-	-	—
SOLIDS.				Grains.
Carbonate of Lime	-	-	-	0.03
Sulphate of ditto	-	-	-	0.17
Chloride of Sodium	-	-	-	0.30
Hydrochlorate of Magnesia	-	-	-	0.03
Ditto of Lime	-	-	-	0.05
Protoxide of Iron	-	-	-	0.28

To drink it in perfection, recourse must always be had to the fountain head. “The nature and medicinal qualities of the *mineral Springs*,” says Dr. Yeats, “are well calculated to aid the very salubrious property of the air, and prove highly beneficial in all cases of simple debility, and in such debility as is complicated with sluggish movements in the glandular system, where no inflammatory action or serious obstructions exist ;— and all that class of diseases which has general or local debility for its basis.”\*

\* Britton’s Descriptive Sketches—p. p. 72 and 82.

By the Act of Parliament mentioned at page 41, the spring is declared "open and free to the public," but from the first establishment of it there has always been a certain number of females employed as *Dippers*, who attend at the spring with glasses, &c. for the accommodation of the visitors. To these it is customary for each person when commencing a course of water drinking to give 2s. 6d., and a further compliment at the expiration of each month, that they continue drinking the waters. The present shop over the springs, forms part of the building that was originally intended for baths and a pump room. Previous to this the large circular space round the springs was used by the country people who attended there to dispose of their commodities. There was a sun dial in the centre of it, and they stationed themselves on the steps which led to the springs. Upon the laying of the foundation stone for this building, it was celebrated as a gala day, and a numerous party assembled to witness the ceremony, and partake of the punch that was made in the two basins.

In digging the foundations for the Baths, the workmen by some means cut through the



springs, and the next day, being Sunday, the water rushed out in such quantities that the congregation nearly all left the chapel, fearing an inundation. In the year 1835, as a well was being sunk on the premises of Mr. E. J. Strange, at the back of the Parade, the water in the basins was suddenly observed to decrease, and an inquiry being instituted, it was ascertained that the well had cut off the communication. This well had penetrated the stratum containing the chalybeate water, and it was thus found that the source of the spring was not so deep as had been imagined. As the well was what is called artesian, a mere boring of six inches diameter, the injury was soon rectified. The spring yields about a gallon a minute, exclusive of a considerable quantity that rises within the baths and passes off in another direction.

The salubrity of the air, with the efficacy of the water in many complaints, and the easy distance from the metropolis, have naturally rendered Tunbridge Wells the favorite resort of the fashionable world. But there is an advantage beyond this, which is rarely found in watering-places—the visitor has an oppor-



tunity of mixing with the first society, or he may live in complete retirement as disposition or health may incline. The appearance of the Common when the furze is in full bloom would of itself amply compensate for the fatigue of a journey from the metropolis. Yet beautiful as this is, it is exceeded by the delightful walks and rides in every direction around the Wells. Previous to introducing the reader to these, we shall notice some of the principal mansions and lodging-houses in the place that have not yet been noticed.\* As you enter the town from the metropolis, immediately after passing the turnpike gate on the right, is a brewery, where the celebrated Colonel Warde (who brought forward the charges against the Duke of York) carried on business. He also kept a farm and Dairy, and resided at the Villa immediately beyond it, which is now the property and residence of Hans Busk, Esq. His partner in celebrity, Mary Anne Clarke, occupied Ephraim Lodge, on Mount Ephraim. Near the brewhouse is Northumberland House, so called after his Grace of

\* A directory of the Resident Gentry and principal Inhabitants, will appear at the end of the Guide.

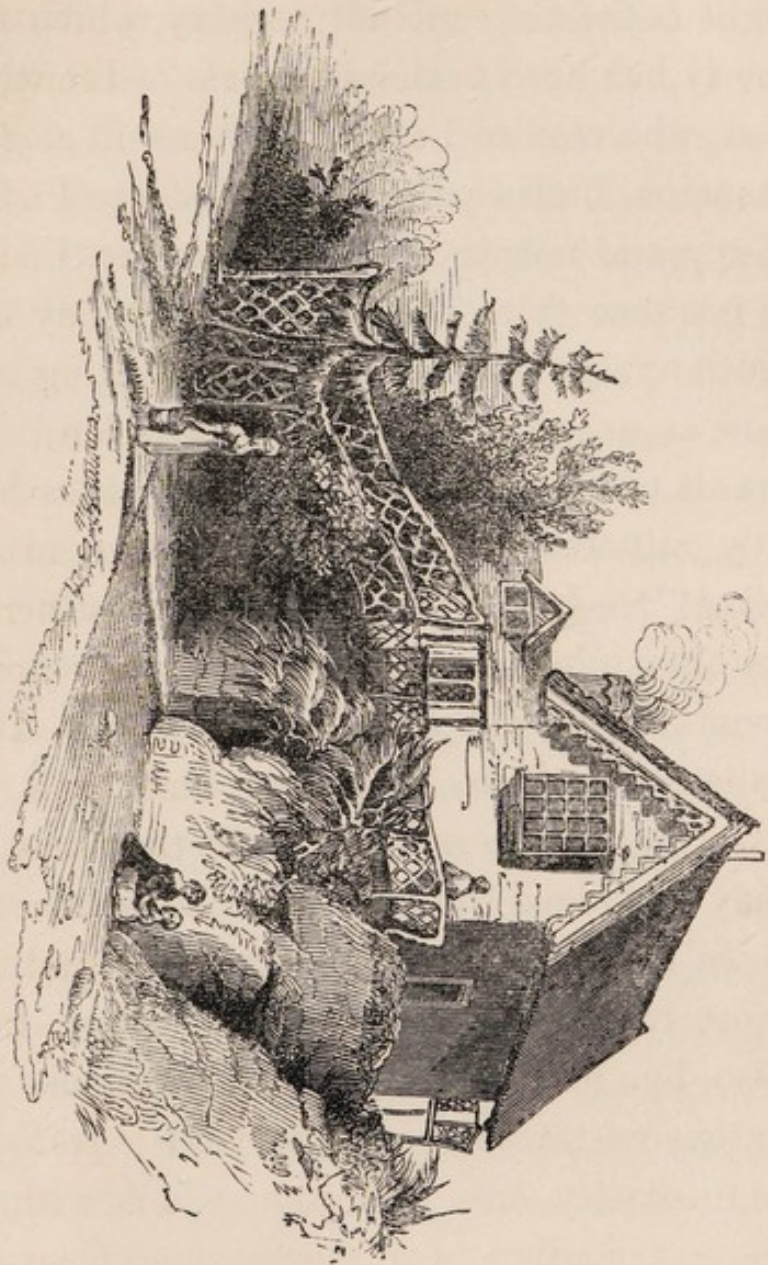


that name, who made it his occasional residence. As you approach the Wells, on the right is the Culverden\* property, which formerly belonged to the Countess of Huntingdon, who resided here. The present elegant mansion, built by the late J. Jeddere Fisher, Esq., and now the residence of Mrs. Fisher, is not seen from the road, but we may with truth apply the same terms in speaking of it now as were used of "The Culverden," upwards of seventy years since, "It is as happily situated as almost any house in the place."† In one part of the grounds there is an unique building, having its lower apartments hewn out of the sand rock. It is called the *Swiss Cottage*, and both the exterior and interior well merit the name, as may be judged from the annexed wood-cut.

In another part of the grounds, and in a most romantic situation, is a tower, built also by Mr. Fisher, which overlooks an extensive tract of country, and looks down immediately on a wild glen, which with the necessary adjuncts of moustachiod faces and

\* From the Culver pigeon which used to abound on this spot, when it was an uncultivated wood.

† Burr's History, p. 105.



THE SWISS COTTAGE.





high crowned hats, would have formed a capital study for Salvator Rosa. There is also an interesting subject for the naturalist to be found here. In the ravine at the foot of the Castle, from three to six feet below the surface, lie buried large trunks and branches of birch trees in a tolerably perfect state, and with the rind (notable for its thin texture) in better preservation than the wood itself.\* Proceeding along Mount Ephraim you arrive at *Douro House*, which was occupied by the Duchess of Wellington at the time the battle of Salamanca was fought. *Boyne House* was built by Lord Viscount Boyne, who called it Somerville in compliment to his lady, but it was afterwards named from his lordship. It was the residence of the queen and the Duchess of Kent the last time they honored the town with a visit. The cottage at the corner, now called *Somerville Cottage*, was occasionally the residence of the celebrated Rev. Wm. Huntingdon, S. S., and in one of the back rooms of it he died. His

\* There are other places in the neighbourhood where trees are found beneath the surface, particularly in the vicinity of Jack's Wood Spring, where there is a row of oaks embedded horizontally, some of them measuring ten or twelve feet in girth.



peculiarities are too well known to require notice in these pages, but the following letter, written about 60 years since by the "Sinner Saved," to Mrs. J.—who lived on Mount Ephraim, may possibly amuse:—

Rev. Ladies,

I received your in and out, round about, up and down, to and again, what shall I call it—why a mixed medley of faith and unbelief—darkness and light—fire and water—smoke and heat—good sense and nonsense—simplicity and inconstancy—sincerity and incoherency—some divinity, but no affinity—a wild decoctiation, but no connection—well meant and quickly sent—honest fragments and broken sentiments—a little joy and some sadness—some composure and great madness—expressive of grief and asking relief—talking of liberality and complaining of indigency—expressing of another's woes and begging of a suit of clothes. Ask what you will, ladies, I will not say nay. I have sent the clothes, and the old divine is to appear at Shiloh with them the next Lord's Day. At present I have hardly time to send you either prose or rhyme. I have carried on the begging trade, and spent three days in this parade; and having travelled London round, I gathered five and thirty pound—which gave the priest so much content, that he is now set off for Kent. Last night I preached at Silver Street, and 'twas a time both choice and sweet—and as I saw so great a throng, I made a speech two hours long. Mrs. Sancten came

to me, and said the Lord had set her free—in all her life that she could find, she never found the Lord so kind. I wish your sister Baldock health, and more in love with Christ than wealth; and when from Mary I am free, she may expect to hear from me. Remember me to Sister Bid, and thank her for the deed she did. With my request she did comply, nor did she fail to bring the pye. Pray give my love to all at large, my debts of love you must discharge. Let Mr. Holden have his share, and Mr. Gilbert, if he's there. I wish you all the best of joys, and happiness that never cloy: and as I cannot see their face, I'll meet them at a throne of grace—Your humble servant I'll remain, until I see you all again.

William Huntingdon

dwells at Paddington.

Next to Boyne house, is *Wellington Place*, three excellent lodging houses belonging to Messrs. Palmer, which owe their designation to the illustrious Duke. Sir George Buggin, knight, built the first house on this spot, which now forms Nos. 2. and 3. Nearly opposite this, on the common, are two very picturesque buildings, called *Gibraltar* and *St. Helena*, the latter, the residence of Wm. Stone, Esq., and the former, the property of Edmund Bennett, Esq. is used occasionally as a lodging-house. There are also on Mount Ephraim, in addition to a



number of superior lodging-houses, several private residences which command the most lovely prospect both in the front and back part. The old *Stone House*, now nearly in ruins, owing, we believe, to some misunderstanding between the claimants to it,\* was a most substantially built mansion. The side and front walls of the drawing and dining rooms are solid stone, panelled and

\* It was in allusion to this misunderstanding that the following lines were written in 1835, for "The Visitor"—the first periodical published at the Wells. They were written by the late Mr. Thomas Fry. At that time the claimants were Messrs. Stone and Pegg.—

STONY STANZAS,

*Occasioned by the sight of a Ruin.*

Oh, Stone House! now, ex parte, House of Stone,  
 Oh, White House, now, alas! no longer white;  
 Thy yearly furbishings for ever flown,  
 Thy once fair front presents a rueful sight.  
 Only one Peg to prop thy tottering walls,  
 Only one Stone to decorate thy halls.  
 Art thou in Chancery? and has the law  
 On thy fair visage laid its ruthless paw,  
 Hoping to gorge thee in its monstrous maw?  
 Or is there in thy deeds, as in thy face—a flaw?  
     Oh, Peg and Stone, and Stone and Peg!  
     Most earnestly your neighbours beg,  
     You'd coalesce your skill;  
     That when young spring renews the plain,  
     The White Stone House may shine again,  
     And grace fair Ephraim's hill.

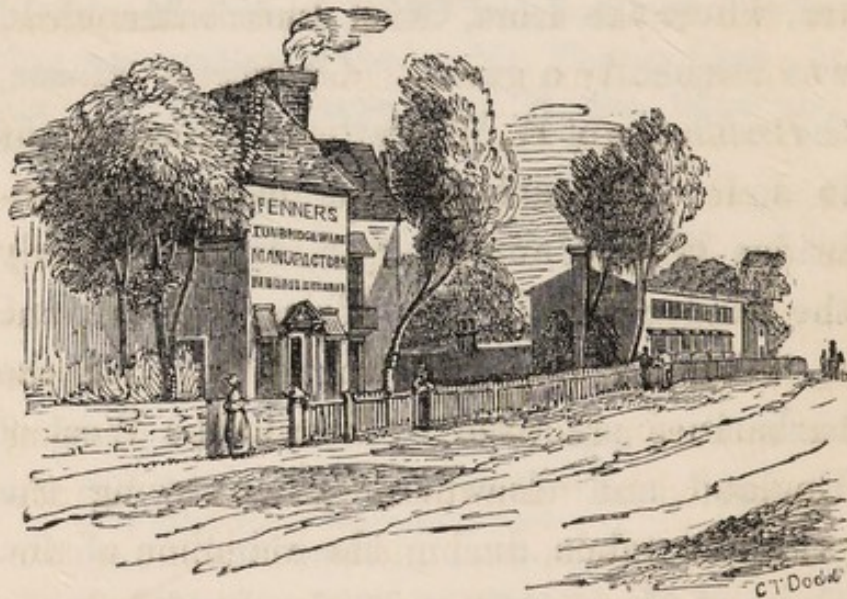
moulded ; and there was also some ancient tapestry here. There are no records of the date when it was built, nor of the builder. It was long used for a lodging-house, and for several seasons it was occupied by Sir Philip Francis, so well known in the literary world.

*Earl's Court*, the residence of Mrs. Tighe, is said to have been built by Sir Edmund King, one of the Physicians to King Charles 2nd. *Castle House*, was once occupied by Mrs. Johnson, sister of the Bishop of Rochester, where the Lord Chief Justice Mansfield was frequently a guest. *Chancellor House*, the residence of W.W. Pattesson, Esq, stands in some extensive grounds near the Tunbridge-Ware Manufactory.\* It was formerly the residence of Judge Jeffries, whose name is "damned to everlasting fame" for the barbarities practised by him in the West of England and elsewhere, when trying the prisoners taken during the rebellion of the Duke of Monmouth, in 1685. It afterwards became the property of Sir Richard Heron, Bart. who considerably enlarged and improved it. There is a marble chimney piece in the dining room, and one in the drawing room,

\* See the Map.



which were purchased with the mahogany doors and window shutters from the mansion of Sir Gregory Page Turner, at Blackheath. The chimney pieces are beautifully carved—one with fruits, flowers, &c.—the other has a square tablet of white marble in the centre, on which appears a group of boys, one of whom is frightening his companions by concealing himself behind a sheet—their appearance and attitudes are extremely natural. The house adjoining Fenner's Repository, called



*Ephraim House*, we have already noticed as having probably been the residence of Charles 2nd. and his Court. It is a large commodious building, but some parts of it have been recently modernised—the old staircases however, still remaining in the back

part of the house, shew that it must have been a mansion of some consequence. In making alterations in the house a few years since, a silver coin was found under one of the jambs of the kitchen chimney. From the situation in which it was discovered, it appeared to have been placed there when the foundations were laid. It is a shilling of Charles 1st., and bears on its obverse "Car-olus D. G. Mag: Bri: Fr: et Hib: Rex." the head is very indistinct. On the reverse are the royal arms, with this inscription, "Christo: Auspice: Regno."

*Bishop's Down Grove*, the residence of D. J. Robertson, Esq. was once the property of Sir George Kelly, knight, an eminent physician, from whose descendants it was purchased by Major Yorke, who resided here for upwards of twenty-five years. During this period he "improved his house, beautified his grounds, and made his home a constant scene of friendly intercourse and cheerful hospitality."\* When her Majesty and the Duchess of Kent were residing at Calverley House, in September, 1834, these beautiful grounds were the scene of much

\* Amsinck.



gaiety, the royal party having honored Mr. and Mrs. Robertson with a visit to witness a tournament, performed by the Tunbridge Wells Troop of Yeomanry. The sports consisted of firing at a target with pistols, riding at the quintain, &c., for which prizes were distributed to the successful competitors by her Majesty, (then the Princess Victoria) the Duchess of Kent, and the ladies of the royal *suite*.

On the rival hill, Mount Sion,\* is *Cumberland House*, formerly the residence of

\* Mount Sion was once the property of the mother of the celebrated actress, George Anne Bellamy, who was the daughter of an eminent farmer and hop planter at Maidstone, named Seal. "He was one of the people called quakers, and grew so opulent, as to be enabled to purchase an estate at Tunbridge Wells, called Mount Sion. Dying young and intestate, his whole fortune fell into the hands of his widow, who married a second husband, named Busby, who was so involved in debt that his wife's fortune was not adequate to pay them, and herself and daughter were left destitute of support. Before this sad reverse of fortune, she had furnished her houses on Mount Sion, and let them during the season, to persons of the first distinction. One of those who occasionally occupied these houses, was Mrs. Godfrey, sister to the great duke of Marlborough, who contracted such a friendship for Mrs. Busby and her

Richard Cumberland, Esq. whose fame as a dramatic writer, will outlive his reputation as a diplomatist. At Burlington House, now the residence of Mrs. Akers, lived Sir James Bland Burgess; and North Grove House, behind the new (intended) Episcopal Chapel, was occupied by lord North. Descending the hill, on the left, is a new row of buildings, called *Cumberland Gardens*, and at the end is *Cumberland Terrace*, so named from its having been the favorite promenade of the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland. This terrace is pleasantly situated, and has some excellent lodging-houses. There are fields and gardens in front, the little stream that divides the Counties running between them; at the end, are the nursery grounds of Mr. Thomas Cripps, who has cultivated the rose to a high state of perfection.

daughter, that she offered to bring up the latter in every respect like her own. This offer, though declined at first in the prosperous circumstances of Mrs. Busby, was now gratefully accepted."—*Dramatic Mirror*, vol. 2, p. 644.



## PLACES OF PUBLIC WORSHIP.

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### THE CHAPEL OF EASE.

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THIS Chapel is a commodious building, containing sittings for nearly twelve hundred persons. It has no architectural beauty to recommend the external appearance, and the interior is equally plain, if we except the ceiling, which is highly ornamented. It was opened for divine worship in the season of 1678, under a temporary roof, the building not being then completed. It appears to have been finished in the year 1684, when the Rev. Dr. Walker preached two sermons in the chapel, and afterwards published them. They are entitled, "*Fax Fonte Accensa*, Fire out of Water, or an Endeavour to kindle Devotion, from the consideration of the Fountains God hath made. Designed for the Benefit of those who use the Tunbridge Wells Waters, &c. By Anthony Walker, D. D., London, 1684." These Sermons are dedicated to "Mr. Nathaniel Haws, Citizen of London, and Treasurer of Christ Church Hospital." The reverend Doctor in his dedication, says, "Yet give me leave to tell you, I herein consider you under that more publick Character, wherewith your Zeal, your Cost, your Pains about the erecting of that commodious, beautiful and Elegant Structure of the Chapel, we all here enjoy the benefit of, justly invests you.



And if I could represent your Effigies in the front of these few Sheets, it should be with your green Book in your Hand; gratefully receiving, modestly soliciting, and faithfully recording the royal, noble, generous Contributions to this pious useful Work, which have amounted to about *Eleven Hundred Pounds*, by your prudent Care and Industry faithfully expended in the erecting and adorning of it."

The Chapel is dedicated to King Charles the Martyr.\* In the course of a few years after its erection, it was found to be too small for the numbers frequenting the Wells. In 1688, therefore, a subscription was commenced for its enlargement, which was continued in each succeeding season for about eight years, and amounted to upwards of nine hundred pounds. There are two lists of subscribers in the vestry room. In the first list is the name of the Princess Anne of Denmark for £10 15s, and in the second, for the enlargement of the chapel, her Royal Highness's name appears for £53 15s. From these lists, the cost of the chapel is ascertained, as well as the time it was built, and the period of the enlargement of it. The first list is headed, "The Account of all the Money which hath bin contributed unto and Expended on and

\* This has given rise to some animadversions by a modern writer, who calls it an "impious" dedication. This gentleman, we think, has carried his virtuous indignation further than was necessary. From the nature of his researches he ought to have known how few churches there are but what are dedicated to some Saint with no better pretensions to the title than those of the murdered Monarch. Further, was it forgotten by this writer that the church liturgy contains a solemn fast for the *Martyrdom* of King Charles the first? Surely then, we may perform our religious duties with as much devotion and sincerity under a roof dedicated to Charles the Martyr, as under one dedicated to St. Botolph, St Leonard, or any other of the numerous Saints of the Papal Church.



aboute the Erecting a Chapel at Tunbridge Wells from 1676 to 1684." The second merely alters the word "Erecting" into "Enlarging" from the year 1688 to 1696; and the sum total is stated as follows :

Contributions by first Catalogue .....	1380	7	3
Ditto by this Catalogue .....	797	5	7
Owing to Mr. Pett's Executors .....	100	0	0
Due to Mr. N. Hawes to balance this Account ..	0	8	9
			<hr/>
	£2278	1	7
			<hr/>
Paid as by first Catalogue.....	1334	15	2
Ditto by this .....	943	6	5
			<hr/>
	£2278	1	7
			<hr/>

At the bottom of the first Catalogue is this entry, "The Soile of the ground on which this Chapel stands, was given by Robert Lord Purbecke and his Lady."\* The original chapel must have been exceedingly small. It comprised that portion of it where the communion table now stands to the columns that support the roof. It has been stated that the other part of the chapel and the pulpit are in Speldhurst Parish, and in 1794, in traversing the boundaries, two boys of Speldhurst were put in at the window on one side of the chapel and passed through it, making their egress on the opposite side, both of which places have the boundary stones inserted in the chapel walls; but the Trust deed, dated 15th. February, 1703, describes the chapel, &c. as follows : "All the said Fabrick or Chapel, and also all the

\* Considering that these documents are so easy of access, it appears strange that the compilers of "Guides" have never thought an inspection of them worth consideration before they published the particulars of the Chapel. If they had, the incorrect statements of the Cost of it could not have appeared.



Ground thereunto belonging now lying being and containing as followeth, viz.—All the Ground on the W. S. W. head of the Chapel from the Chapel wall to the utmost bounds of the said lands late called Inham's against Waterdown Forest and the Highway leading to *Fant*, containing in breadth 14 foot or thereabouts. And all the Ground from the N. W. side of the said Chapel and from the afore granted Parcel unto the utmost bounds of the said lands called Inham against Bishop's Down and the Parish of Speldhurst, containing in breadth from the first built Chapel 40 foot, and from the wall of the Chapel as it now standeth 10 foot or thereabouts, and the ground lying on the N. E. head or End of the said Chapel, containing in breadth 7 foot or thereabouts unto the Palisadoes there now standing. And also the Gallery and Vestry house lately Erected over several Rooms heretofore in the possession of John Wyburne and now John Brett, Tenant to the said Earl (Buckingham,) containing in breadth from the said Chapel wall towards the S. E. 10 foot as the same is now built and standing and adjoining to ground formerly the Garden of the said John Wyburne. The said Gallery being open to the said Chapel, &c." The deed then further recites, "*All which said Chapel, Gallery, Vestry and Ground thereunto adjoining do stand and lye in the parish of Tunbridge aforesaid in the County of Kent.*" From this it would appear that the opinion of the Chapel being in two Counties and three parishes, is an erroneous one; and in perambulating the boundaries, the Tunbridge authorities invariably go round the outside of the building—but the records of



Speldhurst parish state that from the erection of the Chapel until 1791, when the Church was destroyed by fire, it was the invariable custom to close the Chapel on Easter-Day ; and of late years it has been the practice for the officiating minister at the Chapel of Ease to forward to the Rector of Speldhurst, a certain portion of the Alms collected for the poor at the Holy Communion on that day. The following letter, written by Mr. Joseph Turner, of Langton, who was at the time Churchwarden of Speldhurst, states in a clear manner the claims of that parish upon the Chapel. It is dated 20th May, 1817. "In June, 1794, going the boundaries of Speldhurst and Tunbridge, it was admitted by the Gentlemen of Tunbridge that the boundaries went through the Chapel at Tunbridge Wells in the direction since marked by two stones put into the Chapel walls, marked S. P. 1794, and two boys were put through the Chapel windows in the same direction. In the year 1805 the same admission was made, and now again in 1817. The following old inhabitants of the parish all say that they ever understood those to be the boundarys as above marked, and that until the Church was burnt down in 1791, that Divine Service was not done on the morning of Easter-day out of respect to the mother Church at Speldhurst. (Here follow 7 names.) There is a map of the Boundarys of the Manor of Rusthall which runs through the chapel, and it is fully understood *that the whole of the Manor is in Speldhurst Parish.* As it is now (May, 1817) admitted that the boundarys run from a point 18 feet along the chapel, (exactly opposite the



marks put in in 1794,) it is a strong corollary of the Fact." It has been also further stated, that when the Parishioners knew the contents of the deed of 1703, they convened a meeting and made an attestation against that portion of it which describes the chapel as being entirely in Tunbridge parish.

In opposition to Mr. Turner's evidence, it should be remarked, that in the year 1817, the *right* of Speldhurst parish was disputed. On that occasion, the son of the Rev. Martin Benson attended when the Speldhurst authorities were perambulating the boundaries of their parish, and refused them admission at the Chapel doors, objecting also to their entrance through the Window. A Mr. Huntley, who was Churchwarden at the time, forced a boy partly into it, but the boy retreated, and after other efforts, Mr. Huntley finding the authorities could not obtain ingress, contented himself with marking "1817," in red paint upon a Brick under the Stone of 1794, which mark is still legible.\*

Several eminent ministers have officiated here. The appointment is vested in certain Trustees, named by the deed. The first minister appointed appears to have been the Rev. David Waterhouse, and after him came in succession, the Reverends John Elton, William Dowding, William Thornhill,

\* We have been induced to enter into the fullest particulars upon this point as previous writers have left it untouched, or pronounced upon it dogmatically. Hasted says, "The pulpit is in Sepldhurst, the altar in Tunbridge, and the vestry in Frant." Britton remarks, "This is not correct: the Chapel is wholly in the parish of Tunbridge," and then refers to the deed of 1703. The inquiries of both appear to have been of a very superficial character, and as it will probably undergo investigation during the present year (1839), we content ourselves with giving the best evidence that we have been enabled to collect.



Thomas Foster, and Martin Benson. The latter gentleman, whose memory is highly respected by the inhabitants, was appointed in the year 1785, and held the office for forty three years, having resigned in 1828, on which occasion a piece of plate was presented to him as a testimony of the esteem in which he had been held. He died 1st. of April, 1833, aged 72 years. He was succeeded in his ministry in 1829, by the present minister, the Rev. W. L. Pope, M. A. Fellow of Worcester College, Oxford.

There is no endowment for the clergyman, whose income is derived from the subscriptions of the Visitors and Inhabitants who frequent the chapel. For this purpose a book is placed at each of the Libraries; and as many Visitors think that the occasional collections at the doors of the chapel are partly for the use of the minister, we take this opportunity of stating that they are merely for the repairs and lighting the chapel, or for such charitable purposes as may be announced.

The sittings in the chapel are free, and although etiquette has caused some of them to wear the appearance of private sittings, yet no *right* can be claimed in them by any individual. There is a small fine-toned organ—the organist being paid by subscription. Divine service is performed here twice on Sundays—at 11 in the morning, and at  $\frac{1}{2}$ -past 6 in the evening; and on Monday evenings, Mr. Pope delivers a lecture elucidatory of passages in the scriptures. The Sacrament is administered the first Sunday in every month. The Rev. W. L. Pope resides at Claremont Lodge; Mr. Thomas Stidolph, Organist, at



Cumberland Terrace; and Mr. John Jenner, Clerk, at Mount Sion.

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THE DISTRICT CHURCH.

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As the old chapel was found not to afford sufficient accommodation for the increased number of residents, and the great influx of visitors during the season; a meeting of the inhabitants was held on the 25th of August, 1824, to consider the necessity of erecting an additional place of worship in the principles of the established church. The Rev. Martin Benson presided, and in addition to a liberal subscription entered into, an application was made to the Commissioners for building churches, for their assistance in promoting this desirable object. This having been granted, and a suitable piece of ground purchased near the Calverley Property, the first stone was laid on the Duchess of Kent's birth-day, the 17th August, 1827. The building was completed in about two years, and on the 3rd. September, 1829, it was consecrated, with the accustomed ceremonies, by the Bishop of Rochester, attended by Dr. Lushington, Chancellor of the Diocese; the Rev. W. L. Pope, who officiated for the Vicar of Tunbridge, the Rev. H. A. Woodgate, the Churchwardens, and the building Committee assisting on the occasion. The public were admitted by tickets, and the ceremony was attended by most of the respectable inhabitants. The Church, called "Holy Trinity," is a handsome structure in the style of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, and is seen to great advantage from many



parts of the common. Decimus Burton, Esq. was the Architect, and Messrs. Barrett, of Tunbridge Wells, were the Builders. It cost upwards of £12,000., although the stone used in the building was procured from the Calverley quarry, in the immediate neighbourhood of the church. There is no endowment for the Clergyman, whose income is derived from the Pew Rents. The repairs, &c. of the church are paid from a Church Rate, levied as may be required. The Benefice is at present in the gift of the Rev. Sir Charles Hardinge, Bart.—afterwards the presentation will be in the hands of John Deacon, Esq., of Quarry Hill. There are about 1500 sittings, nearly one half of which are free. The present Incumbent is the Rev. I. N. Pearson. There is a house, called the Parsonage house, situated near the New Market, belonging to the Marquis of Bristol, which, it is said, this munificent nobleman has recently conveyed to the Church for the use of the Incumbent, and that it is about to undergo some extensive alterations.

The Clerk is Mr. J. B. Hasting, Priory Cottage, near the church, where Sittings may be obtained. Divine Service is performed on Sundays, at 11 in the morning, and at  $\frac{1}{2}$ -past 3 in the afternoon, (in winter at 3.) The Sacrament is administered on the third Sunday in the month. A Sunday School is established here for girls and boys, which is attended by nearly 150 scholars.

CHRIST CHURCH.  
—

The elegant structure intended to bear this designation is not yet finished though far advanced towards completion, and will probably be consecrated and opened for Divine Worship during the present Season, (1839.) It was built from the designs of R. P. Brown, Esq. of Greenwich; Messrs. Cole, Thorpe, and Scantlebury, being the builders. It will contain 1300 Sittings, nearly one half of which will be free. This building was erected partly by Subscription, and when finished, will cost upwards of £6000. The foundation stone was laid the 9th. of September, 1835.

—  
INDEPENDENT CHAPEL.  
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This chapel is situated on Mount Sion, near the range of buildings called Sion Crescent, and in the immediate vicinity of the Grove. It was built by voluntary subscriptions, and opened for divine service on the first of August, 1720, for the use of the presbyterians; on which occasion the Rev. John Archer officiated.

Prior to the above period, the presbyterians met with considerable difficulty in obtaining a suitable place for public worship. Having no better accommodation, the Ball-room, then in Mount Ephraim House, near to Bishop's Down, was licensed for their use. Here they regularly assembled on the Lord's day. A temporary pulpit was affixed to the wainscot by iron



hooks, so that it could be removed at pleasure. And during the week the room was used for dancing, card-playing, &c. This unseemly combination, however, was found to be both inconvenient and objectionable. But so opposed were all parties to the presbyterians at that time, that no person would sell them an inch of ground at any price. At length Mr. Jordan, proprietor of the house which still bears his name, situated at the end of Jordan Lane, opposite the London Road, promised to exert himself on their behalf. Mr. Jordan belonged to the Baptist denomination; and being on friendly terms with Mr. Seal, the owner of the property on Mount Sion, purchased of him the piece of ground on which the chapel now stands, with that of the garden and cottage adjoining. Mr. Seal was ignorant of the real intent of the purchase; but he supposed that Mr. Jordan, being a manufacturer of Tunbridge ware, had bought it for the erection of workshops, &c. The deed of purchase was therefore made out in Mr. Jordan's name; and shortly afterwards the property was vested in the hands of trustees for the use of the presbyterian congregation.

For several years the pulpit was supplied by various ministers, who officiated for a limited number of weeks or months in succession. In the year 1731, the Rev. Thomas Bayes, F.R.S. appears to have been the stated pastor: how long he continued is not known; but his decease took place on the 17th April, 1761, when he was fifty-nine years of age. Mr. Bayes was a man of considerable literary attainments, and of good private fortune. The Rev. Mr.



Oneley, the clergyman of Speldhurst parish, is reported to have said that Mr. Bayes was the best Greek scholar he had ever met with.\* Mr. Bayes bequeathed his valuable library to his successor, the Rev. William Johnston, A. M., who became the stated minister of the chapel, in the year 1752.

Mr. Johnston was a native of Scotland, and was distinguished both by his literary acquirements and his amiable and gentlemanly deportment. During the season some of the nobility and gentry attended his ministry, amongst whom the Duke of Leeds was an occasional hearer. The chapel in general was well filled, and Mr. Johnston lived in the affection and respect of his people. His remains are interred in Speldhurst churchyard, with those of six of his children.

For some time after the death of Mr. Johnston, there was no stated minister, but the chapel was opened for public worship for about five months in the visiting season. The next minister was Mr.

\* During the life of Mr. Bayes, an occurrence took place which is worthy of record. Three natives of the East Indies, persons of rank and distinction, came to England for the purpose of obtaining instruction in English literature. Amongst other places, they visited Tunbridge Wells, and were introduced to Mr. Bayes, who felt great pleasure in furnishing them with much useful and valuable information. In the course of his instructions, he endeavoured to explain to them the severity of our winters, the falls of snow, and the intensity of the frosts, which they did not appear to comprehend. To illustrate in part what he had stated, Mr. Bayes procured a piece of ice from an ice-house, and shewed them into what a solid mass water could be condensed by the frost—adding that such was the intense cold of some winters, that carriages might pass over ponds and even rivers of water thus frozen, without danger. To substantiate his assertion, he melted a piece of the ice by the fire, proving that it was only water congealed. “No,” said the eldest of them, “It is the work of Art!—we cannot believe it to be any thing else, but we will write it down, and name it when we get home.”



Skinner, who afterwards removed to Cranbrook. He was the first master of the Free School at Southborough. Mr. Skinner was succeeded by Mr. Hampson. Mr. Hampson was followed by Mr. Gough in 1795, who was also master of the Free School at Southborough. From this time, in common with many of the old presbyterian places in England, the congregation gradually decreased and dwindled away until the chapel was nearly deserted. The Wesleyan Methodists were allowed to hold their meetings for public worship here for some time, till they erected a chapel for themselves in Vale Royal, in the year 1812. Mount Sion chapel was eventually closed in the year 1814, and thus it remained year after year in a decaying and dilapidated condition, exhibiting a melancholy proof of the desertion of this once crowded sanctuary, and of the decay of presbyterian vigour and piety.

In the spring of the year 1830, the attention of Thomas Wilson, Esq. of Highbury, then on a visit at the Wells, was directed to this place of worship. After making arrangements with the surviving trustees to apply the chapel to the use of the Congregational body—commonly called Independents—Mr. Wilson undertook to have it thoroughly repaired. A gallery was erected; the lower part was fitted up with pews—having had before (with the exception of a table pew in front of the pulpit) only forms with backs affixed to them. The old vestry was taken down; and a school-room, capable of containing seventy children, was built. The expenses incurred by the alterations and repairs amounted to upwards of £700.



Towards this sum about one hundred pounds were subscribed by other gentlemen; and Mr. Wilson, according to his well-known liberality, generously paid the whole of the remaining sum.

The Chapel was re-opened on the 8th of July, 1830. The Rev. John Clayton, Jun. of London, preached in the morning; and the Rev. James Stratten of Paddington preached in the evening. Mr. Stratten supplied the pulpit for the four following sabbath days. The Rev. Benjamin Slight, the present minister, formerly of Highbury College, preached his first sermon in this chapel on the 8th August, 1830. On the 10th of December following, a church was formed on Congregational principles; on which occasion the Rev. Thomas Jones of Woolwich presided. At a subsequent meeting of the members, held on the 21st January, 1831, it was unanimously resolved that the Rev. B. Slight should become the stated pastor; and on the 10th of May following he was publicly set apart to the office.

Since then a new Trust Deed has been formed, by which the Chapel, with the cottage and garden adjoining, has been vested in the hands of the following individuals, for the use of the congregation assembling there; the deed is deposited in the Congregational Library, Bloomfield Street, Finsbury Circus, London:—*Joshua Wilson, John Remington Mills, Henry Wilson, David Jennings, Joseph Jennings, James Stratten, John Rogers the younger, James Richardson, Herbert Richardson, Henry Stapley, Richard Corke, William Way, and William Maddock.*



The Chapel is a plain substantial building, nearly square—40 feet by 34. It is distinguished by no architectural attractions; but its interior is comfortable and commodious. It is capable of seating 450 persons; allowing 400 for the chapel itself, and 50 for the adjoining school-room, which is separated from the chapel by sliding shutters. Of these sittings 170 are free. During the week the school-room is used for a Female School, on the plan of the British and Foreign School Society; the average attendance at which is 60 girls. The stated public services in this place of worship are as follow:—on Sabbath days, at eleven in the morning, and half-past six in the evening; on Monday evenings, Prayer Meeting at seven; and Lecture on Wednesday evenings, at seven. The residence of the present minister, the Rev. Benjamin Slight, is No. 3, Park View, Grove Hill Road, facing the Calverley Park; and the Clerk, Mr. J. Scholes, lives at the foot of Grove Hill Road.

Tradition states that the celebrated Dr. Isaac Watts has preached in this place of worship, but we are not furnished with sufficient data for the authenticity of the fact. By a reference to the memoir of his life, prefixed to the Rev. George Burder's quarto edition of his works, we find that Dr. Watts was at Tunbridge Wells in the year 1712. Again in the year 1729 it appears that he had visited this place; as one of his sermons on Rev. vi. 15—17, is entitled, "The vain refuge of sinners; or, a meditation on the Rocks near Tunbridge Wells, 1729." There was then, however, an Independent Chapel at the Wells, which about

fifty years ago was closed, on account of the principal attendants residing at the town of Tunbridge, and erecting there a chapel for the use of the Independents. The old Independent chapel was subsequently converted into a dwelling house, now known by the name of Durham House, and situated in Vale Royal. The question therefore is, whether Dr. Watts, being himself of the Independent denomination, did not preach in that chapel, and not in Mount Sion as has been supposed ?

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THE COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON'S CHAPEL.

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This Chapel is situated at the entrance of the town from the metropolis. It is a neat wooden edifice—one small portion only being finished with tiles. It was built by Selina, Countess of Huntingdon, a descendant of the house of Shirley. She was the daughter of Washington, Earl Ferrers, and was born August 24, 1707. She was married to Theophilus, Earl of Huntingdon, 3d June, 1728. On his demise he left her the entire management of her children and their fortunes, which she improved with the greatest fidelity. Lady Huntingdon's person, endowments, and spirit, were all uncommon. She was rather above the middle size; her presence noble, and commanding respect; her address singularly engaging; her intelligence acute; her diligence indefatigable; and the constant labour of her correspondence scarcely conceivable. During forty-five years of widowhood, she devoted time, talents, and property to the support of the diffusion of the gospel. Her ladyship died at her house in Spa Fields, June



17th, 1791, in the eighty-fourth year of her age, and was interred in the family vault at Ashby-de-la-Zouch in Leicestershire. In 1768, Lady Huntingdon resided at Tunbridge Wells, at a house on the Culverden, on the site of which Mrs. Jeddere Fisher's mansion is built. At this time Messrs. Shipman and Matthews, two of the students expelled from Oxford, applied for admission into her college at Trevecca, and were most cordially received at the Culverden by her ladyship. It now occurred to Lady Huntingdon that as she had two ministers in her house one of them should preach. Notice was accordingly sent round, that on such an evening there would be preaching before her door. At the appointed time a great many people had collected together, which the young men seeing inquired what it meant. Lady Huntingdon said, "As I have two preachers in my house, one of you must preach to the people." They in reply said, they had never preached publicly, and wished to be excused. Mr. Shipman was a ready speaker, but Mr. Matthews was remarkably diffident. Her ladyship therefore judged it best for Mr. S. to make the first attempt. While he hesitated she put a bible into his hand, insisting upon his appearing before the people, and either telling them that he was afraid to trust in God, or, to do the best he could. So on the servant's opening the door, her ladyship thrust him out on the steps which led up to it, with her blessing, saying, "The Lord be with you, do the best you can." He preached from Gen. vi. 3. After this Mr. Shipman preached in many parts of the kingdom.



Encouraged by the success which attended her efforts in this part of Kent, it appears that her ladyship determined upon having a chapel in the place. Previous to building which, the Rev. George Whitefield used to address numerous auditories on a mound of earth, near her ladyship's residence, and which is still remaining in the garden of the present respected minister. In the memoirs of the Rev. George Whitefield is the following account of the opening of the present chapel. "July 23, 1769, he opened Lady Huntingdon's new chapel, at Tunbridge Wells. Preached from Gen. xxviii. 17. 'This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.' In the evening, the congregation being too large to be contained in the chapel, he preached out of doors from a mount in the court before the chapel, after which he gave a general exhortation; and next day administered the sacrament from Thess. ii. 11, 12." In a publication called "The Christian Character exemplified," page 21, is the following notice relative to this interesting occurrence from the "Papers of Mrs. Margaret Magdalen A——s:" "Soon after, my aunt had an invitation from Lady Huntingdon to the opening of the chapel at Tunbridge Wells, and I, as being with her, was invited likewise. On the Sunday, July 23, the Rev. Mr. W. preached from Gen. xxviii. 17. I was much delighted, though I felt no particular impression of the truth at that time. How earnestly did he pray that some poor sinners might acknowledge that chapel as the place of their spiritual nativity. I trust, through mercy, I can say it was the place of mine. In the evening I heard Mr. De ——



from Rev. i. 18, "I am He that liveth and was dead, &c." I was again highly pleased, and I seemed resolved to set about a reformation, though I knew not where or how to begin."\* From this period it does not appear from the records that there were any settled ministers until the year 1808, when the Rev. John Finley was appointed, who still enjoys the office, having, we believe, presided over his congregation longer than any minister within a circuit of twenty miles. There is a remarkably neat burying ground in front of the chapel, which is kept apparently with great care, reminding the traveller forcibly of the village churchyards and cemeteries in South Wales. The chapel contains sittings for 500 persons; and those in the galleries are free, with the exception of the front seat. There is no endowment, but the income of the minister is derived from the pew rents and voluntary contributions. Divine service is performed here on Sundays in the morning at eleven, and in the evening at half-past six o'clock, and the sacrament is administered on the first Sunday in the month. There is a prayer meeting on Monday evenings, and a lecture on Tuesday evenings, each service commencing at 7 o'clock. The minister, the Rev. John Finley, resides in a house immediately adjoining the chapel; and the clerk, Mr. George Budgen, lives at Ephraim Terrace.

We cannot conclude this notice without inserting the following beautiful lines from the Evangelical Register for 1827 :—

\* We have compiled this account of the Countess of Huntingdon's Chapel chiefly from "The Evangelical Register," and "Memoirs of the Rev. George Whitefield."

## LINES ON THE MOUND AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

—  
 This hill is sacred ; for here trod  
 WHITEFIELD, the messenger of GOD,  
 When by the list'ning, melting throng,  
 His voice was heard like angel-song.

Tell me—for you must know—ye trees,  
 Tell me in some responsive breeze,  
 What was the art by which he prest  
 Such pathos on the trembling breast ?

Silence is broke,—the rustling leaf  
 Articulates for my relief,  
 And speaking from its waving bough,  
 In mild reply—" I'll tell you how :—"

His art ?—no, he was nature's child,  
 And, like the bard, in numbers wild,  
 With words most simple, through the whole  
 Pour'd forth the feelings of his soul.

Art ?—no, he preached his Saviour's love—  
 That theme might well the passions move—  
 While with the cross before their eyes,  
 This mount like Calv'ry seemed to rise.

Yet more than words ; a heavenly force,  
 As winds that bind us in their course,  
 Wrought wonders in that gracious hour :  
 'Twas eloquence—'twas God's own power.

CHESHUNT COLLEGE, (*Jan.* 1827.)

J. K. F.

—  
 THE HANOVER CHAPEL.  
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At what period the congregation of Baptists first assembled in this place is now a subject for conjecture. The first traces of them as a distinct body of worshippers appear to be not earlier than the middle of the eighteenth century, as we find somewhere



about the year 1770 a chapel was built for "The General Baptists," by the united exertions of Mr. Mathias Copper and Mr. Joseph Haines, both of whom were preachers in that persuasion, and the latter it appears held the ministry for about thirty years. This chapel was erected immediately adjoining Ephraim House, and was pulled down about the year 1809. On its site a row of cottages has been built, but the original Baptistry still remains. The burying ground, too, though sadly, we may say disgracefully neglected, still marks the spot, where some of the "rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep." It is perhaps worthy of note, that although the members of the congregation were buried in this ground, their deaths were always registered in the parish church of Speldhurst. A division in the sect has, we believe, occasioned the negligence that is here apparent, for the original 'General Baptists,' in this place dwindled away upwards of thirty years since, nor does there appear to have been any effort made to revive them. About the year 1833, however, some few serious persons occasionally assembled for worship, belonging to the sect of Particular, or Calvinistic Baptists. At first they congregated in a school-room in the Grosvenor Road, but finding their numbers speedily increase, they commenced a subscription for building a chapel. As their labours were attended with success, they commenced the present neat building in Hanover Road, on the 14th August, 1834. It was finished on the 5th November, and opened on the 6th November in the same year. The Rev. Mr. Evans preached in the morning, the Rev. Mr. Shirley in the afternoon,

and the Rev. Mr. Castleden in the evening. There is accommodation in the chapel, including pews and free sittings, for 450 persons; but as the congregation is increasing it is about to be enlarged, by building a new vestry room, &c. The cost of the chapel, including land, &c. was about £1265. It is a plain brick building without architectural ornaments, one of the resolutions of the committee of management having been "To reject unnecessary expenditure, every mere embellishment has been avoided; and, where there has been the smallest opportunity, to decrease the amount without injuring the building, or lessening its efficiency." There is a Sunday School established here, which consists of about 120 scholars; and there is a burial ground at the back of the chapel. There is no endowment, but the minister derives his income from pew rents and voluntary subscriptions. Divine service is performed here on Sundays, in the morning at 11, afternoon at three, and evening at half-past six o'clock; and Monday and Thursday evenings at seven o'clock. The present minister is the Rev. Henry Kewell, who resides in the Grosvenor Road. The clerk, Mr. J. Austen, lives in the Windmill Fields.

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#### THE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

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This structure is pleasantly situated at Vale Royal, facing the Common, and adjoining the London Road. It is a plain neat building, without architectural pretensions, and presents an interesting object to the eye of the Visitor on entering this part of the town.



The Rev. John Wesley, the Founder of Methodism, in the course of his unwearied and self-disinterested travels through these kingdoms, his sole object being to promote the spiritual and temporal interests of his fellow men, has recorded some of his visits here. On January 19th, 1778, he writes, "I went over to Tunbridge Wells and preached in the large dissenting Meeting to a numerous congregation, and deep attention sat on every face." "Monday, October 16th, 1780, I went to Tunbridge Wells and preached to a serious congregation on Rev. 20. 12." "Monday, October 21st, 1782, I preached at Tunbridge Wells." "Monday, 6th December, 1784, I went to Tunbridge Wells, but not without difficulty; part of the road being made scarcely passable through the abundance of rain. I preached in the large Presbyterian Meeting House, but the violent rain thinned the congregation."\* Subsequently, Dr. Coke and other ministers in connexion with the Rev. J. Wesley, occasionally visited the place, and a society was ultimately formed in 1809, which led to the erection of the present Chapel. It was built by subscription, and opened for public worship, June 24th, 1812, by the Revds. Joseph Benson and Richard Reece. Mr. Benson's Journal contains the following entry: "The little chapel which will hold about 400 people, was completely filled three times. In the morning I preached on Rom. 1. 16.—and in the Evening, on Luke 24. 47. Mr. Reece in the afternoon gave us a very good Sermon on christian zeal, from Gal. 4.

\* From "The Works of the Rev. John Wesley."—Vol. 5. & 6.

18." Since then the society has been steadily increasing. It is now in contemplation to add side galleries, and also to take down the present vestry, and erect one much larger, which is greatly needed. Divine service is performed here twice on Sundays, viz. at 11 o'Clock in the morning, and at  $\frac{1}{2}$ -past 6 in the evening; and on Thursday evenings, at 7. Prayer Meeting on Monday evenings, at 7 o'Clock.

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ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL.

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The Catholic Church of St. Augustine is a neat stone edifice, situated in the Grosvenor Road. It was built by subscription. The architect was — Ireland, Esq., and Mr. Tarrant was the builder. There is a house adjoining to it, which is the residence of the priest. The foundation was laid in 1837, and it was completed in 1838; on the 17th July in which year it was opened with a pontifical mass. The Right Rev. Dr. Griffiths, Bishop of Olena, and Vicar Apostolic of the London District officiated on the occasion. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Randal Lythgoe. There are sittings for 260 persons, one-third of the body of the chapel being free. The Rev. Charles Lomax is the resident clergyman. Morning service begins at eleven o'clock, and the afternoon at three o'clock.



## CHARITY SCHOOLS, &amp;c.

BESIDES the schools connected with the several places of worship, already noticed, there are three other schools supported chiefly by voluntary contributions. These are the Female British School on Mount Sion ; the Infant School in the Grosvenor Road ; and the Victoria National School for Boys, at the back of the Calverley Market. The foundation stone of the latter was laid on the 29th September, 1834, by the Princess Victoria and the Duchess of Kent. The whole of these establishments are conducted on the principles of the British and Foreign School Society. It is reported (April, 1839) that a school will shortly be built for the education of Roman Catholic children.

## CHAPEL OF EASE FREE SCHOOL.

Adjoining the Chapel is a School for the instruction of " fifty or more poor boys and girls," but at present confined to the education of boys, in consequence of other schools on a similar plan having been opened for girls. This school was opened about the year 1686, and for some time after its establishment, was



held in the gallery of the chapel behind the organ, until successive donations enabled the Trustees to erect a school-room at the back of the chapel, which within these few years has been enlarged to its present size. As an encouragement to parents to have their children educated and brought up in habits of honesty and industry, Mr. William Strong in his will, proved at Canterbury, January 20th, 1713, left the following bequest for the use of the Scholars:—  
“After the decease of Mary Sheffield, a farm of about 90 acres, situate at Pembury, is left to the Churchwardens of Tunbridge for the time being and their Successors and Assignees for ever for them to receive yearly and every year the rents issues and profits of the said premises, and after deducting for taxes, &c. they shall yearly pay away and dispose of the same to and for the clothing and putting forth apprentice yearly for ever one or more boys born or to be born in the said parish of Tunbridge, or in any other parish, so that such boy or boys has or have been for some considerable time educated in the great School at Tunbridge, or at the great School at the Wells in or near the Chapel thereof, to the trades of Sail maker, Block maker, Rope maker, Ship Carpenter, Ship Joiner, Smith, Caulker, or to any Mariner Master of a Ship or Vessel, or to any other employment relating to the setting forth to sea any Vessels in her Majesty’s service, or in any other private persons in that part of Great Britain called

\* It should be observed, that the *School* itself derives no benefit from the bequest, as it belongs exclusively to the Scholars after they have quitted it.



England. And I do hereby appoint that such boy or boys shall be yearly chosen at the feast of Easter by the Minister of the said town of Tunbridge and the Minister of the said Chapel near the Wells, and such justice of the peace as shall reside in or nearest to the said town of Tunbridge, or any two of them out of and from the Great School at Tunbridge town, and the School kept in or near the said Chapel near TunbridgeWells aforesaid alternately for ever. And such boy to be of honest parents and know the four first Rules of Arithmetic, the most necessitous to have the preference. And such boys shall be within 14 years of age to 18, and not defective in body or mind. And that the said Charity may not be smothered up a copy of the Will shall be provided and the boy's names and parents and Masters to whom bound shall be entered in a Vellum Book, and what money paid with them and laid out in fitting them out, and kept in the Church and to be consulted by any parties interested without fee, &c. And I do hereby further will and declare that if the said Charity shall be at any time hereafter smothered neglected or perverted, or my Will herein declared concerning the same shall not be duly performed according to the provisions, the same shall revert to my right heir. And further if the said premises shall be so improved that the yearly rents thereof, over and above all deductions as aforesaid, shall be more than sufficient for the clothing and putting out one such boy or boys in each year as aforesaid that then the surplus money thereby arising in all or any such years, shall be paid and applied by the said Churchwarden and Succes-



sors for enabling some one or more of such boys so put out as have most need of help, and have honestly served their apprenticeship to each of them a sum from £20. to £50. for 5 years without interest upon security approved by the Minister and Churchwardens or any two of them, and to no other purpose whatever." We regret to state that for a period of nearly thirty years the Testator's benevolent intentions were frustrated—partly by the fraudulent conduct of the parties holding the funds, and partly, we think, from the intention of the Will not being clearly understood. A claim was also made from the Tunbridge division of the parish, that the benefaction was meant to apply to the boys of the National School established there. The Rev. W. L. Pope, however, with a praiseworthy zeal that reflects the highest credit upon him, applied to the Commissioners of Charities upon the subject, whose reply to him, dated December 16th, 1836, states that the "Great School at Tunbridge meant Sir Andrew Judd's School, and that boys from that School, or from the Chapel School at the Wells, were alone eligible to partake of the benefits of the Charity." This opinion was decisive of the question at issue, and since then the boys have been nominated from the Chapel School only. We trust we shall be pardoned for having gone at such length into this subject, but we have done so from a conviction that there are many even among the inhabitants, who do not clearly comprehend the importance it is to the town that the benevolent intentions of the Testator should not be frustrated nor allowed to be "smothered and neglected."



## MANUFACTURE.

THE Tunbridge-ware has obtained such celebrity in all parts of the world, that it appears almost a work of supererogation to give it a detailed notice ; but as the character of it has so much altered from the original appearance, it necessarily demands more than a casual mention of it. At what period this beautiful ware was first introduced it is impossible to say, as it is mentioned by the earliest writers on the Wells as a trade then existing, and they have pronounced it to be similar to that of the Spa in Germany, consisting “ chiefly of a variety of toys in wood, such as tea-chests, dressing-boxes, snuff-boxes, punch-ladles, and numerous other little articles of the same kind.” The manufacture has, however, been rapidly progressing, and articles of utility as well as ornament have long since usurped the place of the mere toys that were formerly our staple commodity. These toys appear to have been first made at Speldhurst, at a house opposite a barn that formerly stood on the



left of the road just before you come to the parsonage house ; and such was the intense interest created by its appearance, that persons, to make themselves acquainted with the secret of manufacturing the ware, used to crawl up the thatched roof, and making a hole in it, look down upon the workmen. At this time the manufacturer's art was chiefly confined to the making of humming tops and small turnery ware, yet such was the reputation they obtained from their novelty, that when half a dozen tops were made, the parties making them trudged to London to dispose of their ware, and realized from their sale a handsome profit. They also made their appearance regularly at the steps round the springs, where the country people attended with their vegetables, &c. It is probable that when these articles were first made, one species of wood only was used in their composition ; the art of veneering was then unknown, and the ambition of the makers appears to have been confined to working such woods as were found in their immediate neighbourhood. Encouraged by their extraordinary success, the art obtained a wider range, and instead of the simple wood, other



and more adventurous spirits attempted greater things. This led to the introduction of veneering, and afterwards, from an accidental occurrence, the present mosaic system was acted upon. It was introduced in the following manner. Mr. James Burrows, whose grandfather had been one of the chief manufacturers, or perhaps the only one in the neighbourhood, was attracted by a row of wooden beads, worn by a lady, which did not correspond with the colours of her dress; thinking that something of the kind might be effected in Tunbridge-ware, of different woods combined, he eventually produced a necklace of the mosaic work, for which he received two guineas from a lady then residing at Cumberland Terrace, accompanied with an order for another. This acting as a stimulus upon his inventive faculties, he turned his attention more particularly to the improvement of the ware, and has succeeded, we believe, beyond his most sanguine expectations. Mr. Burrows was the first who introduced butterflies and birds into this description of manufacture. Such is the value set upon Tunbridge-ware articles, that few persons visit the place without purchasing

for their friends some reminiscence of it, which is considered acceptable ; and in the year 1826, the inhabitants wishing to present the Princess Victoria with an article of their staple commodity, entered into a subscription for the purpose. This subscription was limited to five shillings each person, which shortly amounted to twenty-five guineas, raised exclusively by the inhabitants. As it was thought that a feeling of jealousy might be created by selecting one manufacturer, it was agreed that Mr. William Fenner, Mr. Edmund Nye, Messrs. Sharp, and Mr. James Friend should draw lots for the appointment. This was accordingly done, and Mr. Fenner was the successful candidate. Under the direction of the committee he prepared the following handsome present : A table formed with King-wood, beautifully veneered with party-coloured woods from every part of the globe. It was lined with gold tufted satin, and comprised a complete writing and reading desk, covered with purple embossed velvet, fitted up with cut glasses mounted in massive silver. A side drawer exhibited a complete work-box, with appropriate instruments of richly-chased



silver ; the reels, runners, &c. being of sandal wood, and the silk winders fine specimens of native and foreign woods ; the whole lined throughout with gold-coloured embossed satin. A drawer on the opposite side was furnished with a drawing box, comprising the necessary colours, pencils, pallet, sandal-wood rulers, &c. From the lower part of the top a work-box of rich gold-coloured silk, appropriately ornamented, fell in graceful folds. The whole was supported by a finely-worked tripod of solid king-wood : and altogether it was considered an unique specimen of the taste and ingenuity of the Tunbridge-ware manufacturers. The British woods chiefly used are holly, yew, plum, cherry, stem of furze, broom, white and black thorn, laurel, &c. Many of the dressing-cases, work-boxes, &c. now made contain upwards of forty varieties of native wood, besides foreign. The following are the principal manufacturers ; Mr. James Friend, Messrs. Sharp, Mr. E. Nye, Messrs. G. & J. Burrows, Mr. H. Burrows, Jun., Messrs. Fenner, and Mr. George Bennett ; all of whom feel much pleasure in explaining their mode of manufacture to those visitors who may honor them with a call.



## PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

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IN the infancy of watering-places, almost every description of amusements was regulated by the decrees of a master of the ceremonies, to which the whole fashionable world, as well as the pretenders to fashion, were compelled to submit. The amusements of the Wells appear to have partaken more of a rural character than any other, for there were frequently balls and breakfasts given *al fresco*, when the fashionable visitors amused and regaled themselves on the upper walks, and the tradesmen with those of a lower class, contented themselves with looking on from the lower walks, which now form the space in front of the Sussex Hotel. The line of demarcation between the gentry and the resident tradespeople was strictly preserved on both sides, and many persons remember that it was customary to send a tradesman "to Coventry," who ventured to be seen out of the prescribed limits. The two walks were then distinctly marked, as we find by the following entry in the register



of the Chapel of Ease: " July 3, 1728— Lower walk levelled and repaired, and gates made to keep horses from coming upon the Lower walk." A much respected nobleman now living has often " tripped it featly here and there," in the open air on the Upper parade, and within forty years it was by no means an uncommon occurrence on ball nights for the windows of the Assembly-rooms to be opened to their full extent, and the tradespeople of both sexes to dance on the Parade to the enlivening strains that were animating their more aristocratic neighbours within. In 1766, the following were the prescribed amusements :—

" The company usually appear on the parade between seven and eight o'clock in the morning, to drink the water, and practice the necessary exercise of walking, which is very sufficient amusement for an hour or two. They then return to their lodgings to breakfast, or else assemble together in parties at the tea-rooms, where it is customary for gentlemen to treat the ladies, and their male acquaintance, every one in their turn, and frequently to give a public breakfast to the whole company without exception ; which, in fine weather, is often given under the trees upon the open walk, and attended with music the whole time. After breakfast it is usual to attend morning service in the chapel, to take an airing in



coaches or on horseback, to assemble together in the bookseller's shop, or else to saunter upon the parade. When prayers are ended, the music, which had only ceased during the time of divine service, strikes up afresh, and the company thickening upon the walks, divert themselves with conversations as various as their different ranks and circumstances, till the important call of dinner obliges the different parties to disperse. Dinner finished, the band of music again ascends the orchestra, and you once more behold the company returning in crowds to the walks ; but now the morning dress is laid aside, and all appear in full and splendid attire. The general desire of all is to see and be seen, till the hour of tea-drinking, when they assemble together, as in the morning, commonly at the expense of the gentlemen. This over, cards and all sorts of lawful gaming succeed in the great rooms, which are supplied with a proper number of tables and all necessary accommodations. Twice in the week, that is, on Tuesdays and Fridays, there are public balls in the great assembly rooms, where all ranks are mingled together without any distinction. The nobility and the merchants, the gentry and the traders, are all upon an equal footing, so long as you behave with that decorum which is ever necessary in genteel company.\*

The admission to the balls was half a crown each for the gentlemen and *one shilling* each for the ladies. They began at

\* Burr's " Historical Account," pp. 166—170.



*six o'clock* in the evening and ended at eleven. The ball opened with minuets, each gentleman being obliged to dance with two ladies till the minuets were over. About eight o'clock country dances began, and continued till a little after nine, when tea was brought in, shortly after which dancing was resumed, and continued till eleven. This appears to have been the regular routine of amusements for many years. After the celebrated Beau Nash had ceased to reign, the following gentlemen presided in succession as Masters of the Ceremonies:—Messrs. Collet, Derrick, Blake, Tyson, Fotheringham, Amsinck, Roberts, Captain Merryweather, and Lieut. Madden, R. M. The latter gentleman held his office for eleven years and resigned at the end of the season of 1836. Since then the office has been dispensed with, and when public balls are now given, certain gentlemen act as stewards for the evening. So recently as the year 1822, (Mr. Roberts, M. C.) we find that the good old regulations were in some measure acted upon, for in that year the Upper Assembly Rooms, rented by Mr. Nash, Librarian, were improved and embellished, and

the rooms were re-opened in June, 1822, on a new plan of subscriptions, and Thursday evenings were appropriated to a promenade, tea-drinking, and undress ball. The tea tables were arranged on each side of the room, as in the "olden times,"—the band of music performing select pieces; quadrilles followed, and the company departed early. On every other evening the rooms were lighted, and parties assembled at loo, &c., the band on those evenings playing in the orchestra immediately opposite. Besides the upper, and original rooms, there is a very fine assembly room at the Sussex Hotel, which, within these few years, has been very tastefully re-decorated, and makes a handsome appearance. At present there are no fixed amusements at the Wells. Balls are given occasionally, but at no certain intervals; and during the season, there are generally concerts at both the assembly Rooms. Horse races, also usually take place in the month of August. At what time these were instituted does not appear, but the course is distinctly marked in a map of the Wells published upwards of a century since. There are two good Billiard Rooms on the Parade, one at



Mr. Nash's, and the other at Mr. Elliott's, both of which are much frequented.

During the fashionable season musicians are engaged, who perform in the orchestra on the Parade three times a day, and a local band is stationed on Mount Ephraim every evening: both these are paid by subscriptions from the visitors and inhabitants.

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THE THEATRE.

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Among the amusements of an intellectual people, dramatic representations have for centuries held the highest rank, and when properly conducted they deserve every possible encouragement from a liberal, enlightened, and thinking public. The theatre at Tunbridge Wells has many pleasing associations in the minds of theatrical amateurs, as upon these boards many a stroller has strutted and fretted his hour for a miserable pittance, who has afterwards shone like a meteor in the theatrical firmament. Kean once figured here for some time for ten or twelve shillings a week, and it was from this theatre that Downton, the most sterling actor of the day, was transplanted to the London boards, to attain the summit of histrionic fame.

The earliest information we have been able to collect concerning the theatricals of this place is, that in 1737, an itinerant group of comedians exhibited here. Afterwards Mr. Smith, better known as Can-

terbury Smith, visited it occasionally. He was succeeded in 1753 by an actor of his company named Peters, who used a room belonging to a public house not far from the present theatre. About 1770, Mrs. Baker erected a "Temple to the muses" on Mount Sion, a short distance from Cumberland House. She occupied this building two seasons only, during both of which she was opposed by a company under the management of Mr. Glassington, who exhibited in a warehouse in Castle-street, which stands nearly opposite the tap of the Castle hotel, and is now occupied as stables, &c. They both played on the same evenings, but—

"To sovereign beauty mankind bends the knee,"—

and Mr. Glassington, finding that his "*castle's* strength" could not afford to laugh at many sieges, withdrew his placards "from the outward walls," and like a prudent general made the best terms he could, and eventually joined the conquering forces. Mrs. Baker afterwards pulled down the original theatre on Mount Sion, and erected a new one partly with the old materials, on the site of some premises adjoining the Sussex Hotel. But in 1801, finding it much out of repair, she determined upon pulling it down, and building a new one upon a more extensive scale. This was accordingly done, and the present theatre was opened on the 8th July, 1802. It is a neat building, and, if properly painted and decorated, its appearance would be superior to most theatres of a similar size. The prices of admission are, boxes 4s., pit 2s., and gallery 1s. It cost about £1600, and



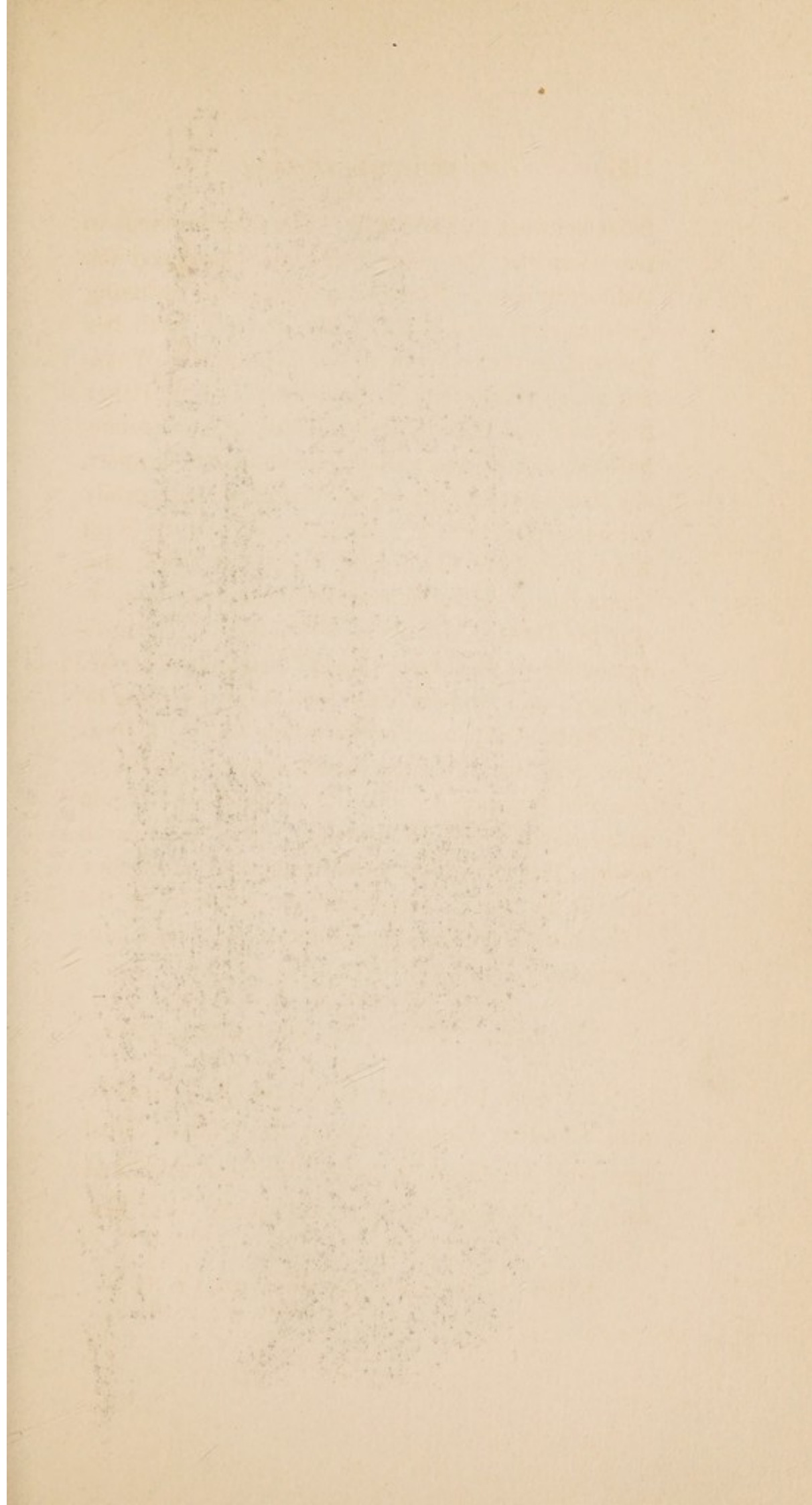
holds between £60 and £70. The theatre stands in two counties; the stage being in Sussex and the auditory in Kent. Previous to Mrs. Baker assuming the theatrical reins at the Wells, she was, with her husband, in the company of her mother, Mrs. Wakelin, about which time Mr. Baker died. Mrs. Baker then attended fairs, with rope-dancing, pantomime, burletta, &c., till accumulating some cash at Gosport, she struck out into the regular drama, and ultimately became proprietress of several theatres on the West Kent circuit, viz. Maidstone, Rochester, Dover, and Canterbury.\* At her demise these became the property of Mr. Downton, who married Miss Baker. The management for a few seasons was in the hands of Mr. W. Downton, and in 1831 they were taken on lease by Mr. Sloman, who married the widow of Mr. H. Downton. Mr. Sloman's lease having expired in 1838, he resigned the management, and the property is again in the hands of Mr. W. Downton, son of the veteran actor. The theatre is open for about three or four months in the season; and, in addition to the "London stars," there is generally a very respectable company.

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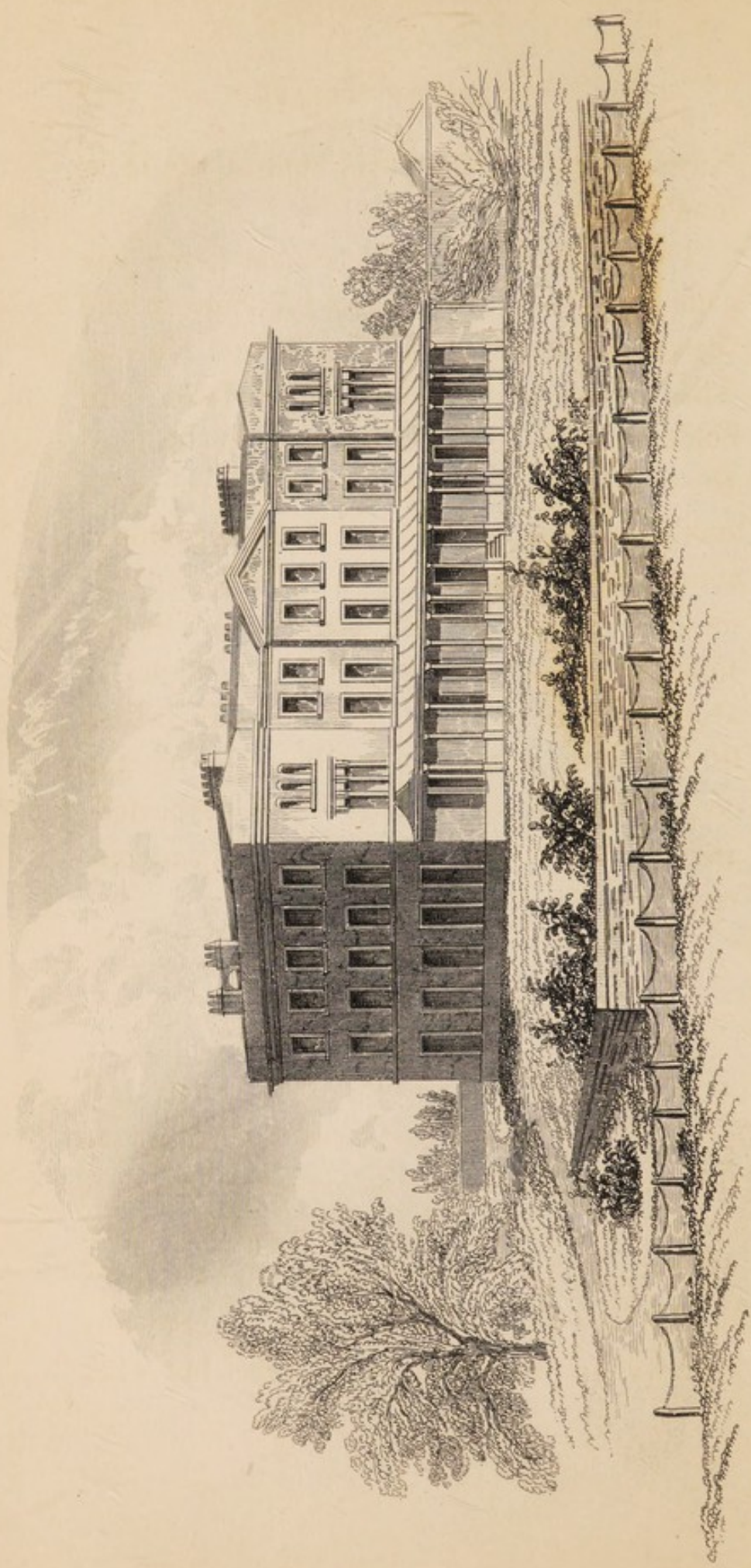
#### LIBRARIES, LITERARY SOCIETIES, ETC.

The two principal Circulating Libraries and Reading Rooms are on the Parade, and are well supplied with modern productions and the metropolitan newspapers. At Mr.

\* From "Gilliland's Dramatic Mirror." vol. i. p. 186.







CALVERLEY HOTEL,  
GARDEN FRONT.



Nash's library a register is kept of the fashionable arrivals.

There are two literary societies here; one called the *Literary and Scientific Society*, and the other the *Literary Discussion Society*. The former was established in 1836, and holds its meetings in a room over the Billiard Room. This Society has a library and a small museum, containing among other things some specimens of fossils, &c., chiefly of those found in the neighbourhood. The Discussion Society is yet in its infancy. There is also an Horticultural Society, which has three or four shows during the year for the distribution of prizes. This is well supported, and the shows generally prove very attractive.

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#### HOTELS, &c.

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It is quite unnecessary, in the present day, to assure the Visitor that he may obtain every thing at Tunbridge Wells to supply his wants or his luxuries that he may wish for. The Southdown lamb and mutton are procured here of the finest quality, nor is there any description of edibles or potables but what



is readily obtained. There is, however, one luxury, peculiar to the place, which the epicure would censure us for neglecting ; and that is the Wheatear, (*the Montacilla ænanthe* of Linnæus,) or, as it has been termed for its extreme delicacy, the English Ortolan. This bird is found in great quantities in the vicinity of Eastbourne ; nor is our own immediate neighbourhood without them. The Wheatear is, in size, not bigger than a lark, but is infinitely preferable in the fatness and delicacy of its flesh. They are caught principally by the shepherds on the South-downs, and are brought to the Wells in the utmost perfection. As they are found during the summer only, the heat of the weather and their own fatness prevent their reaching the London market ; so that the epicure must go into the country to indulge in them. The principal hotels at Tunbridge Wells are the following : The *Royal Victoria and Sussex Hotel* ; the *Kentish Royal Hotel* ; the *Mount Ephraim Hotel*, and the *Calverley Hotel*. The *Royal Victoria and Sussex Hotel* is pleasantly situated facing the Parade. Within the last few years it has been greatly improved, both externally and internally ; and

in addition to the comforts of the house there are gardens at the back of it, which, besides being a pleasant lounging place, present most delightful views of the surrounding country. The *Kentish Royal Hotel* faces the common on the London and Hastings Road, in the neighbourhood of the chalybeate springs. Immediately opposite to it is a double row of trees, and a walk that leads to the common. The situation of it is extremely airy and pleasant. The *Calverley* and *Mount Ephraim Hotels*, we have already described. Facing the latter, at Summer Hill, is a *Family Boarding House*, kept by Mr. Simco, which possesses excellent accommodations, and the advantage of stabling and coach houses. In addition to these are the *Camden Hotel*, Calverley Place; the *George Hotel*, (commercial house,) London Road; *Clarence Tavern*, Church Road; the *Castle Tavern*, and *White Bear*, (commercial houses,) the *Swan*, (commercial house,) the *Hand and Sceptre*, back of the Parade; the *Duke of York*, and the *Coach and Horses*, Market Place; the *Nevill Arms*, Frant Road; the *Rose and Crown*, Mount Ephraim; and the *Bristol Arms*, Calverley



Road. In each and all of which abundant accommodation is provided for travellers of all grades of society.

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THE MANOR AND BOROUGH OF  
RUSTHALL.

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THE open wastes called Rusthall Common and Bishop's Down, forming together one of the greatest attractions of Tunbridge Wells, are commonable land of the manor of Rusthall, and comprise about 265 acres, viz. Bishop's Down, or Tunbridge Wells Common, 172 acres; and Rusthall Common, 93 acres. The inclosed lands within the manor contain about 714 acres. The tenants of the manor are customary freeholders: there are no copyholds.

Rusthall is a very ancient manor, from which the possessors formerly derived their surname. Elias de Rusthall was proprietor of the estate in the reign of Edward the first, and was a great benefactor to the chapel of Groombridge. His descendants afterwards contracted their name to "Rust," and continued in possession of this manor till the reign of Henry the sixth, about which period it was alienated to Richard

Waller, Esq. of Groombridge, whose descendant Richard, in the 26th of Elizabeth, sold it to Mr. George Stacey. By the latter it was conveyed to Robert Byng, Esq. of Wrotham, who died possessed of the property in the 37th of that reign. His descendants continued to hold the manor for several generations, till at length one of them sold it to Richard Constable, Gent., of Groombridge, who again sold it to Sir Francis Dashwood, Bart. ; and he very soon afterwards conveyed it to Maurice Conyers, Esq., who possessed it in the reign of George the Second. By the latter it was alienated to Mr. O'Connor, whose son John sold it to George Kelly, Esq., who resided at Tunbridge Wells, and served the office of high sheriff of Kent in 1762, in which year he was knighted. He died possessed of this manor in 1772, leaving his three sisters his co-heiresses, viz. Anne Shorey, widow, Hannah Tanner, widow, and Martha, wife of James Spagg, Esq. Mrs. Tanner died in 1780, since whose death and that of her two sisters, this manor has successively devolved on Miss Elizabeth Shorey and Thomas Christopher Gardner, Esq., the present lord.



We have already noticed\* the original agreement entered into between the lord of the manor and the tenants for improving the place ; their subsequent suits at law, and the termination of them by a fresh agreement, afterwards confirmed by a private act of parliament (13 Geo. II. cap. 11), by which the property in dispute was divided into three lots, to be divided by drawing ; the premises in two of the lots to belong to the lord, freed from all rights of the tenants ; and the premises in the other lot to belong to the freehold tenants, freed from all claims of the lord. The tenants in effect getting this third of the buildings themselves, in lieu of their right of common on the site of the whole. Thus ended the contest ; and from that time the lords and the freehold tenants have gone on amicably, mutually protecting their respective rights from encroachments.

The ground plot and admeasurement of the whole of the walks and estate were laid down in a plan annexed to the agreement, and provisions made for preventing any further encroachments on the waste or commons

\* Pages 26 and 40.

without the mutual consent of the lord for the time being and the greater part in number and value of the freehold tenants under their hands and seals ; but in the event of any inclosure or improvement being made, it was stipulated that two-thirds of the profits to be derived from them should belong to the lord, and the other third to the tenants.

The medicinal springs, dipper's hall, the walks, and all ways, passages, and open pieces of ground, part of the same premises or leading thereto, (all of which were set out in the plan,) were to remain always open and free for the public use and benefit of the nobility, gentry, and other persons resorting to or frequenting Tunbridge Wells.

The music gallery was to be continually repaired and supported by the lords of the manor, and continue free and open for the use of the music without paying anything for the same.

With respect to the walks, the agreement and act contain very strong provisions for the prevention of extending the buildings then in being ; it being stipulated by the former, that neither the lord, the tenants, " nor any owner or occupier for the time being of the



said messuages, &c. should build on any part of the premises not then built upon, nor should extend or enlarge any of the then present foundations of any of the messuages, buildings, &c.; but when any of the said messuages, &c. should be rebuilt or repaired it should be done upon the same foundations and of the same extent and dimensions with the then present;" the dimensions, &c. of which are given in the ground plan annexed to the agreement.

"And it was declared, that it should be lawful for the lord, his heirs and assigns, and the freehold tenants, their heirs and assigns, or any or either of them, at his or their wills and pleasures to pull down and demolish all such additional buildings as should at any time thereafter be built on such new or enlarged foundation."

It was further declared that no cellar or vault should be made or sunk lower than the level of the cellars in the messuage in the occupation of Edward Wood, which cellars were 6 feet 1 inch lower than the pavement of the upper walks; and that in all future buildings and alterations to be made, care should be taken not to prejudice or injure

the medicinal springs or wells of water, or to interrupt or divert the same.

Further, that no person should follow the employment of a dipper of the said medicinal waters but those who should be chosen by the homage at the courts baron of the manor, and approved by the lord ; the wives, widows, and daughters of freehold tenants to be preferred, and not to exceed twelve in number.

And also that freehold tenants might take marl, stone, sand, loam, gravel, or clay, out of any of the pits already opened or which should be opened by the lord for his own use on the wastes of the manor, to be used on their own lands *not* held of the manor, paying only half as much for the same as strangers paid, namely, 1s. 3d. for 100 loads of marl, 6d. a wagon load for stone, one penny for a cart load of sand, one penny for a cart load of loam, one penny for a cart load of gravel, and one penny a load for clay.

The succeeding lords of the manor have, it is believed, retained to themselves two-thirds of the buildings which fell to Maurice Conyers, Esq., but the shares of the various freehold tenants in their third have been the subject of many alienations, and are still fre-



quently sold under the name of "Shares in the Walks Estates," the rents of which are collected and annually divided among the parties thus entitled to them.

The freehold tenants being greatly interested in the Commons, (not only in respect of their valuable right of pasturage appurtenant to the lands held by them, but also in respect to the voice they have in preventing encroachments,) formed among themselves an association for the protection of their rights, and for many years have had annual meetings for the purpose of perambulating the boundaries of the manor, and of viewing encroachments, &c. ; and occasionally they execute very summary justice on those who attempt to invade their rights. Some profits are derived from permissions granted for inclosures, and a portion of them is usually applied to the supplying a dinner to the freeholders on their annual meeting. This dinner is called "The Hogpounders' Feast." The freeholders having, in bygone years, had occasion to impound many unruly swine which were permitted by the owners to stray on the wastes, they acquired the nickname of "Hogpounders," an appellative

which, although originally applied in derision, is now rather courted than rejected by them.\* The hogpounders, indeed, are a body of men to whom the visitors and inhabitants of the Wells are greatly indebted, inasmuch as they are, with the assistance of the lord of the manor, the means of protecting the beautiful commons from encroachments and nuisances; to effect which desirable objects, stewards and a committee of the freeholders are annually appointed, whose duties are discharged in a manner highly beneficial to the public at large.

Rusthall is also designated as "The Borough (Borhoe) of Rusthall," a name derived from our Saxon ancestors, and which has, in this neighbourhood, preserved its original application so far as the various changes in our civil institutions have permitted. The Saxon word "Borh, or Borhoe," signified a pledge, and from it is derived the modern word Borough, which, although now usually applied to our municipal corporations, has not been so corrupted with us, and as no

\* Some derive the name from the freeholders destroying the hog-pounds (pig-styes) which were found encroaching on the wastes.



writer on the history of Tunbridge Wells has hitherto noticed this fact we shall be excused for alluding to it, as it is of much interest in an antiquarian point of view. The borhoe appears to have been similar to a tithing, in which a certain number of families, originally ten, were bound together by mutual borhoe or pledge, and were each security for the good behaviour of his neighbour, and became responsible for all crimes committed in their district, unless they produced the culprit himself. It will be recollected that the kingdom was divided by the Saxons into counties; some of the counties into lathes and hundreds, and others into hundreds only; and the hundreds into tithings or borhoses.\* It was the custom annually at the general assembly of the hundred to appoint the most trusty person of each borhoe to watch over the rest; he was therefore called the Borher's Ealder, since corrupted into Borsholder. One of the divisions of the county of Kent was called the

\* Lambard (Peramb. p. 27,) says, "that which in the West Contrey was at that time (and yet is) called a Tithing is in Kent called 'a Borow;'" but this was not confined to Kent.

hundred of Wachlingstone, which name it still bears. This became afterwards divided into two districts, and one of them contained four boroughs, namely Speldhurst, Barden, Hall, and Rusthall. These subdivisions are still retained, and at an annual court held at Southborough for the lower half hundred of Wachlingstone, the ancient officer of Bors-holder is still elected. The precise boundaries of Rusthall borough are not now known, but it is more than probable that those of the manor were nearly if not quite the same.

Important as the antiquity of this manor bespeaks it to have been, it is to be regretted that the site of the original manor house is lost in obscurity. The residence of Mrs. Shephard, on Bishop's Down, called The Manor House, has but little, if any, pretensions to be so considered; but there is reason to believe that a moated house once stood at the extremity of the pleasure grounds of William Wix, Esq. who lives at Lloyd's house, next to Mrs. Shephard's, and which might have been the manor house. The spot alluded to is at the corner of his land where it adjoins the property of D. J. Robertson, Esq. On Mr Wix's land there are still re-



maining what is evidently one half of the moat, the other portion of it being on the corresponding land on Mr. Robertson's property, but now dry. The area which this moat inclosed is distinctly marked. It is nearly square, and of ample dimensions for a mansion of some consequence. In digging here a year or two since for the purpose of planting a tree, Mr. Wix's gardener dug down upon some rubbish, which apparently had been the foundation walls of a house; and on Mr. Robertson's side, from the edge of the moat to Rusthall, there appears to have been an avenue of trees, many of which are still remaining, as if forming a carriage road from the house to the common. The width of the moat in the narrowest part is about twenty feet, and in the widest part thirty feet. The land behind Lloyd's house and the Manor-house presents some very remarkable appearances, more nearly resembling Roman or Saxon entrenchments,\* hastily thrown up,

\* Should any antiquary be disposed to carry this investigation further than our limits will allow, he must bear in mind that the ground we allude to stands nearly in a direct line between the Saxon entrenchment at Frant, and the great Roman encampment at Holwood, near Bromley.—“I only hint, not handle.”

than natural elevations. Neither of these houses, it should be remarked, is on the manor, and the generally received opinion is, that the original manor-house stood upon Rusthall common. About fifty years since, two ancient edifices, one of them a stone building, were pulled down. One of these stood upon Mr. Robertson's pleasure grounds, to the right of the turnpike, where there is now an ornamental spire, and the other some two or three hundred yards below it, on a spot nearly covered with holly. There was also a square built brick house in the corner of the common on the opposite side, (in a field near the poor-house,) which was pulled down a few years since, and was thought by many to have been the manor-house.

Whilst we are at this locality we would point out to the attention of the visitor the singularly shaped rocks which are on the common. One of them, called the *Toad Rock*, our artist has drawn so faithfully, that it will require no further illustration. It is considered by some persons that the hand of the artisan has been employed to assist in the singular formation of this rock, but the slightest investigation will convince the most



incredulous that its shape has been produced by natural causes alone.

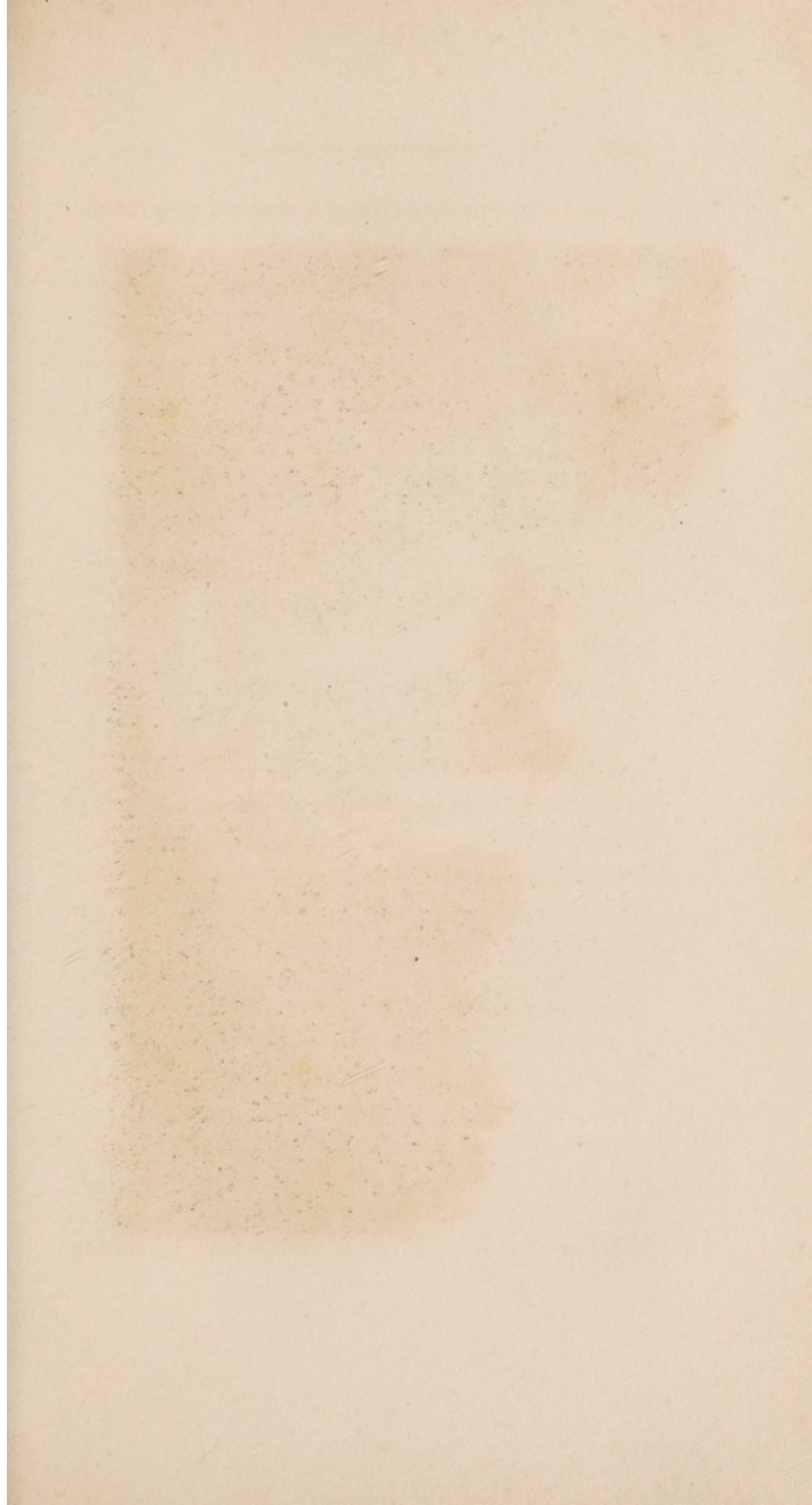


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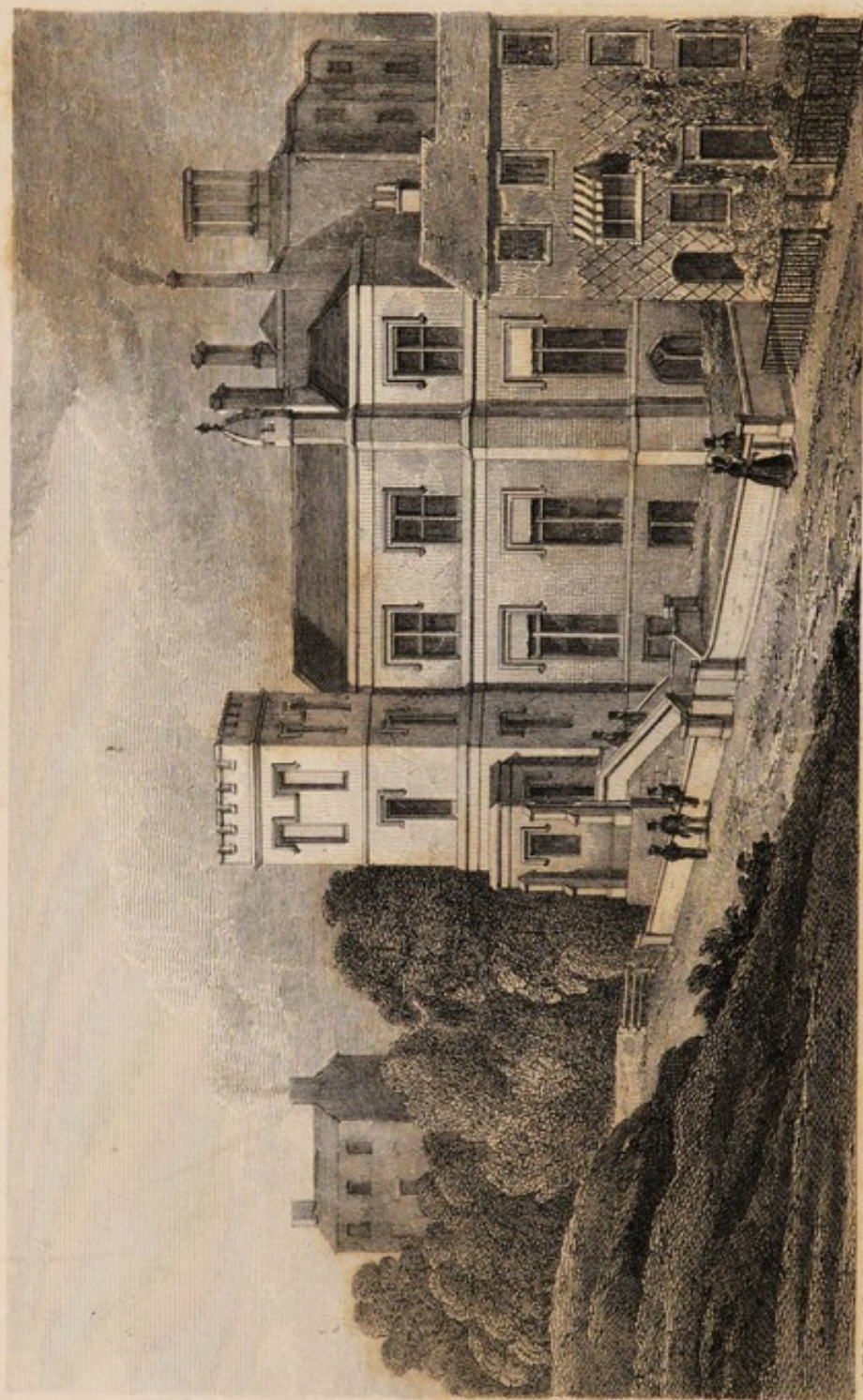
### PLEASANT WALKS.

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THERE are many agreeable walks in every direction around the Wells, each of them possessing strong claims for preference, and all boasting of attractions for the admirers of rural and forest scenery. The favourite ramble of pedestrians is across the Common. The singular appearance of many of the rocks here cannot fail to interest the most casual observer, especially those near *St. Helena Cottage*, which a few years since were a principal object of attraction to parties entering the town from the metropolis. They were called "the Sweeps' Rocks," as a large cavern, which had been excavated for the purpose of obtaining sand, was used by the sweeps as a depôt for their soot. There were two arched entrances into it of sufficient height to admit of a loaded wagon having







C.T. Doodh. del.

A. W. Smart. sc.

Romanoff House School,  
Tunbridge Wells.



ingress and egress. A short time previous to the alteration of the turnpike road \* from Sharp's corner to the Wells, it was thought necessary to block up these entrances, as from the repeated excavations the rock was considered dangerous; and the singularly romantic appearance of it was consequently lost. The prospect from the Common is very extensive, and it commands a fine panoramic view of the town; a striking object in the foreground of which is *Romanoff House*, a modern building in the gothic style of architecture. It is occupied by Mr. T. R. Allfree, who has established a classical school here for the education of young gentlemen. The house makes a conspicuous and picturesque object from the London road and many parts of the common.

The HURST WOOD affords another delightful stroll. Turning to the right by *Fenner's Repository*, you pass the old Baptist burying-ground, and *Ashburnham House*, and then proceed down a shady lane through some fields to the wood, which is the property of D. J. Robertson, Esq. It is tastefully laid out in walks, and seats are provided for the accommodation of visitors. To the right of the lane we have mentioned, there are *Tea and Strawberry Gardens*. The prospect from the fields here is very charming, as it comprises Speidhurst Church, the Swiss Cottage, and Culverden Tower, each of which forms a pleasing

\* It is not generally known that the road leading from London to Tunbridge Wells was one of the first turnpike roads in England, and the preamble to the Act is remarkable: "Whereas Tunbridge Wells, in the county of Kent, is a place of very great resort from all parts of this kingdom of Great Britain, and from foreign parts, for the use and benefit of the mineral waters there," &c.—*Oneley's "General Account,"* p. 8.



object. On crossing the stream at the bottom of the fields, going to the Hurst Wood, over a stile on the right, is a footpath that leads past the *Swiss Cottage*, the *Tower*, &c. to *Culverden Down* and the London road. A longer walk can be taken by going across the Down to the *Tanyard Farm*, passing the farther end of the Hurst Wood, the *Water Mill*,\* *Broom-hill*, the beautiful villa of D. Salomons, Esq., and leaving *Bentham-hill*, the residence of A. Pott, Esq. on the left, following the bridle road past the *Cross Keys* to the Wells.

There is another pleasant walk from Mount Ephraim across Bishop's Down to Rusthall Common. To the left as you pass the turnpike is a newly-



erected Farm-house, the property of Viscount Nevill.

\* Angling is permitted in the mill-pond by applying at the house and making a trifling remuneration.

It is in the style of a yeoman's house of the Tudor times, and the barge boards are very richly carved. It was built by Messrs. Montier and Douch from their own designs. To the right of this is the *Toad Rock*, a short distance from which across the common is the spot where once stood the assembly-rooms and a bowling-green; and nearly opposite the latter is the original cold bath, the whole of which we have already described (pp. 21. 35.) A short distance beyond the excavations mentioned at p. 36, there are some *Tea and Strawberry Gardens*, which are very pleasantly situated, by the side of a lane leading to the High Rocks. There are also several extremely delightful walks diverging from Cumberland Terrace, across the fields to the *Frant Forest*, *Twenty Acre Wood*, *Hall's Hole*, &c.; also from Mount Sion, Calverley, &c. There are likewise some very pretty walks on leaving the London road to the right, opposite the Brewery, through the brickfield to the *Strawberry Gardens*, &c. on the estate of Capt. Foreman.

The finest view of the Wells is to be obtained from the Forest on the Frant road, from which spot a large view of the place has been taken, and recently published by the proprietor of this Guide.





### THE HIGH ROCKS.

AMONG the principal objects of attraction to visitors are the High Rocks, distant about a mile and a half from the Wells. The nearest way for a pedestrian is across a new road from the end of the Parade. There is little doubt but that the singular appearance of these rocks has been caused by some great and awful convulsion of nature, in times so remote, that no traces are left whereby conjecture can be assisted by any glimmering of probability. Still, from the certainty that a number of similar rocks run in almost a direct line to the coast, the supposition that the valley on each side of which these rocks



are found, was once the bed of a river of some magnitude, or of an arm of the sea, bears a great appearance of probability, and is generally credited by the curious inquirer into natural causes and effects. The greatest altitude is about 70 feet, and the lowest is nearly 40 feet. They are sand rocks, and the numerous clefts and chasms in them are probably produced by land springs operating upon the softer portion of them, although the width of many of these openings justifies the idea of a separation having been effected by some wild throe of nature. They present many shapes and forms ; more than one of them having the appearance of the stern of a first-rate man-of-war. Indeed, such are their various forms, as viewed in different directions, that the courtier in Hamlet would not have overstretched his complaisance in agreeing that they sometimes " look like an ousel," and at others " very like a whale." On the right as you ascend the steps from the road is a rock that has evidently fallen into its present position, and offers a singular appearance ; forming a short passage—two portions of it retaining their perpendicular, and the third crossing the top



horizontally; more closely approaching the ancient ordeal stones found in many parts of England than any thing else to which it can be compared. Notwithstanding the natural beauties which these rocks must have presented from the earliest date, it appears they were not much thought of as a fashionable resort until the year 1670, when the Duke of York (afterwards James II. and the last of the Stuarts who ruled this kingdom) visited the mineral springs with his duchess; and it is said that his royal highness was the first distinguished visitor who noticed these singular productions of nature; to which he paid such frequent visits, and was so much pleased with them, that they soon became an object of general attraction and resort. So numerous indeed were the visits of the gentry frequenting the Wells to this romantic spot, that a house was soon built for their accommodation, and their attractions increased to such an extent, that from its being an apparently deserted spot, it grew into a place of importance, and public breakfasts, dinner and tea parties were given here by the leading fashionables residing at the Wells; nor were these unattended by the lighter



amusements of genteel society, as music and dancing formed prominent features in most of the entertainments. These times have in a great measure passed away. The habits and manners of the fashionable world have undergone a complete revolution, and the *al fresco* entertainments of our ancestors have fallen into disuetude. Still these rocks must always form a prominent feature in the agreeable lounges with which the neighbourhood of the Wells abounds. Of late years they have been inclosed; a tea room has been erected and various rural places have been built, where refreshments of every kind can be obtained. The present occupier, Mr. Jacobs, has also gone to considerable expense in laying out the grounds, which are very tastefully done; and towards defraying the cost of keeping them in order, together with repairing the road from the common, a charge of sixpence is made for each person visiting the Rocks, which is more than repaid by the delightful stroll that this beautiful spot affords. There is a rock here called the Bell Rock, which, if struck with a stick reverberates a sound similar to that of a bell. At the commencement of the last century, a



lady's lap-dog having fallen through the chasm, she had the following quaint conceit inscribed on the rock.

1702.

This scratch I make that yov may know  
On this Rock lyes y<sup>e</sup> beavtiovs Bow :  
Reader, this Rock is the Bow's Bell,  
Strike 't with thy stick and ring his knell.

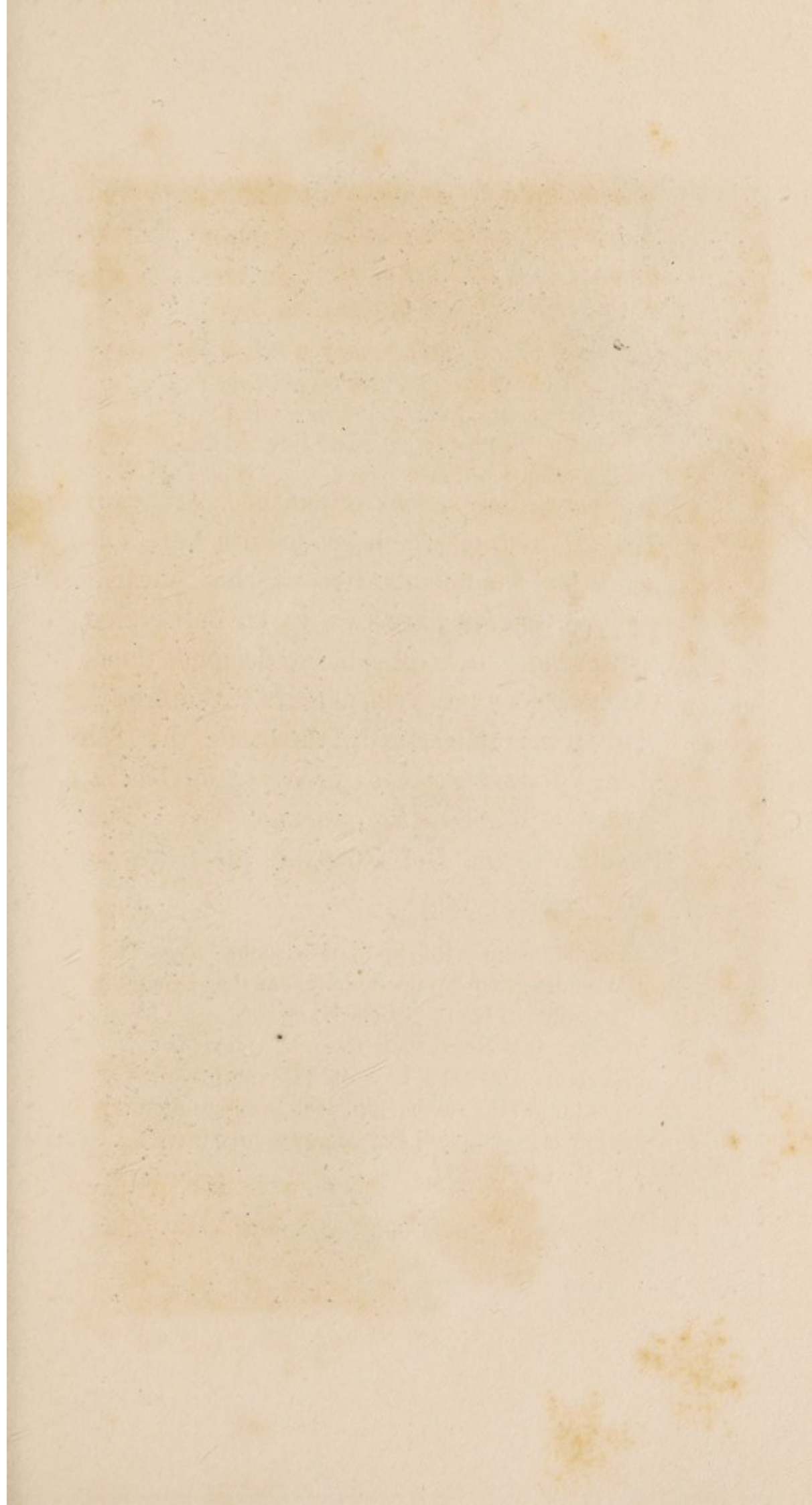
There is also a rock called the "Trafalgar Rock," and on which some lines were formerly cut commemorative of that glorious victory, but they are now so far obliterated as to render it impossible to decipher them. Another rock bears the name of "Waterloo," and on the anniversary of the battle, the 18th June, a dinner takes place at the Rocks, which is followed by dancing. On a rock leading to the Bell Rock are the following lines :—

Infidel ! who, with thy finite wisdom,  
Wouldst grasp things Infinite, and dost become  
A scoffer of God's holiest Mysteries,  
Behold this Rock, then tremble, and rejoice.  
Tremble ! for HE who form'd the mighty mass,  
Could, in His Justice, crush thee where thou art :  
Rejoice !—that still His Mercy spares thee.

*March 21, 1831.*

J. PHIPPEN.

A new public-house is being built here,







ERIDGE CASTLE.

*The Seat of the Earl of Abergavenny H. J. W.*



which will afford increased accommodation to visitors. In the kitchen fire place of the old house is an iron grate back, which was probably cast at one of the foundries that were formerly in this vicinity. It has the royal arms upon it, with the initials of King James, I. R. 1602.

The following couplet is from a poem published in 1726, by Dr. Birom, who compares the High Rocks with the celebrated Peak in Derbyshire :—

“ They’re one like the other, except that the wonder  
Does here lie above ground, and there it lies under.”

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### ERIDGE CASTLE.

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THIS noble edifice is the residence of the Earl of Abergavenny, and is situated about two miles from the Wells on the road to Lewes and Brighton. It is an irregular pile of buildings, the greater portion of which is modern, although the original house was of great antiquity. The manor of Eridge, or Euridge, as it was anciently spelt, is one among several other manors which are sub-infeudations of the great paramount manor



of Rotherfield, within the ambit of which they are comprised. There can be no doubt that there was a large mansion at Eridge from the earliest times, which was used by different branches of the Nevill family until the reign of Charles I. From that period they appear to have ceased to inhabit it, until within the last half century, when the present Earl of Abergavenny came to reside here from Kidbrook. In 1771, Mr. Oneley describes it as "a farm-house with nothing very curious in or about it," but it must have been of some magnitude, and possibly a portion of the original building. The ancient gallery occupies the entire front of the present castle. From the remains of the building which can be remembered, and the occasionally digging upon old foundations and cellars, it would seem that it was originally built in the common form of a quadrangle, and probably one of great extent. Certain it is that it was of sufficient consequence to entertain Queen Elizabeth and her numerous suite in 1573. In that year the Queen made a progress through Kent and some part of Sussex, which is thus recorded by Nichols: "She was at her own house at



Knowle for five days. From thence she went to Byrlingham (Birling), the Lord Bergavenny's, where she remained three days ; and thence made a visit to Sir Thomas Gresham at Mayfield. Thence to Eridge, another house of Lord Bergavenny's, for six days." In August 1573, Lord Burleigh, writing to the Earl of Shrewsbury mentions that " the queen had met the French Ambassador at Eridge," and he further relates that " the queen had a hard beginning of her progress in the wilds (wealds) of Kent, and some parts of Sussex, where surely were more dangerous rocks and valleys, and much worse ground than was in the peak." Henry Nevill, Lord Bergavenny, who died in 1586, was a great favourite of the queen's. The family had certainly ceased to live at Eridge after the death of George, Lord Abergavenny, who died without issue in March 1694-5. The title and estates then descended upon George, the grandson of Richard Nevill of Newton St. Loo, near Bath, in the county of Somerset. The present noble proprietor of Eridge, Henry, Earl of Abergavenny, nearly half a century since directed his attention to the deserted seat of his ancestors,



which was then occupied as a farm-house. There were considerable remains, however, of the old buildings. The park was paled, but it had suffered greatly from depredations in the woods. The noble owner began his improvements, for the natural beauties of the place had not, amidst the wilderness around him, escaped his eye : variety of wood, hill and dale, wild heath, rocks, water,—all checquered with verdant pasture, formed materials upon which he considered he might exercise his taste and bestow his labors. The result of these labors, if they might be termed such, has fulfilled all the expectations of the noble proprietor ; he has created a gothic edifice and picturesque grounds of the most unique kind, and certainly inferior to none in splendid internal decoration. The castle, as a dwelling-house, may be said to be possessed of much elasticity in its construction. It is calculated to hold a very large establishment ; and it is a place, at the same time, in the arrangement of its apartments, well adapted to afford great domestic comfort to a more limited family. It is situated in a well wooded and watered park containing above three thousand acres of land,



surrounded by an ample demesne of ten thousand acres. Eridge was once a royal chace of very considerable extent. It is now laid out in rides and drives, which measure fifty-four miles. In one direction, from Tunbridge Wells to Rotherfield, the demesne is seven miles, and from east to west five miles long.

“ The plantations in the park,” says Am-sinck, “ have been arranged with taste and nurtured with care, which they have amply remunerated by an astonishing growth. Within the park is a great variety of rides which conduct to scenes of various kinds, and occasionally embrace the most interesting objects in the adjacent country.” There are also rows of beeches in the park many of which are twisted so singularly as to assume a variety of grotesque appearances. From Fox-gate Field there is a most extensive view over the Surrey hills and the country round Buckhurst. Near this field are two beech trees which from their similarity are called the “ two sisters.” There is also an old beech tree near a barn, which at four feet from the ground measures nearly 20 feet in circumference ; and at a short distance from



this is a chestnut tree which girts 16 feet. Near a chalybeate spring at one extremity of the Park is a cave through which is a subterraneous passage about 7 feet high.

In another part of the Park near Frant, on a lofty knoll, 659 feet above the level of the sea, are the remains of an ancient circular encampment said to be Saxon; the hill is therefore called *Saxonbury Hill*. In 1828, a round tower, chiefly of brick, was erected by the Earl of Abergavenny, in nearly the centre of the entrenchment. The fosse is still perceptible, and incloses about two acres, to which there is but one entrance. On the opposite side of the Park, nearly adjoining the Brighton road is *Dane Gate*,\* said to have been a Danish military road, of which no vestiges now remain, as the ground has long since been cultivated, and several houses

\* There are several gates surrounding this property which were named from the tenants of the adjoining lands, such as Roper's Gate, Hamsell Wood Gate, Walket's Gate, &c. ; it being the duty of the tenants holding lands next to the royal chases to keep the fences in repair. The gates now standing retain their original names, and where they have been removed, the names are transferred to the place, as in the case of *Dane Gate*.

have been built on the spot. It is singular that although so much of this ground has been ploughed at different times, no relics of antiquity have yet been discovered. There are two fine pieces of water in the Park, called the Mill Pond and the Furnace Pond.

An abstract of the illustrious genealogy of this truly noble family will, we are certain, be read with interest.

Of the House of Nevill, in the female line, there hath been one Nevill Queen of England. She was first the wife of Edward Plantagenet, Prince of Wales, the only son of King Henry VI.; and then, secondly, (being a widow) she was re-married to King Richard III., by whom she had a son that was created Prince of Wales when he was about ten years of age, but died soon after, before his father. There have been six Nevills Duchesses; one of whom lived to see three princes of her body crowned and four murdered. Also, of the same family of Nevills there have been fourteen Countesses. There hath also been one Nevill, an Abbess of Barking in Essex. There have been nine Nevills Knights and Companions of the most noble order of the Garter. Three



Nevills Lord High Chancellors of England. There hath been one Nevill, Earl Marshal of England. Three Nevills Lord High Admirals of the Sea, whereof one of them was Lord Great Chamberlain of England, Constable of Dover Castle, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, High Steward of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Lord Lieutenant of Calais and the territories thereof. There have been four Nevills Lord Chamberlains of the King's Household, and one, Lord Steward of the Household to King Edward III. There have been six Nevills Chief Foresters of all England. From Lady Cecilia Nevill, the Duchess of York, who was mother to King Edward IV. and King Richard III., there have been lineally descended seven Kings of England, three Queens of England, four Princes of Wales, four Kings of Scotland, two Queens of Scotland, two Queens of France, one Queen of Spain, one Queen of Bohemia; and she was a great-grandmother to King James I. the father of King Charles; —“and the like honour cannot be said of any other English family.”\*

\* Abridged from the “History of the Nevill Family,” by Daniel Rowland, Esq., from which splendid folio part of the account of Eridge is also taken.

The Park is well stocked with deer, and a few buffaloes were recently kept here.

A short distance from the castle is ERIDGE GREEN, upon which formerly stood a curious piece of old iron ordnance, which tradition reports to have been the first gun made in England. It was of an uncouth form, with a very large bore, ribbed round with rings of wrought iron. It lay on a portion of the Green now inclosed, opposite the public-house, by the roadside, with a large ball of iron by it. Mr. Oneley in describing it says, "it much excites the wonder and speculation of a stranger." It is preserved in the British Museum, and an account of it, with a plate, is to be found in the "Archæologia."\* "It has always been understood that the mortar was the first that was made in England, and that the first guns were made at Buxted Furnace, about ten miles from Lewes." There is still a place at Buxted called "Huggett's Furnace," where there was formerly a stone with the following couplet carved on it:

Master Huggette and his man John  
They did make the first cannon.

A short distance from the Green are rocks

\* Appendix, vol. x. p. 472.



of a similar character to the High Rocks, and which are well worth visiting ; as are also *Harrison's Rocks* and *Penn's Rocks*; the former of which is about two miles from Eridge, and the latter a mile further. The house at Penn's Rocks which is a spacious and rather handsome building, was built by the celebrated William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania. In more modern times it was occupied by Mr. John Bishopp, who was well known in the Wells and its vicinity from his singular habits. He was penurious to the last degree, although living in the possession of property estimated worth at least £60,000. His garb was that of the commonest laborer, and generally that which had been thrown off by others. He suffered his mansion to go into the most ruinous state of dilapidation ; even in the apartment in which he died, old rags supplied, in some parts of the window, the place of glass ; and every thing else was in the same style of wretchedness. He was in the habit of attending auction sales, where he generally purchased the refuse lots. Such an accumulation of the veriest rubbish had he obtained, that the once fine and spacious rooms of his

house were filled with it ; and as only the poor were his customers, his stock greatly increased. Yet with all his eccentricities his manners were mild, his wit ready, and his temper remarkably good—which was often put to the test by rude jests and remarks on his peculiarities. These he sometimes retorted with a keenness that turned the laugh upon his assailants. A person once said to him as he was passing with a wagon load of his bargains : “ Why, Bishopp, you will buy up all the rubbish in the country.” Without stopping he humorously replied, “ Not *all*, my friend, I shall never bid for *you*.” This singular character died at Penn’s Rocks, intestate, on the 4th December, 1827, aged 42 years. He was never married, but left an illegitimate son, for whom he made no provision. The mansion and grounds are now the property of Thomas Beeching, Esq. by purchase.

—  
FRANT.  
—

THIS beautiful village is about two miles from the Wells. It is most romantically situated on the brow of a hill, and the church, which is built on an eminence, “ commands



the most extensive prospect of any place near the Wells, or in Kent, or perhaps in all England. One sees from hence all through east Kent to Canterbury hills, within a mile of Dover; the South Downs in Sussex; northwards, over Bounds, Sevenoaks hills, and Morant's Court hills, and the adjacent parts of Chatham; and westwards, Leith and Box hills, near Dorking in Surrey. From the top of the church-tower-steeple one's eyes will be almost fatigued in being extended over such a vast tract of land,—about one hundred miles from the eastern to the western horizon.”\*

A small portion of the parish is in Kent, and the remainder in Sussex. There are several genteel residences here, and the principal part of the village has a remarkably neat appearance. Saxonbury Lodge, the residence of Daniel Rowland, Esq. is an elegant modern villa, in the gothic style. The grounds are laid out with much taste, and command views of Eridge Park and the surrounding country. The fittings-up and decorations of the interior are in perfect keeping

\* “General Account of Tunbridge Wells and its Environs: Historical and Descriptive.” 1771. p. 27.

with the old English style of the exterior. Shernfold Place stands upon an elevated spot in some park-like grounds; the views from which are varied and extensive. It is the residence of the Hon. Percy Ashburnham. About a mile to the right of the road leading to Bayham is a farm called New House Farm, which was formerly the residence of the Dykes. On the garden door is carved in stone "W. D. 1666," and over the north window, "W.S.D. 1615." Near this house is an old building now used as a barn, at one end of which is a small pointed window that seems at some time to have belonged to a religious edifice. The interior of the barn resembles an ancient hall, and the roof appears to be darkened by the smoke ascending from a fire-place beneath. Near it is a very remarkable yew-tree, which is greatly decayed, and bears evident marks of old age.

The church at Frant was built on the site of the old one, which it was found necessary to pull down, and the present church was opened on the 14th of July, 1822. It is a handsome gothic edifice, from the designs of Mr. John Montier of Tunbridge Wells, who also superintended the building of it. The east chancel



was built at the expense of the vicar, the Hon. and Rev. William Nevill; and the Earl of Abergavenny contributed with his usual munificence towards the cost of the church. The Marquis Camden built the chancel in the south aisle, which is now occupied as a family pew. The chancel window affords a fine specimen of modern stained glass. There are three whole length figures—St. Paul, St. Peter, and St. John, which are very cleverly done. Underneath this window is the following inscription:—

DONUM HONORABILIS GULIELMI NEVILL, VICARII,  
MDCCCXXII.

On the Green there are some hillocks, which were used by the country people in the olden time when exercising themselves in shooting at butts\* with bows and arrows.

\* The Butts were places against which the marks to be shot at were placed. "Shooting at the Butts" was not considered merely a sport by our ancestors, but the practice was enforced by several penal enactments. Edward the third directed the Sheriffs of Shires to see that the people exercised themselves with bows and arrows instead of such other unprofitable games as foot-ball, hand-ball, &c. In the time of Edward the fourth every Englishman was compelled to keep a bow, and butts were ordered to be set up in every township, at which the people were

The Visitor ought not to quit this pleasant village without making the acquaintance of an ingenious tailor residing here, whose name is *Smart*. He forms a variety of figures out of different coloured cloths; some of them grotesque and others of a natural appearance. Horses, cats, dogs, chimney-sweepers, and various other things are created by his magical scissors, and many of them are executed in a very superior manner. His house is much visited in the season, and he designates himself “Artist in Cloth and Velvet Figures to His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex.”

directed to shoot, on feast-days, under a certain penalty. In Edward the sixth's time, Bishop Latimer preached a sermon before the king in favor of the sport, as an admirable exercise. By an act of Henry the eighth, every man was compelled to have a bow and three arrows; and during the reign of Elizabeth the price of bows was regulated by statute. To the many laws, ordinances and regulations for the support of Archery may be added the institution of the Artillery Company, which was incorporated by the patent of Hen. 8, in 1537. “The king further granted, that if any of the fraternity shooting at a known and accustomed butt, having first pronounced or spoken the usual word *FAST*, should after that happen by mischance to kill any passenger, he should not suffer death nor be impeached, troubled or imprisoned for it.”—See Grose's *Military Antiquities*, vol 1, p. 138.



The following lines were written impromptu by some "Great Unknown," on inspecting Smart's stock:—

Come here, I say, come here ye quizzers,  
 Who laugh at Tailors and at Scissors,  
 And see how Smart makes that utensil  
 Outdo the chisel, brush, and pencil.  
 With genius quick, and true to nature,  
 He makes a suit for every creature.  
 And fits alike the whole creation,  
 In neatest style and latest fashion.  
 Illustrious Smart! why stayest thou here  
 Like violet in the desert air?  
 Hide not thy modest merit thus,  
 Nor fame that is thy right refuse.  
 To the Great City haste away;  
 There give thy genius scope and play.  
 In glory's circle claim thine entry,  
 And vie with *Lawrence, Shee, or Chantry.*

The road from the Wells to Frant abounds in diversified views. On the right, soon after leaving the turnpike, and about a quarter of a mile from the road, once stood a moated-house, scarcely any vestige of which remains. To the left of Frant Bottom, are the Waterworks, which supply a great portion of the Wells with very excellent water. Immediately before you enter the village of Frant, the extensive and charming prospect over the demesne of the Earl of Abergavenny cannot

be surpassed in the kingdom. Frant is called in some early writings *Fant*, and in others *Fernet* or *Ferent*.

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### ROTHERFIELD.

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ABOUT a mile from Frant on the road to Mayfield is *Saxonbury Tower*, (page 156,) and three miles further, on the right, the church of Rotherfield presents a conspicuous object. The lordship of Rotherfield is of very considerable extent, comprising the whole of the parish of Rotherfield, and the greatest part of that of Frant, within which latter Eridge Castle, the seat of the lord of the manor, is situated. It also embraces the whole of the great forest of Waterdown, which is described by Camden as one of the three great forests of Sussex. There were a Park and Chase here before the conquest, and the Domes-day book shows that Rotherfield was a royal demesne. It was anciently called Ritheramfield, Redrefield, and Redfelle. The village was given by king Alfred in his will to his kinsman, Osforth. The church is dedicated to St. Denis. The light tapering and lofty spire is a beautiful object



in the scenery of the vicinity. It is a large and not unhandsome structure; and has an arched roof of chestnut wood. The tower, which is embattled, contains five bells with chimes. The tenor weighs 36 cwt., and is said to be one of the largest in the county. Over the font, at the bottom of the south aisle, is a wooden cover in the shape of a pulpit, carved profusely, and dated on the north side 1533, having also an escutcheon carved on it. The river Rother rises near Argus Hill, in this parish.\* The Rev. Robert Gream is the Rector.

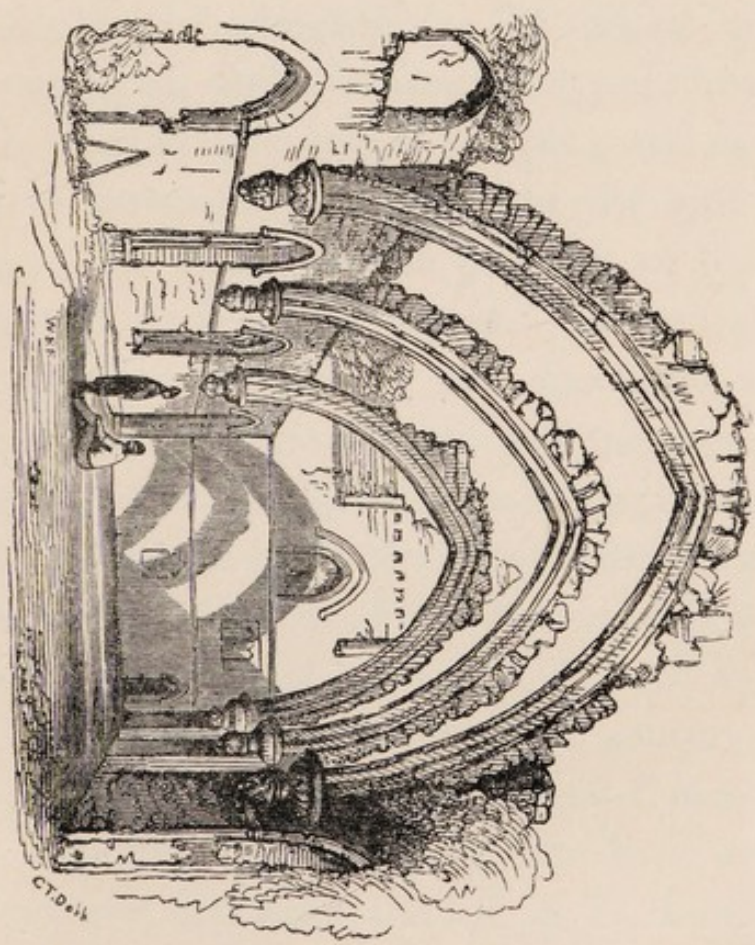
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### MAYFIELD.

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This is a remarkably neat and pleasant town in the county of Sussex, about eight miles to the south of Tunbridge Wells. Being situated on the summit of a hill, the prospect from it in every direction is rich and varied. Burr says, that in his time the roads around it were so execrably bad in the winter season, that its inhabitants were in a manner imprisoned during one half of the year, and in the royal progress of Queen Elizabeth, we

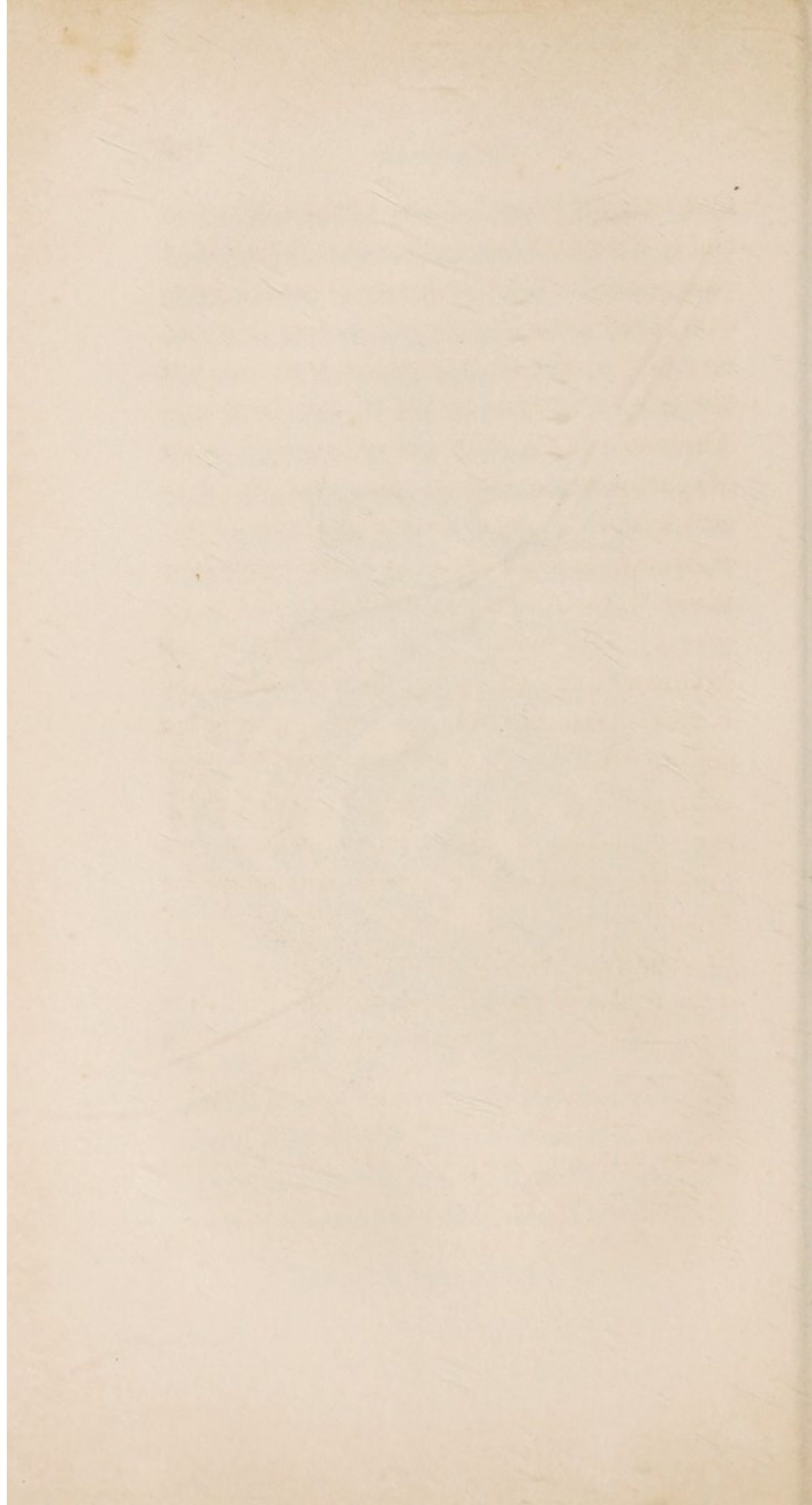
\* History of Sussex, vol 1. p. 400.



PALACE—MAYFIELD.

CTD:sk





find that the Sussex roads are almost invariably described as being little better than quagmires. These complaints have, however, been long since removed, and from alterations made on this road within the last few years it is equal to any in the kingdom. The name of the town was originally written Maghefelde and Maighfield. The parish is very extensive, and the general appearance of Mayfield has an aspect of ancient grandeur about it particularly attractive to the antiquary. The manor is the property of the Marquess Camden, by purchase. Under the Reform Act of 1832, it was appointed a polling place for East Sussex, and the votes are registered in one of the rooms belonging to the old Palace. The great object of attraction to visitors are the ruins of this Archiepiscopal Palace, which is said to have been built by St. Dunstan some time in the tenth century. This is stated upon the authority of Eadermus, a monk of Canterbury, who lived in that century, and wrote the life of St. Dunstan; but it is thought by many that the palace was built long after his time, although at what period there are no records to prove. It is certain that in very early times it was



one of the residences belonging to the archbishops of Canterbury, of which they had several, in order, as their historians say, "for the purpose of keeping hospitality in the more remote parts of the diocess," but in fact for the greater convenience of meeting the clergy in the accustomed journies of the archbishops between the metropolis and Canterbury. It is certainly probable that St. Dunstan\* might have built this noble edifice. That he resided somewhere in the place is

\* St. Dunstan was born at Glastonbury in Somersetshire, in 925, and was educated at the celebrated abbey there. He is represented to have been a learned and highly accomplished man, who "excelled in music, painting, engraving, and other arts." It was the possession of these accomplishments, probably, that caused him to be considered in vulgar estimation as a master of the magic arts. Dunstan was introduced to the court of Athelstan by his uncle Athelm, Archbishop of Canterbury. He afterwards sought seclusion in a monastic life, and took the vows at Glastonbury. In the reign of Edred he became prime minister, favourite, and father confessor to the king. His haughty and overbearing manners raised against him numerous enemies, and at Edred's death he was obliged to seek refuge in Flanders. He was recalled by king Edgar, and subsequently became archbishop of Canterbury. In the reign of Ethelred the influence of Dunstan declined, which preyed upon his proud spirit, and he retired to his archbishopric,



evident, not merely from traditional accounts, but from the authority of his learned biographer, who mentions also that he erected a wooden church here.

Mayfield was evidently a favourite residence of the archbishops, and many courts were held here and causes heard and determined. A provincial synod is also said to have been held here in 1332, at which a constitution passed relating to holidays, their number and the observance of them; and another in 1362; but Johnson, in his "Ecclesiastical Laws," thinks there is some "blunder or fraud" upon this subject. During the 14th century three archbishops of Canterbury died in this palace:—Simon Mepham in 1332; John Stratford in 1348; and Simon Islip in 1366. The latter held his distinguished post for a year and a half only. He fell from his horse into a dirty slough between Sevenoaks and Tunbridge, which occasioned the palsy, and eventually his death.\* "From the circumstance of these distinguished individuals residing at the Palace it is reasonable to suppose," says

where he died of grief and vexation in 988.—*Gen. Biog.* vol. iii. p. 488, and *Registrum Roffense*.

\* Britton's Sketches, p. 112.



Grose, "that it must have been at that time a very large and commodious edifice ; a moderate one could not have contained the state of the archbishops, who in those times had a prodigious revenue, and lived in great state and splendour ; nor would a sick man, as Simon Islip then was, having received a stroke of the palsy, remain so long in a house that had not every possible conveniency." Most probably as this archbishop received 1000 marks (£616. 13s. 4d.) of the executors of John Ufford, for dilapidations at Canterbury, which, with more of his own, he expended on his different houses, he did not forget Mayfield. In the 37th of Henry VIII. Archbishop Cranmer granted to the king this manor and mansion, who, January 5, 1545, granted it to Sir Edward North for the consideration of £337. 6s. 8d. and 1-20th part of a knight's fee. Sir Edward shortly afterwards alienated it to Sir Thomas Gresham, who occasionally resided here in great splendour. In the MS. journal kept by Sir Thomas, the " goods and chattels " are said to have been worth £7553. 10s. 8d., an immense sum for those times. Sir Thomas Gresham died 21st Nov. 1579, and bequeathed this pro-



perty to Sir Henry Nevil, who sold it to Thomas May of Burwash, Esq., whose widow disposed of it to John Baker, Esq. It afterwards became the property of the late Rev. John Kirby, Vicar of Mayfield, who married the daughter and co-heiress of George Baker, Esq., and it is now the joint property of his descendants, the Rev. John Kirby, the present vicar, and his brothers and sisters.

The principal object deserving notice in the ruins of the old palace is the magnificent banqueting hall, which is 70 feet long, and 39 feet wide. The three arches which formerly supported the open roof are still remaining entire, and are, we believe, the only arches of this magnitude in the kingdom supported entirely from their own springings. The hall roof was taken off towards the end of the eighteenth century, as in 1800 there were persons living who remembered the circumstance. The accidental falling of some plaster at the upper end of the hall, discovered a mitre formed of roses carved in stone, which is supposed to have been the spot where the archbishop's chair was placed. At the opposite end of the hall are three pointed arches, outside of which was the archbishop's



private chapel : the niches in which the holy water was placed still remain. Immediately to the right of this chapel are some steps descending to a doorway, said to have been the entrance to a subterranean passage which led to the church. The grand staircase, leading to what were the principal apartments, is a massive piece of stone work, and leads into a large wainscoted room, wherein are deposited the celebrated *reliques* of St. Dunstan : viz. his sword, an anvil and hammer, and the very tongs which he applied to the nose of the arch-deceiver of mankind, who tempted his chastity in the form of a fair damsel ; but the saint, who was possibly amusing himself in turning a horse shoe at the time, espied the cloven foot, and dexterously applying the hot tongs to Satan's nasal organ, led him out of the palace to a brook about a mile from it, where he most unceremoniously gave him a kick that sent him out of the parish.\* The

\* A short notice appended to some verses in this room humourously states that the archbishop's kick was so effective that the devil could not recover himself till he reached Tunbridge Wells springs, into which he thrust his nose to cool it, and the waters instantly assumed their present ferruginous taste and appearance !



kitchen, the dining-room, and the kitchen chamber merit particular notice from the antique style in which they are built. In the dining room, which is now used as a hop store, there is an old iron chimney-back, dated 1663. On a chimney-piece in the kitchen chamber is roughly cut a date 1371, and on each side of the door of the anti-room are some coats of arms, said to be those of the see of Canterbury, or of Sir Thomas Gresham, but they have been so carefully and repeatedly lime-whited, as to have become obliterated. The rooms called Queen Elizabeth's chambers are wainscoted, one with oak and the other with deal. But it is thought by many antiquarians who have visited the ruins that the queen's chamber was at the back or north side of the building, which is now unroofed. To the right of the principal entrance to the great hall a stone is let in to the outer wall with the arms of the see of Canterbury engraven on it; and to the left of the entrance is St. Dunstan's well, said to be of the depth of 300 feet. There is a curious old iron knocker on the outer door, leading to the dwelling apartments, the sight of which is enough to make



the heart of an antiquary leap within him. The gate house still remains entire, and fronts into the town. A large and noble arch, by which access was formerly obtained, has been built up, and a door introduced. It is now a private residence. The east end of the palace is used as a farm house, in which Mrs. Homewood, who shows the ruin, resides.

The wooden church erected by St. Dunstan, and nearly the whole village were destroyed by fire in 1389. It was at the consecration of this church that the saint performed one of his numerous miracles. Whilst walking in procession round the building he observed that it did not stand due east and west. He therefore applied his shoulder to the end of it, and pushed it into its proper position! The present church probably replaced the wooden structure. It is a large commodious building dedicated to St. Dunstan, and built in the later style of English architecture. It is capable of holding about 1000 persons, and consists of a chancel, nave, and side aisles, and a tower, surmounted by a shingled spire. One of the side galleries has a remarkably antique appearance; there is also a stone octangular font with the date

of 1666 upon it. Many of the pews and the pulpit have some curious old carved work in them ; and there is some oak wainscoting in the vestry-room richly carved and pannelled, which is evidently of very ancient date. In the church there are numerous monuments of the Baker family, which have been of some account in this parish from time immemorial. They occupied the *Lower House*, now dismantled, and their descendants still reside at an ancient mansion in the town called *Middle House*. At the east end of the aisles in the church is a remarkably fine marble monument, the figures on which are beautifully executed. The following is the inscription upon it :—

Neere this place lyeth interred ye body of Thomas Aynscombe, Esq. sometime a Reader of ye Inner Temple London who married Katherine one of ye daughters of Thomas Eversfield Gent: by whome he had issue 2 Sones and 3 daughters living at the time of his death and two were buried infants he died 2 Decemb 1620 in memory of whome the saide Katherine by her last will appointed this monvment to be erected And alsoe Neere this place lyeth interred the body of the saide Katherine whoe died the 20th day of April, 1633.

In the chancel is a large cast iron slab, which from the irregularity of the lines upon it may be regarded as a curiosity. It is in



memory of Thomas Sands, and dated 1668.

There is also a monument near the entrance to the side gallery, which is railed off, to the memory of

“ Anne, daughter of Sir George Rivers, Bart. and Dorothea his Wife, of Chafford, in the Parish of Penshurst, died 28 May 1742, aged 47 years.”

On the east side of the churchyard is an old stone monument in a state of great dilapidation. From the remains of a latin inscription it appears to have belonged to the Maynard family, one of whom was vicar of Mayfield, and chaplain to the House of Commons. It bears the date of 1665, and is the oldest in the churchyard. Not far from this, on a tombstone, is the following specimen of modern epitaph-writing, dated 1835:

O reader, if that thou canst read,  
Look down upon this stone;  
Do all we can, death is a man,  
That never spareth none.

The vicarage, though situated in the diocess of Chichester, is a peculiar subordinate to the jurisdiction of the metropolitan see of Canterbury. There was formerly an extensive park surrounding the palace, which appears to have been enlarged in the 18th of Edward III., but was afterwards disparked.

In the 43d of Henry III. a charter was granted for a market and fair to be held at Mayfield, which in the 15th of Richard II. was increased to two fairs, that are still held on the 30th May and 13th November.

In the year 1596, Thomas May, the dramatic writer and poet was born in this town.

The following impromptu was written by the editor of this work on his first visit to the place.

And here I stand upon the very spot  
 Where erst St. Dunstan tweak'd the Devil's nose  
 With tongs, that, like his zeal, were raging hot ;  
 A thing that one may readily suppose,  
 To one so highly polished as the Devil  
 Must seem, at least, prodigiously uncivil.

Well—he did tweak him, and old Satan roar'd ;  
 The more he bawl'd, the harder tugg'd the Saint ;  
 Nay, every pull maliciously *encor'd*,  
 Till master Satan was well nigh to faint,  
 And, doubtless, had he lived in times of *ton*,  
 He would have called for water de Cologne !

Whether 'twere so or not, I will not say  
 I give the hint, let others think about it,  
 Only this caution I would fain convey,  
 (Indeed, my rhymes seem incomplete without it)  
 That the necessity it plainly shows  
 When tricks you play with saints to guard your nose.



## HEATHFIELD.

HEATHFIELD stands pleasantly situated about three miles from Mayfield, and eleven from the Wells. It was once of importance as a manufactory for cannon. The ordnance cast here were asserted to be of better metal, and would bear higher charges than those of any other foundry in the kingdom. For upwards of 30 years the manufactory has ceased, and the building has disappeared, leaving the proof bank for cannon, the under banks, &c. as the only vestiges of things that were. A battle is said to have been fought here in 633 or 635, between Cadwallo, a prince of the royal blood of Wessex and Edwin, king of Northumberland. Slaughter Common, near Owlsbury mill, the property of Sir C. R. Blunt, Bart. is said to have been the spot where this sanguinary action was fought, and which terminated in the death of Edwin and his son Osfrid. Heathfield Park is the residence of Sir C. Blunt, and in the north-west corner of it is a tower built on an elevation of 600 feet above the level of the sea. It was built of stone in commemo-

ration of the hero of Gibraltar, Lieut.-Gen. Elliott, afterwards Lord Heathfield and Baron Gibraltar, once proprietor of this estate. It is 20 feet in diameter, and contains a circular staircase, and three apartments fitted up in a gothic style. Over the door on the outside is a tablet with this inscription: "Calpes defensori," which is formed of the metal of the guns from the Spanish floating batteries. About a mile from the park is a hamlet called Cade Street, said to have been the spot where the notorious Jack Cade was killed by Alexander Iden, or Eden, sheriff of Kent in the reign of Henry VI. A pillar with the following inscription has been erected on the spot where he is reported to have been slain: "Near this spot was slain the notorious rebel Jack Cade, by Alexander Iden, Esq. Sheriff of Kent, A. D. 1450. His body was carried to London, and his head fixed upon London Bridge.—'This is the success of all rebels, and this fortune chanceth ever to traitors.'—*Hall's Chronicle*."

Tradition says that after Cade was deserted by his followers he fled into Sussex, and concealed himself at an obscure house at Heathfield, called in ancient deeds Newick, which



was formerly moated, and the remains of it are yet visible. A gate placed on the road that leads from the house to the common is still called Iden's gate. It is said Cade was slain in the garden here.\*



BAYHAM ABBEY.

THESE ruins are situated about six miles from the Wells. The pleasantest and most

\* Horsfield's History of Sussex, vol. i. p. 576.

direct road to them was formerly through Frant, but a new road has been opened during the present spring, which is less hilly, and shortens the distance as compared with the old road. The commencement of the new road is about half a mile to the left of the first turnpike from the Wells, and it leads to the little village of *Bell's Ewe Green*, from whence there is a delightful drive past the Turk's Head Inn, through romantic woodland scenery to the venerable abbey. The site of Bayham Abbey was originally in two counties, viz. Kent and Sussex, as appears from the list of suppressed monasteries ; but the present ruins, with the dwelling-house adjoining, are in Sussex only, and stand on a point of land between two branches, or rather a divided branch, of the river Medway. It is stated by some writers that these are two branches of a small river called the Tun ; but where this river rises, or why it was so named we are not informed : probably from this branch of the Medway running from Tunbridge. It was anciently called Begham, or Begeham, and was first occupied in the twelfth century by a society of white canons called Premonstratensians,



from the chief abbey being at Premontre in Picardy. It was not originally intended that this should have been their residence, as a priory was founded and endowed at Stoneacre in the parish of Otham,\* near Maidstone, or, as some say, at Hotteham or Otham†, in Sussex. Both of these places present strong claims for being considered the original priory, but whichever it was, it clearly appears that from the complaints made by the monks of the situation being

\* Otham or Oteham is about two miles from Maidstone. Ralph of Dene founded a monastery here of Chanons Regular (to the honour of St. Lawrence), but they growing weary of the place, pretended great and intolerable scarcities of provision for sustenance there: and thereupon were by Æla, (daughter and heir of the said Dene,) removed to Begham (otherwise Bayham, otherwise Beulin) in Fant, in Sussex, where a Priory was built to the honour of the Virgin Mary.—*Kilburne's "Survey of Kent,"* 1659, p. 209.

† At Oldham, or Otham are the remains of a gothic building, now used as a stable. The eastern window of the edifice is pointed, 12 feet high by 8 wide. The door corresponds with a beautiful niche near it. May not this have been the monastery of the Premonstransian canons whom we know first settled at Otham but were removed to Bayham? This church was dedicated to St. Lawrence.—“*History of Sussex,*” vol. i. p. 317.



unhealthy, and provisions scarce in the district, they were removed to Brockley, at Deptford. From this place they were afterwards removed to Begeham in consequence of Sir Richard de Thorneham, in the reign of Richard I. having bestowed on them all his lands there "in pure and perpetual alms," for the purpose of building an abbey in honour of God and the blessed virgin Mary, on a spot called Beaulieu. The community was accordingly established here on the feast of the Annunciation, A. D. 1200. The priory appears to have been built by Ralph de Dene, and largely endowed by him and his nephew; but especially by Ela de Sackville of Buckhurst, the daughter and co-heir of the said Ralph; and some accounts allude to the canons at Brockley and Beaulieu as being distinct from those established at Otham, who, they say, were "transplanted from their respective priories, and incorporated with the monks at Begeham."

The following inscription, on a stone near the spot where the high altar stood, gives the particulars of the foundation of the Priory of Bayham; but notwithstanding the ancient characters in which it appears,



the inscription is comparatively of modern date :—

Ela de Sackville, Daughter of Ralphe de Dene, fovnded this Priorie in honovr of St. Marie, in the Reign of K. Richard ye First. The Grovnd was given bye Syr Richard de Thorneham. The Præmonstratensian Canons of Brockley, with those of Beavliev were incorporated and placed here, and their charters were confirmed bye Kyng John, K. Henrie III. and K. Edw. II. It was dissolved in the Reign of K. Hen. VIII.

But whether Ela de Sackville founded the Priory or not, it is quite clear that herself and family contributed largely towards its funds, as they were continually increasing the endowments. It was also used for some time as the burial place of the Sackvilles, and among the benefactors to the abbots and convent of Bayham was Sir Thomas Sackville, who was knight of the shire for Buckinghamshire, in the first and eighteenth years of Richard II. The following is an extract from his will dated 1 Dec. 1432. “ My body to be buried in the choir of the conventual church of Beygham. To the abbot and convent LXXX marks, besides xx now in their hands owing to me, whereof I will that x marks be distributed to

every canon of that house, and every priest of the same ; xxs. to every deacon and sub-deacon, and xs. to every nun, on condition that they be every one enjoined in their celebration of obsequies, vigils, orations, and other works of charity and contemplation, to mention me and Margaret my wife, my father and mother, all my ancestors, benefactors, and all the faithful deceased ; and I will that the residue of the said xxx marks be distributed by my executors to pay the debts of the said abbey and convent.\*”

King John not only confirmed by charter the donations and privileges already bestowed, but added considerable emoluments to them. Liberty of free warren over their demesne lands was also granted by Henry III. William de Burgelle gave certain marsh lands to the canons for the service of half a pound of pepper to be paid yearly on the vigil of Christmas. Henry III. also granted them a weekly market on their manor of

\* Nicholas’ “*Testamenta Vetusta*, vol. i. p. 221.” It will be observed that the first part of this extract says “Lxxx marks,” and the latter “xxx marks.” This is evidently an error, but it stands so in the work which we have quoted.



Rokeland, and a fair for three days at Midsummer. The canons continued to flourish until the Priory was dissolved in the 17th of Henry VIII., when, in consequence of its being classed with the smaller monasteries it was amongst the first dissolved, and its revenues, amounting to £152. 9s. 4½d., granted to Cardinal Wolsey towards the foundation of his projected colleges at Ipswich and Oxford.\* After the disgrace of the Cardinal the site of the Priory reverted to the crown, and was granted by Queen Elizabeth to the Montague family. It came into the possession of John Pratt, Esq. afterwards Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench in the year 1714, from whom it descended to the present Marquess Camden, who derives from it the title of Viscount Bayham. About the year 1762,

\* It is said that the reason of this being the first monastery dissolved was the irregularity of living and licentious conduct of the abbot and monks; and that Doctor Leighton, on his visitation to the monasteries, having discovered a female that had been introduced in the garb of a younger brother, the shame of the discovery induced the Abbot immediately to sign his resignation, which is dated Nov. 13, 1535.—See Burnett's "History of the Reformation," vol. i. p. 191.

John Pratt, Esq., nephew of Lord Camden, erected the present dwelling-house, which has been considerably improved within the last few years, and is frequently the residence of its noble and patriotic proprietor. This house is most delightfully situated, having a fine piece of water nearly surrounding it, consisting altogether of nearly thirty acres, which is fed by the Medway ; and the gently rising hills in front, present to the eye a beautiful and finished picture, but seldom equalled.

When the estate came into the hands of Chief Justice Pratt, much of the ruin was in tolerably good preservation, more particularly the church, which was nearly entire ; but the Steward, requiring materials for the repair of other buildings on the property, completely unroofed the church, without his lordship's sanction, and thus exposed to the injurious effects of the weather the tombs and monuments of the abbots and the Sackvilles which were then remaining. The ruins stand on a level and somewhat marshy ground, and display some exceedingly fine specimens of the architecture of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. They con-



sist of the nave of the church, the cloisters, and a portion of the refectory, with its offices. At the north-eastern end are the remains of a staircase leading probably to a gallery, which, passing behind the altar, went round the interior of the church, as is frequently found in buildings of that period. Traces of the high altar are still very perceptible, and in various parts of the ruin are flat stones, thought to be grave stones. A great portion of the interior being laid out as pleasure grounds, the walls alone remain to gratify the curiosity of the antiquary. A short distance from the Abbey are the remains of the entrance gatehouse, adjoining which is a pollard ash-tree, measuring forty-two feet in girth at three feet from the ground. Gough describes this as being "as old, if not older than the abbey, and supposed to be the largest extant." Facing the old gateway is a stone bridge of three small arches over a branch of the Medway; and, from the lower side, the water rushing through the arches has a very pleasing effect.

For the accommodation of the numerous visitors to these interesting ruins a very neat inn, called the Elephant's Head, has been

recently opened at *Hook-Green*, which is a few yards beyond the lodge entrance to Bayham. The worthy landlord, Mr. Stevens, has the privilege of showing the ruins, and he can moreover supply large or small parties with refreshments of every description. It would be injustice to an unassuming and worthy couple not to say that their house is the picture of neatness, and from a lawn at the back of it, communicating with the parlors by folding doors, there is a very charming prospect over a finely cultivated country.

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### SCOTNEY CASTLE.

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FROM Bayham, the most direct road to Scotney, from which it is distant about three miles, is to leave Lamberhurst to the left, and cross the Down into the Hastings road.

Scotney castle was a castellated mansion of considerable extent surrounded by a moat, and appears to have been occupied by a family of some consequence so early as the time of Richard II. It was in possession of the Darell family in the middle of the fifteenth century, with whom it remained till the year



1774. It was a square building, having a round machicolated tower at each corner, with intermediate buildings. One of these only remains—that at the south entrance. The lantern on the top is evidently of modern date as compared with the original building. A portion of the gate-house is still remaining, and also part of an ancient mansion, the latter of which was designed by Inigo Jones. The entrance to the principal rooms appears to have been in the first court; the stone steps leading to it, and the door, are yet standing. In the inner wall at the end of the kitchen, nearly at the top of it, is a small aperture, which is thought to have been a private entrance to a closet, or secret place, in the lower part of the building. Several ancient coins have been found here at different times; and in recently cleaning out the moat, some broken glass bottles were found at the bottom of it with all the hues of the rainbow upon them, evidently produced by the qualities of the water. The castle is the property of E. Hussey, Esq. who is building a most superb edifice in the Elizabethan style, at a short distance from the ruins. The architect is Anthony Calvin,

Esq. of London, who is justly celebrated for the beauty of his designs in the Tudor style of architecture ; and the present building must add greatly to his reputation. The Clerk of the Works is Mr. Weare. It is built of stone raised on the estate. Over the principal entrance in the west front are the family arms richly carved in stone, with the motto “ Vix eii nostrii voco ;” and underneath in old english characters is the following appropriate couplet :—

Healthe and happinesse attende  
The coming and the parting Ffriende.

In the gable over the kitchen window is the following : —

Upon y<sup>e</sup> settled Rocke thy building surest standes,  
Away it quickly weares, that resteth on y<sup>e</sup> Sandes.  
Dame Virtve is y<sup>e</sup> Rocke, that yieldes assured stay,  
Dame Ffortune is y<sup>e</sup> Sande that skowreth soone away.

At the east front over the garden entrance is carved, “ Frustra, nisi Dominus.” Over the staircase is a shield with armorial bearings, and the windows on this side of the building, we were informed, are to be of stained glass. When finished it will certainly rank with the most splendid mansions in the county.



## STONE CROUCH

Is a small hamlet three miles from Lamberhurst, and eleven from the Wells. Beyond a very neat and commodious posting-house, kept by Mr. Prickett, it has nothing worthy of particular remark. A short distance from the inn is *Combwell House*, the property of William Campion, Esq. of Danny, near Brighton. This was formerly a Priory of the order of St. Augustine, and was founded by Robert de Thurneham in the reign of King Henry II. Tanner states, that it was an abbey, but on account of the charge of supporting the state of so great a prelate as an abbot, was on that account reduced to a Priory.\* At the dissolution of monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII., Thomas Vincent, who was then prior, had a pension of £10 per annum awarded for his future maintenance. There is a report current among the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages that, at some distant period, the following singular occurrence took place at this old mansion.

\* Tanner's "Notitia," in pref. p. 27.

The family had gone to church leaving the house in the care of an elderly woman. In the course of the morning a beggar woman appeared at the gate soliciting alms, and she was invited in to warm herself. Whilst she was stooping for this purpose, the old domestic was astonished to see a pair of spurs peeping from beneath the tattered petticoat. Suspecting from this the intentions of her guest, she immediately seized the poker, and striking her visitor violently over the head with it, she dragged him (for it was a robber in disguise) to the sink, where she cut his throat, and then rang the alarm bell, fearing there might be more of the gang. We were further told that a monument to this old woman was in Goudhurst church, with the particulars of the transaction, but we were unable to find it. The narration is substantially correct.

A mile beyond *Stone Crouch* is FLIMWELL, where the direct roads from Hastings and Rye meet; that on the right being the road to Hastings, which has been lately much improved and shortened; and that on the left leading to Rye, through Hawkhurst and Northiam.

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## HAWKHURST

Is a pretty and genteel village fifteen miles from the Wells and the same distance from Rye, to which it is the direct road from the metropolis. It was anciently a market town, but the market has long since been disused. Kilburne, the author of the "Survey of the County of Kent," published in 1659, resided in this parish, and as he writes his description of it with true Swiss feeling for *dulce domum*, we will avail ourselves of it out of respect to his memory.

"In respect," says he, "I finde not any description of this parish, or other matter concerning the same, offered to the publique, and it having been the place of my habitation for above twenty-eight years last past (God's Providence having also there lent me an inheritance) I thought fit to enlarge myselfe upon this place, thereby to preserve the memory of some things which may be usefull, at least for the owners and inhabitants of the same. It lieth at the south side of the county, by a rivulet running into the river of *Rother*, about three miles and a halfe (towards the south) distant from *Cranbrook*. The church standeth in the Hundred of Great *Barnfeild*, and was called *St. Laurence*. This parish is very populous, and one of the greatest parishes in the county (not having a

town therein) for antiently upon collection of the number of communicants in every parish onely foure Parishes in the same, viz. Maidstone, Cranbrooke, Feversham, and Goudherst, (all which have Townes in them,) were found to have more communicants in them than this, but it hath very many poor therein.\* The church was founded by the Abböt of Battle, (in the raigne of King *Edw.* 3,) whose armes and his sons are at the top of the furthest of the three north windows in the north chapell or chancell there, and the armes of the Abbey of Battle. In the great window of the middle chancell were lately the pictures (well made in glasse) of the good kings of *Israel*, and of the Prophets in their times (but lately spoiled and defaced). In the south chancell of this church was antiently the image of the Virgin *Mary*, and severall tapers or lights were also in this church (called the beam light, the pas-chall light, *Judas* candles, St. *James* light, and St. *Laurence* light.) Over the north porch of this church is a roome (antiently called the Treasury) wherein were, and still are (laid up in a chest) severall antient writings concerning the tenants of the twelve Dens (in and neer this parish). A market (by the grant of King *Edw.* I., 5 of his Raigne, to the abbey of *Battle*), was antiently kept in this parish upon every Tuesday (upon the greene at the Moore,) but the same hath been discontinued for many years past, yet within the memory of men lately living a market crosse stood there, and the

\* Mr. Kilburne says, " In 1540 the Poor-rates were 7s. 2d. ! and in 1653 they were £289. 9s. 3d."



memory of that market is partly reteyned by the name of a place neer thereunto (yet called the market place). In this parish also antiently stood five crosses, or watch-houses. The place called *High-gate* took its name in respect that severall gates antiently stood at severall places in this parish, to inclose the Commons belonging to the tenants of *Wye* and one of the said gates standing at this place (being upon a high hill in respect of the rest,) the same was called *High-Gate*. In the west hedge of a field (called *Beacon field*,) neer the highway (called *Beacon lane*) leading between *Four Trowes* and *Foxhole*, lately stood a *Beacon* and watch-house, both since down.”\*

Very little of the curious stained glass which formerly decorated the windows of this church now remains. The font appears to be very ancient, and has four shields upon it, but no date.

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Those who may not feel disposed to extend their ride beyond Scotney, can return by the Hastings and London road to

### LAMBERHURST,

which is eight miles from Tunbridge Wells. The late William Cobbett, in his “Rural

\* “A Survey of Kent,” 1659, p. 126.

Rides," has given so favourable a description of this village, that it would be unjust to the inhabitants to withhold the opinion of this powerful writer. He says, " This is one of the most beautiful villages that man ever sat his eyes on. I saw what I never saw before ; namely, *a gooseberry tree trained against a house.* The house was one of those ancient buildings, consisting of a frame of oak wood, the interval filled up with brick, plastered over. The tree had been planted at the foot of one of the perpendicular pieces of wood ; from the stem, which mounted up this piece of wood, were taken side limbs, to run along the horizontal pieces. There were two windows, round the frame of each of which the limbs had been trained. The height of the highest shoot was about ten feet from the ground, and the horizontal shoots on each side, were from eight to ten feet in length. The tree had been judiciously pruned, and all the limbs were full of very large gooseberries, considering the age of the tree. This is only one instance out of thousands that I saw of the extraordinary pains taken with the gardens."

The Cottage alluded to is now the post-



office, and the worthy postmaster, Mr. Roberts, still cultivates this extraordinary tree. The length of the branches has, however, considerably increased since Cobbett wrote ; and in April of the present year the horizontal shoots measured, one 13 feet and the other 15 feet. The highest shoot had almost reached the top of the house ; but a few days previous to our being there, the high winds, that were then prevalent, had destroyed " its blushing honours," and had torn off at least six feet of it.

Near the post-office is the *Chequers Inn* and *Posting-house*, kept by Mr. Eastland.

Opposite the *George Inn* is a large house, part of which is a farm-house, belonging to Mr. Calverley of Ewell Castle, near Epsom. It was for many generations in possession of a family of the name of Thomas. Westward from this is the ancient parsonage house ; and on the opposite side on the rise of a hill adjoining the church, is the *Court Lodge*, the seat of W. A. Morland, Esq. The church, which has nothing remarkable in its architecture, is dedicated to St. Mary. There are some very fine monuments in it, particularly one to the memory of Colonel

Charles Morland, brother of the present proprietor of Court Lodge, who was aide-camp to George IV., and Lieut.-Colonel of the 9th Lancers, which corps he had commanded for 16 years. After thirty-three years military service he died at Paris, on the 14th June, 1828, in the 53d year of his age, "honoured and lamented." The pulpit is of carved oak, and bears the date of 1630. In the churchyard is a very fine yew tree which measures 25 feet in girth. Among the tombstones is one to the memory of Edward Neal, aged 21, and Thomas Neal, aged 19 years, who were unfortunately drowned on the 26th July, 1818. It bears the following inscription :—

"Mr. Mynn has caused this stone to be placed to testify his opinion of their general good conduct in living in the fear of God, in dutiful obedience to their parents, and peaceable demeanour to all mankind."

A tomb-stone to the memory of Thomas Smith, who died March 11, 1807, informs us that

"He was a Great Penetrator of Antiquity  
And a lover of the HOLY Scriptures."

There is a very neat Baptist Chapel in the village, which contains sittings for about



five hundred persons. To the left of the Post Office is a new road to Hastings, and the right leads to Lewes and Brighton. Persons who visit this village by the direct road from the Wells through Pembury, will find a pleasing change in the ride in returning by way of Bayham, which is two miles from Lamberhurst, as from several parts of the road the ruins form a very picturesque object.

A short distance from the village on the right of this road are the only vestiges which remain of the once celebrated foundry, where the iron balustrade that incloses St. Paul's Churchyard was cast. Those vestiges consist of a cottage, which was once the counting-house, and stands by the side of a mill-pond; with here and there traces of the Foundry walls. The railings and gates for St. Paul's weighed upwards of 200 tons, and cost £11,202. 0s. 6d.

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### PEMBURY.

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THIS village is situated about two miles and a half east of Tunbridge Wells. The road to it, passing Calverley Lodge, the residence of the Misses Harman, makes one

of the pleasantest drives in the neighbourhood, and abounds in magnificent scenery. After passing Calverley Park, about half a mile to the right is the spring at the *Burnt House Farm*, noticed at page 69. To the left of the turnpike gate is *Blackhurst Wood*, through which is a road to Colebrooke Park, the property of Lady Colebrooke, and the residence of T. Brown, Esq. On the right of the gate is an elegant modern mansion, belonging to Ford Wilson, Esq. ; and half a mile further, also on the right, is the residence of C. Comerford, Esq. Beyond this is *Wood's Gate*, leading to Tunbridge, from which it is distant five miles.

There are two good posting-houses here, one kept by Mr. Pawley, and the other by Mr. Cloute.

Pembury church stands in a very conspicuous situation, upwards of a mile from the principal part of the village. It has a spire steeple at the west end, and is dedicated to St. Peter. From the circumstance of there being three shields of coat armour on the buttresses, south side of the chancel, belonging to the Colepeper and Hardreshall family, it is conjectured that this church was built



in the reign of Edward III, by John Colepeper, Esq., as he married the co-heir of the Hardreshall family; and on a very ancient stone in the pavement of the chancel is an inscription in Norman French, for Margaret daughter of Sir Thomas Colepeper, which appears coeval with the above-mentioned reign. This singular monumental record, which nearly resembles a coffin in shape, has a cross upon the upper part of it, and the inscription is round the edge of the stone in a sort of border. The letters are curiously carved, and many of them obliterated. From those which remain, we think the following must have been the inscription: "*Pri pour l'ame de Margarete la file chere Thomas Colepeper.*"\* There is no date upon it. Several memorials and monuments of the Amherst family are also in this church, and a figure in brass, with an inscription for Elizabeth, the daughter of Richard Rowe, Esq., who died 28th Sept. 1607, is near the altar. In the porch were formerly two ancient stones with brasses upon them, but they have been removed for some time, and a

\* The letters in italics are very legible.

brick paving laid down. In 1354, King Edward III., "in consideration of twenty marks paid to him," granted a license to John Colepeper of Bayhall to found a perpetual chantry in the chapel of St. Mary in the cemetery of this church, with a chaplain "to celebrate masses daily for the repose of his soul and those of his ancestors." This chantry existed till the suppression of such foundations in the reign of Edward VI., soon after which, the chapel, which stood at the east end of the churchyard, was pulled down and the materials sold; but in digging for the purposes of interment, portions of the foundation are frequently seen. Near this spot is a very remarkable old tomb-stone. It bears neither date nor inscription, and appears perfectly solid to some depth beneath the surface. The ground has been removed to the extent of two feet, and there it presents a similar molding to the top. There is a cross upon it, and it is nearly the same shape as Margaret Colepeper's in the church.

Adjoining the churchyard is *Spring Grove*, the property and residence of A. B. Belcher, Esq. A short distance from this is a farm called *Hawkwell*, where formerly stood a



very ancient mansion belonging to a family of that name, who resided for some generations on this manor. A portion of the walls of the old house is still remaining in an orchard near the present farm-house. Pembury was anciently spelt *Peppingberia*, and *Pepenbury*.

Descending the hill towards the church, there are very distinct appearances of coal on each side of the road, and there can be little doubt that a vein of that useful article might be found here at no great depth from the surface.

At the end of the village is a row of neat almshouses, the gift of Charles Amherst, Esq. of Bayhall, for six old, blind, or impotent persons of the parish of Pembury. In addition to the houses, each person is allowed twenty shillings a month, with the privilege of taking in lodgers. The Marquess Camden, on whose property the houses are built, has the appointment of filling up the vacancies that occur by death or otherwise. The almsmen have also a vote for the county.

Immediately after passing the *Camden Arms*, kept by Mr. Cloute, on the right, is a pleasant road through some fields and hop-gardens to Bayhall.

## BAYHALL.

THIS was one of the most ancient seats of the distinguished family of the Colepepers. The first eminent man of the family was Thomas de Colepeper, whose descendants possessed the manor of Bayhall, and resided here, from the middle of the thirteenth century to the reign of Henry VI. when the manor was alienated to Humphery Stafford, duke of Buckingham, whose grandson, Henry duke of Buckingham, was the principal agent in forwarding the designs of Richard, duke of Gloucester, afterwards King Richard III. Upon his attainder in the first year of that reign, his estates were forfeited to the crown, and Bayhall was held by several distinguished families by purchase and otherwise from that period to 1790, when it was sold to Thomas Streatfield, Esq. It is now the property of the Marquess Camden, and this with the adjoining farm of Little Bayhall is occupied by Mr. Stephen Lansdell.

Burr says, "The present neat and convenient structure was raised by Richard Amherst, Esq., who died in 1664, and is



very pleasingly situated in the midst of fine meadows, gardens, and fishponds.”\* The old mansion was moated, a considerable portion of it remains, and traces of the whole are clearly perceptible. The principal entrance appears to have been at the north-east front, over a bridge which still remains. There are eight pilasters in this front, which extend the whole width of the building. A great part of the house has been pulled down, but what is left is very interesting. The rooms are lofty and spacious, and the substantial staircase, with its heavy balusters, reminds one of the old baronial mansions of the Norman times. The walls of the staircases and landing-places are painted in panels, but so finely is it done, that it requires a close inspection to be satisfied that it is not panelled wainscoting. It is the most perfect specimen of the illusive powers of house-painting that we can remember, and we think far surpasses the celebrated painted door in the hall of Greenwich Hospital. On the landings are two old chimney-pieces made of oak, the

\* Historical Account, &c. p. 237.

largest of which is seven feet square. In one of the upper rooms is a very old iron vane. From the top of one of the chimneys the branch of an elder tree peeps out, which is actually growing inside the chimney, where the tree is eight or nine feet in length. At the east entrance are some stone steps, almost hidden in the grass and turf. The *tout ensemble* of the mansion and grounds is most interesting, and it is, perhaps, to be regretted that it has not been kept in habitable condition. A labourer and his wife, named Avann, occupied some of the apartments when we were there—the wife carrying on the straw bonnet making trade. Pedestrians wishing to visit Bayhall will find a most delightful walk from the Wells, by proceeding past Hall's Hole, turn to the left through a wood and some hop gardens to little Bayhall, within a few yards of which it is situated.

Returning to the *Camden Arms*, the direct road to Goudhurst is on the west side of the parish through the Southfrith woods to Lamberhurst quarter; but by lengthening the distance a little more than a mile, you pass through Matfield Green, Brenchley, and Horsmonden.



## MATFIELD GREEN

Is a pretty little rural village about six miles from the Wells. There is a very neat dissenting Chapel here, and some genteel residences. Near the Green is a house which belonged to Mr. Bowles, whose ancestors resided there for many generations. A mile further is

## BRENCHLEY.

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IN the *Textus Roffensis* this is written Bræncestre. It is of large extent, and pleasantly situated on a hill. The houses in general are capacious, and of ancient construction. A short distance eastward is a place called *Broad Oak*, and near it, upon an eminence is a remarkable cluster of trees called Brenchley toll, which, from their elevated situation, are seen at a great distance from every direction round them. In the wood adjoining this are the remains of a square moat, enclosing three or four acres. It is probable that it was the site of a mansion of some consequence. In another part of the parish there are similar remains of a moat, but much wider and deeper, though

the area of it is not so extensive, as the first. Very little doubt can be entertained that in ancient times a building of some magnitude stood here, and it is not a little remarkable that neither the woods nor farms where these remains are found bear any particular name, although the families possessing them must at one time have been of consequence in the county.\* The manor of Brenchley in the time of Queen Elizabeth was the property of Mr. Lambarde, whose perambulations through Kent, published in 1593, are well known in the literary world. He settled it on the alms house he had founded at Greenwich, called Queen Elizabeth's hospital, with a limitation in favour of the heirs male of his line.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and there are some good monuments in it belonging to the families of the Courthopes and Roberts's. There is also an inscription for Elizabeth, wife of George Fane, Esq, of Tudely, who died in 1566. The churchyard

\* Might not these be the MOATLANDS which belonged to the Pimpes; one of whom, "Reginald," died in the sixteenth of Henry VI., possessed of a messuage in Brenchley called *Le Moat*?



has a very neat appearance, especially the row of well clipt yews leading to the porch. Near the village are the extensive nursery grounds belonging to Mr. Hooker, which are highly deserving of a visit.\* In this parish, and partly in Goudhurst, is the manor of *Bokinfold*. The mansion house belonging to it was once surrounded with a park. Edward II. visited this place in the eighteenth year of his reign, when on his way to France to do homage for his duchy of Guienne. Whilst residing here he caused several persons to be punished for unlawfully hunting in the park. Bokinfold is now occupied by Mr. Hartridge.

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### HORSMONDEN.

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THIS village is ten miles from Tunbridge Wells. The church is a very handsome building dedicated to St. Margaret, and the churchyard presents the same neat appearance as that of Brenchley. In the south side of the chancel is a handsome tomb without any inscription. There are several ancient seats in this neighbourhood, among

\* Visitors from Tunbridge Wells going to these grounds will find a much nearer road to them, immediately beyond the *Blue Boys*, a mile from Pembury.

others *Spelmonden*, *Finchcocks*, *Gatehouse*, (anciently *Riseden*.) At *Badmonden*, a manor in this parish, was formerly a cell, not conventual, belonging to the priory of Beaulieu, in Normandy, and in 1338, Robert de Grosshurst founded a perpetual chantry in this church, in the chapel of the Virgin Mary, "to the praise of God, and for the souls of himself and his wife." The principal part of the village is situated round the Green, or, as it is termed, *Horsmonden Heath*. Sprange says, "A particular circumstance is reported, and generally believed, relating to the longevity of the rectors of this parish: the four last of which it is said, have enjoyed the living two hundred years; but it is certain that the last two, Mr. Bates, and the late incumbent, Mr. Hassel, have held it one hundred and six years."\* The present rector is the Rev. William Smith Marriott.

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### GOUDHURST.

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THIS is a very pretty village, situated about twelve miles from the Wells. The church, with a great portion of the village,

\* "Tunbridge Wells Guide," 1796, p. 221.



stands on an exceedingly high hill, and the prospect from the churchyard is at once extensive, rich, and varied; such indeed as Kent only can afford. The village is built on the sides of five different roads, which unite at a large pond in the centre. The houses, generally, are ancient and spacious. A woollen manufactory was established here in the reign of Edward III. by the Flemings, which continued to flourish until about the middle of the last century. In 1725, Mr. Robert Tate had ten broad looms in constant work, and there were besides upwards of forty looms at that time at work in the parish. In 1727, Mr. Henry Tricker kept four narrow looms here for the purpose of manufacturing worsted and stocking yarn; since which time these manufactories have gradually decayed.\* The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and is a handsome building consisting of three aisles and the same number of chancels. At the west end is a low tower, and a smaller one at the corner with a pointed turret and a vane on the top. There was formerly a lofty spire, but “upon

\* Sprange's Guide, p. 225.

Wednesday the 23d day of August, 1637, (about eleven of the clock at night,) there happened a most fierce and sudden storme of thunder and lightning, which set on fire the said steeple, and broke, and melted five great bells in the same, and burnt and consumed foure lofts ; and the stonework of the same was thereby so shaken and rent, that it was faine afterwards to be pulled down, and the church and leads, by fall of the timber, was much impaired.”\*

There are several very handsome monuments in the church, many of them belonging to the Colepepers of Bedgebury, a very ancient family in the county, but now, we believe, extinct. To the right of the altar are some monuments of the Champions of Combwell, one of whom “ famous for his loyalty to King Charles I. was killed at the siege of Colchester, and buried there.” There is a remarkably fine marble bust of him adorned with the flowing periwig of that period. To the right of this, under an arch, is a tomb of Bethersden marble, with brass effigies of a man and woman with their six children.

\* Kilburne's Survey, p. 111.



This belongs to the Colepepers. Against the south wall is a monument composed of different coloured marbles, with the figures of a man and woman kneeling at two desks, the woman on the right. Behind the man is a youth kneeling; beneath are the five daughters, with eleven sons, and two still-born infants. The manner in which the numerous progeny is arranged deserves notice. After the first son they are placed in couples, the last row containing three. The still born infants are placed under the knees of the sons. Under the male form is an inscription for Thomas Colepeper, Esq. of Bedgebury, and over it is the following :—

“ Here lyeth y<sup>e</sup> body of Sr Alexander Colepepyr, sonne of ye said Tho : who had to Wyfe Mary one of ye daughters of ye Lo: Willm Dacre of ye North, who had Yssve by her Anthonye Colepepyr onelye & dyed y<sup>e</sup> 16 day of January, 1599. Memorare novissima et in eternv̄ non peccabis. Ecclos. 7. 36.”

Over the lady :—

Th<sup>s</sup> worthy Ladye noblie borne  
 On bothe sydes : wyse and mylde  
 Grand-childe to th<sup>e</sup> Earlie of Shrewsbvrye  
 & noble Dacres Childe  
 Here lyth : To dvst & ashes changd  
 Her earthly body is

Her sovre devine transported eke  
To Heaven and Hevenly blisse.

Turne thy face fro : ovr sinnes (O Lorde)  
& Blot ovt all ovr offenses. Ps. 51. 9.

Under the female statue is inscribed :—

Her Father London great evne Roilde  
As Maior, a worthy man,  
Her mother borne of ancyent stock  
A noble Grecian.

Her children manye, vertves more  
God sent & cherefvll will  
Ye naked, Poore, & needy soules  
To helpe & svccore still.

My children if Sinners entise yov consetne not.  
Proveb. 1. 10.

For blessed is ye Sovle of him yt feareth ye Lord.  
Eccl 34. 15.

On the same monument is this inscription :—

Sr Anthony Colepepyr K<sup>nt</sup> Sonne & Heire of ye  
said Sr Alexander had to Wyfe Anne, one of ye davgh-  
ters of Sr Roger Martin of London K<sup>nt</sup> & had by her  
12 Sonnes & 4 davghters, w<sup>ch</sup> Sr Anthonie made this  
Tombe A<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup> 1608

Etatis svæ 48 Beinge then liveinge.

Pvlvis es et in pvlverem redibis.—Gen. 3. 19.

Let vs heare ye end of all Feare God & kepe his  
comandmets For ys is ye whole dvtie of man.

Eccles: 12. 13.

There is a low window in the south aisle,  
in the recess of which is a tomb of Bethers-



den marble, and upon it the figures of a knight and his lady *carved in wood*, habited in the dress of their times. The knight's armour is richly carved, and the *tout ensemble* is probably superior to anything in the kingdom. At the west end of it, traces of armorial bearings and devices are slightly perceptible, but white lime and the *decorator* have shamefully defaced them. This tomb is almost hidden by the pew of the Bedgebury property, Lord Beresford's, but it is well worthy inspection. There is also a natural curiosity in this window claiming attention, and that is a hazel tree which grows inside the window, and from which nuts have been gathered within the last season or two. Near this, against the wall, is an old breast-plate. In the south chancel is the font, which is of great antiquity. Figures of birds, beasts, and other things can be with difficulty traced upon it, for the spoliator has been at work, and under the churchwarden plea of "beautifying and adorning," the beautiful sculpture, for such it appears to have been, of this font, is entirely effaced. There is a fine ring of eight bells, and chimes play every three hours. From the churchyard,

looking over Bedgebury, the hills in the neighbourhood of Hastings are seen, and from this spot a singular phenomenon is observable in the evening, the appearance of which has hitherto puzzled our philosophers; that is, a faint streak of light shows itself across the horizon for a second or two only; and this is repeated several times in the course of an evening —sometimes before sunset, and sometimes afterwards. It has attracted the attention of the *savans*, many of whom visit the place with a view to ascertain the cause of this remarkable appearance.

So commanding is the eminence upon which this church is built, that fifty-seven parish churches may be distinctly seen from the tower.

Goudhurst was once the scene of an extraordinary civil war, in which the inhabitants were engaged in mortal combat with smugglers. We find it thus narrated :—

In 1747, a desperate gang of smugglers, who had long infested the neighbourhood, had arrived at such a pitch of daring effrontery that they would ride into the town in a large body, and plunder the houses of the most opulent inhabitants. Any resistance to them was attended by death or the most cruel usage. Trade was at a stand; many houses were shut up, and



people were afraid to venture abroad even in the day time. Mr. Ballard, of Tunbridge Wells, passing through the town, in the middle of the day, was robbed of thirty-nine pounds, his watch, &c., was dreadfully beaten, and survived but a few hours. In this desperate state of affairs a young man named William Sturt, who was a native of the place, and had served in General Harrison's regiment, returned home, and finding how things were, he volunteered his services to repulse the smugglers, if the inhabitants would assist him. This they agreed to, and signed resolutions to that effect. The smugglers having heard of this, sent word that they would besiege the town on a certain day which they named. On the morning of the day appointed the smugglers were seen approaching the town, galloping along, every one stripped to his shirt, armed with a carbine, pistols, hangers, &c., and led by a man named Kingsmell. Sturt had posted his forces at the upper end of the town in the most judicious manner, and received the attack of the smugglers with the utmost coolness. A sharp conflict ensued, but the smugglers having had three men killed and several wounded, they at length fled with precipitation, but were pursued, and several of them having been taken, were brought to condign punishment.

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### BEDGEBURY.

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THIS magnificent mansion is about two miles and a half to the right of Goudhurst. The manor appears to have been of consider-

able eminence from the earliest period ; and it gave residence and surname to its possessors, probably in the time of Edward II. In 1424 it was held by John Colepeper, Esq. of Bayhall, who married Agnes, sister to John de Bedgebury, who died without issue. In Queen Elizabeth's progress through Kent in 1573, she honoured this seat with her presence ; and Camden states, that at this time there were twelve knights and baronets alive of the renowned house of Colepeper. Bedgebury has recently become the property, by purchase, of Viscount Beresford, where we hope he may long enjoy that *otium cum dignitate* to which his splendid achievements in arms so justly entitle him. The noble Viscount is erecting a princely mansion here. The style of it is strictly Palladian—the wings advancing at the eastern and western fronts beyond the centre. The space between the wings on the western side is taken up by a vestibule and portico, and that on the eastern front by a terrace, approached at each end by steps, and surmounted by a balustrade. Before this front is the flower garden, which is laid out in the Italian style, and surrounded by a balustrading. The



fountains, walks, flower beds, &c. correspond with the style of the garden. The interior contains on the ground floor an elegant *suite* of rooms, consisting of dining room, saloon, drawing rooms, &c., with a grand staircase leading to the upper floors, decorated with Corinthian and composite columns, grained in imitation of marble, &c. The whole arrangements of the interior were planned by the noble proprietor. The architectural proportions and embellishments, inside and out are from the designs of Alexander Roos, Esq., a young Italian artist of great taste and judgement, by whom, also, the ceilings of the principal rooms are painted. The mansion is surrounded by 2000 acres of woodland, and opposite the east front is a fine lake covering 22 acres. Nature has done much for the grounds about this princely edifice, and art, directed by the refined taste which is perceptible here, will make them "beautiful exceedingly." The house as well as the fountains are supplied with water from a spring about a mile and a half distant from the building, which, conveyed in pipes, would supply a cistern ten feet higher than the top of the mansion.

## GLASSENbury

Was formerly the principal seat of a very ancient family in this county, of the name of Rookherste or Roberts. It is two miles from Goudhurst, and was once of considerable note. The house is surrounded by a moat, and possesses great interest from its antiquity. About the year 1745, the Duke of St. Albans became possessed of this property by marriage with Jane Roberts, the lineal descendant of Walter Roberts, Esq., who held it in the reign of Henry VI. His grace left it to Sir Thomas Roberts, Bart., of Ireland.

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## CRANBROOK.

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THIS pleasant town is situated in a valley, sixteen miles from the Wells, and is renowned for the salubrity of the air. Dr. Derham states, that “Cranbrook, in Kent, and Aynho, in Northamptonshire, are the two healthiest towns in England,” and some remarkable instances of longevity in this parish have been recorded. Several respectable families have flourished here, who were



called the *Grey Coats of Kent*, from the dress which they usually wore. These were so numerous and united, that at county elections they were pretty certain of returning their favoured candidate. The church is dedicated to St. Dunstan, and is a spacious and handsome edifice, being one of the largest in the Weald of Kent. Cranbrook and Goudhurst churches are considered two of the handsomest on the inside of any in the county. "The pillars on either side of the centre aisle are beautifully slender from the corbel heads, and above the impost of these pillars rise small cluster shafts. The high chancel is decorated with paintings, and the east window full of fine stained glass, many of the figures being entire and richly ornamented with draperies. The altar-piece is richly finished with carved wainscot, and flowery embellishments. In the chancel are many military banners and armorial furniture, which formerly belonged to the Roberts's of Glassenbury."\*

The Society of Friends have a meeting-house here, and a burial ground, which is a short distance from the town.

\* Ireland's "History of Kent," vol. ii. p. 359.

It was at Cranbrook, in the year 1336, that the Flemings encouraged by Edward III. established broad-cloth weaving, which was soon held in such estimation, says Hasted, that persons possessed of most landed property followed this business, and nearly all the ancient families, many of which are now ennobled, sprang from and owe their titles to ancestors who followed this great staple occupation, at the present day almost unknown at this place. Queen Elizabeth, it is said, inspected the principal manufactories in 1573, and walked to Coursehorne, which is a mile distant from the town, the whole way upon broad cloth. She also founded a grammar-school here, to which she gave a charter.

In this parish, a mile and a half from the town, is a hamlet called *Milkhouse Street*, where are the remains of a chapel founded by John Lawness, *temp.* Henry VI., and dedicated to the Holy Trinity. Near is *Sissinghurst*, or as it was anciently called *Saxenherst*, from the owners of this demesne. It was once the residence of the distinguished family of the Bakers; but is now occupied as a poor-house. It was a castellated mansion, and, originally, one of great extent:



within a century or less it was nearly entire. The only remains of it at present are the western entrance, which is flanked by octagonal towers, and a small portion of the out-offices. Between the years 1756 and 1763 this place was occupied by nearly 3000 French prisoners.

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### SPELDHURST.

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THIS parish is so intimately connected with Tunbridge Wells, that it appears absolutely a part of it, although the places are dissimilar in every respect. Speldhurst, or *Speleherste*, as it was anciently called, being a perfectly rural and retired village, whilst the Wells, or south-east portion of the parish, boasts of the utmost gaiety and splendour. It is thought to have derived its name from the Saxon words *spele* and *herste*, signifying the gospel, or holy, wood, but the derivation of it is doubtful. Certain it is that from a remote period it appears to have been a rectory; and the antiquity of the old church, with the several ancient manors in the vicinity, prove incontestibly that this parish ought to be reckoned amongst the

earliest of which we have any account. The road to the church and village is extremely pleasant. Whether for the pedestrian, equestrian, or for a carriage drive, you proceed about half way across Rusthall common, and turn to the right, which leads you to Lower Green. On the left, just after leaving the common, is an ancient house formerly the residence of Lady Ann Agnes Erskine, who planted the fine poplars now growing there. Her ladyship was the daughter of the Earl of Buchan, by a lady of the house of Stuart, and died the fifth October, 1804, aged 65. She was the intimate friend of the celebrated Countess of Huntingdon, and the poplars planted at Erskine Cottage, were among the first brought into this country from Lombardy by her brother, Lord Erskine. The house, now the residence of the Rev. A. C. Onslow, is thought by many to have been the Rusthall manor house, but the supposition rests upon mere conjecture, and cannot be substantiated, as we have already noticed in speaking of Rusthall.

From Lower Green there is a pleasant walk through the fields to Speldhurst.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and is



a modern building, the old church having been destroyed by fire, Oct. 20, 1791, during an awful storm of thunder and lightning. A ball of fire was seen to enter the shingled spire, and almost immediately flames issued forth, which, assisted by the wind, soon commenced their ravages upon the church, and in four hours this beautiful edifice was reduced to a heap of ashes. The bells were melted by the intense heat,\* and the walls alone were left standing, but in too ruinous a condition to be again rendered serviceable. The font was found turned upside down, but entire; the monuments were entirely destroyed, among which were several to the Waller family, chiefly in the sixteenth century. The old church was a fine structure, and the curious porch to it was built by the Duke of Orleans during the period of his confinement at Groombridge. Within the church was a fine canopy of wainscoting, adorned with the figures of angels holding shields, in a very elegant style of sculpture, with ornaments of roses and what appeared to be *fleurs de lys*. In the chancel was a monument erected to the memory of Sir

\* Some fragments of these Bells are in possession of the Editor.

Walter Waller and Anna his lady, without any date; but it appears by the parish register that Sir Walter was buried in 1599. There were two epitaphs on this monument, epigrammatical, acrostical, and anagrammatical, according to the taste of those times.\*

SIR WALTER WALLER'S EPITAPH.

Ide prayse thy valour, but Mars 'gins to frowne;  
 He feares when Sols aloft, that Mars mvst downe.  
 Ide prayse thy fovrme, but Venvs cries amayne  
 Sir Walter Waller will my Adon stayne.  
 Ide prayse thy learnyng, bvt Minerva cries,  
 Then Athens fame mvst creepe when Waller flyes.  
 Assist vs England in ovr dovlefull song,  
 When svch limbs fade, thy flovrish lasts not long;  
 Earth hath his earth, w<sup>ch</sup> doth his corps invole,  
 Angells sing reqviems to his blessed sovlē.

LADY ANNA WALLER'S EPITAPH.

A ll worthy eyes read this that heather come,  
 N ever decaying vertve fills this Tomb;  
 N ever enovgh to be lamented here,  
 A s long as women kynd ar worth a teare.

W ithin this weeping stone lyes Lady Waller,  
 A ll y<sup>t</sup> will knowe hir more a saint mvst call her :  
 L ife so directed hir whilest lyving here,  
 L eavelld so straight to God, in love and feare ;  
 E ver so good, that tvrne hir name and see,  
 R eddy to crowne that life—a LAWREL tree.

\* Onely's "General View," p. 15.



The descendant of this renowned family has caused an inscription on brass to be placed in the wall near the altar, as follows :

### Sacred to the Memory

#### OF THE FAMILY OF THE WALLERS,

(Descended from Alured de Wallur, of Newark, Notts, who died A. D. 1183,) who were settled at Groombridge in this Parish, from the year 1360 to the year 1604, and were Lords not only of the Manor of Speldhurst, but also of Hollenden, Barnes, Shaliscourt, Nackington, Rusthall, Hadlow, Hollands, Ashurst, and Ferbies, all in this county, many of whom, besides those whose names are hereon inscribed, were buried in the old church of Speldhurst; but as all their monuments and other memorials were totally destroyed together with that edifice, by lightning, on the 20th of Oct., 1791, Sir I. W. Waller, of Twickenham, Bart., and Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, has caused this plate to be here placed, to perpetuate the memory of these his Ancestors.

David de Waller, Master of the Rolls to King Ed. III. <i>ob.</i> 1360	Sir John Waller, Knight .. <i>ob.</i> Dec. 1510
Thomas Waller.... <i>ob.</i> Dec. 1391	William Waller.... <i>ob.</i> Feb. 1525
Thomas Waller.... <i>ob.</i> Jan. 1410	William Waller.... <i>ob.</i> Aug. 1555
Sir Richd. Waller, Knt. who, at the battle of Azincourt, 1415, took prisoner Charles, duke of Orleans... <i>ob.</i> Oct. 1429	John Waller..... <i>ob.</i> Sept. 1574 Thomas Waller... <i>ob.</i> Nov. 1586 Sir Walter Waller, Knight... <i>ob.</i> July 1599
Richard Waller.... <i>ob.</i> May 1470	Lady Waller..... <i>ob.</i> Sept. 1624

*And also to the Memory of the following Descendants of the above who were not buried at Speldhurst.*

Sir Thomas Waller, Knt., Lieut. of Dover Castle and the Cinque Ports, M.P. for Dover..... <i>ob.</i> July 1613	Thomas Waller.... <i>ob.</i> June 1705 Richard Waller .. <i>ob.</i> Dec. 1715 Thomas Waller .. <i>ob.</i> June 1731 Anne Waller ..... <i>ob.</i> Jan. 1780
Gen. Sir Wm. Waller, Knight <i>ob.</i> Sept. 1668	Anne Waller..... <i>ob.</i> April 1800 James Waller .... <i>ob.</i> Dec. 1802
Sir William Waller, Knight <i>ob.</i> Nov. 1700	Mary, mother of Sir I. W. Waller..... <i>ob.</i> Aug. 1804

*Extracted from the Family Records in the College of Arms,  
and from the Register of this Parish.*

I. W. WALLER, Bart. K. G. H.—May, 1826.



In the *Registrum Roffense* it is stated, that “ At the upper end of the nave, near the chancel, on several brass plates, are the effigies of a man, his wife, four sons, and four daughters, with this inscription :—‘ Of your charitie pray for the soules of Wylliam Waller, late of *Cromebridge* in the countie of Kent, esquyre, who lyeth here buried, and Anne his wife ; which Wylliam departed this mortall lyfe the xviii day of *January*, anno Domini M<sup>o</sup>.V<sup>o</sup>.L.V. and in the seconde and therde yere of the reigne of our soveraigne lord king Phillip, and our soveraigne ladye queene Mary.’ ” The modern brass it will be seen gives this event as having occurred in August.

An ancient and apparently a large mansion stood next to the churchyard. The whole of the front apartments have been removed, and the remainder of the mansion forms the hospitable dwelling of Mr. Martin. A part of the old wall is still standing in his garden.

“ The parishioners of Speldhurst are exempted from petty tithes, and they also plead the privilege of having no soldiers quartered upon them except on a march ; but, as the charter is lost, they are not very strenuous in



asserting this antiquated claim.”\* There were several places of note in this parish in ancient times ; among them, Ewhurst, Ferbies, Rusthall, and Hollands ; but they are now remembered by name only.† The Rev. J. J. Saint is the present rector of Speldhurst.

A quarter of a mile north from Speldhurst, at a place called *Bardens*, were formerly a foundry and forge for casting large cannon, and making divers sorts of iron work. It has long since been disused.

About a mile from the village, on the road to Penshurst, is *Pound's Bridge*, where, at the bottom of a hill, is a curious old half-timbered-house, with gables, barge boards, &c. The date in the front of it is 1593. Underneath this are the letters, “ W. D.” rather fantastically fashioned in wood, and “ ETA 69.” W. D. are the initials of William Darkenoll, a former rector of Penshurst, who died July 12, 1596.‡

\* Burr's “ Historical Account,” p. 157.

† “ Hollands ” will be more particularly noticed *en route* to Groombridge.

‡ Some very well-executed models of this, and other ancient houses in the neighbourhood, may be seen at the modeller's, Mr. Theophilus Field, Bedford Terrace, Tunbridge Wells.

## PENSURST.

Renowned abode of eloquence and song,  
 Gazed at with rapture by the passing throng ;  
 Birth-place of patriots, beauty's brightest bower—  
 Beauty—which charmed the poet's mystic power.

When Norman William, England's king was crowned  
 The Pencesters thy noble mansion owned ;—  
 Warriors and statesmen, rulers in the land ;  
 Learned in counsel, skilful in command.

*From " PENSURST," an unpublished Poem, by  
 T. T. LOTHERINGTON, Esq.*

THE village of Penshurst is situated at the north-west of the Wells, from which it is distant between six and seven miles, according to the road taken. The shortest, through Speldhurst, we have already mentioned ; there is also another by way of Langton and Crockhurst Hatch, but the pleasantest is *via* Southborough and Bidborough. Some think the name of this parish is derived from the Saxon words *pen* and *herste*, or the head of a wood, but others have, with more probability, taken it from the ancient records, where it is spelt *Pencester* and *Penchester*, from a fortified camp or ancient fortress that once stood upon the site of the old Place. We are disposed to incline to the latter conjecture, for the following reasons : first, from



the situation of Penshurst, surrounded, as it must have been, with forests, it could not be termed, properly, the *head* of a wood; and secondly, it is an indisputable fact, that it gave surname and residence to a family named *Pencestre*, long antecedent to the Conqueror.

The *Place* at Penshurst being the principal object of attraction to visitors, we shall first enter upon a description of it, although from the recent improvements effected in it and the alterations proceeding with, it is impossible to convey to the reader a correct idea of the original state of this once magnificent building, or its present splendid appearance. We have already stated that it was a place of some importance before the time of William the Norman; and, after being in possession of several dignified families, it was presented by Edward VI. to Sir William Sidney, who was made a knight banneret at the memorable battle of Flodden Field. Sir Henry Sidney, his son, and the favourite of that monarch, built the tower over the gateway of the principal entrance, and caused this inscription to be engraven on it, over the royal arms, which is still perfectly legible:—

The most religious and renowned Prince Edward the sixth, King of England, France and Ireland, gave this House of Poucester, with the Mannors, Landes and Appvrt-nances there vnto belonging, vnto his trvstye and well beloved Servant Syr William Sydney Knight, Bannaret, servinge him from the tyme of his Birth vnto his Coronation, in the Offices of Chamberlayne and Stvarde of his Hovshold, in Commemoration of which most worthie and famovs King, Syr Henrye Sydney, Knight of the most noble Order of the Garter, Lord President of the Covnsell established in the Marches of Wales, Sonne and Heyer to the afore named Syr William, cavsded this Tower to be byvlded, and that most excellent Princes Arms to be erected. Anno Domini, 1585.

Sir Henry Sidney enjoyed the friendship of Edward VI. to an unprecedented degree, that monarch, according to the early chroniclers, taking such delight in his company as rarely to give him leave of absence. Upon the death of Edward at Greenwich in 1552, Sir Henry, overpowered with grief, retired to Penshurst. He was afterwards distinguished by Queen Mary, and was appointed Lord Warden of the Marches of Wales, by Queen Elizabeth. He was four times Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, and three times Deputy Governor of that kingdom, where he greatly signalized himself in suppressing repeated dangerous rebellions, and in executing several public works, which greatly benefited the country. He died on the 5th May, 1585,



at Ludlow, in Shropshire, from whence his body was removed by command of Queen Elizabeth, and buried with great pomp in the chancel of Penshurst church. Sir Philip Sidney, son of the above, and author of the *Arcadia*, was born at Penshurst, on the 29th Nov. 1554. From the surpassing excellence of his talents he was styled the *Incomparable*, and whether we regard him as a warrior or a scholar, he was undoubtedly superior to most men of the age in which he lived. Being the first of that family born at Penshurst, a tree was planted in the park on that occasion, to which Ben Johnson alludes as

That tall tree too, which of a nut was set  
At his great birth, where all the muses met.\*

Sir Philip was killed at the battle of Zutphen in Holland, on the 22d Sept. 1586. The anecdote of his giving the wounded soldier the cup of water he needed himself, is too well

\* Considerable doubt has been thrown upon the implied belief that the very ancient tree now in the park is the identical tree referred to. Its extreme age will warrant such a supposition, and it must be remembered that the assertion of the "Bear's Oak," (for so it was called), having been blown down, is unauthenticated by any genuine document.

known to require repetition in these pages. Mr. Lotherington thus prettily alludes to the circumstance :—

As to his tent the wounded chief they bring,  
 He asks for water from the crystal spring.  
 'Tis brought—he drinketh not—and now—  
 Why doth he raise his cold and pallid brow ?  
 Behold yon dying soldier on the ground,  
 The life's red current gushing from his wound.  
 Brave Sidney turns—oh, hear him ere he die—  
 “ Give it to him, he needs it more than I.”\*

The celebrated “ *Arcadia*,” was written here by Sir Philip, in the 29th year of his age, during a temporary retirement from public business. In 1649, the young Duke of Gloucester and his sister, the princess Elizabeth, two of the children of the unfortunate Charles I. were consigned to the care of the Countess of Leicester, and remained with her at Penshurst about twelve months. This lady was the mother of Lady Dorothy, better known as the *Sacharissa* of the poet Waller, who was not a “ thriving wooer” ; the lady having married twice, first the Lord Sunderland, and secondly, Robert Smith, Esq. of Bidborough. At the latter wedding, which took place in

\* Penshurst, a (ms.) Poem.



1652, Mr. Evelyn, then on a visit at Groombridge, was present, as appears by the following memorandum in his diary: "July 9, We went to see Penshurst, y<sup>e</sup> Earl of Leicester's, famous once for its gardens and excellent fruit, and for the noble conversation which was wont to meete there, celebrated by that illustrious person S<sup>r</sup> Philip Sidney, who there composed divers of his pieces. It stands in a park, is finely water'd, and was now full of company on y<sup>e</sup> marriage of my old fellow collegiate, Mr. Rob<sup>t</sup> Smith, who married my Lady Dorothy Sidney, widow of the Earl of Sunderland."\*

Penshurst was also the birth-place of Algernon Sidney, the zealous republican, who, having set up Marcus Brutus for the "god of his idolatry," was beheaded on Tower-hill in 1683, for being concerned in the Rye-house plot.

Robert Sidney, third Earl of Leicester, and brother of Algernon, died at Penshurst in 1674. He was called the "handsome Sidney," and Burnett, in speaking of him says, "He was a graceful man, and had lived long in

\* Evelyn's Memoirs, vol. i. p. 267.

the court, where he had some adventures that became very public. He was a man of a sweet and caressing temper, had no malice in his heart, but too great a love of pleasure." In the "Essay on Satire," by Dryden and Howard, he is thus noticed :

And little Sid, for simile renowned,  
Pleasure has always sought, but never found :  
Though all his thoughts on wine and women fall,  
His are so bad, sure he ne'er thinks at all.

" Thus has Penshurst for a great number of years successively been the mansion of heroes, patriots, arts, arms, and beauty ;— few houses in this kingdom shine with such distinguished lustre, and none can have title to a superior place in the annals of fame."\*

The present noble proprietor, created Baron De L'Isle and Dudley in 1835, is the only son of Sir John Shelley-Sidney, Bart., who was the second son of the late Sir Bysshe Shelley, of Castle Goring, in the county of Sussex, Bart.

The principal front of this noble edifice extends upwards of 300 feet in length. It is a plain stone and brick building, without ornament, but the general appearance of it

\* Burr's " Historical Account," p. 185.

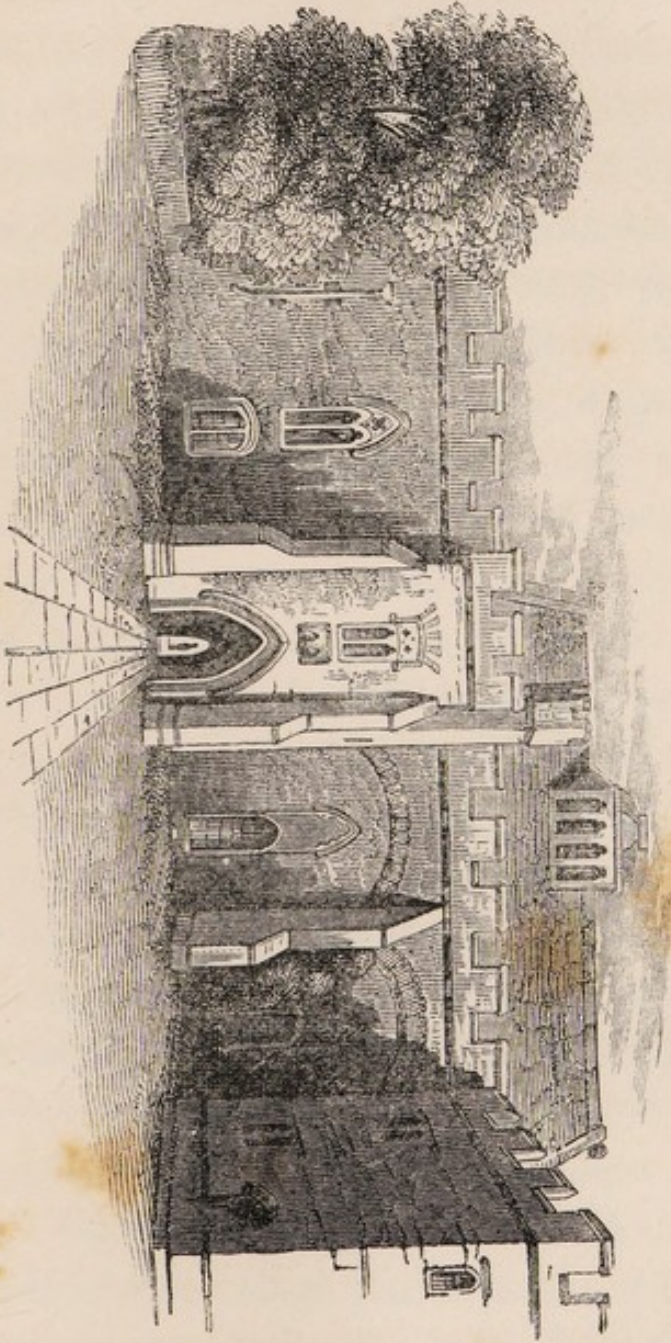


cannot fail to impress the mind with ideas of its ancient grandeur. Nearly the whole of the building has been restored to its original dimensions, from the designs and under the judicious management of Mr. Rebecca.

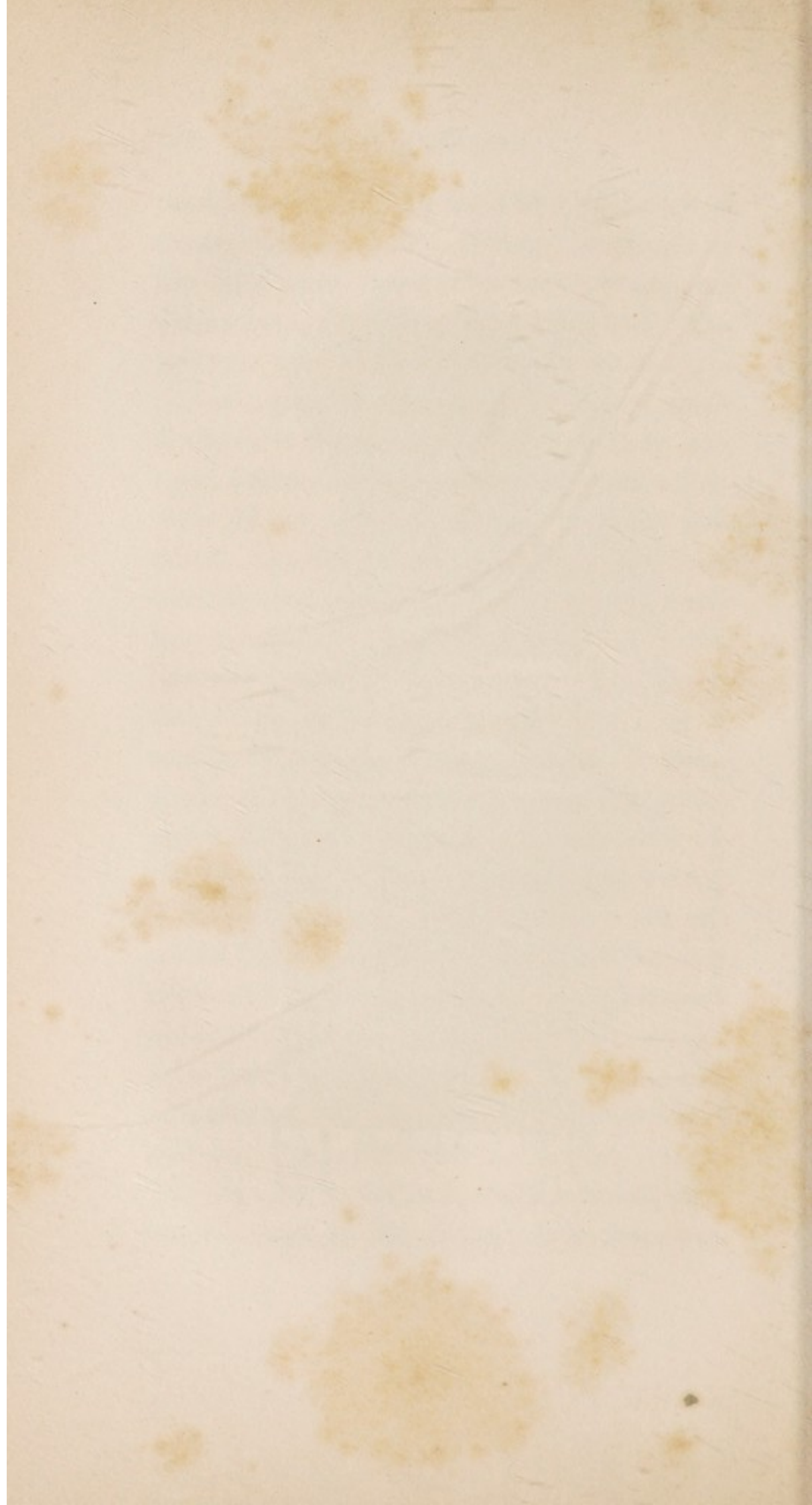
The mansion incloses a spacious quadrangle, to which the gateway already noticed forms the front entrance. It is this view of the building which our artist has taken, but the cupola or lantern has been recently removed. An inner portal opens into a corridor, where there are three arched doorways, leading to the buttery, kitchen, &c. This is divided from the hall by a screen, over which is a gallery for the minstrels; and from this gallery there were communications with the principal apartments on the north side of the mansion. The screen was once richly ornamented with carved armorial bearings, coronets, crests, and various devices; but these are in a great measure obliterated, faint traces of the original designs being barely perceptible. The fine old baronial hall is 54 feet long by 38 feet wide, and upwards of 60 feet in height. It is entirely open to the roof, which is ribbed with timber, and in the centre of it there was



PENSHURST—SECOND ENTRANCE GATEWAY.







an open louvre or lantern, for the purposes of ventilation and allowing the smoke to escape. Immediately beneath this is the original fireplace, and upon it is an immense bar, with large and-irons, or dogs, as they were more commonly called. At the upper end of the hall is the dais or raised platform, upon which the lord and his principal guests were regaled, whilst those of humbler class and his retainers feasted right merrily in the body of the hall. There are three antique tables now in the hall, which have possibly groaned under the weight of many a feast, and appear quite capable of performing similar duties for generations to come. At the upper end of the hall is an attempt at perspective painting, which is miserably executed. It represents Edward the Sixth in an old English habit, with his sceptre, standing on a pedestal, and the other portion of the painting is meant to represent a continuation of the hall. The design was good, and had the execution been at all equal to it, the effect must have been excellent. On the walls, niches are marked as if intended for paintings, and in these are figures in armour sketched with chalk. The floor is paved with red tiles, and underneath, ex-



tending the whole length of the hall, are remarkably fine crypts or vaults. Tradition states that "a long time ago" a gamekeeper was accidentally shot here by one of the female servants to whom he was betrothed.

From the hall a stone staircase leads into a saloon, called the ball-room. In the corners and centre of this room are six marble columns—two Egyptian green, two Sienna, and two Scagliola. There are also several tables of mosaic, representing figures and landscapes; a table of Sienna marble, and two of black marble, elaborately inlaid. At the end of the room are some steps leading into a gallery which communicates with the modern apartments. Near these steps are some ancient screens,—one of them a Chinese screen with hunting subjects. From the ceiling two cut glass chandeliers are suspended, with crowns at the top, said to be a royal present, and were probably thought magnificent at the period when they were given, though modern taste would reject them as *outré*. In this chamber Queen Elizabeth was once entertained with a *masque*, the chair of state being placed in the gallery already noticed. The paintings in this room are chiefly on

mythological subjects by H. Vanderbrocht. Over the fire-place is a portrait of Lady E. Sidney, by Sir Peter Lely. There is also a portrait of Lady Egerton, with other pictures. The iron back to the fire-place is dated 1693. The next room is called the *Page's room*, in which among others are the following paintings, &c. *Holy Family*, by A. del Sarton; *Old Parr*; *Practising for a Masque*, by Antoine de Massera; *Algernon Sidney*, by Julius Venus; *St. Hubert*, by Titian; *Catherine Cecil, Countess of Leicester*, by Lely; *Duns Scotus*; *Landscape*, by Teniers; *Fall of Phaeton*, by Julio Romano; *The Duchess of Portsmouth*; *Flowers*, by Caravaggio; a fine picture of a head, by Rembrandt; an engraving of Thomas Killebrew, groom of the bedchamber to Charles I.; a cabinet inlaid with birds and flowers; alabaster and china vases; a richly decorated bridle, martingale, and crupper, which belonged to George Villiers, duke of Buckingham. Next, is the *Queen's Drawing Room*, in which are some chairs highly ornamented; the frames richly carved and gilt, the down cushions and stuffed backs are crimson silk damask embroidered with gold; and of such



a weight that the exquisites of those times must have felt it a prodigious appeal to their gallantry when the "ladies fair" required their chairs to be removed. A brass cabinet, inlaid with tortoiseshell, is covered with curious and valuable antiques, many of them discovered at Herculaneum. Amongst the most remarkable of them is a skeleton modelled in wax, lying on crystal, which is said to have been found among the relics, and is conjectured by the virtuosi to have belonged to Celsus, the celebrated physician. There is also a petrified nest with eggs, said to be a pheasant's, but this has been doubted. The pictures in this room are chiefly of the Sidney family by Lely, Holbein, Mark Gerard, and Vandyke. There is one of Jane Wrotherly, countess of Rochford, by S. Netcher, in which the lady's hand and a dog are beautifully painted. In the *Tapestry Room* is an Egyptian green marble table and ornaments. The colouring of the old tapestry in this room is the finest imaginable, and bears an appearance of freshness and brilliancy, as if but newly hung. The subject of one is the triumph of Cybele, and on the opposite end of the room is Eolus unbarring the

portal of the winds, with Juno and her attendant nymphs looking on. The attitudes of the figures are perfectly true to nature, particularly that of the nymphs in the foreground. In the left corner the honeysuckles and other flowers are exquisitely finished. A small room adjoining this is called the *Second Page's Room*, in which was formerly a curious antique cradle, made of black wood, said to have belonged to George Villiers, duke of Buckingham; and there was also a glass-case here that contained several folio volumes and some MSS. from which Mr. Collins composed his memoirs of the Sidney family.\* The cradle is now *non est inventus*, and the case has been removed to the private apartments. There are a few pictures in this room, the principal of which are a *Madona and Sleeping Christ*, by Guido, and *Titian's Mistress*, by himself.

The Picture Gallery is about ninety feet long, with a recess similar to one at Charlecot in Warwickshire, belonging to the Lucys,

\* The best history of the Reigns of Queen Elizabeth and King James I. is to be found in the above Memoirs, which was published in two vols. folio. —*Oneley*, p. 18.



whom Shakspeare has immortalized. In the recess is a table of *lapis lazuli*, inlaid with the arms of the Sidney family, and contains *ninety-five* quarterings. They are beautifully executed. There is a cabinet here, a present from King James I. to Robert, first earl of Leicester. It is divided into small compartments, which are enriched with some fine paintings, chiefly scriptural, and figures of brass gilt. The gallery is well filled with paintings, many of which are by the first masters. Amongst them are two portraits of *Dorothy Sidney, Countess of Sunderland* (Sacharissa), by Vandyke. A large picture of *Apollo and the Muses*, by P. Lely; *The Percy Family in 1752*, David Corder Loder; cabinet picture, *Trial of a Deserter*, Heimkerk; *a Flemish Woman*, Terburgh; *Sir Thomas More*, Holbein; *Languet*, (Sir Philip Sidney's tutor,) 1564. Over this is *Lady Mary Dudley*, wife to Sir H. Sidney, and mother of Sir Philip. Near this is a painting on marble by Lambert Cristi Gori. The subject is a young peasant playing on a reed to his companion, a young girl with her distaff in her hand, but more absorbed with the music than mindful of her

work. An ancient *Female Head*, by Simon Mercoli, 1340. This picture formed part of the collection of King Charles I. *Martin Luther*, by Lucas Cranach. Several busts also adorn this gallery.

Returning to the great hall you proceed into what is called *The Minstrel's Gallery*, which abounds in ancient armour and various relics of the olden times. There are some iron shields; a variety of helmets and skull caps; knights' armour, horsemen's boots, partisans, &c. Most of these are of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. In "Meyrick's Ancient Armour," they are thus described: "The headpiece usually worn at this period, (1616) was a wide rimmed morrion, or a pot helmet; the corslets we found at Penshurst house were of this date." The boots appear to be of those worn by cuirassiers of the time of Charles II. The fire-arms are mostly "wheel-lock carabines" of that period. The helmets are described as worn in 1625, 1630, and 1640. The partisans (or halberds, as they are now termed,) were of the time of Elizabeth. Mr. Meyrick, in his description of these says, "A partisan embossed with exquisite workmanship, and



from a suit of 1583 (Elizabeth) : this partisan we found at Penshurst." The shields were of the same time. The long guns and rests which are ranged on the walls are thus mentioned: "The considerable execution done by small calibre probably caused the introduction of the musquet or mousquet. The English were not long before they introduced this new weapon from the Spanish ; it consequently displaced the harquebuss. It was, however, so long and heavy as to render necessary a kind of fork, called a rest, to place it on, when fired. On a march, when the musket was shouldered, the rest was carried in the right hand, and hung upon it by means of a sling or loop tied under its head."\* There is also a small piece of brass ordnance in this gallery, and, besides the implements of war, a most respectable row of wooden figures of kings and other high personages. These were originally decorated with paint and gilding, but have been so frequently *refreshed* with white lime, that they now present a most grotesque appearance. In what part of the mansion they originally

\* See also "Grose's Military Antiquities."

stood cannot be ascertained with any degree of accuracy ; but the opinion expressed by some writers, that they were placed in niches in the screen, is evidently erroneous, as the figures are much too large for such a situation. To the right of the gallery, through a small room, is an inner room, or cell, which has been used as a prison ; to the left, at the back of the Minstrels' gallery is a *suite* of apartments, called Lady Perry's. The rooms are all of oak wainscoting, and have a very ancient appearance ; nor is it improbable that this portion of the building may rank amongst the earliest erection.

In the inner quadrangle, the remains of which are very interesting, there is an old bell, that still retains its situation, although clearly a sinecure. The inscription on it is, " Robert, Earle of Leycester, at Penshurst, 1649."

The park belonging to this mansion was formerly of immense extent, and reckoned amongst the largest and finest in the kingdom ; being in some places four miles broad, and about ten or twelve miles round. Traces of the boundaries of it are met with at Leigh, to which no doubt it extended, as



well as to South Park in the opposite direction. At present it contains upwards of 200 acres, well planted with oak, beech, and chestnut trees ; and it is watered on the south side by the river Medway. A pleasant walk through the Park brings you to a step-stile, upon crossing which, a short distance to the right is the oak already referred to, supposed to be the " Bear's Oak," which is twenty-seven feet in circumference at five feet from the ground. It is quite hollow, and measures inside fourteen feet ; being ample room for ten or twelve people to stand within it. Near this is a fine piece of water called Lancup Well, where in the forenoon of August 17, 1799, the following distressing accident occurred to Philip Shelley, Esq., then in his twenty-first year. He was amusing himself in rowing about an Indian canoe, and either from his want of management, or not understanding it, upon a sudden gust of wind arising, the frail bark was overturned, and Mr. Shelley, becoming entangled in the weeds, was unfortunately drowned, in the presence of his brother, Sir John Shelley-Sidney, whose strenuous efforts to save him were without avail. Just beyond this, and

immediately facing the principal entrance to the mansion, from which it can be seen, are some trees called "Lady Gamage's Bower," from the circumstance of its being the place where Barbara Gamage, Countess of Leicester, took great delight in feeding several deer from her own hands. Nearly adjoining this is a row of trees called "Sacharissa's walk." There is also a traditional report, that a countess of Leicester was once taken in labour under, or near, a great oak in this park, which was afterwards called "My Lady's Oak," but no positive record or memorial is preserved to mark the spot. A fine heronry was formerly in the park, which was nearly the last in the kingdom, but no herons have been kept here for some time.\*

On a suitable piece of ground, fronting the mansion, the Penshurst Cricket Club occasionally exercise their skill, by permission of the noble proprietor. Near this a new road to the house, with a lodge entrance, is nearly completed; the present access from the village being through the churchyard.

Penshurst church is a venerable looking

\* Several modern Histories and Guides describe the Heronry here as a great object of attraction!!



building, dedicated to St. John the Baptist. From its situation there can be little doubt but that it was once within the extensive park. There are several ancient monuments in the church, of most distinguished families. The oldest is in the middle aisle, on a brass plate :—

“ Pray for the soulys of Watin Darnoldtt\* Johane and Annes his Wyfys the which Watin decessyd the 21 day of March in the year of our Lord God 1507 on whose soulys JHV have mercy Amen.”

The following are the principal inscriptions. On a stone in the middle aisle :—

Robert Kerwin doth now here liei  
A man of proved honestie,  
Whose sowl to heven hence did flie,  
To enjoy Christ his felicity,  
The seventh of Februarie. 1615.

On a brass plate in the chancel :—

Here lyethe the bodyes of Robert Pavie and Fraunces his wife, late servants to the honourable house of the Sydneies ever since the second yeare of queene Marie, which Fraunces was here buried the 15th day of Februarie, 1596, and Robert the 12th of October, 1600, who by his last will appointed this

\* This name, from the character in which it is engraved, can with difficulty be deciphered. It might possibly be for one of the “ Draynout ” family, but we have given it as well as we could trace it. The worthy old sexton who shews the church has it in his book “ Dymoke,” but this is certainly wrong.

monument to be layde in testimonie of his true love and faithfull service to the sayd honourable house.

In the south chancel, under the effigies in brass of a man and woman :—

Of your charite pray for the soules of Pawle Yden, gentilman, the sone of Thomas Yden, esquier, and Agnes his wyf, the whiche Pawle decessed the vi day of August, in the yer of our Lord M.V<sup>c</sup>.LXIII. on whose soules JHESU have mercy.—Amen.\*

On the north side of the chancel on a brass plate :—

Here lyeth William Darkenol, parson of this place, †  
Endyng his minsteri even this yeare of grace 1596

His father and mother, and wyves two, by name

<sup>80</sup> John, <sup>88</sup> Jone, and two <sup>50</sup> Margarets, <sup>67</sup> all lyved in good fame;

Their severall ages who lyketh to knowe,

Over each of their names the figures do shewe.

The sonnes and daughters now spronge of this race

Are fyve score and od in every place.

Deceased July the 12th Anno supradicto.

In the chancel on a brass plate is a record to the memory of the “ Rev. Jhon Bvst, God’s painfvll minister in this place the space of 21 years.” Next to this is a long inscription, dated 1727, for William Egerton,

\* “ Pawle Yden ” was the great-grandson of Sheriff Yden, who slew the rebel Cade.

† See p. 232.



LL.D. grandson to John, Earl of Bridgewater, who “received less honour from his noble descent than from his own personal qualifications.” At the west end of the chancel is a monument to Sir William Sidney, the first of that name who was Lord of Penshurst, 1515, and died in 1553. There is also in the chancel, an ancient but mutilated figure in stone, of a knight templar, supposed to be Stephen de Penchester, founder of the church; whose family, in the time of the Conqueror, was possessed of Penshurst place and manor, and of whom there is mention made in Domesday book. In the churchyard there is a very interesting memorial in remembrance of two young ladies named Allnutt. Within an iron palisading are planted roses, geraniums, clematis, cypress, &c.; and on two stones, one at the head, and the other at the foot of the grave, are the following lines:—

ON THE HEAD-STONE.

When all the pleasures of the world are past,  
 And all its little vanities are o'er;  
 Amidst the silent mansions of the dead,  
 Where cares torment, and joys delight no more.  
 Here, side by side, a kindred dear shall rest;  
 Hence, hand-in-hand before th' Almighty rise,

Together quit earth's cold and dreary breast,  
For brighter dwellings in Æthereal skies.

For love of parent, husband, wife, and child,  
So strongly planted in the human heart,  
Inspires the faith that they shall meet again  
In realms of bliss, where they shall never part!

Though sweet that faith, yet futile are our cares,  
For God has promis'd, and he will fulfil:  
And atoms scattered o'er the world's wide space  
Shall rise embodied, and perform his will!

ON THE FOOT-STONE.

Spare what thou seest, for spoil will but increase  
The bitter anguish of a Father's breast:  
Whose greatest joy, is thus to deck the tomb,  
And dress the green sod where his Children rest.

These fragrant Flowers, the fairest of their kind,  
Restore to memory, for ever dear;  
Some sweet bewitching grace of form or mind,  
And bloom the emblem of these buried here.

O're these sad graves, each gentle maid shall sigh,  
And sorrowing, raise her thoughts to Heaven above:  
Ah! gentle maid, may'st thou be spared to bless,  
With fond return, thine anxious parents' love.

The Rev. P. S. Dodd is the present rector of Penshurst. At the entrance to the churchyard are some very ancient dwellings, and a remarkably large tree. In other parts of the village are several genteel modern residences, and some very pretty rustic almshouses. There is an excellent inn and



posting-house here, called the *Leicester Arms*, kept by Mr. Taylor. The river Medway runs through the southern part of the parish; and if there be any faith in Acts of Parliament, this river ought to be made navigable from Tunbridge not only to this place, but also to Forest Row, that being the stipulation upon which the Medway Company's charter was granted.

REDLEAF HOUSE is situated at the north-west corner of Penshurst Park, and formerly belonged to the Spencers of St. Albans. Gilbert Spencer resided here in the reigns of Charles II. and William III.; and one of his descendants, Abraham Spencer, was Sheriff of the county in 1736. It is now the property of William Wells, Esq., who has greatly improved it. The gardens and pleasure grounds are laid out with the most refined taste, and the house is adorned with a superb collection of pictures by the most esteemed ancient and modern artists. Mr. Wells' taste as a connoisseur of the fine arts is so well known that it would be superfluous to enlarge upon it.

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## LEIGH,

Or *Lyghe*, is a small parish eastward from Penshurst, and sometimes called in ancient writings *La Lye*, from a family that probably derived its surname from the place. The church is a remarkably old building, and quite diminutive in size. It is dedicated to St. Mary, and has some good specimens of painted glass in the windows. In the chancel there are three brass plates removed from some grave stones, and nailed on the floor of a pew. There is also a brass plate representing the effigies of a woman in her shroud lying in a tomb; underneath which, on the side of the tomb, is this curious distich, in black letter :—

**Farre well, all ye,  
Tell you come to me.**

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About half a mile from Penshurst is SOUTH PARK, formerly belonging to the great park, from which it was alienated. The house is prettily situated on an eminence, and is built in the castellated style. It is the property and residence of I. P. Lloyd, Esq.

If the visitor to Penshurst should wish to



extend his ride he will be gratified in proceeding to Chidingstone and Hever.

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### CHIDINGSTONE

Is a very neat and pleasant village eight miles from the Wells. The name of it is said to be derived from a large stone, which now stands in the park belonging to — Streatfeild, Esq., and was anciently called the “chiding-stone,” from its being the place where females addicted to scolding were seated while they were chided by the priest. Happily for this part of the county the necessity for such a mode of correction no longer exists ; the word “scold” is becoming obsolete, and the fair sex now prattle without any fear of having a temporary seat on the “chiding-stone,” which has for some generations held its situation “more in mock than use.” The church is a remarkably handsome building, dedicated to St. Mary. The tower steeple at the west end is justly reckoned amongst the finest specimens of architecture to be found in Kent, and it contains a peal of eight richly-toned bells.\*

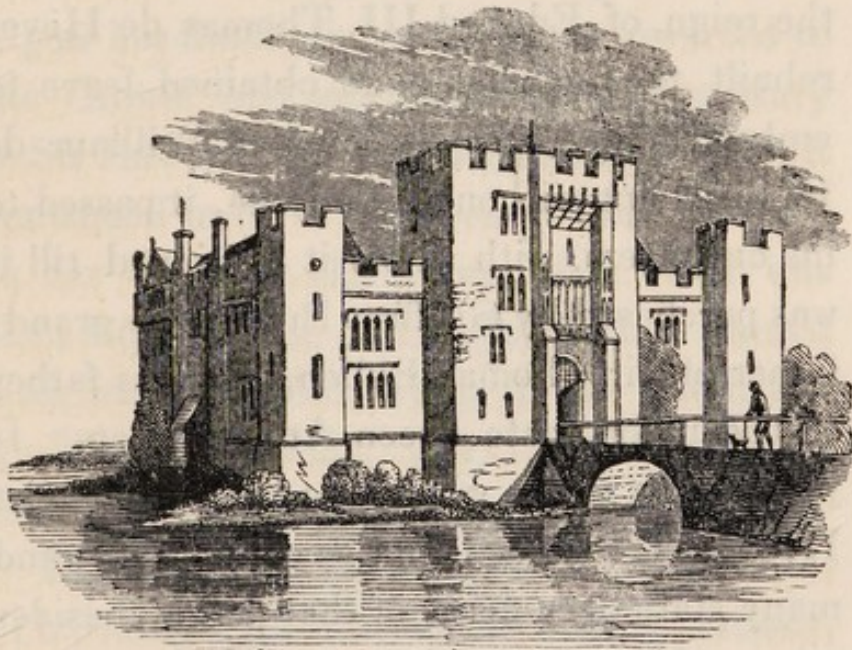
\* It would be unjust to the musical taste of this village not to notice a Choral Society that has been

There are several handsome monuments in the church, and on an iron plate in the middle aisle is the following inscription :—

Loe here the corpes of Richard Streatfielde, green in yere, but ripe in faith and frutes, yet soone God hath his soule, this town his fame ; the poor a portion large of all his worldly stoore.

Vivit post funera virtus.

Obijt 15 die Septembris, anno 1601, ætatis suæ 40.



#### HEVER

Is situated about a mile from Chidingstone, and ten miles from the Wells. The castle is

established here. Whilst dining at the *George Inn*, in February last, we heard some members of this society practising in an adjoining room ; and we can truly say that their performances, both vocal and instrumental, were highly creditable to them.



a highly interesting place to visit, not merely from the excellent preservation in which this "domestic fortress" is maintained, but from the many historical reminiscences connected with it. It was originally a portion of the patrimony of Sir Stephen de Penchester, but afterwards became the property of a family named Hever, from an estate at Hever, near Northfleet in this county. In the reign of Edward III. Thomas de Hever rebuilt the mansion, and obtained leave to embattle it. His descendant William de Hever dying without male issue, it passed to his daughters, with whom it continued till it was purchased by Geoffrey Bullen, the grandfather of Sir Thomas Bullen, who was father of the unfortunate queen Anna Bullen. It was at this castle where the gross sensualist Henry VIII. wooed and won his bride, and many state documents of that period, besides others of a more tender and private nature, are dated from Hever.\* After her death

\* A volume of curious correspondence between Henry VIII., his wives and great officers of state, was published some few years since, from the records in the State Paper Office, which is well worthy a perusal.

the castle was declared forfeited to the king, by whom it was given to his fourth wife, Anne of Cleves, who remained sometime here after her repudiation. In the volume we have referred to, is a letter of congratulation from this lady to Queen Mary, her daughter-in-law, on occasion of her marriage with King Philip II. of Spain. It is dated "From my poure house of Hever, the 4th off August, 1554." Upon her death the estate again reverted to the Crown, and was given by Queen Mary to Sir Edward Waldegrave, in whose family it continued until 1715, when it was conveyed to Sir William Humfreys, Bart. who was then Lord Mayor of London. It remained with him till 1745, when it was purchased by Timothy Waldo, Esq. of Lyons, whose family still possess it.

The castle, which is entire, is a large mass of building with buttresses, machicollations, square towers, embrasures, &c., and some apartments have recently been fitted up in accordance with the style of the building, and with much taste, by Mr. Robinson, architect, of London, for the occasional residence of Mrs. Waldo, of Clapham Common, to whom the estate belongs. A moat, formed



by the river Eden, surrounds the building, over which there is a stone bridge leading to the grand entrance, under the principal tower. In the gate way is the portcullis, still very perfect. Inside this gateway is a quadrangle, round which the domestic offices are arranged. Crossing the quadrangle you enter the great hall, in which is a large and ancient oak table, according to the fashion of former times. The great staircase leads to the principal chambers — among others to the chapel, which is now divided into several apartments. The gallery, which is about 100 feet long, and 14 or 15 feet wide, like the chapel and the other rooms, is wainscoted with small oaken panels. A recess on one side of this gallery, ascended by two steps, contains a seat capable of holding ten or a dozen persons. Tradition states that this was used as a throne when the king visited the castle, but as it never appears that he kept up any state here, this may be doubted. At the opposite end of the gallery is a trap door in the floor, which it is said opens into a dungeon, that reaches as far as the moat. This, however, is more than apocryphal, as our honest *cicerone* assured us that a short

ladder reached to the bottom of it. In one of the chambers an old-fashioned bedstead and some antique chairs are said to have belonged to Anna Bullen, who was immured here after her disgrace; and in a corner of this room is a sort of closet, with the window walled up, where it is stated she was placed whenever closer confinement was deemed necessary. Over the entrance gate is a drawing-room very tastefully fitted up with all modern conveniences, but in perfect unison with the style of the building. The entrance to this room is up some stone steps in the left hand tower; a gallery which runs across the end of it leads to the top of the tower. There is an appearance of romance about this gallery, when looking at it from the room, that brings fresh to the memory many of the scenes which Mrs. Radcliffe's prolific imagination delighted to pourtray; where knights and damsels made their escape from the tyranny of some naughty baron—the only way to regain their liberty being by proceeding with “stealthy step and slow” through a gallery that looked down upon the apartment where the cruel tyrant and his retainers were wassailing and carousing. Such



a gallery is this at Hever ; but the handsome and well furnished apartment it looks down upon, destroys the romance. There are some good family pictures in this room, and a small portrait on panel of Queen Anna Bullen, which has been preserved with almost religious veneration by the different possessors of the castle. The oak mantle piece is very richly carved, and divided into compartments, containing the arms of Carey and Bullen ; Carey and Waldo ; Bullen and Howard ; King Henry VIII. and Bullen. The andirons assimilate to the general decorations of the room.

From the miserable state of the roads at that period, whenever the king visited Hever, notice of his approach was given by the sounding of horns on the top of the hills behind the castle.

The church is at the eastern end of the village, and is a small building with a neat spire. It is dedicated to St. Peter, and bears strong marks of antiquity. There is a gravestone in the aisle for Margaret wife of William Cheyne, dated 1419. An altar tomb stands in the north chancel, with a large figure in brass of Sir Thomas Bullen,

Knight of the Garter, &c., in his robes and collar of the order ; and on a brass plate is this inscription :—

Here lieth Sr Thomas Bvllen, Knight of the Order of the Garter, Erle of Wilscher and Erle of Ormvnde, wiche decessed the 12 dai of Marche in the Yere of ovr Lorde 1538.

In opening an adjoining vault, in the summer of 1838, some of the brickwork belonging to the Bullen vault was displaced, and through the aperture it could be seen, that the oak coffin had wasted away, but the leaden, or inner one, appeared perfect after a lapse of three centuries. Upon a brass plate in the wall is the figure of a man kneeling at a desk, with a black letter inscription for William Todde, who died in 1585. In the belfry, or rather entrance porch, is an altar tomb, with a brass plate bearing a French inscription, nearly illegible, to the memory of John de Cobham, who died in 1399, Dame Johane de Leukenore, his wife, and Renaud, their son. This plate was formerly on a stone in the belfry, but becoming loose and broken, it was removed to its present situation to preserve it.\*

\* In Ireland's "History of Kent," which in general is a very accurate work, the original stone, and the altar tomb, are mentioned as two distinct memorials.



## EDENBRIDGE

Is about two miles from Hever, and takes its name from the river Eden, which runs through here, and joins the Medway at Penshurst. The church is a large and handsome building, and in ancient times was celebrated for a crucifix of excellent workmanship. The rood loft, in which this image stood, still remains; and there is enough painted glass left in the windows to prove that at one time they must have been very handsome.

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Proceeding from the Wells to Groombridge you cross Rusthall Common. As you leave this, to the left is the residence of Captain Cooper; a little beyond which, on the same side of the road, is Miss Bowen Harding's. Next to this is *Mitchells*, the property of John Carruthers, Esq. This mansion was destroyed by fire in 1837. A new house, beautifully situated as regards prospect, is now being erected, from the designs of Messrs. Dunk and Stevens, architects, Tunbridge Wells. The views on each side of the road to

## LANGTON,

Which is two miles from Tunbridge Wells, are extremely pleasant. At Langton Green is the residence of Baden Powell, Esq., and on the left of the road is the estate of Bingham Richards, Esq., the friend of Henry Salt, the celebrated Abyssinian traveller. Adjoining this is

## HOLLANDS,

One of the manors already mentioned as being in the parish of Speldhurst. Nothing remains of the original mansion, which was once the property and residence of Joanna of Kent, the daughter of Edmund of Woodstock, Earl of Kent, and uncle to Edward III. "This young lady," says Benge Burr, "appears to have been a woman of great beauty and distinguished gallantry; and was that famous lady to whom, it is said, we owe the noble order of the garter. In the early part of her life she was contracted to Sir Thomas Holland, but while he was engaged abroad in the wars of France, she was prevailed on to wed the young Earl of Salisbury. Soon after this, being at Werk castle in Northumberland, she ordered her garrison to interrupt the rear of the king of Scotland's army in his



retreat from England, which so incensed him that he turned back and besieged her. The young lady, but little frightened at the number of his forces, repulsed the king several times, and kept his army at bay till relieved by Edward III. When Sir Thomas Holland returned to England, he presented a petition to the pope, pleading his pre-contract with the lady. This was held good, and she was divorced from Lord Salisbury, and married to Sir Thomas Holland, who built a mansion here, and afterwards became the Earl of Kent. At his death he left one son, and his countess a rich young widow, who at the end of one year married Edward the Black Prince!" The site of the old mansion has long been lost, but there are appearances near the present house, of an orchard and the remains of a garden, which possibly belonged to the ancient dwelling. This estate has been lately purchased by the Rev. H. Cholmondeley, who has built an elegant modern mansion called *Holland Farm*, just below where the original is supposed to have stood. Some short distance from this, diverging to the right, is *Crockhurst Hatch*, which leads through *Chafford* to *Penshurst*.

## CHAFFORD

Is another ancient manor in the neighbourhood, for many years the property and residence of the Rowe's and Rivers's. It derives its name from a ford of early date across the Medway, which is here a considerable stream. The principal object at this place is the paper manufactory of Mr. R. Turner, which is well worth inspecting. Immediately facing the lodge leading to these mills, on the right, is a very ancient house with a porch in front of it, and beyond this is *Spring Hill*, occupied by Mr. Austin. This latter house has evidently been of some importance. It appears to have been a square building, of which one entire wing remains. There must have been a corresponding wing to the present, and the arched entrance doorway seems to have stood in the centre of the building, the addition to the original wing being comparatively modern. Under the gable in front of the house, is a date, 1622, and the initials, W. A. L. ; and beneath these are *fleurs de lis*. Of this latter ornament there are several in different parts of the house externally, and from these we



should judge that it was once the property, and probably the residence, of the family of *La Lye*, who were afterwards settled at Leigh near Penshurst. Supposing this conjecture to be correct, (and the conceit upon "*la Lye*," or lily, would go far towards confirming it,) this house must have been one of the most ancient in the county.

To the left of *Crockhurst Hatch*, leaving *Ashurst Park*, the residence of W. H. Hoare, Esq. on the right, is the road to

### ASHURST,

Which owes its derivation to the Saxon word *Ashyrst*, or the wood of ashes. At *Stone Cross*, near this place is a chestnut tree, by the road side, which measures 30 feet in girth. There is a singular old church here, and a large branch of the Medway, but of the place itself and the ancient Rood which was formerly erected here, we cannot do better than quote from the earliest authorities. Kilburne says, "The church was once famous for a rood or crucifix miraculously growing (as was pretended), of which who desires to read more, I refer him to *Mr. Lambert's*

*Perambulations in Ashurst.*"\* Lambard records,†—

"In the south-east corner of this shire, towards the confines of Sussex and Surrey, lieth Ashurst, a place now a days so obscure (being little better than a town with two houses,)‡ that it is not worthy the visiting: but yet in old time so glorious for a Rood which it had of rare property that many vouchsafed to bestow both their labour and money upon it. It was beaten, forsooth, into the heads of the common people, (as what thing was so absurd, which the clergy could not make the world then to believe?) that the rood or crvcifix of this church, did by certain increments continually wax and grow, as well in the bush of hair it had on the head, as also in the length and stature of the members and the body itself. By means whereof it came to pass, that whereas before time the fruits of the benefice, were hardly able to sustain the incumbent, now by the benefit of this invention, (which was in papistry, *novum genus aucupij*) the parson there was not only furnished by the offering to live plentifully, but also well aided toward the making of a rich hoard."

The manner of making those roods is more particularly described, p. 228 in the same work, where a trick practised upon the

\* "Survey of Kent," 1659. p. 15.

† P. 421. ed. 1596.

‡ In justice to the village, we must remark, that the number of houses and inhabitants have greatly increased since Lambard wrote.



monks at Rochester, by a carpenter, is thus narrated :—

“ The ungracious Roode of Grace. He compacted of wood, wire, paste, and paper, a Roode of such exquisite art and excellence, that it not only matched in comeliness and due proportion of the parts the best of the common sort; but in strange motion, variety of gesture, and nimbleness of joints, passed all other that before had been seen: the same being able to bow down and lift up itself, to shake and stir the hands and feet, to nod the head, to roll the eyes, to wag the chaps, to bend the brows, and finally, to represent to the eye, both the proper motion of each member of the body, and also a lively, express, and significant show of a well-contented or displeased mind: biting the lip, and gathering a frowning, forward, and disdainful face, when it would pretend offence: and showing a most mild, amiable, and smiling cheer and countenance, when it would seem to be well pleased.”

The Rev. William Ramsden, the rector of this parish, has recently built a mansion here, called “ The Mount.” It is most romantically situated, and is fitted up internally with great taste. The grounds are well laid out, and a communication is formed between them over the road, by a rustic bridge, which produces a pleasing effect.

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## GROOMBRIDGE

Is four miles from the Wells, and was one of the most complete old English villages that we have seen, until the spirit of improvement advanced upon it, and converted some of the ancient houses into modern ones. Still, however, much of its original character is preserved, and the old moated house will always maintain an interest which no alteration can destroy. It was originally called Gromenbridge, from a noble Saxon, named Gromen, who was the proprietor of it, and it afterwards became the property in succession of several distinguished families, till it was purchased by Sir Richard Waller, in the reign of Henry V. This worthy knight greatly distinguished himself at the ever memorable battle of Azincourt, where he was fortunate enough to take the Duke of Orleans prisoner, and for his bravery on the occasion he was allowed by Henry to keep him in honourable confinement at Groombridge. Historians are divided as to the term of the duke's captivity here. Philipot says 24 years; Speed, 26 years; and Dugdale, 25 years. He was at last released by the medi-



ation of the Duke of Burgundy, upon the payment of a ransom of 300,000 crowns,\* although strongly opposed by Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester. The Duke of Orleans is esteemed by the French authors as one of the best poets of his age; and in the British Museum a large collection of his poems, in the French language, is extant in ms. Besides these, he is said to have composed several sonnets in English, but of these no specimen remains. In gratitude for the generous treatment he met with during his captivity, he rebuilt the old house, which was formerly a four square castle, occupying the whole space, and inclosing an inner court. The house thus rebuilt by the Duke of Orleans, after passing through several possessors, was again reduced, and rebuilt upon a more contracted plan by John Packer, Esq., Clerk of the Privy Seal to Charles I., who also built a votive chapel of ease to the parish church of Speldhurst. The old chantry is supposed to have been in the chapel within the park.† The Duke also assigned to Sir Richard Waller and his heirs for ever this honourable

\* Dugdale says 400,000 crowns.

† See Philipot, Hasted, Burr, and Oneley.

addition to their family arms, the escutcheon of France suspended upon an oak, with the motto, "Hi fructus virtutis." Many conjectures have been surmised relative to the date of the present building. That the original house was at least double the size of the present mansion, must be evident to all those who have seen other moated houses, the outer walls of which are, we believe, invariably close to the water; but we have the authority of Evelyn for fixing nearly the period at which this mansion was built. He appears to have visited it twice, and his visits are thus recorded in his diary :

"July 4, 1652. I heard a sermon at Mr. Packer's Chapell at Groomsbridge, a pretty melancholy seate, well wooded and water'd. In this house was one of the French kings kept prisoner. The chapell was built by Mr. Packer's father, in remembrance of King Charles the First, his safe returne out of Spaine."

"1674, Aug. 6. I went to Groomsbridge to see my old friend Mr. Packer, the house built within a moate, in a woody valley. The old house had ben the place of confinement of the Duke of Orleans, taken by one Waller, (whose house it then was,) at the battle of Agincourt, now demolish'd, and a new one built in its place, tho' a far better situation had ben on the South of the wood, on a graceful ascent. At some small distance is a large chapell not long since built by Mr. Packer's father, on a vow he made to do it on



the return of King Charles I. out of Spaine, 1625, and dedicated to St. Charles, but what saint there was then of that name I am to seeke, for, being a Protestant, I conceive it was not Bonomeo.”\*

The inscription over the door of this chapel still remains, the prince's crest having been fresh carved. “D. O. M. 1625. ob felicissimi Caroli Principis ex Hispaniâ reducis Sacellum hoc D. D. J. P.”

It is probable that the present building is nearly a transcript of the old, but it is much disfigured by a modern colonnade extending from wing to wing, and which altogether destroys the character of it. In front of the house are two remarkably tall fir trees, and a short distance from it is a noble piece of water extending to the village. In the churchyard is a very ancient thorn, which “auld wives” say, was planted by a despairing lover of Cecily Nevill, the “Rose of Raby,” (afterwards Duchess of York, and mother to King Richard III.,) who was said to be on a visit to Groombridge at the time. There was formerly an extensive park here, which probably included the whole of the present village, as there can be no doubt that the chapel

\* Evelyn's Memoirs, vol. i. pp. 267 and 470.

once stood within its bounds. The present proprietor of the *Place* is William Saint, Esq. There is a very ancient house nearly facing the chapel, which was possibly built from some remembrance of the early moated house.

About a mile from the village is *Burr's Wood*, the property of David Salomons, Esq: high sheriff of the county, who has recently erected a very elegant mansion in the Elizabethan style, from the plans of Decimus Burton, Esq. It is pleasantly situated, and the grounds around it are laid out with much taste. There is a lodge entrance to it from the village.

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### WITHYHAM

Is a pleasant village in the county of Sussex, seven miles from Tunbridge Wells. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, stands upon an eminence, near the parsonage house, and is a large and handsome edifice, in the style of the 15th century. The original edifice was destroyed by lightning on the 16th June, 1663, and was rebuilt, according to the "History of Sussex," in 1689, but there is a date of 1666, on the font, and another of



1672 on the porch, which would indicate that the rebuilding took place very soon after the destruction of it. There are some fine monuments in the church, principally of the Dorset family. The Dorset chancel has an elegantly carved ceiling with a figure of an angel in the centre. The frame work around has fruit and flowers beautifully carved. The mausoleum of the Sackville family is under the chancel. John Sackville, an ancestor of the Dorset family, in his will, dated 1556, directs, "that my poore, synful carkase be buried within the church of Witheam if I chaunce to change this uncertayn liffe, at Chiddingleigh, or within XII or XIII miles of the same, in such place as then shall be most conveniente, by myne executors and frendes, if I doe not prepare the place by my liffe. Which buriall, yt it be wethoute pompe or pride or vayn glorie of this world; so that the most of my goodes may be given to the poor of Witheam and Hartfield, and Chiddingleigh, and other places, wher my lands lieth, wherewith I have had lyving." There are several monuments in the church from the chisels of our best sculptors, the principal of which are the



following :—John Frederick, duke of Dorset, ob. 1799, æt. 55, by Nollekins ; George John Frederick, duke of Dorset, (who at the age of twenty-one years was killed in Ireland, by a fall from his horse, in 1815), by Flaxman, ; Arabella Diana, duchess of Dorset, ob. 1825, æt. 58, by Chantry. There is also a monument with a singular latin inscription, written by himself, to the memory of the Rev. Richard Rands, B. D. 1640.\*

\* The following is a free translation of the above :  
This is the epitaph of Richard Rands, of York, B. D. formerly fellow of Trinity College, Oxford, Rector of this Church. He left this, and dedicated it to his own memory. He departed this life, A. D. 1640.

Here lies a man unworthy of a name,  
Since whilst he lived renown he ne'er obtain'd ;  
To transient worldly trifles long he clung,  
Thrice fifteen years collected sordid wealth ;  
Obscure he dwelt, and ever shunned the crowd  
Who to vine-crowned Bacchus raise the song.  
But though retired, unworthily he lived,  
And him the gloomy tomb at length receives.  
Good reader ! if thou'rt wise, he, speechless, tells  
What he, alas ! full late began to know ;  
Soon mayest thou learn to *live*, but learn to *die*.  
Worms must thy flesh devour, that doom is fixed,  
A worm to worms, ashes to ashes turn.  
To sin a slave, at length I wisdom sought,  
Before my death almost by Satan snared,  
But Jesus saw him, and his rage rebuked ;  
Thence, wretched sinner ! I refreshment found.  
In Thee, light of the world ! my hope ! my life !  
My great salvation ! I securely trust.  
Mortals ! farewell. Vain earthly mockeries ! hence.  
Sleeping I wait till the shrill trump shall sound.



In the churchyard against a buttress on the east end, is an iron slab, probably cast in the neighbourhood, with this inscription :—

Heare lieth H Wilyam A Lfrey late of Wythih Am Yeoman, which Ende D His life The 15 day Jvne an No Do 1610.

And near this on a raised grave-stone :—

One the 28 of Septembe R Anno Dom 1612 was Ri Chard May Nard of Co Zleigh Bvr ied.

The Rev. Mr. Davis is the present incumbent.

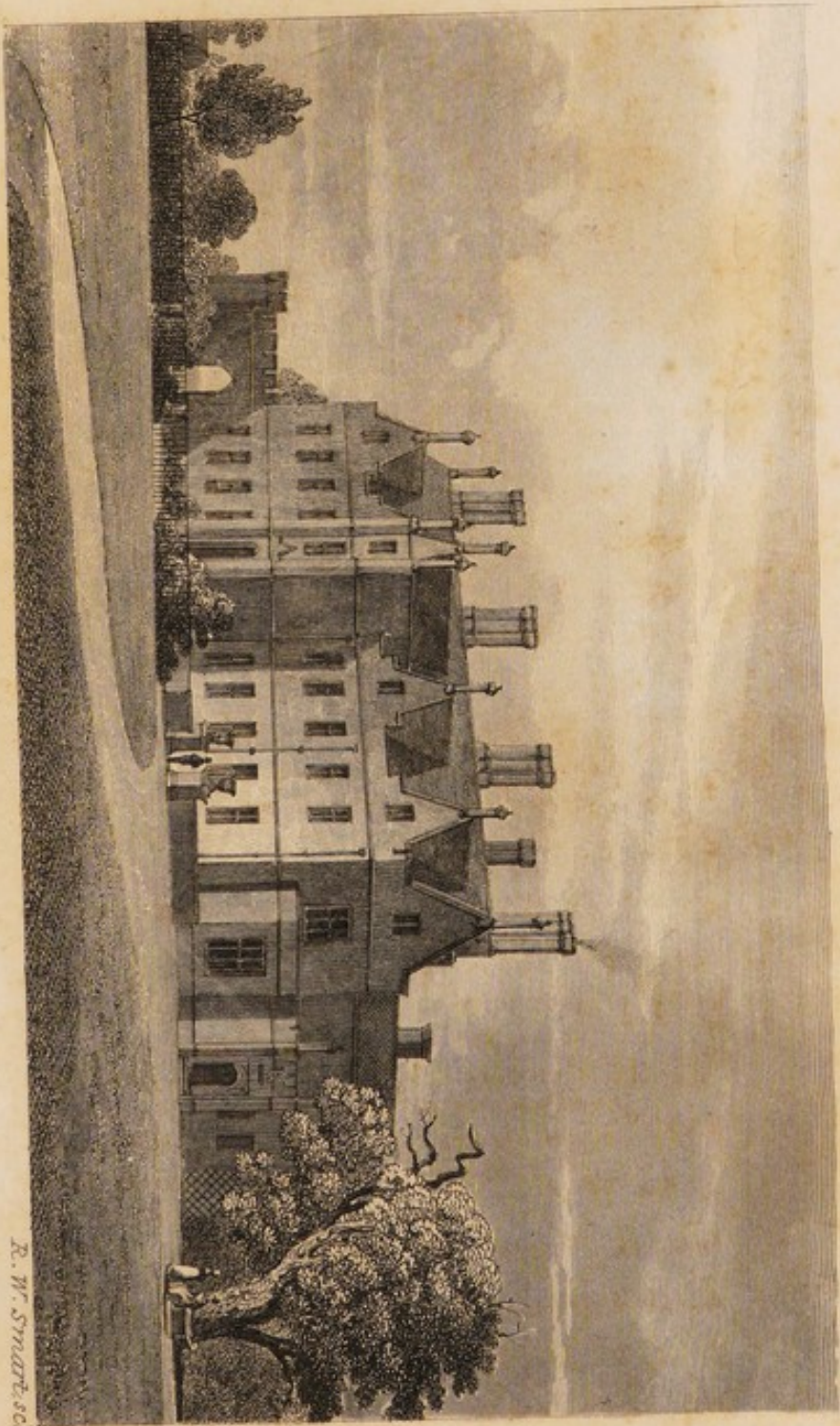
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## BUCKHURST.

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A SHORT distance from Withyham church is the only remaining tower of the once magnificent seat of the Sackvilles. From the ground plan it appears to have been an immense pile of buildings, covering an area of 260 feet in front, with a depth of 200 feet. There were eight towers, and in front was the tower gateway, which still remains in good preservation. The site of nearly the whole building can be traced without much difficulty, and the remains of the ancient hall, which was 55 feet long and 40 wide, are now used as a barn. The tennis court was

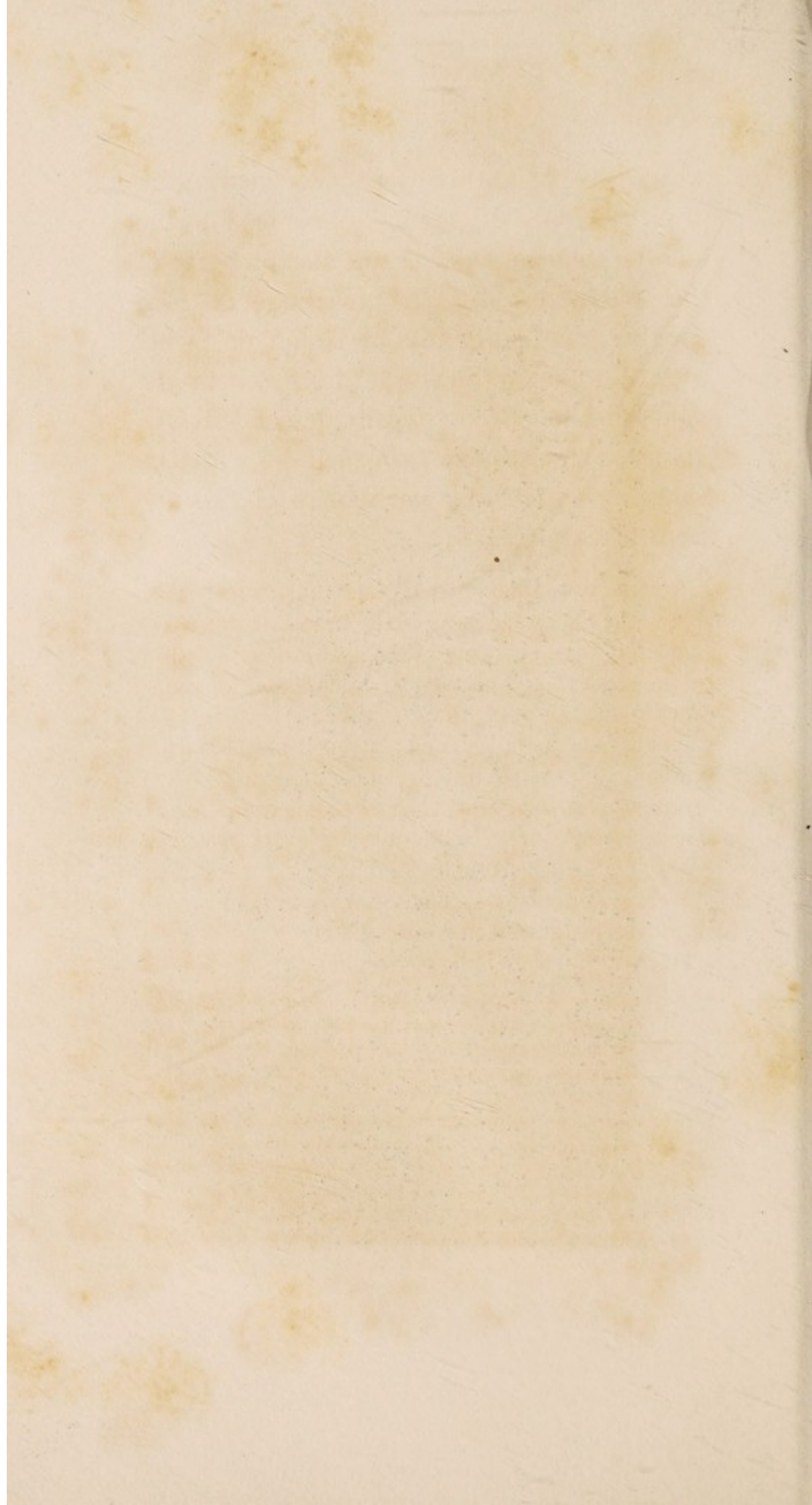




BUCKHURST PARK.

*The Seat of the Rt Hon. the Earl De La Warr.*





55 feet long, and the several apartments were in proportion. It originally belonged to the family of Dene, and became the property of the Sackvilles by the marriage of Ela, daughter and co-heiress of Ralph de Dene, with Jordan de Sackville, from whom the dukes of Dorset were lineally descended. An unknown friend has furnished us with the following interesting particulars of this ancient place :—

At what time Buckhurst House, the ancient mansion of the Sackvilles, was built, is matter rather of conjecture than certainty. Queen Elizabeth is stated, in the course of one of her progresses, amongst other places of note, to have visited Buckhurst. It would appear to have been an object of much emulation among the nobility to receive and suitably entertain the royal guest, though the tax imposed on them in consequence was enormous; and none but houses on the largest scale could have been competent to receive her retinue. The following curious record on the subject, connected immediately with the visit to Buckhurst, occurs in the account of her various excursions. ‘19th Q. Elizabeth. The queen, this summer, took her progress into Kent, Surry, and Sussex. Now was the Lord Buckhurst to receive her at his house in Sussex; therefore sent he to the Earl of Sussex, Lord Chamberlain, to understand when her Majesty’s pleasure was to come into those parts; that as the Earl of Arundel and others, expecting her presence with them, had made great provision for her, so



he might not be wanting in his : being fain to send into Flanders to supply him ; the others having drawn the country dry before him.' He adds, ' If her Highness had tarried but one year longer, his House would by that time had been more fitted for her entertainment.' This letter is dated July the 4th, 1577.

In 1782 appeared a third edition of Walpole's Anecdotes of Paintings in England, from the Supplement to which is made the following extract:—' By favor of the Earl of Warwick I am enabled to bring to light a very capital artist, who designed and improved most of the principal and palatial edifices erected in the reigns of Eliz. and Jas. I., tho' even his name was totally forgotten. I am empowered by the same condescension to point out a volume of drawings of that architect, *John Thorpe*, who has left a folio of plans of Somerset House ; of Buckhurst House, *an immense pile* ; of Woollaton ; Copthall ; Burleigh House ; Burleigh on the Hill, the Duke of Buckingham's ; Sir Walter Cope's, now Holland House, at Kensington ; Giddy Hall in Essex ; Audley End (Braybrook) ; Amphill, now called Houghton ; and Amphill old House, another spacious palace, in which Catherine of Arragon some time resided, and of which, he says, he himself gave the plan of enlargement ; and Kirby, of which he says he laid the first stone in 1570.' It appears, then, that the works alluded to in the letter from Lord Buckhurst to the Earl of Sussex, were at that time carrying on, under the direction of this hitherto unknown, but eminent and favourite artist. The initials I. T. in old characters, inscribed over the gateway of a tower, detached from the house, (the only building which now remains) mark that to have been erected at this time, and to have been the work



of Thorpe. Thos. Sackville, Lord Treasurer to Queen Elizabeth, who was made Earl of Dorset by James I. obtained Knole, on account of its nearness to London, and the *great foulness* of the roads to Buckhurst: thus Buckhurst was deserted, and it appears that Thorpe was the last resident there. Rob. Sackville, 2<sup>d</sup> Earl dying Feb. 27, 1608-9, bequeathed £1000 for the endowment of an hospital in the town of East Grinstead, for poor persons, to be called Sackville College, which was completed in 1616, by his successor, Richard, 3<sup>d</sup> Earl. This college is a large substantial stone building; and, as appears from an account-book found in the collection of a deceased antiquary, so late as the year 1707, wherein the particulars of the expense were detailed, was actually built with the materials of Buckhurst, conveyed thither for that purpose.

“ Before the destruction of Buckhurst, another house had been erected on a very beautiful situation in *Stoneland Park*, which was separated by a road only from that of Buckhurst. It is said to have been designed as a lodge for the keeper; but received considerable additions from the first duke of Dorset, who made it his occasional summer retreat. His son, Lord George Germaine, afterwards created Viscount Sackville, constantly resided here during the summer, till his decease in 1785. Stoneland was for some years inhabited by Lord Whitworth and the Duchess of Dorset, who much improved the house and grounds; and having re-united to the park a portion of what once constituted that of Buckhurst, restored to the whole the name of *Buckhurst Park*.”\*

\* Shoberl's "Sussex," p. 178.



This beautiful mansion is the property and residence of Earl De La Warr, who has recently almost rebuilt and added considerably to it, from the plans of J. A. Repton, Esq. the eminent architect. It is in the Elizabethan style, and stands in a very extensive park, which contains some of the finest beeches probably in the country. In the entrance hall, on each side of the inner doorway, is a complete suit of armour, *temp. Eliz.* with partisans of the same period. To describe the interior of this superb building with the decorations now in progress, would occupy more space than can be afforded in this work; but the dining-room is so perfectly unique, that it ought not to be passed in silence. It is of oak panelling, most elaborately carved, and the great proportion of it is of very ancient date, having been removed from Halnaker House, about three miles from Chichester.\* Over the doors are the two

\* *Halnaker House* was the mansion of the honor of Holnac, Halnaked, or Halnaker, an honor given by Hen. I. to Robert de Hay, or Haya. In the 31st of Hen. VIII. it was the property of Thomas, Lord De La Warr, whom that king, partly obliged to exchange it with divers other estates, for the site, circuit and

half-length figures, described by Grose, of men holding cups, and seemingly inviting strangers to partake of the hospitality of the house. In a label under the figure of one is, "Les biens venvs," and under the other, "Come here and drynke." The drawing-room will be splendid, and the billiard-room contains an antique chimney-piece, resembling Bethersden marble, removed from the ancient mansion of Bolebrook; which was evidently executed by some sculptor who wished to attain the art of perspective in marble. The design is Eastern, and probably taken from some Hindû superstition; but it is not clearly told. There is a fine piece of water in the park covering seventeen acres, and a portion of it falls over some

lands of the dissolved abbey of Wherwell. In 1752 it became the property of the Earl of Derby from marrying the daughter and heir of Sir William Morley. Lady Derby bequeathed it to the Duke of Richmond, in whose possession it now remains. The great hall of this mansion is enriched with curious carving, done about the reign of Hen. VIII., where, besides various ornaments, are escutcheons of the La Warrs, Camois, &c.; and in a panel near the centre of the room, the arms of England.—*Grose's Antiquities* (1785), vol. v. p. 145. This house has been pulled down within these few years.



rough rocks at the end, into a glen, making a very picturesque waterfall ; across which is a rustic bridge, that harmonises beautifully with the character of the scenery.

The family of the De La Warrs is of great antiquity, and we find many of them highly distinguished in the history of their country, from the earliest periods. At the battle of Poitiers, in 1356, John, king of France, yielded himself to Sir Dennis Norbeck, a knight of Artois, in the English service, and being afterwards forced from him, more than ten knights and squires challenged the taking of the king. Among these, Sir Roger La Warre and John de Pelham were most concerned; and in memory of so signal an action, and the king's surrendering his sword to them, Sir Roger La Warre, Lord La Warre, had the crampet, or chape of his sword for a badge of that honour; and John de Pelham had the buckle of a belt as a mark of the same honour.

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## HARTFIELD

Is one mile beyond Withyham. It is a pretty village, and the church, dedicated to

St. Mary, stands in a very conspicuous situation. There are some good monuments in it, some of which are very ancient, and there are also several iron slabs, and a few of stone, formerly inlaid with brasses. In this parish is *Bolebroke*, the ancient residence of the Sackvilles, and one of the earliest brick edifices in the country, having been built in the fifteenth century. Enough of it still remains to trace the original plans, and a tower gateway affords a good specimen of the style of the building. There are several gentlemen's seats in the parish, which are pleasantly situated; and the neighbourhood abounds with the most delightful scenery. The present incumbent is the Rev. John Jowitt.

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### FOREST ROW.

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TRADITION states that this village was built for the accommodation of the nobility and their attendants, when they came to hunt in the great Forest of Ashdowne. Adjoining it is *Kidbrook*, the seat of Lord Colchester. It is a building of considerable size, and completely sheltered by the extensive and flourishing plantations around, which



effectually exclude it from the road. The mansion was built under the superintendence of Mr. Mylne, for William, the forty-second Baron of Abergavenny; but his descendant having chosen Eridge for his residence, Kidbrook was purchased by Lord Colchester, formerly the Right Hon. Charles Abbot, and for many years highly esteemed as Speaker of the House of Commons. A new Chapel of Ease to East Grinstead was built in the year 1835. It is a plain gothic building, with a shingled spire, and contains about 436 sittings. There is a commodious inn\* here, kept by Mr. Tapfield, called the *Swan*, a little beyond which to the left is the road, through some fields, to

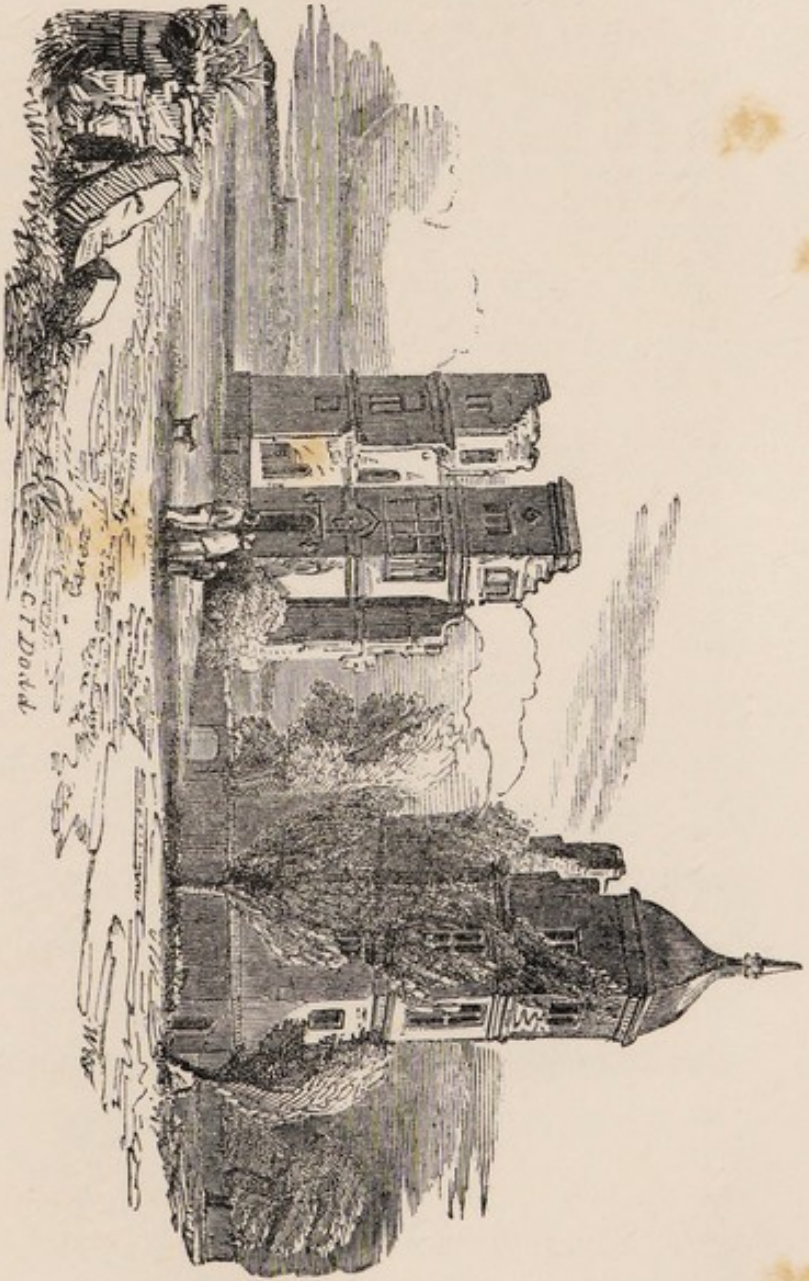
### BRAMBLETYE.

THIS was formerly an ancient manor, and is thus described in the Domesday Roll:—

“Ralph holds Brambletei of the Earl. Cola held it of King Edward. It has constantly been rated at

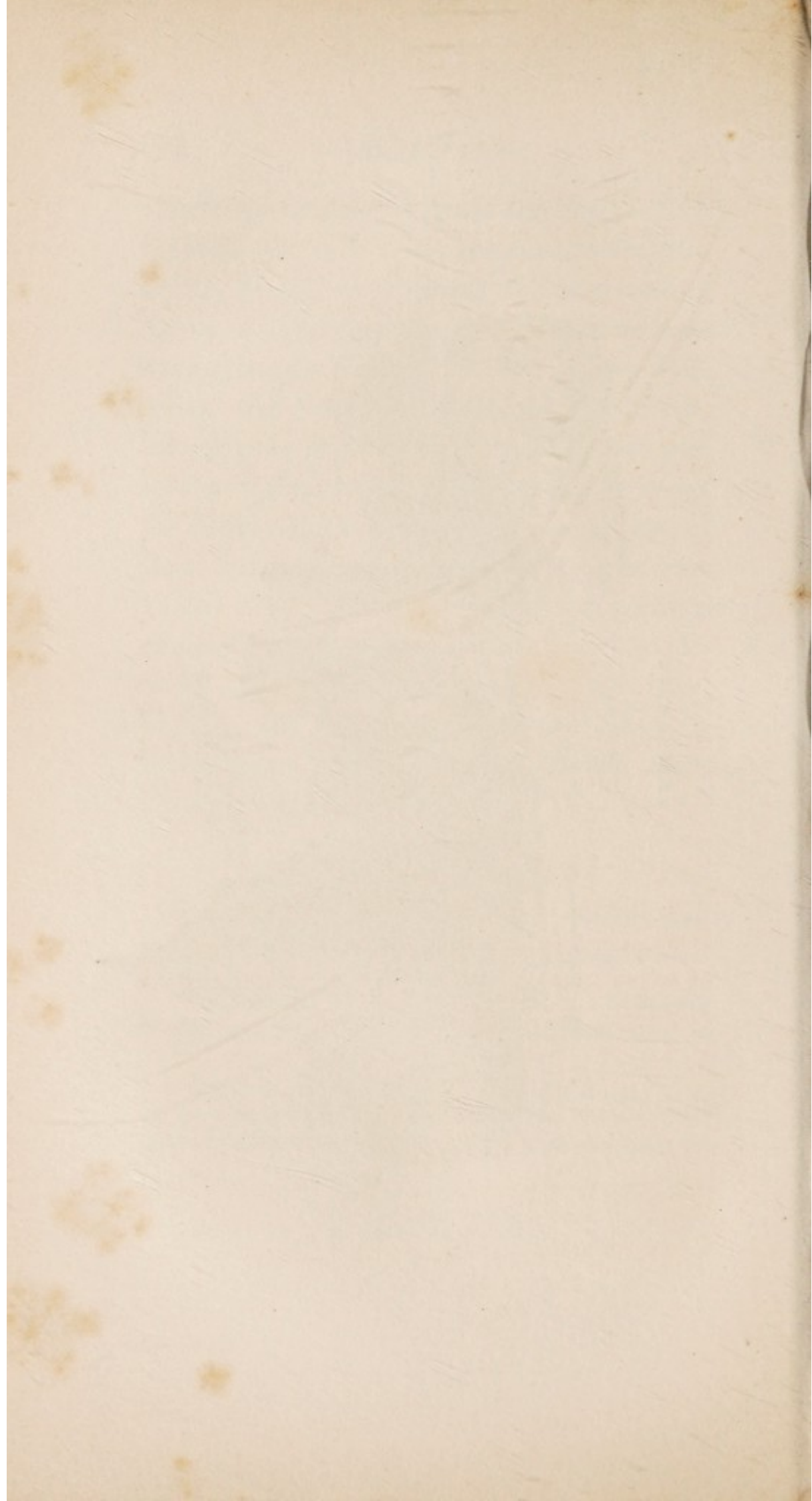
\* About a mile and a quarter this side Forest Row, on the left, is a Beer-shop, called “The Rising Sun,” with the following whimsical verse upon the sign:—

The Sun is risen  
The time is now  
Stop drink my friends,  
God speed the plough.



BRAMBLETTE.





one hide. The arable is one plough land and a half. Here is a priest with a villain, one plough and a half, and thirteen bondsmen. A wood and herbage yield twelve hogs. There are five acres of meadow, and a mill of two shillings."

From the beginning of Edward I. to the beginning of Edward III. it was held by a family of the name of Audehame ; but at the latter period, John, son of John de St. Clere, was seized of the lordship. In this family it continued many years.\*

It is supposed that Brambletye House was built by Sir Henry Compton, who was possessed of the manor at the commencement of the reign of James I. Sir Henry's first wife was Lady Cicely, the daughter of Robert, Earl of Dorset ; and his second was Mary, daughter of Sir George Browne, Knight. It was during the life of the latter lady that Brambletye was built, for over the principal entrance, in stone, is the coat armour of Compton, impaling the arms of Spencer, and on the upper story is carved also in stone,—

C.  
H. M.  
1631.

the initials of Henry and Mary Compton.

\* History of Sussex, vol. i. p. 388.



“From the court rolls of the manor, it does not appear who succeeded the Comptons in the possession of the mansion; but so much is certain, that Sir James Richards, in his patent of baronetcy, dated 26th Feb. 1683-4, is described as of Brambletye House. To this gentleman, the tradition which accounts for its premature decay, is supposed to apply. It is related, that on a suspicion of treasonable practices, against a proprietor of this house, officers of justice were dispatched to search the premises, where a considerable quantity of arms and military stores were discovered. The owner, who was just then engaged in the diversions of the chase, receiving intimation of the circumstance, deemed it most prudent to abscond; and the mansion being thus deserted was suffered to go to decay. The well-known loyalty of the Comptons has led to the surmise, that this occurrence took place during their tenure, under the commonwealth, in behalf of their lawful sovereign; but that can scarcely have been the case, as John, the son of Sir Henry, is recorded to have died at Brambletye, July 28th, 1659. On the other hand, it is certain that it was occupied during the reign of Charles II. by Sir James Richards, who was of French extraction, his father having come into this country with Queen Henrietta Maria, wife of Charles I. Being first knighted for an act of bravery in the sea-service he was afterwards advanced to the dignity of a baronet: and married, for his second wife, Beatrice Herrera, a Spaniard. It is recorded of him, that he quitted the country and settled in Spain, where some of his descendants have occupied high



stations in the Spanish army. These circumstances, coupled with that of his being the last known resident at Brambletye, render it more than probable, that the destruction of the house, attributed by report to the rebellious propensities of its owner, ought to be dated from his occupation. The manor has been, for about a century, in the possession of the Biddulphs, a roman catholic family, of which John Biddulph, Esq. of Burton Park near Arundel, is the representative."\*

The remains of this once noble mansion consist of the principal entrance, one square turret, and the portion of another, (as shewn in our wood engraving), the upper part of which, together with much of the building has actually been taken away within these few years by the tenants on the manor, for building purposes! And to such an extent has this destruction been carried on, that teams of horses have been employed to pull down the towers, and whatever parts of the building the *vandals* who directed them, fancied would best suit their purpose. The domestic offices underneath the building are extensive and display pointed arches. The entrance to them is under an arched passage at the end of the building; the freshness of the masonry of this passage appears but of yesterday, and

\* Shoberl's Sussex, pp, 152, 153.



not of the age of two centuries. The entrance tower is square, and inside it are two niches for the reception of figures. This part appears to have been highly ornamented, and evidently led to the principal apartments. Both inside and out, of the doorway, at some short distance from the ground, a large acorn and an oak leaf are carved in the stone. It is said that Brambletye was attacked and taken by the Roundheads, in the time of the civil wars, who forced an entrance through the gateway which is still standing, and arranged their forces in the courtyard, now ploughed up.\*

In this neighbourhood is the celebrated *Forest of Ashdowne*, the scenery from which, in every direction, is of the most romantic description, many parts of it more resembling uncultivated wilds than the vicinage of anything civilised. We find it thus mentioned by the author of the " *Environs of Lewes* :"

\* A novel in three vols. has been perpetrated called " *Brambletye*," and which has been much puffed and considerably over-rated by certain writers, upon the principle of *manus manum fricat*. It is, however, nothing but a very weak-water-gruel imitation of the celebrated Scotch novels.

“ Ashdownne Forest, or Lancaster Great Park, exhibits, at the present day, a very different appearance from that which it assumed, when, crowded with timber of the finest growth, it afforded shelter and pasturage to thousands of red and fallow deer. About 13000 acres of this forest had, from time immemorial, been enclosed by one or other of our monarchs, and surrounded with a fence, ‘ for the better convenience and security of the deer, and other stock, and preservation of the wood.’ But about the year 1641 or 1642, ‘ at which time the said forest, or park, being well stocked with red and fallow deer, and the lodges and fences thereof being in good repair, and great store of timber and woods therein, it was, by the malicious people of those times, totally destroyed, the deer killed, the fences thrown down, the woods wasted, and the lodges ruined, and the whole forest laid open and waste.’ In this state it continued till the restoration of Charles II. But although the king, by letters patent, waived his privilege, and exempted the park from fresh laws; although he was at considerable expense in forming ditches and fences around the most valuable part of it, owing to the ‘ crossness of the neighbourhood,’ the property was constantly damaged, and the hedges and ditches destroyed.”

The Forest was also a distinguished place for the fattening of pigs, whole droves of which, under the care of swineherds were regularly turned into the forest. The present



venerable Earl of Abergavenny, in his younger days, has let part of this forest to swineherds, as his rent-roll proves. In one part of the forest is a heap of stones called *Gill's Lap*, of which tradition thus reports the origin. The "gentleman in black" was one night very busily employed in collecting all the stones upon Ashdownne, but for what purpose does not appear. He had put them, for the convenience of carrying, into a leather apron, when, just as he was skimming the surface of the ground, the string broke, and down came the stones; and there they have continued to the present day. It is strange, but even now, enlightened as we are, there are peasants who have a reluctance to pass this spot after nightfall. It has been reasonably conjectured that this heap of stones was the burial place of some warrior of antiquity, and, in the work we have just quoted, is the following:—

"A tumulus was opened a few years ago at the Glynde side, near Lewes, by Mr. Shrapnall, Major Shadwell, and Captain Fraser, but nothing was found besides burnt bones. Mr. Shrapnall asked me, "what we called this barrow?" I replied, 'Gill's grave.' 'Gill's grave,' said he, 'It is Guelderus's burying place;' and turning to Messrs. Shadwell and Fraser, said, 'There

is a place in Ashdowne forest called *Gill's Lap*, that was Guelderus's way post; this is the burying place of the Roman general.' ”

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### EAST GRINSTEAD.

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THIS town is situated on a considerable eminence, near the borders of Surrey. It contains some good modern houses, and respectable inns. It is distant three miles from Forest Row, and fifteen from Tunbridge Wells. The church, dedicated to St. Swithin, is a conspicuous object from many parts of the surrounding country. It consists of a nave, aisles, and chancel, with a noble tower of considerable elevation; and is a spacious and handsome edifice, in a pure style of gothic architecture. It is a singular fact that the present church is the third that has existed within a century and a half; the first having been burnt down by lightning in 1684. The tower of the second, owing to unskilful workmanship and bad materials, fell down in November, 1785, and destroyed a great portion of the church.\* In 1556 (in the reign of Queen Mary), three persons were burnt here for heretical opinions. The spot where this took place was opposite the

\* Horsfield's History of Sussex, vol. i. p. 385.



*Dorset Head* houses, where, in 1828, several wood coals, mixed with burnt earth, were dug up in good preservation.

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## SOUTHBOROUGH

Is an exceedingly pretty hamlet, situated about two miles and a half from the Wells, on the London road. Immediately after passing the first turnpike gate from the Wells, you cross the "Loo," as it is now termed, being evidently a corruption of *Lowy*, by which name the Normans distinguished a certain district round their castle or chief mansion.\* Southborough commences at the *Cross Keys*, a little beyond which is *South Field Park*, the property and residence of the Rev. W. W. Stephens. On this estate there are many romantic spots com-

\* Simple as this word, "Loo" may appear, the derivation and proper orthography of it have puzzled many. The above mode of accounting for the name has been doubted, because "Great Bounds" is considered to mean the boundary of the Lowy of Tunbridge Castle. There is, we believe, no authority for this. Both Great and Little Bounds are parish boundaries, but the Lowy of Tunbridge was most extensive, and had great privileges. Indeed of such consequence was it considered, that frequent disputes respecting the limits of it, took place between the successors of Richard de Tunbridge, and the archbishops of Canterbury.



manding most delightful scenery, and the valley leading from the brickfield on the *Lowy* towards the old powder mills, although now chiefly enclosed, has every appearance of having been the bed of a very considerable river. There is much to admire on this property, and a dropping well in the sequestered part of it, adds greatly to the interest of the scenery. Adjoining *South Fields*, is *Southborough Hall*, the residence of Thomas Lotherington, Esq.

Southborough, or the borough of South, was formerly the principal place for the residences of the nobility and gentry who came to drink the Tunbridge waters. Within these few years there stood an ancient mansion, near the *Hand and Sceptre*, which is reported to have been once occupied by King Charles II. A modern villa, belonging to Mrs. Broadley Wilson is erected on the site of it. There were several other old houses here, which were no doubt at that period the abodes of some of the most distinguished families in the kingdom; but scarcely one now remains "to point a moral or adorn a tale." The church, which is most picturesquely situated on the beautiful common, is a plain, but extremely neat building, from the plans of D. Burton,



Esq. It contains 500 sittings, of which 286 are free. The present incumbent is the Rev. T. W. Carr. Divine service on Sundays is at half-past ten and three o'clock, and on Wednesday evenings at a quarter before seven.

There is a good inn here called the *Hand and Sceptre*, which is much frequented as a family lodging and boarding house. There have been also some gothic villas lately erected on the property of David Salomons, Esq. A short distance beyond these is

#### GREAT BOUNDS,\*

An ancient mansion, the residence of the Rev. Sir Charles Hardinge, Bart., vicar of Tunbridge. It had, anciently, the same proprietors as Tunbridge Castle, and formed part of the possessions of the family of the Clare's, Earls of Gloucester. It passed from them to the Audley's and Stafford's, with whom it continued till upon the attainder of

\* It is mentioned by several writers, that this place is named from its being the extreme boundary of the Lowy of Tunbridge, but as we have already stated, we think this is incorrect; for in old deeds it is described as *Boons'* tenement, and in the reign of Edward III. we find that Thomas Chaun, prior of Tunbridge, and John *Bounde*, junior, paid aid for this estate as one knight's fee.



the Duke of Buckingham it was forfeited to the crown ; and Henry VIII. in the 14th year of his reign granted it to Sir Thomas More, afterwards Lord Chancellor. This eminent man having refused to take the oath of supremacy and succession, was arraigned for high treason, and being found guilty, he was executed six days afterwards on Tower Hill. It has been stated on good authority that the learned Erasmus visited Sir Thomas More at Bounds.\* The walk through a part of these grounds to Bidborough church is extremely picturesque. In a retired and romantic situation in the *Birch Wood* is a plain monumental column to the memory of Lady Catharine Stewart, sister to Lord Darnley. The interesting circumstances attending the erection of this memorial will, we

\* It is not generally known that Erasmus once held the rectory of Aldington, in Kent, two miles and a half from Merstham Hatch. In Dr. Ducarel's "Repertory of the Endowments of Vicarages in the Dioceses of Canterbury and Rochester," published in 1782, is the following :—"Aldington Rect. Of this church the great Erasmus was Rector, by the importunity of his patron, Archbishop Warham. He was collated to it March 22, 1511, but he soon resigned it, on condition of a pension of £20 a year being paid to him out of it by Dr. John Thornton, the Archbishop's suffragan."



are certain, derive an additional interest, when we state, that this lady was the wife of Brigadier-General Stewart, now Marquis of Londonderry; and "Fred." alluded to, is the present Viscount Castlereagh.

On one side are the following elegant lines from the pen of the noble marquis.—

Within this favour'd wood, this sacred shade,  
Where CATHARINE's angel form so lately stray'd;  
He who could best her various merits prize  
Bids this memorial of her virtues rise.  
With reverence due, the spotless Urn survey,  
Emblem of her whom Death has snatch'd away;  
Who now, in Heaven, her own SWEET NATIVE lays,  
Tunes to her HARP, in endless NOTES OF PRAISE;  
For scarcely we on Earth again shall find  
Such Talents with such loveliness combin'd.

On the other side:

" EPITAPH ON POOR MAMA!

" Here lies a faded rose,  
Who, struck by Death's unfeeling hand  
Contented died, contented liv'd,  
In GOD she put her trust."

" By Fred. every word." Dec. 29. 1811.

Sent from England in Dec. 1811; and received at Frenada, in Portugal, by Charles Stewart, in February, 1812.

In Dec. 1811, the above Epitaph was written on Catharine, the wife of Charles Stewart, in the bloom of Life and Health, by their Son Frederick, a Boy of six years old.

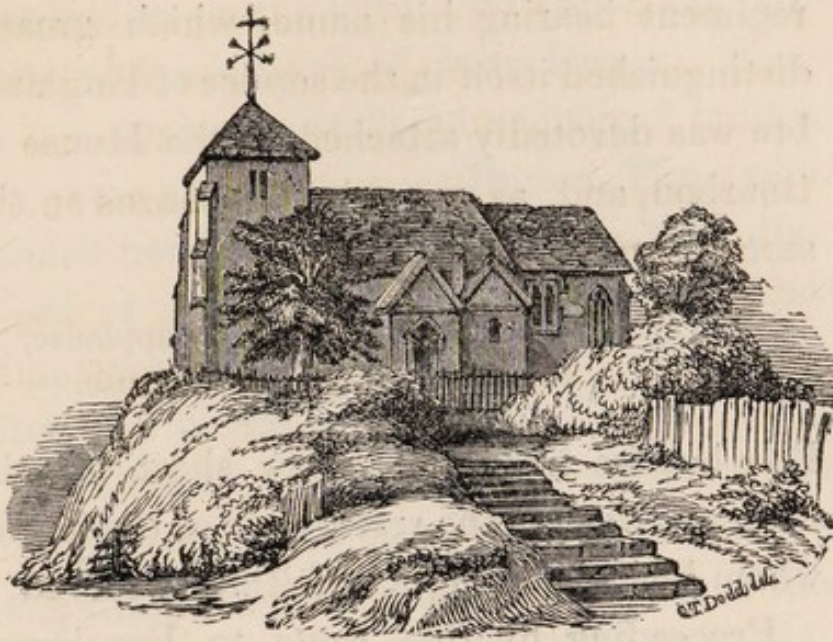
In February, 1812, it pleased the ALMIGHTY to take her to himself, after a few days' illness.

Such are the inscrutable decrees of Heaven!

During her short and valuable existence,  
Hope was her support;  
Her trust was GOD.

A devoted and inconsolable Husband inscribed this Stone,  
in memory of her  
Purity, Rectitude, Piety, and Truth.

C. S.



BIDBOROUGH.

ADJOINING Great Bounds Park is the ancient little church belonging to this parish, which forms a picturesque object from many parts of the surrounding scenery. It is dedicated to St. Laurence, but contains no memorials of any consequence. Near it is the parsonage house, built some few years since, from the designs of Mr. Wyatt. The present rector is the Rev. Mr. Gay. In the churchyard there is a sarcophagus, executed by Bacon, to the memory of the Baron de Roll, who died at Great Bounds on the 27th August, 1813, aged 64. The Baron was Major-General, and Colonel of the Swiss



regiment bearing his name, which greatly distinguished itself in the service of England. He was devotedly attached to the House of Bourbon, and, as some elegiac stanzas on the sarcophagus tell us,

He cheer'd its exile, gained its just applause,  
And died, at length, a martyr to its cause.

Pity but he had lived a few short months longer to witness the restoration of the family whom he had so long and faithfully served.

Proceeding by this *route* to Penshurst, the eye is enchanted with one of the finest inland views in the kingdom. The *coup d'œil* is of the most charming description. Richly cultivated hills and valleys are stretched before you to an almost boundless extent, forming one of those exquisite living panoramas which nature, and nature only, can produce.

'Twere worth ten years of peaceful life  
To view so fair a scene :

and cold indeed must be the heart that can behold at once the simplicity and magnificence of nature, as here exemplified, without feeling enraptured.

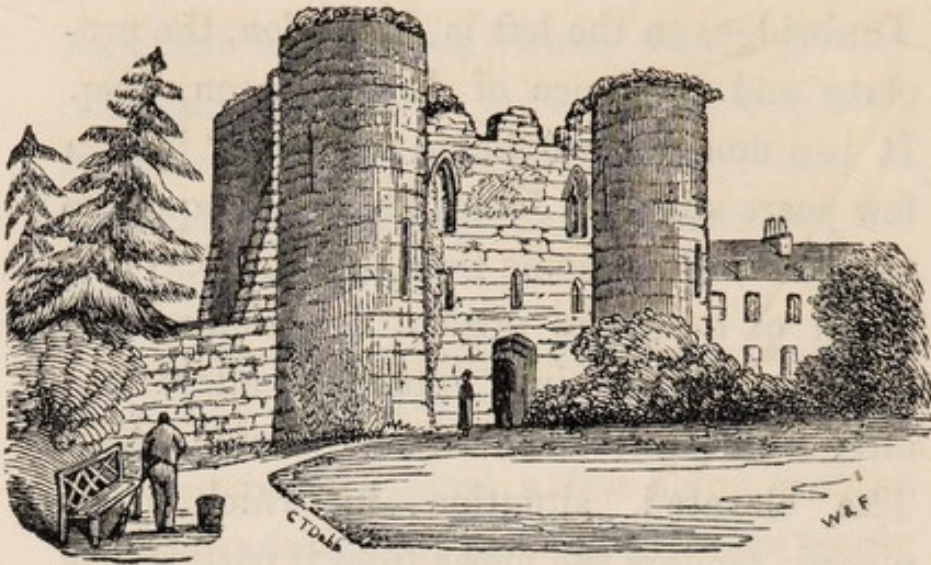
As you proceed down Quarry Hill, towards

Tunbridge, on the left is *Mabledon*, the property and residence of John Deacon, Esq. It is a modern castellated mansion,\* built a few years since by James Burton, Esq., who resided here for some time, but in 1828 disposed of it to the present proprietor, who commenced making extensive alterations after the plans of Decimus Burton, Esq. The elevated situation in which it is placed, renders the views from it particularly delightful, comprising as it does, much of the interesting scenery already noticed at Bidborough, with striking features of its own in perfect unison with it. From two or three parts of the hill, on the right, are pretty glimpses of *Somerhill*, besides some very extensive and diversified scenery. Just before you arrive at Tunbridge are the ruins of the ancient priory, which will be more particularly noticed in describing the town and castle.

\* A modern writer has been so enchanted with this mansion that he says, "it will probably impose itself on the stranger to this neighbourhood for the genuine remains of an ancient edifice"!! He should have added, "if the stranger's vision were much impaired."

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### TUNBRIDGE.

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GAZE on yon time-worn towers, pause awhile,  
 Think on their ancient splendour and renown ;  
 Recall the deeds of goodness, guilt, and guile,  
 That happen'd ere their summer sun went down :  
 For many are the tales by strangers told,  
 Of spotless virtue, and of chieftain bold.

Pile upon pile, their crumbling ruins tell  
 The force of time, the rude destroyer's hand.  
 He knew them, ere their sculptured beauties fell,  
 The pride and glory of this warlike land.  
 He saw their birth, and joyed in that decree,  
 Which told the tyrant, ' all must yield to thee.'

They have encounter'd battle's dreadful blast,  
 They have withstood the whirlwind and the storm ;  
 They laughed upon the foeman as he passed,  
 Exulting in their proud gigantic form ;  
 Which now, alas ! sighs with the passing wind,  
 Mourning the days of glory far behind.

TUNBRIDGE, a Poem (MS.) by T. T. LOTHERINGTON.

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THERE are few things so very ludicrous as  
 the inhabitants of a parish differing respect-

ing the proper mode of spelling the name of it : yet such is the case in this parish—certain parties pressing “o” into the service, and others insisting upon the “u.” That the latter is correct cannot be questioned, if a preponderance of ancient authority is to be reckoned of any weight, whilst for the use of the “o” according to the present mode of spelling it, we cannot trace a single authority. It has been sometimes written “Tonebrege,” but never, we believe, “Tonbrege.” Lambard says, (p. 327,) “Tunbridge, called of Mathew of Paris, Thunebrugge, corruptly for Tonebrege, that is, the bridge over the Tone : but if it be truly written, Tunbrege, then it signifyeth the towne of Bridges, as indeed it hath many ;” whilst it might be remarked, that the river Tone is wanting to make the derivation of the first word correct. Besides, in a copy of the Domesday Roll it is spelt with an “u,” in at least a dozen places, and nearly all the writers within the last two or three centuries have adopted the same mode of spelling it.

Ricardus filius Comitis Gisleberti, also called Ricardus de Tonebrege, is said to have had Tonebrege in Kent, from which he



took the appellation *de Tonebrege* ; but that he held it of the archbishop of Canterbury, and not immediately of the crown. Of this, however, there is no trace in the Domesday Book, nor is Tunbridge mentioned in the survey, except that “ a tract of woodland in Tonebrege ” is said to have belonged to the Bishop of Rochester. It is also stated in history that there was a castle at Tunbridge soon after the Conquest, and “ Hector Boetius says there was a battle at Tunbridge, wherein the Conqueror prevailed against Harold ; but this is untrue, unless he mean it of the continuance of the chase after the fight even to Tunbridge.”\*

The castle of Tunbridge was a great possession, long held by the above Richard and his descendants ; and they assumed to hold it immediately of the crown, though the superiority was claimed by the archbishops of Canterbury ; and it seems probable that it

\* See Lambard, p. 327. There is a field near the entrance of the town from the Hastings road, which tradition states to have been the scene of a sanguinary conflict at some remote period. It bears the name of “ Mouse Field,” in consequence of a mouse, while *imprudently* viewing the battle, being drowned in the blood of the combatants !



had been obtained from Stigand, archbishop of Canterbury at the time of the Conquest, when that prelate had fallen under the displeasure of the Conqueror. Dugdale indeed asserts that the archbishop had given Tunbridge in exchange for Brionne in Normandy, the inheritance of Earl Gilbert; but it seems extraordinary that the archbishop should have exchanged part of his see in England for property in Normandy; and if the exchange actually took place it was possibly a forced exchange. But from the proceedings after mentioned it appears probable that Richard obtained some grant of Tonebrege from the archbishop by way of subinfeudation; as even Thomas à Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, claimed only the superiority as after stated. Richard de Tonebrege was the ancestor of a great family who assumed the name of *De Clare*, and were first styled earls of Clare, and afterwards earls of Gloucester and Hertford. They dropped the surname of Tonebrege, by which Richard, son of Earl Gilbert, was distinguished, and used that of Clare. In 1088, Odo, with others of the nobility, having made defection from William Rufus to Robert his elder brother,



the king besieged at Tunbridge, one Gilbert, then keeper of the castle, and compelled him to yield it. "Happely," says Lambard, "this Odo, (being the king's uncle, and of great authority in the shire,) had erected this castle, and given the charge to Gilbert; but howsoever that were, certain it is, that the castle was long held of the archbishop of Canterbury, and continued many years in the possession of the earls of Clare, afterwards called of Gloucester." In 1163, (*temp.* Hen. II.) Thomas the archbishop required homage of Roger, then earl of Gloucester for his castle of Tunbridge, who, knowing the king to be half angry with the archbishop, and wholly on his own side, shaped him a short answer, affirming stoutly that it was none of his, but the king's own as a lay fee. It has not been ascertained in what manner this dispute was at that time terminated; but the descendants of the earl appear to have held the castle long after, though they at length submitted to hold it of the see of Canterbury, and not of the crown; and the claim of Becket seems to have been only of the superiority. Falcasius, a hired soldier, that was entertained by King John



during the wars with his nobility (1215), took the castle by force from the Earl of Gloucester, and kept it for a season to the king's behoof: Henry, III. also, after the death of Gilbert, earl of Gloucester (1231), siezed the wardship of his heir, and committed the custody of this castle to Hubert de Burghe: but Richard the archbishop (surnamed the Great) being offended thereat, came to the king in great haste, and made his claim, by reason that the Earl Gilbert died in his homage; the king gave answer, that the whole earldom was holden of him, and that he might lawfully commit the custody of the lands to whomsoever it liked himself. " Hereat the bishop waxed warm, and told the king plainly that since he could not have right within the realm, he would not spare to seek it abroad; and forthwith hasted to the holy father at Rome, where he so used the matter that he obtained judgement for his part, but he for all that never had execution, by reason that he died on his return toward home: yet you may here see, by the way, that in those days there was no law in England to rule the proud Prelacie withal, no



not so much as in things mere lay and temporal.”\*

In consequence of the death of this prelate the castle continued as the king had disposed of it, till the minor, Richard, the fourth earl, arrived at years of maturity, when “K. Hen. 3. granted him licence to Wall and Embattel his Town of Tunbridge, by these words in that charter, *Claudere muro, et kernellare* ; which latter word, being made latin out of the french *charneaux*, signifieth that indented form of the top of a wall which hath vent and crest, commonly called embatteling. Concerning this intended wall at Tunbridge, either the earl did nothing therein, or that which he did is now invisible and come to naught”†

Richard dying in 1262, Tunbridge descended to Gilbert the Red, who immediately repaired to Henry III. at Guienne, to obtain the investiture of his father’s inheritance,

\* Lambard, p. 328.

† Ib. p. 424. In a garden belonging to Mr. Creasy in Swan Lane, Tunbridge, are evident remains of a moat of considerable extent, traces of which are perceptible from thence to the churchyard. It is thought that this was the castle moat, but we think it more probable that it was the moat which surrounded the town when the process of embattling it commenced.



which the king reluctantly granted after receiving a considerable present. Gilbert, however, revenged himself upon the king by joining the Earl of Leicester in open rebellion against him. In consequence of which Henry having burnt the city of Rochester, turned his arms against this castle, and took it by surprise. Finding the Countess of Gloucester and several other eminent persons there, he instantly restored them their liberty, but strongly garrisoned the castle, which he kept till after his defeat at Lewes, where, with his son and brother, he was taken prisoner. After this battle, wherein the Earl of Gloucester greatly distinguished himself, he became suspicious of Leicester, and was the chief instrument in restoring the king to the throne. He was also one of the first to proclaim Edward I. on the death of his father, and entertained him and his retinue with great magnificence at Tunbridge castle, on his return from the Holy Land. This earl being divorced from his first wife, gave up his castle of Tunbridge and other possessions into the king's hands, to secure an alliance with his daughter, Joan of Acre, to whom he was married, and the king then



restored all his estates, settled upon her and her issue. Gilbert died in 1295, leaving his widowed princess with a son and three daughters. She soon afterwards clandestinely married a plain country squire called Monthermer, or Mortimer, and sent him to the king to receive the honour of knighthood; but Edward having discovered the marriage was highly incensed, and sent Mortimer to prison. However, through the mediation of the Bishop of Durham, the king forgave them, and created Mortimer Earl of Gloucester and Hertford. The princess died in 1307, and her son, by the Earl of Gloucester, having been slain at Bannockburn, the castle devolved to Margaret, the second daughter, (who was first married to Piers Gaveston,) and thus by marriage it passed to Audley, in her right, Earl of Gloucester; who, having no sons, it went with his daughter to Ralph, Earl of Stafford, who died in 1373, and was buried at Tunbridge Priory. It continued with his descendants till 1521, when the Duke of Buckingham, then in possession of it, falling a victim to the ambition of Cardinal Wolsey, it came to the crown, and from that time, notwith-



standing it has been held by several noble families, it has gradually mouldered away. The ruins, though not of great magnitude are highly interesting, and the entrance tower is said to be the finest specimen of Norman architecture now existing.

It is evident that the great gate, or tower of entrance was erected about the early part of the reign of Henry III., and long after the first construction of the castle, for it contained more convenient apartments for the residence of a powerful baron than are to be met with in any of the original buildings of the age near the conquest. It is a strong tower, and was defended by a drawbridge and a deep fosse or ditch, which has been filled up within these few years. On digging at the bottom of this fosse there were discovered the foundations of two piers which supported the bridge, and which were constructed in a very remarkable manner, the stones being laid in pitch, mixed with hair. The great entrance led to the Bass court, or Ballium. On each side of the front of the tower are places in the wall where the drawbridge was drawn up, thus completely closing the entrance. These, as well as the places



for fixing the windlass for drawing it up, are still visible. Under the first archway, at a great height, are three machicollations for pouring down boiling lead or hot sand on any assailants, in the event of the drawbridge being torn down and the entrance forced. Next to this was an enormous portcullis, descending from another of the high arches near the top of the tower, and behind this was a pair of strong gates. Between the portcullis and these gates are three more machicollations over head, placed under an arch somewhat lower than the former. At this point were two narrow loop holes, one on the right and the other on the left. The latter is blocked up. These were for the purpose of assailing besiegers attempting the second gate, by spears as well as cross bows, if they broke or burnt the portcullis. Beyond this is a large area, the arch of which is perforated with rows of machicollations, for the same purpose and similar to those at the first entrance. In the middle of the passage, on each side, is a small doorway, 4 feet 6 inches in width; each of which appears to have been secured by a strong portcullis (judging from the grooves,) and an iron door. These led



to two apartments of equal dimensions, being about 28 feet in length, and 15 feet 9 inches in width. The walls here are five feet and a half in thickness. The passage from the foot of the drawbridge to the end next the area of the castle is 40 feet. The gateways are about ten feet wide. The room on the left hand had neither chimney nor recess, and appears to have been merely a store-room; but that on the right had a large fireplace, and near it a recess approached from the staircase, for domestic purposes. In both the apartments are loop holes, which are placed so high, that although the soldiers who defended the tower might easily annoy the assailants from without, it was scarcely possible for the latter to wound those within. There are two other loops made much wider and larger, looking towards the inside of the castle, for the admission of air and light. There is also a circular staircase, well constructed and arched overhead, which leads to the top of the tower, but descends no lower than this floor. Ascending this there are recesses in the side walls, which are strongly protected. The lower rooms are each 13 feet 6in. in height, and there were vaults underneath



them which had manifestly never any way down to them but by traps in the floor. They had neither light nor air, except what was admitted by two remarkable narrow sloping flues, opening to the air, at the height of 9 or 10 feet above the ground. One of these is only 1 foot by 10 inches, and the other 6 inches by 5 inches in width. The steps leading to the staircases are in excellent preservation, and are each 11 inches in depth, for the purpose, it would seem, of having one turn only from this floor to the next. The state room above appears to have been very magnificent, and of great dimensions, including the whole area of the three rooms beneath. The great windows of the state room are seen from the inner front next the bass court of the castle. They are richly ornamented, but the smaller windows, though of the same form, are without the enrichments at the top. In the gateway on this side are overhanging arches, as at the entrance, but neither so many nor so lofty as those in the other front.

A short distance from the entrance tower, and communicating with it, is a high circular mount, rising 70 feet above the area of the



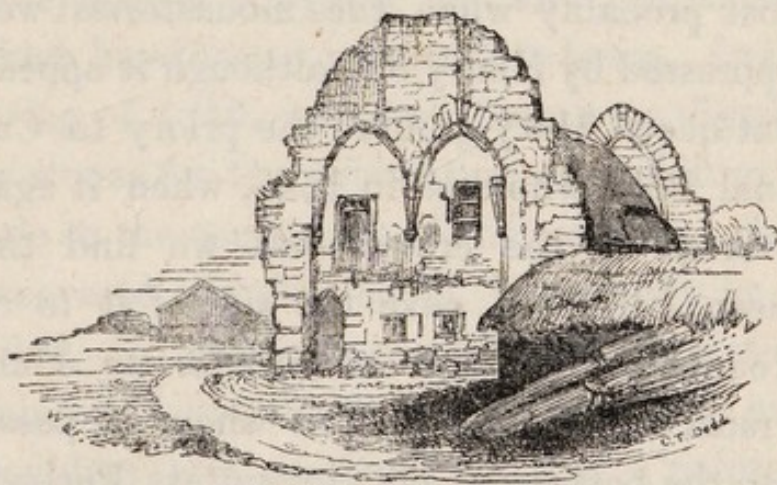
castle, and a hundred feet above the bed of the river, its base forming a circle of about an acre. On the top of this was situated the keep, of an elliptical form, the diameter within being 64 feet by 50 feet. This summit appears to have been formed of earth dug out of the great ditches and trenches which surround the castle, and from what is now the bed of the river Medway. To prevent the walls of the keep from settling, or sinking, they were not only constructed of great thickness, but were supported by strong buttresses, which still remain, compacted with timber wrought up in their substance. The upper part of the wall, with the keep itself, has long been destroyed. There were two most extraordinary approaches to the keep from the other parts of the fortress, one of which, a covered way from the upper part of the entrance tower, along the top of a high wall, is still remaining, but is held to be in a dangerous state, and visitors are prohibited from passing across it : few traces are left of the other approach to the keep, except the foundations at the west end of the area of the castle. From this tower there was a covered way to the top of the wall,



about half the intermediate distance towards the keep, where was a steep descent by stairs, to a square subterraneous vault still remaining and entire. From thence there was a subterraneous ascent (the entrance arch to which also still remains) to the summit of the mount, where it communicated only with the store room or lower apartments of the keep, and with a small winding staircase, within the substance of the wall, having had no communication with the state rooms or the intermediate apartments. It is obvious, therefore, that the former covered way was intended for the use of the governor or lord of the castle, and his immediate attendants; and the latter, for the use of the garrison, was their common mode of approach, so long as the area of the castle was preserved from the hands of the enemy, and till they were more closely besieged and shut up in the keep itself. A portion of these steps was remaining in 1742. The walls surrounding the area of the castle are in general about ten feet in thickness, but some parts of them exceed this. The whole interior and exterior arrangements of this extensive fortress might be easily traced, but as the descrip-



tion would occupy more pages than a work of this nature can afford, and would prove interesting merely to the antiquary, we must waive it.\* Adjoining the old entrance gate is a handsome stone mansion, began by Thomas Hooker, Esq. in 1793, and finished by W. Woodgate, Esq., which is now the residence of J. E. West, Esq.



THE PRIORY

Was founded about the year 1241, by Richard de Clare, first earl of Hertford, and lord of Tunbridge, and uncle to Richard Strongbow, for the black canons of St. Augustine, and was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. In 1351 a dreadful fire broke out in this priory,

\* We are indebted to Mr. J. J. Dodd for much of the description of the present appearance of the castle. We found, on inspection, that his details were extremely accurate, and shew great research.



and consumed it to the foundation, together with their vestments, ornaments, jewels, and furniture, which loss is said to have been repaired by the appropriation of the church of Leigh; in the instrument for which, the priory is described to have been *edificia splendida et nobilia*. At what time it became disused as a priory cannot be clearly ascertained, most probably when the monasteries were suppressed by Henry 8.—although it appears that queen Mary granted the priory to Cardinal Pole, who died in 1558, when it again reverted to the crown—but we find that queen Elizabeth gave the *site* of it to Sir Henry Sidney, and afterwards to Dame Ursula Walsingham, from whom it passed into the possession of Viscountess Purbeck, of Somerhill. In the will of John Fane, of Tunbridge, Esq. (an ancestor of the Earl of Westmoreland,) dated 6 April, 1488, as given in the “*Testamenta Vetusta*,” is the following allusion to this priory:—“My body to be buried in the church of St. Peter and Paul of Tunbridge. I will that a priest celebrate mass there for my soul, for my ancestor’s souls, and for the souls of all the faithful deceased for three years, and to have xx£.



for his wages. To every priest coming to my funeral vi£. To the Prior and Convent of Tunbridge to pray for my soul xxs. To the High Altar of the church of Tunbridge xxs. To the structure of the Rood loft thereof v marks on condition that the churchwardens build it within 2 years.”

Scarcely any vestige now remains of this priory except the great hall and the chapel, which have been converted into barns. In the spring of 1816, as some men were digging for stones for the foundation of buildings, a little to the south-east of the refectory, they discovered a leaden coffin, if it might be so called, in shape resembling an Egyptian mummy, being made to fit the head and shoulders, and coming nearly to a point at the feet—the toes also being above the other part. Upon opening it, it was found to contain a body, bound up in a kind of waxed cloth or wrapper, by a large cord, which passed longitudinally over the head and feet; it also went several times round the body. Part of the cloth being removed, the body presented an appearance somewhat like dried clay, the larger muscles retaining their form—but upon the touch of the workmen, moul-



dered into dust: the bones, however, were perfectly sound; they were taken out of the lead and deposited in the north of the place of their first sepulture.\* Close by the side of this, was found a skeleton buried in wood, the iron bands and nails of which only were remaining. A little to the east of these was found a stone coffin, about half a foot from the surface, containing a skeleton partly decayed: it was composed of several stones joined together, making a close stone grave rather than a coffin. Between this and the first two, another skeleton was found, apparently deposited without a coffin, the head being placed on a tile. About ten yards from the first, to the west, was found a long stone, shaped like a coffin, covered with sculpture.

Through the interference of the Rev. Dr. Knox, the field has since remained untouched. One of the coffins is in the possession of James Alexander, Esq. at Somerhill.

\* We find in Speed's Annals, that Queen Maud escaped from Devizes to Gloucester, carried as a corpse in a horse litter "bounde faste with cordes, so as if it had been her corpes." This was evidently the custom of that period, and it is therefore but reasonable to assign this date as the time when the body in lead, bound with cords, was interred.



Tunbridge Town consists principally of one long, and in some parts wide, street. The river Medway, or Medweg,\* as it was originally called, crosses the town near the south end, in five streams, over which there are as many bridges. The southern was formerly the main stream, but the present navigable branch of it, is said to have been dug out and widened to form the castle moat. The stone bridge which crosses it was built in 1775, on the foundations of the former structure, at the expence of the County; and the iron railings was erected by subscription in 1817. On a stone in the wall of the Loggerheads public house, is the following inscription grotesquely carved :

“ This bridge was repayed at the charge of the  
Counti A.D. ni 1630, Wm. ”†

At the south end of the principal bridge is the Tunbridge Ware Manufactory of Mr. Geo. Wise, whose family have carried on this business in the same premises for upwards of

\* From the ancient British word *vaga*, or way, and the Saxon *med* or middle, from this river traversing the midst of the kingdom, thus calling it in Saxon *Med-weg* or Mid-way, easily corrupted to Medway.

† There is a heart on each side of the “Wm.” which was probably intended for the artificer’s name, Wm. Hart. The bridge alluded to is not the main bridge.



a century! The Town Hall is a plain unornamented building, and the principal object in the town is the celebrated Free Grammar School, which within these few years has undergone some extensive and judicious alterations, both externally and internally. This free Grammar School was founded and endowed by Sir Andrew Judd, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1551. He was a native of Tunbridge, and his ancestors were returned by the Commissioners in the reign of Henry VI., among the principal gentry flourishing in that County in 1484. For a long period, this property (for the maintenance of the School,) ample as it has now become, yielded an income little more than sufficient to defray the specific charges made upon it by the Founder's will.\* But owing to the great increase of buildings in the neighbourhood of Brunswick Square, where the Founder's property was situated, the income derived therefrom became so considerable, that the Skinner's Company who are the trustees of this charity,

\* From "A concise account of Tunbridge School, &c." published anonymously in 1827; but supposed to have been written by an influential person connected with the School.



sanctioned by the report of a Master in Chancery, dated the 24th day of December 1824; advanced the master's salary from twenty pounds, (the original sum) to five hundred pounds; and the usher's to two hundred pounds, from the 24th June, 1824. It does not appear, however, that the scholars have derived any particular benefit from the increase of the funds.

The pamphlet, already quoted, shews the advantages of the school as intended by the founder, and for which his memory should be held in the deepest veneration. The Chancery Master says, " He thought it expedient and proper that the privileges of the said Free Grammar School, should not only extend to boys and youths whose parents or guardians should *bonâ fide* reside within the Town and Parish of Tunbridge, but also to such boys and youths whose parents or guardians should reside in any other parish or place in the County of Kent, *within the distance of ten miles*, by the ordinary roads and ways, from the church of the said Town of Tunbridge; which boys and youths should be considered as constituting the first class; and, that there might be a sufficient number of youths to



receive the exhibitions hereinafter mentioned, he had thought it proper and advisable that there should be another or second class comprehending all boys and youths of the United Kingdom of Great Britain, who, being qualified under the regulations thereafter mentioned, should be capable of receiving the said exhibitions.”

There is an annual visitation by the Skinner's Company, at which verses, themes, &c. are spoken before them by the senior scholars, and prizes awarded. At one of these examinations Mr. Evelyn was present, and thus records it in his diary: “28th April 1665, I went to Tunbridge to see a solemn exercise at the free schoole there.”

The following is a list of the fellowships and exhibitions appropriated to the Tunbridge scholars:

A fellowship at St. John's College, Oxford, founded by Sir Thomas Whyte.

Sixteen exhibitions of one hundred pounds per annum each, tenable at any College of either University, and payable out of the Founder's endowment.

Six exhibitions of ten pounds per annum each, tenable in like manner, founded by Sir Thomas Smyth.

One scholarship at Brasenose College, Oxford, of £17. 9s. 6d. per annum founded by Mr. H. Fisher.



One exhibition of £2. 13s. 4d. per annum, founded by Mr. Thomas Lampard.\*

One exhibition of £8. per annum, (in default of scholars from Sevenoaks school,) founded by Mr. Robert Holmedon.

Two exhibitions of £75. per annum, each tenable at Jesus College, Cambridge, (in default of scholars from Sevenoaks school,) founded by Lady Mary Boswell.

Two exhibitions of six pounds per annum each, founded by Mr. Worrall.

The present master, Dr. Thomas Knox, is the first instance of a Tunbridge scholar having filled the office. He succeeded his father in 1812. The Eton grammar is used, and the Eton plan, with few exceptions, followed. No boy can be admitted under eight years of age, nor continue in the school after nineteen.

There are some very ancient houses in the town, which have evidently been of consequence in the olden time. One of them, nearly opposite the Grammar School, is occupied by Miss Brisenden, who keeps an

\* In the *Registrum Roffense* is the following :—“ Thomas Lampard of Lamberhurst or Tunbridge—Lands in Lamberhurst to pay liiis. iiid. to one of the poorest schollers inhabitants of Tunbridge, to be preferred to the university,” &c. The expression “ poorest scholar,” is rather an ambiguous one, and might lead to a singular dispute, if we were for one moment to imagine that the Tunbridge Grammar School could possibly turn out a “ *poor scholar* !”



establishment for young ladies. But the most ancient are those in a line with the Town Hall, where the *Chequers* public-house is situated. The remains of an arched entrance here, with the thickness of the old walls, render it probable that the date of this building is nearly, if not quite, coeval with that of the castle; and the interior of the *Chequers* itself, bears the strongest marks of antiquity.

According to the several Acts of Parliament regulating the affairs of the Medway Company, the river ought to be rendered navigable to Forest Row, in Sussex, that being the place mentioned in the Act; but this very wealthy company thought proper to stop *mid-way*, and have thus prevented the adjacent and intermediate country from enjoying the advantages in which they were meant to participate.

The church is dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul. It is a large building with a square tower at the end. There are several good monuments in it, among others the following:—On the south side of the church is one to Sir Anthony Denton, Knight, who died in 1615. He was one of the Honorable Band of Pensioners to Queen Elizabeth and King James I. The



following couplet appears on the monument :

Christ's death's my life ; my death to life was portal ;  
So, through two deaths I have one life immortal.

The same side there is a mural monument of grey marble to Thomas Panwell, Esq., who died at his seat, *Calverley*, in this parish, on the 31st February, 1749-50, aged 78, a bachelor.

On the north side is a mural monument of white marble, with this inscription :

This church is indebted for its ornaments of pews and pavement to the bounty of Geo. Hooper, Esq. who bequeathed this memorial of his regard for the place of his nativity, and the residence of his ancestors, which so justly bespeaks the friendly remembrance of all those who in this place frequent the service of God. He died March the 6th, 1759, aged 33. The extent of his liberality enabled the trustees to do this justice to his memory which his own modesty would not permit him to direct.

In the church-yard is a handsome tomb, with a carved urn, to the memory of Anne Elliott, who was a native of this parish, and died in 1769, aged 26.

The Vicar is the Rev. Sir C. Hardinge, Bart., and the Curate the Rev. Thomas Knox, D.D. Head Master of the Grammar School.

Tunbridge was formerly a borough, with the privilege of sending members to Parliament, although it is said they valued the right so little, that there is but one return of



members sent up from here, which was in the reign of Edward I., when John German and John Martin were returned.

On the 12th July, 1555, Margaret Palley was burnt in this town, being the first woman, according to Burnett, that suffered death in the reign of Queen Mary, on account of her attachment to the principles of the Reformation. At the entrance into the town from the Wells are some Alms Houses, erected and endowed for seven poor men and women, by George Petley, Esq., in the year 1707. There are also some alms houses just out of the town, on the Hastings road, the gift of Captain Deacon, formerly of Somerhill.

A cattle market is held here the first Tuesday in every month, which is generally well attended. The old market house was taken down about the year 1797, and the present building erected by William Woodgate, Esq., of Somerhill, then lord of the manor. The materials were said to be principally taken from an old manor house called Hawkwell or Halkwell, in the parish of Pembury.

There are several good Inns and Commercial Houses in the town, the principal of which is the *Rose and Crown*, conducted



by Messrs. Parker and Son, which is also a posting house.

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### SOMERHILL.

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THIS mansion is pleasantly situated on the brow of a well wooded eminence, about two miles from Tunbridge. It originally formed a portion of a large district, having a park within its boundaries, called the *South Frith*, and was part of the extensive demesnes belonging to the possessors of Tunbridge castle. Mr. Oneley says, "It was anciently appointed by the Earls of Gloucester as a lodge for the bailiff of their great chase here, called Tunbridge Forest, and afterwards *South Frith*. It has had several noble possessors, Edward, Duke of Buckingham, Sir Philip Sidney, Robert, Earl of Essex, the Earl of Clanrickard, Lord Muskerry (in the time of Charles I.,) and Lady Purbeck." It was once the property and residence of Sir Francis Walsingham, from whom it descended to his daughter Frances, who married, first, the accomplished Sir Philip Sidney; secondly, the unfortunate Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex; and lastly, Richard



de Burghe, Earl of Clanrickard, of whom Smollett says, "He was a very handsome gallant young nobleman, and so much like the late Earl of Essex, that the queen (Elizabeth,) then far advanced in years, made some overtures to him, which he declined." Upon the marriage of the Earl of Clanrickard he commenced building the present noble mansion, to which he gave the name of Somerhill, from one of his Irish estates. The house must have been begun soon after the commencement of the seventeenth century, as some of the leaden water spouts have the dates of 1611 and 1613 on them. It was not finished till the reign of James I., which monarch, in the 22nd year of his reign, created Lord Clanrickard, Baron Somerhill and Viscount Tunbridge. He died in 1636, and was buried in Tunbridge church. Ulick, his son and heir, long bore arms in the cause of Charles I. in Ireland, and being obliged to fly from that country he came to England, and in 1645 was created Marquis Clanrickard. His attachment to the royal cause, which he espoused with great ardour, naturally drew upon him the vengeance of parliament, by whom his estates were seques-



trated, and Somerhill granted to the Earl of Essex, as a reward for his unspotted fidelity, as captain general of the parliamentary forces. Upon his death it was given by the parliament to John Bradshaw,\* Serjeant at Law, who presided at the mock trial of the unfortunate Charles I. Honest John Evelyn in his diary says: "May 29, 1652, we went to see the house of my Lord Clanrickard, at Summer-hill, near Tunbridge, (now given to that villain Bradshaw who condemned the king.) 'Tis situated on an eminent hill, with a park, but has nothing else extraordinary." Bradshaw died in 1659, and was buried at Westminster, but the following year his body was disinterred, and hanged at Tyburn, and the head being cut off, was set on Westminster Hall. At the restoration of Charles II. Somerhill returned to its rightful

\* In Walker's History of Independence this man is thus noticed: "Somerhill a pleasant seat with one thousand pounds a year, is given by the junto to the blood-hound, Bradshaw: so he hath warned the Countess of Leicester, who formerly had it in possession, to raise a debt of £3000, pretended due to her from the said Earle (which she had already raised four fold,) to quit the possession against our Lord's day next."—p. 303.



owner Margaret, the daughter of Ulick, Marquis of Clanrickard, and wife of Viscount Muskerry,\* who having married a third husband, Robert Fielding, Esq. died in 1698. Hasted says,† “ Lady Muskerry having, by her expensive way of life, wasted her estate, she by peacemeal sold off a great part of the demesne lands, lying mostly on the southern side of South Frith, to different persons : and dying in great distress, was buried accordingly, about the year 1698.” After this the estate passed through several hands until 1816, when it became the property, by purchase, of the present occupier, James Alexander, Esq., who made many judicious improvements in the mansion, preserving its original character, yet adapting its interior to modern comfort and convenience. From a turret in the court on the north side of the house are seen the Canterbury Hills near Dover, at the distance of about 50 miles ; but this view, and the several objects it comprises, is best enjoyed from a rising hill, on which grow two large beeches, at a little distance southward from the house. The library is a very noble room, executed from the designs

\* See page 22.

† Vol. ii. p. 341.



of Sir Jeffry Wyatville. It extends the whole depth of the house, about 100 feet, and is adorned with five bay windows, and eight columns. There are three fireplaces in it, and the *tout ensemble* has a most magnificent appearance. Indeed the whole interior is fitted up with great taste.

An opinion has long been prevalent that Charles II. and his Queen held their court here when they visited the Wells, but this, as we have already stated, must be erroneous. It is evident from De Grammont's Memoirs, that they merely paid it occasional visits, and never resided here: "Lady Muskerry and Miss Hamilton," he says, "were at Summer Hill, having left the melancholy residence of Peckham. They went every day to Court, or the Court came to them." Again he says, "He had seen Miss Hamilton daily, either in the marshes of melancholy Peckham, or in the delicious walks of cheerful Summer Hill." It is, therefore, evident that Somerhill could not have been the residence of the court.

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As Tunbridge is the great thoroughfare from the Wells, not only to the metropolis,



but other places, we shall take this as a starting point to some towns and villages not generally noticed—premising that a visit to each or all of them will prove highly gratifying. The ride from Tunbridge to *Maidstone*, from which it is distant fourteen miles, is remarkably pleasant, and may be well termed the “Garden of Kent,” as the land on each side of the road for nearly the whole distance, is highly cultivated, and laid out as hop gardens, cherry orchards, filbert plantations, &c. The first village you arrive at is

### HADLOW,

Which is four miles from Tunbridge, and ten from the Wells. The church is a small building, with a low pointed steeple, and stands on the east side of the town. It is dedicated to St. Mary. The chief point of attraction here is *Hadlow Castle*, the residence of A. B. May, Esq., by whom it was built. It is an immense castellated building, and the character of it is well preserved throughout. A short distance from *Hadlow* to the left is *Oxonhoath*, the elegant mansion of Sir William R. P. Geary, Bart.



## MEREWORTH.

THIS village is two miles beyond Hadlow. There is a large mansion here called *Mere-worth Place*, built about the year 1748, after the plans of Colin Campbell, for the eighth Earl of Westmoreland. It stands on the site of an ancient embattled residence, surrounded by a moat, and consists of a centre and two wings. The great hall from which all the apartments branch, is lighted by a dome and cupola, between the walls of which the flews are carried up, and shew no external marks of chimnies. On the ground floor the rooms communicate with each other, so that which ever side you enter, you proceed through a suite of rooms to the picture gallery, which brings you to another *suite* of rooms on the opposite side, corresponding, or nearly so, with those you have already visited. There was formerly a fine collection of pictures here, and a choice museum of natural and other curiosities, but some few years since, the whole of them were sold. The ground behind the house forms a very pleasing amphitheatre, embellished with plantations, and in front of it is a fine sheet of water which rises at a short



distance westward, and flows into the Medway. The youthful Baroness Le Despencer is the present possessor of this charming property. The church, dedicated to St. Lawrence, formerly stood on the spot now occupied by the west wing of Mereworth Place, but was pulled down for the purpose of rebuilding the mansion, by the Earl of Westmoreland, who caused the present elegant church to be built on the plan of St. Paul's, Covent Garden. It is, however, considered by many to be more beautiful than that structure, and has a splendid spire. This church contains no pews, but open seats, and the pillars are painted in imitation of marble. At the west end, in a small chapel, are some monuments of the Fane's, removed from the old church. There is some fine stained glass in the east window, which was also removed from the old building. Near Mereworth is *East Peckham*, the white church of which, standing on the summit of a hill, is easily distinguished for many miles around, and serves, we believe, for a landmark in many parts of the channel. Near this is an ancient brick mansion, called *Royden Hall*, the property of the Twysden's, a distinguished family in the county. About two miles from Mereworth, on the Maidstone road, is



## WATRINGBURY,

A truly delightful village, and well worthy a visit. Alderman Lucas resides here, and has rebuilt a great portion of the village. Most of the houses are of a rustic character, and the gardens are laid out with considerable taste and effect. The ancient mansion house, which was moated, was pulled down in 1707, and the present erected in its place. The church stands at the west end of the village. It is a gothic building, with a lofty spire, and is paved and wainscoted. There are also the remains of some good stained glass in the windows. The whole country from here to Maidstone abounds in rich and diversified scenery, in many parts of which the river Medway is seen to great advantage.

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SHIPBORNE.

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A very interesting ride of four miles from Tunbridge, chiefly through the North Frith woods, the property of Christopher Idle, Esq. brings you to Shipborne or Shipbourn, which is an exceedingly pretty village. The houses



are built chiefly round an extensive green, and the whole has an air of comfort and respectability, that naturally creates a feeling of interest in the place. The church, dedicated to St. Giles's, is a remarkably neat fabric, and was rebuilt by Christopher Lord Barnard, several of whose family are buried here, as well as some branches of the Westmoreland and Darlington families, of whom there are several memorials in the church, besides helmets, swords, and various pieces of armour belonging to those noble families. There is a handsome marble monument in the church to "The Hon. Eliz. Vane, eldest daughter of the Right Hon. Lord and Lady Barnard. Obijt. Anno 1688. Etatis nono." The figures of the parents, large as life, are sitting, with the daughter in front of them. The whole is supported by Ionic pilasters. About a mile from the village is *Plaxtol*, where there is a great natural curiosity, an immense elm tree, the branches of which are of an amazing size, and spread very widely. They are supported by props, and from each limb appears to spring another tree, the whole resembling, at a short distance, a cluster of trees. On the rise of the hill from Shipborne



is *Fairlawn*, the elegant mansion of Miss Yates. The grounds around it are very extensive, and it was formerly of some note as the residence of the Fane or Vane family, the ancestors of the Earl of Westmoreland. To the left of this village, but in the parish of

### IGHTHAM,

Is a very ancient moated house, in the occupation of Mrs. Selby, and in whose family it has been since the latter end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when it was purchased by Sir William Selby, of Branxton, in Northumberland. The house is situated in a complete dell, and is scarcely visible from any of the approaches to it, till you are close upon it. Then indeed the effect produced is almost startling. The wide moat—the grey walls—the air of antiquity that pervades everything, carries you back to by-gone times, and the imagination so yields itself to the illusion of the scene, that a train of fair damosels, with their attendant knights issuing forth from the principal entrance and crossing the bridge, to enjoy the diversion of hawking, would appear perfectly natural and to be expected. Fronting the house, and outside the moat, are barns, granaries, &c. of very great extent,



and of most venerable appearance. Crossing the stone bridge you arrive at the principal gateway, which leads into a quadrangle, around which are the offices, &c. ; and here the visitor will be struck with the remarkable air of freshness, as it were, of everything around. Notwithstanding the centuries that have elapsed since this mansion was erected, there is scarcely any appearance of repairs perceptible in the massive walls—and the good taste of the different proprietors of it, has prevented the unholy hand of the decorator from “ beautifying or adorning ” it. The barge boards to the gables in this court, are richly carved, and there are enough remaining to afford a fine study for modern Elizabethan architects ; but a feast for the antiquary is the chapel, which is entered by an open staircase from the court, which staircase has ballusters painted on the wall in imitation of the real ballusters. A rude wooden screen, which is carved, crosses the upper end. Two of the panels on the left have been cut away to make an entrance to a pulpit and reading desk. In front of the screen are seats for the household, and behind on each side are open seats for the family,



running parallel to the sides of the building. On the ends of the desks belonging to these are carved terminals, on which may be seen, upon close inspection, two shields of arms painted. That on the left is argent, two bends viure nebulæ (or wavy) sable, on a chief gules, three leopards' faces, or; that on the right is the same impaled with two demi lions passant gardant sable. The sides and ends of the room are wainscoted, and divided into small panels, about a foot square, and painted a dark brown, or rather a dull red colour. At the end, beyond the screen, is a musical instrument resembling a harpsichord, with an apparatus beneath it similar to the modern organ bellows. The keys are gone, but fragments of the wires are still remaining. The outside has been well painted with arabesque ornaments, on a lead coloured ground—very like some of the borders to the *fine* old tapestry. There are two shields of arms, one of 16 quarters in the centre, and another of 6 quarters. On the lid inside is a representation of Orpheus playing to the brutes. This instrument appears to have been placed here at a much later period than the building of the chapel, but at what



date is very uncertain. It is probable that it stands on the site of the altar, and the difference in the panelling at this part warrants the supposition. On each side are doorways leading to small closets beyond—these doors have panels of lattice work in the upper part. The window frames are square headed, and unornamented. Three of the windows have stained glass. One of them is our Saviour and Mary—another St. John—and the third is a knight in armour, with a surcoat or tunic. A part of this has been destroyed, but a date beneath the figure appears to be 1537. The roof or ceiling, now going rapidly to decay, is the most decorated part. Its shape is the obtuse arch, formed by planks of oak, bent over narrow ribs of the same material. These ribs are painted slate and green in chevron stripes. The planks are painted with heraldic badges of the house of Tudor, and divided into half lozenge compartments, painted red alternately, and the whole upon a white ground. It is much to be regretted that this chapel has been neglected. Not only is the roof decaying, but portions of the walls are crumbling away. The whole might be easily restored to its original appearance



To prevent disappointment to those who may wish to view the interior of the Moat House, it is necessary to remark, that the venerable proprietor and occupier of it, Mrs. Selby, will not allow it to be shewn to strangers. Through the kindness of a friend we were permitted to enter the chapel; but, we regret to state, our artist was not allowed to make a sketch of this *gem of antiquity*.

At *Oldbury Hill*, in this parish, are very considerable remains of a Roman entrenchment, the area of which is said to contain 137 acres. It is of an oval form, but so overgrown with wood, that it is difficult to trace it. On the brow of the hill there is an entrance to a cave, which, tradition states, went a considerable distance under the hill.

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### WROTHAM.

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THIS ancient town is situated two miles from Ightham, and fifteen from Tunbridge Wells. It lies at the foot of the well known chalk hills, from the summit of which the views are of the most magnificent description. There are the remains here of an archiepiscopal palace, which was one of the residences of the Archbishops of Canterbury



till the reign of Edward III., when Archbishop Simon Islip wishing to complete the palace at Maidstone, pulled down the greater part of this residence, and conveyed the materials there. Very little of the palace remains but a part of the walls, that forms the garden wall of the Bull Inn, behind which the ruins are situated. A large stone building, now employed for various uses, appears to have been the offices belonging to the palace, and there are also marks of a garden, bowling green, and terrace, in the adjoining field. Opposite the inn is a very ancient mansion, thought to have been of Saxon origin. It was once occupied by a family of the name of Nyssell, one of whom died in 1498, and lies buried, with his wife, in the church. *Blacksole Field*, in this parish, is the spot where the Lord Abergavenny, and Sir Robert Southwell, High Sheriff of the County, routed Sir Henry Isley and his party, who were engaged in Sir Thomas Wyatt's rebellion. The church, dedicated to St. George, is a large ancient structure, and contains some old monuments. At the bottom of the Wrotham Hills is "the Pilgrim's Road," which was much frequented by devotees, who considered



it meritorious either by way of penance, or otherwise, to visit the celebrated shrine of Thomas-a-Becket, at Canterbury.

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Proceeding from Tunbridge to Sevenoaks, about a mile from the former place on the left is *Mountain's*, the property of S. Turley, Esq. This was once the residence of George Colman the Younger, the author of some of our best comedies; and it was in this house, about the year 1798, or 1799, that he wrote *The Poor Gentleman*, selecting the characters from his friends and neighbours. The following is a list of the principal *dramatis personæ*, and the names of the parties whom Colman has portrayed; with which we have been favoured by a gentleman who knew the author, and the several parties mentioned.

Lieutenant Worthington,	Mr. Colman,
Corporal Foss,	his servant, (name forgotten,)
Sir Charles Cropland,	Mr. De Paso,
Sir Robert Bramble,	George Children, Esq.
Frederick,	Mr. John George Children,
Farmer Harrowby,	Mr. John Hilder,
Stephen Harrowby,	Mr. Hilder, Jun.
Dr. Ollapod,	Mr. Edward Luttrell, Surgeon,
Miss Lucretia Mac Tab,	Miss Harvey,
Dame Harrowby,	Mrs. Hilder,
Mary,	Miss Charlotte White.

Nearly three miles from Tunbridge is *Watt's Cross*, to the left of which is a



pleasant road, through the ancient village of *Leigh*, to Penshurst. Immediately beyond is *Oak Hill*, and a mile further brings the traveller to

### RIVER HILL,

The splendid view from which should not be passed over lightly. On the right is the residence of Henry Buckley, Esq. a modern built mansion, most picturesquely situated, and the prospect from it in every direction is of the finest description—more particularly from a spot near the Upper Lodge, beyond the 25th mile stone, on the road leading to Fork Common. Here the richly cultivated vale lies stretched before you, with its delightful meadows and corn-fields, whilst the fore-ground, by its distinct and beautiful features, adds greatly to the endless and softened distance of the lovely valley spread beneath it. From the fields, at this charming spot, Portsdown may be clearly distinguished, far beyond the tower of Leith Hill, which is 29 miles in a direct line. From this hill, also, a small Chapel of Ease, standing in the midst of some beautiful scenery, forms a very pleasing object. The *coup d'œil* from River Hill is considered by many





RIVER-HILL, (*from the Flower Garden,*) the Seat of Henry Buckley, Esq.





to surpass that of Morant's Court Hill, on the other side of Sevenoaks; but the former wants, what the latter enjoys in perfection, many ancient spots and dwellings that interest the mind, as well as please the eye. The drawing from which our wood cut is taken, is from Mr. Buckley's flower garden.

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### SEVENOAKS.

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THIS town is situated thirteen miles from the Wells, on the London road. It is thought to have been named from seven large oaks which formerly grew somewhere on the site of it, and in remembrance of which, we presume, seven oaks stand in a row, just after passing the *Royal Oak* posting-house, on Sevenoaks common. The derivation of the name, however, is extremely doubtful. In the Itineraries it is written *Suenoca*, but in ancient writings it is termed *Sennocks*, by which latter name it is frequently called even in the present day. Just previous to entering the town, on the left, there are some fields, called "Sole Fields," from a tradition that the engagement between Jack Cade's followers and the Royalist forces, under Sir Humphrey Stafford, in the reign of Henry



VI., took place here, and that it was of so sanguinary a nature the blood ran over the soldiers' shoes! History says, that Cade had retired with his followers to a wood near Sevenoaks, but upon the Royalist forces appearing he gave them battle, and defeated them with great slaughter. Sir Humphrey and his brother being both slain.

There is an interesting fact of a more pleasing description, connected with this town. Towards the close of the fourteenth century, an infant boy, deserted by his unnatural parents, was picked up either in the streets of Sevenoaks, or in one of the adjoining fields. He was named William de Sennocke, and was brought up, and apprenticed at the expence of Mr. William Rumsched, a charitable inhabitant of the town. The orphan was successful in his commercial pursuits, and became in 1419 Sir William de Sennocke, Lord Mayor of London. Unlike too many, who, springing from obscurity to opulence, forget their original station and their early benefactors, Sir William in remembrance of his preservation built and endowed thirteen almshouses for the maintenance of aged persons, and a school for the education of poor



children. These are on the right, as you pass through the town, neatly built with Kentish rag-stone. In the reign of King Henry the VIII., a Mr. John Potkyns was also a great benefactor to this school; the revenues of which were further augmented, and its several litigated possessions quietly established by Queen Elizabeth, in 1560, from which circumstance, it was called Queen Elizabeth's Free-school. The building, as it now stands, was erected on the old foundation in the year 1727.\*

\* Whilst these pages were passing through the press, the following paragraph relative to this school appeared in the Kentish papers:—

SEVENOAKS CORPORATION SEAL.—The seal of the Free School, Sevenoaks, founded by Sir William Sennock Knt., July 4th, 1432, and on the petition of Ralph Bosville, Esq., incorporated by letters patent from Queen Elizabeth on the 1st of July, 1560, which had been lost a great number of years, has lately been found, under somewhat singular circumstances. It appears that the seal was given to a child to play with, but by what means the person who gave it to the child came into possession of the seal will perhaps ever remain a mystery. The seal, which is made from heart of oak, bears the representation of a person sitting in an elbow chair, with a canopy over his head, and holding a book in one hand and a rod in the other, a boy is standing on each side of him,



Sevenoaks is a populous, well-built, and apparently a thriving town. It is situated on the great ridge of hills, which run across the country, and divide the upland from the Weald, or Southern district from it. It contains several good houses, and has a large ancient market-place, in which is held a weekly market on Saturdays, besides a monthly cattle market. Just below Sevenoaks Vine, on the left of the road leading to Dartford, is a spot formerly called Gallows Common, from its having been the spot on which criminals were executed who were tried in the old Market House, which fell down about the year 1806. The assizes were held here several times between the years 1587 and 1648. On the 5th of September in the latter year, Justice Bacon and Serjeant Cresheld were the Judges. Tradition states that the last criminal who suffered here, was

and six boys are at his feet, under which is the following motto—*Servire Deo Regiare est*. It is perhaps somewhat strange that no person now living knows what was the ancient seal. The corporation have, for a great number of years past, used a seal bearing the representation of a shield, with seven acorns.



a young woman whose sweetheart, a tailor, had procured a pardon for her, but arrived too late. The body was taken down, but all the means used to restore life proved unavailing, although, say the gossips, "he was near enough to see her turned off." Artillery barracks were afterwards built on the site of the Gallows, and they were taken down at the close of the war, a dwelling-house was erected, which is now occupied as a lady's school. Just below, on the same road, is the site of the Hospital of St. John, which gives name to a few houses surrounding the spot. About five years since, several human skeletons were discovered close to the farm-yard, probably within the ancient precincts of the Hospital; they were placed side by side, with their feet to the east.

In Sevenoaks town is a pond, now arched over and a pump only to be seen, which was formerly in great request for the purpose of "ducking scolding women," and in old leases it is described as such. There is a large church here, which is a handsome building, with a square tower at the west end. It is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and contains some very fine monuments. At the east end of the



south aisle is the following inscription to Lady Boswell, which fully explains her charitable intentions :

To the Memorie of ye Pious Relict of Sir William Boswell, residant at the Hague xxi years for King Charles 1st, ye Lady Margaret Boswell whose Religious Charitable Spirit not satisfied to exert her Christian Liberalitie, in large and frequent bounties towards the comfort and support of indigents only, during LXXXVII years she conversed among us mortals: but being near the state Æternal projected a fund of munificence such as might continue to the posteritie of future ages, which she happily effected, by settling a farm called Hallywell in Burnham in Essex, upon trustees and their Heirs for ever, to pay and dispose the rents to these uses. To Jesvs College in Cambridge, Two Scholarships xii pounds per Annm each, ye Scholars to be called Sir Wm. Boswell's scholars, and to be chosen out of Sevenoke school, (and for want of lads fitting here, then from Tonbridge school) and upon every vacancy, 5 pounds a-piece to two of ye Fellows of Jesus Coll. : to come over to prove the capacities of the Lads : Also xii pounds yearly to a Schoolmaster, to instruct xv of the poorest children born in this parish, in the catechism of ye church of England, and to write and cast accompts: and xviii pounds per Annm more, to be kept in Public stock to place them so taught to Handycraft Trades or Employments:

The mortal part of the said Lady Margaret Boswell, was deposited in a new vault, and over it this monument, erected at the sole care and charge of Mrs. Green, formerly Worsley, Executrix of her



Lady's last will, to express her affectionate duty to her deceased relation; in the year MDCXCII.

Plura velis Lector Tibi cunctas hoc breve Saxum  
 Virtutes Dominæ non recitare queat.  
 Ore vigent Populi Grato ore hæc Villa Sonabit,  
 Dum nomen Septem à Quercabus, alma tenet;  
 Munera Virtutes, Magnalia Bosvileorune  
 Plaudes, ac si vis Æmulus esto Vale.

At the west end of the north aisle is the monument of Lambard, the Perambulator. It was first erected in Greenwich Church, but when that building was taken down, it was brought to Sevenoaks by a descendant and placed where it now remains. It is a handsome mural monument of white marble, and on a tablet of black is an inscription to William Lambard, who died August 19th, 1601. Underneath is the following :

Archionomia .....	1568		Justice of the Peace..	1581
Perambulation of Kent	1570		Pandecta rotulorum..	1600
Archeion.....	1591			

Against the north wall is a monument to Charles, Earl Whitworth, with a bust of that nobleman, by Carew. Monuments to the first Earl Amherst, and his brother the Admiral, occupy parts of the east end of the south aisle, also an old one to the Scott family, and a quaint memorial, to a person not named, painted on board and dated 1618.



There are also many inscriptions on ledgers and mural slabs, among which may be mentioned, the Lambard, Farnaby, Petly, Streatfield, Curteis, Theobald, and Fermor families. The almshouses were originally for twenty persons only, but the income has been increased by benefactions, from the following humane individuals. Anthony Pope, in 1571. John Pott, 1589. John Potkin, Edwd. Sislely, on the part of John Spratt, 16th James 1st. Robt. Holmsden, 1619. John Leonard, Mrs. Mash, 1815, &c. &c. For the last century there have been thirty-two dwellings for poor people, and sixteen persons receiving out-pensions.

The principal Inns in this town are *The Crown*, and *The Royal Oak*, which are posting and commercial houses.

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### KNOLE.

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THIS splendid building is situated on a commanding eminence, in a most extensive and finely wooded park. The area upon which it stands is said to exceed three acres, and notwithstanding the apparent uniformity in the style of the building, there can be no doubt that it has been erected at different



periods, and some portion of it at a very remote date. The earliest authentic history of it is in the beginning of the reign of King John, when it was the property of Falcatius de Brent, and afterwards of Baldwin de Betun, who also possessed the adjoining manors of Braborne, Kemsing,\* and Seale. From these it was successively in the occupation of several noble and distinguished families until 1456, when William, Lord Say and Seale, being much engaged in the unhappy troubles of those times, was necessitated to sell the greater part of his possessions. On the 30th of June in the above year, he conveyed his manor of Knole, with its appurtenances, to Thomas Bouchier, Archbishop of Canterbury, who re-built the manor-house, and enclosed the park round it. The greater portion of the present building is considered to be of

\* Kemsing, now an inconsiderable hamlet near Sevenoaks, was formerly a place of some importance, and had a castle, which in those days, was reckoned impregnable. It is from the range of hills above Kemsing to Tunbridge town that the inhabitants claim the title of "Men of Kent;" still retaining the old traditional proverb, "Holmesdale, never conquered, nor ever shall."—See "Lambard," and also "Bridgman's Sketch of Knole," 1817; from which work part of this account is taken.



this date, and one of the rooms situated over the entrance looking into the front court, not accessible to visitors, has the form and character of a private chapel. On each side of the room is a projecting shield in stone; on the one is a double triangle, enclosing the letters I. H. S.; and on the other an hieroglyphic, signifying Canterbury surrounded with the knot or cognizance of Archbishop Bouchier; who resided chiefly at Knole. At his death, which took place on the 30th March, 1486, he bequeathed this manor to the See of Canterbury, as a palace for his successors, for ever. Archbishop Moreton, his successor in the see, who was also a Cardinal of Rome, and Lord Chancellor of England, resided here frequently, and considerably enlarged the house. He died at Knole in October 1500, and left behind him the character of "having been born for the good of all England." King Henry VII. visited him there more than once; and between the years 1504 and 1514, Henry VIII. frequently honoured Archbishop Wareham with a visit. At this Archbishop's death, in 1532, he was succeeded by Thomas Cranmer, who possessed it at a most inauspicious



period, as he was scarcely installed, when he felt himself compelled to resign the most valuable part of his possessions to save the remainder. Knole continued in the hands of the Crown till King Edward VI. in the fourth year of his reign gave it to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, in exchange for other lands. He was created Duke of Northumberland in the seventh of that reign, and on his attainder and execution, in the first year of Queen Mary's reign, the Queen granted it to Reginald Pole, Archbishop of Canterbury, and a Cardinal of the Church of Rome. He died on the same day that Queen Mary died, November 17th, 1558, when this estate again reverted to the Crown, and Queen Elizabeth granted it to her kinsman Henry Cary, Lord Hunsdon. In the third year of her reign the manor and house of Knole, with the parks and lands, were granted by the Queen to Sir Robert Dudley, afterwards Earl of Leicester, who surrendered it again in June 1566, and it was then given to Thomas Sackville, Baron Buckhurst, and afterwards Earl of Dorset, who was related to the Queen by inter-marriage of his family with that of Bullen. It is said, in



the family, upon the authority of the first Earl, that the Queen's motive in bestowing this house upon him was to keep him near her court and councils, that he might repair thither on any emergency with more expedition than he could from Buckhurst; the roads in Sussex being at times impassable. The Earl came to reside at Knole in 1603, and continued to reside there till his death, at the Council Board, April 19th, 1608, at the advanced age of 81. This nobleman is reported to have kept two hundred workmen at Knole in constant employment, and the house was no doubt thoroughly repaired and probably enlarged by him. The leaden water spouts bear his initials, of the respective dates of 1605 and 1607, and the carved screen in the hall bears his arms, with those of his Countess; while many other parts of the wainscot and ceilings that have not been modernised, are of the same style and character. This Earl was succeeded by his son Robert, and it has since continued to be the principal residence of the Sackville family to the present time. Richard, the third Earl of Dorset, appears to have lived at Knole in almost regal splendour. He was born March



25th, 1589; and February 28th, 1609, two days after the death of his father, married Anne Clifford, daughter of the Earl of Cumberland. After making a continental tour he returned to Knole, April 8th, 1612, where he was received with great rejoicings. He is described as being "handsome, elegant, learned, generous, and affable. Falling in with, or rather taking the lead in, the splendour and hospitality of the times, together with the magnificence of his retinue and his own costly deportment, he amply gratified all who knew or that looked up to him; but in the end so exhausted his means as to excite a general regret, and leave his posterity to deplore his waste and profusion." After being compelled to part with all his possessions at Knole, reserving only a lease of the house at an annual rent, he died at the age of thirty-five, March 28th, 1624, and was buried at Withyham, in Sussex.

The reader may form some idea of the magnificent style in which this nobleman lived and the hospitality he must have kept from the following description copied from a MS. at Knole, and entitled,

A CATALOGUE

Of the Household and Family of the Right Honour-



able Richard Earl of Dorset, in the year of our Lord 1613; and so continued until the year 1624, at Knole, in Kent, &c. &c.

“At my Lord’s Table,” were eight persons, “My Lord; my Lady; my Lady Margaret; my Lady Isabella; Mr. Sackville; Mr. Frost; John Musgrave; Thomas Garret.”

“At the Parlour Table,” 21 persons; among whom were, “Mr. Dupper, Chaplain; Mr. Mathew Caldicot, my Lord’s favourite; Mr. Adw. Legge, Steward; Mr. Peter Basket, Gentleman of the Horse; Mr. Marshall, Auditor; Mr. Edwards, Secretary.”

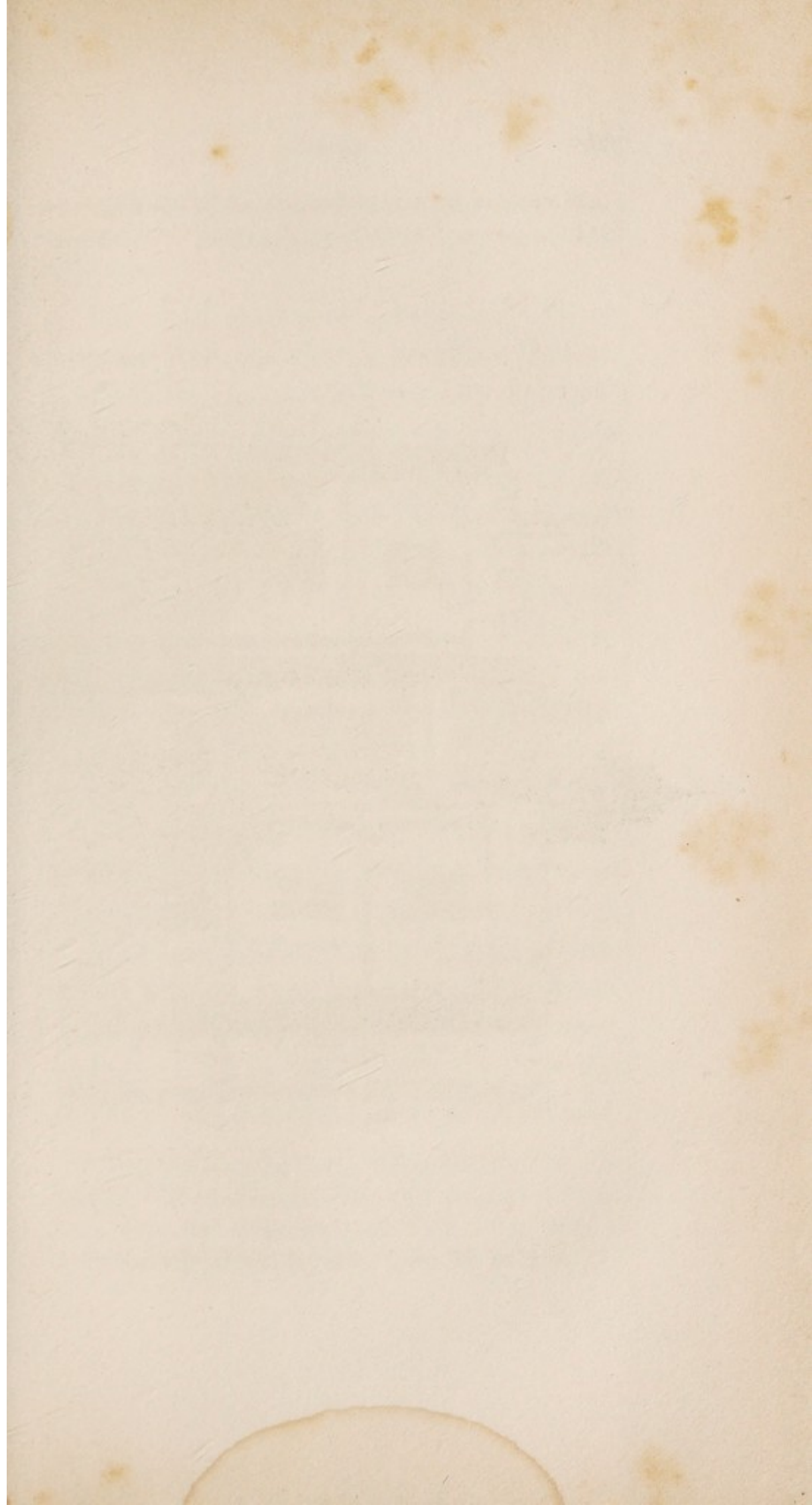
“At the Clerks’ Table in the Hall,” 21 persons; including Clerks of the Kitchen, the Master and two other Cooks, the Yeomen of the Buttery and Pantry, the Pastryman, the Slaughterman, Groom of the Great Chamber, two Bakers, two Brewers, two Gardeners, Caterer, and Groom of the Wardrobe.

“The Nursery—Nurse Carpenter; Widow Ben; Jane Sisley; Dorothy Pickenden.”

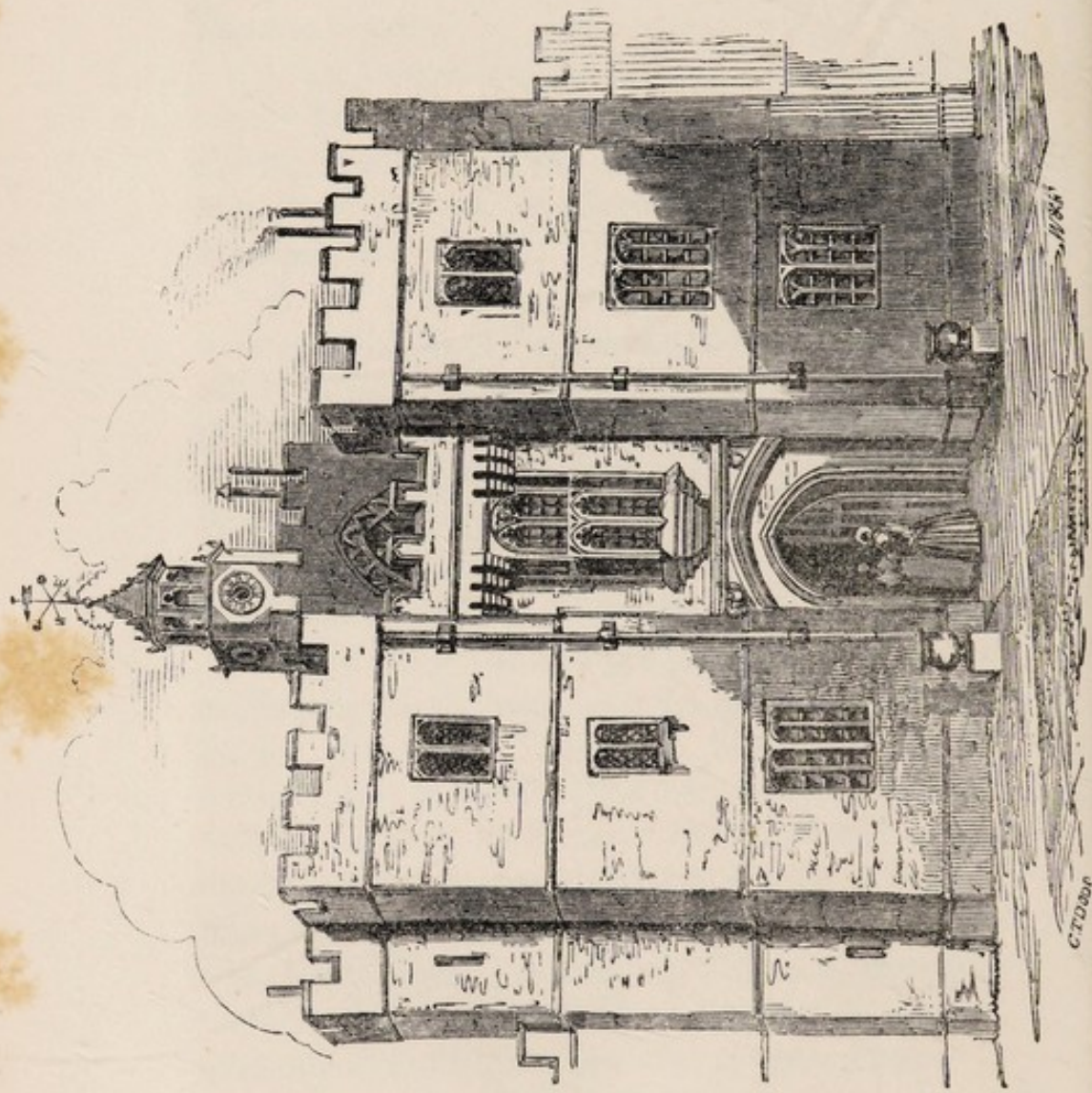
“At the Long Table in the Hall,” 47 persons; including the Attendants on my Lord and Lady, the Barber, Scrivener, Yeomen of the Wardrobe, the Granary, and the Great Chamber, the Master Huntsman, Armourer, 3 Grooms of the Great Horse, Groom for the Stranger’s Horse, Groom of the Stables, and other Grooms, 7 Footmen, 2 Farriers, the Chaplain’s Man, 2 Huntsmen, Solomon, the Bird-catcher, the Armourer’s Man, Ralph Wise, his servant, the Porter’s Man, two Men to carry wood.

“The Laundry Maid’s Table,” 12 persons; including “Goodwife Burton; Grace Robinson, a Blackamoor; Goodwife Small.”

“Kitchen and Scullery,” 6 persons; amongst whom







C. T. DODD

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were, "John Morockoe, a Blackamoor;" and "Mardidy Snipt." Making altogether 116 persons, without "Visitors."

The chief apartments shewn to Visitors are, the Hall, the Brown or Horn Gallery, Lady Betty Germain's Rooms, the Spangled Bed Room and its Dressing Room, the Billiard Room, the Leicester Gallery, the Venetian Bed Room, the Ball Room, the Chapel Room and Chapel, the Drawing Room, the Cartoon Gallery, the King's Bed Chamber, the Dining, or Poet's Parlour, the Colonnade, the Guard Room, &c.

The entrance to the house is through a tower portal, in the centre of the first court or range of buildings. Passing through the lodge,\* in which are some arms and accoutrements, you enter the first quadrangle, or "green court;" on the right hand of which is a cast of a Gladiator, and on the left, Venus coming from the bath. Our Wood Engraving, which is taken from this spot, represents the second gateway, nearly the centre of the building, which leads into the

\* To prevent alarm to the timid, it is necessary to remark, that you cannot effect this entrance till you have deposited your stick, umbrella, &c., with a burly-looking personage, who opens the gate.



second quadrangle, on the opposite side of which is a portico supported by eight Ionic columns. Upon the parapet which forms the side of the hall is a large Shield carved in stone, with the Arms of Cranfield, quartered. This was formerly at Copt Hall, in Essex, and was fixed at Knole in 1701. The Clock formerly stood in a dome over the Hall, but from the supposed insecurity of the roof it was removed in 1745, to its present situation. Under the portico are the skulls and horns of a Moz-deer, that were found in a Marl-pit near the mountains of Wicklow; the other horns are fine specimens of the horns of English deer. The first room to which Visitors are introduced is,

THE HALL, which is finely proportioned, and measures about 75 feet in length, including the Screen, 27 feet in breadth, and about 26 feet 8 inches in height. Among the Pictures here, are, *The Death of Marc Antony*, by Dance; the Face of Cleopatra is exquisitely beautiful; *The Finding of Moses*, by Giordana; *A View of Dover Castle and the adjacent Country*, with the procession of Lionel, Duke of Dorset, as Lord Warden, painted by Wotton, in 1727. At one end is a fine Grecian relic, in marble, of *Demosthenes*\* in the act of delivering an Oration, which

\* A cast from this was presented by the Duke of Dorset to the Royal Academy, and is there improperly called *Pythagoras*.—“Bridgman,” p. 17.



was purchased in Italy, by the Duke of Dorset, for £700. There is also a Cast from Canova, of *Perseus with the Head of Medusa*, also a recumbent figure in marble, of *The Goddess Egeria*. The room is built after the fashion of the Anglo-Norman halls, such as we have described at Penshurst, and other places. The curious and-irons in the fireplace, on which are the arms and initials of Henry VIII. conjointly with those of Bullen, were purchased at a sale at Hever Castle. The long oak table is constructed for the game of shuffle-board.

The BROWN OR HORN GALLERY is 88 feet in length, and is chiefly filled with Portraits of the Reformers, and illustrious persons of the time of Henry VIII. Among these are, *Luther*, *Erasmus*, and *Melancthon*, (said to be by Holbein, but pronounced by others to be the production of Lucius Greni). *Wickliffe*, *Wolsey*, *Cranmer*, &c. (copies from Holbein). *Friar Bacon*, (whose acquirements and profound erudition caused him to be considered as a magician). *Queen Anna Bullen*, (an excellent painting).

LADY BETTY GERMAIN'S BED ROOM and DRESSING ROOM are to the right of this Gallery, and contain some excellent paintings and tapestry, including *Vandyke*, and his father-in-law, the *Earl of Gowrie*. The bedstead, which is of oak, appears to be of great antiquity. On the left of the Gallery is

The SPANGLED BED ROOM; so called from the bed and furniture being covered with spangles. The bed has crimson silk furniture, lined with satin, and richly embroidered. There is also some tapestry by *Reydam*; which, with the whole of the furniture in this



room, was presented by Charles II. to Richard, 5th Earl of Dorset. The and-irons are of silver. The wainscot, antique ebony wardrobe, and rude floor of this room, are worth notice. In the adjoining Dressing Room, are several pictures, including two *Candle-light Pieces*, by Schalkchen; *A Miser*, by Quintin Matsys; *Venus and a Satyr*, by Correggio; *Mrs. Stewart, Duchess of Richmond*, by Lely; (this lady is said to have been the original of the emblematical figure of Britannia, as it appears on our copper coins). *Abraham entertaining the Angels*, by Guercino; *Interior of Old House, with Figures*, by Cuyp.

The BILLIARD ROOM and LEICESTER GALLERY contain, among a variety of splendid pictures, the following: *Sir Kenelm Digby*, a Copy from Vandyke, by Goudt; *Democritus and Heraclitus*, the laughing and crying Philosophers, by Mignard; A head of *Edward, Earl of Dorset*, by Vandyke; *The Earl and Countess of Middlesex*, by Mytens; (the satin dress of the Countess is extremely beautiful). *Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey*, by Holbein; (he was executed in 1547, temp. Henry VIII.) *Henry, Prince of Wales*, eldest son of James I., by Mytens; (this Prince died, Nov. 6th, 1612, at the early age of 19; he was the friend of Lord Dudley North, the discoverer of the Tunbridge Wells Waters). *The God of Silence*, a Copy from Schiavone, by Cartwright; *Major Mohun*; (he was an actor in the time of Charles I., and greatly distinguished himself during the civil wars, by his services in the royal army). The windows of these rooms command very diversified views of the pleasure grounds, &c.



THE VENETIAN BED ROOM, so called from having been slept in by Nicolo Molino, a Venetian Ambassador. The state bed, with its green velvet furniture, was prepared for King James II., who was expected to honor Knole with a visit, but did not arrive. There is some tapestry in this room, and a portrait of *Catherine, Second Empress of Russia*, in military costume. In the Dressing Room are several fine pictures, including the *Death of Cleopatra*, by Dominichino, a splendid picture; and *Sir Thomas More*, by Holbein. In the passage is a portrait of *Jane Seymour*, Queen of Henry VIII., with two or three other pictures.

The ORGAN ROOM is a remarkably rough looking apartment, the walls being rudely covered with oak not panelled, probably from their having at one time, been concealed with tapestry. In this room there are the remains of an Organ, said to have been the second made in England. Some of the keys are still left. The Organ is so judiciously placed, that the Organist, though sitting in this room, could observe the altar and officiating priests, whilst he himself, unseen from the chapel, performed the requisite music. There is an old oaken chest here, grotesquely carved, which belonged to the travelling equipage of Lord Buckhurst, at the time when it was the custom to draw travelling chariots with teams of oxen. There are also several paintings in this room, but nothing particularly remarkable. Adjoining is the family pew, or gallery, looking down into

The CHAPEL, which preserves much of its original character, although the ceiling, formerly



panelled oak, is now a stuccoed imitation of vaulting. There was also some tapestry here, suspended in front of the family seat, and some scriptural paintings. This chapel is by no means so interesting as that at Ightham, though in many respects similar to it. It had been for a long time neglected, when the third Duke of Dorset caused it to be repaired and altered; and Divine Service has since continued to be regularly performed in it, by the family Chaplain, on Sunday afternoon. There is a fine crypt beneath the chapel, with a vaulted roof, which is not generally shewn to Visitors.

The CHAPEL, or PASSAGE ROOM, is highly interesting, though somewhat disfigured by paint and certain wooden repairs, which harmonise badly with the general ancient appearance of the room. The walls are hung with tapestry, representing, in compartments, the history of Noah, the building of the Ark, &c. It is very finely done, and in one corner is a figure so naturally placed, that it appears laboriously employed on the tapestry. The most interesting relics in this room, are those upon the ancient chestnut Cabinet. This is a group of figures, most elaborately carved, presented by Mary, Queen of Scots, a short time previous to her execution, to the second Earl of Dorset. The subjects are, Christ's entry into Jerusalem; His bearing the Cross; Taking down from the Cross; The Entombment. A portion of the carving appears to have been destroyed, as a pillar remains which is thought to have formed part of a group representing the Scourging. In one of the rooms on the left of the entrance to the chapel is a curious old



chimney-piece, which bears the cognizance of Archbishop Bourchier, but as this and an adjoining room are not shewn to Visitors, we need not describe them more particularly.

In the BALL ROOM, the pictures are chiefly of the family. Among others, *Richard, Earl of Dorset, and his Lady*, by Mytens. *The Countess of Middlesex*; (this was the lady that replied to one of Charles 2nd's Secretaries of State, who ventured to dictate to her, a Member for the borough of Appleby:—"I have been bullied by an Usurper; I have been neglected by a Court; but I will not be dictated to by a subject. Your man sha'nt stand! ANN,

"Dorset, Pembroke, and Montgomery.") *Edward, Earl of Dorset*, by Vandyke; *His Countess*, by Mytens.

The CRIMSON DRAWING ROOM contains, *A Persian Sybil*, by Dominichino. *Count Ugolino and his Sons*, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; (the subject is from Dante's *Inferno*). Four Dutch figures, by Teniers. *Countess of Dorset*, by Vandyke; *Duchess of Cleveland*, by Lely; *Marriage of St. Catherine Judith with Holofernes*, by Garafuli; *A Head of Raphael*, by himself; *St. John and a Lamb*, by Correggio; *A Holy Family*, by Pietro Perugino; and three others, by Titian, Veronese, and Vandyke. This room is next to the Ball Room, and certainly boasts of the finest collection of paintings. It has also a remarkably fine marble chimney piece, and there are several singular looking stilettos, and other things about the room.

The CARTOON GALLERY.—This gallery contains



copies, by Daniel Mytens, of six of the Cartoons of Raphael, as follow : *The Death of Ananias* ; *Peter and John restoring the Lame Man* ; *The Miraculous Draught of Fishes* ; *Jesus and his Disciples* ; and *Paul and Barnabas at Lycaonia*. Among the Pictures are, *Charles, Sixth Earl of Dorset* ; *His Countess*, by Sir Godfrey Kneller ; *George the Fourth*, by Sir Joshua Reynolds ; *James, Lord Northampton* ; *The Earl of Surrey*, by Holbein ; a fine three-quarter Picture, by Dobson, called by some, *General Monk*, and by others, *General Davis*, said to have been Oliver Cromwell's barber. ("A vulgar error," says Bridgman, "to say the least of it. It is a pity it is not known whose likeness it is, the picture being among the best portraits in the house, and no doubt that of a loyal and distinguished officer.") In this room there are four fine casts from the Florentine Gallery, viz. : *The Venus de Medicis* ; *The Listening Slave* ; *The Wrestlers* ; and *The Dancing Faun*. The room is 90 feet in length, 18 in width, and 15 in height. The fire-dogs, or and-irons,\* sconces, and carpets, are rare and curious. The State Canopy, with its appendages, was used by the Duke of Dorset,

\* The hand-irons, and-irons or dogs, have long since been superseded by the modern stove, and are not so common now, even in our farm-houses, as they were within the last quarter of a century. Before the introduction of fire-places, they were found not only in the houses of persons of condition, but in the bed-chamber of the king himself. Strutt says, (1775,) "These and-irons are used at this day, and called cob-irons : they stand on the hearth, where they burn wood, to lay it upon ; their fronts are usually carved, with a round knob at the top ; some of them are kept polished and bright : anciently, many of them were embellished with a variety of ornaments." At Knole, silver and-irons are in great profusion throughout the house.



during the time he was Ambassador at the Court of Louis XVI. The Treasurer's Official Chest belonged to the first Earl of Dorset.

The KING'S BED ROOM, is so called from having been prepared for the reception of James I. It is fitted up in the most splendid manner. The walls are hung with tapestry, representing the life of Nebuchadnezzar. The state bed alone, is said to have cost £8,000. The bedstead is richly ornamented, and the bed hangings and fringed borders are of gold and silver tissue. The chairs and stools are covered to correspond with the bed furniture. Silver vases, baskets, urns, &c., lie about in great profusion. The tables and frames of the looking glasses are of chased silver, and on the dressing table is a silver toilet service, beautifully worked. There are also two Cabinets here, one of ebony, and the other of ebony and ivory. The latter contains two official keys of the Lord Chamberlain, and is prettily decorated with scriptural subjects. The only picture in this room is the *Coligni Family*,\* by C. Jansen. The entire fittings up of the room are said to have cost upwards of £20,000.

The DINING PARLOUR.—The pictures in this room are almost exclusively those of men who have distinguished themselves in Literature, or the Arts and Sciences; and a more goodly assemblage of talent

\* They were three brothers; *Odet de Coligni*, Cardinal of Châtillon, and Archbishop of Thoulouse; *Col. Francis de Coligni*; and *Gaspard de Coligni*. Embracing the Protestant religion, they were much persecuted in consequence; and in 1671, Odet was poisoned by his valet. In the next year, Gaspard was one of the victims of the massacre on St. Bartholomew's Day. Francis died in 1569.



it would be rare to find. There are upwards of sixty portraits, comprising the Poets from Chaucer to Sir Walter Scott; and include, what is said to be, an original portrait of Shakspeare.\* *A Conversation Piece*, by Vandergucht, is well done. The painter has introduced himself, sketching Durfey, the Poet, while conversing with Mr. Buck, the Chaplain, and Mr. Lowin, the Steward. There are three other figures in the picture, one of them Geo. Allen, a Clothier, of Sevenoaks; Mother Moss; and Randall, the Steward's-room boy.

This is the last room shewn to Visitors; and even from the necessarily limited sketch we have given of Knole, it will be seen that no person can fail to be highly gratified by inspecting this magnificent mansion. It is now occupied by the Earl and Countess Amherst; the Countess Dowager of Plymouth having married Earl Amherst, on the 25th of June, in the present year, (1839.) The private apartments, which of course are not shewn to Visitors, are, we understand, fitted up with much elegance, and abound with articles of taste and *virtú*. We regret to leave this charming place with any appearance of dissatisfaction, but candour

\* If the reader will refer to Boaden's "Inquiry into the Authenticity of the Shakspeare Portraits," he will find an Engraving of this Portrait, with a full inquiry into its claims as an original.



compels us to remark, that we were forcibly struck with the brusque manners of the female who acts as Cicerone at Knole ; which, as contrasted with many places we have visited, were anything but civil or pleasing. Any reader of this Guide who might have visited Warwick Castle some twelve or fourteen years ago, must remember the lady-like manners and unassuming deportment of the venerable silver-haired old lady who did the honors of that building ; and remembering them, must agree with us, that the comparison between Knole and Warwick is decidedly not to the advantage of the former.

The following places in the immediate neighbourhood of Sevenoaks, are worthy of a visit :

### MONTREAL.

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THIS is an elegant mansion, belonging to Earl Amherst. It is of stone, and was built by Sir Jeffery Amherst, the uncle of the present Earl, after his return from America, where he had greatly distinguished himself in taking Montreal, in Upper Canada, (from which this place is named,) and several other places. There is an obelisk erected in the



grounds, commemorative of Sir Jeffery's achievements.

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### CHEVENING.

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THE noble mansion here is the residence of Earl Stanhope. It was built about the year 1617, by Richard Lennard, Lord Dacre, from the plans of Inigo Jones, and was sold in 1717, to Major-General James Stanhope, grandson to the first Earl of Chesterfield. The house is by no means an elegant looking building, but the grounds are laid out with great taste, and there is an armoury here, arranged by the first Earl Stanhope. The parish church adjoining, is dedicated to St. Botolph, and contains some remarkably fine tombs; among others, one exquisitely executed by Chantrey, to the memory of Lady Frederica Stanhope, which alone is worth visiting. In this neighbourhood are also some very ancient mansions, particularly Morant's Court, (from which the hill is named) Combe Bank, and Chipstead House.

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### SUNDRIDGE

Is a pretty little village, anciently called Sundrish. The celebrated Bishop Porteus

lies buried here, and the village gives the title of Baron to the Duke of Argyle, who was created Baron Sundridge, of Combebank, on the 20th December, 1766. It was by way of Chipstead, Sundridge, &c., that the Fishermen of Rye, and other parts of the Sussex coast, made their journies to London, considering it the best and most direct road.

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### WESTERHAM.

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THIS is a very extensive parish, remarkable for two distinguished characters who were born here. Dr. Benj. Hoadley, Bishop of Winchester, and, in 1727, General Wolfe, the Conqueror of Quebec; for the latter of whom a monument is erected, over the south door of the Church. There is a place in this village called "Tower Wood," near Hosey Common, which was built by the then lord of the manor, John Ward, Esq., (lately deceased,) for the purpose of obtaining an uninterrupted view of St. Paul's, London, but the attempt proved a complete failure, and the tower has been for some time in a ruinous condition; portions of the walls are still standing. The Inn bears a full-length figure of General Wolfe, with the date of his birth.



The Rev. R. Board, is the present Incumbent.

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### KEMSING,

We have already noticed, at page 357, as having once possessed an impregnable castle. The Church is dedicated to St. Edith, whose image formerly stood in the churchyard ; and in the Catholic times of superstition, was greatly resorted to for the Saint's good offices in preserving grain from mildew.

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### SEALE

Is a very ancient manor and parish, in which is situated the principal country residence of the Marquis Camden, called the *Wilderness*. This is a most delightful spot, and the grounds around the noble mansion are very extensive, and laid out with the most refined taste.

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### OTFORD

Is a most interesting village, from the historical reminiscences connected with it. A great battle was fought here in 773, by Offa, King of Mercia, and Aldric, King of Kent, when the latter gained the victory, with great slaughter on both sides. There is also a field in this parish still called *Dane Field*, which is reported to be the spot where Ed-

mund Ironsides fought Canute, the Danish King. Remains of human bones are continually being ploughed up in this vicinity, and in making the new turnpike-road in 1836, to avoid Morant's Court Hill, between twenty and thirty skeletons were found at from eighteen inches to three feet from the surface. A few remains of the Archiepiscopal Palace, one of the earliest, probably, in the kingdom, are still to be seen here. This palace was the scene of several of Thomas-a-Becket's miracles; and the fine spring of water which runs through the ruins, it is recorded, sprung up from the prelate's striking his staff into the ground! The Church is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and contains several singular monuments, among others, in the great chancel, on a grave-stone, is the following:

Here lyeth the body of Thomas Peake, who died  
July the 21st, 1746, aged 69 years:—

He was the only comfort of my life,  
The best of husbands to a wife;  
Since he is gone, no joy on earth for me,  
But hope in heaven to meet with he.

On the south side of Tunbridge Wells, after passing through the village of Frant, (page 161,) is a pleasant ride to



## WADHURST.

ON the left of the road to which and distant about a mile from Frant, is *Knole House*, the seat of Sheffield Grace, Esq. It contains a valuable Library, consisting of about 4,000 volumes; among which are the production of Caxton, and other early printers. There are also some valuable paintings here. A varied and beautiful character marks the surrounding scenery. The house is in the Elizabethan style of architecture; and has, from an early period, been the residence of many distinguished individuals. Over the entrance to the open vestibule, in which two marble statues stand, representing a Cybele and a Diana as large as life, is the following inscription:

HAS. EDES. COLLAPSAS. F.R. SHEFFIELDUS. GRACE. ET.  
HARRIETTA. HAMILTON. UXOR. EJUS. CLDIOCCCXXXIIII.

The village of Wadhurst is six miles from the Wells. The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is partly in the early and partly in the later style of English architecture. It has a high and shingled spire, with a ring of six bells. There are several monuments in it, but not any remarkable, if we except one to "John Legas, Gent.;" which,

as shewing the change of currents in manufacturing affairs, may be worth noticing. This gentleman died in 1752, aged 62 years, having acquired a handsome fortune "by his industry and diligence in the *Iron works* of this county."

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### TICEHURST.

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THIS village, situated on a gentle rise, and surrounded by fertile hills and vallies, is distant nine miles from the Wells. The church, which is in the later style of English architecture, is dedicated to St. Mary. Over the porch is a room with a grated window, formerly used as a prison.

At HIGHLANDS, in this parish, is a most extensive establishment for insane persons, conducted by Mr. Newington. The house is beautifully situated on a commanding eminence, and is surrounded with plantations and pleasure grounds, amounting to sixty acres. Looking at the extent of the grounds and the elegance of the buildings connected with the establishment, we think it may be justly considered as the first of this description in the kingdom. Tradition states, that a house in this village, now occupied by a



Mr. Newington, was once the temporary residence of Sir Thomas More, and that he was visited here by Henry VIII., during one of the "lusty monarch's" sojourn at Hever.

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### BOAR'S HEAD.

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LEAVING the Wells by Roper's Gate, and passing on the left, at Strawberry Hill, Mr. C. Hollamby's Nursery Grounds, you proceed across Eridge Green, and thence continue on the Brighton road till you arrive at Boar's Head, which is distant from the Wells about five miles. This village is said to derive its name from a remarkable rock which stands in a garden on the left, soon after you enter it, and of this we cannot give a better description than Mr. Oneley has given of it. He terms it, "A huge high stone capped with another one, like a monstrous head, an hideous frightful figure!—a sort of Druid idol, resembling one of the Rock Idols, or Rocking Stones, in Borlase's History of Cornwall." Why the place should be named from this rock, cannot be easily divined, for certainly it bears no resemblance to a Boar. At the opposite end of the village, is a very neat little Chapel and School Room, belong-

ing to the Wesleyans. The chapel was opened for Divine Worship on Good-Friday, 1835. Two miles beyond is

### CROWBOROUGH.

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HOWEVER bleak this spot may be considered, the ride or walk to it will be amply compensated by the extensive view obtained from the summit of the hill. It stands 804 feet above the level of the sea, and commands a prospect at once grand and diversified; and of that wild and romantic nature, which cannot fail to enrapture, and leave a most powerful impression. The whole journey indeed, from the Wells, partakes something of this character, only more cultivated. Crowborough Hill was one of the spots selected for a Beacon, to give alarm in case of invasion, and the place where it stood is still seen, a short distance from the public-house, on the opposite side of the road. It is in the parish of Rotherfield, and a Chapel with a School-house were founded here, about 1720, by Sir Henry Fermor, Bart., of Sevenoaks. Another Chapel of Ease, in this district, was also opened in the present year, (1839.) The present officiating Minister is, the Rev.



H. Hopwood. Sir Henry Fermor died in 1734, leaving £1500 for the clothing and educating of forty poor boys and girls, belonging to the parishes of Rotherfield and Buxted, and a fund to provide for the maintenance of a Clergyman and Schoolmaster, and keep the house and chapel in repair for ever.

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BUXTED.

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THIS village is situated about five miles from Crowborough, and is celebrated for being the first place where iron ordnance was cast. The village consists of a few scattered houses, one of which is an ancient building on Huggett's Farm, called "The Hog-house," from the rude figure of a hog, carved in stone, which is said to have been the original Foundry of Ralphe Hogge, who, with Peter Baude, cast the first cannon.\* The Earl of Liverpool has a noble mansion here, called *Buxted Place*. The style of architecture is extremely simple, and it is built of brick. It is not an ancient building, having been erected about the middle of the last century, by Edward Medley, Esq., Barrister-at-Law. There is an estate called *The*

\* See page 159.

*Rocks*, in this parish, where there is an extensive cavern in the Sand Rocks which abound here. We must not omit to mention, that George Watson, the "Sussex Calculator," was born in this village, in 1785. Almost idiotic in appearance, his powers of memory and calculation were of the most astonishing description. He was ignorant and uneducated, not being able either to read or write, yet he could perform, with the utmost ease, the most difficult calculations in arithmetic. He was well known in Tunbridge Wells, which he frequently visited, and astonished many by the readiness with which he would inform them the day of the week on which any given day of the month occurred, from an early period of his birth; and would also inform them, accurately, the state of the weather on that day. He died a few years since, we believe, in the workhouse of his native village.

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COWDEN.

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"THIS place," says Benge Burr, "is not remarkable for any thing, the church being small and mean, and only worth mentioning on account of its handsome spire." We



therefore had our misgivings when we went to visit it, the more especially as our modern "Guides" are altogether silent respecting it. Cowden is situated about three miles westward from Chafford.\* The pedestrian will find a pleasant walk, and a perfectly romantic one, through the fields to it, by leaving the Paper Mills at Chafford on the right. The church, which bears every mark of antiquity, is pleasantly situated on the brow of a hill, and commands a very extensive prospect. There is a date in front of the pulpit of 1628, and an hour glass by the side of it, which formerly served to regulate the length of the preacher's discourse. The gallery was erected in 1593. Amongst the donations and benefactions recorded, is one of twenty shillings to the clerk, for "ringing the bell *at five in the morning* and *eight in the evening*, from Michaelmas to Lady-day, for ever." Another board states, "This church was ceiled and repaired in the year 1742, with the money found in the custody of Joan Wicken-den, who was relieved and maintained by this parish nearly 40 years." In the churchyard, two or three tomb-stones afford proof that the

\* See page 269.







adjacent wood, is romantically situated, and overlooks a lovely country, terminating with the Surrey Hills. We were told that its present desolate appearance arose from the circumstance of a man having hung himself some years ago, near the summer-house, and that the then proprietor had, in consequence of it, discontinued his visits to this lovely spot. Near this place is Holty Common, and we can assure the Visitor; that the ride or walk from this spot, across Blackham Common, and through Ashurst, to the Wells, will more than repay him for any fatigue it may occasion. The views, nearly the whole line of road, are of the most splendid description; probably more romantic and diversified, than any which could be selected within the same distance.

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Having gone through the regular places within a day's pleasant trip of the Wells, the Visitor or Antiquary will be probably induced to extend his ride to some or all of the following relics of antiquity :

BATTLE, 22 miles, is the town where the Conqueror fought Harold, who is said to have been killed on the spot whereon the Abbey now stands. This is the property of Lady Webster, and the Abbey is shewn to Visitors on Mondays.



ROBERTSBRIDGE, 17 miles. In this village are the remains of a Cistercian Abbey, founded in 1176.

BODIAM, 15 miles. Here are the remains of what was once a magnificent Castle, erected in 1386. It is encompassed by a broad and deep moat, and the spiked iron portcullis still remains entire over the gateway. Shewn every day.

LEWES, 22 miles, is the County town of Sussex. There are several relics of the olden time to be found here, besides the Gateway and other portions of the celebrated Castle.

PEVENSEY, 25 miles, is reported to have been the place where the Normans landed. It is of Roman origin, and the mass of ruins, once forming the formidable castle, is well worth visiting.

HURSTMONCEUX, 28 miles. The ruins of the Castle here are of a particularly interesting nature, retaining in a great measure its original form, but exhibiting within, a scene of utter desolation. It was built entirely of brick, in the reign of Henry VI. by Sir Roger de Fynes, or Fiennes, Treasurer of the Royal Household. It has suffered more from the spoliation of man than the ravages of time, but enough remains to gratify the antiquary. Shewn every day.

RYE, 30 miles. This is a very ancient town. The celebrated *Ypres Tower*, built by a warrior of the name of William de Ypres, in the reign of King Stephen, is now used as a prison. It is a strong square pile, with a round tower at each angle. The land-gate, forming the entrance to the town from London and Dover, is still remaining in good preservation, and forms an interesting object. Between Rye and Winchelsea, on the sands, are the remains of a Castle, a shapeless mass of buildings, said to be of the time of Henry VIII.



WINCHELSEA, 33 miles. Every thing about this town has an antique bearing. The strand-gate, being the entrance from Rye, has a very picturesque appearance. It has a round tower on each side, and is nearly overgrown with ivy. There are also the remains of two other gates here, the land-gate and new-gate. There were formerly three churches here, a very considerable portion of one, dedicated to St. Thomas-à-Becket, still remains. It was originally a large and splendid structure, and even in its present state, will furnish ample food for observation and contemplation, and its inspection cannot fail to gratify the antiquary as well as the most casual observer.

MAIDSTONE, 20 miles, is the County town of Kent. There are some highly interesting remains of antiquity in this town, and the road to it from the Wells, as we have before noticed, may be considered as the Garden of Kent.

## APPENDIX.

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**BOTANY.**—There are many rare and curious plants to be met with in Tunbridge Wells and its vicinity, many of which are not to be found elsewhere. The Common, the Rocks, and the adjoining woods, abound in them, and it was intended, with this work, to have given a full list, not only of the choice specimens of Flora, but also of those which the more experienced Botanist may think common, though to the tyro, they would prove an object of interest. This design, however, has been abandoned, in consequence of “The Guide” having exceeded its intended size, by upwards of 200 pages; but the publisher having the materials ready, will issue a smaller work in the Spring, exclusively devoted to the subject, which will contain a Catalogue of the rare, curious, and common plants, that are to be found in this neighbourhood, correcting it to the time of publication.

**TUNBRIDGE WELLS DIAMONDS.**—The transparent substances, apparently pebbles, which are found upon the several paths leading to the common, especially after rain, are actually crystals, rounded and coated by attrition, and the minutest ones are always more accurately formed than the larger ones. They partake of the *Nova Mina*, of Brazil, exactly in quality,



where it occurs, both as detached and massive crystals. The rounding by attrition is a clear proof that at some very remote period, they have been acted upon in some such way as the pebbles of the sea-shore; and they thus afford corroborative evidence to the assumption, that this neighbourhood has, at one time, been an arm of the sea. The natural position of these crystals in the South of England, is in the white or grey marl, found above and below the chalk, but chiefly below it, in their layers. These crystals, when cut and polished, are extremely brilliant, and are introduced into rings, brooches, and other ornamental articles of jewellery.

FIELD SPORTS.—Hunting and Fowling may be enjoyed in the neighbourhood—the former, not in the immediate vicinity of the place, but within a few miles of it; and for the latter, it is the custom to hire the right of shooting over certain property—some hundreds of acres of good sporting ground being to let, at a reasonable rent, for the season.

Good Fishing may be easily obtained by permission of the proprietors, of many small and large streams, in the immediate neighbourhood of the Wells. The Water Mill, at the Hurst Wood, we have already noticed, at page 144; and between Crockhurst Hatch and Fordcombe Green, in the parish of Ashurst, there is an extensive fishing-pond, belonging to Mr. Lindfield, of the Black Lion, which affords most excellent sport for the followers of old “Izaak Walton.”

SOMERHILL, p. 29.—In this and some of the earlier pages of “The Guide,” we have called this “Summer-



hill," following an ancient volume. The correct spelling is Somerhill, as noticed at page 331.

CANNON AT THE FOLLY, p. 49.—Two or three pieces of this Ordnance are yet to be found at the High Rocks, where they are used on "Waterloo" and other rejoicing days.

BASTON COTTAGE, p. 59.—This Cottage has been enlarged and several improvements made in it, and it is now the residence of Lady Arundel.

CHANCELLOR HOUSE, p. 81.—This is now the residence of the proprietor, C. Beecher, Esq.

THE THEATRE, p. 125.—In August, of the present year, 1839, the Theatre was opened under the management of Mr. W. Dowton. It has been newly decorated in every respect, and presents as handsome an internal appearance as any Theatre of the size in the kingdom.

THE WHEATEAR, p. 128.—The manner of catching this delicious bird is curious. The shepherds make little holes on the Downs, covered with a turf about a foot long, and half a foot broad, in which they place snares of horse-hair, and the birds, being very fearful of rain, run into those holes for shelter, at the approach of every cloud, and thus are caught in prodigious numbers.—Burr, p. 109.

THE NEVILL FAMILY, p. 157.—In the genealogy of this noble family the omission of the male branch of it was not discovered till too late to rectify it in its proper place. There have been of the male line, 1 Duke of Bedford; 1 Marquis of Montacute; 15 Earls,



whereof 6 were Earls of Northumberland, before the Conquest; and 6 were Earls of Westmoreland; another, Earl of Salisbury and Lord Monthermer; another was Earl of Kent and Lord Falconberg; and the other was that famous Earl of Warwick and Salisbury, commonly called the King-maker. There have also been 2 Nevills Archbishops of York: whereof one was a favourite to King Richard the Second; and the other was Lord High Chancellor of England, and Chancellor of the University of Oxford, in the time of King Edward the Fourth, who was his cousin-german. And there have been 2 Nevills Bishops: one of which was Lord Bishop of Chichester, and was also Lord High Chancellor of England, and elected Archbishop of Canterbury in the reign of King Henry the 3rd; and the other was Lord Bishop and Count Palatine of Durham. There have been also a numberless company of Nevills (with their progenitors and ancestors) that have been Lords and Barons; as namely, first of Raby, from Uchtred, the Second Earl of Northumberland, (and who was also made Earl of York, by King Ethelred,) to him that first took the surname of Nevill; and 6 more of Raby, before the Lord Ralph Nevill was created Earl of Westmoreland, which was in the year of Grace 1398, 21 Richard 2nd; and there hath been 1 Nevill, Lord Furnival; 2 Nevills, Lords Ferrars of Oversley, whereof one was also Lord Newmarch; 1 Nevill, Lord St. Maure (Seymour); 7 Nevills, Lords Latimer; 8 Nevills, Lords Abergavenny; and 3 Lords Nevill that died married persons, eldest sons by some of the Earls of Westmoreland. There have been 100



Nevills that were Knights Bachelors; and divers Nevills, Knights of the Noble Order of the Bath; and some Nevills, Knights Bannerets; and 1 Nevill (of the House of Abergavenny) was one of the Knights of Rhodes, in the time of Henry the 8th, and he lies buried in Mereworth Church, in Kent, where he hath a goodly monument.

HEATHFIELD, p. 181.—At Hothfield, in Kent, two miles from Ashford, is a field still called *Jack Cade's Field*, as, it is said, that celebrated rebel, “though generally thought to have been taken by Alexander Iden, Esq. the Sheriff, in a close belonging to Ripley manor, was discovered in a field in this parish, which still bears his name.”

BETHERSDEN MARBLE, p. 217, &c.—Bethersden is a parish in the Hundred of Chart, in Kent. There was a kind of turbinated marble dug in this parish, but the quarries are now seldom used; it bears a good polish if dug up in its perpendicular state, but, if horizontally excavated, peels off in flakes. It was once in great esteem in this county, for decorating religious buildings.

SOUTH PARK, p. 257.—This property has recently been purchased by the gallant veteran, Sir Henry Hardinge, Bart.

GROOMBRIDGE, p. 273.—A small coin, composed of a mixture of copper and brass, was found a few years since, near Groombridge Place. It was much corroded, having on one side, an old French crown, under which and separated from it, appeared a *Fleur-de-lis*; but whatever might have been on the other side, was entirely obliterated. This relic, however insignificant, is probably the only one extant in this



neighbourhood, that bears any reference to the confinement of the Duke of Orleans, at the above-mentioned mansion.

STATE OF THE ROADS, p. 283 ; p. 360.—In “ Leland’s Itinerary,” vol. v. p. 26, is the following allusion to the County of Sussex :

Essex full of god hoswyfes,  
Middlesex full of stryves,  
Kentshire hoot as fyre,  
*Sowseks ful of dyrt and myre.*

And in a “Tour through Great Britain,” published in 1724, the writer says: “I came away, or as they call it there, (Tunbridge,) I retired and came to Lewes, through the deepest, dirtiest, but many ways the richest, and most profitable country in all that part of England. \* \* Here I had a sight, which indeed I never saw in any other part of England ; namely, that going to church at a country village, not far from Lewes, I saw an ancient lady, and a lady of very good quality, I assure you, drawn to church in her coach with six oxen ; nor was it done in frolick or humour, but mere necessity, the way being so stiff and deep, that no horses could go in it.”

TUNBRIDGE PRIORY, p. 319.—In Brooks’ “Catalogue of Kings and Nobles,” published in 1622, we find an account of some of the noble personages buried in the Priory. In 1218, Richard, Earl of Clare. In 1260, the son of Richard de Clare, Second Earl of Gloucester, died ; his bowels were buried at Canterbury, his heart at Tunbridge, and his body at Tewksbury. In 1347, Hugh de Audley, son and heir of William Longspre. In 1370, Ralphe, Lord Stafford : his wife had been previously buried in this Priory.



## DISTANCES

*To the Places mentioned in this Guide, with the days  
on which they can be seen.*

TO	MILES.	TO	MILES.
Frant .....	2	Brenchley .....	1
Mark Cross .....	3	Horsmonden .....	3
(Rotherfield 2 miles to the right.)		Goudhurst .....	2
Mayfield .....	3	(To the right, Bedgebury.)	
The Ruins every Week-day.		Glassenbury .....	2
Heathfield .....	3	Cranbrook .....	2
	—		—
	11		16
	—		—
Bell's Ewe Green .....	2	Speldhurst .....	3
(By the new road, over Frant Forest—a saving of 1 mile.)		Penshurst .....	3
Bayham .....	3	Mondays and Saturdays.— (Redleaf and Leigh to the right, after passing the Place.)	
The Ruins every Week-day, by applying to Mr. Stevens, Elephant's Head, Hook Green		Chidingstone .....	2
Lamberhurst (2 miles)		Hever .....	2
(Eight miles from the Wells, by way of Pembury)		Every Week-day, by per- mission of the Tenants.	
Scotney .....	3	Edenbridge .....	2
The Ruins every Week-day. (The shortest road to Scotney is to leave Lamberhurst to the left, and cross the Down)			—
Stone Crouch .....	2		12
Hawkhurst .....	4		—
	—		
	14	Langton .....	2
	—	(A little beyond to the right is Crockhurst Hatch—the road to Ashurst, Chafford, and Cowden.)	
Pembury .....	3	Groombridge .....	2
Bayhall 1 mile to the right, every Week-day.		Withyham .....	3
Matfield Green .....	3	(Buckhurst, 1 mile to the left)	
		Hartfield .....	1



TO	MILES.	TO	MILES.
Forest Row.....	4	Tunbridge .....	6
Bramble-tye, 1 mile to the left—Every Week-day.		River Hill .....	5
East Grinstead .....	3	Sevenoaks .....	2
	—	Knole to the right—Every Week-day, from 11 to 5 o'Clock. To the left, Mon- treal, Chevening, Sundridge, and Westerham. To the right, Kemsing, Seale, and Otford	—
	15		13
	—		—
Southborough .....	3		
Bidborough .....	1	Frant .....	2
Tunbridge .....	2	Wadhurst .....	4
The Castle, on Mondays, from 9 till 4 o'Clock, on appli- cation to Messrs. Parker, of the Rose and Crown.		Ticehurst .....	4
Hadlow .....	4		—
Mereworth .....	4		10
Watringbury .....	1		—
Maidstone .....	5		—
	—		
	20		
	—	Eridge Green .....	2
Tunbridge .....	6	Rocks to the right.	
Shipbourne.....	4	Boar's Head .....	4
Ightham .....	1	Crowborough.....	1
(The Moated House to the left, between Shipbourne and Ightham.)		Buxted .....	6
Wrotham .....	4	Uckfield .....	1
	—	Lewes .....	8
	15		—
	—		22
			—

# ITINERARY

*Of the Principal Roads from Tunbridge Wells.*

<i>To London.</i>	Miles.	<i>Another Road.</i>	Miles.
Tunbridge .....	6	Woodsgate .....	3
Sevenoaks .....	7	Lamberhurst .....	5
Dunton Green .....	3	Flimwell .....	4
Farnborough .....	6	Robertsbridge .....	5
Lock's Bottom .....	1	Battle .....	5
Bromley .....	4	Hastings .....	7
Lewisham Bridge .....	4	—	—
London .....	5	—	29
—	—	—	—
—	36	<i>To East-Bourne.</i>	
<i>To Rye.</i>		Wadhurst .....	6
Woodsgate .....	3	Shover's Green .....	2
Lamberhurst .....	5	Burwash Wheel .....	6
Stone Crouch .....	3	Brightling Down .....	2
Flimwell .....	1	Boreham Bridge .....	7
Hawkhurst .....	3	Bourne, Sea Houses ..	10
Sandhurst .....	3	—	—
Northiam .....	4	—	33
Rye .....	8	—	—
—	—	<i>Another Road.</i>	
—	30	Mayfield .....	8
<i>To Hastings.</i>		Cross-in-hand .....	6
Wadhurst .....	6	Horeham .....	3
Ticehurst .....	4	Hailsham .....	6
Hurst Green .....	4	East-Bourne .....	7
Robertsbridge .....	2	—	—
John's Cross .....	2	—	30
Battle, by new Road ..	3	<i>Another Road.</i>	
Hastings, or St. Leon-		Uckfield .....	14
ards .....	7	East-Hoathly .....	5
—	—	Horsebridge .....	6
—	28	East-Bourne .....	8
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	33
—	—	—	—



<i>To Margate.</i>		<i>To Windsor.</i>	
	Miles.		Miles.
Tunbridge .....	6	East Grinstead .....	15
Maidstone .....	14	Riegate .....	14
Penenden Heath ....	1	Kingston.....	14
Key Street .....	8	Windsor .....	16
Canterbury.....	18	—	—
Margate .....	16	—	59
—	63		—
	—	<i>Shortest Road to</i>	
		<i>Southampton.</i>	
<i>To Brighton.</i>		Brighton.....	30
Crowborough Gate ..	8	Findon .....	10
Uckfield .....	6	Arundel .....	10
Lewes .....	8	Chichester .....	9
Brighton .....	8	Havant .....	9
	30	Portsdown .....	4
	—	Fareham.....	6
		Botley .....	4
		Southampton .....	10
		—	—
			92
			—
<i>Another Road.</i>		<i>To Southampton by way</i>	
Groombridge .....	4	<i>of London, 113 Miles.</i>	
Leigh-Green .....	2		
Maresfield .....	7		
Buxted .....	1		
Uckfield .....	1		
Lewes .....	8		
Brighton.....	8		
	31		
	—		

## LOCAL INFORMATION.

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### MAGISTRATES FOR THE TUNBRIDGE WELLS, TUNBRIDGE, AND FRANT DISTRICTS.

Aretas Akers, R. W. Blencowe, Jas. Deane, Sheffield Grace, Arthur Pott, Baden Powell, Daniel Rowland, Edward Suart, and J. E. West, Esquires; Major Haly, Sir S. B. P. Micklethwaite, Bart.; Revds. J. J. Monypenny, W. M. S. Marriott, and H. Walker.

### SITTINGS.

*Tunbridge Wells.*—The First and Third Wednesday in every Month, at the Clarence Tavern.

*Tunbridge.*—Second and Fourth Wednesday in every Month, at the Town Hall.

*Frant.*—The First and Third Tuesday in every Month, at the Abergavenny Arms Inn; and every Fourth Sitting at the Greyhound Inn, Wadhurst.

### CLERKS.

For the Tunbridge Wells, Frant, and Wadhurst District, Messrs. Stone, Son, and Bremridge, Tunbridge Wells.

For Tunbridge, Messrs. Scoones', Tunbridge.

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### LOCAL ACT.

The Commissioners under this Act meet the First Monday in every Month, at 11 o'Clock, at their Office, Vale Cottage. Mr. B. Lewis, Clerk.

*Police Station House, No. 3, Grove Hill.*—Superintendent of Police, Mr. J. A. Thompson.



## POST-OFFICE,

*(At Nash's Library, on the Parade.)*

THE Mail arrives from London every morning, (Mondays excepted,) and leaves for London every night, (Saturdays excepted.) The same Mail conveys the letters to and from Hastings every day. Letters are delivered at 7 o'clock in the morning, during summer, and at 8 o'clock in the winter. The letter-box is closed at 9 o'clock in the evening, but upon payment of one penny, letters can be posted until 11 o'clock. There is a Branch Office for the receipt of letters, in the Calverley Road, which is open till 9 o'clock in the evening.

By an alteration in the Mails, which took place on the 9th of October, 1839, the Uckfield, Lewes, and Brighton letters are posted and delivered at the same time as those from London. There is a Cross-post to East Grinstead, through Groombridge and Hartfield, which arrives every day at 11 o'clock, and leaves at One; Sundays at 12. Letters must be posted before 12 o'clock. There is no post to London on Saturday, nor from London on Monday.

## EXCISE OFFICE,

HELD AT THE SWAN INN.

Sittings held every Six Weeks, and two extra Sittings for Hop Duty.

Collector.—Richard Hill, Esq.		Officers.—Mr. Geo. Boreham,
Clerk.—Mr. John Chapman.		Mr. Henry Stone.
Supervisor.—Mr. Wm. Paine.		

## BANKS.

*Tunbridge and Tunbridge Wells Old Bank.*—Messrs. Beeching and Sons, Church Road—draw on Masterman, Peters, and Co., London. Open from 10 to 4 o'clock.

*Lewes Old Bank.*—Messrs. Molineux, Whitfield, and Dicker—draw on Williams, Deacon, and Co., London. Agent for Tunbridge Wells, Mr. Nash, Parade. Open from 10 to 4 o'clock.

*The London and County Joint Stock Bank.*—Agent for Tunbridge Wells, Mr. R. Corke. Open from 9 till 5 o'clock.

## FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE OFFICE AGENTS.

<i>Phoenix.</i> —Mr. R. M. Hart.		<i>Guardian.</i> —Mr. W. Stone.
<i>Exchange.</i> —Mr. B. Lewis.		<i>Kent.</i> —Mr. T. Hodges.
<i>Norwich Union.</i> —Mr. R. Nash.		<i>Atlas.</i> —Mr. Corke.
<i>Sun.</i> —Mr. Foreman.		



## CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, &amp;c.

- Boys' National School, at the Chapel of Ease.*—Treasurer, the Rev. W. L. Pope.
- Female National School, Mount Sion.*—Mr. R. Nash, Treasurer; Rev. J. N. Pearson, Secretary.
- Infant School, Crown Fields, Grosvenor Road.*—Treasurer, Rev. Edmond Strong.
- Victoria National School, near the New Market.*—Aretas Akers, Esq. Treasurer.
- Female British School, at the Mount Sion Chapel.*—Treasurer, Mrs. M. Stapley.
- The Lying-in Charity.*—Treasurer, Mrs. J. H. Fry.
- The Dispensary; (for the relief of the Sick and Destitute Poor at their own houses.)*—Treasurer, Mr. J. H. Fry; House-Surgeon and Secretary, Mr. F. Palmer.
- Tunbridge Wells Branch Bible Society.*—Treasurers, Messrs. Beeching and Sons; Secretaries, Dr. Burder, Mr. J. H. Fry, and Mr. Barcham; Depositary, Mr. Stubbs, Grosvenor Road.
- Church Missionary Society.*—Treasurer, R. W. Blencowe, Esq.
- Christian Instruction Society.*—Treasurers, Messrs. Beeching and Sons; Secretary, A. Taylor, Esq.
- Savings Bank.*—Mr. R. Nash, Actuary and Treasurer.
- Loan Society.*—Treasurer, Miss Chaloner; Secretary, Mr. Stubbs.
- Auxiliary to the Newfoundland and British North America Society for Educating the Poor.*—President, John Deacon, Esq.; Vice-President, Rev. J. N. Pearson; Treasurer, Mr. Corke.
- Horticultural Society.*—Treasurer, the Rev. W. L. Pope; Secretary, Mr. Maddock.
- District Visiting Society.*—Treasurer, the Rev. H. Bishop.
- Provident Society.*—Treasurer, Mr. Maddock.
- Mendicity Society.*—Treasurer, Mr. Way.
- Society for the Cultivation of Literature and Science.*—Treasurer, C. J. Fisher, Esq.; Secretary, Mr. Maddock.
- Parochial Aid Society.*—Treasurer, Ford Wilson, Esq.
- Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts.*—Treasurers, Arthur Pott, Esq. and the Rev. J. J. Saint; Secretary, Charles Powell, Esq.
- Society for Promoting the Education and Religious Instruction of the Native Irish.*—Treasurer, Mr. Corke; Secretary, Mr. J. M. Richardson.

## PHYSICIANS.

- |                                  |  |                              |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Dr. Burder, Belvedere.           |  | Dr. Thomson, Mount Pleasant. |
| Dr. Powell, 1, Clarence Terrace. |  | Dr. Wilmot, 10, Parade.      |

## SURGEONS.

- |                                   |  |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Mr. Clouter, 12, Calverley Place. |  | Mr. Sopwith, Mount Pleasant     |
| Mr. Cornwall, Parade.             |  | Terrace.                        |
| Mr. Hargraves, opposite the       |  | (Registrar of Births & Deaths.) |
| Parade.                           |  |                                 |



SURGEONS—*continued.*

Mr. Trustram, Bedford Place.		SURGEON DENTIST.
Mr. Way, Bedford House.		
Mr. Walford, 8, Calverley Place.		Mr. Q. B. Hair, 12, Parade.

## CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

Mr. Boorman, Ephraim Terrace.		Mr. Gardner, Montgomery Place.
Mr. A. Cornwall, Parade.		Mr. Maddock, 10, Parade.

## TEACHERS.

Mr. Goodban, Organist of Trinity Church, and Professor of Music, 2, Vale Royal.

Miss Anna Nash, Professor of Music, Cumberland Gardens.

Mr. Philpot, Professor of Dancing—On Tuesdays, at the Sussex Hotel.

Mrs. Phippen, (Daily Governess,) 9, Bedford Terrace.

Mr. Stidolph, Organist to the Chapel of Ease, and Pianoforte Tuner, Woodbine Cottage.

## ACADEMIES.

Mr. Allfree, Classical School, Romanoff House.

Mr. Griffith, Classical and Commercial School, Nevill Lodge.

## SEMINARIES.

Miss Syddall, Camden House, Mount Sion.

Miss Newnham, Merivale.

Miss Nye, Grosvenor Road.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS HACKNEY COACH FARES,  
&c. &c. &c.

*Pursuant to Act of Parliament.*

<b>FOR TIME.</b>	For every hour or any less time.		For every additional half hour or any less time.	
	S	D	S	D
FIRST CLASS.				
For every full-sized Carriage, drawn by two Horses, carrying, if required, five persons, exclusive of the Driver .... }	3	0	1	6
SECOND CLASS.				
For every Carriage drawn by one Horse or two Ponies, to carry, if required, four persons exclusive of the Driver }	2	6	1	3
THIRD CLASS.				
For every Carriage drawn by a Pony, Mule, or Ass, to carry, if required, two persons, exclusive of the Driver }	1	6	0	9

THIRD CLASS---Continued.

	s	D	s	D
For every Sedan or Bath Chair.....	1	6	0	9
For every Saddle Horse .....	2	6	1	3
For every Pony or Mule.....	1	0	0	6
For every Ass, including a person to } lead or drive the same .....	8d.	first hour.	6d.	every hour after.

**FOR DISTANCE.**

	Not ex- ceeding one mile.		For every additional half mile, or less dis- tance.	
	s	D	s	D
For every Carriage of 1st Class.....	1	2	0	7
For every Carriage of 2nd Class .....	1	0	0	6
For every Carriage of 3rd Class .....	0	8	0	4

After twelve o'clock at night and until two o'clock in the morning, all fares shall be increased one-half; and after two o'clock until six in the morning, be doubled.

N. B. If the fare keeps a Carriage waiting more than ten minutes, the Driver may claim payment for time, at the rate of 6d. for every quarter of an hour.

Further particulars published on a Card for the Pocket, (price 2d.) by the Proprietor of this work.

COACHES, WAGONS, &c.

THE MAILS.—To London,  $\frac{1}{4}$  before 2 o'clock; to Hastings,  $\frac{1}{4}$  before 1 o'clock, every night, from the Branch Post-Office, Calverley Road.

THE ROYAL VICTORIA AND SUSSEX HOTEL.—Coaches to London at 10 o'clock in the morning; and at half-past 1, and half-past 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Sundays at 4 o'clock. To Hastings at a quarter past 3 in the afternoon. An Omnibus to Maidstone and Rochester every morning, (except Sunday,) at a quarter before 7 o'clock.

THE KENTISH ROYAL HOTEL.—Coaches to London at 7 and 9 o'clock in the morning, at half-past 12, and half-past 1 in the afternoon. A Coach to Brighton, Lewes, and Uckfield, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at half-past 1. Coaches to Hastings at half-past 1 and 3. An Omnibus to Maidstone, Canterbury, and Dover, every day, at half-past 1. No conveyances on Sundays.

THE WHITE BEAR INN.—Coach to London every morning, (except Sundays,) at half-past 8. Coach to Brighton on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at half-past 12. Coach to Maidstone, Rochester, &c. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 1 o'clock. An Omnibus to Maidstone, Canterbury, and Dover, every morning, (except Sundays,) at a quarter before 7 o'clock. A Van to Goudhurst on Wednesdays and Saturdays, at 3 o'clock. A Van to Lamberhurst on Tuesdays and Fridays.

J. BARNETT'S Vans and Wagons, from his Office, near the Kentish Hotel, to and from the Nag's Head, White Hart, and Talbot Inns, Borough; George Inn, Aldermanbury, Old White Horse Cellar, Piccadilly, and Bull and Mouth, Oxford Street; every day (except Sundays.) Jarratt's Van to Uckfield, Lewes, and Brighton, Tuesday and Friday mornings, at 8 o'clock.



W. HARRIS'S Light Vans to London, from the Grosvenor Road, every Monday and Thursday morning, at half-past 7 o'clock; and Vans every Monday and Thursday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, to the Catherine Wheel Inn, Borough, and the New Inn, Old Change, Cheapside; returning from thence every Tuesday and Friday, morning and afternoon. Vans to Wadhurst and Ticehurst, Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

W. DIGGENS'S Vans, on springs, from Calverley Road, every Monday and Thursday morning, at 7 o'clock, to the Blossoms Inn, Lawrence Lane, Cheapside, and the Black Bull Inn, Holborn; returning from thence the following mornings, at 8 o'clock.

CONVEYANCES FROM THE FOLLOWING PLACES :

HAND AND SCEPTRE, back of the Parade.---Martin, Postman, to Groombridge, Withyham, Hartfield, Forest Row, and East Grinstead, daily. Carts to Boar's Head, Rotherfield, and Crowborough, daily.

SUSSEX TAP, SUSSEX HOTEL.---Mail Cart to Uckfield, Lewes, and Brighton, every morning, at half-past 2 o'clock. Wadhurst, Ticehurst, Rotherfield, and Withyham, daily. Speldhurst and Penshurst, three times a week.

THE SWAN, back of the Parade.---Cranbrook, Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Mark Cross and Rotherfield, daily.

NEVILL ARMS, Frant Road.---Mayfield, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Wadhurst and Ticehurst, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Burwash, Saturdays. Frant, Mark Cross, and Rotherfield, daily.

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COUNTY OF KENT.

LORD-LIEUTENANT.—The most Noble the Marquis Camden.  
HIGH SHERIFF.—David Salomons, Esq. of Broom Hill.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

*Western Division.*—Sir Edmund Filmer, Bart.  
T. L. Hodges, Esq.

*Eastern Division.*—Sir Edward Knatchbull, Bart.  
J. P. Plumtre, Esq.

COUNTY OF SUSSEX.

LORD-LIEUTENANT.—His Grace The Duke of Richmond.  
HIGH SHERIFF.—Thomas Frewen, Esq. of Northiam.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

*Eastern Division.*—The Hon. C. C. Cavendish.  
George Darby, Esq.

*Western Division.*—Lord George Lennox,  
Lord Surrey.

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## SUBSCRIBERS.

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*Where it is not otherwise expressed, the residence is  
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N. B. A large assortment of strong Boots and Shoes always kept, on which a liberal allowance is made, when purchased for charitable purposes, at

PETERS & Co.'s,  
3, GROSVENOR ROAD.

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THOS. P. PAGE,  
(MEMBER OF THE ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE,)  
**Veterinary Surgeon**  
AND  
*SHOEING SMITH,*  
BEDFORD TERRACE.

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Forge, back of the Sussex Hotel, Frant Road.

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R. DIWELL,  
*Modeller, Sculptor, and Artificial Stone  
Worker,*  
NEVILL BANK, FRANT ROAD,  
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Coats of Arms, Crests, and Heraldic Figures, executed in Wood, Stone, or Composition; ditto Plain and Ornamental Chimney Pots, Vases, and Flower Stands. Monuments, Tomb-Stones, and Chimney Pieces; Slate Cisterns, Troughs, &c. Ornamental Plastering and Distempering executed to Order, with despatch, and Moderate Charges.



**JOHN TEBBY,****Coach Builder,**NEAR THE KENTISH ROYAL HOTEL,  
**TUNBRIDGE WELLS.**Carriages of every description Built and Repaired  
on the best principle, and moderate terms.**SAMMONS,***French and English Bread and Biscuit***BAKER,**TOP OF THE PARADE,  
**Tunbridge Wells.**Families supplied on the most reasonable terms.  
*Bakings fetched, and carefully attended to.***W. DUFFY,**

(FROM LOCK'S AND LEWIS'S, LONDON,)

*Silk Dyer, Fancy Shawl Cleaner, and  
Scourer,*No. 1, HANOVER COTTAGES,  
**TUNBRIDGE WELLS.**

Ladies' Cloaks and Dresses, of all kinds in Silks, Satins, Velvets, &amp;c. China Crape Shawls, Lace Veils, &amp;c. Cleaned, Dyed, and Finished, as in London. Cloth Pelisses, Cloaks, Mantles, Shawls, and Scarfs Cleaned or Dyed, Finished, and Pressed. Gentlemen's Clothes Cleaned and Renovated. Kid Gloves Cleaned.

Moreens, Damasks, and Stuffs of all kinds, Cleaned or Dyed and Finished, Watered or Plain.

Furniture Prints Cleaned and Glazed, Sofa and Chair Covers, Carriage Linings, &amp;c. Cleaned and Glazed without being taken to pieces; Calico Hangings Dyed and Glazed; Carpets and Druggets Cleaned and Finished without being taken asunder.



## CHEMIST & DRUGGIST.

**C. G A R D E N E R,**

(*From T. G. Sarel's, St. James's Street, Brighton,*)

MONTGOMERY PLACE,

FOOT OF MOUNT SION,

TUNBRIDGE WELLS,

Genuine Drugs, and all the Chemical and Medicinal preparations of the Royal College of Physicians.

Prescriptions and Family Recipes accurately dispensed.

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*COOK AND CONFECTIONER,*

(Opposite the Royal Victoria and Sussex Hotel,)

**PARADE,**

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Dealer in Foreign Fruits.—Routs and Ball Suppers  
Furnished.

*Soups and Jellies.*

Tunbridge Wells Water Cakes.—Ices, and Rock Ice.

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BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER,

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Stationery of every description, and of the best quality. Magazines, Newspapers, and other Periodicals, regularly supplied. Advertisements received for the London and Country Newspapers.

\* \* A CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

☞ Agent for *The Sussex Agricultural Express and Weald of Kent Mail.*



**YOUNG,**  
**Tailor,**

Facing Nash's Library and Post-Office, Parade,  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Young Gentlemen's Dresses & Servant's Liveries.

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**Daily Governess,**

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**I. J. & A. SHARP,**

*Tunbridge-Ware Manufacturers,*

By Appointment

TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA,

**Oldenburgh House,**

**LONDON ROAD, MOUNT EPHRAIM,**

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

\*\*\* Wholesale, Retail, and for Exportation.

**WILLIAM GILBERT,**

*Locksmith, Bell Hanger, and Furnishing  
Ironmonger,*

**MOUNT SION, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.**

Brass Work cleaned and Lackered.—Smith's Work  
in all its branches.

*Smoke Jacks cleaned and repaired.*

Kitchen Furniture tinned and repaired.—Register,  
Rumford, and other Stoves.

An excellent assortment of Town made Cutlery.



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*Select Theological Circulating Library;*

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

STATIONERY, BOOK, TUNBRIDGE-WARE,  
AND TOY WAREHOUSE;

*Branch Depository for Publications of the Religious  
Tract Society,*

**Nos. 7 & 8, Grosvenor Road,  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS.**

Writing Papers, of all sizes, from the best Manufacturers.

Ledgers, Account Books, Music and Sketch Books, bound on  
the most approved principles; with every description of Plain and  
Fancy Stationery.

An extensive Stock of Religious and other Works constantly  
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In Plain and Elegant Bindings.

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**Bookbinding in all its Branches.**

*General Newspaper Office.*

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*An endless variety of Inlaid and Mosaic Tunbridge-Ware.*

London made Rosewood and Mahogany Writing Desks, Gentle-  
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cheap as those of any Advertising House in London.

A large assortment of the newest Foreign and English Toys,  
Cloth and Hair Brushes, Combs, &c.; with a numerous collection  
of other goods, worthy of attention.

Sole Agent for the Sale of the celebrated Howqua's Mixture and  
Mowqua's Small Leaf Gunpowder, in Chinese Catty and Half  
Catty Packages.

*Also Agent for the East India Company's Teas.*

CAP AND BONNET BOXES, TRUNKS, &c.

Funerals Furnished in the first style of elegance, and conducted  
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**OBSERVE THE ADDRESS!!!**

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The only Establishment of the kind in Tunbridge Wells.



JOHN HOPE,  
**Grocer, Tea Dealer, Cheesemonger,**  
 AND  
*Dealer in China, Glass, & Earthenware,*  
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TOLSON,  
 (SUCCESSOR TO W. HOOK,)  
**FISHMONGER,**  
*To H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent,*  
 MARKET PLACE, OPPOSITE THE PARADE,  
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Fresh Fish from London and Hastings every day.  
 All kinds of Shell Fish.—Rough Ice.

*Families supplied on the most reasonable terms.*

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ELLIOTT,  
**Saddle and Harness Maker,**  
 Near the Kentish Royal Hotel,  
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Blacking, Harness Dye, Brushes, &c.—Saddles and  
 Harness to Let.—Manufacturer of all kinds of Rope,  
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*Fruiterer and Green Grocer,*  
**PARADE,**  
 (Late of Abergavenny Place, near the Chapel,)  
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To the Nobility, Gentry, and Visitors to Tunbridge  
Wells.

T. G. MATHEWS,

(Late C. WEBB,)

**HOUSE AGENT;**

WHOLESALE & RETAIL

**Grocer, Tea-Dealer, Cheesemonger,  
AND OILMAN,**

**Adjoining the Kentish Royal Hotel,  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS,**

Returns his sincere thanks for the liberal support he has already received, and begs most respectfully to announce, that he has completed the extensive alterations in his premises, and made large purchases at the best and cheapest markets.

Families supplied with Stores at the London prices.

*Show Rooms for China, Earthenware, & Glass.*

Linen and Plate furnished, on moderate terms.

T. G. MATHEWS,

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**GENERAL FURNISHING**

**Undertaker,**

Adjoining the Kentish Royal Hotel,  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Hearse, Mourning Coaches, Black and White  
Ostrich Feathers, &c. on terms strictly  
*moderate.*

LIDBETTER & NEWNHAM,

**Ale & Porter Brewers,**

*And Coal Merchants,*

LONDON ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.



*ESTABLISHED, 1685.*

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WARE REPOSITORY  
AND MANUFACTORY,

**Jordan Place, London Road,**

AND ON THE

**PARADE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.**

H. BURROWS, Jun. respectfully invites the Nobility, Gentry, and Visitors generally, to inspect his STOCK, which comprises the newest inventions.

*N.B. Genteel Apartments, facing the Common.*

**DAMPER,**

**HAIR DRESSER, PERFUMER, &c.**

*Foot of Mount Sion,*

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Families attended at their Residences.

*N.B. A Private Apartment for Hair-Cutting.*

A variety of Nail, Tooth, and Hair Brushes, &c. &c.

A large assortment of Ornamental Hair.

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**DEALER IN HAY, STRAW, &c.**

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Screened Coals.—Wood and Charcoal.

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Cutlery of every description Cleaned, Ground, Polished, and Repaired, in the best manner, and on the most reasonable terms.

Knives, &c. made to order

WILLIAM DELVES,

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*Castle Hotel and Commercial Tavern,*

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THOMAS AGAT COLLINS,

*(From Hastings.)*

Coaches to and from London, Brighton, Hastings, Maidstone, &c. daily.

Good Saddle Horses, Neat Phaetons, Gigs, &c. to Let.



**W. DIGGENS'**  
**TUNBRIDGE WELLS & LONDON**  
**VANS ON SPRINGS,**

For the conveyance of Wine, Music, and every description of Goods, from his Office, CALVERLEY ROAD; and J. W. EARL'S, Hilder Place, Tunbridge Wells,

*Every Monday & Thursday Morning, at 7 o'Clock,*  
 To the Blossoms Inn, Lawrence Lane, Cheapside; and Black Bull Inn, Holborn, from whence he returns the following Morning at 8 o'Clock.

Goods Booked at the King's Head and Spur Inns, Borough.

Goods Carted in from any part of Town, by addressing a line to Mr. GILBERT, Blossoms Inn.

☞ Please be particular in directing by W. Diggins' Vans, as above.

W. D. begs most respectfully to return his sincere thanks to the Nobility, Gentry, and the Public in general, for the liberal encouragement he has hitherto met with, and hopes, by strict attention and moderate charges, to merit a continuance of their patronage and support.

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**J. HOLLYER,**  
**Butcher,**

*Back of the Kentish Hotel,*

FOOT OF MOUNT SION, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

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**H. CHEESEMAN,**  
**GROCCER,**  
**TEA-DEALER, & CHEESEMONGER,**  
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*China, Glass, and Earthenware.*



T. CAMFIELD,  
*Watch Maker, Working Jeweller, and  
Optician,*

PARADE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS,

(ESTABLISHED 30 YEARS.)

ALSO, A

TOY AND UMBRELLA SHOP,

*In Edger Terrace, near Christ Church.*

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A variety of Spectacles and Eye Glasses, in Gold, Silver, Steel, and Shell Frames, with Glass and Pebble Sights, to suit all ages.

Spectacle Glasses and Pebbles fitted.

Umbrellas and Parasols made to order, and repaired in a few hours.

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Any Article in the above Branches taken in exchange.

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MOSAIC & INLAID WOOD WORK.

FENNER & CO.

*Manufacturers to Her Majesty, & the Royal Family,*

Beg to acquaint the Nobility, Gentry, and the Public, that at their Manufactory, (*the oldest and only extensive one in the trade,*) they have always on hand a very large assortment of Mosaic and Inlaid Wood Work, consisting of Tables for various uses, Tea Poys, Work, Drawing, and Card Boxes. Flower Vases, Tea Caddies, and numerous other articles peculiar to their Establishment, which they are Selling at very reduced prices, owing to the introduction of new Machinery.

*Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells.*



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**C. J. BOORMAN,**  
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Horse and Cattle Medicine.

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Chimney Pieces, Monuments, Tombs, &c. made to order; also a variety of manufactured ditto on hand.

Masonry in all its Branches.

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**GIBBS,**  
 LADIES' & GENTLEMEN'S  
*Fashionable Boot and Shoe Maker,*  
 MOUNT EPHRAIM, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

A variety of *warranted* Home-made Boots & Shoes of every description, on Sale.

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**W. CANEY,**  
 Watch and Clock Maker, Working Jeweller,  
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Jewellery, Cutlery, Combs, Brushes, Umbrellas, Parasols, Walking Sticks, Fishing Tackle, &c. &c.

Combs and Umbrellas repaired.—Gold and Silver Bought.



Under the Patronage of H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent.

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W. C R A M P & S O N,

**Riding Masters,**

*Royal Mews, Bath Yard, Tunbridge Wells.*

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W. C. & Son most gratefully return thanks to the resident and visiting Nobility and Gentry of Tunbridge Wells for the very liberal support the former has experienced for more than 30 years.

W. C. & Son, while acknowledging the numerous favors they have been honored with up to the present period, have made it their study to merit a continuance of that liberal patronage; and have recently been at a considerable expense in procuring the best breed of Horses and Ponies; an early inspection of and trial of their stud they now most humbly solicit, all of which they confidently warrant as being perfectly docile, yet possessed of the most complete action.

Young Ladies and Gentlemen are instructed in the art of Riding, with perfect ease and safety, on moderate Terms. Also Ladies are supplied with skirts if required.

\* \* W. C. & Son have likewise an excellent Carriage for hire.

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A. R. CORNWALL,

**CHEMIST & DRUGGIST,**

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*Tunbridge Wells.*

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L A N G R I S H,

(From London,)

*Ladies' and Gentlemen's Hair Cutter,*

Market Place, Parade, Tunbridge Wells.

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FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS ATTENDED.



**SALT MARSH,**  
**CARVER AND GILDER,**  
*Looking-Glass & Picture-Frame*  
**MANUFACTURER,**

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Bed and Window Cornices, Bordering for Rooms, &c.

Old Frames Re-Gilt and Glasses Re-Silvered equal to new, at the London Prices.

*Old Paintings Cleaned, &c.*

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**BUTCHER,**

To her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent,

**Foot of Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells.**

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HOUSE AGENCY OFFICE.

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**W. BELL,**  
**MOUNT PLEASANT BREWERY,**  
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GENUINE ALE AND TABLE BEER.

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*COAL MERCHANT.*

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**J. HAMMOND,**

**Tailor, &c.**

PARADE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS,

Most respectfully informs the Inhabitants and Visitors of Tunbridge Wells, that he has constantly in Stock, a choice selection of Cloths, Fancy Waistcoatings, Kerseymeres, &c. &c. of the newest style and best quality on the most moderate terms.

Servants' Liveries made to order.



SAWYER & SEAMER,  
HOUSE AGENTS,  
Tea-Dealers, Grocers, and Oilmen,  
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Families supplied with Plate, Linen, Knives,  
China, &c. on Hire.

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*Watch and Clock Maker, Jeweller, &c.*  
MOUNT SION,  
ADJOINING THE CORN-MARKET HOUSE,  
*(Removed from 8, Mount Pleasant Terrace,)*  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

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N. B. Gun and Pistol Maker.—General Furnishing  
Shop for Sportsmen.—Repairing in all its branches.

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J. COOPER,  
FRUITERER & GREEN GROCER,  
To Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent,  
Next the Clarence Tavern, opposite Messrs.  
Beeching's Bank,  
CHURCH ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

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*Vegetables fresh cut daily.*

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N. B. Ladies and Gentlemen may walk in the  
Garden, on applying for the key.

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C O X,  
*Ladies' and Gentlemen's Fashionable*  
BOOT & SHOE MAKER,  
JORDAN PLACE,  
*London Road, Tunbridge Wells.*



**JOHN WOOD,**

*WHOLESALE & RETAIL*

*Grocer, Tea-Dealer, Cheesemonger, and  
Oilman,*

CALVERLEY ROAD, MOUNT PLEASANT,  
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Coffee, Cocoa, Chocolate, Fish Sauces, and Pickles.  
Wax, Sperm, and Composition Candles.

Funerals Furnished on the most reasonable terms.

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*And Licensed Dealer in Game,*  
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New-laid Eggs.—Wheat-Ears during the Season.  
Larding, &c.

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**TIMBER AND DEAL MERCHANT,**  
AND GENERAL IRONMONGER,  
Calverley Road, near the New Market,  
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Rosewood, Cedar, Wainscot, Mahogany, Beech,  
Staves, &c.

An assortment of Veneers, and Cut Boards of any  
thickness.



W. HARRIS'S  
**SUPERIOR LIGHT VANS,**  
**DAILY,**

*From Tunbridge Wells to London,*

Leave his Offices, near the Castle, Hotel & Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, for the Catherine Wheel Inn, Borough, and Moore's New Inn, Old Change, Cheapside.

Parcels and Luggage Booked at Moore's Green Man and Still and Glo'ster Warehouse, Oxford Street, and Spread Eagle Office, Piccadilly.

Luggage Carted in, by addressing a line to J. Pulden, Catherine Wheel Inn, or T. Moore, New Inn, Old Change.

*N. B. Goods carefully Warehoused.*

SARAH BONHAM,  
**DEALER IN BRITISH WINES,**

*(Established upwards of 50 Years,)*

Near the Female National School, Mount Sion,  
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Orange,	Red Currant,	Rich Malaga,
Ginger,	Black ditto,	Dry ditto,
Grape,	White ditto,	Raisin,
Elder,	Raspberry,	Calcavella.

Patronized by Her Royal Highness the Duchess  
of Kent.

ORIGINAL STRAW HAT WAREHOUSE.

**D Y E R,**

*Opposite the Parade, Tunbridge Wells.*

Straw, Leghorn, and Chip Hats Cleaned, Altered,  
and Dyed.

Feathers Dyed and Curled.



**D Y E R,**  
**Cabinet and Trunk Maker,**

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Ladies' Bonnet and Cap Boxes, Packing Cases, and Tambour Frames made to order; an assortment of which he has constantly on Sale.

*Portable Desks and Dressing Cases made to plan  
or order.*

Families leaving the Place, may have their Goods, Musical Instruments, &c. carefully Packed on the shortest notice.

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*Patronized by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of  
Kent, and the Royal Family.*

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**MITCHELL,**

*Tunbridge Wells Water Cake Maker,*  
FOOT OF MOUNT SION.

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The Composition is very nutritious, and known only to herself, she being the only *real* Maker of the Genuine Article.

Orders received and forwarded to London, Brighton, and Hastings, carriage free.

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(Clerk to Trinity Church,)

**ORNAMENTAL WOOD LETTER CUTTER,**

(FOR SIGN-BOARDS, ETC.)

**CARPENTER AND UNDERTAKER,**

*Priory Cottage, near the Church, Tunbridge Wells.*

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The newly-invented SHADED LETTERS in relief Gold and plain wood.

*Old Letters Re-Gilt.*



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**Dealer in British Wines,**  
 Priory Cottage, near Trinity Church,  
 TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Sherry	Raspberry	Red Currant
Dry Sun	Orange	Gooseberry
Rich Malaga	Ginger	Elder
Grape	White Currant	&c. &c.

Sent out at 7s. 6d. per Gallon—17s. per Dozen, and  
 1s. 6d. per Bottle.

16s. 6d. per Dozen at the Cellar.

C. HOLLAMBY,  
*Nurseryman, Seedsman, and Florist,*  
 Strawberry-hill Nursery Grounds,  
 ERIDGE ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS,

Begs most respectfully to inform the Nobility, Gentry,  
 and Inabitants, that he has now on sale a large and  
 choice collection of Hot-house and Green-house  
 Plants, Heaths, Camillias, Geraniums, of the newest &  
 choicest sorts, now in cultivation; also Dahlias, Pan-  
 sies, Carnations, Picotees, Pinks, Standard and Dwarf  
 Roses, Evergreen and Flowering Shrubs, Kitchen  
 Garden and Flower Seeds.

Gardens laid out and kept in order.

J. TIBBS,  
 WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,  
*Hand and Sceptre Commercial Inn,*  
 SOUTHBOROUGH,  
 NEAR TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Dinners provided for small and large Parties on the  
 most reasonable terms.

Good Beds, excellent Stabling, and Lock-up  
 Coach-Houses.

N. B. Excellent Private Apartments, cheerfully  
 situate facing the Common.



S P E N C E R,

**Linen and Woollen Draper,**

SILK MERCER, HOSIER, AND HATTER,

Dealer in China, Glass, &amp; Staffordshire Ware,

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*Upholstery and Ironmongery,*

On the most reasonable terms, for ready money.

FURNISHING BAZAAR.

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Bought, Sold, Exchanged, or let on Hire.**Funerals Furnished.**

E. NEAL,

**WINE MERCHANT,**

FRANT ROAD,

TUNBRIDGE WELLS:

*Established upwards of Sixty Years.*

L A N C A S T E R,

*Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker, Paper  
Hanger, and Appraiser,*

TO H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF KENT,

*(Also Undertaker to Her Royal Highnesses' Household,)*

No. 8, Edger Terrace,

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

R A N G E R,

**Coal Merchant,***Dealer in Hay, Corn, and Straw, Charcoal,  
Bavins, &c.*

Foot of Mount Sion, near the Kentish Hotel,

**Tunbridge Wells.**



W. WILLICOMBE,

**Builder,**

*House Painter and Decorator,*

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Plain and Ornamental Vases, Pedestals, and Chimney Pots, manufactured on the premises.

A variety of Paper Hangings constantly on Sale.

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*No. 8, Edger Terrace, Tunbridge Wells.*

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Mrs. LANCASTER begs to inform the Nobility, Gentry, and Inhabitants of Tunbridge Wells and its Vicinity, that she has just received from London, a large assortment of

**BERLIN MATERIALS**

*FOR LADIES' NEEDLE-WORK,*

with a variety of articles, a few of which are here enumerated:—

English Embroidery Wool—Berlin ditto—Lambs' Wool and Yarn—Worsted and Crewels—Deckers and Floss Silk—Rug Needles—Knitting ditto—Netting ditto—Ivory and Wooden Pins—Brown and White Canvas—Silk Canvas, in various colours—Deal and Mahogany Frames—Table & Stand ditto—Patterns of Needle-work—Wire Portfolio Cases, Screens, and Baskets—Berlin Paper Patterns—Braid and Satin stitch ditto—Gold and Silver Twist—Gold, Silver, and Coloured Silk Braids—Purse Twists, &c. &c.

Bullion and Parisian Furniture Fringes, Bell Ropes, Drapery Tassels and Cord; Silk and Worsted Bindings, Furniture Gimps, &c. &c.

All sorts of Needle-work put in Frames begun, continued, or finished. Ladies' Needle-work made up in a most superior style.

Shawls and Scarfs fringed; Needles, Pins, and Sewing Cotton.

Lessons given in all sorts of Fancy Needle-work.

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W. MILTON'S

ORIGINAL ALDERNEY DAIRY,

GROSVENOR ROAD,

Opposite the Roman Catholic Chapel,

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

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Families supplied Morning and Evening.



**EDMUND NYE,**  
 (Late Fenner and Nye,)  
**TUNBRIDGE-WARE MANUFACTURER,**  
**Parade, Tunbridge Wells.**

Every description of Article in the above line made  
 to order.

An elegant assortment constantly on Sale.—Goods  
 repaired and re-varnished.

*Manufactory, Market-Place, adjoining the Parade.*

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*Circulating Library and Reading Room.*

**THOMAS FRY,**  
**Bookseller, Fancy Stationer, & Print-Seller.**  
 DEPOSITORY FOR THE  
 Publications of the Religious Tract Society.

Books lent to read by the single volume.—Bibles  
 and Common Prayer Books in various Bindings.—  
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 Gentlemen's Libraries Arranged and Catalogued on  
 reasonable terms.—Envelopes 4d. per dozen, or 2s. 6d.  
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 copied.

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*Established upwards of 70 Years.*

By Appointment to H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent.

**HARRIET TRICE,**  
**Saddler and Harness Maker,**  
*Near the Chapel, Frant Road, Tunbridge Wells,*  
 AND AT GROOMBRIDGE.

Saddles and Bridles on hire.—Manufacturer of Ropes  
 and Cords of every description.—Oils, Whips,  
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
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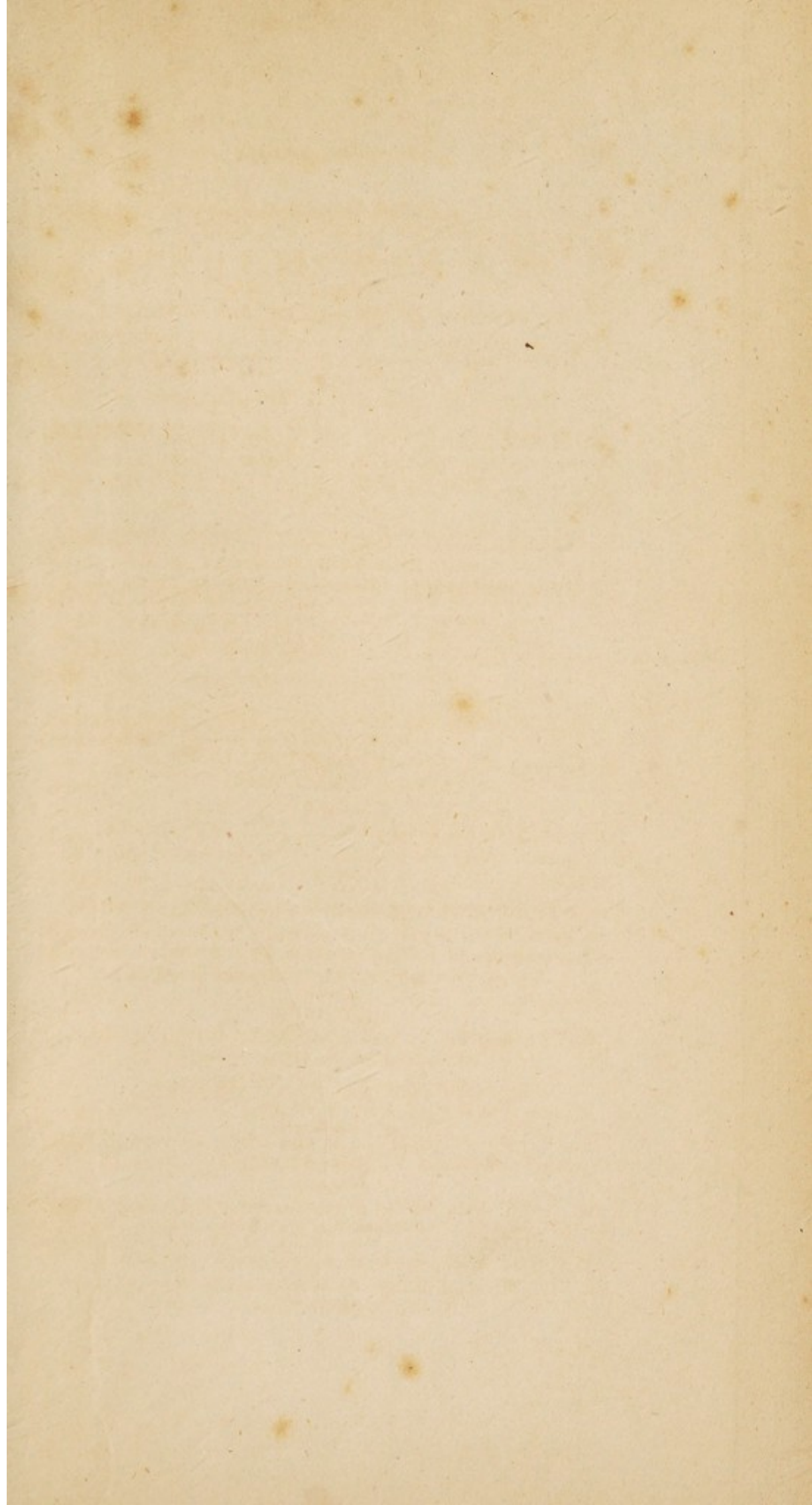
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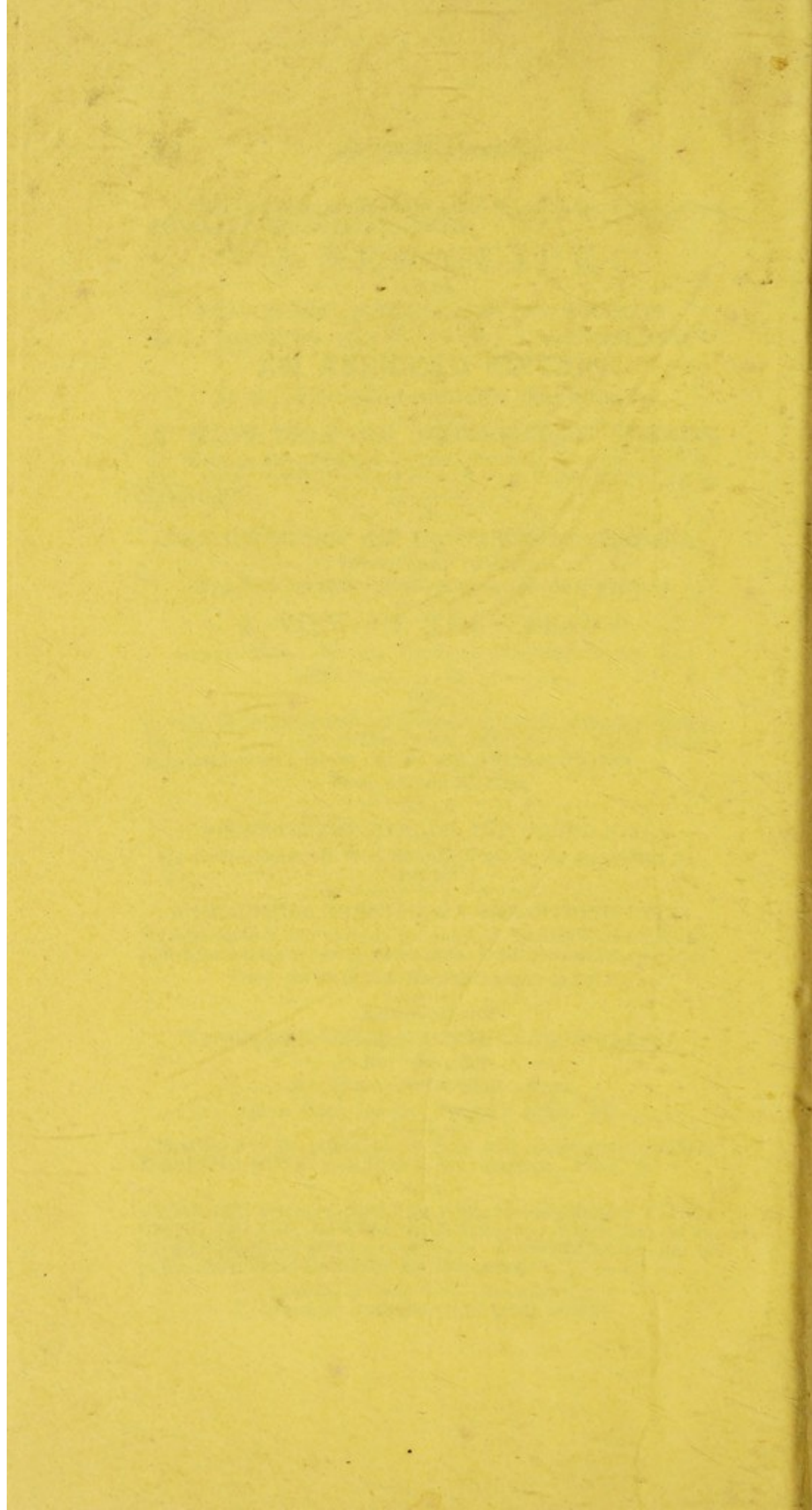
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