

HANDBOOK FOR TRAVELLERS

IN

WILTSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE,

AND

SOMERSETSHIRE.

NEW EDITION.

With Travelling Map and Plans.

LONDON:

JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.

1869.



LONDON : PRINTED BY W. CLOWES AND SONS, DUKE STREET, STAMFORD STREET,
AND CHARING CROSS.

INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.

SINCE the publication of the last Edition of the *Handbook of Wilts, Dorset, and Somerset*, many new lines of railway have been constructed, and other local changes made, which have rendered it necessary to re-arrange, and, to a considerable extent, re-write the work.

The routes have now been made, as far as possible, to follow the great lines of railway, in unbroken continuity, disregarding the county divisions, which are of no practical importance to the tourist. The object aimed at throughout has been the real utility of the Handbook, and the convenience of those who use it.

Very large additions have been made to every department of the work. The antiquarian and ecclesiological information, especially, will be found much fuller than in the former Editions. Great care has been taken to furnish complete and trustworthy information, corrected as far as possible up to the date of publication, on all the points embraced in this Handbook. Those who discover mistakes or deficiencies will confer an obligation on the Editor if they will have the goodness to communicate them to him through the Publisher. It is only thus that local Handbooks can attain that degree of accuracy which may be reasonably expected by those who make use of them.

Whatever superiority the present may exhibit over former Editions is chiefly due to the ready co-operation of the numerous friends and unknown correspondents, who have aided the Editor by answering his inquiries and transmitting information, to whom he takes this opportunity of tendering his grateful acknowledgments.

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INTRODUCTION.

“For who, indeed, at one trait, and from his own small treasury of observance, shall veritably depict even the loveliness of these dumb and thoughtless glades, bosques, and rivulets which surround us? This man seeth them when Phoebus is smiling, and that man, when the God of day is obubilated;—not to speak of the various moods of men, which moods, whether they are gladsome or melancholy, fanciful or dull, do enchant or disenchant, for the men themselves, the outward forms and shows of nature. Therefore, always am I desireful to hear what my friends will say upon any matter that doth admit high and various discourse.”
—An unpublished fragment from the MS. of ‘Ane Aunciente Clerke.’

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A. PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GEOLOGY OF THE THREE COUNTIES.

It is of importance, in acquiring a knowledge of the physical features of a district, to bear in mind that every acre of ground owes its force to physical agencies, the like to which may either be found at the surface, or may reasonably be supposed to be at work below the superficial crust, in some part of the globe at the present day.

These agencies may be classed primarily in a general way under two divisions (1) External and (2) Internal. Those of the first division are continually lowering land-surfaces by wearing away rocks and transporting the *débris* so formed to lower levels on the sea-bottoms, and thus are simultaneously destroying old and forming new rocks. They comprise rain and rivers, frost and glaciers, some of which are always at work over the whole surface of the land, and the sea which works at the margin only of the land, and possibly in a lesser degree by currents in the ocean's bed.

Each of these groups of denuding forces (subaërial and marine) acts upon rocks less or more, according to their hardness or softness, but the difference of the result is more appreciable in rocks subjected to the

former, for the action over the whole surface is more uniform, whatever be its shape. Headlands composed of harder rocks, on the sea margin, on the other hand, at the same time protect more or less the softer portions of the beach, and themselves receive the brunt of the attack of the waves. Thus the general tendency of the sea is to form plains, and that of rain and rivers to cut out valleys in those plains (when raised above the sea-margin) and so form hills.

The 2nd division of forces which influence the form of the ground may be called internal. It comprises two groups, 1stly, those which at certain places on the earth's surface eject material from below through fissures in the crust (with which in this district we have little to do), and 2ndly those which from time to time raise districts above the sea-level so as to expose them to denuding agencies, or depress them below that level and so protect them from their influence.

Few of our English counties, perhaps, can illustrate so well as the three under our notice how much the form of a country is dependent on what may be called its anatomy, that is, the range of its hard and soft parts relatively.

A traveller entering the district from the east is at once struck by the two great ranges of hills which sweep across it continuously in a S.W. direction, preserving a more or less parallel course throughout their length. Each in turn presents a bold and somewhat abrupt face towards the west, looking down upon wide but undulating plains formed of the strata next below, and eastward slopes away gradually in a wide plateau, less and less intersected by deep valleys as it loses itself beneath the overlapping rocks of the next great series of beds above. These two ranges are only a small portion of the great north-west escarpments of the Cretaceous and Oolitic rocks, which run across the whole of England, from the north coast of Yorkshire to the east of Devonshire. They may be roughly said to run in a curve of one-fourth of a circle, the centre of which will be somewhere about the island of Holyhead, and the rocks of which they are composed have a general dip or declination towards the south-east. On the west they rise from plains of the older rocks, on which they lie, and towards the east are concealed in turn by newer rocks which lie upon them. Each of these great groups is composed of several members, which in their turn are constituted of different materials, or of the same materials in different proportions, some of which are better adapted for resisting the attacks of disintegrating forces. Consequently the harder rocks stand out in high relief, whilst the softer crumble away beneath the attacks of time, and so a succession of parallel ridges is produced with intervening valleys or plains. The two most striking of these ridges are that of the chalk in the Cretaceous rocks, and that of the Great, or Bath Oolite in the Jurassic series; but all the other alternations produce features which are more or less marked and continuous in their range, and fill up the minor details of the landscape.

The *Tertiary Formations* in this district are confined to Wilts and Dorset, and consist of the Bagshot beds which form a wide tract of

barren sandy heaths. They rest upon the London clay, and this again in turn upon the Woolwich beds; these last two formations forming a fringe around the Bagshot beds. The range of their boundary with the chalk is marked by a trough the south side of which runs south of Poole Harbour. Its western extremity is near Dorchester, and hence it runs in a N.E. direction by Wimborne Minster and Cranborne to Romsey.

The *Chalk* and *Greensand* escarpment enters the county of Wilts from the N.E., near Swindon, as a portion of the Chiltern Hills, and sweeps thence in a south-easterly direction above Calne to Devizes in a bold row of headlands. Here the chalk is cut back, and exposes the underlying greensand through a broad tract extending along the deep valley of Pewsey to Burbage, not far from the east boundary of the county. It returns to its former range near Westbury, thence to Warminster, and by another indentation to Heytesbury, Maiden Bradley, and Mere. Here the boundary is again thrown some distance to the east, by a fault which brings down the Chalk against the Kimmeridge Clay, and ranges still further to Barford, near Salisbury; and not only is the Greensand exposed in the lower ground between, but also Purbeck and Portland Oolite. From hence its direction is again S.E., passing above Shaftesbury, and by the prominent hill-camp of Rawlsbury, to Bingham's Melcombe. Hitherto we have followed a generally S.W. direction, but the main mass of the Chalk now runs due W.N.W., and after a few miles ceases altogether, its former extent being shown only by detached outliers resting on the greensand. Other changes now come on. The Greensand has been resting chiefly on the uppermost Oolitic rocks: but it now lies on lower and lower beds in succession as it runs west, passing, one by one, over the edges of the Oolitic and Liassic rocks, and resting west of Chard on Triassic marls, at the same time attaining greater thickness, and forming the bold range of the Blackdown Hills. It lies in more and more detached masses as it goes west into Devonshire, and one little outlier of this formation is known to exist on "Carbonaceous" rocks so far away as Orleigh Court, near Bideford, in North Devon, a fact of most interesting significance, as showing the former extent of Cretaceous rocks over the whole of the intervening area, and probably further. The main body of the Chalk now ranges south in an irregular line to within 3 miles of the South coast. It here enters a very troubled country, full of disturbances and faults, and after making a curve to the east, which brings it within 1 mile of the sea at Abbotsbury, its entire course for more than 15 miles to E. Chaldon, near Lulworth, is determined by a great east and west fault, which brings up against it Kimmeridge Clay, Portland Sand, and Stone, the fresh-water beds of the Purbeck and Wealden series, and the Greensand. The fault dies out here, but where the Chalk, Greensand, and Wealden come to the coast near Lulworth other faults again come in and create great confusion in the rock masses. They range at a high angle all the way to the Foreland Pinnacles south of Studland Bay, opposite to the Needles, their representatives in the Isle of Wight.

The *Great Oolitic* escarpment in this district presents a much more regular range than that of the Chalk. At the Racecourse on Lansdown, near Bath (where a most magnificent view of the surrounding country in every direction may be obtained) we stand on the escarpment, and see it running away N. by E., forming the range of the Cotswolds, and S. by W. in like manner, in a line almost uninterrupted as far as the Mendips, against which it rests, but intersected by narrow and deep river-valleys, the streams of which have cut their way down through the Oolitic rocks in succession to the Lias (and in some cases the Trias), and carry out the waste so formed into the Triassic plain. Perhaps no view in the three counties gives one so good an idea of their Physical Geography as this. Standing on a lofty plateau of the Great Oolite, you may see it sloping away from you towards the S.E., and disappearing beneath the higher beds, these in turn doing likewise, and in the dim distance the Chalk downs, with their rounded softness of outline, capping the whole: to the W. the Oolitic outline of Dundry, flat-topped, but, like the main mass, sloping east and standing out in sharp contrast with the more rounded contour of the great range of the Mendips beyond: to the N.W. the busy port of Bristol and, almost at our feet, the Bristol and Somersetshire coal-field, concealed for the most part by the Lias and New Red, but having its extent well shown by the distant Carboniferous Limestone hills, which rise from below it in almost every direction. The distant view embraces the Bristol Channel and the mountains of South Wales beyond.

The *Oolitic* range, after running S.S.W. to where the Mendips meet it at right angles, there rests on Trias, Coal-measures, Carboniferous limestone and the Devonian axis in turn. The Palæozoic rocks passed, it continues its course in pretty much the same general direction as before, with a tolerably regular range but jagged outline to near Yeovil. E. and W. faults now come in, and the range takes a westerly course to near Crewkerne, then through a much faulted and broken country to Beaminster, whence it pursues its old direction to the coast near Bridport.

The *Lias*—although by fossils more nearly allied to the Oolites in its geographical range in this country—is rather to be classed with the Trias, upon which it lies over the greater part of the low country of the Coal-measures to the N. of the Mendips, and also of the low country on its southern flanks, and beneath the Blackdown Hills to the Dorsetshire coast.

But when we have followed these formations through the range of their main mass, and seen the bold front which in their whole length they present towards the W. or N.W., and noticed how on that side in every little combe and on each exposed bluff they are crumbling away beneath the hand of time, we have not yet done with them. In traversing the district of the older rocks, which runs away in an undulating plain from beneath them, we still come upon isolated remnants of them, which tower boldly above the surrounding country, (silent) but impressive monuments of a state of things existing in ages long gone by,

when the whole area was covered by them as by a sheet, which concealed, and at the same time preserved from waste, the underlying formations. In the Oolitic rocks, we may mention as instances the long scarp of Dundry Hill, and to the S.E. around Farnborough the outliers of Stantonbury (with its camp), Wilmington, and those of the Sleight and Barrow hills. These all consist of inferior Oolite resting on the sands. Outliers of the sands upon the Lias marlstone are to be seen at Glastonbury Tor with its commanding view, and to the E. between E. Penard and Ditcheat. A marked outlier of the Lias marlstone on the lower Lias is that of Brent Knoll S. of the Bleadon Hills.

The Trias of the three counties is found for the most part in comparatively low ground resting on the denuded edges of the Carboniferous and Devonian rocks. It is composed of several members. Great masses of magnesian conglomerate full of fragments of Carboniferous limestone, along the flanks of the Mendips, would appear to point to a shore deposit, and the marls are so interbedded with them as to imply a contemporaneous origin. The analogous shore-deposits resting on the sides of the Devonian hills are in like manner full of fragments of the slate and shale against which they lie, and from which they have been undoubtedly derived.

The Rhoetic or Penarth beds (the highest member of the Trias in England) were formerly supposed to belong to the Lias, and were coloured accordingly on the maps of the Government Geological Survey.* A careful examination of their fossils a few years ago rendered it necessary for them to take their place with the Triassic rocks. They are well shown on the beach near Watchet, Somersetshire; patches occur on the top of the Mendips, and great treasures in the shape of mammalian remains have been extracted from a fissure containing these beds near Frome, by Mr. Charles Moore.

The Carboniferous Rocks.—"The northern part of the Bristol and Somersetshire Coal-field forms a trough lying N. and S., narrowing towards its northern limits and expanding towards the opposite direction, till E. of Bristol it reaches a width of seven miles, the beds rising at high angles along and beyond the edge of the basin. South of Bristol the boundary of the Coal-field, marked by the range of the Limestone hills, sweeps round to the westward, and is lost under the sea beyond Nailsea Moor, near Clevedon, in Somersetshire. South of this the Coal-measures underlie the Liassic formation of Dundry Hill, and encircle the large mass of Carboniferous limestone near Congresbury. Over the greater part of this area the Coal-formation is buried at moderate depths under newer horizontal strata." †

On the E. the Coal-measures pass beneath the Oolitic escarpment, but have been proved by borings, &c., not to pass eastward of a line joining Bath and Frome. The succession and thicknesses of the Car-

* They are now (1869) undergoing a careful survey, with a view to their elimination from the Lias, under the superintendence of Mr. Bristow, F.R.S., with the assistance of Messrs. H. P. Woodward and Blake.

† 'The Coalfields of Great Britain,' by Edward Hull, F.R.S.

boniferous strata near Bristol, are thus given by Mr. D. Williams, in the publications of the Geological Survey of Great Britain:—

	Feet.
* Coal Measures { Upper series, with 10 coal-seams	1800
{ Central or Pennant Grit, with 5 ditto	1725
{ Lower Shales, with 36 ditto	1600
Millstone Grit, Hard Siliceous Grits, &c.	950
Carboniferous Limestone	2338

The Carboniferous Limestone forms the long chain of the Mendips, with its picturesque combs and crags, and lies in the form of an anticlinal or arch, its beds turning over to the N., and passing under the Coal-measures, and also turning over to the S. beneath the Trias and Lias formations; and, it is thought, possibly bringing on the Coal-measures in that direction also. The Devonian rocks are to be seen at several places appearing from beneath the limestone in the centre of the arch.

The Limestone is full of caves and fissures, produced by the action of rain-water full of carbonic acid gas dissolving its substance; and in several of these cavities bones of extinct animals have been found, as at Banwell and Wookey Hole. Ores of lead, iron, zinc, and manganese are to be found in several localities.

The *Devonian Rocks* of the 3 counties are chiefly confined to West Somerset, and form that beautiful country which comprises in its borders the Forest of Exmoor and the fine hills of Brendon, Croydon, and lastly, the Quantock, separated from the rest by a belt of Triassic rocks. The beds of Devonian are composed of a large series of sandstones, grits, slates, shales, and limestones. Professor Jukes is of opinion that these rocks represent the Carboniferous slate of Ireland, and that by an inversion of the beds the series is repeated.† Mr. Etheridge maintains that they are all distinct, and divides them into Lower, Middle, and Upper, from consideration both of their fossils and their range.‡ The wild beauty of some parts of these moors is very fine, and the rich contrast of colour produced by the redness of the soil and the bright green of the luxuriant pastures, very striking.

Having now traced the principal ranges of hills in the 3 counties, and seen how they depend upon the extent and direction of rock masses, we shall better be able to understand the drainage of the area by means of its rivers. The great watershed of England which divides the sources of rivers flowing N. and W. from those which discharge themselves on the S. and E. coasts, enters the W. side of Somerset on the heights of Exmoor, and runs with a wavy line towards the S.E. to a point N. of Cerne Abbas, in Dorsetshire, and in its course crests the Devonian heights of the Brendon Hills, thence across the Trias to the Greensand hills of Blackdown by Chard, and above Crewkerne to near Cerne Abbas, dividing in the first part of its course the lesser streams of W. Somerset,

* 'Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain,' vol. I. p. 207.

† 'Notes on South Devon and Cornwall.' Dublin.

‡ 'On the Physical Structure of W. Somerset and N. Devon,' &c., Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc., December, 1867.

which enter the Bristol Channel, from the greater rivers of Devonshire, the Exe and the Otter, which run to the S. coast, and afterwards the lesser streams of Dorsetshire from the larger basin of the Parrett on the N. Thence its course is N. by Sherborne and Wincanton, along several Oolitic scarps dividing the waters of the Stour from those of the Yeo, a tributary of the Parrett. From near here the great Chalk escarpment forms the division to Swindon all the way to Swindon, near which it runs round to the N.W., encircling the sources of the Thames.

It is impossible in so short a sketch to give the Geology of the three counties in detail. Those who wish to know more about any particular part, will do well to consult the maps, sections, and other publications of the Government Geological Survey.*

The maps, on the scale of 1 inch to a mile in particular, will be found useful to pedestrians of a scientific turn, as, in addition to all the topographical details of the Ordnance Maps, they have geological lines and colours superadded.

The following Table of Sedimentary Rocks occurring in Wilts, Somerset, and Dorset, may be useful:—

CÆNOZOIC ..	Eocene	}	Bagshot and Bracklesham beds.
			London and Bognor Clay. Plastic Clay series.
MESOZOIC ..	CRETACEOUS ..	}	Chalk.
			Chalk Marl.
			Upper Greensand.
			Gault. Lower Greensand. Wealden.
	OOLITIC	}	Purbeck beds.
			Portland beds.
			Kimmeridge Clay.
			Coral Rag.
			Oxford Clay. Cornbrash. Bradford Clay. Great, or Bath, Oolite. Inferior Oolite.
	LIASSIC	}	Upper Lias.
Marlstone. Lower Lias.			
TRIASSIC	}	Rhoetic or Penarth beds.	
		Red Marls.	
		Sandstones. Dolomitic Conglomerate.	

* Professor Ramsay's Geological Map of England and Wales may be found useful in gaining a knowledge of the general run of the country.

PALÆOZOIC ..	}	CARBONIFEROUS ..	{	Coal Measures.
				Millstone Grit.
				Carboniferous Limestone.
				Lower Limestone Shale.
		DEVONIAN	{	Pilton and Barnstaple beds.
				Braunton beds.
				Croyde beds.
				Baggy and Marwood Slates.
				Pickwell Down Sandstones.
				Grey Unfossiliferous Slate.
				Calcareous Slates.
				Hangman Grits.
				Lynton Slates.
				Lynton Sandstone.

B. HISTORY OF THE THREE COUNTIES.

At the time of the Roman invasion, Wiltshire and Somersetshire were occupied by the immigrant Belgæ, of whose territory the Wansdyke was the N.E. boundary, reaching from the woodlands of Berkshire to the Bristol Channel.

We have no details of the Roman conquests in the S.W. of England, but it is probable that Vespasian made himself master of this district, and carried the Imperial eagles over the Wansdyke. The Roman roads that intersected this part of Britain, and the number and extent of remains of military and domestic architecture which it presents, prove a widespread and permanent occupation of the country. It has been thought that a College of Armourers was established by Hadrian at Aquæ Solis (Bath), where it is certain from the character of the baths and temples, &c., that have been excavated, that the Romans had a populous and opulent colony. Other Roman stations in this district were Sorbiodunum (Old Sarum), Vindogladia (Gussage Cow Down, near Blandford), Durnovaria (Dorchester), Clavinium (Weymouth), Ischalis (Ilchester), Uxela (Bridgwater), and Abona (Bitton on the Avon). The hills show many marks of Roman military occupation, often combined with the strongholds of the earlier inhabitants.

The retirement of the Romans left the country once more in the hands of the native Britons and Romanized Britons, who in the sixth century were called to defend their country against the invading hordes of Cerdic and his sons. "Step by step, from a small settlement on the Hampshire coast, the West Saxons had won their way, fighting battle after battle against the Welsh (the native Britons), and after nearly every battle extending their borders by a new acquisition of territory." —*Freeman*. In 520 the battle of Mons Badonicus (Badbury Rings, near Wimborne), in which the Britons under Arthur were victorious, gave a temporary check to Cerdic's advance, and led to a treaty between him and Arthur, followed by a period of comparative peace. Cerdic died in 534, and Arthur in 542 (*Guest*). War broke out again, and in 552 Cynric totally defeated at Old Sarum a vast army of Britons raised

against him. In 556 the desperate battle of Barbury Hill (near Swindon), fought by Cynric and Ceawlin with the Britons under Aurelius Conan, decided the fate of the country of the Wilsætas, which thenceforward formed part of the kingdom of Wessex. Twenty-one years later (577) the decisive battle of Deorham, won by Ceawlin the Bretwalda, sealed the fate of South Britain. The Britons lost their three great fortified towns of Gloucester, Cirencester, and Bath, and were thus cut off from their brethren in what we now know as Wales. Divided and weakened, all hope of making head against the enemy was gone. They retired westwards, where, separated from the kingdom of Wessex by the Somersetshire Axe and the forests of Somersetshire and Wiltshire, they long maintained their independence. "This was the last heathen conquest waged by West Saxons against the Britons. During a space of 300 years the conquest still went on. Step by step the English frontier advanced from the Axe to the Parrett, from the Parrett to the Tamar; Taunton at one stage, Exeter at another, were border fortresses against the Welsh enemy."—*Freeman*. Wiltshire saw the sun of its conqueror's prosperity set when at the battle of Wanborough (near Swindon), A.D. 591, Ceawlin was defeated by the Welsh headed by his rebellious nephew Ceolric, and compelled to abdicate his throne. Two years after he died in exile. This defeat reduced Wessex to a state of great weakness, from which it revived under Cenwalh, who fought with signal success against the Britons at Bradford, A.D. 652, and Penselwood, A.D. 658, and effected the final subjugation of Somersetshire north of Selwood. This victory, which made the district for ever after English ground, was followed by a lasting peace, in which the conquered sat down side by side with the conquerors. Struggles for supremacy now began between Wessex and Mercia. In 675, Wulfhere of Mercia was defeated by Æscwin of Wessex at Great Bedwyn. In 715 a still fiercer battle was fought between the same powers in the same district at Wanborough, between Ina and the forces of Mercia, without any decisive result. The power of Mercia continually increasing, Ethelbald, king of the Mercians, in 733 penetrated into the heart of Wessex, and invested Somerton, which fell under his power, the enfeebled Ethelard being unable to relieve it. About this time also the Western Welsh became troublesome. In 721 they had risen and seized on Taunton in Ina's absence, but his queen recovered it, and rased it to the ground. After Ina's abdication the Welsh succeeded in great measure in casting off the Saxon yoke, but were reduced to subjection once more by Cuthred in 753. An expiring effort for supremacy on the part of Mercia was effectually crushed in 823, when Egbert defeated Beornwulf, king of the Mercians, at Ellandun, identified by many authorities with Wilton. Four years later Mercia submitted to the conqueror, and Egbert assumed the title of Bretwalda.

We now come to the epoch of Danish invasion. These inroads had commenced in the reign of Beohrtric A.D. 787, on the coast of Dorsetshire. A successful landing took place in 833 at Charmouth. The reigns of the son and grandsons of Egbert were almost wholly taken up

by the struggle against these piratical marauders. Ethelred himself fell in a battle with the heathen northerners near Wimborne, where he was buried as a saint and martyr. Alfred was summoned from the funeral to meet the Danish army at Ellendun (Wilton?), where a long and obstinate conflict left the enemy masters of the field. In 876 Wareham was surprised by them. Alfred purchased their retirement, together with a pledge that they would not invade Wessex again. But the next year saw them attacking Wareham, on their retreat from which they fell in with Alfred's fleet near Swanage, and were driven on shore with great loss. The year 878 saw the most tremendous attack on Wessex that had yet been witnessed. With largely increased forces Guthrum's army from Gloucester burst into the territory of the Wil-saetas, took the royal town of Chippenham, from which, as their head-quarters, they made themselves masters of the whole country. For the time all seemed lost. The marshes of the Sumersaetas alone remained free from their ravages. Thither Alfred retired, and with the aid of the faithful Somerset thanes, raised a fortress in the Isle of Athelney, strong in its natural defences of morass and forest. At the end of 8 months he issued from his fastness, gathered round him a large army, and dealt a crushing blow on the Danish power at Ethandun (Edington, near Westbury). The Northmen were forced to conclude the disgraceful peace of Wedmore, and their leader, Guthrum, had to submit to the rite of baptism, which he received at Aller.

The feeble reign of Ethelred, saw the wearying spectacle renewed of incessant landings and skirmishes of the Danes. In 988 Watchet was attacked, several thanes were killed, but the enemy were at last beaten off. Nine years later (997) they cruelly ravaged Somersetshire, and the next year Dorsetshire. To avenge the atrocious massacre of St. Brice's Day, Swend invaded England in person 1003, and after storming and plundering Exeter he marched into Wiltshire, and sacked Old Sarum and Wilton. In 1015 he made Bath his head-quarters, where he received the submission of the Western thanes. Canute's first landing in England in 1015 was at Frome Mouth, the port of Wareham, whence he proceeded to harry the shires of Somerset, Dorset, and Wilts, while Ethelred lay sick at Corsham. On Ethelred's death the next year, Wessex acknowledged Edmund as king. The wisdom of their choice was soon confirmed when Edmund's small force met and routed the army of Canute at Penselwood. In 1051 Bristol, which was rising into importance chiefly as the seat of the Irish slave-trade, was selected by Harold and his brother Leofwine as the place of embarkation for Ireland. On their return in 1052 they landed at Porlock. The men of Somerset and Devon met them in arms, and Harold began his enterprise of deliverance by being compelled to do battle with those he came to deliver. More than 30 thanes and a large number of meaner folk were slain, and Harold returned to his ships victorious, to join his father Earl Godwin's fleet at Portland. The year succeeding the Norman Conquest, 1067, Harold's three sons, who had taken refuge with Dermot, king of Leinster, attempted to enter England by the Avon, but were

driven back by the people of Bristol, who knew that domestic tranquillity was essential to their commercial prosperity. In 1086 William the Conqueror held his Court at Old Sarum. During the insurrection in support of Duke Robert's claims to the throne of England under the leadership of Odo of Bayeux, 1087, the district was much distressed by the predatory excursions made by his supporters, Bp. Geoffrey, of Coutances, and Robert de Mowbray, from Bristol. Their followers burnt Bath and attacked Ilchester, where they were repulsed.

In the 12th century the counties of Wilts, Somerset and Dorset were the scene of many of the most stirring events during the struggle between Stephen and the Empress Maud. The castle of Bristol was held by Robert Earl of Gloucester, its lord, A.D. 1138, for his half-sister. That city became the head-quarters of her partisans, from which they ravaged the country round, which became a prey to their outrages and depredations. Bath was held alternately by the forces of the two contending parties. Maud's cause was supported by William Louvel at Castle Cary, and William Fitz-John at Harptree. Stephen having vainly attempted to take Bristol by siege, turned his attention to these two castles, both of which surrendered. This success was followed by the submission of Wareham, which had been occupied for Maud in this year. The warlike Bp. Roger of Sarum, the chief builder of castles, as well as of churches of his day, was at this time, with his nephews the Bishops of Lincoln and Ely, secretly favouring the Empress's cause, and had furnished his castles of Devizes, Sherborne, Malmesbury, and Sarum with provisions and munitions to support her claims. The three prelates being summoned to a Council at Oxford, 1139, Roger and Bp. Alexander of Lincoln were arrested by Stephen; but Bp. Nigel of Ely escaping, took refuge at Devizes, which, with the other strongholds, was soon surrendered to the king as the price of the liberation of the two captive bishops.

The atrocities and devastation committed by the lords of the castles on their unhappy neighbours were renewed by William of Mohun from his castle of Dunster. Stephen having vainly attempted to take it by assault, erected a fort to hold him in check, and succeeded in restoring tranquillity to the harassed district.

In 1139 Baldwin de Redvers landed at Wareham, and occupied Corfe Castle, being speedily followed by Maud and the Earl of Gloucester. From Arundel the Empress proceeded by way of Calne to Bristol, where she summoned the barons to her aid, and, as at Gloucester subsequently, assumed royal state, and, unfortunately for her hopes of success, more than royal imperiousness. Trowbridge Castle was held by a strong garrison for her by Humphrey de Bohun. The castles of Devizes and Malmesbury, with others, were continually being taken and retaken by the contending parties.

When Stephen was taken prisoner at the battle of Lincoln, A.D. 1141, he was transferred for safe custody to Bristol Castle. Maud, who was now recognised as "Lady of England," celebrated the Easter festival this year in royal state at Wilton. The same year Maud, on her escape from Winchester, fled first to Ludgershall and then to Devizes, and

Stephen left his prison by exchange for the Earl of Gloucester, who had been taken at Stockbridge. Bristol Castle soon became the home of Maud's young son, afterwards Henry II., who remained there for four years. Maud's sovereignty was generally acknowledged by the western counties, A.D. 1143, after the disastrous defeat of the royal forces at Wilton, while Stephen held London and the eastern and central parts. Sherborne, which was regarded as a principal key of the kingdom, was surrendered to her, and at one time she made her temporary home at Devizes. The chief strongholds in Wiltshire being held by the adherents of the contending parties, that district became a prey to rapine, bloodshed, and wide-spread misery, which was only terminated by the treaty of 1153.

During the 15th and 16th centuries these three counties had a breathing time, taking little if any share in the events which were shaping our national history. At the period of Jack Cade's rebellion, 1450, the Bp. of Salisbury's tenants rose and barbarously murdered the prelate at Edington. In 1471 Margaret of Anjou and her son landed at Weymouth and took refuge at Cerne; shortly afterwards Edward IV. passed through Malmesbury on his way to Tewkesbury. In 1497 the peace of the western counties was again disturbed by the invasion of the pretender Perkin Warbeck and his adherents. Being confronted with Henry VII. and his forces at Taunton, Perkin fled, and his forces surrendered to the royal mercy.

In the great civil war of the 17th century the western counties were, with the exception of the great towns, firm in their loyalty to Charles I., and they became the scene of active warfare. In the early part of 1643 the Cornishmen took up arms for the king, defeated the Earl of Stamford at Stratton, May 16, and advanced into Somersetshire. Numerous sieges and engagements with various issue occurred. In May, Wardour Castle was taken by Sir Edw. Hungerford, garrisoned by Ludlow, but retaken by the royalists in March of the next year. In Sept. the Earl of Essex was unexpectedly attacked on Albourne Chase by Charles I. and Prince Rupert, and defeated with great loss. The same year the royalist garrison of Malmesbury surrendered to Sir W. Waller, who had recently made himself master of Chichester; but it was speedily retaken, and in July Waller was defeated at Lansdown near Bath, and at Devizes a few days afterwards, by the royalist General Lord Wilmot. Shortly after this serious loss, Prince Rupert made a fierce attack on Bristol, which surrendered to him in three days. Corfe Castle sustained a determined but unavailing siege from the Parliamentary forces. The following year the sun of the king's prosperity began to set in the west. Taunton was taken for the Parliament by Col. Blake, but was soon afterwards invested by the royalist forces. Lyme was besieged by Prince Maurice, whose military reputation was seriously tarnished by the unsuccessful issue of the attack, and in 1645 the Parliamentary forces of the new model, animated by the sternest fanaticism, under the nominal command of Sir Thomas Fairfax, but whose real leader was Cromwell, swept through the west in an unbroken tide of conquest. Sherborne fell after an

obstinate defence of 16 days. Taunton, after enduring a siege of the most extreme severity under Goring, was relieved, July 3, by the mere tidings of their approach. Goring was defeated at Langport and Aller Moor July 10: Bridgwater fell July 23, Bath July 30. These successes cooped up the royalist forces in Devonshire and Cornwall, and precluded them from sending any assistance to Charles. They were crowned by the surrender of Bristol, after a very feeble defence by Prince Rupert, Sept. 10. Devizes fell Sept. 23, and Cromwell, having done his work, marched his forces to Donnington. Before this period armed associations of Clubmen had been formed in the western counties, attaching themselves to neither party, with the object of checking the depredations and violence of both armies. A large body of these were routed by Cromwell on Hambledon Hill at the outset of his western campaign.

The peace generally prevailing through the Commonwealth was temporarily broken by the abortive insurrection of Penruddocke in 1655.

These counties were the theatre of the landing of the Duke of Monmouth, his brief success, and disastrous defeat, followed by "the Bloody Assize" of Judge Jeffreys. Monmouth landed at Lyme, June 11, 1685, was proclaimed king at Taunton June 20, marched onwards by Bridgwater June 21, Glastonbury June 22, Wells, Shepton Mallet, with the view of seizing Bristol. Foiled in that hope, and finding the gates of Bath shut against him, he turned towards Wiltshire, and, after a skirmish at Philip's Norton, reached Frome, his forces wearied and dispirited. Without any settled plan of a campaign he returned to Wells, and re-entered Bridgwater July 2, to sustain a complete overthrow at Sedgemoor, July 6. The infamous cruelties of Kirke and the judicial barbarities of Judge Jeffreys are inseparably connected with Taunton, Dorchester, and the other towns which had the misfortune of welcoming Monmouth.

Three years later these counties witnessed the triumphal progress of William of Orange, and the last feeble attempt of James II. to secure his throne and crown. Having landed at Torbay, Nov. 5, 1688, the beginning of December saw William at Salisbury, occupying the same apartments in the episcopal palace that James had left only a few days before, on the resignation of his vain scheme of meeting the invader in the field. The first blood spilt was shed in a skirmish at Wincanton. On Oct. 6 he reached Hungerford, and held a conference with the Royal Commissioners at Littlecote Hall.

The annals of the counties during the last 180 years have been happily uneventful.

WILTSHIRE.

I. PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The chalk downs are so characteristic of Wiltshire, that the popular notion of that county is one vast Salisbury Plain. But this, like other rapid generalisations, needs considerable modification. If a line be drawn from Bishopston in N.E. to Cley Hill in S.W. of the county, for the most part parallel to, and about 4 miles distant from, the railway from Shrivenham to Frome by Chippenham, all to S. or S.E. of that line will be chalk and the kindred formations, and all to the N.W. of it, will be more or less Oxford clay and Cornbrash—three-fifths of the one to two-fifths of the other.

These are the two great natural divisions of the county, the one "chalk," the other "cheese."

The monarch of English chalk mountains, Inkpen Beacon, is on the very confines of the county, 972 feet; and from his throne radiate two great masses of chalk, one extending northwards from Marlborough Down to the north of Norfolk and the Wash; the other extending from Salisbury Plain southwards as far as Dorchester, and eastwards over the whole of the central part of Hampshire, with two long and distended arms, the North Downs reaching to Deal, and the South Downs reaching to Beechy Head, embracing between them the vale country of the Kent and Sussex Weald.

The chalk in Wilts is divided into a N. portion (Marlborough Downs), and a S. (Salisbury Plain).

The Marlborough Downs have a bold escarpment on each side. Some of the eminences on N. are Charlborough Hill, Liddington Castle, Barbury Castle, Hackpen, Oldbury, Roundway; and overlooking the vale of Pewsey on S., St. Ann's Hill, Walker's Hill, Golden Ball Hill, Hewish Hill, and the picturesque bluff of Martensell. Salisbury Plain has no such bold outline. The most striking points in its N. and W. circuits are Easton and Pewsey Hills, which command the vale of Pewsey; Cheverill, Edington, Bratton, and Westbury hills, with the striking outlier of Cley Hill, Battlesbury, and Scratchbury camps: Mere, Fonthill, Chilmark are on N. of Nadder valley, and Chiselbury Camp and Whitesheet Hill on S. of it.

The North-western or "Cheese" valley rises gradually towards the Cotswolds, a spur of which thrown out from the main range by way of Rodmarton into the clay vale of Minety, between Tetbury and Cirencester, is the watershed between the sources of two considerable rivers, turning the Avon to W. and the Bristol Channel, and the Isis, or rather the Thames, to E. and the German Ocean. The former, the Avon, with its affluents, drains almost the whole of the north-western valley. Rising in a piece of ornamental water in Estcourt Park, it winds through a narrow tortuous valley to Malmesbury, where it is joined by

the Newnton stream, a not inconsiderable brook, from Badminton through Easton Grey; it next passes through Dauntsey and Christian Malford, is joined above Chippenham by the Marden (a stream from E., which gathers contributions from the western slopes of the Marlborough Downs, communicates with the lake at Bowood, and flows by Stanley Abbey), and with a wide loop reaches Chippenham; then, with many a bend, passes Lacock Abbey, Melksham, Broughton Gifford (where it receives the brook of that name from the west), Whaddon (where it receives the brook of that name from the east), Bradford (receiving in the interval the Biss from Trowbridge), and so passes out of the county by Limpley Stoke and Freshford. The scenery of the higher portion of the river is of a tranquil, and, as compared with that lower down, of a tame character. The stream, strongly coloured by the alluvial deposit through which it eats its way, flows between meadow banks; the reaches now straight, now winding, the volume of water, the dipping willows, and bulky elms by the side, the banks gay with the purple loosestrife, bulrushes, and broad flags, the sheltered nooks of the surface, paved with the platter-like leaf and yellow flower of the water-lily, the level meadows dotted with the large dairy cows, grazing beasts, and a few sheep, the gentle slopes which lead the eye to the distance beyond, on the right hand to the offshoots of the Cotswolds, on the left hand to the barrier of naked downs, for the most part regular in outline, but sharp and angular at Roundway, straighter along the plain, terminating at last in the unmistakable tumulus of Cley Hill, the mid landscape on either side, consisting of different farm homesteads, factory chimneys, and church towers, reminding of the business of this life and the happiness of a better—

“In the mixture of all these appears
Variety that all the rest endears.”

As the Avon approaches Bath, it passes through deep and green valleys; further on still, at Clifton, through rock and wood. The interest gradually increases, and culminates at the Leigh Woods.

The best points from which this north-western valley can be seen are Liddington Castle, the descent of the road near Chiseldon, Barbury Castle, the road above Cherhill, or Roundway. Spye Park and Monkton Farleigh look face to face, the one W., the other E.; they are two of the finest positions in N. Wiltshire, and command the most beautiful part of this valley from Lacock to Bradford.

There are two other valleys in Wilts, both in shape not unlike those ancient stone celts which are found on these downs and in the gravel beds of the rivers; their broad ends are towards the W. The vale of Pewsey extends across the centre of the county nearly to its eastern limit at Hungerford, and divides the chalk, while the Nadder valley in the extreme S. reaches from Donhead to Salisbury.

The chalk streams themselves do not follow the course of these valleys; the streams run from N. to S., the valleys from E. to W. This seemingly perverse habit of chalk streams flowing in gorges or

transverse fissures, obtains here as further eastward, where the Chiltern Hills are pierced by the Thames; the north downs by the rivers Wey, Mole, Darent, Medway, and Stour; while the south downs are broken through by the Test, the Itchen, the Arun, the Adur, the Ouse, and the Cuckmere.

Thus in Wiltshire the central plateau of chalk called Salisbury Plain is pierced by the Bourne Brook, by the Southern or Hampshire Avon, by the Willy, and by the Nadder—all of which meet in the neighbourhood of Salisbury (profanely called the Sink of the Plain), and there, sometimes divided into two or more channels, sometimes united,

"Like friends once parted,
Grown single-hearted,
Ply their watery tasks,"

in a tolerably straight line southward through a single valley, under the name of the Avon, into the sea at Christchurch.

We have already seen how a low watershed in the N. turns the streams E. and W.

But perhaps the most interesting hydrographical point in the county is near its centre, where the Wansdyke so boldly crosses St. Ann's Hill. From this spot the waters reach three different seas. Three miles N., Wellhead, near Silbury, may be considered the permanent (the brook which springs from Cleveancy fields is intermittent) and therefore the real source of the Kennet, which joins the Thames, and at last reaches the German Ocean: at Bishop's Cannings, two miles S. is the source of the Hampshire Avon, which empties into the English Channel: Blackland Brook rises four miles W. at Calston, and flows through the Somersetshire Avon to the Atlantic. The sources of these three streams are the three points of a nearly equilateral triangle, of which each side is about 5 miles long.

John Aubrey, the Wiltshire naturalist and antiquary, whose name must ever be held in the kindly remembrance of Wiltshire men, for using his eyes and making his memoranda, where others were blind or idle, noted these streams thus taking their courses "three several waies."

The road which runs from E. Knoyle to Shaftesbury, in the extreme S.W. of the county, marks another watershed, dividing the sources of the Nadder and the Stour, though these streams ultimately unite, after a severance throughout almost the whole of their course, just above their outfall into the English Channel at Christchurch.

The natural and moral influences of North and South Wiltshire, the "cheese" and the "chalk," leading divisions of the county, cannot be better summed up than in Aubrey's words—"According to the severall sorts of earth in England (and so all the world over) the *indigenæ* are respectively witty or dull, good or bad. In North Wiltshire (a dirty clayey country) the *indigenæ* or aborigines speake drawlinge; they are phlegmaticque, skins pale and livid, slow and dull, heavy of spirit; hereabout is but little tillage or hard labour; they only milk the cowes and make cheese; they feed chiefly on milke meates, which cools their braines too

much, and hurts their inventions. These circumstances make them melancholy, contemplative, and malicious; by consequence whereof come more law suites out of North Wilts, at least double to the southern parts. And by the same reason they are generally more apt to be fanatiques; their persons are generally plump and feggy; gallipot eies, and some black; but they are generally handsome enough." "Contrariwise on the Downes, &c., the south part, where 'tis all upon tillage, and where the shepherds labour hard; their flesh is hard, their bodies strong. Being weary after hard labour, they have not leisure to read on or contemplate of religion, but goe to bed to their rest to rise betime the next morning to their labour."

II. GEOLOGY.

The geology of Wiltshire is simple. The range of the rocks extends to none older than the upper beds of the lias, nor to any newer than the white chalk, except it be those small but important portions of tertiary clays, sands, and gravels, the highest strata of which are some Bracklesham sands near Bramshaw, and the largest portion of which overlies the chalk in Savernake forest. Moreover, there has been very little disturbance in the strata, which lie one over the other in parallel beds, or, as it is termed, "conformably." But within this comparatively limited range of rocks lie the oolites and the greensand, which are so fully displayed and easily studied in the railway cuttings and quarries.

The North-western valley belongs to the oolitic system, the several beds of which show themselves throughout its length from Highworth in the E. to Bradford in the W.

The broad bend of the lead-coloured Oxford clay, sometimes less than four, sometimes eight miles wide, extends over the Avon valley from Westbury northwards to Minety, and thence eastward over the valley of the infant Thames by Cricklade and Castle Eaton. The railway for the most part runs along it from Wootton Bassett to Chippenham, and thence to Westbury; and on the Gloucester line from Purton to beyond Minety. Much trouble it gave the contractors by the slips which took place in the cuttings. It contains in great numbers the ammonite and belemnite, the straight dart-like guard of which last animal, vulgarly called the "thunderbolt," continually occurs in the gravel drift which comes from this formation. Below it lies Kellaway Rock, so called from its being well developed at Kellaways, north of Chippenham. Above it on E. are beds of a ragged and crystalline limestone, called coral rag, which lie between the upper and lower calcareous grit. These formations compose a country of moderate elevation, stretching away E. of the Oxford clay basin, from Westbury, through Steeple Ashton, Keevil, Sandridge, Calne, Lyneham, Lydiard Millicent, the Blundens, and Highworth. This range of coralline oolite is again bounded on E. by Kimmeridge clay, of which we shall hear again in Dorsetshire. As the coralline rag country was comparatively elevated, so the Kimmeridge clay runs parallel to it, in a continuous depression

between it and the escarpment of the chalk, from Westbury to Rowde, and from Calne to Shrivenham Station. Swindon Junction lies in the midst of it, and the railway passes through it from Shrivenham to Wootton Bassett. This clay is overlaid by strata of sand and limestone, which, from their large development further south, are called Portland oolite: these are found at three spots in the county—Old Swindon, Potterne, and the Nadder valley—where they are quarried at Fonthill Gifford, Tisbury, and Chilmark. A bit of Purbeck limestone, the highest bed of the oolitic series, is quarried at Old Swindon. But the finest quarries are those of the great oolite which yield those magnificent blocks of cream-coloured freestone, which are sent from Box and Corsham all over England. These, several feet in thickness, and without a joint, are the true oolite, being generally composed of small rounded grains, resembling the roe of a fish. The cornbrash and forest marble are full of fossil shells, much broken; near Bradford thick beds of clay occur between oolitic limestone beds, and in these are found the crinoids, or lily-like animals now in stone; the rayed body or lily itself, is mounted on the long tender stalk, which is still attached to the rock, where the creatures were undisturbed, when potted in clay, for our exhumation and admiration. The slaty or flaggy beds of the forest marble are much quarried for roofing tiles, and their surfaces frequently show the mark produced by the ripple of the waves upon them, as they were being deposited. Drifted shells, the casts of sea-worms, the tracks of crabs, the bones, teeth, palates, and scales of fishes and saurians are also found in the forest marble, as may be well seen in the quarries about Wormwood, between Box and Atworth.

Rather more than half the surface of the county consists of chalk, the upper beds being soft and with flints, the lower harder and without flints. The lower beds of chalk contain some clay, and often form a sort of lower terrace for that upper and thicker pure calcareous mass, which consists almost wholly of carbonate of lime. Among the fossils of the chalk are sponges, corallines, sea-urchins, bivalve and other shells; and many forms of oyster, fishes' teeth and palates are embedded in it, but no bones of land animals, or land or river shells.

The upper greensand, gault, and lower greensand are disposed in bands more or less parallel round the northern and western borders of the Marlborough Downs and Salisbury Plain, and on the north and south margins of the Nadder Valley. But the upper greensand is more than a mere margin to the chalk. The whole of the Pewsey Valley (a remarkable section is in the railway cutting E. of Devizes), a considerable portion of that of Nadder, as well as the small but broad indentation which runs up from the Wily Valley by Warminster to Maiden Bradley and Stourton, are scooped out of the upper greensand: the latter makes Cley Hill a peninsula, and at Stourhead reaches an elevation of more than 800 feet; on the edge of the escarpment King Alfred's tower is built.

The lower greensand in Wiltshire contains so large a proportion of iron as to render many of its beds capable of smelting; thus traces

of old furnaces have been found at Seend, Bromham, and Sandy Lane, and these could be worked successfully as long as the neighbouring forests of Melksham and Pewsham supplied the necessary fuel. That being exhausted, the ore, however rich, became valueless, till the railway afforded means of conveyance, either of coal to the iron or iron to the coal. Accordingly smelting furnaces have been erected at Seend, where John Aubrey found iron more than 200 years ago. "Underneath this sand," he says, speaking of Seend, "I discovered the richest iron ore that I ever saw or heard of. Come there on a certain occasion, at the Revell 1666, it rained at 12 or 1 of the clock very impetuously, so that it had washed away the sand from the ore, and walking out to see the country about 3 P.M., the sun shining bright, reflected itself from the ore to my eyes. The forest of Melksham did extend itself to the foot of this hill. It was full of goodly oaks, and so near together that they say a squirrel might have leaped from tree to tree. It was disafforested about 1635. . . . Now there is scarce an oak left in the whole parish, and oaks are very rare all hereabout, so that this rich mine cannot be melted and turned to profit." Furnaces have also been erected close to the Westbury Station, where the ore is found in the coral rag, which, through a *fault* there, had been brought into contact with the greensand.

In the neighbourhood of Alderbury, Platford, and Damerham are tertiary remains—a spot of Bracklesham sand at Bramshaw being the highest and most eastern stratum in the county.

Flints are, as usual, found everywhere on the upper white chalk. On many parts of the summit levels of the great chalk platform, particularly on the north, is plastic clay, notably in Savernake forest, and at Great and Little Bedwyn: overlying this are insular beds, sometimes of London clay, and sometimes of Lower Bagshot sands (on elevated points of which last are placed Lord Ailesbury's obelisk and Chisbury Camp). All these are the remains of that wonderful aqueous action, which has uncovered all else in the whole of this district.

But the most obvious results of this denudation, in some of the hollows in the downs, about Marlborough and Kennet particularly, are those well known and singular masses of hard white siliceous grit, known provincially as Sarsen stones, grey wethers, or Druid sandstone, from their having been employed in the construction of the supposed Druidical temples at Avebury wholly, and Stonehenge for the most part. These, no doubt, once belonged to the lower tertiary strata that formerly covered the chalk, and were left stranded in the hollows, when the looser materials of those beds were swept onward. They are almost peculiar to the Wiltshire Downs, and their appearance is most striking. One trail of them may be seen about four miles from Marlborough on the Bath road; nowhere are they more thick than in the hollow which leads up to and beyond the Devil's Den, but perhaps they show to most advantage mixed with trees in Lockeridge Dene. They are now largely used for pitching and other such purposes, the means of accurately splitting them by breaking the outer skin being a recent discovery; the old mode was by fire and water.

In the immediate beds of the streams are drift or alluvial deposits of gravel, flint and chalk rubble in the chalk streams, and of these materials, together with oolitic gravel, in the Lower Avon. In this last mammalian drift, so called, are the remains of red deer, ox, horse, elephant, hippopotamus, and rhinoceros, together with land and freshwater shells. These remains are characteristic of the gravel of the valleys, as distinguished from the drift of the hills. The railway west of Melksham runs through this gravel for two miles, and has conveyed it thence for the purposes of ballasting the line down to Weymouth. The geological collections of Mr. Cunningham at Devizes, a local geologist with more than a local reputation, of the Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society also at Devizes, and of the Blackmore Museum at Salisbury, are of the greatest interest. A large, varied, and well-selected series of specimens from different countries, belonging to the earliest period of human occupation, or the "Stone Age" of antiquaries, renders the Blackmore Museum unrivalled in this country.

III. DESCRIPTION, COMMUNICATIONS, INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES.

Wiltshire, in the Saxon Chronicles *Wiltunscir*, in Domesday *Wiltscire*, derives its name through the town of *Wilton*, from the *Wil-sættas* (*sættan* = settlers or inhabitants) the West Saxon tribe, who made it their home. Its shape is that of a parallelogram, with its longest diameter from N. to S., and its northern corners rounded off. It is an inland county, without any seacoast; bounded on N.W. by Gloucestershire; N.E., Berkshire; E., Hampshire; S., Hampshire and Dorsetshire; W., Somersetshire. Its greatest length is 54 m., from N. to S; its greatest breadth, 37 miles, from E. to W. It includes an area of 777,453 acres, or about 1215 sq. m. Its population amounted in 1851 to 254,221; in 1861, to 249,311 persons.

Wiltshire is now almost entirely an agricultural county; dairy farming in N., corn and sheep in S. The N.W. portion was formerly one of the chief seats of the clothing trade; but this has migrated in great part to the northern towns of England. The manufacture is still carried on with some activity in the towns on the river Avon, which supplies the water-power. At Wilton are carpet works. Swindon is a vast railway workshop and depôt. There is a good deal of malting and brewing carried on in several of the large towns. Kennet ale is famous. Iron foundries are in active work at Westbury, and were in operation at Seend. Altogether, the tradè of Wilts is considerable, though it cannot compete with the great manufacturing districts.

The county is well supplied with railway communication. The Great Western Railway enters the county near Swindon, and runs S.W. by Chippenham and Corsham to Bath. A branch runs from Chippenham by Melksham, Trowbridge and Westbury, to Weymouth, meeting the line from Hungerford by Pewsey and Devizes, at Holt, near Melksham; and at Westbury, that by Heytesbury and Warminster from Salisbury. The Great Western throws off branches from Swindon by Minety to Chel-

tenham, and from Chippenham to Calne. Salisbury is a railway centre, communicating, besides the Westbury line already mentioned, with London direct by the South-Western Railway by Andover, and with Exeter by Yeovil; with Southampton and Portsmouth by Romsey and Bishopstoke; and directly with Weymouth, Poole, and the whole of the S. by Fordingbridge.

In the northern part of the county are three great lines of canal: the Thames and Severn, the Wilts and Berks, and the Kennet and Avon. The two former are joined by the N. Wilts Canal, between Cricklade and Swindon; and the two latter unite S. of Melksham. S. Wilts is almost entirely destitute of canals.

IV. ANTIQUITIES—BRITISH, ROMAN.

No county in England can exhibit more numerous and more interesting remains of its aboriginal inhabitants than Wiltshire. The early population dwelt chiefly upon the hills, which everywhere show evident marks of having been densely peopled, and subjected to cultivation. The valleys, obstructed with dense forests and undrained marshes, were as little suited for tillage as for defence, and would be less salubrious than the uplands. Over the downs are scattered, in profusion, British camps and earthworks, boundary ditches and trackways, and foundations of the groups of huts which formed the primæval villages. These elevations are also everywhere tumid with sepulchral barrows and mounds, of varied shapes and dimensions, attesting the long occupation of these grassy hills by the Celtic tribes who are supposed to have first colonised Britain. Traces of their agricultural activity are to be noticed in the "lynchets," or terraces, with which the sloping sides of the downs are scored, evidencing the action of the plough.

The primæval antiquities of Wiltshire and the adjacent counties may be briefly enumerated under the following heads:—

Stone Circles.—Avebury, with its avenues (the first monolithic example in England); Stonehenge.

Sacred Circles, formed by a bank and ditch, the ditch being inside the rampart.

Cromlechs, e. g. "the Devil's Den," and Temple Bottom, near Marlborough (now destroyed); Littleton Drew, near Castle Combe; the sepulchral structures at Lanhill, Luckington, and Shurdington.

British Boundaries. The most remarkable are the Wansdyke and Bokerley-ditch. The *Wansdyke* enters Wilts at Great Bedwyn; goes through Savernake, and over Marlborough Downs (on St. Ann's Hill it is most perfect) by Calstone, Heddington, Spy Park, Neston Park; crosses the Avon valley at Bathford; makes a circuit on the high ground to S. of Bath, over Claverton Down to Prior Park and English Combe, where it is very conspicuous in the fields W. of the church. It continues, marked by deep lanes, to Stantonbury, of which it formed the N. boundary; and thence by Publow and Bulleton to Maes Knoll; crosses Highbridge Common, runs along Deep Combe Lane and across

the meadows to Wonesditch Lane; crosses the Ashton Road at Raymond's Cross, enters Portbury Hundred, traverses Clapton Hill, and ends at Portishead.

British Roads: particularly the Ridge Way, which runs N.E. from Avebury by the camps of Barbury and Liddington. They generally pursue a course along the high land, which the Romans avoided as much as possible.

British Villages, the sites of which are still to be traced on the slopes of Marlborough Downs and Salisbury Plain. The British pit dwellings, a mile N.W. of Salisbury, on the Devizes road may be mentioned.

Banks and Ditches, which marked out the lines of communication from village to village.

Barrows, studding all the chalk hills and valleys: which have been classed in four divisions—the Long-barrow, probably the earliest sepulchral mounds in Britain, Bowl-barrow, Bell-barrow, and Druid-barrow—the three first so named from their shape, the fourth consisting of one or more tumuli, enclosed within a circular ditch, sometimes 100 ft. in diameter. The Wiltshire barrows, particularly those which surround the temples of Avebury and Stonehenge, rank amongst the most ancient in England, and are supposed to date from a time preceding the arrival of the Romans. They are also very remarkable for the variety and symmetry of their forms. Nearly all the long barrows stand E. and W., the wider end being towards the E. Out of 11 opened by Mr. Cunnington, 9 had skeletons reposing at the E. end. In chalk districts, where stone was scarce, the bones usually rest on the natural surface of the soil, after the removal of the turf; but where stone is plentiful, the body was deposited in a chamber at the E. end formed of large slabs, as at Littleton Drew and West Kennet. In a few instances a rough pavement of flint nodules was found under the bodies. At Winterbourne Stoke round hollows were found sunk in the chalk, near the bones—perhaps as receptacles for food and drink. Many of these sepulchral mounds were opened by Sir R. C. Hoare, who, in his 'History of Ancient Wiltshire,' has given us an interesting account of their contents: how in one he found the skeleton of the child clasped in the mother's arms; in another the hunter, with his faithful dog; in a third the maiden still encircled by her little beads and trinkets; in a fourth the warrior in the midst of his weapons, and with the drinking-cup by his side. Three modes of interment appear to have been pursued. In the first the skeleton reposes on the right side with its head to the W. or N.W., and its legs drawn up; in the second it is extended at full length; in the third the body has been burnt, and the ashes deposited either in a cist cut in the chalky ground, or within a funereal urn. With these relics of mortality are found the arms and the personal ornaments of the dead—arrowheads of flint, rude axes of stone, beads of glass, jet, or amber, and, occasionally, articles of brass, gold, or iron. These have been more usually found in the bowl or bell-shaped barrows; the interments in the long barrows were more

Entrenchments, viz.: 1. rectangular enclosures, probably the rude defences of villages; 2. camps on elevated points, varying in size and construction, and of which Old Sarum, Battlesbury, and Scratchbury, near Warminster, are remarkable specimens.

Other camps that deserve mention are, Barbury and Badbury, near Swindon, Bratton Castle, Figbury, or Chlorus' Camp, Ogbury, Sidbury, Casterley Camp, and Yarnborough.

The two great centres from which Roman roads diverged were *Aquæ Solis* (Bath), and *Sorbiodunum* (Old Sarum). They ran thus:

1. From Bath one road (the *Fosseway*) went N.E. to *Corinium* (Cirencester), and S.W. to Wells, where it divided into two branches, one of which passed by *Uxela* (Bridgwater) to *Isca* (Exeter), the other by *Ischalis* (Ilchester) to *Moridunum* on the S. coast (perhaps Seaton). 2. Another road (*Via Julia*) from Bath went E. by *Verlucio* (Sandy Lane, near Heddington) and *Cunetio* (Folly Farm, near Marlborough) to *Calleva* (Silchester), and W. by *Abona* (Bitton), across the Severn estuary to *Venta Silurum* (Caerwent). 3. From *Sorbiodunum* one road went N.E. to Silchester; another due E. to *Venta Belgarum* (Winchester): the continuation of both (*Via Iceniana*) passed through *Vindogladia* (Gussage Cow Down near Blandford), *Durnovaria* (Dorchester), along the S. coast to *Moridunum* and *Exeter*. 4. Between Cirencester and *Cunetio*.

V. ARCHITECTURE AND CHURCHES.

ARCHITECTURE.

I. *Military*.—Of the castles of Wiltshire, so famous in the wars of the 12th and 13th centuries, and invested once more with a temporary interest during the Parliamentary wars, little remains beyond their foundations and earthworks. The mounds of Old Sarum, Devizes, and Marlborough are conspicuous for their bulk, and of the two former some small fragments of building in walls and vaults still exist. Castle Combe is reduced to a heap of rubbish. So is Sherrington. Trowbridge has completely passed away. Of Ludgershall only a small fragment survives. The only castle of which there are any considerable remains is that of Wardour, and it is of considerable architectural interest. Farleigh Castle, being just over the border, is claimed by the county of Somerset.

II. *Domestic*.—Of domestic architecture few, if any, counties possess so many and such admirable specimens. Besides the more remarkable examples, of the chief of which a list is given below, a vast number of old manorhouses are scattered over the county, usually degraded into farmhouses, and more or less dilapidated, and, we regret to add, yearly diminishing before the march of modern improvement. In N. Wilts nearly every parish possesses one or more such specimens, with a long gabled front, two-storied porch, stone-mullioned and labelled windows, stone-tiled roofs, and the remains of handsome oak panelling within.

The following list gives the more important domestic remains:—

Fourteenth Cent.—Stanton St. Quentin; Place House, Tisbury; Woodlands, Mere; Barton farm, Bradford; Wardour Castle.

Fifteenth Cent.—Great Chaldfield; Norrington; Pottern; Salisbury, houses in the Close and City; South Wraaxhall (remodelled in the reigns of Henry VIII., Elizabeth, and James).

Sixteenth Cent. and later.—Bradford, Duke's House; Charlton; Corsham; Littlecot; Longleat; Longford; Wilton.

The magnificent modern mansions of Bowood, Wilton House, Grittleton, Stourhead, Trafalgar, and Wardour, are celebrated as well for their architecture as for the works of art some of them contain.

III. The *Monastic* foundations of Wiltshire have been almost entirely swept away. Malmesbury preserves a large fragment of its magnificent church, and some small portions of the conventual buildings. Lacock retains its beautiful cloisters of the 15th cent., and its chapter-house and kitchen of the 13th. Bradenstoke has some excellent remains of domestic buildings of the 14th cent. The traces of Monkton Farleigh are very insignificant.

CHURCHES.

This county presents at least two different kinds of churches, varying according to the locality and the nature of the material. In the northern part, and some parts of the south-western district, good stone abounds, and consequently the churches are large and fine, with well-finished exteriors. In the southern and eastern parts, where there is a chalk soil, flints are the common material, and the churches are smaller and more homely in character. Wooden belfries or diminutive steeples often occur; but the latter are sometimes unusually situated. Many are interesting from presenting early architectural features, both Norman and Early English. In some parts we find both chalk and stone combined, and a very mixed character in the churches.

In the north and western districts are several large churches, approaching in their general features those of Gloucestershire and Somersetshire; and even in smaller examples the work is often good and well finished. Among these are several which have the exterior chiefly of Perpendicular character, and some lofty and rich towers, as Cricklade St. Mary, Calne, and Devizes St. Mary.

Cruciform churches are not very uncommon in this county; some on rather a large scale, as Cricklade St. Sampson, Bishop's Cannings, Devizes St. John, Purton, Downton, Heytesbury, Great Bedwin.

Two churches in the county, Purton and Wanborough, present the anomaly of two steeples, one in the centre, the other at the west end. An elegant pyramidal bell-turret is not uncommon in the north-western district, as at Acton Turvill, Sutton Benger, Corsley, Biddestone, and Great Chaldfield.

Though in the district where good stone is used the prevailing external features may be Perpendicular, there is abundance of work in the earlier styles, of the best character.

There are some steeples of the "packsaddle" form, at North and South Wraxhall and Winsley. Stone spires are not very uncommon, but, excepting the magnificent one at Salisbury, not very remarkable for height or beauty. Examples are at Chilmark, Salisbury St. Martin, Trowbridge, Chippenham, Box, Purton, Bishop's Cannings, &c.

The finest Norman work is at the Abbey Church, Malmesbury, but a good deal of this church is of transition to the next style. There is also good Norman work at Devizes St. John, Devizes St. Mary, Corsham, and Preshute; and transitional in Ogbourne and the nave of Great Bedwin. At Britford and North Barcombe is some work which has a Saxon appearance.

Salisbury Cathedral is of course unrivalled as an Early English example, on a very large scale. Bishop's Cannings and Potterne are fine churches of this style, almost unmixed; and very good work may be seen also at Purton, Downton, Ambresbury, Cricklade St. Sampson, Collingbourne-Kingston, Salisbury St. Martin, and the chancel of Great Bedwin.

There is a very fine Decorated work in Cricklade St. Sampson, where the windows have beautiful tracery, but there is probably less of this than of the other styles in this county.

Of Perpendicular work are the nave and tower of Devizes St. Mary, Cricklade St. Sampson, the church of Salisbury St. Thomas, the tower of Marlborough St. Peter, and the principal part of those of Bradford, Trowbridge, and Mere.

Stone groining is not uncommon in this county — of Norman character in the chancels of St. John and St. Mary, Devizes. Early English, at Bishop's Cannings, Urchfont, and Marlborough St. Peter. At Urchfont is also a porch entirely of stone. There are several Norman fonts. Sedilia are not very frequent, but piscinæ of various kinds and aumbries are common.

VI. PLACES OF INTEREST.

Swindon.—G. W. Rly. Works; Camps of Barbury and Liddington Castle; Wanborough Ch.

Chippenham.—Bradenstoke Priory; Draycot Cerne; Bowood (pictures); Malmesbury Abbey; Charlton Park (pictures); Castle Combe; Grittleton House (pictures).

Calne.—Bowood; Lansdown Column; Maud Heaths Column; Bremhill; Lacock Abbey.

Melksham.—Lacock Abbey; Spye Park; Bromham; Great Chaldfield; South Wraxhall.

Corsham.—Corsham Court.

Cricklade.—Down-Ampney.

Marlborough.—Churches, College, Castle Hill; Savernake; Tottenham House; Littlecote; Avebury; Silbury Hill; Devil's Den; Wansdyke.

Devizes.—Churches, Castle Hill, Museum; Roundway Down; Bishop's Cannings; Pottern; Urchfont.

Bradford.—Church, Old Ch., (now the Free Schoolhouse), Duke's House; Bridge; Barton Farm; Monkton Farleigh; S. Wraxhall; Great Chaldfield; Farleigh Castle; Hinton Charterhouse; Norton St. Philips.

Trowbridge.—Ch.; Steeple Ashton Ch.; Farleigh Castle.

Salisbury.—Cathedral; Close; Bishop's Palace; Churches; Cross; Old houses; Museum; St. Nicholas' Hospital. Old Sarum; Amesbury; Stonehenge. Wilton House (pictures) and Ch; Bemerton; Longford Castle (pictures); Wardour Castle (pictures, ruins); Clarendon; Trafalgar House; Bishopston Ch.; Groveley Works; Yarnbury; Compton House.

Tisbury.—Wardour Castle; Hindon; Fonthill.

Heytesbury.—House (pictures); Ch.; Cotley Hill; Knook Castle; Scratchbury; Battlebury; Oldbury; Boyton Ch.

Warminster.—Cley Hill; Longleat (pictures); Horningsham; Maiden Bradley.

Westbury.—Ch.; Iron Foundries; Bratton Castle; Edington Ch.; Heywood House.

DORSETSHIRE.

I. PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The classical division of the county of Dorset is into Felix, *Petræa*, and *Deserta*,—the happy vales, the stony heights, and the deserted heaths. The only doubt is as to the classification of the chalk; but if we may place it under the second head, we have a general description of the physical features of the county; and the three Latin epithets may be geologically translated into the clays, the chalks, and the sands.

Felix.—The county has been blessed, perhaps, above measure. It boasts of the title of "the garden of England." It has been described, "both for rider and for abider, one of the pleasantest counties in England;" and a royal critic, who had seen many lands, and never said a foolish thing, declared, on returning from Plymouth, "that he had never seen a finer country in England or out of it." Charles II. was returning from Plymouth—that is, took a western view of the county; and it is in the west that the eulogy is most deserved. There are the rich genial marlstone soils in the neighbourhood of Bridport and Beaminster, drained by the Brit, in which no system of cropping is observed because they can bear anything and grow anything. Nor need the Marshwood Vale, drained by the Char, be excepted, though its clay be cold and distinguished above all others in the county in stiffness, for it is thence that the best Dorset butter is sent to London. The wheat is excellent, and there is not a stone in the whole vale. "They are obliged to send for stones to Bothenhampton to mend their roads." The oak timber in it is of a large growth and excellent quality. There, too, is the vale of the Dorset feeders of the Yeo about Halstock,

Chetnole, and Yetminster, of the Yeo itself at Sherborne. There, too, is the vale of Blackmoor, or the country between the hills about Lillington, the Caundles, and Stalbridge on the N. and W., and the Dorset chalk heights on the S. and E., watered by the W. and E. branches of the many-branched Lidden, with the Cale between them; a fine rich grazing and dairy district, which will rear oxen as bulky as those in the rich sandstone vales and alluvial marshes of Somerset, and grow such oaks as may be seen at Hermitage, Middle Marsh, Glanville's Wootton, Buckland, Mappowder, and Melcombe Park, and hardly elsewhere in the W.; but in the centre of it more suitable for hunting than for residence. No towns, hardly any villages, are in it. Buckhorn-Weston in N., Lidlinch at the bend of the valley, Holwell, Holnest, Leigh, Chetnole in S. portion of it, complete the catalogue.

At Parnham, near Beaminster, at Dewlish, Bingham's Melcombe, and round Bridport, very fine elm timber is grown, which implies a lighter soil than the oak. At West Woodyates is a magnificent walnut tree, planted more than a century ago by the then Lord Londonderry, which the tenant used to call his hundred-pound tree, as it yielded him 5 per cent. in walnuts annually.

The river system corresponds with its vales; that of Blackmoor watered by the Lidden and Cale; those of the Yeo, which flows N. into the Parrett and the Bristol Channel; of the Axe, which bounds the county on W. for some miles; of the Char, which rises near Pillesdon Pen and empties at Charmouth; of the Brit, which rises on the S. chalk slopes near Beaminster, and flows into Bridport Harbour; of the Bredy, which has a similar origin, and joins the sea at the W. end of the Chesil Bank. Felix is perhaps one-fourth of the county.

Petræa.—The chalk enters the county between Cranborne Chase and Shaftesbury in N.E., extends to Beaminster in the S.W., thence to Abbotsbury in S., and touches the sea at Swyre Head (near Lulworth) and Ballard Down (separating Swanage and Studland bays), two noteworthy points, 18 miles apart, on either side of the Isle of Purbeck. The central mass, about one-third of the county, is divisible, like that in Wilts, into N. and S. downs, the river Stour being the boundary, and Blandford the capital of the N., Dorchester of the S. portion. The chief eminences on the N. escarpment are Hod Hill, Hambleton Hill, Okeford Hill, Bell Hill, Bulbarrow (927 feet), White Hill, Great and Little Ball, Revels, Dogberry, High Stoy (891 feet), Evershot, Rampisham Down, Horn Hill (this, with the exception of some outlying masses, indicating its former more extensive prevalence, is the W. extremity of the chalk). Along the S. escarpment are Chilfrome Down, Eggardon, Little Bredy Down, Black Down (817 feet), Whaddon Down, Bincombe Down, Chalbury, Chaldon Down. The highest hills in the Purbeck portion are Swyre Hill (669 feet), Nine Barrow Down (642 feet). Corfe Castle is, from its isolation, the most striking. Pillesdon Pen, W. of Beaminster (934 feet), is the highest point in the county. The chalk hills, though to some extent similar in feature to those of Wiltshire, have not the same broad flat downs, but consist of

comparatively narrow ridges, from the tops of which the sea can be seen to the south, and the hills of North Dorset and Somerset to the north. They are crowned, as elsewhere, with camps and earthworks, such as Maiden Castle and Poundbury, near Dorchester; Weatherbury Castle, near Milborne St. Andrew's; Hambledon and Hod hills, not far from Blandford; Badbury Rings, near Sturminster Marshall; Rawsbury near Bulbarrow, and others.

If to the chalk you add the sea-coast, S. of a line drawn from Bridport in W. to Ballard Down in E. (though you must except and assign to Deserta the belt of Hastings Sand between Worbarrow and Swanage bays) you have *Petræa*, or half of the county.

As usual, the streams pierce the chalk. The Stour is the chief river of the chalk, and of the county. Rising on the borders of Wilts, Somerset, and Dorset, at Stourhead, it receives the two branches of the Lidden and the Cale, and enters the chalk by a transverse fissure between Okeford Hill and Hod Hill at Stowerpaine, passes directly through the chalk by Blandford to Wimborne, where it is joined by the Allen, which also has made its way through the chalk from Cranborne Chase and Pentridge Hill in N. by St. Giles and the Crichels. Almost parallel with the Stour, 10 miles W., is the Trent or Piddle, rising in Alton on the S. side of the N. escarpment by Little and Great Ball Hill, giving its name to Piddle-trenthide, -hinton, and -town, Tol-, and Aff-, in its course. Again, further W. the Frome, similarly rising in S. side of N. escarpment between Corscombe and Evershot, receives tributaries from Rampisham Down on W.; and the Cerne from Revels Hill on E. passing Dorchester, unites with the Piddle on entering Poole Harbour, the common estuary of the two rivers, having between them Wareham, which gives to them the name of the Wareham N. and Wareham S. streams.

Deserta is another quarter of the county on E., "a thousand furlongs [once] of sea, [now] of barren ground, long heath, brown furze, anything." It is an equilateral (18 miles either side) triangle, of which the points are Cranborne, Dorchester, Studland. Wareham is in the centre of it. The N. portion of it drains through the Stour into Christchurch Bay, the remainder through the Piddle and Frome, all chalk-streams in their origin, into Poole Harbour.

II. GEOLOGY.

In one particular Dorsetshire geology is noteworthy. Three purely provincial names—Kimmeridge clay, Portland oolite, and Purbeck stone—are typical formations, and have taken their place among geological terms. The range of rocks is not so extensive as that of Somersetshire, but is perfect and continuous, as far as it goes, from the Bagshot sands down to the lias—that is to say, throughout the lower eocene, the cretaceous, and the oolitic systems; there is not an important member of the series missing. The economic uses of these rocks are various. The quarries of Portland have provided a breakwater at their

foot, the casing and forts of which are also built of it. They have given to London many of its finest buildings—St. Paul's Cathedral, and many other of Sir Christopher Wren's churches, Goldsmiths' Hall, and the Reform Club House. The dark colour and high polish of Purbeck marble may be seen in the slender shafts and columns of the Temple Church, St. Mary's Redcliffe, Wells, Gloucester, and Salisbury Cathedrals, in which last, however, though not exposed to the outer air, it has been found to scale, and is being replaced by Devonshire marble. The freestone at Marnhull has been used in the neighbouring churches, and the greensand of Shaftesbury, Cerne Abbas, and elsewhere on the margin of the chalk, affords good building materials. The chert is used for rough building purposes, and is excellent material for roads. The clay pits between Wareham and Corfe yield annually thousands of tons of fine clay to the manufacturers of Staffordshire and Scotland, and even of Spain and Holland. The Smedmore shale of the Kimmeridge clay used to furnish both naphtha for lamps and carbon for the disinfection of manure; but in the former respect it has been superseded by the American oils. The chalk makes the best of lime. The lias also has an economic use in making hydraulic cement. But it is in its fossil remains, whether animal or vegetable, such as the saurians in the lias at Charmouth and Lyme, or the oolite bed of Portland, that the geology of Dorset is most interesting.

The lower lias and marlstone are found in the W., flowing round the chalk of the Blackdown Hills, Pillesdon Pen, Lewson Hill, Coneygore Hill, Stonebarrow Hill, and some other such islands, to the sea from Lyme to Bridport. To this belong the valleys of the Char and Brit. The lower oolitic sands, rubbly freestone, forest marble, and cornbrash, in the E. of the county, descend from Somerset in a waving band between Stalbridge and Sherborne. A low line of hills E. of Yeovil, of which Babylon Hill is the centre, belongs to them. They pass southward by Bradford Abbas, Lillington, Ryme, Yetminster, Closeworth, Melbury, and Halstock, skirt the chalk by S. Perrot, Mosterton, Beaminster, and Powerstock, and so to the sea at Burton Bradstock; then along the coast by Puncknoll, Langton Herring, and Radipole.

At the halfway house between Yeovil and Sherborne there is a quarry, which should be visited for its intrinsic interest, and as offering a typical section of the lower oolite in Dorset. Underneath the superficial mould are 9 feet of freestone, called by the quarrymen "white lamas" and beneath that a fossil band of about 2 feet; then a bed of hard blue stone about 4 feet, with sands underneath them.

The line of road, from 2 miles N. of Wincanton, in Somersetshire, to 1 mile S. of Stalbridge, in Dorsetshire, about 12 miles, traverses exclusively, with two unimportant exceptions, a narrow band (less than half a mile broad) of cornbrash, passing through the villages of North and South Cherington, Horsington, Templecombe, and Henstridge.

There is a valley, about 4 miles broad, stretching from Wincanton southward for 9 miles; then turning westward for 11 miles as far as Melbury Osmund, and lying for 15 miles between oolitic hills,—the

cornbrash road just mentioned on the W., and coral rag where the Stours (W. E. and Provost), Marnhull, Sturminster Newton, and Haselbury are situated on the E.; and for 5 miles between oolitic hills on N., and chalk and greensand on S. This valley, in fact the Blackmoor vale, watered by the Cale in the portion leading southward, by the western branch of the Lidden in its western portion, is Oxford clay. There are inconsiderable spots of Oxford clay on the S.—indeed, Melcombe Regis is on it—but this favourite watering-place owes its popularity to other causes than its geological position. Weymouth and Wyke Regis, close by, are on the coral rag.

In the N. bulge of the county, and between coral rag and chalk, is a mass of Kimmeridge clay, in which Gillingham, Motcombe, and Shilling Okeford are situated. Here is the E. branch of the Lidden, uniting with the Cale at Stalbridge Mill, and with the W. Lidden at King's Mill, and thence pursuing its course through Sturminster Newton and Blandford. But the spot from which this rock derives its name is on the E. part of Weymouth Bay, reaching as far as St. Aldhelm's Head. It is also the base on which the Portland stone rests, and is seen at Portland Ferry and in N. of the island. It contains an inflammable oil, which renders it so combustible that it is called Kimmeridge coal, is used as fuel, and even sometimes takes fire spontaneously.

Besides the coral rag and calcareous grit already mentioned, there are sections of these strata on the coast at Weymouth and Wyke Regis, and a band of it about a half mile broad, overlooking Weymouth Bay from Abbotsbury on W. to Jordan Hill on E.

The Portland oolite, with the Portland sands underlying it, is found in the island whence it takes its name, in spots of Weymouth Bay, at Ringstead, Durdle Door, and the portals of Lulworth Cove. The fossil contents of the Portland oolite—shells, saurian bones, and coniferous wood—are of the highest interest. The Purbeck marble next occurs in the so-called isle of that name, first in a narrow band on the W., then spreading from Kingston and Worth Matravers to Durlstone Bay and Peverel Point. To the N. it is bounded by a band, about a mile broad, of Hastings sand and Weald clay, from Worbarrow Bay on W. to Swanage Bay on E., with Corfe Castle in the centre. Between them the chalk, greensand, and Weald clay are parallel and nearly straight lines, running W. and E. across the Isle of Purbeck.

The greensand makes well-nigh the circuit of the county, in the usual irregular and ragged fringe to the chalk. Entering from Wiltshire at Shaftesbury in N., it proceeds S. for 9 miles as far as the bottom of Hod Hill and the 2 Okefords (Child and Fitzpaine), thence westward for 34 miles to the very limits of the county at Pillesdon Pen, the highest point in the county; then turning S.E. by Beaminster, and running for 48 miles, it makes its exit at the N. side of Swanage Bay. A line drawn from this point to Hod Hill measures 22 miles. In the N. slopes, where it enters the chalk, the fertile nooks and valleys of the greensand are full of interest and beauty. One such valley is traversed by the railway from Evershot to Maiden Newton, whence

branch others to the W.; another such valley extends from Minterne to Cerne Abbas; another contains the two Melcombes. The central mass of Dorset chalk occupies one-third of its area, extending from Pentridge in the N.E. to the neighbourhood of Beaminster and Abbotsbury in the S.W. (this country is full of faults); thence proceeding S., it touches the sea at Swyrehead and Ballard Down. Its course from Abbotsbury to Swyrehead, 15 miles, is determined by a great W. and E. fault, which brings it into contact with Purbeck beds, Portland stone and sand, and Kimmeridge clay. These two points, 18 miles apart, are noteworthy. Thence, with a curve inland, it reappears and forms the bold head of St. Aldhelm, extending along the coast as far as Durlston Head.

The tertiary system corresponds with *Deserta*, which has already been described as an equilateral triangle, of which the sides (each 18 miles) are from Cranborne to Piddletown Heath (within 2 miles of Dorchester), thence to Studland, and thence to Cranborne again. It consists of plastic clay bordering the chalk all the way from Cranborne to Piddletown Heath, and thence to the sea at Swyrehead and Studland. To this succeed London clay and Bognor beds, also in bands and spots, Wimborne Minster occupying one of them. In the centre of the triangle, with a base extending along the coast from Studland to Poole, are Bagshot sands.

The local museums at Dorchester and Weymouth should be visited.

III. DESCRIPTION, COMMUNICATIONS, INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES.

Dorsetshire—in the Saxon Chronicles *Dorsæta*, in Domesday *Dorsete*—takes its name from the original inhabitants, the Dorsaetas; who, in turn, derive their appellation in its Latinized form of Durotriges, waterside dwellers, from the two British words, *Dwr* = water, and *trigo*, to dwell; probably because the head-quarters of the tribe were by the side of some inlet or piece of water; perhaps the Poole inlet, running up to Wareham. On the N.E., it is bounded by Wiltshire; on the E., by Hampshire; on the N.W., by Somersetshire; and on the W., by Devonshire. The sea is its southern boundary. The length from E. to W. is 55 m., and its breadth from N. to S., owing to its irregular outline, varies from 5 m. to 40 m. It contains an area of 615,783 acres, or about 962 sq. m. Its population in 1851 was 184,207; in 1861, 188,789 persons.

The chief resources of Dorsetshire are agricultural. The dairy produce is large; and there is a great deal of corn grown. About Bridport hemp is much cultivated, to supply the rope and twine works of that town. There are silk-throwing mills at Sherborne, and elsewhere. The ship and yacht builders of Poole are favourably known. Poole is the chief port of the county. Its trade is almost entirely coasting. The quarries of Purbeck and Portland are of great celebrity for their excellent building stone. There is a very extensive manufacture of pottery and tiles in the vicinity of Wareham and Poole, and

pottery-clay and pipe-clay are largely dug, and exported from the same district.

The southern part of the county is traversed from E. to W. by the South-Western Railway, which runs by Wimborne and Wareham to Dorchester; where it is joined by a branch of the Great Western from Yeovil, which continues S. to Weymouth and Portland. Branches are thrown off to Poole, and at Maiden Newton to Bridport. The Somerset and Dorset line traverses the western part of the county from N. W. to S. E., running from Temple Combe, by Sturminster and Blandford, to Wimborne. The main line of the South-Western Railway runs through the N. of this county for a short distance, in the neighbourhood of Sherborne.

IV. ANTIQUITIES—BRITISH, ROMAN.

Few parts of England can shew so many remnants of primitive antiquity as Dorsetshire, or indicate so clearly what Britain must have been before the invasion of the Romans. No less than 25 hill fortresses of (probably) præ-Roman date are enumerated by Hutchins. The grandest specimen of these—hardly to be equalled in England—is Maiden Castle, near Dorchester. After this, we may mention Badbury Rings, near Wimborne (Mons Badonicus), Eggardon, near Bridport; Flowers Barrow, near Lulworth; Rawlsbury Rings, near Bulbarrow; Hodhill and Hambledon Hill, overlooking the valley of the Stour; Woodbury and Weatherbury; and Pillesdon.

The hills are studded with sepulchral barrows, which have been, almost without exception, opened and ransacked. A full account of them may be found in Mr. Sydenham's paper on 'The Dorsetshire Barrows' ('Archæologia,' vol. xxx.), and Mr. C. Warne's 'Celtic Tumuli of Dorset.' The "Agglestone," near Studland, and the "Cerne Giant," may also be mentioned as probably of Celtic date. The Dorsetshire tumuli are distinguished for the paucity and simplicity of their contents; some few, which are non-sepulchral, are simple cenotaphs. The body was either buried entire or burnt, and the few whitened bones encased in a cist or urn, and placed in the centre of the mound, sometimes covered by a flat stone, or packed round with flints. The prevailing form is the bowl-shaped tumulus, frequently surrounded by a shallow fosse, with a slight external vallum. The bell-shaped tumulus is less common. Twin barrows are of occasional occurrence. The most beautiful form is the Druid or disc-shaped barrow, of which the best examples are at Woodyates, Longbredy, and Winterbourne. The long barrow is seldom seen, but it is found at Bere Regis, Blandford, and Pimperne, at Chettle and the Gussages. The whole are purely Celtic. A complete Necropolis at Rimbury, in the parish of Sutton Poyntz, was examined by Mr. Warne, when nearly 100 urns were exhumed, and a large number of skeletons found placed singularly *under* the urns. This was evidently the burial-place of the powerful tribe which occupied the adjacent hill-fortress of Chalbury.

Dorsetshire abounds in the traces of the dwellings of the original Celtic or British inhabitants. These are sometimes mere pits or hollows in the turf, which formed the base of a wattled hut. The best examples are found at Bondsleigh, Ibberton Park, and near Jackman's Cross. The traces of more extensive villages are seen at Melcombe Horsey, and on the Downs of Affiddle, Askerswell, Cattistock, Eastbury, or Tarrant-Hinton. Those on Blandford Down, E. of the old telegraph, and the site Vindogladia (Gussage Cow Down), may be dignified with the appellation of towns. Of fortified towns the best examples are Badbury, Bindon Hill, Buzbury, and Chalbury.

Roman remains are frequently to be met with scattered over the county. The Via Iceniana (Icknield way) traversed the county from Sorbiodunum (Old Sarum) to Durnovaria (Dorchester) and thence westwards to Exeter, with vicinal ways to Ischalis (Ilchester) on the Fosseway, Moridunum (perhaps Seaton), and Clavinium (Jordan Hill, Weymouth), and Lyme. The best preserved castra are at Cattistock, Duntish, Hodhill (within the Celtic camp), and Milborne. Dorchester, by its plan and the remains of its fortifications, declares itself Roman "castra stativa." The amphitheatre of Maumbury is undoubtedly a Roman work. Poundbury Camp may be so also, but is perhaps Danish. The tessellated pavements at Dorchester, Weymouth, Sherborne, Dewlish, Rampisham, and Frampton, speak of a long and peaceful Roman occupation. Mosaic pavements have been also discovered at Lenthay Green, Halstock, Preston, &c.

There are few unmistakable marks of the Saxon settlement beyond the local names, and there is still less that can be assigned to the Danish marauders, though Wareham and its vicinity so frequently suffered from their devastating inroads. The finest Saxon tumuli are on the Downs at Woodyates. The walls of Wareham have been attributed to the same period, but are more probably British.

Poundbury is ranked by Mr. Warne among Danish camps, and the Long Bury Barrow near Slaughtergate in Gillingham parish among Danish barrows.

V. ARCHITECTURE AND CHURCHES.

ARCHITECTURE.

I. *Military*.—With the magnificent exception of Corfe, one of the very finest remains of military architecture in England, the castles of Dorsetshire have almost entirely passed away, leaving little beyond grassy mounds and some fragments of walls. At Dorchester and Shaftesbury we have merely the site; at Wareham one angle of a rectangular enclosure, and slight remains at Sturminster-Newton. Sherborne still preserves considerable remains of Bishop Roger's Norman Keep and Gatehouse; and a considerable portion of Bow-and-Arrow Castle, Portland, is standing. Portland Castle, Sandsfoot, and Lulworth are of the 16th cent.

II. *Domestic*.—Dorsetshire is very rich in picturesque stone houses.

Almost every village offers some examples of more or less value, nor are there wanting buildings of high architectural interest. The chief are—

Fourteenth Cent. — Woodsford Castle, a most interesting and perfect example, sufficient to atone for the absence of others of this date.

Fifteenth Cent.—Parnham; Sherborne, houses.

Sixteenth Cent.—Athelhampton; Bingham's Melcombe, Bere Regis; Canford Manor (part); Clifton Maubank; Maperton; Melbury; Melcombe Horsey; Sherborne, Almshouse, &c.; Wimborne St. Giles; Winterborne Herringstone; Wolveton, Hanford, Cranborne, Lower Walterston, Chantmarle, Upper Cerne.

Of more modern mansions, some of much architectural value, we may name Bryanston, Canford Manor, Charborough, Kingston Lacy, More Crichel, Over Compton, Sherborne Lodge.

III. *Monastic.*—Sherborne Minster deserves the first place among the monastic foundations of Dorsetshire. The magnificent church is perfect, and some interesting remains of the conventual buildings are incorporated in the grammar school. Of Wimborne only the church exists; of Milton Abbas the church and the abbot's hall. The foundations are all that remains of Bindon Abbey. Of Cerne Abbey we have part of the abbot's house, a fine gatehouse, and barn. At Abbotsbury, the gatehouse, dormitory, and barn. Ford Abbey preserves, in the fabric of a modern house, large portions of the cloister and conventual buildings of a Cistercian foundation.

CHURCHES.

Here the prevailing style is Perpendicular. Several churches seem to exhibit no earlier work, yet good specimens of the other style may be found without difficulty, at least in individual features. In some parts of the county there is abundance of good stone, and the churches are often well finished externally; but in others flints are much used, sometimes chequered with stone.

In the Isle of Purbeck, and near the coast, Norman work often occurs, and there are a few small churches, which are pretty complete specimens of that kind, as Studland and Worth. There is also good Early English work to be found, especially in chancels, as at Buckland Newton.

Of Decorated there seems to be less than of any other style, though there is a fine example of it in portions of Milton Abbey.

On the borders of Somersetshire, the Perpendicular is richer and the execution better. The towers there approximate to the ornamental character peculiar to that county, but they are generally of a good style throughout Dorset, almost invariably having a turret on one side and often pinnacles. The spire is very rare. Iwerne Minster is perhaps the only specimen. Panelled arches are very common in the western district, and also rich and elegant pierced parapets.

The churches are not generally very large, with the exceptions of Sherborne and Wimborne, which last has a central and a western

tower, and they often have but one aisle. There is usually a chancel arch, but in most cases the clerestory is wanting. The roofs are often coved, and are sometimes of a rich character, as at Marnhull. There is not much screen-work, and perhaps no rood-loft, though the rood-steps are generally found. There are several instances of hagioscopes, but the sedilia, piscinæ, &c., are not usually of remarkable character. Some tolerable pieces of painted glass are to be found, and several early fonts.

Sepulchral brasses are rare, but there are some fine tombs and some good monumental effigies.

VI. PLACES OF INTEREST.

Shaftesbury.—St. Peter's Ch.; Views from Park, and Castle Hill; Cranborne Chase.

Wimborne.—Minster; Canford Manor; Merly House (pictures); Badbury Rings; Charborough House; More Criche; St. Giles' Park; Woodlands; Monmouth's Ash; Horton.

Poole.—Harbour; Tile Works; Branksea Island; Bournemouth. Excursion to Swanage and Corfe.

Wareham.—Ch.; Engraved Stones; Walls. Corfe Castle; Creech Barrow; Creech Grange; Swanage. Bere Regis. British Village on Affpiddle Heath.

Wool.—Bindon Abbey; Lulworth Castle; Winfrith; Lulworth Cove.

Dorchester.—St. Peter's Ch.; Fordington Ch.; Tessellated Pavement in Gaol; Walks round Walls; Museum; Amphitheatre; Poundbury; Wolverton; Charminster; Maiden Castle; Herringstone; Blackdown; Hardy's Monument; Nine-Stones; Hellstone; Bridehead; Kingston Russell. Woodsford Castle (near Moreton Station). Cerne Abbas. Remains of Abbey; Puddletown; Athelhampston.

Weymouth.—Sandsfoot Castle; Wyke Ch.; Chesil Bank; Isle of Portland; Breakwater; Quarries; Convict Establishment; Portland Castle; Bow and Arrow Castle; Caves Hole. Abbotsbury; Swannery; Decoy; St. Catherine's Chapel. Chalbury; Osmington. Excursion to Lulworth Cove, and Swanage.

Isle of Purbeck.—Swanage; Studland Ch.; Agglestone; Corfe Castle; Godlingstone; Quarries; Tilly Whim; St. Aldhelm's Head and Chapel; Encombe; Kimmeridge; Gadcliff; Worbarrow Bay; Lulworth Castle; Flower's Barrow; Arish Mell; West Lulworth Cove; Durdle Door.

Bridport.—Ch.; Old Houses; Rope Walks. Eggardon Hill; Burton Bradstock; Charmouth; Whitechurch; Vale of Marshwood.

Beaminster.—Ch.; Parnham House; Broad Windsor; Lewesdon and Pillesdon hills.

Lyme Regis.—Ch.; Cobb; Saurian Remains; Pinhay Landslip; Conie Castle; Lambert's Castle; Uplyme.

Maiden Newton.—Ch.; Frampton Ch. and House; Wynford Eagle; Ram-pisham Ch.; Chantmarle House; Melbury House and Park.

Blandford.—Bryanston; Camps of Hod Hill, Hambledon Hill, Buzbury, Crawford Castle. Iwerne Minster; Fontmell Magna; Milton Abbey; Bulbarrow; Rawlsbury.

Sturminster.—Castle; Marnhull Ch.; Nash Court (pictures).

Stalbridge.—Ch.; Cross; View from Park; Vale of Blackmoor.

Sherborne.—Minster; Grammar School; Hospital; Castle; Lodge (pictures); Cemetery. Lewston Park; Dungeon; Round Chimneys; Glanville's Wootton.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

I. PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The county, though its physical aspect is much varied, naturally arranges itself in three main divisions; a *central basin* between two *hilly districts*, one on the W., the other on the N.E. The Mendips and Quantocks are the E. and W. boundaries of the central portion, which is in fact co-terminous with the physical basin watered by the Parrett, the Brue, and the Axe, or the Bridgwater Level, as it is sometimes called; and contains no elevations other than the low-lying Polden Hills (about 300 feet high, and 20 miles long), and such islands as Brent Knoll, Glastonbury Tor, Wearyall Hill, Wells Tor, and the like, rising out of the flat alluvial deposit. It is generally describable as an irregular parallelogram, about fifteen miles either way, divided into two parts by the Poldens. The division between the Polden Hills and the Mendips includes Glastonbury turf-moor, while the other division, to the west of the Polden Hills, contains King's Sedgemoor.

The hilly district on W. consists of the Quantock Hills, of which Will's Neck, the highest point, reaches 1270 feet. The other chief heights are—Thorncombe Barrow, Huxley Beacon, Danesborough (1022 feet), Fire Beacon, Bagbarrow Station, Cothelston (1060 feet), and Bancombe Hill. The Quantocks are about 14 miles long, and 4 or 5 wide. The steep escarpment on the western face is in a great measure occupied by woods and plantations. The eastern slope is more gradual, and is intersected by the beautiful valleys of the Seven Wells and Hunter's Combe. Also in W. are the Brendon Hills, among which are Haddon Hill (1140 feet) and Dunkery Beacon, the highest point in Somerset (1697 feet). The Brendons are connected on N. with the bold head of Bossington Beacon, Porlock Hill, and the coast line; on the W. with the forest of Exmoor, the connecting ranges of which are the Winsford and Hawkridge hills.

The elevation of Dunkery, though in itself inconsiderable and of an easy gradient, is relatively commanding. From its top you may see right through Somersetshire, from end to end, some 60 miles. The curious physical feature of central Somerset, islands of hill rising from the flat, such as Brent Knoll, Glastonbury Tor, Brean Down, and Worle Hill, is conspicuous. The entire coast line from Weston to Lynton is traceable, except where Minehead interrupts it.

The N.E. hilly district is very different in its character from that in the West. With the exception of the Mendips, it does not consist of distinct lines of hill, but of irregularly disposed heights which gradually slope away to the rivers Frome and Avon, which drain the district on the north. The Mendips from Whatley, near Frome, in E., to Brean Down in W., are about 34 miles long, rising in some parts to more than 1000 feet. Their chief heights are Worle Hill, near Weston, Banwell, Sandford, Dolberry, Burrington Ham, Wavering Down, Shutshelve, Blackdown, North Hill, Pen Hill, Milton Hill (above Wells), Maesbury Castle, and Beacon Hill (above Shepton Mallet). The straight sky-line of the Mendips, interrupted in W. by the Cheddar gorge, is one of the most striking features to the eye. The chief of the irregular hills are in the neighbourhood of Bath and Bristol, such as Falkland Knoll, near Norton St. Philip, Lansdown (813 feet), Claverton, Combe, and Odd Downs, near Bath, Dundry (790 feet), Broadfield Down (with its Cleve and Brockley combes), S. of Bristol, and Leigh Down W., with its St. Vincent's Rocks.

What Dunkery is in the W., Lansdown Racecourse is in the E. The great oolitic escarpment trends thence N.E. along the Cotswolds, S.W. towards the Mendips, which meet it at right angles: due W. the eye rests on the outlier of Dundry; due E. it passes over the N.W. Wiltshire valley to the chalk downs hung like a curtain on the horizon. Along the sea coast there are not many bold headlands, but rather easy lines of beach and bay; sometimes wooded, as at Quantock's Head, almost to the water-line, or ending in a face of low cliff, as at Watchet and Cleve. The point of Brean Down, a bold bar of mountain limestone, running athwart the six miles of sandy beach which begins at Burnham Church, and Minehead Hill, with its tongue-like termination of Hurlstone Point, are exceptions to this series of soft scalloped curves of coast line.—(*Sat. Rev.*)

The watershed line, sometimes in Somerset, sometimes in Dorset, enters the former county at Alfred's Tower, on the chalk; passes on the oolites between Wincanton and Bruton by Bratton, turns south at Milborne Port by Purse Caundle and Glanville's Wootton, rejoins the chalk again above Glanville's Wootton and follows it by Evershot, Corscombe, Mosterton, Shave-lane Hill, Wind-whistle Hill, Chard, Combe St. Nicholas, and the Blackdown Hills on the kindred greensand; where, leaving the cretaceous series, it passes through the new red sandstone to White-ball Hill, through carboniferous limestone at Hockworthy, joins the Devonian rocks at Clayhanger, and so by the Brendon Hills to Dunkery Beacon and Porlock. Thus are the waters which flow through Somerset and Dorset divided between the Bristol and English Channels.

The main system of drainage is that of the central basin watered by the Parrett (the principal river in the county, and rising 1 mile beyond its S. border), with its tributaries:—1. The Ile on the left bank; 2. The Yeo (one source being in Dorset, and the other in Somerset) on the right bank; 3. The Tone (rising in the S. slope of Brendon Hill, and

flowing through Taunton Dene) on the left bank ; 4. The Cary (rising near Castle Cary) on the right bank. The Brue, also rising on the borders of Dorset and Somerset, and flowing by Bruton and Glastonbury, cannot indeed be called a tributary of the Parrett, but yet empties into the same estuary as that river, from which it is separated by the low line of the Poldens. The Axe may be said to be appurtenant to the Mendips, rising in Wookey Hole, flowing at their foot, and passing into the Bristol Channel between Uphill and Brean Down.

The W. hills are watered by the brooks which flow into the sea at Watchet, Dunster, and Porlock. The two sources of the Exe (the Barle and the Exe) are in Exmoor on the very confines of the county. The N.E. district is drained by the Avon and its tributaries. On entering the county, and before reaching Bath, it receives the Box Brook, the Midford Brook, and the Frome. The Chew joins below Bath above Keynsham.

II. GEOLOGY.

The geology of Somersetshire includes specimens of nearly all the formations which appear on the surface of England from Wales to Norfolk—the Devonian in the hills of Exmoor, Brendon, and Quantock ; the old red sandstone and mountain limestone in Mendip ; the coal-measures among the hills south of Bath ; the new red sandstone and marls in the vale of Taunton Dene and at the base of many of the hills ; the lias, which bounds the Bridgwater level like a sea-cliff, or rises out of it in patches like islands, as Brent Knoll ; the oolite formations, extending over the south and east of the county ; the greensand and chalk, which appear yet further S. in the Crewkerne and Chard hills, in the Blackdown Hills, and in the tableland between Somerset and Devon ; and, lastly, an extensive alluvial deposit, partly covered by peat and fen land, which fills up the Bridgwater Flat.

This alluvial deposit is partly *marine* (though this part is small and intermittent), flat mud-banks by the sea-shore, such as the Bridgwater Flat, properly so called ; but chiefly *estuarine* and *fluvial*, such as the Burnham Level, Huntspill Level, the flats from Portishead to Aust Passage, Nailsea and Kenn moors, and others, which extend from Weston to the inland ranges.

The chalk formation in Somerset occurs but in three outlying patches, extending into the county from Wilts and Dorset, one of greensand just capped with chalk (Roddenbury Hill) on the east side of the Somerset and Weymouth Railway between Frome and Bruton ; another more considerable, of which Cricket St. Thomas is the centre, to the west of Crewkerne, separated by the tributaries of the Axe from the third and larger mass of chalk and greensand, which occupies the country about Chard, and extends over the Blackdown Hills. In these last are found concretionary layers 12 or 18 feet thick, affording the scythe and hone stones which form an important branch of manufacture, and are sent all over the kingdom. Kimmeridge clay forms a narrow ribbon, bordering the chalk from north of Witham

Park to south of Pen Selwood. The Oxford clay occupies a considerable extent of the eastern part of the county, from Standerwick E. of Frome to Henstridge and Stalbridge, though nearly cut into two parts at Wincanton by the approximation of the cornbrash and coral rag. The lower oolites are found in the isolated hill of Dundry in the north, in the district round Bath, descending in a band, more or less interrupted and irregular, between the Oxford clay and the lias, entering Dorset between Stalbridge and Sherborne, and passing to the south by Yeovil and South Petherton as far as Ilminster. They make elevations rounded or flat topped, such as Dundry crowned by its church, Lansdown to the north of Bath, Odd Down to the south of it, Small Down N.E. of Evercreech, and Cadbury Castle, both of which last, capped with Roman entrenchments, overlook the vale land of Mid-Somerset. The lias occupies an important position in the centre of the county; the flat lands around Dundry, Keynsham, Bath, Timsbury, Stone Easton, N. and S. of the Mendips, Shepton Mallet, Pilton, Glastonbury, Somerton, Curry Rivell, are a large semicircle of places on the N. edge of the lower lias, which stretches back to the S. as far as Bruton, Castle Cary, Yeovil, Crewkerne, and Ilminster. The Poldens are a tongue of lower lias mounds, rather than hills; while there are upper lias elevations in the Pennards, Glastonbury Tor, Brent Knoll, and the higher grounds about Yeovil, South Petherton, and Ilminster, all more or less outliers which indicate in their isolation the extensive denudation to which this whole district has been subjected.

“The district round Ilminster presents considerable variety in its geological character. A bird’s eye view, taken from N.W. of the town, would show at no great distance the lofty range of the Quantocks of Devonian age, while at their base stretching towards Ilminster might be found the variegated and red marls of the Keuper. On these, 5 miles distant, at Beer Crowcombe, are Rhœtic beds. Resting on the latter succeed the Saurian and other limestones and marls of the lower lias, which, though in great part covered by drift, reach to the foot of the hill W. of Ilminster. Within half a mile E. the middle and upper lias, on which the observer stands, may be seen passing under the oolitic sands and the inferior oolite, while 2 or 3 miles to the S. the latter are covered by the range of greensand and chalk, which, passing from the neighbourhood of Crewkerne round Chard, is then continued in the Blackdown hills of Devonshire. . . . The best districts for a study of the upper members of the Triassic group in the W. of England are along the numerous escarpments bounding the moorlands of Wedmore, S.W. of the Mendips, along the whole line of the Polden Hills to Bridgwater, and again from Compton Dundon by way of Somerton, Langport, and Hatch Beauchamp, towards Taunton. Throughout the greater part of these districts the lower lias occupies the table-land, the Rhœtic beds coming in immediately beneath, and skirting the edge of the escarpments.”—(C. Moore).

The stones in the lower lias are quarried, the large flat slabs at Kington are used as sides to cowsheds or piggeries, floors to barns and

farm-kitchens, and pavements to streets; there is a fine grained blue limestone, which will take a polish, and is handsomely marked; below it is a bed of hard whitish limestone or white lias, belonging to the Rhœtic beds, which is used for mantelpieces by us, and was fashioned by the Romans into the tesserae of tessellated floors.

An important section in the railway cutting at Queen Camel shows a succession of 260 beds, 375 feet thick, every one of which may be identified, and where at one view is seen the passage upward of the Keuper, Rhœtic, and Liassic beds. The distinction between the two last is so marked, that you may at once place your hand on the uppermost Rhœtic white lias. It extends uninterruptedly from Lyme Regis throughout Somersetshire, and a geologist travelling by express train may readily detect it in the railway cutting at Saltford near Bath.—(*C. Moore*).

The new red sandstones (upper and lower) occupy the country between Dundry and the Mendips; the Upper Yeo and the Chew flow through them. Crossing the Mendips on the south of the range, they contain Wells, Westbury, Cheddar, and Axbridge; then, running along the southern base of the Poldens and bordering the lias, they envelop the Quantocks, extend to the N. beyond Minehead, occupy the country of which Taunton and Wellington are the centres, and finally leave the county, wrapping round the edge of the Blackdown Hills, and filling a great part of the fine vales which are seen stretching in every direction from those heights. The dolomitic conglomerate is found at Bristol, in patches N. and S. of the Mendips, and at Milverton.

The Somersetshire coalfield extends from Bristol to the neighbourhood of Frome on the one hand, and from the suburbs of Bath to the Mendip Hills on the other, covering in all an area of about 150 square miles; the chief pits are in the Nailsea (now out of work), the Radstock, and Paulton districts. Coleford, N. of Leigh-on-Mendip, rests on a band of the millstone grit, nowhere a quarter of a mile broad. "The northern part of the Bristol and Somersetshire coal-field forms a trough lying N. and S., narrowing towards its northern limits, and expanding towards the opposite direction, till E. of Bristol it reaches a width of seven miles; the beds rise at high angles along and beyond the edge of the basin. South of Bristol the boundary of the coal-field, marked by the range of the limestone hills, sweeps round to the westward, and is lost under the sea beyond Nailsea Moor, near Clevedon, in Somersetshire. South of this the coal-measures underlie the liassic formation of Dundry Hill, and encircle the large mass of carboniferous limestones near Congresbury. Over the greater part of this area the coal-formation is buried at moderate depths under newer horizontal strata."—(*E. Hull*.)

The carboniferous limestone is one of the most striking formations in the county; in the north it occurs on the coast from Portishead to Clevedon, then turning east to Leigh Down, and bending in a northerly direction, leaves the county at Leigh Woods, where it is pierced by the gorge of the Avon. There is a group of limestone hills

between Blackwell and Wrington; but the great stretch of this rock is in the Mendips, from Frome on the E. to Brean Down, Worle Hill, and Middle Hope, on the W. by the sea; continued to the Flat and Steep Holms now actually in the sea; and to different points in Glamorganshire on the other side of it. The limestone is full of caves and fissures, produced by the action of rain-water full of carbonic acid gas dissolving its substance; and in several of these cavities bones of extinct animals have been found, as at Banwell and Wookey Hole. The old red sandstone is seen at Little Elm, on the E. extremity of the Mendips, whence it is continued W. for some miles, and is the oldest formation and most elevated portion of this range. Its largest development is N. of Shepton Mallet and Cranmore, and, again, on North Hill and Blackdown.

The backbone of the Mendips, corresponding to what is now called the "Ridgeway," consists of Old Red, and extends from Shepton Mallet on E. to Whatley on W. Against this saddleback rests carboniferous limestone at a great angle, in some places vertical. To this succeed the coal-measures at the same angle, with numerous faults running through them; Old Red, Rhætic, and Liassic beds are successively deposited horizontally on the upturned edges of the limestone. The mighty agent, which caused this disturbance, and uplifted these formations, some 20,000 feet thick, in one place upheaving and doubling back the coal-measures on themselves, so that the coal is worked *beneath* carboniferous limestone, was a volcanic dyke, of which the discovery belongs to Mr. Moore. It emerges from beneath the old red sandstone at E. end, near Stoke Lane; and E. and W. of a line of which that place is the centre, there is for a distance of 7 miles an uninterrupted anticlinal. From the general physical character of the Mendips, the dyke is probably coextensive with the range.

To old red sandstone also belong the Quantock Hills and all the country W. of Stogumber and Wiveliscombe, including Haddon Down, Brendon and Croydon hills, and so westward to Exmoor.

The geological collections at Bristol, Taunton, and Bath, should be visited, particularly the latter, which owes its existence and excellence to Mr. C. Moore, a distinguished geologist, no mean "citizen of no mean city."

III. DESCRIPTION, COMMUNICATIONS, INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES.

Somersetshire, in the Saxon Chronicles *Sumersetescir*; in Domesday *Sum'ersete*—derives its name from its early inhabitants, the Sumersætas. It is a maritime county, bounded on the N.W. by the Bristol Channel; on the S.W., by Devonshire; on the S.E. and S., by Dorsetshire; and on the E., by Wiltshire. Its form is so irregular that it is difficult to give any just estimate of its length and breadth. It comprises an area of 1,083,282 acres, or 1677 sq. m. Its population was in 1851, 443,916 persons; in 1861, 444,873.

Somersetshire is rich in agricultural produce. Its dairy farms are celebrated, and its cheese, especially that which takes its name from

Cheddar, of high excellence. The warmer valleys, especially towards the W., near Taunton, abound in orchards, and a large quantity of cyder is produced. The principal manufactures are those of woollen cloth, worsted, and silk, at Frome, Twerton, and Wellington; of gloves, at Yeovil, Martock, and Taunton; of lace, at Chard; of linen, at Crewkerne; crape, at Dulverton, and Shepton Mallet; of glass, at Nailsea; of bricks, draining-tiles, and the celebrated Bath-brick, at Bridgwater, where are also large engineering works.

The northern part of this county is traversed by the Great Western and Bristol and Exeter Railways from Bath to Wellington, by Bristol, Bridgwater, and Taunton; which send off branches N. to Portishead, Clevedon, Weston-super-Mare, Burnham, and Watchet; and S.E. from Durston to Yeovil; and from Taunton to Chard. The centre of the county is intersected by the Somersetshire and Dorset line from High-bridge, by Glastonbury to Temple Combe, whence it proceeds to Wimborne and Poole, uniting the Bristol and English Channels. The S.E. part of the county has rly. communication by means of the Great Western branches from Frome to Yeovil and Axminster, and from Witham, by Shepton Mallet to Wells. There is a line for coal traffic only from Frome to Radstoke.

The Kennet and Avon Canal enters the county from Bradford, and joins the Avon at Bath. The Somersetshire Coal Canal has two branches, one commencing at Paulton, the other at Radstoke, and both communicating with the Kennet and Avon Canal.

Somersetshire is rich in quarries and mineral productions. The Bath quarries supply one of the best building-stones in England. There are lead-mines near Wellington, and on the Mendip range, where also calamine was formerly dug. Coal is found at and near Radstoke in East Mendip. There are slate quarries at Wiveliscombe.

IV. ANTIQUITIES—BRITISH, ROMAN.

This county is excelled by very few in the number and interest of its primæval and Roman remains. The crests of many of the hills are strengthened with earthworks forming encampments, often of great extent. It is difficult, if not impossible, to assign a date to these works; but it is probable that many of them are of immense antiquity, long anterior to the Roman invasion, in their original formation, and have been occupied in succession by the forces of the various contending parties during the early ages of English history. Conspicuous and characteristic examples of these encampments may be seen at the two Cadburys, Dolbury, Maesbury, Hamdon Hill, Neroche Castle, and Orchard Castle. The vestiges of British villages are to be seen on Ben Knoll above Wookey, Worlebury, and Pen Selwood, &c. The Wansdyke may be traced in its course in many places, especially at Englishcombe, near Bath. The stone circles of Stanton Drew are monolithic, with avenues, of the same type as that of Avebury. The other (so-called) Druidical remains that deserve mention are the Fairy's Toot in Nempnett parish and the Littleton Sepulchre.

The chief vestiges of early habitations are those on Hampton Down above Bath, on Dundry Hill, S. of the ch., at Charterhouse on Mendip, on the hill above Bleadon and Hamden Hill.

Groups of sepulchral barrows stud the ridges of many of the hills. Near Priddy, on the Mendip, are two groups, one of 9, another of 8 barrows. Maes Knoll, on Dundry Hill, is a barrow of immense size.

British roads traversed the county in the form of *ridgeways*, many of which can still be traced.

(1.) Crossed the Avon between Burghwalls and Stokeleigh camps, and pursued its way along Leigh Down to Cadbury camp above Tickenham, where it was joined by a road from Portishead, and proceeded S. across the vale to a camp above Yatton; thence crossing the marsh, it traversed Mendip from Sandford by Shutshelve to Cross; thence over the Axe by Brent Knoll to Pawlet, at W. extremity of Polden Hill, where it joined a branch of the road from Old Sarum to Uphill. Here it crossed the estuary of the Parrett to Comwich, and near the fort on Cannington Park Hill it coincides with the turnpike road from Bridgwater to Stowey, and climbs by a valley S. of Over Stowey to the top of the Quantocks; descended and climbed Willet Hill, and ran along the ridge of Brendon Hill, and thence into the valley of Exe, and to Barnstaple.

(2.) The British trackway from the Humber to Axmouth entered the county at Threshire Stones, 1 m. W. of Colerne, Wilts, and went by the base of Little Solsbury Hill to Bath, where it crossed the Avon under Beechen Cliff, and climbed the hill by Holloway, crossed Wansdike near Odd Down turnpike, and, ascending and descending, ran along the high ground to Radstoke, near which it took the line of the turnpike-road to Shepton Mallet and Wells. It descended into the great vale of Somersetshire, and took a direction to Ilchester, leaving the Belgic and British fort on Hamdon Hill to l., crossed the Parrett, and split at Watergore; one branch ascended Whitedown, near Windwhistle, and proceeded by Tytherleigh to Streetford Bridge over the Axe, and to Axminster. The other crossed the Ile to Ilton and Broadway, and thence to Castle Neroche.

(3.) Another trackway went from Minehead to Neroche, and thence over Buckland Down to Streetford.

(4.) The last to be noticed led from Neroche to Honiton. This was paved, and was dug up some years since, and the material used for the turnpike road.

The chief British fortresses are those of Stantonbury, Maes Knoll at Dundry (both on the Wansdyke), Cadbury Camp, those of Portbury, Portishead, Dolsbury, Dinghurst, and Brent Knoll. The camps of Hampton, above Bath, Little Solsbury, Blackness Hill (near Mells), Tedbury, Wadbury, and Newbury, the Beacon on Mendip, Maesbury, Worlbury, Danesbury commanding the Parrett, Dunkery Beacon, Cadbury, Hamdon, and Neroche.

The Romans availed themselves of the old British trackway to construct the Fosseway through Bath and Ilchester, to Moridunum on the [*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*]

S. coast. The *via ad Axium*, connecting Axium on the Bristol Channel with Sorbiodunum or Old Sarum, runs from Uphill to Oldmixon, is very indistinct over Bleadon Hill, on S. side of Wenthill. It crosses the road from Bristol to Bridgwater at 14 m. between Churchill and Cross; and runs beneath Banwell Hill direct to Shipham, leaving Dolbury l.; shortly after, it arrives at a rocky cleft, cut to allow it to pass, traversing a valley carried alongside of the Blackdown ridge, then to Charterhouse, where it makes an angle to S., passes many tumuli, and leads direct to a solitary inn, known as the "Castle of Comfort," near which are 4 large British circles, a group of 9 barrows and a group of 8, crosses the road to Wells at Green Ore Farm, goes by Maesbury camp, crosses the Fosse at Beacon Hill. Here it is very indistinct for a considerable distance, but is supposed to go by Gear Hill, Maiden Bradley, Kingston, and Monkton Deveril, and crosses the road from Shaftesbury to Warminster, near 6 m. from W. Near this it goes round the tumulus N. of Lower Pertwood Farm. 15 m. from Old Sarum the road is perfect. It runs through Great Ridge Wood, crosses the Western Road between Deptford Inn and Chicklade in extensive earthworks at Stockton Wood corner, thence through Grovely Wood; crosses the river Wily; proceeds through Chilhampton; crosses the Avon, running through Stratford to Old Sarum.

The Roman remains at Bath are of unusual magnificence, and have been found in great abundance. Ilchester supplies copious marks of its Roman origin, and the traces of Roman occupation are plentifully scattered over the surface of the county. Tessellated pavements have been found at Camerton, East Coker, Pitney, Whatley, &c. The lead-mines of Mendip were worked by the Romans, of which we have evidence in the pigs of lead with Roman inscriptions found at Wookey, Blagdon, &c.

V. ARCHITECTURE AND CHURCHES.

ARCHITECTURE.

I. *Military*.—The castles of Somersetshire, always a peaceful county, were few, and they have almost entirely disappeared. Of Bristol, just over the border, for many centuries one of the strongest and most important in the kingdom, no more than the name and site, and some few fragments of walls and buildings, remain. Of Castle Cary, famous in the civil wars of Stephen's time, nothing is to be seen beyond some grassy mounds. Taunton preserves its gateway and hall, but in a state of great degradation. Of Bridgwater all has passed away but the name. Dunster was rebuilt in the reign of Elizabeth, but preserves several portions of earlier work. The chief remains are at Nunney, of the 14th cent., and Farleigh Hungerford, of the 15th.

II. *Domestic*.—This is the richest district in England for domestic remains, especially those of the 15th cent. . In some parts of the county

every village has one or more houses, or parts of houses, worthy of notice. Owing to the excellence of the stone, they have been better preserved than in many parts of England. The following list gives the most remarkable examples, to which the unrivalled specimens at Wells must be added :—

Fourteenth Cent.—Meare (manorhouse and fishhouse), Martock; Compton Dundon; Doulling; Lytes Cary; Chapel Cleve; Clevedon Court; Clapton-in-Gordano (partly destroyed).

Fifteenth Cent.—Banwell Court; Beckington; Blackmoor, near Carington; Chew Stoke (parsonage); Congresbury (parsonage); Crosscombe; Glastonbury; Hinton St. George; Hutton; Kingston Seymour; Lytes Cary (part); Nailsea; Norton St. Philips (George Inn, &c.); Norton-sub-Hamdon; South Petherton; Stoke-under-Hamdon; Tickenham; Yatton.

Sixteenth Cent.—Barrington Court; Brympton; Bristol (houses); Dunster; Halsway; Stogumber; Montacute; Nettlecombe; Quantoxhead; Sandford Orcas.

III. *Monastic.*—Of the magnificent foundation of Glastonbury the remains are lamentably small. A portion of the church; the abbey gateway; abbot's kitchen, and barn, comprise the whole. The less important religious houses of Cleve Abbey, Hinton Charter-house, Muchelney, and Woodspring, retain a larger portion, comparatively, of their buildings, and deserve more attention (especially Cleve Abbey) than they have hitherto met with. A small fragment is all that stands of the Priory of Taunton. The chapel of the small Austin priory of Stavordale is incorporated with a modern farmhouse.

CHURCHES.

The churches of Somersetshire, previous to the Perpendicular period, appear to have been of no great pretensions. They seem usually to have wanted both clerestories and aisles. They were often cruciform, and an octagonal tower, sometimes central (as at N. Curry), sometimes at one side (Somerton), was frequent in some districts.

There is abundance of fine stone used in the churches of this county; but in several cases a coarser material of blue lias is employed, which does not admit of fine work. These two materials often appear in the same church. In the south-east district, it is the fashion to white-wash the whole of the exterior.

Some churches have only one aisle, as Pilton, Huish, &c.; and there are specimens in which the tower is between the nave and the chancel, yet without indications of Norman work, *e. g.* Butleigh and Shapwick. Sometimes there are transeptal chapels, of the same height as the aisles, as Glastonbury St. John; and sometimes there is only one, as Shepton Beauchamp, Fivehead. When the tower is situated on the side, it is generally of perpendicular character. There are some cruciform churches, with central towers, as Bath Abbey, Crewkerne, Yatton, Milborne Port, Ilminster, Dunster, Ditcheat,

South Petherton, &c. Barrington is also cruciform, with a central octagonal tower and aisles. Others are cruciform, with a western tower, as Bridgwater, Weston Zoyland, &c. Octagonal towers may be seen at Somerton, Doulting, and Barrington; at Barton St. David, Tintinhull (on N. side), Ilchester (west end of the nave), South Petherton (in centre of cross), Podymore (at west end), and Bishop's Hull. Taunton St. Mary Magdalene is remarkable for having double aisles on each side.

This county has a peculiarly distinctive character in its ecclesiology, displaying itself in a general prevalence of Perpendicular work, often of a richly ornamental character, but especially so in the towers, many of which are noted for their magnificence. The more elaborate have often pierced battlements and pinnacles, the latter of very exquisite workmanship, and occasionally multiplied to the number of twelve or sixteen. The belfry windows are generally double, and sometimes triple, and filled with elegant stonework pierced with quatrefoil paneling—an arrangement which, if not quite peculiar to this county, is scarcely found except in those which adjoin it, as Gloucester, Dorset, and Wilts.

“The Perpendicular work of the county,” writes Mr. Freeman, “is of the most magnificent character. The typical form is a lofty and elaborate W. tower, disengaged from the aisles, often vaulted within, and nave and aisles with or without clerestory; very commonly a S. porch as high as the aisles, a high roof, and a comparatively insignificant chancel of earlier work, with Perp. chapels on each side. Polygonal turrets are frequent. The roofs are various, but different forms of the coved roof are typical. The interiors are rich in screens and other wood work. The work is generally superior in the N. to that in the S. part of the county, owing to the superior quality of the stone admitting more delicate chiselling. The towers, which are the great glory of the county, may be ranked under three typical forms. (1.) The Taunton type, with a staircase turret at one corner, and double buttresses at the others, all the pinnacles being of equal height, the tower being divided into stages by horizontal string-courses. *Examples*—St. Mary Magdalene and St. James, Taunton, Ile Abbots, Bishop's Lydiard, and Huish. (2.) The Bristol type, with a prominent turret, crowned with a single spirelet rising above the rest, St. Stephen's and St. Werburgh's, Bristol, Yeovil, Banwell, Cheddar. (3.) The Wrington type, which dispenses with the staircase turret and horizontal divisions, and is panelled with two enormously lofty belfry windows, with pinnacled turrets of the same height; Wrington, St. Cuthbert's Wells, St. John's Glastonbury, and North Petherton. Spires are very unfrequent, and where they exist are often imperfect, as at St. Mary's Redcliffe, Yatton, Shepton Mallet, Minchinhampton. Perfect spires exist at Congresbury, Bridgwater, Frome, Croscombe, Castle Cary, Trent.”

But though the Perpendicular is the prevailing style of Somersetshire, and most churches, externally at least, seem to belong to it, there will often be found early work in the chancel, generally a transition from

Early English to Decorated; and some chancels are wholly of that character. Norman work is uncommon; but there are a few fine specimens.

There is some singular work in Milborne Port, which exhibits some ribs and straight-sided arches, apparently Saxon. There is Early Norman work in the same church; some of a rich and singular character, at Compton Martin, and portions of the same style at East Stoke, West Harptree, Bathford, Montacute Swell, and Uphill.

The tower of Clevedon, and portions of West Harptree, partake of both Norman and E. E. character.

There is E. E. work in the transepts of Barrington, at Montacute, Tintinhull, Shepton Beauchamp. Of the same style are Pilton, Chedzoy, Portishead, Portbury, Keynsham, East Stoke, West Quantockshead, St. Martin Fivehead, the chancel of Martock, the arcades of Shepton Mallet and St. Cuthbert, Wells. Transition to Decorated appears in the chancels of St. Decuman's, Wellington, Ruishton, &c. The Decorated work in this county is not generally of a very rich kind. Specimens will be found in the churches of Frome, Shapwick, Butleigh, Meare, Priddy, West Charlton, Shepton Beauchamp, Wookey, Compton Dundon, Somerton, parts of Yatton, and a fine porch at Bridgwater. In many of the Early English and Early Decorated windows the interior arch has a kind of feathering, like that which sometimes occurs in Oxfordshire.

The Perpendicular examples are so numerous that it is difficult to specify them. The finest and most considerable churches of this style are Bath Abbey, Taunton St. Mary Magdalene, Glastonbury St. John, Yeovil, Crewkerne, Ilminster, Cheddar, Martock, Kingsbury, North Petherton, Bridgwater, Long Sutton, Leigh-on-Mendip, Mills, Dunster, which last has, however, some earlier indications. At Low Ham is a chapel, built in 1624, having a chancel, aisles, and rood-screen. The parapets are usually embattled, sometimes with good open panelling. The arrangement of the Perpendicular piers is very uniform. They are lighter than in Devon, but the capitals of the shafts are less richly sculptured. Large porches are very common, sometimes with good groining. Panelled arches are of constant occurrence.

The rood-turret is generally a marked external feature; and this county has several fine rood-screens of wood with parclooses to the north and south aisles, on some of which the loft still remains. Examples are found at Kingsbury, Long Sutton, Norton Fitzwarren, Bridgwater, Curry Rivell, West Quantockshead, &c.

Very fine and rich specimens of carved bench-ends are found at Bishop's Lydiard, Crowcombe, Stogumber, Kingsbury, Curry Rivell, Norton Fitzwarren, Weston Zoyland, Cheddar, &c. At Crowcombe is a good deal of wood screen-work, and carved benches of later character. Enriched wooden pulpits remain at Bridgwater, Long Sutton, Queen's Camel, North Petherton, and stone pulpits at Cheddar, Stogumber, Glastonbury St. Benedict, Shepton Mallet, Baltonsborough, Shapwick, &c.

There is some good late stained glass at Cheddar, Kingsbury, Curry Rivell, and of earlier character at St. Decuman's.

Enriched roofs abound, as at Taunton St. Mary Magdalene, Martock, North Petherton, Long Sutton, &c.

The lychnoscope, or low side-window, is rare, as the aisles are so often continued along the chancel; but the chancel arch is generally wide, and springing from corbels. There are some instances of hagioscopes.

There are several early fonts, and a good many of the Perp. period, but there is no very distinctive character about them.

There are not many sepulchral brasses, but at St. Decuman's are some curious ones of late date.

Some fine and rich tombs occur at Yatton, Cheddar, Backwell, Dunster, Long Ashton, &c., but chiefly of Perpendicular date.

There are sacristies at the east end of the chancel, and below the cill of the east window, at Ilminster, Crewkerne, North Petherton, Kingsbury, &c.

VI. PLACES OF INTEREST.

Bath.—Abbey Ch.; Baths; Pump Room; Literary Institution; Roman Remains; Assembly Rooms; Circus; Crescent. Lansdown; Prior Park; Combe Down; Kelston Round Hill; Wick Rocks; Claverton; Wellow; Stony Littleton; Bitton.

Bristol.—Cathedral; St. Mary Redcliffe; Mayor's Chapel; St. Stephen's; St. James's; Institution; Old Houses; Walls; Floating Harbour; Basins; Blind Asylum; Müller's Orphan House; Clifton Downs; Suspension Bridge; Gorge of Avon; Leigh Woods; Leigh Court (pictures); Blaise Castle (pictures); Kings Weston; Penpold Point. Dundry; Stanton Drew; Chew Magna. Ashton Court; Portbury; Portishead.

Clevedon.—Clevedon Court; Old Ch.; Walton Castle. Weston-in-Gordano; Clapton-in-Gordano; Tickenham; Cadbury Camp; Brockley Combe; Cleve Combe.

Yatton.—Ch.; Parsonage. Congresbury Ch. and Parsonage. Wrington Ch.; Barley Wood.

Weston-super-Mare.—Worle Hill; Kewstoke; Woodspring Priory; Uphill Old Ch.; Brean Down. Banwell Ch.; Bone Caves; View from hill. Hutton Cave.

Azbridge.—Ch.. Cheddar Ch., Caverns and Cliffs. The Mendips, mining operations; Combes; Burrington; Blagdon; Wedmore; Brent Knoll.

Wells.—Cathedral; Bishop's Palace; Deanery; Archdeaconry; Close; Vicars' Close; St. Cuthbert's Ch. Wookey Hole; Ebber Rocks.

Glastonbury.—Abbey Ruins; Abbot's Kitchen and Barn; Tor; Wirrel Hill; Churches; George Inn. Sharpham; Meare Manor-house and Fish-house; Street, manufactures and Saurian remains; Butleigh Court.

Somerton.—Ch.; Lytes Cary; views from Kingsdon Hill, Somerton Hill.

Ilchester.—Ch.; Roman remains; Lyminster. Digitized by Google

- Yeovil*.—Ch.; Old Houses; Summerhouse Hill. Trent, Old House, Ch., Rectory (pictures). Brympton; Montacute, House, Ch., Priory, St. Michael's Hill. Hamhill; Stoke-sub-Hamdon; Bradford Abbas Ch.; Clifton Maubank.
- Martock*.—Ch.; Old House. Kingsbury Ch.; South Petherton, King Ina's Palace; West Stoke.
- Langport*.—Ch., Huish Episcopi Ch., Hanging Chapel, Museum. Munchelney Abbey; Low Ham Chapel; High Ham; Aller; Parkfield.
- Bridgwater*.—Ch.; Bath-brick Works; Eager. Sedgmoor; Chedzoy; Weston Zoyland; Cannington. Nether Stowey; the Quantocks; Enmore Castle; Halswell House. Boroughbridge; Othery; Isle of Athelney; Burnham.
- Taunton*.—St. Mary Magdalene's Ch.; St. James's Ch.; Castle; Museum; Shire Hall. Hatch Court; Cothelstone; Crowcombe (pictures); Willsneck; Watchet; Blue Anchor; Cleve Abbey; N. Curry.
- Wellington*.—Ch.; Monument on Black Down; Robin Hood's Butts; Nynehead Court; Cothay Manor.
- Ilminster*.—Ch.; Barrington Court; Donyatt Ch. and Manor; Jordans; Dowliswake; Broadway; Castle Neroche; Ilton; Ile Abbots.
- Chard*.—Ch.; Lace Factories; Ford Abbey; Snowdon (view); St. Rana's Hill (view).
- Crewkerne*.—Ch.; Hinton St. George; Cricket St. Thomas.
- Frome*.—Ch.; Cloth Mills; Card Mill; Vallis; Nunney Castle; Lullington Ch.; Longleat; Mells; Ammerdown (view); Marston House; Orchardleigh; Witham.
- Brunton*.—Ch.; Grammar School; Hospital. Redlynch; Stourhead; Alfred's Tower; Batcombe; Jack's Castle.
- Wincanton*.—Stavordale Priory; Roundhill; Pen Selwood; Penpits; Orchard Castle.
- Castle Carey*.—View; Alford Ch.; Cadbury Camp; North Cadbury Ch.; Queen's Camel Ch.
- Shepton Mallet*.—Ch.; Manufactories; Cross. Doulting Quarries; Ch.; Barn. Evererech Ch.; Pilton Ch. and Barn; Maesbury Camp; Gurney Slade. Crocombe Ch.; Old Houses.
- Dunster*.—Ch.; Cross; Castle; Grabhurst Hill (view); Conegar Hill (view). Minehead; Holnicote; Porlock; Dunkery Beacon; Bossington Beacon; Culbone; Exmoor.
- Dulverton*.—Mount Sydenham; Exmoor; Pixton Park; Haddon Down; Bampton; Waterwood.

HANDBOOK

FOR

WILTSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, AND SOMERSETSHIRE.

ROUTES.

. The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those routes where the places are described.

ROUTE	PAGE	ROUTE	PAGE
1. London to Bath, by <i>Swindon</i> , <i>Wootton Bassett</i> , <i>Chippenham</i> [<i>Bowood</i> , <i>Calne</i>], [<i>Malmesbury</i>], <i>Corsham</i> , and <i>Box</i> ..	2	10. Salisbury to Westbury, by <i>Wilton</i> , <i>Heytesbury</i> , and <i>Warminster</i> [<i>Longleat</i>]	133
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ROUTE	PAGE	ROUTE	PAGE
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ROUTE 1.

LONDON TO BATH—GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY—BY SWINDON, WOOTTON BASSET, CHIPPENHAM [BOWOOD, CALNE], [MALMESBURY], CORSHAM, AND BOX.

AFTER an almost uninterrupted ascent from London by easy gradients, shortly after leaving the Shrivensham Station, the Rly. crosses the little river Cole, and enters Wiltshire 73½ m. from Paddington.

Just outside the Wiltshire border, in the county of Berks, on the road from Farringdon to Swindon, stands *Coleshill House* (Earl of Radnor), built 1650, one of Inigo Jones's latest and least altered works, containing a fine hall, and many good family portraits, including several by Sir J. Reynolds. The adjoining church contains a monument, by Rysbræck, to one of the Bouveries, and some marble effigies of the Pleydells and Pratts, Lord Radnor's maternal ancestors. It has a handsome Perp. tower, an excellent W. door, and in the nave some late Norman and good Dec. architecture.

In the Bouverie aisle window are a pedigree of the family and a view of *Coleshill* in coloured glass. The E. window, representing the Nativity, was brought from Angers, in 1787. (See *Hdbk. for Berks.*) The village consists of cottages erected by Lord Radnor, conspicuous for their elegance as well as their size and comfort.

2 m. from *Coleshill*, 6 m. from *Swindon*, is *Highworth* (*Inn*: King and Queen), an old town, on a hill, commanding views over the counties of Gloucester, Berks, and Wilts. The church (St. Michael's) may interest the stranger by its antiquity. It is on an elevated site, like most of the edifices dedicated to the archangel, and contains monuments of the Warnefords of *Warneford Place*, near *Sevenhampton*, popularly known as *Sennington*. *Highworth Ch.* was fortified and held for the king in the Civil Wars, but was taken by Fairfax's army on their march from *Naseby* westwards, June 27, 1645. "The soldiers," writes *Sprigge*, "had good booty in the ch., took 70 prisoners, and 80 arms." 2 m. N.W. of the town is a pretty village, called *Hannington*, built in the form of a Y. The ch. has a Norm. S. doorway.

Hannington was the birthplace, 1638, of Narcissus Marsh, Primate of Ireland, whose father had migrated hither from Kent. 2 m. W. is *Blunsdon Castle Hill*, so named from a small circular British camp.

74. m. the rly. crosses the Roman road from Silchester to Cirencester, and $\frac{3}{4}$ m. rt. passes *Stratton St. Margaret's*, taking its name from its position on the Roman Street, where was an alien Benedictine priory, granted by Henry VI. to King's College, Cambridge.

77 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Swindon Junction Station*, the summit of the main line, 270 ft. above the Paddington Terminus, and 292 ft. above that at Bristol. The South Wales division of the railway here branches off rt. to New Milford, 208 m. and having numerous branches connecting it with various towns on the route, with the northern division of the Company's lines, and with the various South Wales coalfields.

The refreshment-rooms at this station are the best on the line, and in order to enable passengers to avail themselves of the accommodation, every train stops here ten minutes.

There are two towns bearing the name of Swindon: "one centuries old, looking off from a hill on the surrounding world. The other Vulcanic, rectangular, and rigidly uniform; a tremendous smithy for the Gt. Western Rly. and its branches. Here several hundred iron horses are shod; their harnesses and carriages made and repaired."—*Elihu Burritt*.

The *Locomotive Works* consist of various large shops for carrying on different departments of the work, each being distinguished by a letter of the alphabet from A to S. The whole of the operations connected with the construction of the locomotives and tenders are here carried on, from the forging of the large cranked axles (weighing in some cases nearly two tons) with steam-hammers, to the actual trial of the locomotive. Some of the locomotives which have

been built in the Swindon works are probably the finest in the world, the only limit found to their speed being the power of the permanent way to stand it.

The new (R) shop built in 1864, and containing the principal part of the machinery, has an area of 3694 square yards, and is considered one of the finest and best arranged in the country.

The *Rail Mill* contains furnaces, steam-hammers, &c., for the entire process of manufacturing rails, from the puddling of the pig iron to the final punching and straightening, and is capable of supplying 400 tons of rail per week. The usual quantity averages about 320 tons.

Opposite the locomotive works S. of the main line an immense prison-like building concentrating the carriage and waggon work of the Company covers an area of 12,483 square yards; the floor is laid out partly for machinery and partly for sidings, with self-acting traversing-tables for carrying the vehicles in and out of the shop. The locomotive works and rail mill together employ nearly 2000 hands, who are paid every alternate Friday from £4000 to £5000. The area of the Company's works here is about 115,000 square yards. Swindon is also the chief depôt for the Great Western Railway stores department.

On account of the distance of the old town from the railway, it became necessary for the Company to build cottages for the employés nearer the works. Round this nucleus a *new town*, called for distinction *New Swindon*, has arisen, inhabited almost exclusively by servants of the Company. Pop. in 1861, 4167.

The *Mechanics' Institution*, erected together with the Market Hall by a private company, is a fine building, and contains a large lecture-room and library, comprising 4200 volumes, with a circulation of 15,000 in a year—a commodious and well-supplied reading-room, and sundry

class-rooms, chiefly for evening instruction. The members of the Institute number about 1200.

Every workman in the Company's works at Swindon contributes to a medical fund, the object of which is to support a doctor, and maintain baths and other sanitary arrangements. Out of this fund a Turkish bath has just been added to the washing baths, and a new swimming bath 100 ft. by 30 ft. erected.

The sanitary affairs of New Swindon are conducted by a local board. The rate of disease and mortality is considerably less than in its apparently more healthily situated neighbour, Old Swindon, owing in great measure to the efficient system of drainage laid down by the Great Western Rly. Company.

The *church* is a handsome stone structure in the Decorated English style, with a tower, surmounted by a crocketed spire 140 ft. high. It cost the Company 6000*l.* Adjoining are the vicarage and a commodious school-house built at a further cost of 1700*l.* Near the ch. a large piece of ground is laid out as a park and cricket-field.

[1 m. N., on the summit of the hill, is the old market-town of *Swindon* (*Inn*: Goddard Arms; Pop., including New Swindon, 6836), a rather picturesque town with old houses of red brick and stone, commanding extensive prospects over Berks and Gloucestershire. The *church* was rebuilt on a new site by Scott, with a fine spire. Abp. Narcissus Marsh was vicar here for one year, 1662. There is a town-hall, market-house, and corn-exchange. The *Lawn* (A. L. Goddard, Esq.) is a handsome Italian residence. 1½ m. S.E., on the Liddington road, the reservoir of the Wilts and Berks Canal forms a fine lake of 70 acres, abounding in fish, in a beautifully wooded district. The *quarries* of building-stone (Portland oolite containing fossils), and the view

from the tower of the corn-exchange, are the chief points of interest. The view is very extensive, commanding to the E. the great chalk ridge, with its entrenchments and barrows, "the scene, probably, of the early Celtic settlements, of the final struggle of that people against the Saxons, and subsequently of some of the most severe contests between the Saxons and the Danes." Four camps are visible: 2 to N., Blunsdon and Ringsbury, near Purton; 2 to S., Badbury or Liddington Castle, and Barbury. This ground forms the N. limit of that range of chalk which extends in a compact mass as far as Salisbury, and branches thence through Dorset to the sea, including among its lonely hills some of the most stupendous Celtic works now extant. In the plain to the N.W. will be observed *Coleshill* (Earl of Radnor), and 2½ m. S., on the flank of the Marlborough Downs, *Burdrop Park*, seat of the Calleys; 5 m. distant are *Barbury* and *Liddington Castle*, fine specimens of British castrametation, the one on the old and the other on the new road to Marlborough (see *post*). On the Lambourn Downs, E., is *Weland's Smithy* (see *Hdbk. for Berks*), a chambered sepulchre of some ancient chieftain. It is commonly called *Wayland Smith's cave*, from an old legend of which Sir Walter Scott makes a romantic use in 'Kenilworth,' about an invisible smith replacing lost horse-shoes there. *Weland* was the *Vulcan* of the Anglo-Saxons (see Dr. Thurnam's Memoir, *Wilts Archæol. Mag.* vol. 7); close by is the *White Horse*.]

[Two roads run from Swindon to Marlborough, the old, W., and the new, E., both about 11 m. The former crosses a wild hilly district, and is a rough one for carriages; the latter is the coach-road, and runs most of the distance through a valley. On foot, a traveller bound to Marlborough by the old road can shorten the way by

pursuing the new road as far as the turnpike, where he will turn rt. into a green lane, floored with Bagshot sandstone, which will lead him to the old road at *Burdrop* (i. e. Bury-Thorp) *Park* (Henry Calley, Esq.). He will there find himself in a high open country, in view of the greater part of N. Wiltshire, and of Swindon crowning an outlying eminence.

Proceeding towards Marlborough, he should glance about him at the following points.

3 m. Where the road approaches a crescent of hills, some 10 m. from horn to horn, roughened rt. and l. by the prominent camps of *Barbury* and *Liddington Castle*. The hills are unenclosed, and bare of trees, with the exception of some beech-clumps, mere dots on the landscape.

4 m. *Burdrop Racecourse*. Here the road has reached the crescent, and climbs a formidable hill. The traveller should diverge to the rt. by crossing the British Ridgeway by Hackpen Barn, and ascend the turf down to

Barbury. This is a large camp, in excellent preservation. It is nearly circular, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. round, and girdled by a double ring of ditch and rampart enclosing $12\frac{1}{2}$ acres; the inner very strong, the massive rampart sloping full 50 ft. to the bottom of the ditch. The entrances are E. and W., and the diam. of the area 2000 ft.

Beran Byrig, or Barbury, is considered to have been the scene, in 556, of an obstinate and sanguinary action between the Britons and the Saxons under Cynric and Ceawlin. The savage warriors fought from the rising to the setting of the sun, when victory declared for the Saxons, and the camp was stormed. This defeat was decisive of the fate of Wiltshire, which became a province of Wessex.

6 m. Here, at *Hessick Barn*, the traveller reaches the culminating point of the road, in a country wild and lonely. Around him are the grassy sides of the hills, down which he

may trace the long descent to Marlborough, and at a little distance the plantations of *Rockley House* (rt.), formerly the seat of the Baskerville family, lately of Sir John Smith, and now of Mr. Tanner; to the W. of which lies a stony valley, called *Temple Bottom*, containing the remains of a cromlech; on the heights of Hackpen, overlooking the remains of Avebury, near *Glory Ann*, is a curious concavity, set with stones, called *Baltimore Pond*. In about 3 m. the traveller arrives at *Marlborough Racecourse*, immediately above the town. (See Rte. 4.)

On the new road from Swindon may be noticed—

1 m. rt. the reservoir of the Wilts and Berks Canal, a sheet of water nearly 1 m. in length.

3 m. on a hill to l. is *Wanborough*, the burgh or stronghold of *Woden*, formerly the key of Wessex, where 591 Ceawlin was defeated by his nephew Ceolric.

“All the great highways of Wessex converge to a point in the neighbourhood of Wanborough. When posted at Wanborough, the King of Wessex had Roman roads whereby to communicate with Winchester and Old Sarum, the capitals of his two principal shires; while another Roman road came to him from Silchester through the heart of Berkshire, and the Icknield Street brought him the men of Chiltern and of Oxfordshire.” “After one of the fiercest and bloodiest battles recorded in our annals, Ceawlin was defeated, and two years after died in exile.”—*Dr. Guest*.

Fairfax's army halted at Wanborough, in their march westward, June 28, 1645.

Wanborough church is remarkable as having two steeples; one with a small spire at the E. end of the nave, and at the W. end a later sq. tower, erected (as recorded by a tablet affixed to the wall) A.D. 1435, by Thomas Polton and Edith his wife (to whom

there is a stone in the S. aisle, giving the date "Anno Virginis"), and their son Philip, Archdeacon of Gloucester; for whom and their 15 other children, and other contributors to the building, the prayers of the faithful are requested. The village tradition, groundless, of course, is to the effect that the church was erected by two maiden sisters, who being unable to agree whether it should have a tower or a spire, decided the point by building both.

4 m. S. a rough road over the Downs leads from Wanborough to *Liddington*, 1 m. S. of which is the strong circular earthwork of *Badbury* or *Liddington Castle*, a British entrenchment, containing $7\frac{3}{4}$ acres within a rampart 40 ft. high. An erroneous theory identifies this fortress with the "Mons Badonicus" of history, where King Arthur, with his Round Table knights, defeated the Saxons under Cerdic, A.D. 520 (see post, *Badbury Rings*, Rte. 12).

2 m. rt., *Chisleden church*, contains monuments to the Mellishes and Calleys. At the *Red House* the road crosses the *Ridge-way*, an old British road running N.E. into Berks, still used by the Welsh cattle drovers.]

Proceeding on our route—at

80 m. 3 m. l. is *Basset Down House*, once the residence of Dr. Maskelyne, the astronomer-royal, and afterwards of his daughter, the late Mrs. Storey Maskelyne.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Lydiard Tregoz* (4 m. from Swindon, 3 from Wootton Bassett), so called from its ancient owners, the Tregoz family; from the reign of Hen. VII. the seat of the St. Johns, Viscounts Bolingbroke and Barons St. John. The plain stone mansion stands in a park finely wooded with old oaks. The *Church* deserves notice. The windows of the chancel contain a good deal of stained glass, among other devices an olive tree, in allusion to *Oliver St. John*, from the boughs of which

hang the shields of the different heiresses through whom the estates came to the St. John family. One of the monuments, to Katharine, d. of Sir John St. John, wife of Sir Giles Mompesson (said to have been the original of Sir Giles Overreach of Massinger, himself a Wiltshire man), whose monument is over the chancel door. There are gorgeous monuments of the St. John family, one enclosed within folding doors, painted with life-size figures, and the family pedigree. Among them are those of Nicholas and Eliz. St. John, 1589, kneeling figures under a Corinthian canopy. Edward, d. 1645, in gilt armour; Sir John and his two wives and children adjoining the altar; John Viscount St. John, d. 1748. From the number and richness of its monuments it is called by the common people "Fine Lydiard." The great Lord Bolingbroke was buried at Battersea.

1 m. W. is *Midghall Farm*, an old moated house, once the Grange of Stanley Abbey.

$82\frac{1}{2}$ *Wootton Bassett Stat.* The town (*Inn*: Royal Oak; Pop. 2200) occupies the summit of a hill; it was once the inheritance of the Bassetts of Wycombe, its first name being corrupted from Wodeton, "Woodtown." It is an insignificant market-town of a single street nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. long, disfranchised by the Reform Act of 1832. Lord Clarendon, the historian, was first returned to Parliament as its member.

The *church* is of a very unusual plan, of 2 long aisles spanned by one roof, without distinction of chancel. The roof is panelled, and has the original painting. The tower, at the W. end of the S. aisle, is low and small. The prevailing features are Perp. The S. porch has a parvise and good groining.

In the town-hall are preserved the remains of a *Cucking* or *Ducking Stool*, bearing the date 1668, once

"The dread of every scolding quean,"

This was an arm chair on wheels, with 2 long poles or shafts, to the ends of which were fastened ropes. The mode of punishment was as follows. The woman who was supposed to have merited immersion was tied into the chair, and the machine wheeled to a pond, over which it was made to project. The shafts were then released, and the chair with its unfortunate occupant tilted into the water. When the ducking had been duly performed, the stool was again raised by a pull on the ropes.

A great number of septaria or cement-stones are found here in the Oxford clay, a stratum of the middle oolite. Farther N. are the coral-rag hills, and, bounded by their woods, the old camp of *Ringsbury*, 3 m. on the road to the Purton Stat.

[*Broad Hinton*, 5 m. S.E. towards Marlborough, surrounded for miles by open downs, was the residence of the great lawyer *Sir John Glanville*, b. 1590, near Tavistock. "His seat," says Evelyn, in his 'Diary,' 1654, "is at Broad Hinton, where he now lives, but in the gatehouse; his very fair dwelling having been burnt by his own hands, to prevent the rebels making a garrison of it."

Cliffe Pypard, 4 m. S. of Wootton, on the slope of the steep greensward cliff running E. by S. from Liddington to Highway, commanding lovely views, was severely visited, Sept. 1856, by a remarkable whirlwind, which, descending from the high land, destroyed several hundred trees on the grounds of the *Manor House*, seat of H. N. Goddard, Esq. The S. aisle of the *ch.* contains a brass, with effigy of a knight, probably a Quintin of Bupton. It has a good sq. tower, and a carved oak roof, with a large marble monument to a native worthy and benefactor, Thos. Spackman. The *ch.* of *Winterbourn Basset*, situated on the downs, 2 m. S., of the time of Edw. III., was restored 1857. The tower is Perp.,

and the N. window of the N. chapel of the best period of Dec.]

Leaving Wootton Basset, the line proceeds at first along an embankment, descending 50 ft. in a mile, commanding a wide view of the valley of the Avon, with its companion canal, and then enters a deep cutting, crossed by a bridge carrying a road from Malmesbury towards Cliffe Pypard.

8 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Dauntsey* Stat. On the l. is *Bradenstoke Hill*, one of the highest oolitic ranges of N. Wilts, crowned by the remains of the priory (now a farmhouse), and *Clack Hill*, with its earthworks, including a central mound for a beacon-fire.

Bradenstoke or *Broadstoke* was one of 4 religious houses which stood here in early times on or near the banks of the Avon; the others were Malmesbury, Stanley, and Lacock. "Its remains," says the poet Bowles, "yet appear conspicuous on the edge of that long sweep of hills which formed the S.W. bounds of the ancient forest of Braden, from whence the Danes descended like a storm to lay waste the country about Chippenham and Lacock. It may be distinguished by its massy buttresses and battlements far off in the sunshine." Bradenstoke was founded, A.D. 1142, for Augustine or Black canons, by Walter d'Evreux, father of Patrick Earl of Salisbury, and great-grandfather of Ela, Longespée's wife. At the Dissolution, it was granted to Rich. Pexhall, and afterwards belonged to the Danvers, and Methuens, now to G. Goldney, Esq. The remains of the priory are well worth inspection. They consist chiefly of the walls and roof of a 14th cent. hall, c. 1320, now cut up into several rooms. The very finely carved oak roof, with the Dec. ball-flower on the beams, can only be seen in the garrets. At one end of the hall are the prior's chambers, with corner staircase and garderobe turret. A

boss in the ceiling of the chief room bears the initial of Snow, the last prior. Beneath are vaulted cellars temp. Rich. II. Close to the house is a plain 15th cent. barn with modern roof.

The pillar seen conspicuously on the ridge of the hill l. commemorates Maud Heath of Bremhill (see *post*).

Dauntsey lies $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. to rt., $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Malmesbury. The ch. contains a very interesting monument to Sir Henry Danvers, d. 1643, created Baron Danvers by James I. and Earl Danby by Charles I. He and his brother Sir Charles Danvers were the principals in the extraordinary assassination of Henry Long at Corsham (fully narrated by Canon Jackson in *Wilts Arch. Mag.* vol. i. p. 306), for which for some unexplained cause they were never brought to justice. Sir Charles was afterwards attainted and beheaded for his share in *Essex's* plot, 1600. Lord Danvers was a patron of George Herbert, and it was to *Dauntsey* ("A noble house which stands in a choice air"—*Walton's Lives*) that the poet retired in 1629, when threatened by consumption, and here he met his wife, daughter of Mr. C. Danvers of Baynton. (Lord Danby founded the Botanic Garden at Oxford, and built the entrance gateway from a design of Inigo Jones.) The monument records that he died full of "honours, woundes, and daies." The epitaph on the E. side is from Herbert's pen. He was succeeded by his brother John, one of Charles II.'s judges, whose estates, being forfeited to the Crown, formed part of Mary of Modena's dowry, and were granted by Queen Ann to Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough. The last Earl was buried here in 1814. There is also a brass to Sir John Danvers, died 1514, with his wife, and one also to the lady Anne herself, who was daughter to Sir John *Dauntsey*, c. 1535. The *Manor House* is modern.

90 m, rt. *Christia: Malford*, on the

banks of the Avon, which the rly. now crosses and keeps it on the l.

$91\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Tytherton Kellaways* may be seen on l. which gives its name to the *Kellaways rock*, one of the limestone beds of the Oxford clay, almost entirely composed of fossil shells, which is seen at *Kellaways' bridge*.

$93\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Chippenham Junction Stat.*

[Here the *Wilts, Somerset, and Weymouth Railway* passes off on l. to *Dorchester and Weymouth*. From *Westbury* a branch, opened 1856, runs by *Warminster* to *Salisbury*, and there joins the line to *Southampton*. Another branch, completed 1857, goes from *Holt* to *Devizes*, and, more recently, one to *Calne*.]

CHIPPENHAM (*Inns*: *Angel, George*; Pop. 7075). This is an agricultural and manufacturing town, sending 1 member to Parliament, situated on the *Avon*, here a clear winding stream, working various mills. It is celebrated for its cheese and corn markets. The former, now one of the largest in England, is held under an extensive covered building, erected for the purpose by the late *Joseph Neeld, Esq.*, of *Grittleton*. The cloth made at *Chippenham* was deemed worthy of the first prize in the first Great Exhibition; its silk-weaving is still a considerable business; and its two large iron-foundries supply not only the Great Western but several lines of railway in the N. of England. The town has also 2 tanneries on a large scale.

Chippenham is a town of great antiquity and historic interest. As its name implies (*A.-S. ceapan*, to buy), it was a market-town in Anglo-Saxon times, and here the kings of *Wessex* had a manor and hunting seat. Here *Alfred* resided, and his sister *Æthel-swyth* was married to *Burhed*, King of *Mercia*. *Chippenham* was taken by the Danes in 878, who made it their head-quarters, whence they ravaged the whole adjoining country. *Alfred's* reappearance from his retreat

at Athelney (see Rte. 19) and his victory at Ethandun was followed by his return to Chippenham, which he bequeathed to his daughter Ælfryth, wife of Baldwin, Count of Flanders, for life. It returned to the Crown, and was one of the manors held by Edward the Confessor "in his own hand." The subsequent history of the town is of no particular interest.

It was the birthplace of *Dr. John Scott*, b. 1688, author of 'The Christian Life,' who upon personal scruples twice refused a bishopric. The old Bath and London road passes through the town. In 1742 Sir Robert Walpole, finding himself in a minority of 16 on a question relating to a Chippenham election, resigned, having been then Prime Minister of England for 21 years.

The *Church* (St. Andrew) is a large edifice of mixed architecture. The tower, which bears the coat of arms of Lord Hungerford, lord of the manor temp. Henry VI., was taken down and rebuilt, with a spire, in 1633, at the cost of 320*l.*, to which Sir F. Popham, M.P. for the borough, contributed 40*l.*; an act of generosity commemorated by a shield containing his arms over the W. door. The walls of the chancel and a small window on N. are of the original work, c. 1120. The elaborate Norman chancel arch of large span, c. 1120. Near it is a rich Dec. hagioscope. There is a pretty Perp. chapel on S., covered with the cognisances of the house of Hungerford. A monument to Sir Gilbert Prynne, 1627, deserves to be noticed. The view from the E. end of the ch.-yard is very pleasing.

The objects of chief interest in this neighbourhood are — *Bowood*, *Malmesbury Abbey-church*, *Charlton Park*, the manor-house of *Draycot*, *Castle Combe*, *Grittleton*, *Corsham Court*, *Lacock Abbey*, *Spye Park Gatehouse*, and *Bradenstoke Priory*. *Avebury*, *N. Wrazhall*, and *Bromham Ch.*, are also within reach.

Maud Heath's Causeway, leading from Chippenham N.E. for 4½ miles by the village of *Tytherton Kellaways* [where is a Moravian establishment founded by Cennick], to the top of *Bremhillwick Hill*, traversing a low tract of heavy clay land and crossing the N. Wilts Avon. It is a stone pitched path, made and still maintained by the benefaction of a benevolent dame (popularly said to have been a market woman), in the Wars of the Roses, c. 1474. Her memory is preserved by rhymed inscriptions on stones at either extremity of the path, and on the bridge midway, as well as by the monumental column on the ridge of *Bremhillwick Hill*, crowned with a statue of *Maud Heath* herself, erected by Lord Lansdowne and the Rev. W. Lisle Bowles (see paper by Canon Jackson, *Wilts Arch. Mag.* i. 251). This position and the adjoining drive on *Wick Hill* command one of the finest and most extensive views in Wiltshire, including W., *Monkton Farleigh Tower* at *Bradford*, and *Beckford's Tower* at *Bath*, and the *Badminton Woods*; and E., *Roundway Down*, *Compton House*, the *White Horse*, the *Cherhill Column*, and the *Wansdyke*.

In the vicinity of the town are *Ivy House*; *Monkton House*, *Graham Moore Esmeade, Esq.*; *Notton, Rt. Hon. Sir J. W. Awdry*; *Lackham*, formerly the seat of *Lieut. Col. Montagu*, the naturalist; now of the *Stapletons*; and *Hardenhuish Park* (commonly called *Harnish*). The church of *Hardenhuish* was built by *Wood of Bath*. The cemetery contains a monument to the celebrated financier *David Ricardo*, father of the late *Mrs. Clutterbuck*, buried here 1823; and to *John Thorpe*, the learned editor of the '*Registrum*' and '*Custumale Roffense*.'

About 4 m. N.E. at *Foxham*, near the canal, stands *Cadenham*, a manor-house of the *Hungerfords*, whose arms, with the *Seymours*, it bears on the garden front. It is a small and

rather poor house, erected in the 17th century. Evelyn was a visitor here in 1652, and was "long and nobly entertained."

[4 m. N. is *Draycot Cerne* (Earl Cowley) an ancient seat of the Cernes and Longs. The house contains many objects of interest, paintings, Sevres china, curious fire-dogs, and candelabra presented to the Longs by Charles II. after the Restoration. The park is one of the finest in N. Wilts, richly studded with ancient oaks, crowning a hill commanding an extensive prospect. The monuments of the Cernes and Longs in the *ch.* are interesting, including a knight in chain-armor said to be Sir Philip Cerne, a brass to Sir E. Cerne and lady, c. 1393, and a rich altar-tomb to Sir Thomas Long, and some modern monuments.

2½ m. N.W., at Lanhill Farm, in the hamlet of Allington, close to the Bristol road, is a tumulus known as *Hubbas Low*, and traditionally known as the burial place of the Danish leader Hubba, but considered by Dr. Thurnam to be a British work. It was constructed of stones laid with the hand, and contained rude sepulchral cells formed by large rough slabs of the stone of the country.]

[The great object of attraction at Chippenham is the Marquis of Lansdowne's seat at Bowood, 3½ m. S.E. It is also accessible from Calne from which it is distant 2 m. S.W. It is a mansion in the Italian style, combining splendour and taste with comfort. It is not shown except by a personal order from Lord Lansdowne. The gardens are, however, accessible during the absence of the family, and the park is freely open. Bowood owes many of its most interesting associations, as well as much of its beauty, to its late distinguished owner, Henry 3rd Marquis of Lansdowne, K.G., (died 31 January, 1863); who not only enlarged and embellished the ornamental grounds, and filled the house with a noble collection of pic-

tures, books and various works of art and taste, but made it the hospitable resort of those who were distinguished in science, literature, and art. The principal entrance of the park is from Chippenham, by an arched gateway, flanked by a tower after a design by Barry, and ornamented on the inner wall by two reliefs by M. L. Watson. Opposite the gilt gates is the pretty little village of *Derry Hill*, full of modern half-timbered houses, a nice small *Hotel*, and a *ch.* with lofty spire built in 1848. The drive to the house is nearly 2 m. through luxuriant woods, an occasional view being obtained of the Lansdowne Column and the white horse cut on the slope of the Cherhill downs. From Calne the park-road skirts the garden for the distance of a mile. Having arrived at the house, the visitor will observe how well it harmonizes with the surrounding scenery, with which, indeed, it is in a measure blended by the beautiful tints of the stone. The principal front, adorned by a Doric portico, faces the S., and attached to it is a long low wing, containing a conservatory opening on a succession of terraced gardens, and built in imitation of a wing of Diocletian's palace at Spalatro. The view from this S. front is exceedingly beautiful; the lake winding through the woods, the ferry to the rustic cottage just peeping from the trees, the prospect over the forest upland to the purple hills of Roundway and Beacon Down.

Among the various apartments are distributed the pictures, which include specimens "of the best masters of the Italian, Flemish, Spanish, French, and English schools. They are arranged upon walls of crimson silk, which has an excellent effect."—*Waagen*. Among them may be enumerated—

In the drawing-room: *Salvator Rosa*, portrait of himself; 2. portrait of the Marchese Ricciarelli. *Rembrandt*, his famous mill, viewed at sunset;

the finest landscape Rembrandt ever painted; there is a dark solitary grandeur about it. *L. Carracci*, the Virgin and Child. *Domenichino*, a small landscape. *Watteau*, 2 pictures. *G. Bassano*, the Entombment. *Gainsborough*, cattle returning at sunset. *Sir Joshua Reynolds*, Dr. Johnson, when an infant; 2. the Strawberry Girl, "with all his glow of colour;" 3. Love nourished by Hope; 4. Mrs. Baldwin, in a Turkish dress, purchased at the sale of Sir Joshua's pictures by Phillips, R.A., as a study of colour; 5. Mrs. Sheridan (Miss Linley, the singer) as St. Cecilia. *J. Ruysdael*, a storm at sea, representing a vessel beating in to a harbour. "Among the few pictures of this class by Ruysdael, this, in point of grandeur of conception and astonishing truth, is one of the finest."—*Waagen*; 2. view of a town upon a stream, of charming light and shade. *P. Wouermans*, a landscape. *J. F. Navarete*, called *El Mudo*, head of Donna Maria de Padillas; a portrait of exquisite beauty. "This brings before us in a most lively way, and with a Rembrandt glow of colour, the genuine character of those Spanish women whom Calderon loves to describe."—*Waagen*. *A. Cuyp*, 2 charming seapieces; 3. sunset view on the Maas, cost 1250*l*. *Titian*, Virgin and Child, "painted in the clear golden tones of his earlier period." *Hobbema*, a landscape, most harmonious and beautiful; also 2 small landscapes. *B. Luini*, a Magdalen. *Hogarth*, portrait of Peg Woffington, the actress. *Murillo*, Portrait of an ecclesiastic; one of the finest pictures by the master. *Berghem*, a landscape. *A. Carracci*, landscape, "a grand composition of mountains, sea, and lofty trees." *Claude*, view of a seaport by the morning-light; a concentration of the painter's excellences. *Wilkie*, a Capuchin monk confessing.

In the library: *Raphael*, St. John the Baptist preaching in the wilder-

ness; perhaps the most valuable picture in the collection. It is a specimen of Raphael's transition from his Perugian to his Florentine style, painted in 1505. "The youth in a green cap is evidently the portrait of Raphael himself."—*Waagen*. The figures are in the costume of the time. *S. del Piombo*, a monk with a skull. *Giorgione*, a shepherd, evidently a portrait of the master himself. *Domenichino*, a small landscape, with Abraham and Isaac going to Mount Moriah. "The poetic composition, fine transparent colour, and singularly careful execution render this a perfect jewel."—*Waagen*.

In the cabinet: *Wilkie*, the Jew's harp; 2. Grandmamma's lap. *L. Backhuysen*, a seapiece. *Van der Heyden*, a Dutch town, remarkable for depth of colour; 2. A town gate, with figures, by A. Van de Velde. *P. Wouermans*, a silvery landscape, a perfect gem. *Teniers*, the Temptation of St. Anthony, and 3 other pictures. *A. Cuyp*, a landscape with cows; full of sunshine. *Greuze*, a girl watching a cat playing with a ball. *N. Maas*, a child in its cradle. *J. Steen*, the doctor and his patient. *Rembrandt*, a landscape in rainy weather, "of astonishing truth of effect." *Velasquez*, two horsemen; 2. a lady seated, and other figures. *W. Van der Velde*, a calm sea. *J. Ruysdael*, a hilly landscape; "this picture shows the intensest feeling for nature."—*Waagen*.

In the corridor: *E. Landseer*, the Deerstalker's return, a procession over a bridge. *Van der Capella*, a seapiece; "one of his best pictures."—*Waagen*. *Jan Both*, buildings, with figures. *Teniers*, a peasant woman approaching over a hill. *Rembrandt*, a landscape. *W. Van der Velde*, a calm sea, with shipping; "of singularly delicate aerial perspective." *A. Calcott*, the Thames, with shipping, one of his best works. *Goodall*, a sick room. *Cope*, going to church. *Hurlstone*, Cupid. *Etty*,

the Prodigal Son. *Leslie*, Sir Roger de Coverley going to church. *S. Newton*, the Vicar of Wakefield receiving back his daughter Olivia; 2. Captain Macheath; "How happy could I be with either." *E. W. Cooke*, view of Mont St. Michel. *F. Albano*, St. John preaching in the wilderness.

In the dining-room: *Stansfield*, 6 landscapes, chiefly views of Venice and of the coast about Naples. *East-lake*, pilgrims in sight of Rome.

Among the sculpture are Camilla, and a bust of the 3rd Marquis, presented by his friends in 1853, and *Westmacott's* celebrated Hagar in the Desert, with the dying Ishmael in her lap. The cabinets contain a collection of miscellaneous china.

The gardens are admirably kept, and abound with the noblest and choicest trees, such as the cedar of Lebanon, the oak, and the cork. The park derives beauty from the undulations of the ground, its boundary including as many as nine distinct valleys. Hill and dale are intersected in every direction by green roads. The lake, containing an island with a heronry, is a pretty object, issuing from the Great Wood. It terminates in a cascade, which, tumbling over mossy stones, very fairly represents the variety, grace, and *abandon* of nature.

Bowood, in early times, formed part of the royal forest of *Pewsham*, which adjoined that of Chippenham. The estate was purchased by John Earl of Shelburne, father of the first Marquis, from Sir Orlando Bridgeman: it had belonged to the crown till the reign of Charles I.

On Home Hill within the woods near the Devizes road is a mausoleum, the private burial place of Bowood. It was built in 1764, from the design of Mr. Adam, one of the "Adelphi," who also designed Lansdowne House in Berkeley Sq., for Lord Bute.

Outside the Park to the W. in a little glen, is a prettily situated old

house called Lock's-well, from a most copious spring which there rushes forth. Here was the original site of Stanley Abbey, afterwards removed to the vale below, of which nothing now remains. The spring was at that time called "*Fons Drogonis*," or Drown-font.

Beyond the Park on the S. is *Whetham*, an old seat of the Ernle family, and beyond, adjoining the old London road that formerly went by Sandy Lane to Beacon Hill, stood old Bromham House, the seat of the Bayntons. It was so injured in the wars of Chas. I., that the family never restored it, but built a new one at Spye Park.]

[From Chippenham a branch line goes 1. to *Calne*, 6 m., following the course of the river Marden, an affluent of the Avon. 2 m. from Chippenham it passes 1. the site of *Stanley Abbey*, founded by Hen. II. and his mother the Empress Maud, for a body of Cistercians from Quarr in the Isle of Wight, in 1151, at Locks-well (see *ante*), and removed 1154 to Stanley.

CALNE (*Inns*: Lansdowne Arms; White Hart; population 5098.) A parliamentary borough returning one member, which has been represented by Dunning, Lord Henry Petty (afterwards Lord Lansdowne), Mr. Abercromby, sometime Speaker of the House of Commons, Lord Macaulay, and Robert Lowe.

This is a strange old town of small houses built of stone, which are either much weatherstained or white-washed. Calne has the aspect of a place decidedly past its prime. It had once a busy manufacture of cloth, but this has left it for the northern counties, and its numerous factories are closed. The chief business carried on now is bacon curing.

Calne is a borough by prescription, and dates its origin from the time of the Saxons; but the only historic event at all connected with it is a

synod held here by St. Dunstan in 978, on the question of the celibacy of the clergy. It was rendered memorable by the falling in of the floor, when, with the exception of St. Dunstan, the whole party were precipitated, and more or less injured. The chief influence in the borough has long been exercised by the lord of the neighbouring Bowood.

The *Castle House* keeps up the record of the Castle, of which all remains have long since disappeared.

The *Ch.* is a fine large building with double aisles to the nave, and aisles to the chancel, N. and S. porches, and a tower on the N. side, and a corresponding transeptal chapel to the S. The tower, which seems originally to have been central, fell on the chancel and crushed it c. 1645; both were rebuilt in a much better style than we should expect from the date. The piers and arches of the nave are massive Trans.-Norm. Some of the arches are plain, others have the billet and dogtooth ornament. The whole ch. was admirably restored by Slater, 1864, mainly through the exertions of its late vicar, Canon Guthrie, and contains several fine memorial windows. The great W. window was the gift of Lord Crewe.

Dr Priestley, the chemist, resided at Calne between the years 1770-1780, nominally as librarian, but really as literary companion to the Earl of Shelburne.

The "sights" of Calne, "par excellence," are *Bowood* and the view from the *Lansdowne Column*. Other places, mentioned below, may also be visited from it.]

[The *Lansdowne Column* crowns a lofty promontory of the chalk range, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant. It is erected within the area of *Oldbury Castle*, an entrenchment, to which, in the opinion of Milner, the Danes retired after their defeat by Alfred in the battle-field of Ethandune, which this antiquary places at Heddington. On

the adjoining slope is the *Cherhill White Horse*, cut on the chalky ground about the year 1780, by Dr. Alsop, a physician resident at Calne. It is in a spirited trotting attitude, 157 ft. from head to tail, and visible at a distance of 30 m. The *Wansdyke* will be observed on the downs to the S. *Maud Heath's Column* (see *ante*) is about 2 m. from Calne across the fields.]

[*Bremhill*, 2 m. N.W., was the living of the poet Bowles (d. 1850), whose residence has been thus described by Moore in his 'Diary':— "His parsonage-house at Bremhill is beautifully situated; but he has frittered away its beauty with grottoes, hermitages, and Shenstonian inscriptions: when company is coming he cries, 'Here, John, run with the crucifix and missal to the hermitage, and set the fountain going.' His sheep-bells are tuned in thirds and fifths. But he is an excellent fellow, notwithstanding; and if the waters of his inspiration be not those of Helicon, they are at least very sweet waters, and to my taste pleasanter than some that are more strongly impregnated." The "hermitage" is now in ruins, but the vicar most courteously allows any who care to do so to visit the very picturesque grounds, where they may still see some of the columns erected by Bowles; some fragments from Stanley Abbey; and the dripping well whose waters are received into a shell given him by the author of 'The Pleasures of Memory.' The *Ch.* will repay a visit. The N.E. angle of the tower shows "long and short work," presumed to be Saxon. The chancel arch and the arcade of the nave (rebuilt when the ch. was "restored" in 1850), and the round font are c. 1180. There is a good stone groined Perp. S. porch, with room over, and a sancte bell cot on the extremity of the nave roof. Several epitaphs and inscriptions in the churchyard are from the pen of Mr. Bowles.]

[2½ m. N.E., *Compton Basset.*

C. Basset House, beautifully situated on a wooded slope of the downs; with large lawn and pleasure-ground at the back, was built by Sir John Weld, who d. 1674, and has been restored by the present owner. There are some good family pictures; one of Mary Button, an heiress, in curious costume. In the Ch. is a remarkable double rood-screen of stone, with modern figures of the Apostles. The vaulting between the 2 screens supported the rood-loft; an hour-glass in its frame is attached to the pulpit. The chancel was restored 1865.

Highway Ch., 4 m. N.E., rebuilt 1867, preserves a stone rood-screen and the rood-beam. The hills above the village command fine views.

Thomas Moore, the poet, passed his later years in this neighbourhood, at *Sloperton*, a cottage near Bromham. He was a frequent guest at Bowood. He died at Sloperton 1852, and is buried in Bromham churchyard.]

[*Lacock Abbey* is 6 m. W. from Calne, 4 m. N. from Melksham, 3 m. S.E. from Corsham, and 3 m. S. from Chippenham, from which it is most easily visited (for description see Rte. 3). The road to it from Calne runs between the parks of *Spye* and *Bowden*, and commands a fine view to the W. The old gatehouse of Spye is an excellent subject for a sketch, and it is a pleasant walk through it to Bowood park and Great Wood, distance 5 m.

The country about Calne is pretty. Those who explore it will be charmed by the picturesque irregularity of the cottages, but may be inconvenienced by the *stiles* peculiar to this neighbourhood. They consist of two curving timbers, fixed a few inches apart, and for a well-developed leg afford a passage that is but barely sufficient.]

[Chippenham is the best place for the traveller to diverge to *Malmesbury*, 10½ m. N. An omnibus performs the journey every afternoon, returning in the morning.

1 m. l. Hardenhuish Park.

2 m. The cross roads, *Plough* public-house.

1 m. rt. stands the hamlet of *Kington Langley*, very prettily scattered on a hill, with a new chapel, St. Peter's. The rise to the village is called *Fitzurse Hill*, from an adjoining farm so called, which was anciently held under Glastonbury Abbey by the Fitzurse family, one of whom was one of the murderers of Thos. à Becket.

1 m. l. from the *Plough* is the village of *Kington St. Michael*. The manor-house has been rebuilt by H. Prodgers, Esq. An old Almshouse in the street was founded by a native, Isaac Lyte, Alderman of London, d. 1672. His arms are over the door.

The Ch. of 3 equal, gabled aisles, restored 1857, has a good Tr. Norm. chancel arch, and an E. E. North arcade, with other remains of early work. The tower, blown down in the great storm of 1703, was rebuilt in a meagre style in 1725. It contains a monumental window to Aubrey and Britton, two worthies who, living at an interval of 150 years, were remarkable for similarity of taste and pursuits, as well as for their strong attachment to, and garrulous reminiscences of, their native parish. Kington St. Michael had formerly a nunnery, of which there are some remains. "Old Jaques," says Aubrey, "who lived on the other side, hath seen 40 or 50 nunes in a morning spinning with their wheels and bobbins."

Farther on, 1 m., in this parish, is the small hamlet of *Easton Piers* (commonly now called *Percy*), in which, on the site of a farmhouse now called *Lower Easton Percy*, was formerly an older house, the property of *John Aubrey*, the antiquary (1626), who, though stigmatised by Anthony Wood as "a shiftless person, roving and maggoty-headed," has left us many valuable works, including a 'Perambulation of the County of

Surrey,' 'Monumenta Britannica,' 'The Nat. Hist. of Wiltshire,' 'A Description of the N. Division of Wiltshire,' and the 'Lives of Eminent Men,' compiled in aid of Wood's *Athenæ Oxonienses*. He lived 72 years, through the Civil War, Commonwealth, Restoration, and Revolution, and for some time at Broad Chalk in S. Wiltshire. *John Britton*, the antiquary, to whose labours English Gothic architecture and antiquities are so much indebted, was born at *Kington St. Michael* in 1771. His father was a baker, maltster, shopkeeper, and small farmer.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. on l. *Stanton St. Quintin*. The *Ch.*, restored a few years ago, contains good Norman arches, doorway, and font. The estate belongs to *Visc. Folkestone*. A curious old manor-house of the *St. Quintins* was lately taken down. The park that belonged to it was afterwards planted, and is now a well-known cover in the Duke of Beaufort's hunt. In this wood in 1764, *Geo. Hartford*, a sailor, was murdered by *Wm. Jaques*, a shipmate, who was hanged for it on *Stanton Common*, now enclosed. At the back of the Rectory House (*Rev. F. Buckley*) are some stone shields. 1. See of Wells impaling *Thos. Beckington*; 2. *Fitzhugh*, and 3. One like *Pulteney*, with an ear of barley in chief. At the farther side of the parish towards *Draycote* is "The Hermitage," a square piece of ground with old moat about it, the history of which is unknown.

6. m. *Corston*. The estate is *Lord Folkestone's*. Here is a little church with a remarkable Perpendicular Bell-turret rising upon the west gable.

To rt. 1 m. on the hill *Rodbourne* (*Sir R. H. Pollen, Bart.*). At his house is a curious painting of *Sir Walter Hungerford*, of *Farley Castle* near *Bath*, temp. *Q. Eliz.*, inscribed to the effect that "he had challenged all England for 3 years together to produce a better war-horse, greyhound, or hawk than he possessed,

and were refused for all." This is engraved in *Sir R. C. Hoare's* 'Modern Wilts.'

8 m. on l. *Burton Hill* (*C. W. Miles, Esq.*). The house having been burnt down some years ago, was rebuilt by the late owner, *John Cockerill, Esq.*

10 m. MALMESBURY (*Inns: King's Arms; George*), a town remarkable for its *abbey-church*, one of the most valuable architectural relics in England. Malmesbury itself is a decayed place of some 2000 Inhab. (returning 1 M.P. since the first Reform Act), prettily situated on a peninsular ridge flanked on either side by running streams which unite at the S. extremity of the town to form the lower Avon, answering to *Leland's* description, "the toune of Malmsburie stonndeth on the very toppe of a great slaty rock, and ys wonderfully defended by nature, for *Newton water* comith 2 miles from N. to the town, and *Avon water* comith by W. to the town, and meets about a bridge at S.E." In the market there is a cross (of *Perp. Gothic*) erected for shelter by the townspeople, "in hominum memoriâ," writes *Leland*, who justly terms "it a right faire peace of work." It is octagonal in form, with flying buttresses supporting a pinnacle bearing sculptures. The groined roof is rich.

The view of the town and abbey ruins is good from almost all points. There is a steep slope to the N., and from the rising ground opposite the effect is very fine.

Malmesbury in British times was known as *Caer Bladon*; under Anglo-Saxon rule it became *Ingelburne*, and was an important frontier military post of *Wessex*. The name of Malmesbury (*Maidulfesburgh*) is derived from an Irish missionary named *Maidulph*, or *Maldulph*, who in the early part of the 7th century planted a hermitage under the shelter of the fortress, and gathered a school around him. Among his scholars

was the famous Aldhelm, afterwards first Bishop of Sherborne (A.D. 705), a member of the royal stock of Wessex, who, after pursuing his studies in the schools of Hadrian the African, and Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, returned to Malmesbury, and became the first abbot of the monastery founded there, A.D. 680, by the grant of Leuthorius, Bishop of Winchester, to whom the land round Ingelburne Castle belonged. Aldhelm's is one of the greatest names in the early ecclesiastical literature of England. He was the first Anglo-Saxon on record who wrote in Latin, and the fame of his classical knowledge, "*vestræ Latinitatis panegyricus rumor*," was widely spread not only in his native land, but on the continent, and reached the ears of dwellers in remote Frankish provinces. Bede says of him, that he "was a man most learned in all respects, for he had a clear style, and was wonderful for ecclesiastical and liberal erudition." Though so skilful in the composition of Latin verse, "in which," says Bede, "he wrote a notable book on Virginity," he did not altogether neglect vernacular poetry; and seeing with sorrow the little effect the services of religion had on the peasants, who listened to sermons with indifference, and forgot them as soon as heard; he placed himself on the bridge over the Avon which they had to cross on their way home, in the garb of a minstrel, and when he had arrested the crowd and fully enthralled their attention by the sweetness of his song, he gradually introduced into his popular lay some of the solemn truths of religion, and thus won many hearts to the faith." Milman, '*Lat. Christ.*' ii. 96. The usual legends are told of him—of his lengthening by his prayers a beam that was too short—hanging his clothes to dry on a sunbeam, and the like. On his death, in 709, his body was

brought to the monastery he had founded, and buried in St. Michael's chapel; but was afterwards translated and placed near the high altar. William the Conqueror instituted a feast of four days in his honour, still observed in Leland's days, 5 centuries afterwards, which drew such crowds from all the country round, that soldiers were required in the town to keep order.

Another early teacher, "John the Scot," Abbot of Athelney, A.D. 887, met with a far less favourable reception at Malmesbury, "being," says Leland, "slayne of his own disciples thrusting and striking hym with their table pointelles" (query, *steel pens?*). "This," he adds, "is John Scott that translated Dionysius out of Greek into Latin." He was also author of 'A Treatise on the Division of Nature.' The great patron hero of Malmesbury is "the glorious Athelstan," who rebuilt the monastery from the ground, and enriched it with large grants of land and the bones of St. Samson, besides a portion of the True Cross and Crown of Thorns. The "commoners" of the borough still hold a large tract of land, said to have been granted to them by Athelstan for their services in his battles against the Danes. "Athelstan's Day" is observed annually on the second Tuesday after Trinity Sunday. At his death, in 941, he was buried near the altar of St. Mary in the Tower. Another benefactor was St. Dunstan, who, out of love for St. Aldhelm, presented the Ch. with an organ with metal pipes. Bishop Roger of Sarum, the all-powerful favourite of Henry I., built a castle to the "great indignation of the monks," in the very churchyard, not a stone's throw from the church. In the civil wars of the 12th centy. Stephen held Malmesbury, which, after various changes of fortune, was attacked by Henry of Anjou, A.D. 1152, and taken, with the exception of the keep, in Ste-

phen's absence. The king hastened to relieve his fortress, but "the stars in their courses fought against him," and the snow driving in his men's faces determined the day in Henry's favour, and the castle fell. It was razed to the ground by the monks in the reign of John, to enlarge their monastery, the buildings of which at the Dissolution extended over—not 45, as absurdly stated—but 6 acres. In the reign of Edw. III. the Abbot received a seat in the House of Peers, and a mitre was added by Richard II.

The *Abbey Ch.* is the fragment of a building which, when perfect, must have stood very high among our ecclesiastical edifices. Its plan was of the fullest cathedral type, and its scale surpassed several churches of cathedral rank, while its architecture is of a very high degree of merit. Originally it was a complete cross ch., with central and W. towers. The central tower, crowned with a lofty spire, "a marke to al the countrie about, fell dangerously," according to Leland, "*in hominum memoriâ* c. 1500, and since was not re-edified." The other, "a greate square toure at the west end of the churche" stood in the centre of the W. front, as at Wimborne, Shrewsbury, Furness, &c., and appears to have fallen soon after Leland's time, crushing the whole western portion of the nave. The portion now in use consists of the 6 eastern out of the 9 bays of the nave, walled up at the E. end. Thus excluding to the W. the remains of 3 bays, with the relics of the W. front, and to the E. 2 of the Norman lantern arches, originally supporting the central tower, with a portion of the W. wall of the transepts. Of the eastern limb the merest fragment remains attached to the N. lantern arch. The W. front of rich Norman work was a show façade (the prototype of that of Salisbury), with angular turrets and a screenwall masking the ends of the aisle. A large Perp.

window had been inserted in the centre. The external elevation of the nave is very fine, chiefly from the great height of the clerestory, a Decorated addition, and the fine series of pinnacles and flying buttresses. The N. side, being concealed by the cloisters, was plainer. The most striking feature of the ch. is the S. porch "of surpassing richness, the profusion of ornament-work exceeding that of any other part of the building."—*Rickman*. It is of the same character as the W. door of Iffley, near Oxford, and instead of shafts with capitals supporting the arch, it has 8 concentric buttresses. Three covered with continuous bands of sculpture of the most elaborate character, and 5 with interlaced patterns. The sculptures, which have been fully described by Prof. Cockerell ('Sculptures of Wells Cathedral') appear to represent on the 1st arch—the history of the Creation, Fall, Cain and Abel; on the 2nd the Deluge, Offering of Isaac, scenes from the history of Moses, Sampson and David; on the 3rd, scenes from the history of our Lord, the Annunciation, Nativity, Flight into Egypt, Last Supper, Crucifixion, Burial, Resurrection, &c., with intervening bands of elaborate foliage. The inner doorway has "a Majesty" in the tympanum, and the Apostles on either side of the arcaded porch. The whole was recased externally in the Decorated age. There is a smaller and plainer Norm. door to the N., originally opening into the cloisters.

The fabric of the ch. is ascribed to Henry I.'s all-powerful favourite, Roger, Bishop of Sarum, and is placed by Mr. Parker between 1115 and 1139. It is a very early example of Transition Norman work, with as yet but few traces of the approaching change beyond the obtusely pointed arches of the nave. The piers are massive cylinders, about 2 diameters high, with imposts hardly deserving the name of capitals, from

which vaulting shafts rise, spreading out into an elaborate groined roof with rich bosses, a Decorated work of the same date as the clerestory, the windows of which are of a somewhat unusual pattern. The triforium shows a semicircular arch embracing 4 smaller ones. "The whole elevation must have been one of the very grandest in England. It has all the solemn majesty of a Romanesque building, combined with somewhat of Gothic aspiration. The bays are tall and narrow, the triforium large, the clerestory still larger."—*E. A. Freeman*. The aisles retain their Norman vaulting, and, for the most part, their windows. A singular stone gallery, perhaps a watching chamber or for the exhibition of relics, of P. date, projects from one of the bays of the S. triforium.

At the crossing 2 of the Norman lantern arches remain; that to the W. blocked, and that to the N. (singularly and awkwardly stilted to bring its apex to the same height with its wider neighbours,) standing free, and forming a striking object in all views of the abbey. The roodscreen remains, its central door being blocked, and forms the reredos of the present ch. At the S. end of each aisle is a short screen of P. date, but with Dec. tracery. A tomb supporting a mutilated crowned effigy, called Athelstan's, and which may very possibly be his, though of a much later age, and removed from its original site, stands to the S. of the present altar. Some incised coffin-lids are still preserved in the ch., and in the vestry are some specimens of encaustic pavement.

The preservation of the abbey remains is mainly due to one Master Stumpe, "an exceeding riche clothiar that bouthe them of the king," who gave the nave to the parish and erected his looms in the vast deserted monastic offices, not sparing even "the litle church" to the S. of the transept (the traditional scene

of John Scot's murder by his pupils), where Leland found them busily working c. 1538. Stumpe should live in the memory of every lover of architecture as "the chief causer and contributor to have the abbey church made a parish church." This was carried into effect by Abp. Cranmer's licence, 1541. The old parish church of St. Paul's standing as usual close to the abbey, was disused, and the E. end, in Leland's time, served as a town-hall. The tower, crowned with a broach spire, still serves as a campanile for the parish. The last remains of the ch. were taken down in 1852. (For fuller details of this interesting building, the paper of Mr. E. A. Freeman in the *Wilt's Archæol. Mag.*, vol. viii., from which the above account is mainly drawn, should be consulted.

Malmesbury was continually being taken and retaken by the contending forces during the great rebellion. Aubrey says that one of the pillars of the tower and part of the superstructure were brought down by the volleys of shot fired in rejoicing on Charles II.'s restoration.

To the N.E. of the ch. is an Elizabethan house built on the substructure of part of the abbey buildings, probably the abbot's house. This substructure was a lofty crypt with a row of pillars down the centre; the windows have foliated rear arches.

There are several other fragments of antiquity in and about Malmesbury. The *Corporation Almshouse*, at the S.E. end of the town, includes a pointed arch walled up, and part of a hospice of St. John of Jerusalem. In this building Henry VIII. was entertained by Stumpe the clothier, and Charles I. feasted by the corporation. The *White Lion Inn*, lately destroyed, was an hospitium of the abbey, and retained some bits of old stone and wood work.

The historian *William of Malmesbury* derives his name from having been educated in the monastery here,

of which he became librarian and precentor, and refused the dignity of abbot, d. c. 1143.

Oliver of Malmesbury, a Benedictine monk and astrologer, d. 1060, is mentioned by Fuller as having attempted a flight from one of the abbey towers. He had fastened wings to his hands and feet, but they proved unequal to his weight, and he fell, breaking both his legs.

Malmesbury was the native place of *Thomas Hobbes*, the philosopher, author of the 'Leviathan,' b. 1538, at Westport, a suburb of the town of which his father was vicar. A small house, with a low arched doorway, opposite the W. end of Westport church, is pointed out as his birthplace, but erroneously, for the cottage, distinctly marked by Aubrey on a plan of the town preserved among his MSS., stood at one side of the Horse-fair, and has been pulled down.

The Minety station of the Cheltenham Railway is 7 m. distant (Rte. 2). 2 m. N. of Malmesbury is

Charlton Park (Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire), a stately old mansion, of Jacobean architecture, of which the oldest part was built by Sir Thos. Knyvet, temp. James I. The E. front was added in 1773 by Henry Lord Suffolk, Secretary of State in the American war. The W. front is attributed to *Inigo Jones*. The open court in the centre has been roofed over and converted into a hall; The interior is modernised, excepting one long gallery with oak panelling, and its original stucco roof, with pendants. It is hung with interesting portraits, curious as historical memorials rather than fine as works of art, excepting the 3 children of Charles I. (a sketch—half-lengths), and Elizabeth Countess of Northumberland, by *Vandyck*.

Here are Richard Sackville, Earl of Dorset, *Mytens*; Sir Jerome Bowes, ambassador to the Czar of Muscovy, *L. de Heere*; Sir Edward Sackville,

Earl of Dorset, who slew Lord Bruce in a duel, and fought at Edgehill, *Mytens*; James I., *Mark Gerard*; Queen Elizabeth, Charles I., Lady Emily and Gertrude Howard, *Corn. Jansen*; George Villiers, first Duke of Buckingham, *Van Somer*; Diana Countess of Oxford, *Mytens*; Beatrice d'Este, queen of James II., *Lely*; John Hampden; and many more. Here is a roomful of Charles II.'s beauties, by or after *Lely*, including Moll Davis, who originally, it is said, was the daughter of a villager at Charlton.

There are, besides, some very good paintings by old masters. Among them, by *Leon da Vinci*, that composition so well known by the name of "La Vierge aux rochers,*" of which there is a repetition in the Louvre. Dr. Waagen is of opinion that "this alone is to be considered the original picture. The decisive evidence consists in the incomparably nobler expression, in the greater delicacy of drawing, and in the masterly modelling of the heads." *Domenichino*, St. Cecilia; 2, whole-length portrait of the widow of Cosmo II., Grand-Duke of Tuscany. *Ann. Carracci*, a large landscape, with the Flight into Egypt*: 2, a male portrait. *Guido Reni*, the Adoration of the Shepherds*. *Holbein*, Catherine Howard, queen of Henry VIII. *Bagnacavallo*, the Virgin borne by Angels to Heaven. *Pietro F. Mola*, a landscape with Hagar and Ishmael. *Agost. Carracci*, a landscape, with the Baptism of Christ. *Claude*, 2 small landscapes. *Gaspar Poussin*, 2 small landscapes*. *D. da Volterra*, Christ lamented by his Disciples. *Murillo*, the Ascension of the Virgin; 2, the Coronation of the Virgin. *W. Van de Velde*, a calm sea*, "of singular delicacy and transparency." *Van der Heyden*, interior of a Dutch town with figures*—the latter by *A. Van de Velde*. *F. Millet*, a landscape, "in the taste of his great model *Gaspar Poussin*," *G. Poussin*, a landscape,

with the Temple of the Sibyl at Tivoli, and the Flight into Egypt.* *Paul Brill*, a large poetic landscape. *Paul Veronese*, a "Flight into Egypt, here called a Lorenzo Lotto, I am inclined to attribute to this master." — *Waagen*. The 8 pictures marked with asterisks, together with an *Ecce Homo* by *Guido*, and a *Virgin and Child* by *Proccaccini*, were stolen out of the two drawing-rooms in a most daring manner on the night of Oct. 10, 1856, by a discarded servant. Fortunately they were recovered, and in the summer of 1858 were among the works of the Old Masters exhibited at the British Institution.

Dryden, who married a daughter of the Earl of Berkshire, was a frequent visitor at Charlton. His letter to his wife's brother, the Hon. Sir Robert Howard, giving an account of his 'Annus Mirabilis,' is dated from Charlton, Nov 10, 1666.

Great Sherston, 5½ m. W. of Malmesbury, is considered to be the *Sceorstan* of Henry of Huntingdon, where, in 1016, Edmund Ironside fought an obstinate but indecisive battle with the Danes under Canute. It was a place of some consequence in early times, and has a large Norman church with a debased central tower. Great part of the picturesque village is built within a fortified earthwork on a point of land between 2 streams, the most perfect part of which is to the W. of the ch.

At a short distance N.E. is an entrenched camp, probably constructed at that time by the Saxon army. Near the village is *Pinkney Park*, W. H. Cresswell, Esq.; and 2½ m. S., close to the Roman road, a spot called *Elm and Ash*, after 2 trees which apparently grew from one root, and in the popular belief had sprung from the stakes driven through the body of a suicide who had been there interred.

West of Malmesbury runs the Roman *Fosse Way*, almost in a direct line from Cirencester to Bath. The station of *Mutuantonis*, or *White Walls*,

occupied the high ground near *Easton Grey*, 3 m. due W.

Foxley, 2 m. S.W., gave the title of Baron Foxley to Lord Holland.

Bradfield, S. of Foxley, is an old manor-house with pointed windows. One of its former owners was Wm. Collingbourne, author of the rhymes reflecting on Richard III. and his ministers Catesby, Ratcliffe, and Lovel—

The Cat, the Rat, and Lovell the Dog,
Rule all England under the Hog.

for which he was executed.]

[From Chippenham the traveller may also visit *Castle Combe*, 6 m. N.W., and

2½ m. further *Grittleton House*, with its interesting collection of pictures.

Castle Combe originally belonged to the *Dunstanvilles*, from whom it was purchased by the *Badlesmeres*; thence by marriage it passed c. 1322 to the *Tiptofts*, and c. 1385 to the *Scropes*, whose seat it had been for nearly 500 years, until 1867, when it was bought by E. C. Lowndes, Esq. Here lived Lord Scrope of Bolton, Lord Chancellor of England in the reign of Richard II., and in our time William Scrope, author of those well-known books, 'Days of Deer Stalking,' and 'Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing,' and till 1867 G. Poulett Scrope, Esq., M.P., author of the 'Extinct Volcanoes of France.' The situation is romantic. "The house lies deeply embosomed among steep and wooded slopes, in an angle of one of those narrow cleft-like valleys which intersect and drain the range of limestone hills called in Gloucestershire the Cotswolds, and which extend southwards as far as Bath. A small but rapid stream runs through the village, and after a course of some miles joins the Avon near the village of Box, whence it is known as the *Box brook*." Above this stream rises the wooded hill on which the original castle was built by the *Dunstanvilles*, now reduced to mere mounds of rubbish. In

the village stand an ancient *market-cross*, square, with high-peaked roof and terminal pinnacle; and numerous old houses constructed of the rubbly limestone of the surrounding hills, retaining the gable-fronts, the labelled and mullioned windows, and the wide stone fireplaces of early times. Of these the *manor-house*, with its terraced garden, and the *dowry-house*, are very interesting specimens; the one on the old road to the castle, the other at the end of High-street, on the road leading up the hill to the N.

The earthworks of the castle containing 9 acres, with strong ditches and banks, seem to prove that a British stronghold existed here, centuries before the Norman castle was built. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1851, with the exception of the fine pinnacled tower with fan-traceried roof, erected in the first half of the 15th centy., partly at the expense of the wealthy clothiers of the place, partly of Sir J. Fastolf, second husband of Lady Milicent Tiptoft. The E. E. east window, a fragment of the original *ch.*, deserves notice, as well as the chancel arch with 6 figures sculptured in high relief, and an altartomb with an effigy in chain-mail.

Near *Nettleton*, 1 m. W. of Castle Combe, is the very interesting tumulus, known as *Lugbury*, 180 ft. by 90, containing stone cists with skeletons, and a cromlech with a table-stone 12 ft. by 6, leaning against 2 uprights.

About 1 m. W. of Castle Combe, and the same distance N.E. of *North Wraxhall*, in 1859, the remains of a Roman villa, with baths and hypocaust, and a cemetery were discovered, and laid bare by the exertions of Mr. Poulett Scrope, M.P.

2 m. S.W. *North Wraxhall Ch.* has a Norm. door, and E. E. chancel and tower, the latter covered by a saddle-back roof. It contains the monuments of the Methuens.

3½ m. N.W. of *Corsham Stat.*, on a branch of the *Avon*, lies the hamlet of

Slaughterford. The hill immediately above it, in the parish of *Yatton or Eaton*, and called *Eaton-Down* before its enclosure, is supposed by *Whitaker* and others to have been *Ethandune*, the scene of the defeat of the Danes by *Alfred*. In *Bury Wood*, 3 m. further W., in *Colerne* parish, ¼ m. from the *Foss Way*, are the remains of a strong camp of about 25 acres, secured on S.W. by a deep double rampart, and on the other sides by a precipitous ravine and small stream. Within the area is a small subsidiary earthwork of about an acre; to this, in the opinion of the same authorities, the discomfited warriors retreated, and here they ultimately surrendered. A tower erected by Mr. P. Scrope on the hill above *Slaughterford* commemorates this victory: which, however, more probably, was gained at *Eddington* (see *Rte. 3*).

2 m. beyond *Castle Combe*, by a pretty drive through the grounds, is *West Kingston*, Bp. *Latimer's* rectory. "In the walk at the parsonage house," says *Aubrey*, "is a little scrubbed oak where he used to sit." The oak is gone, but in the lately restored *ch.* is the pulpit from which he used to preach. He used to see "the pilgrims come by flocks out of the west country along the *Fossway* to many images, but chiefly to the *Blood of Hailes*," i.e., *Hales Abbey*, Gloucestershire.

2½ W. of *Castle Combe* is *Grittleton House*, purchased of *Col. Houlton*, 1828, by the late *Joseph Neeld, Esq.*, and now the property of his brother *Sir John Neeld, Bart.* The newly built mansion, designed by *Mr. James Thomson*, and completed 1857, contains a fine collection of works of art, including a gallery of sculpture, a large collection of paintings of several schools, some beautiful bronzes, &c. Permission to see them is given on application at the house. The principal pictures are as follows:—

Entrance Hall.—Some animal paintings by *Ward*; *Orgueil Castle, Jersey*, by *J. T. Serres*; and a curious picture of a cock, at *Titherton Lucas*, that changed its plumage three times.

West Gallery.—Some very choice Dutch cabinet paintings: *Le Corset Bleu, Metz*; *Temptation of St. Anthony, Teniers*; *Girl at Window, G. Dow*; the *Birdcatcher, Berghem*; *Travellers at Door, J. Ostade*; *La Fontaine de Venus, Wouvermans*; the *Waterwheel, Decker and J. Ostade*; *Potiphar's Wife, Rembrandt*; *Portrait of Rembrandt, by himself*; *Dutch Family, and Burgomasters of Amsterdam, Van der Helst*; *Vertumnus and Pomona, Netscher*; *Sir Thos. Gresham holding an orange, Sir A. More*; *Lady Jane Grey the Night before her Execution, Northcote*; *Ann Boleyn, Holbein*; and many others.

Vestibule between Galleries.—*Cornaro Family*; *Dr. Johnson without his Wig, Opie*; *Tenducci, a singer, Gainsborough*; *Spanish Family, Gonzales*; *President West, by himself*; *Joseph Neeld, Esq., Sir M. A. Shee*; *Sir John Neeld, and others of the family.*

West Gallery.—Chiefly Italian pictures: *Interior of St. Peter's, Pannini*; *Venus (from Villa Borghese), Titian*; *Mater Dolorosa, Guido*; *Virgin and Child, Andrea del Sarto*; another, *Garofalo*; another, *Paduanino*; *Presentation in the Temple, L. Sabbatini*; *Tivoli, Oriente*; *Landscape, S. Rosa*; *Magdalen, L. Caracci*; *Battle Piece, Borgognone, &c.*

Shield Vestibule, and the one adjoining. *Raising of Brazen Serpent, St. Peter Preaching, Baptism of our Saviour, Magicians before Pharaoh, B. West.* Some beautiful enamels, *Bone.*

Dining-room.—*Dignitary seated holding a Letter, Rubens*; *Spanish Alcáide, Velasquez*; *Duchess of Ferrara, Nell Gwyn, &c.*

Drawing-room.—*The Mall in St. James's Park, Gainsborough*; *Vale of*

Dedham, Constable; *Dove Dale, Derbyshire, Glover*; *Hero and Leander, Eddy*; also paintings by *Zoffany, Morland, Reynolds, &c.*

Staircase.—*Coronation of Hen. VI., Opie*; *Hotspur and Owen Glendower, Westall*; *Cordelia Cursed, Fuseli*; *Death of Cordelia, Barry*; *Madame de Maintenon, and a Lady of the Court of Bohemia, Mignard*; *Christina, Q. of Sweden, Bourdon*; *Spirit of Prophecy conveyed to Isaiah, B. West.*

Sculpture. Small Library Vestibule—*The Listening Eve, and Maternal Love, Baily*; *Musidora, Sévere.* In *Shield Vestibule*—*The Surprise, E. Papworth, and several others.* *Large Gallery*—*Nymph preparing for Bath, and the Tired Hunter, Baily*; *Bacchus and Ino, Wyatt*; *Eve after the Fall, Raffaele Monti*; *Venus Victrix (the original), Gibson*; *Early Melancholy, Obici*; *Venus and Cupid, and La Pescatrice, Scipio Tadolini.* In *Gallery Vestibule*—*The Graces, Baily.* In *West Picture Gallery*—*Adam Consoling Eve after her Evil Dream, Baily*; *Bust of Jos. Neeld, Esq., Sir F. Chantrey.*

Among the bronzes are *Flaxman's Shield of Achilles, Hercules and Busiris, Boreas and Orithyia, Pluto carrying off Proserpine, Il Fidele (a Middle Age work), and many others.*

2 m. E. of Grittleton is the small but highly decorated church of *Leigh-Delamere*, entirely rebuilt 1846, at the sole expense of the late Mr. Neeld. The ancient and peculiar bell-turret was re-erected on a school-house at *Sevington*, a hamlet in this parish.]

Proceeding on our route we reach, 98 m. *Corsham Stat.* The town (*Inn: Methuen Arms. Pop. 2196*), or rather village, lies $\frac{1}{2}$ m. on the rt. It was a residence of the Saxon Kings, and afterwards of the Earls of *Corwall.* *Corsham* was in 1594 the scene of the murder of *Henry Long*, who was shot while sitting at dinner with his brother *Sir Walter Long*, of *S.*

Wraxhall, and other friends, by Sir Ch. and Sir H. Danvers, of Dauntsey. The cause of the murder was never accurately known. The assassins took refuge at Lord Southampton's, at Titchfield, and were never brought to justice (see *ante*). It was the birthplace of *Sir Richard Blackmore*, physician to Will. III. and poet, d. 1729. Blackmore is principally known as the author of the 'Creation;' but, says Leigh Hunt, "he composed heaps of dull poetry, versified the Psalms, and, by way of extending the lesson of patience, wrote a paraphrase of the 'Book of Job.'" Dryden compares the music of his verses to "the rumbling of his chariot-wheels." He was the son of an attorney, and in early life a schoolmaster:—

"By nature form'd, by want a pedant made,
Blackmore at first set up the whipping
trade;
Next quack commenced."

However, says Cibber, he was "a worthy man and a friend to religion."

The *Church* is a fine spacious building, with central E. E. tower, finely groined, but no transepts. The nave arcades are Norman, there are some Dec. windows, but more are Perp., as is the whole of the chancel. There is a low stone chancel screen, and a more elaborately carved wood screen, with a canopy of fan tracery, in the N. chapel. There are also additions by the Hungerfords, 1631; and in the N. chancel chapel 2 altar-tombs, one of great size to Thomas Tropenell and his wife Agnes, the builders of Great Chalfield manor-house late in the reign of Henry VI. In the street of the town is a small plain house of the 15th century, if not earlier.

Corsham Court, the seat of Lord Methuen, is 4 m. W. of Chippenham. The S. front, which has been judiciously preserved through the successive alterations undergone by the rest of the mansion, is a charming example of the Elizabethan style.

It was built (Aubrey says) by "Cus-tomer Smythe," (an ancestor of the late Lord Strangford), so called from being "farmer of the customs," and bears date 1582. The N. front, and other parts of the house remodelled by Nash, have been pulled down and reconstructed from a good Italian design by Charles Bellamy. The staircase is spacious and stately. In the surrounding park are trees of magnificent growth, particularly cedars and oriental planes, one of the latter being probably the largest of its kind in England. In 1602 this estate became by purchase the property of the Hungerford family, of Farleigh Castle. Sir Edward Hungerford, commander of the Wilts forces for the Parliament, resided here, and his widow Margaret, daughter and co-heir of William Halliday, Lord Mayor of London, founded 1672 the late Gothic Almshouse and Free-school adjoining the park; of which hospital *Edward Hasted*, the historian of Kent, was for some years master, dying 1812. In 1746 Corsham House was purchased by Paul Methuen, Esq. It contains a gallery of very valuable paintings, in great part collected by Sir Paul Methuen, the ambassador to Madrid, who died 1757. Sir Paul was son of John Methuen, who was Chancellor of Ireland, Ambassador to Portugal, and the framer of the "Methuen Treaty" with that country. Neither John nor Sir Paul were ever owners of Corsham; but Sir Paul being unmarried, bequeathed his London gallery of pictures to his relative Paul, the above-mentioned purchaser of Corsham. They are arranged in the state rooms built by Lancelot, or "Capability" Brown, and include a number of family portraits by *Lely*, *Kneller*, *Dobson*, *C. Jansens*, *Vandyck*, *Riley*, *Reynolds*, *Gainsborough*, *Romney*, and others. Strangers are kindly permitted to view these pictures, of which the following may be noticed as the most remarkable:—

Jan Van Eyck (?)—Virgin and Child, with Joseph, St. Catherine, and another female saint; a beautiful Flemish painting, probably by an artist younger than Van Eyck. *A. Elzheimer*.—1. St. Paul at Malta; 2. Death of Procris; very fine specimens of an exceedingly rare master. *Mich. Angelo* (?)—The Rape of Gany-mede. *Carlo Dolce*.—1. Christ breaking bread, known as the "Salvador Mundi," and corresponding with the picture by the same painter in the Dresden Gallery. 2. Our Saviour at the house of the Pharisee, Mary bathing his feet; said to have been designed by Lud. Cigoli, and painted for the Barberini family at Rome, from whom it was purchased, 1737; the portrait of the count is introduced as a servant. 3. An angel showing a child the way to heaven. *Bourguignon*.—A landscape, with robbers. *Mabuse*.—1. The 3 children of Henry VII., from the collection of Charles I. 2. Eleanor, the mother of Henry VII. *Albert Durer* (?)—The Adoration of the Shepherds; "an early picture by *Lucas Van Leyden*"—*W.** *Giorgione* (?)—Portrait of Scanderbeg; "an admirable painting by *Holbein*."—*W. Lionello Spada*.—David with the head of Goliath. *Guido Reni*.—The Baptism of our Saviour, from the Duke of Buckingham's collection, 1684. *Rubens*.—The Boar-hunt, a well-known picture. *Vandyck*.—1. The Betrayal of our Saviour, "a painting of the earlier time of the master, and of extraordinary effect."—*W.* 2. Portrait of James Stuart, Duke of Richmond and Lennox. 3. Charity. 4. Charles I. on horseback, the size of life. 5. Massacre of the Innocents. *Lesueur*.—Pope Clement blessing St. Dionysius; remarkable for depth and purity of feeling, and for powerful colouring. *Carlo Cignani*.—The Madonna and Child. *Guercino*.—Christ and the Samaritan woman at the

well. *Pietro da Cortona*.—The Virgin in glory, "a first-rate picture by the master."—*Waagen*. *Albano*.—Holy Family; in a silver frame by Alessandro Algardi. The arms of Pope Innocent X. are on the back. *Zucchero*.—A curious portrait of Queen Elizabeth. According to the account handed down, it was painted for her, after the death of Essex, to symbolize her grief at his loss. Two angels are removing the crown from her head: the hour-glass on the table is broken, and Death stands behind.

The original collection at Corsham—said to be one of the oldest private collections in England that has remained nearly perfect—consists of upwards of 150 pictures, besides the family portraits; and to these about 70 works of a very choice kind have been added from the gallery of the late Rev. John Sandford, father of Lady Methuen. They were selected with great judgment during a residence in Florence.

7. *N. Poussin*.—A landscape, "with the blind giant Orion meeting the rising sun, in order to regain his sight. A picture of the loftiest poetry of sentiment."—*W.* Painted in 1658, and formerly in the possession of Sir Joshua Reynolds. 8. *A. del Sarto*.—A portrait. 9. *Guido Reni*.—Portrait of Paul V. 15. *S. del Piombo*.—Portrait of Francesco Albizzi; grandly conceived, but poor in colour. 17. *Tintoretto*.—Portrait of a Procurator of St. Mark's. 18. *J. Sustermans*—Portrait of Galileo. 25. *D. da Volterra*.—A Mater Dolorosa.—28. *G. da Fabriano*.—Coronation of the Virgin. 29. *Fiesole*.—Death of the Virgin. "In richness of composition, and variety of the most refined and beautiful heads, this is one of the most admirable works I know of the master, and at the same time in marvellous preservation."—*W.* 30. *Fra Bartolomeo*.—Virgin and Child. 31, 32. *Ubertini*.—The History of Joseph; 2 of

* *W.* signifies Waagen's 'Art Treasures.'

the best works of the master: from the Gaddi collection. 33. *Domenichino*.—St. Catherine; grand in conception. 34. *Ghirlandajo*.—Virgin and Child. A charming picture. 36. *L. Carracci*.—The Annunciation. 39. *Pontormo*.—Virgin and Child, with St. John. 44. His own portrait. 40. *Fra Filippo Lippi*.—The Annunciation. 41. *G. di San Giovanni*.—Virgin and Child, with St. John, in fresco. Particularly fine. 42, 43. *S. Rosa*.—2 remarkable landscapes. 47. *Guercino*.—The infant Christ bearing the Cross. 48. *Claude*.—Landscape, with St. John in the desert. On tin. 49. *D. da Volterra*.—Study for the fresco at Rome. On the back the Crucifixion. 50. *L. Fontana* SS. Cecilia and Sebastian. 52. *L. di Credi*.—Virgin and Child. 53. *Correggio*.—The Fall of Phaëton. 55. Cartoon of an angel in the Cupola at Parma. "Graceful in motive, and soft and grand in the forms."—*W. Albano*.—Landscape with Salmacis and Hermaphrodite. *Raffaello*.—Madonna dell' Impannata.

S. of the Stat. are *Monks' Park* and *Neston Park*, the latter the seat of John Bird Fuller, Esq. *Hartham Park*, T. H. A. Poynder, Esq., $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., was built by Wyatt in 1790. *Pickwick Lodge* is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.

Biddeston, 3 m. N. of Corsham, consists of 2 parishes, St. Nicholas and St. Peter's, each once remarkable for a ch., with an ancient and very picturesque bell-turret. St. Nicholas still remains, with a Norman turret over the chancel arch, and a S. doorway and font in the same style. It contains the tomb of Edmund, or "Rag," Smith, translator of Longinus, the friend of Steele and Addison, who d. at Hartham House, 1709. St. Peter's was Perp., but was demolished 25 years since; the bell-turret is preserved in the garden at Castle Combe.

Old Aubrey notes that this district "inclines people to zeal. Here-tofore nothing but religious houses,

now nothing but quakers and fanatics. A sour woodserre country, and inclines people to contemplation, so that, and the Bible and ease (for it is now all up with dairy grayzing, and cloathing), set their witts a running and reforming."]

Proceeding on our route, a cutting $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. long and with an average depth of 30 ft., in the cornbrash, forest marble, and great oolite, leads to the mouth of the

Box Tunnel, in length 3195 yards or about $1\frac{3}{4}$ m., and in places 300 ft. below the surface. It was excavated at each end and from 11 intermediate shafts, ranging from 129 to 293 ft. in depth. 500 men were employed in its formation, and the water and rubbish were lifted by 6 steam-engines. The total progress was about 6 ft. a-day. The gradient descends at 1 in 100 W.; the strata dip E., and are therefore all pierced in succession, viz. the great oolite, fuller's earth, inferior oolite, blue marl, and lias limestone. The E. end stands with its natural roof, other parts are lined with brickwork. The cost of the tunnel was upwards of 500,000*l*.

"The *stone-quarries* here are curious. A shaft is sunk through the forest marble and rubble beds, and is then carried in every direction. The galleries, are sometimes of great extent, and from 20 to 50 ft. in height. The stone is cut with a saw, and blocks containing 200 cubic ft. are sometimes raised to the surface." There are 3 quarries in Box Hill; the lower one is subterranean, and of considerable size, having 3 m. of tramway. The space quarried out varies from 12 to 20 ft. between the side-walls or pillars left to support the roof. Into *Boxfield Quarry* the workmen descend by shafts 100 ft. deep. The roof of the quarry is intersected by vertical cracks in a manner that appears extremely dangerous to an observer unacquainted

with the nature of the rock; but these fissures have remained in the same condition for 20 years, with the labourers working continually beneath them.

101½ *Box Stat.* On l. are the church and village of *Box*, the former an E. E., Dec., and Perp. building, with a Perp. tower and spire between the nave and chancel. Mrs. Bowdler, the mother of the editor of the 'Family Shakspeare,' and herself an authoress of some note, is buried here. Near the vicarage garden was found a Roman pavement. The site is marked by some lofty poplars.

Coleridge once lodged at a grocer's at *Box*, but was frightened away on discovering a barrel of gunpowder stored below his bedroom.

Within reach of the stat. are several points of interest. N. are *Cheyney Court*, a mansion of the Spekes of the time of Eliz. or James I., with fine old chimney-pieces; *Coles Farm*, ½ m. N.N.E., built in 1645; and the little church of *Ditch-eridge*, ¼ m. N., than which few in the neighbourhood will afford more to interest the archæologist, with its Norman nave and S. door, with curiously sculptured impost; narrow chancel arch, of 13th cent., with a bell gable over it; curious Piscina and shelf; and sq. Norman font. Mural paintings were discovered, c. 1857. ¼ m. E. is *Hazelbury House*, of Eliz. date; S. *Chapel Plaster*, probably *Pley-stow* (Sax.), playground or village green—"the Kirk on the green," a small desecrated chapel, c. 1460, formerly a resting-place of pilgrims to the Abbey of Glastonbury, and in the last cent. the retreat of a notorious highwayman, one John Baxter, hung on Claverton Down; the farmhouse of *Wormwood*, built in the 17th cent.; and 3 m. S., *S. Wraxhall*, a manorhouse of the Longs, described in Rte. 3. 1 m. W. is *Shockerwick*, seat of John Wiltshire, Esq. A fine collection of pictures was lately dispersed.

2 m. N.W. of *Box Station* is the village of *Colerne*, where a Roman

villa was discovered in 1838, and hidden again. The *ch.* deserves a visit; the tower is a bold, lofty structure of 3 stages, of the 15th cent. Nave, Norm.; N. aisle, Perp., c. 1450; chancel, E. E., c. 1240; N. aisle to chancel, Dec., c. 1280. Notice the rich 14th cent. sedilia, and the traces of the original E. E. sedilia and sepulchre behind them. On a promontory of *Colerne Down* is *Burywood Camp* (see *ante*).

About 1 m. beyond *Box* the railway enters the county of Somerset, where the *Avon* comes winding from the beautiful valley of *Claverton* (Rte. 4). The churches of *Batheaston*, *Bathford*, and *Bathampton* will be observed rt. and l. as the traveller is hurried towards

106½ *Bath Stat.* (Rte. 19.)

ROUTE 2.

SWINDON TO CHELTENHAM, BY PURTON, CRICKLADE, AND MINETY.

(Great Western Union Railway.)

This branch connects the Great Western, and Bristol and Birmingham Railways—trunk lines that meet at Bristol. It runs to Gloucester 36½ m., and Cheltenham 44½ m., from Swindon, and thence communicates with Hereford and Shrewsbury, N., and Newport, and Cardiff, and S. Wales.

77½ (from Paddington) *Swindon Stat.* (Rte. 1).

81½ *Purton Stat.* The village of *Purton*, or *Periton* (i.e. Pear-tree enclosure), stands on rising ground to the l. The church is cruciform, remarkable for two steeples; one in the centre surmounted by a stone spire, and at the west-end a tower of more ornate character, with open parapet and pinnacles. The church is chiefly Perp., but the arcades of the nave have circular pillars of earlier character, and there are a few

Dec. windows. The N. transept is larger than the southern; there is good groining under the central tower, and in some windows large remains of fine coloured glass. Purton belonged to Malmesbury Abbey till the Dissolution. A portion of it came afterwards into the possession of Mr. Henry Hyde, father of Lord Chancellor Clarendon (who was, however, born at Dinton in S. Wilts, see Rte. 11). In 1625 the future Chancellor, then in his 18th year, was here for the recovery of his health, injured by his severe legal studies, when the news of the assassination of the Duke of Buckingham by Felton reached him. Mr. Hyde's house is still standing. On one of the chimney-pieces are the arms of the Chancellor's grandmother of the Sibell family, a tiger regardant in a mirror. Aubrey records that Anne Hyde, mother of Queens Mary and Anne, was born here. Purton was the seat of the Maskelyne family (whose monuments are in the church), ancestors of Dr. Maskelyne, astronomer Royal, and projector of the Nautical Almanac, born in London, 1732, and buried here, 1811.

Purton Spa, 2½ m. on the Cricklade road, a spring of bromo-iodated water, has some not undeserved fame as a medicinal spring.

1. 3 m. S.W. is *Ringsbury*, a quadrangular Roman camp, and *Restrop*, a picturesque Elizabethan house.

3 m. rt. *Cricklade (Inn)*: White Hart), a town of 1820 Inhab., situated on the *Isis*, 10½ m. from W. Crudwell, one of the sources of the Thames, and about as far from St. John's Bridge near Lechlade, the terminus of the river navigation. Cricklade is a place of great antiquity, being mentioned in an Anglo-Saxon charter as *crecca-gelád*, or *creg-lád*, signifying a "stone ford," from the British "cerrig," stone, and "lád," ford. It has been absurdly derived from a supposed university of Greek philosophers, planted here before the

Roman invasion, quasi "Greeklade;" *teste* Drayton—

"Greeklade, whose great name yet vaunts
that learned tongue,
Where to Great Britain first the sacred
muses sung."—*Polyolbion*.

It stood on the Roman street, which passed through this county from Spene near Newbury to Cirencester. In 905, and again in 1016, it was plundered by the Danes, and it was here that, according to tradition, Bp. Wulstan appeared at the hour of his death to Robert Bp. of Hereford, to warn him of his end. In 1144 it was held against Stephen, by Wm. of Dover, and after he had assumed the cross in expiation of his crimes, by his son Philip who carried fire and sword all round. Its churches, *Down-Ampney*, 2 m. N., and the *Camp of Castle Hill*, 4 m. S.E., are the only points of interest.

St. Samson's is cruciform, with pinnaced central tower. The lantern is internally decorated with armorial shields, one charged with the "bear and ragged staff" of the Earls of Warwick, and contains a curious clock, and the Widhalls aisle belonging to the Earl of Radnor. The W. window of the N. aisle is Dec.; that of the nave, E.E. with plate tracery. Sir Walter Hungerford, in the reign of Henry VI., gave the advowson of this church, with the manor of Abingdon's court, to the dean and canons of Salisbury, to maintain a chantry chapel, and assist in keeping in repair the "campanile" of their cathedral.

St. Mary's ch. is very poor and small, with a semicircular Norman arch between the nave and chancel, and a sculptured cross in the churchyard. There is also a cross with canopied niches in the main street.

Down-Ampney, the property of Lord St. Germans, is situated on the border of the county, the gardens being partly in Gloucestershire. Between the reigns of Richard II. and Charles I. it was a seat of the Hungerfords, and before that of the

family of Vilers, or Valers. The *Great Hall*, now a kitchen, bears date 1537; and the *gatehouse*, said to have been built by Sir Anthony Hungerford, is apparently of the age of Henry VIII. Contiguous to the mansion is the *Church* of Down-Ampney, in part the original Templar building, and containing, in the S. transept, the tomb of Sir Nicholas de Vilers, or Valers, who is represented in his armour by the side of his lady. His feet rest upon a lion, and on his arm is a shield bearing the cross of St. George and 5 scallop-shells. The supposed date of this monument is 1294.

N. of Cricklade is the canal which connects the Thames and Severn (completed in 1789), and W. the N. Wilts canal, which joins the Wilts and Berks canal at Swindon.

85½ *Minety Stat.* l. 5 m. W. *Charlton Park*, seat of the Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, and 7 m. W. the town of *Malmesbury* (Rte. 1).

Minety Church, late E.E., has a brass to Nicholas Poulett, 1620, nephew to Q. Elizabeth's "dainty Amias." The family of William Penn were long resident in the parish, holding the office of stewards to the Abbots of Malmesbury. Sir W. Penn was born here, his father, according to Aubrey, being a keeper in Braden Forest.

The parish of Minety is partly situated on some outlying acres of Gloucestershire, islanded by Wiltshire. The church and neighbouring houses belong to the hundred of Malmesbury. S. and S.W. of it is the district of *Braden Forest*, which once covered the greater part of N. Wiltshire. *Braden Pond*, l. of the road to Malmesbury, is the largest sheet of water in the county, ¾ m. by ½ m.

From Minety the rail runs onward through an undulating country towards the border, near which it extends an arm on the rt. to Cirencester 95 m., and then passes into Gloucestershire at the Roman *Fosse Way*.

ROUTE 3.

CHIPPENHAM TO FROME BY MELKSHAM [LACOCK], TROWBRIDGE, BRADFORD [MONKTON FARLEIGH, FARLEIGH CASTLE, HINTON CHARTERHOUSE], AND WESTBURY.

(*Wilts and Somerset Line.*)

94 m. from Paddington, *Chippenham Stat.* (Rte. 1). Between Chippenham and Corsham the flank of the chalk hills, and in front of them the greensand, which for many a mile has limited the view from the railway, turns abruptly towards the S., where the railway throws off a branch in the same direction.

After leaving the main line the traveller may observe on the heights to the l. *Bowdon Park* and *Spye Park*, and in the vale, by the side of the Avon, 3 m. *Lacock Abbey* (see *post*). ¼ m. beyond *Lacock* the railway crosses the line of a Roman road from Bath to Marlborough.

100 MELKSHAM Stat. (Pop. 5337, a decrease from that in 1851, attributed to the diminished activity of the clothing and dyeing fabrics). (*Inns*: King's Arms; Bear). The town lies ¼ m. to the l. on the old mail-coach road from London to Bath. It is seated on the left bank of the Avon, and on the Wilts and Berks Canal, and gives name to the hundred in which it is situated. It consists principally of one street nearly a mile long, well paved and lighted with gas. Melksham is a clean but not a busy town. A town-hall and cheese-market in the Italian style were erected in 1847, by a company of shareholders, at a cost of 3000l.; and the workmen of the place are associated in a literary institution called the *Mutual Improvement Society*, which has a good library, and is in flourishing circumstances. The principal manufacture is that of cloth.

The Avon is crossed by a handsome bridge of 4 arches, near which is a very large corn-mill, and a cloth-factory and dye-house.

Melksham can boast of considerable antiquity. In Norman times it was a populous town, although surrounded by *Melksham Forest*, a favourite scene of the hunting exploits of Edward I. At a later age it had evidently much declined in importance, as Leland has passed it without notice in his description of this neighbourhood. Near the town several mineral springs, a sulphureous chalybeate, and 2 saline, well up from the beds of the Oxford clay. On the discovery of a saline spring in 1816, high anticipations were raised, and a pump-room, baths, and other accommodations for visitors were erected, but the wells proved unattractive, and have fallen into disuse.

The fine *Church* (St. Michael), in part dates from the 12th century, of which the flat buttresses are characteristic. The embattled central tower was taken down some years since and re-erected at the W. end. There are E. E. arcades, and the chancel and W. end of the nave have much E. E. work, but the windows and most of the exterior are Perp.

[The visitor may well pause at Melksham to examine the places of archaeological interest in which the neighbourhood is peculiarly rich, including *Lacock Abbey* (which may also be reached from Chippenham (3 m.). *Spye Park*, *Bronham*, and the manor houses of *Great Chaldfield*, and *South Wrazhall*.

Lacock Abbey is 3 m. N. on the road to Chippenham. The hill which rises from it so abruptly commands one of the finest prospects in the county—a chequered expanse, “clad in colours of the air,” which may remind the traveller of the views from the Sussex or Surrey Downs. These woodland heights, once included in the *Forest of Melksham*, are

now the parks of *Bowden* and *Spye*, ancient family seats which, with the “Great Wood” of Lord Lansdowne’s extensive domain, form a sylvan district of most picturesque character, finely contrasting with the naked slopes of the chalk which are seen across an intervening valley.

Lacock Abbey, the property and residence of W. H. Fox Talbot, Esq., the well-known inventor of the “Talbotype,” is situated on the *Avon*, below the heights of *Bowden Park*. Though converted into a family mansion, it retains many of its monastic features. Arches hung with ivy, and tall spiral chimneys, are seen from the surrounding meadows, which in early times, says *Bowles*, formed, probably, a glade between the forests of *Melksham* and *Chippenham*. At *Lacock* stood one of the 3 “*Castella*” founded by the British king, *Dynwal Moelmyd*. Another was at *Malmesbury*. *Lacock* was founded as an Augustine nunnery in 1232 by *Ela Countess of Salisbury*, who, in 1238, entered the establishment as a nun, and shortly afterwards was elected its abbess. She founded it in memory of her deceased husband *William Longespée*, the natural son of *Henry II.* and in his wife’s right *Earl of Sarum*. In the reign of *Henry VIII.*, 1539, after a 3 years’ reprieve, as one of the 30 lesser monasteries, *Lacock* was confiscated to the king. It was then bestowed upon *Sir William Sherington*, who changed the domicile of the nuns into a residence for himself; and, dying without issue, his brother *Henry’s* daughter carried the estate by marriage to the *Talbots*. During the *Rebellion* the *Abbey* was fortified and garrisoned for *Charles I.* and in 1645 besieged by a detachment of *Fairfax’s* army, to whom it surrendered by capitulation, *Sept. 24.* at the first summons, the garrison being alarmed by the fall of *Bristol* and *Devizes*.

The modern house, which is chiefly

Elizabethan, contains considerable remains of the conventual buildings. The *Cloister* is a beautiful work of the 15th century with a richly vaulted roof, with grotesque bosses. In the Cloisters lie several monumental slabs, including that of the foundress Ela, removed from the church, with the following inscription round it:—

Infra sunt defossa Ela venerabilis ossa,
Quae dedit has sedes sacras monialibus aedes,
Abbatissa quidem quae sancte vixit ibidem,
Et comitissa Sarum virtutum plena bonarum.

Here is also the memorial slab of Ilbertus de Chat, brought from Monkton Farleigh (see *post*).

The Cloisters surround 3 sides of the quadrangular area; on the S. side stood the *Ch.*, long, narrow, and aisleless, of which the N. wall still exists; to the E. are the *Vestry* and *Chapter House* with a central pillar, and a kitchen of the 13th century. The W. side is occupied by a large room above, perhaps the dormitory, and a vaulted substructure below. The Refectory stood to the N. An octagon tower stands at the S.E. angle, now used as a muniment-room, in which is preserved an original copy of the Magna Charta of Henry III., sent to Ela Countess of Salisbury, as hereditary sheriff of Wiltshire. In another part of the building are the *library* and the *stone gallery*, the latter containing some old carved chairs, supposed to have belonged to Charles II., and a pair of antlers of the elk remarkable for their size and beauty. One of the chambers contains the bed of Queen Elizabeth, who was here in 1574, and knighted her host Sir Henry Sherington. From the cloister a door opens to the *terrace-walk*, the site of the Abbey church. Beyond lies the garden, a charming retreat, through which the stream of the Avon meanders, and where may still be seen the *ponds* or *stews* for fish, and the *nuns' caldron*, a metal pot cast in Mechlin by Peter Waghuens in the

year 1500, and of a size to contain some 67 gallons.

The Talbots are said to owe their inheritance of Lacock to a very romantic incident. Olive, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of Sir Henry Sherington, being in love with John Talbot of Salwarpe, Worcestershire, contrary to her father's wishes, and "discoursing one night with him from the battlements of the abbey church, said she, 'I will leap downe to you.' Her sweetheart replied he would catch her then: but he did not believe she would have done it. She leapt down, and the wind, which was then high, came under her coates, and did something break the fall. Mr. Talbot caught her in his armes, but she struck him dead; she cried for help, and he was with great difficulty brought to life again. Her father thereon told her that since she had made such a leap she should e'en marrie him." So runs the tale, as reported by Aubrey, who was personally acquainted with the grandson of the lady. The portrait of the young lady is still preserved in the abbey; but when the visitor looks at the height of the battlements he will be disposed to doubt the story.

At Lacock *Bp. Jewel*, in 1571, preached his last sermon, when making a visitation to the churches of his diocese. It was from the text "Walk in the spirit." He went from the pulpit to his bed at Monkton Farleigh, and died there in a few days, 1571. The abbey was then the dwelling of Sir Henry Sherington, the last heir-male of that ancient family. His monument may be seen in the neighbouring parish church, which has also a fine brass to the memory of Robert Baynard, 1501.

Rather less than 2 m. W. of Lacock on the top of the hill, commanding an extensive view, is the embattled entrance-gateway to *Spye Park* (J. W. G. Spicer, Esq.), brought from old Bromham House, but first erected (according to the tradition) at

Corsham, in the time of Henry VIII. The old house for many years the residence of the Bayntuns, and afterwards of the Starkeys, was built about 1650 by the Bayntun family, after the destruction of Bromham House in 1645. It was of brick, and, with the exception of one room, of no great size, but it rested on the verge of a charming hill. Evelyn visited it, 1654, and describes it in his 'Diary' as "a place capable of being made a noble seat; but the humorous old knight has built a long single house of 2 low stories on the precipice of an incomparable prospect." A new and much larger house has been erected near the old one by Major Spicer. This estate, in the reign of Charles II., was occasionally visited by the profligate Earl of Rochester. The Roman road from Bath to London and the Wansdyke cross the park of 500 acres, containing every element of the picturesque. If bound to Bromham the stranger will find a delightful path to that village just below the gatehouse. It runs across the fields, behind Spye Park old house, and by the hamlet of Chittoe: the distance about 2 m.

Bromham can be visited either from Melksham or Devizes, being equidistant (4 m.) from these towns. It consists of a group of cottages, individually most picturesque (particularly a hostel called the Greyhound).

Old Bromham House was erected, temp. Hen. VIII. with the spoils of Devizes Castle, and Corsham Manor House, and is described as being "nearly as large as Whitehall, and fit to entertain a king." Standing close on the old Western Road it became one of the usual halting places for the nobility and gentry on their way to "the Bath." Royalty sometimes sojourned there. James I. visited Bromham in 1616, and again 1618 and 1621, and hunted in the park. The house was burnt by the forces of Col. Lloyd and the king in

1645. Only part of one wing remains. Some of the stones were used in erecting the lodge in Spye Park. Sir Edward Bayntun of Bromham was Latimer's patron. He died in France in 1544 while attending Henry VIII. as Vice-chancellor.

The *Ch.* is a fine one with a S. aisle to nave and chancel, and a central tower with stone spire. The prevailing style is Perp.; but the chancel is E. E. with a shafted eastern triplet. The S. aisle adjacent to the tower has flat stone groining with a large pendant. The chancel aisle or Bayntun Chapel, temp. Hen. VIII., is very rich both within and without, with a flat panelled roof painted and gilt. This chapel contains the monumental effigies, pennons, and rusty armour of the Bayntuns of Bromham. A canopied tomb with a brass to Sir Edward B. and his 2 wives 1578; a brass to Sir John B. 1616; and in the chancel a Purbeck marble altar tomb, with a full-length male effigy of one of the Lords Beauchamp, and a tablet to Henry Season, M.D., author of an almanac which he whimsically entitled 'Season on the Seasons;' and in the churchyard the grave of *Thomas Moore*, the poet, who died 1852 at his cottage at *Sloperton*, between Bromham and Chitway.

Bromham in the time of Edward the Confessor was the lordship of Earl Harold. In the reign of Henry VI. it belonged to William Beauchamp, Lord St. Amand, and from the son of that nobleman it passed to the Bayntuns. Bromham was the birthplace of George Webbe, Bp. of Limerick, d. 1641, and of the Rev. J. Collinson, the historian of Somerset, d. 1793.

1 m. N. of Bromham, near Wans House, is the supposed Roman station of *Vertucio*. It is situated on the Roman road which ran by Bath and Marlborough, and whose vicinity is indicated by such names as *Hawk-street* and *Nether-street*. *Nonsuch Park*

is a pretty spot near this village. *Seend Manor-house* (see Rte. 4), 3 m. S.E. of Melksham, is now a seat of the Awdryes.

At *Great Chaldfield*, 3 m. W., are the very beautiful and interesting remains of a fine manor-house of the 15th centy., presumed to have been built by Thomas Tropenell, who died 1490, and, with Agnes his wife, is buried under a rich altar-tomb in Corsham ch. "The N. front is nearly perfect, with the porch and its groined roof, the hall in the centre flanked by a gabled building at each end, each with an oriel, that nearest the ch. being of singular beauty: The whole front is one of the most elaborate and finest that we have."—*J. H. P.* Unfortunately now, this front is nearly all that remains; the "guest chamber" behind the eastern oriel was pulled down, the hall cut up into rooms, the screens and gallery destroyed, and the whole interior ruthlessly modernized a few years ago. Engravings of the hall in its former state with the curious masks of stone through which a view might be obtained of the hall from the upper chambers at either end, and which are still preserved, may be found, vol. iii. Walker's 'Domestic Architecture of the Middle Ages' (which also contains engravings of *Wraxhall*), and vol. iii. of Pugin's 'Examples of Gothic Architecture.' The little ch. adjoins the house towards the N.E., and may almost be said to form a part of it, as it is within the moat which encircles the whole. This also has suffered greatly from alterations, but much remains of beauty and interest: the bell-turret with its spire crowning the W. gable, and the hooded groined W. porch are probably of the date of Henry VII. The S. chapel and the very fine stone screen were erected by the builder of the manor-house, and, as at Corsham ch., bear his arms, "gules a fess engrailed and powdered with ermine, between

three griffins' heads erased, argent," and his motto, "le jong tyra beleme." The stone screen has been removed, and now separates the chancel from the nave; and an addition was made to the S.E. in the last centy. The register dates from 1545, and contains hardly any name but that of Eyre. The house was occupied as a military post in the civil wars, traces of which may be seen in the loop-holed gable. A round tower of defence stands at the N.E. corner of the churchyard. The water of the moat turns a mill which occupies the site of one which existed here at the time of the Domesday survey. From the Tropenells the property was inherited by the Eyres, and

At *Little Chaldfield*, further W., was another seat of the Eyres, but the house now is quite modern.

2 m. further W. is the manor-house of *S. Wraxhall*, a very beautiful and interesting example of mediæval domestic architecture. The buildings surround 3 sides of a court, with the gatehouse to the S. and the hall facing W., with Perp. windows and a square one flanked by huge gabled drawing-room, added by Sir Walter Long c. 1600. The gargoyles are singularly large and hideous. The oldest portions are the entrance gateway and the fine oriel of the room over it, and the hall with its porch and bays, probably a work of the time of Henry VII. (*J. H. P.*) or perhaps built by Walter Long, M.P. for Wiltshire, 1433. The roof of the hall is partly hidden by a plaster ceiling, and a rich fireplace has been inserted of the date of James I. (1598). A covered way leads from the hall to the kitchen. The drawing-room is very large and handsome, with a richly ornamented plaster ceiling and an elaborate chimney-piece with carved figures of Prudence, Justice, Geometry, and Arithmetic, with Pan in the centre and quaint inscriptions. Opposite the fireplace is a singular projection to carry

the wall-plate of the old roof. Out of this a short flight of steps leads to a bedroom of the same date, the most remarkable feature of which is the fireplace with a baboon on a bracket and its three mottoes, "Faber est quisq. fortunæ suæ," "Æqua laus est a laudatis laudari et ab improbis improbari," "Mors rapit omnia." Some time may be pleasantly spent in rambling over this old mansion.

At a short distance from the house are the remains of a chapel of Edward I.'s time turned into a house of the 17th centy., and still further modernized. A stone screen of foliated arches remains almost concealed in modern partitions and floors.

The Ch. of S. Wraxhall has a tower with a packsaddle roof and of somewhat foreign character. There is a late Perp. porch and chapel adjoining it of almost debased character.]

Returning to our route the rly. descends the valley of the Avon, and reaches

101½ m. on rt. *Broughton Gifford*, which gave a title to the late Lord Broughton, formerly known as Sir John Cam Hobhouse, Lord Byron's fellow-traveller and friend. It has a Ch. with E. E. portions and a Perp. tower. A full account of the parish is given by its rector, Rev. J. Wilkinson, vols. v. vi. of *Wilts Arch. Magazine*.

103 m. *Holt* junction, where a branch strikes off l. by Seend to Devizes and Hungerford (Rte. 4), and a little further rt. *Staverton* with its large factory. The ch. is modern.

105½ m. TROWBRIDGE (*Inn: George*. Pop. 10,487), where a line diverges rt., W. to Bradford and Bath. It still, as in Leland's days, "standith on a rocky hill" above the little river Biss, a tributary of the Avon, and "flourishith by drapery," *i. e.* the manufacture of cloth, which is carried on with great activity, em-

ploying many hands; but it cannot now be said to be "very well buildyd of stone," the streets being irregular, and the houses ill-built.

Trowbridge, like many of our country towns, was first built around a castle, which, during the Norman period, stood on an eminence now called *Court Hill*. One of the first notices of Trowbridge Castle occurs in the reign of Stephen, when, the place being held for the Empress Maud by Humphry de Bohun, it was besieged by the king. We find it next mentioned in the time of Edward III., when it was held by John of Gaunt, by whom the castle is said to have been rebuilt. When Leland visited it in Henry VIII.'s time it was "clene down." Not a fragment of the castle now remains, but the contour of the moat and vallum may still be traced in the principal street, to which it gives its curved outline. In 1861 a market-house was built by Wm. Stancomb, Esq., the lord of the manor. The manor was bestowed by Henry VIII. on the Somerset family, from whom it passed by marriage to the Duke of Rutland, and after sundry changes by sale to the present owner. The name Trowbridge has perplexed etymologists. Leland calls the place Thoroughbridge: Camden Trubridge: Gough Trolbridge. The true etymology is *Trolebyrig*, the castle by the Trowle. Beyond the town W. are a hamlet called Trowle and Trowle Common. The bridge over the Biss was called Trowle bridge, and was known as Trowbridge, but the castle existed many centuries before the bridge was built:

The Ch. (St. James) known as "the New Church" till the erection of Holy Trinity Ch. in 1830, is a fine Perp. building, unmixed with any earlier style, of excellent masonry, erected c. 1475 (James Terumber, a rich clothier, being the chief contributor to the fabric); and restored 1848, when the chancel was partially

rebuilt. The tower stands engaged at the W., end and supports a lofty stone spire, and has fine groining within, as have the 2 large porches. The open roof of the nave is one of considerable beauty. The font is lofty, carved with the emblems of the Crucifixion. The whole building deserves Leland's character of "light-some and fair." From the year 1614 to 1832 the Rev. George Crabbe, the poet, was rector here. He lies in the chancel, under a monument by Baily, erected by a parish subscription. Crabbe spent a lusty old age at Trowbridge, and was in the habit of rambling for hours together, hammer in hand, among the quarries near the town. His firmness and mildness gained him the respect and esteem which the character of his preaching had at first denied him:—"A moral teacher," some contemptuous cried, He smiled, but nothing of the fact denied."

Tales of the Hall.

There is a chapel, built 1850, in the hamlet of Studley.

Road Ashton (R. P. Long, Esq.), 2 m. S.E., takes its name from a famous crucifix or "holy rood" that stood here. The village of *Steeple* (or *Church*) *Ashton*, properly "*Staple*," or *Market Ashton*, some 3 m. further, has an interesting *Ch.*, erected between 1480 and 1500: the N. aisle was built at the cost of Robert Long, a clothier, and Edith his wife; the S. aisle at the cost of Walter Lucas, also a clothier, and Maud his wife. The *ch.* is Perp. with lofty clerestory, and the whole of the exterior is of the finest masonry and well finished. The S. porch is large, with a parvis and good groining. The chancel, with its aisles, is also groined, the ribs intricate in pattern, with fine bosses. In the chancel the ribs spring from clustered shafts standing upon the capitals of the pillars of the arcade: in the aisles the ribs rest on niches set upon angel figures. The nave has wood groining, the ribs springing from stone shafts. The

tower is engaged with the aisles, and once had a spire, which fell down in 1670. The arcades are lofty and imposing, the windows large and good, and contain some fragments of coloured glass.

The picturesque ruins of *Farleigh Castle* (see *post*) is about 4 m. W from Trowbridge.

4½ m. S.W., on the confines of Wilts and Somerset, is the village of *Road*, of sad celebrity for the "Constance Kent tragedy." The *ch.* is a fine one; one corner of the battlements of the tower is known as "the King's Chair," from a tradition that on his flight from the field of Worcester Charles II. reconnoitred the country thence.

From Trowbridge a short branch of 3¼ m. runs to Bradford, and thence by the valley of Avon to Bath (*Rte.* 19).

BRADFORD ON AVON (*Inn*: Swan, Pop. 8032), an ancient town of much historical interest, formerly the seat of an important woollen manufacture, Leland (temp. Henry VIII.) describing it as "standing by clooth-making:" but from various causes, partly from the close vicinity of Trowbridge, partly from greater facilities of coal, &c., in the West Riding of Yorkshire and elsewhere, its business declined, failures became frequent, the factories were closed, the population rapidly diminished and distress was universal. Its condition has been for some time improving. The handsome Town Hall (*Fuller Arch.*) was erected in 1855. Bradford is most prettily situated in the hollow and on the steep slopes and terraces of the valley of the Avon, up which the houses straggle in picturesque confusion, and being all built of grey stone, without being blackened by the usual smoke of an overcrowded manufacturing hive, it is not only cleanly and pleasantly habitable, but decidedly picturesque.

Bradford takes its name from "the

broad ford" over the Avon, which was used by all wheel carriages to a comparatively recent date; the bridge having been originally much narrower than now.

The first event in the history of Bradford is the victory gained by Cenwealh, king of Wessex, over the revolted Britons, A.D. 652. "The first conquest which was not one of extermination, but which allowed the vanquished Britain to sit among the fellow subjects of his English conqueror."—(E. A. F.) The next is the foundation of a monastery by Aldhelm, Bp. of Sherborne, c. 705. After this Bradford gradually rose in importance until in 957 the Witanagemote was held here at which Dunstan was appointed Bp. of Worcester. The manor was conferred by Ethelred in 1001 on the abess of Shaftesbury in order that in those unquiet times she and her nuns might have a place of refuge from the insults of the Danes, and a safe hiding place for the relics of St. Edward the Martyr. The increasing wealth and prosperity of the town is indicated by the erection of a large ch., in the 12th cent., which though altered and enlarged remains to the present day. In 1216, Bradford received the dubious honour of a visit from John, within 2 months of the close of his reign. From 1300 to 1500 the town gradually rose in prosperity. The woollen manufacture was established here, and large fortunes were accumulated by the Halls, for several generations the leading family of the place, the Hortons and Lucases. In the 17th cent. Paul Methuen, the leading clothier of his day, raised the character of the manufacture by the introduction of "Spinners" from Holland, from whom the secret of producing the finer kinds of cloth—the staple produce of Bradford up to this time having been merely a coarse kind of druggot—was acquired. The part of the town where these "Spinners" lived, at the W.

end of Church Street, is still known as "Dutch Barton."

The Ch. (Holy Trinity, well restored 1865-6, by the exertions of the Vicar, Rev. W. T. Jones), stands low, and though not highly distinguished for architectural beauty well deserves a visit. It consists of a nave, with N. aisle, chancel, chantry to S.E. of nave, and W. tower with low spire. The S. wall of nave and western portion of the chancel are Norman of the middle of the 12th cent.; one of the original windows is to be seen in the nave and traces of 2 in the chancel. In the Dec. period the chancel was lengthened. The interior is spacious and effective. The arcade is entirely new, the 2 W. arches, the piers of which are wreathed with an inscribed band, were the gift of a lady of the town. The stone pulpit is a memorial of Canon Harvey, a former Vicar. In the N. aisle wall is a richly panelled recess for a crucifix. The Hall chapel or Kingston aisle is at the S.E. of the nave. The roof of the chancel is Jacobean, 1636. The E. window is a very elegant example of the Dec. style. The N. aisle shows marks of having been built at two different dates. The tower, groined within, is of the latter part of the 15th cent. In the chancel are 2 remarkably curious recessed tombs with mutilated anonymous effigies—on the N. side of a female, on the S. of a crossed legged Knight, under canopies. Another female effigy discovered in the N. aisle is placed in the chancel. There is a brass of the 16th cent. to a clothier of the town, Thomas Horton, the builder of the tower, and his wife Mary, and another to Anne Long, 1601. A pretentious marble monument with full-length effigies in the costume of the reign of James II. commemorates "Charles Steward," a son of Dr. Steward, provost of Eton, and successor of Bp. Williams as Dean of Westminster. There are also monu

ments to the Methuens and Threshers. An erection resembling an altar tomb outside the S. door of the chancel is probably a "dole stone," used for the distribution of alms or doles to the poor. William Byrd, Vicar of the parish, was attainted in the reign of Henry VIII. for traitorous words against the king as a heretic. He was chaplain to Lord Hungerford, who fell under the king's displeasure at the same time and for the same act. Unequal justice seems to have been meted out: the patron losing his head, the chaplain only his living. Probably he had no property to forfeit to the king.

Closely adjacent to the ch. on the N. is a very remarkable and interesting building, now used as the free school, "probably the most ancient unaltered ch. in England, showing the singular analogy between the earlier and later imitations of Roman architecture."—(*E. A. F.*) It consists of a chancel, nave and N. porch, and has most of the features of the class of buildings called Anglo-Saxon. There is an incised arcade along the outside walls and on either side of the chancel arch are sculptured figures of angels.

On the summit of *Tory* or *Torr Hill* are the ruins of a Perp. chapel dedicated to the B. V. Mary, just above the "lady well," which supplies the tower with water.

The river Avon is crossed by two *Bridges*. That in the centre of the town is ancient and deserves notice. Aubrey, 200 years ago, described it as "a strong handsome bridge in the midst of which is a chapel for mass." This chapel, though much modernized and degraded to the purpose of a lock-up house, is still to be seen on the central pier on the E. side.

The town abounds in antique looking gable-fronted houses, built and roofed with stone. The most remarkable of these (conspicuous from the railway), known as the

Duke's or *Kingston House*, was built by one of the family of *Hall*, rich clothiers here, probably John Hall, head of the family at the beginning of the 17th cent. It is a noble specimen of the Jacobean style, with an excess of window, arabesque battlements, and classical details, and may have been a work of the same hand as Longleat, of the character of which it partakes. The house takes its modern name from the Pierrepoints Dukes of Kingston to whom it passed by marriage. The notorious Duchess of Kingston, the bigamist, resided here occasionally, and old people still tell traditional tales of her eccentricities. At her death the estates passed to the last Duke's nephew, afterwards Earl Manvers, but the house was sold to Mr. Divett, and by him to its present owner, S. Moulton, Esq., by whom it has been most carefully restored. Some of the mantelpieces, rich with heraldic insignia, and ceilings deserve notice. See Canon Jackson's paper, *Wilts Arch. Mag.* vol. i.)

The archæologist should cross Barton Bridge and visit *Barton farm*, famous for its gigantic barn, of the 14th cent. It has two arched entrances, like transepts and its roof is so framed as to be independent of the walls. Part of the farm-house and a small bridge belong to the same period.

Next to the Halls, the Methuens are the most noteworthy family connected with Bradford. Their ancestor John Methuen, a member of the historic Scotch family of that name, driven from Scotland by religious persecution, found a favourable reception from Q. Elizabeth. His grandson, Anthony, was Prebendary of Wells and Vicar of Frome 1609-40. It was his son Paul who settled at Bradford and raised the character of its manufactures by the introduction of weavers from Holland. He was the father of John, and grandfather of Sir Paul

Methuen, distinguished diplomatists, buried in Westminster Abbey, and ancestor of the present Lord Methuen of Corsham.

Woolley House, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E., was the property of the Baskervilles. *Turley House*, N., was a residence of Edmund Burke. In the neighbourhood of the town are many pleasant valleys, embosomed in lofty hills, especially that of the *Avon*. A short ride by rly. (or the path by the canal) will bring you to *Freshford*, *Limpley Stoke*, or *Claterton*, three of the prettiest spots in the *Avon* valley.

[4 m. N.E. of Bradford is *Monkton Farleigh*, on very high ground above the valley of the *Avon*, commanding a magnificent panoramic prospect. The best points of view are a clump of trees known as *Farleigh Clump*, and the *prospect tower*, erected by Mr. Wade Brown, on the top of the precipitous hill above Bradford. Monkton Farleigh was the seat of a Cluniac priory, founded as a cell of Lewes, 1125. At the dissolution it was granted to Protector Somerset, who in 1550, exchanged it with the Bp. of Salisbury to whom it still belongs. The remains of the priory are of the scantiest. In the out-houses behind the mansion are some lancet windows, and there are several stone effigies including one of a cross-legged knight, one of the Dunstanvilles. The monumental slab of Ilbertus de Chat, discovered in 1744 when the pavement of the chancel was laid bare, is at Lacock Abbey (see *ante*). The *Monks' Conduit*, a small stone roofed building, lies $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of the house. The mansion was once the residence of Lord Webb Seymour. Bp. Jewel died at his manor-house of Monkton Farleigh, where he took to his bed after preaching his last sermon at Lacock. The *Ch.* is modern but retains the old tower and a Norman door. A fine avenue, 1 m. long, leads from the house towards S. Wraxhall. The quarries of Bath-stone are worth a visit. (See *supra*, Box, Rte 1.)]

[*Farleigh Castle*, 3 m. S.W. (*Inn*: Houlton Arms), is one of the most interesting objects to be seen from Bradford. The visitor can either go by road, or take the rly. to *Freshford* Stat., from which the castle is 2 m. It is 4 m. W. of the Trowbridge Stat., and 6 m. N. from Frome. Farleigh Castle is a favourite excursion from Bath, 8 m. by road, or by rly. to Freshford.

The road from Bradford to Farleigh passes through

2 m. S.W., *Westwood*, where the pretty *Ch.* will interest the visitor; also a "considerable mansion of the 15th cent. with richly ornamented ceilings of the time of Elizabeth." (*J. H. P.*)

Farleigh Ch. and part of the village stand on a ridge above the river Frome. The *Castle* is prettily situated to the N. above a deep wooded ravine, called from some ancient tradition, Danes' Ditch. It is a complete ruin, consisting of fragments of the wall, and of 2 towers and a gate-house. The general plan appears to have been an oval double court, with 4 towers at the angles of the inner court. Farleigh was for 300 years the chief mansion in Somersetshire of the Hungerfords, from 1369 to 1689, and had been previously held by the Montforts, by whom it was sold, 1337, to Bartholomew Lord Burghersh, and by his son, 1369, to Sir Thomas Hungerford of Heytesbury. It was converted into a castle in the reigns of Rich. II. and Hen. IV. by Sir Thomas H. and his son Walter, High Treasurer of England in the reign of Hen. VI. Leland asserts that it was built "by the prey of the Duke of Orleans whom Sir Walter had taken prisoner." This must have been Charles D. of Orleans, who was captured at Agincourt 1415. The Hungerfords were great supporters of the Lancasters in the wars of the Roses, "and in that cause liberally lost both their heads and their estates."—*Canon Jackson.*

Farleigh was at one time given to Geo. Duke of Clarence. His daughter Margaret, the last of the Plantagenets, judicially murdered by Hen. VIII., was born at the Castle. She married Sir R. Pole, and had by him 4 sons, the youngest, Reginald, afterwards Cardinal Pole. In the Rebellion it was held for the king, though its owner, Sir Edw., was commander of the Wilts forces for the Parliament, and surrendered 15th Sept. 1645.

Sir Edward Hungerford wasted his fortune in the dissolute court of Charles II., and was obliged to sell Farleigh. It was bought by Mr. Henry Bayntun, of Spye Park, who with his wife, Lady Ann (Wilmot, sister of the Earl of Rochester) seem to have been the last who resided here. The Castle was purchased by the Houltons 1730.

The principal entrance to the Castle was to the S.E., where the ivy-clad shell of the gate-house remains. Over the arch of entrance is the sickle of the Hungerfords, and higher still a shield of their arms, with the initials E. H. From the entrance a narrow moat, dammed up at either end, went half-way round; the castle being elsewhere protected by the steepness of the ground. On passing through the gate-house the visitor enters the *upper court*, containing the guard-rooms, stables, &c., and has before him, rt., the *chapel* and the 2 remaining of the 4 towers of the *lower or inner court*, where the habitable part of the castle was situated. The principal front faced E., rising directly from the edge of the knoll. In one of these rooms the head of the family, *temp.* Henry VIII. (Sir Walter, afterwards Lord Hungerford), imprisoned the last of his 3 wives for 4 years. A letter of the unfortunate prisoner is extant and was published in Mrs. Green's 'Collection of Letters of Royal and Illustrious Ladies.' She writes, "here I have byn these 3 or 4 years past

without comfort of any creature, and under the custodie of my Lord's Chaplain, which hath once or twice poisoned me. He hath promised my Lord that he would 'soon rid him of me,' and I am sure he intendeth to keep his promise; for I have none other meat nor drink but such as cometh from the said priest and brought me by my Lord's foole. So that I have been well nigh starved, and sometimes of a truth should die for lacke of sustenance had not poore women of the country, knowing my Lord's demayne always to his wives, brought me to my great window, in the night, such meat and drink as they had, and gave me for the love of God; for money have I none wherewith to pay them, nor yet have had of my Lord, these 4 years, save four groats." This ill-conditioned husband was beheaded for alleged treason 1540, and his lady found a second, and let us hope, a more amiable husband in Sir R. Throckmorton. She d. 1571.

The *Chapel*, within the inner court, originally the Parish Ch., 56 ft. by 19 ft., has been preserved. The windows are Perp., but the walls may be older. In Grose's time it was half roofless, but was repaired 1779 and again 1806. The dripstone of the W. door seems E. Eng. The roof of the porch is good; upon its wooden bosses are the family coat and badge of 3 sickles interlaced. The altar-slab is a handsome block of Pudding-stone. A quantity of armour, together with a miscellaneous assortment of curiosities—jack-boots, stirrups, spurs, old keys, antique chairs, &c.—has found a resting place here. A letter of Oliver Cromwell's, which used to hang in a frame on the wall, was stolen in 1798. There is a northern addition, probably erected by the builder of the Castle, Sir T. Hungerford, the wall of which has been painted with the coat-armour of the alliances of the Hungerfords. The monuments are

many and curious. (1) Beneath the arch opening into the side chapel are effigies of Sir Thomas Hungerford, the purchaser, d. 1398, and his wife Joan, d. 1412, on an altar tomb. (2) In the centre of the outer chapel, to the W., an incised slab to a Chantry priest. (3) In the S.E. corner of the same chapel, an altar tomb to Sir Walter Hungerford, d. 1596, and his son Edward. The inscription is curiously cut, and, on the further side, must be read backwards. (4) An altar tomb in N.E. corner of side chapel to Sir Edward Hungerford, d. 1607, and Jane his first wife. (5) In N.W. corner an altar tomb, standing N. and S., to Mrs. Mary Shaa, sister to Sir Edward Hungerford, d. 1613, with kneeling effigies. (6) In centre, effigies of Sir Edward Hungerford, died 1948, commander of the Wilts forces under the Commonwealth and the besieger of Wardour Castle, and Margaret his wife, d. 1672. Beneath the chapel is the *vault* where six corpses repose sheathed in coffins of lead. The hearts of some of the family were formerly preserved here in glazed jars covered with white leather. At the E. end of the chapel a house for the Chantry priest, built by Walter Lord Hungerford, 1430, still remains.

The *Parish Ch.* (St. Leonard's) was built by Walter Lord Hungerford, and consecrated on the day of its patron saint, Nov. 6, 1443. It is a plain Perp. edifice with a tower at W. end terminated with a short spire. Over the S. door is a stone, probably brought from the older ch., bearing the inscription,

Muniat hoc templum cruce glorificans microcosmum,
Quæ genuit Christum miseris prece fiat
asylum;

which has been thus rendered,

May He whose Cross for man has glory won,
Far from this church all harm remove!
And may Her prayers who calls that
Saviour Son
A refuge to the wretched prove.

The walls of the chancel are covered with coats of arms, and the windows contain some remains of stained glass.

The present *Farleigh House* is the steward's house refronted and modernized.]

(A 'Guide to Farleigh Hungerford' has been published by Canon Jackson, and may be had at the Inn.)

[2 m. from Farleigh, 1 m. from Freshford Station, by a pretty footpath, are the ruins of the Carthusian Priory of *Hinton Charterhouse*, founded 1232 by Ela, Countess of Salisbury, in pursuance of the will of her deceased husband, William Longespée.

The remains consist chiefly of 2 detached buildings, originally connected by a cloister. One of these, now used as a store-shed, with groined roof, pointed doorway, and lancet windows, is supposed to have been the chapterhouse. The other, which is beautifully covered with ivy, contains the refectory and dormitory, and a third room with large stone fireplace flanked by Norman columns. Around are numerous old elms, and under the adjoining road an archway, from which there is a pretty path to Freshford. Among the monks of Hinton was Nicholas Hopkins, "through whose false-forged prophecies," says Bowles, "the weak but magnificent Duke of Buckingham, the last of the great house of Stafford, was fatally betrayed in 1521. He had been some time the duke's confessor."

Hinton House (E. T. O. Foxcroft, Esq.), was a manor house of the Hungerfords built out of the ruins of the abbey.]

Returning to the rly: From Trowbridge we continue by the Valley up the Biss with the grounds of Rood Ashton and Heywood House to the l., and passing *North Bradley*, rt., reach

109½ WESTBURY Stat. (*Inns*: Lopes Arms, White Lion, Crown. Pop. 5751) where a line branches on the l. to Salisbury and Southampton. An ancient town, straggling and ill-built, once busy in the cloth manufacture, which is now giving place to that of iron, a fine vein having been discovered at *Ham*, close to the station, where several large blast-furnaces have been set up. It is situated on the small stream of the Bisse at the foot of the chalk hills, of which *Westbury Down* rises to the height of 775 ft. above the sea. It was early incorporated, and returned 2 M.P.s before the first Reform Act: now one. In 1766 it was represented by Sir William Blackstone, the lawyer. *Bryan Edwards*, the historian of the West Indies, was born in the vicinity of Westbury, at *Charlcott*, formerly the manor-house of the Mauduits, and purchased by his father. Westbury belonged to the family of Pavely, from whom it passed by marriage, 1361, to the St. Loes, and then to the Chedyoks. The borough subsequently belonged to the Earl of Abingdon, who sold it, 1810, to Sir Massey Manasseh Lopes for 6500l. Beyond the *Ch.* it contains little to interest the traveller, but it is within reach of *Longleat*, of the camps of *Scratchbury* and *Battlesbury* above Warminster, of the camp and White Horse at *Bratton*, and of the church of *Edington*.

The *Church* (All Saints) is a fine building standing among large chestnuts, originally Norman but Perpendicularized something after Wykeham's fashion at Winchester. It is cruciform with a central tower, which, like that of Bath Abbey, is not square. The masonry throughout is excellent. At the W. door is a groined porch. The nave is very stately, the aisles narrow, crossed with transverse stone arches with interpenetrating mouldings; the chancel is low. The E. and W. windows are each of 7 lights, and are

filled with rich modern stained glass. A groined chapel stands to W. of the N. transept. In the S. transept is a Corinthian monument with effigies of Sir James Ley, Earl of Marlborough, and his wife—

"That good Earl, once President
Of England's Council and her Treasury."
Milton's Sonnets.

Born at Teffont, his father having served Henry VIII. at the siege of Boulogne with his own men, he became successively Lord Chief Justice, Lord Treasurer, and President of the Council in 1629, and was created Baron Ley, of Ley in Devon, by James I., and Earl of Marlborough by Charles I. To the S. of the chancel is the Willoughby de Broke chapel, temp. Henry VI., to the N. that of the Mauduits. Westbury was chosen for a title by Sir Richard Bethell, Lord High Chancellor (of a Bradford-on-Avon family) when raised to the peerage, 1861.

At *Westbury Leigh*, a moated site, called the *Palace Garden*, is pointed out by tradition as the residence of one of our Anglo-Saxon kings; and in a field, known as the *Ham*, in the vicinity of the railway stat., many remains of Roman pottery and coins have been discovered. *Brook*, 2 m. N.W., was the seat of the Pavelys, lords of Westbury at a later period. It derived its name from a small stream which runs past it towards the Avon; and "in its turn," says Camden, "Brook gave the title of Baron to Robert Willoughby, who, on account of his descent from the Pavelys by the family of Cheney, was advanced to it by King Henry VII., with whom he was a special favourite." To this may be added that it also gave title to the Earls of Brooke and Warwick, by descent through Elizabeth, eldest daughter and coheir of Lord Willoughby de Broke the 2nd baron, and wife of Sir Fulke Greville.

[*Bratton Castle*, about 3 m. E., crowns a promontory of the chalk down, cut off from the main chain by a rampart and ditch. It is an irregularly shaped camp of 23 acres, formed in part by a double rampart, in some places 36 ft. high. Camden, Gibson, Gough, and Hoare consider Bratton camp to have been the entrenchment to which Guthrun the Dane retired after his decisive defeat by Alfred in the *battle of Ethandune*, which they identify with the village of *Edington*, 1 m. W.; and there is a tradition that the Danes were posted in the little valley, thence called *Dane Leys*, situated under the hill. Milner, however, has laid the scene of this fight at Heddington, near Calne; and Whitaker, on Yatton, or Eaton Down, 4 m. N.W. of Chippenham (see *ante*, Rte. 1). *Edington*, however, is the more probable site. This victory secured to Alfred, who had been previously a fugitive in the Isle of Athelney, a firm seat upon the throne. He had compelled the Danes to surrender at discretion, but he treated them in a wise and generous spirit, and not only granted them their lives, but allowed them, on condition of embracing Christianity, to retire into East Anglia and Northumberland, and to settle in those districts which their own ravages had depopulated. Below the camp, on the S. slope of the hill, is the figure of a colossal *White Horse*, formed by removing the turf—originally a very rude design, and long believed by enthusiastic antiquaries to be a record of Alfred's victory, but probably modern and certainly restored in 1778. Its dimensions are 175 ft. from head to tail, 107 ft. high at shoulder, the eye is 25 ft. in circumference. The white horse was the Saxon standard, and was borne on the coat armour of our Hanoverian kings.

Bratton Church, sheltering close

under the slope of the down, is Perp., with an E. E. chancel.

Edington, 3½ m. from Westbury Station, 1½ m. from Bratton Castle, should be visited by every archaeologist for the sake of the beautiful *Ch.* erected by Bishop Edington, a native of the place, the predecessor of William of Wykeham in the see of Winchester, and the originator of the great work of the restoration of the cathedral completed by him. It is a most valuable example of the transition from the Decorative to the Perpendicular style. The first stone was laid in 1352 and it was dedicated in 1361. In 1347, Bp. Edington founded a college here for a dean and 12 prebendaries, which, at the request of the Black Prince, was converted into a monastery of the order of Bonhommes, of which this priory and that of Ashridge in Bucks were the only seats in England.

The *Ch.*, surrounded by a rich fringe of gigantic elms and walnuts, challenges attention by its almost cathedral proportions and rich outline. It is cruciform with a central tower on 4 noble arches with the Paveley cross flory in the belfry window, and a lofty S. porch well groined with a parvise over. The nave is 75 ft. long, and has 6 lofty arches. The windows deserve special notice as the forerunners of Perpendicular tracery. The W. front is singularly noble; in the window the Perp. style is fully established. In the S. transept is an anonymous effigy of an ecclesiastic under a richly coloured canopy, supposed from the rebus to be that of John Baynton; and in the chancel are canopies of rich work between the windows, two of which contain their original statues though headless. There is a monument to Sir Edward Lewys, gentleman of the Privy Chamber to Charles I., and his lady Anne, daughter of the Earl of Dorset and widow of Lord Beauchamp, singularly rich and well carved, with a fine alabaster effigy,

1630. The Cheney monument on the S. of the nave, an altar tomb under a canopy bearing the Pavely and Cheney arms, forms a small Chantry chapel. The monument to Sir Simon Taylor is by Chantrey. The roofs are plastered in imitation of Gothic work, the date 1658 is in that of the N. aisle. The consecration crosses are to be seen in the N. aisle, and the E. wall both inside and outside. The College buildings stood to the N. of the ch., as is shown by the height of the sills of the windows from the ground. To the N.W. of the ch. is a very picturesque embattled house, with irregular projections. The buttressed wall of the orchard deserves notice, and the site of the monastic fish-ponds. A yew-tree, 21 ft. in girth, stands to the E. of the ch.

At the time of the Dissolution the priory was granted to Lord Seymour of Sudeley, the Protector's brother. On his fall it was re-granted to Earl Poulett, first Marquis of Winchester, then Lord Treasurer, from whom it passed to the Dukes of Bolton. It is now the property of S. Watson Taylor, Esq. In Jack Cade's rebellion, 1449, Ayscough Bishop of Salisbury was murdered by a body of Wiltshire peasantry, who dragged him from the altar of this church, and stoned him to death on the neighbouring hill, on the plea that he was always absent with the king, Henry VI., as his confessor, and kept no hospitality in his diocese. His head was struck off and his blood-stained vestments divided among his murderers.

The *Manor House*, near Westbury, is a seat of Sir Massey Lopes, Bart.

About 7 m. E. is the park of *Earl Stoke* or *Stoke Comitis*, so called from having belonged to Edward d'Evreux, Earl of Sarum, temp. William I. The house was built, 1788, by its then owner, Joshua Smith, M.P. for Devizes. It is now the property of Simon Watson Taylor, Esq. The

situation and grounds are very beautiful. 2 m. N., *Heywood House*, H. G. Ludlow, Esq., built in the reign of James I. by Lord Ley, afterwards Earl of Marlborough, and rebuilt by its present owner. *Leighton* and *Chalcot*, the residences of J. L. Phipps, Esq., and his brother, C. P. Phipps, Esq., M.P., are in this neighbourhood; and 6 m. S., the splendid park and mansion of Longleat (Marquis of Bath) (Rte. 10) shown on Wednesdays and Fridays.

At Westbury the rly. bends westward, and at 112 m. passes rt. Standerwick Court, and 2 m. N.W., Beckington, at 115 $\frac{1}{2}$ m., Berkeley, and reaches, 115 $\frac{1}{2}$ m., Frome Station (Rte. 21).

ROUTE 4.

HUNGERFORD TO BATH. [LITTLE-COTE, RAMSBURY] BY GREAT BEDWYN, SAVERNAKE [MARLBOROUGH, AVEBURY, SILBURY HILL], PEWSEY [VALLEY OF THE AVON TO AMESBURY], DEVIZES, BRADFORD, FRESHFORD, VALLEY OF CLAVERTON.

(*Great Western Railway*.)

61 $\frac{1}{2}$ *Hungerford Stat.* Inns: Bear; Bell; Three Swans. (Hdbk. for Berks), thence excursions may be made to Littlecote, 4 m., *Savernake Forest* and *Tottenham House*.

S. of Hungerford, at the junction of the 3 counties of Wilts, Hants, and Berks, rises *Inkpen Beacon*, the loftiest chalk down in England, 1011 ft. above the sea, commanding a wide and beautiful prospect. To the N.W. it overlooks Savernake

Forest, to the S.E. the woods of Highclere (Ld. Carnarvon). (*Hdbk. for Hunts*). The village of *Scallow field* stands in the 3 counties.

4 m. from Hungerford is *Littlecote*, "renowned not more on account of the venerable architecture and furniture, than on account of a horrible and mysterious crime perpetrated there in the days of the Tudors"—*Macaulay*—the seat of the Pophams (shown when the family is away), situated in its well-wooded park in the valley of the Kennet. It is a remarkable specimen of an almost unaltered mansion of the 16th century, built by the Darells, and sold by the last of that family to Judge Popham in the reign of Elizabeth. The great hall is hung with armour, cross-bows, &c., and the buff jerkins and steel caps of Cromwell's Ironsides; the gallery, which is upwards of 100 ft. long, with family portraits, including those of Judge Popham and Nell Gwynn. In one room the visitor is shown the chair of Judge Popham, and the finger-stocks, a curious instrument of torture for punishing servants, and in another a piece of needlework representing a Roman pavement found in the park. Attached to this old house is the story told in a note to Scott's 'Rokeby.' A midwife was fetched out of Berkshire, at dead of night, to deliver a woman, with a promise of high pay, but on condition that she should be blindfolded. After a rough ride on horseback behind the messenger, she arrived at a house, and was conducted up-stairs, where she performed her duties to the lady; but no sooner were these ended than a man of ferocious aspect, seizing the new-born infant, threw it on the back of the fire that was blazing on the hearth, and destroyed it. The woman returned to her home, and long brooded in secret over her singular adventure; but the crime to which she had been privy at length produced its fruit. Her mind grew ill at

ease; so, disregarding the bribe which she had received, she went to a magistrate, and confessed to him all that she knew. She had reasons for believing that she could identify the house. On ascending the stairs she had counted the number of steps, and from the bedside she had brought away a piece of the curtain.

This story has been also preserved, with some slight variations, by Aubrey and others, and the tradition of the neighbourhood has for 200 years invariably connected it with Littlecote House, and William Darell, commonly called "Wild Darell," then its proprietor. It has also been currently handed down that Darell was tried for his life, escaped by bribing the officers of the law, and especially Sir John Popham, by the gift to him of the estate; that afterwards, by a judgment of Heaven, he broke his neck over a stile out hunting, which stile still bears his name, and that the spectre of the wild huntsman and his hounds has occasionally terrified the natives.

An attempt was made a few years ago to disprove the whole story from beginning to end as connected with Littlecote, chiefly on the grounds that, after every inquiry possible, no record of any *trial* could be found; that from various existing state papers Darell appeared to have held his position as a gentleman and magistrate, was a correspondent with Secretaries of State, &c., without any apparent blot upon his character; that Sir John Popham was not made a Judge at all until 3 years after Darell's death, which took place quietly in his own bed at Littlecote, in 1589, and that legends of a similar kind could be produced, connected with other old houses both in this and other countries. But, on the other hand, the inquiry brought to light some evidence of a very remarkable kind, which makes it no longer doubtful that the original story is, in the main facts, correct.

This was no less than the actual statement in writing by the magistrate, Mr. Bridges, of Great Shefford, in Berks (about 7 miles off), who took down the deposition of the midwife on her death-bed. Her name was Mrs. Barnes, of Shefford. She does not say that she was blindfolded, but that, having been deceived by a fictitious message pretending to come from Lady Knyvett, of Charlton House, she found herself, after being on horseback several hours in the night, at another house, and the lady she had to attend to was masked. She does not say what house this was, and seems not to have known. Her deposition gives the fullest particulars of the atrocity committed, but still fails to identify Littlecote as the house, and Will. Darell as the gentleman. The case seemed therefore likely to continue one not proven, but only of very strong suspicion. The subsequent discovery, however, at Longleat, by the Rev. Canon Jackson, of Leigh Delamere, of another original document, has set the matter at rest. Sir John Thynne, of Longleat, had in his establishment a Mr. Bonham, whose sister was the mistress of W. Darell, and living at Littlecote. The letter is from Sir H. Knyvett, of Charlton, to Sir John Thynne, desiring "that Mr. Bonham will inquire of his sister touching her usage at Will. Darell's, the birth of her children, how many there were, and what became of them: for that the report of the murder of one of them was increasing foully, and would touch Will. Darell to the quick." This letter is dated 2nd January, 1578, and may be considered conclusive. How he escaped does not appear; but it is quite certain that in 1586 he sold the reversion of his Littlecote estate to Sir John Popham; that upon Darell's death, in 1589, Sir John took possession of it, and was made a judge in 1592. Further, that Darell was certainly a spendthrift, and in various serious

difficulties from time to time; and that in 1583 he made a very suspicious offer of a bribe of 5000*l.* to Lord Chancellor Bromley, to be "his good friend." All this history, and the curious evidence, may be found by referring to the 8th vol. of the *Wilts Archæological Magazine*.

Wm. III., on his progress from Salisbury to London, after the conference with James's commissioners at Hungerford, Dec. 8, 1688, retired to Littlecote, where the following day, Sunday, Dec. 9, the Commissioners dined. "A splendid assemblage had been invited to meet them. The old hall was crowded with peers and generals. Halifax seized the opportunity, with his dexterous diplomacy, of extracting from Burnet all that he knew and thought. 'Do you wish to get the king into your power?' said Halifax. 'Not at all,' was Burnet's reply, 'we would not do the least harm to his person.' 'And if he was to go away?' 'There is nothing so much to be wished.'"—*Macaulay*.

Adjoining Littlecot, in the parish of Chilton Foliot, is *Chilton House* (the residence of W. D. Honeywood, Esq.), and the quiet town of

Ramsbury, which was a seat of the bishops of Wiltshire for more than 100 years, from Bp. Ethelstan, 909 A.D., when the see of Ramsbury was separated from that of Winchester, to Bp. Herman, by whom they were reunited 1058 A.D., and the see transferred to Old Sarum 1075.

The *Church* is large, having a nave and aisles of great width and a long chancel, but of no great beauty, the arcades irregular and inelegant. The tower is low and heavy, with unusually large buttresses. The roof of the nave is a good piece of oak-work. It contains a fine canopied tomb, and an episcopal gravestone robbed of its brass, stately monumental effigies of the Joneses, from the Attorney-General of Charles II.'s

time, who purchased the estate, to the last male possessor. North of the chancel, blocked from the ch., is the rich but neglected "Darrel's Aisle," with a mutilated altar-tomb in the centre. *Ramsbury Manor* belongs to Sir Robert Burdett, Bart., and here the celebrated Sir Francis Burdett lies buried. The manor passed by marriage to the Burdetts from the Jones's. The house was designed by Webb, the son-in-law of Inigo Jones. It contains oak-panelled rooms, decorated with carvings of the school of Gibbons, family portraits, and a good full-length of Charles II. The park is a fine one, and the river Kennet flows through it in a broad sheet, in which *Tom D'Urfey* was invited every year to fish. This celebrated wit and "delight of companies," from the reign of Charles II. to that of George I., is said to have "angled for a trout the best of any man in England." *Aldbourn*, N.E. of Ramsbury, gave name to a chase, a favourite hunting-ground of King John, and in 1643 the scene of the defeat of the Earl of Essex by the King and Prince Rupert, who drove the Parliamentary general as far as Hungerford.

Aldbourn Church is a fine building with transeptal chapels, nearly wholly Perp., with a grand and beautiful tower, and Norm. S. doorway, and Trans. Norm. arcade with pointed arches, one E.E. lancet in the chancel, but all the other windows are Perp.

At *Froxfield*, rt., is the *Somerset Hospital*, founded in 1686 by Sarah Duchess of Somerset, affording an asylum, with an allowance of 36*l.* per ann. to 50 widows of clergymen and laymen.

65 m. *Little Bedwyn*. The chapel of St. Michael deserves a visit. The nave is trans. Norm., with round arches on N., and pointed on S., the rest, Perp., with a beautiful roof to W. aisle. The tower and spire are admirably proportioned.

1 m. N. the encampment of *Chisbury*, of 15 acres, and one of the finest specimens of British cratrematation in the county. It is situated on the Wansdyke, and girt by a rampart 45 ft. in height. Within the enclosure is a chapel of the decorated style, now used as a barn.

66½ *Great Bedwyn Stat.*

Great Bedwyn, now, as in the time of Leland, "but a poore thing to syght," but under Saxon rule an important place, the residence of Cissa, ealdorman of Berks and Wiltshire. In 675 it was the scene of an engagement between the kings of Wessex and Mercia in which the latter was defeated. *Bedwyn* was a Parliamentary borough, returning 2 members till the first Reform Act. Among its representatives were Selden, the antiquary, and Sir Vicary Gibbs. It is still a market town.

The flint-built *Ch.*, restored 1854, is very interesting. It is cruciform, with a low central tower; the chancel E.E.; the transepts Dec. with rich flamboyant windows, built by Sir Adam de Stokke, d. 1312, who lies in the S. transept in an arched recess containing a cross-legged effigy in chain mail. Another recess contains a Purbeck slab, with an incised cross to Sir Roger de Stokke. The nave arcade is Trans. Norman, with curiously carved capitals, all different. The interior of the chancel is very imposing. There are fine Dec. piscinas there and in the Transept. The encaustic tiles deserve examination. In the chancel is a fine altar-tomb, with an effigy in full armour, to Sir John Seymour of Wolf Hall [father of Queen Jane Seymour and the Lord Protector Somerset], brought hither in 1590, from Easton Priory, by his grandson Edward, Earl of Hertford. There is also a monument to Frances, daughter of Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, and widow of William, 2nd Duke of Somerset; and a brass memorial to

John Seymour, eldest son of Sir John. Great Bedwyn was the birthplace of *Thomas Willis*, 1621, the anatomist and founder of a philosophical society at Oxford, from which arose the Royal Society of London. He was buried in Westminster Abbey. About 1 m. S. of this village is the height of *Castle Hill*, so called from an entrenchment, in which have been found large quantities of tesserae, bricks, and other evidences of Roman habitation.

68 m. 1 m. l. is *East Grafton*, where, in 1844, a Norman church was built by Mr. Ferrey, chiefly at the expense of the Marquis of Ailesbury. The painted glass in the chancel is by Willement. In 1856 a window was added by the parishioners as a memorial of the late Marquis.

69 m. Close to the rly. on l. are the small remains of *Wulfall*, the *Ulfela* of *Doomsday*, commonly but wrongly changed into *Wolfhall*, which belonged in early times to the *Esturmys*, wardens of *Savernake Forest*, whose heiress *Maud* brought it to the *Seymours*, temp. *Hen. VI.* Sir John Seymour, father of *Lady Jane Seymour*, queen of *Henry VIII.* and mother of *Edward VI.*, lived here. The old house was partly destroyed circa 1662, and its materials used in building the first *Tottenham House*, and nothing now remains but the "Laundry," a picturesque building at the foot of the hill; but adjoining the farmhouse is an ancient barn, which traditionally was the scene of a bridal feast on the king's marriage with *Jane Seymour* on the day after the execution of the unfortunate *Anne Boleyn*. In proceeding from *Wulfall* to *Tottenham* the traveller obtains a good view of the steep side of *Martensell Hill*, nearly 1000 ft. high.

1 m. S.W. is *Burbage*, a picturesque straggling village. The church, rebuilt 1854 excepting the tower, contains a memorial window to *Bp. Denison*, and another to 4 soldiers, natives of this parish, who fell in the

Crimea. Enormous sycamores shelter the church on the S.W.

70 m. *Savernake Station* (branch line rt. to *Marlborough*), where is a neat little hotel built by the Marquis of *Ailesbury*.

Savernake Forest and *Tottenham Park*, the domain of the Marquis of *Ailesbury*, occupy a district 16 m. in circumf. E. of *Marlborough*. No traveller should neglect an opportunity of visiting this sylvan tract, which still displays a magnificence of forest scenery peculiarly interesting to the artist, who, among its majestic oaks and graceful beech, may realise the paintings of a *Gainsborough* or *Hobbema*. It is said to be the only forest in this country in the possession of a subject. It formed part of the jointure of *Queen Eleanor*, and was in after times granted to the family of *Seymour*, *Dukes of Somerset*, from whom, in 1676, it passed by marriage to the *Bruces*. The objects of chief interest are the *King Oak*, or the *Duke's Vault*, an oak of wonderful antiquity, so called from having been a favourite of *Protector Somerset*; the *Creeping Oak*, behind the keeper's lodge, with a huge limb stretched along the ground; the *avenue of beech*, which is 4 m. long, and probably the finest in the kingdom; in the spring the gorgeous banks of *rhododendron* and *azalea*; and *Savernake Forest House*, formerly called *Tottenham House*, which is accessible to the stranger during the absence of the family.

A delightful walk, of some 5 or 6 miles, may be enjoyed from the *Savernake station* through the *Park* to *Marlborough*. On entering the *Park gates* go straight on towards the great avenue, gaining in passing on the right a view of *Tottenham House*, and on the left a view of the *Ailesbury Column*; cross the avenue and bear off across the turf a little to the right to the very beautiful new church of *St. Catherine* recently erected in the *Park*. The spire will

serve as a sufficient guide till the church itself comes into view. Return to the avenue, and continue down it till you reach the open space opposite the ruins of Savernake Lodge, walk down the open grassy glade to the left as far as you feel inclined, for the sake of seeing several fine oaks which grow here. By keeping parallel to the avenue the *King Oak* may be reached without returning to it, but if there is thought to be any risk of losing the way, come back to the avenue and follow it on a little further to the *Eight Walks*, then take the Green Drive to the left which is nearest to the main avenue, and after examining the glades about the *King Oak*, make your way out of the Park by the gate at the end of the main avenue, and go down the hill to Marlborough.

Savernake may also be conveniently visited from Marlborough. It is 2 m. from Marlborough to the entrance of the forest; 3 to the *Eight Walks*, from which the *King Oak* is distant $\frac{1}{2}$ m.; and 6 to Savernake Forest House. The traveller will proceed by the Hungerford road, and in 1 m. will be climbing *Forest Hill*, with Marlborough and the vale of the Kennet before him; and to the l. on Folly Farm, the site of the Roman station of *Cunetio*. After a steep ascent he will enter the forest, and turn rt. to the great avenue, which runs in a straight line by the *Eight Walks* to the House. He will be much impressed by the magnificence of this splendid road. It is of considerable width, and bordered by the beech in thick-set ranks, their towering trunks and interlacing limbs forming a vista of singular grandeur and beauty. In about a mile its continuity is interrupted by an open space; and here, from the centre of a clump of firs, the *Eight Walks* diverge to as many points of the compass, 5 leading over grass to distant forest glades, 1 S.E. to the ruins of Savernake Lodge (the house

burned down a few years since), and 2 formed by the avenue, whose course is N. and S. The walk, running S.W., will lead you to the *King Oak*, a huge old tree, 24 ft. in circumference, but fast hastening to its ruin. Of the 4 kingly limbs which it stretched aloft some time back only one remains, and that in a state of decay. Around are grouped many other noble old trees, a stalwart band, arrayed like the monarch in the elegant drapery of moss and fern. The spot is most secluded and beautiful, and so suggestive of enjoyment, that the wanderer may feel the propriety of a halt for, perchance, a quiet meal; and this he may enjoy though envious showers should threaten; for close to the *King* stands the *Round House*, a spacious shed, which the visitor will find a welcome shelter when the trees are swinging in the wind. He can regain the avenue by another path, and proceed down its long-drawn aisle to *Tottenham House*. This is a large plain building, originally designed as a hunting-seat, and erected on the site of a palace of the Seymours, injured in the great rebellion. The view from the interior extends over a wide and noble domain. It was begun in 1781 by Thos. Bruce, first Earl of Ailesbury, and completed by the present Marquis. The N. front commands the *Ailesbury Column*, through a long perspective formed by detached masses of elm and beech; the S. front a vista cut through woods over a double line of hills, the farthest of which must be 4 m. distant. The column crowns a lofty height. It was erected in 1781 by Thos. Bruce, first Earl, in token of loyalty to Geo. III., and commemorates the recovery of Geo. III. and various other circumstances. Among the pictures at Tottenham are the Marriage Feast at Cana by *Murillo*, Samson and Delilah by *Vandyck*, a landscape by *Gaspar Poussin*, an old copy of *Raphael's School of Athens*, and portraits of Lady Jane Seymour, Chris-

tian Bruce, Countess of Devonshire (*Vandyck*), the Earl of Elgin (*Corn. Jansen*), and the first Earl of Ailesbury (*Sir P. Lely*). In the library is preserved an ivory horn, silver-mounted and very curiously ornamented with subjects of the chase. It belongs to the hereditary keeper of the forest, and has been handed down for many generations through the Seymours.

The Marlborough troop of yeomanry, originally raised in 1794 by the Marquis of Ailesbury, was nicknamed "The Potato Choppers," from the custom of training the cavalry to the use of the broadsword, by putting potatoes on sticks in one of the rides of Savernake Forest, to be cut off as they rode by at full gallop.

A pretty new *Ch.*, called Christ Church, with parsonage-house and school, have been recently built in the forest by the Marquis of Ailesbury; and still more recently, another very beautiful and richly ornamented *ch.*, St. Catherine's, from T. H. Wyatt's designs, by the Marchioness, in memory of her mother the Countess of Pembroke, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the house.

[$\frac{1}{2}$ m. MARLBOROUGH (*Inns*: Ailesbury Arms, Castle and Ball, Angel; Pop. of the 2 parishes, including Preshute, 5135. The *stat.* is on the downs, outside the town; the line runs mainly in a cutting), a quaint old-fashioned town, pleasantly situated in a valley of the chalk range, on the River Kennet and the old great Bath Road. It is an agricultural centre, famous for its market. The trades carried on are brewing, malting, rope and sack-making, tanning, and wool-stapling. Its prosperity suffered considerably at first by the diversion of traffic caused by the opening of the Great Western Rly., before which 42 public conveyances passed through it daily; but it has revived

again, and the opening of the branch line has once more brought it within the reach of the fertilising current which used to flow through its now quiet streets; while the establishment of the college, which has long ranked among our very first public schools, has materially added to the well-being of the place. The town consists principally of one fine wide street of large and well-built houses, chiefly built after the disastrous fire of 1653 which nearly destroyed the whole town, greatly injuring both St. Mary's and St. Peter's *Chs.*, and unhousing 300 families. It again suffered from fire in 1679 and 1690, after which an Act was obtained making it an indictable offence to have a house covered with thatch in the town. Evelyn visited Marlborough the year after the fire, and remarked that "having been lately fired it was new built." In 1668 Pepys visited it, and found it "a pretty fair town for a street or two. On one side the pent houses supported with pillars, which make a fair work." The colonnade mentioned by Pepys extends along the N. side of the street, and gives a character to the town. At the W. end stand St. Peter's *Ch.* and Marlborough College; at the E. St. Mary's *Ch.* and the Town Hall, rebuilt after the fire of 1653, and again rebuilt in 1793. On the N. side of the street are several old houses that escaped the fire, with picturesque gables, carved timbers, and scaly coats of tile.

The antiquity of Marlborough is fully proved by the "Castle Mound," which though inferior in size to its colossal neighbour, Silbury Hill, is so similar to it as to be probably a work of the same date. At Mildenhall, and the adjoining hill of Folly Farm, was the Roman military station *Cunetio*, where were dug up the "Marlborough Bucket," preserved in the Stourhead Museum, and the "Rudge Cup," figured in Gough's

Camden. The Conqueror had a stronghold here, in which he imprisoned several Saxon ecclesiastics, and established a mint. Henry I. kept his Easter here in 1110. The castle was built in this reign by the warlike bishop Roger of Salisbury, the great castle and church builder of his day. It was held for the Empress Maud by her half-brother Robert Earl of Gloucester, and his castellan John Fitz-Gilbert, called by William of Malmesbury "a very firebrand of wickedness." Hen. II. granted the castle to his son John Lackland, who was married here to Isabella the heiress of the Earl of Gloucester, in 1189. This monarch appears to have been much attached to Marlborough, frequently sojourning here, and making it a repository for his treasures. At the close of his luckless reign it was surrendered by its warden, Hugh de Neville, to Louis of France, but soon opened its gates to the friends of Hen. III. This sovereign was often at Marlborough, probably led thither by the ample opportunities for hunting afforded by the royal forests of Savernake and Aldbourn Chase. For this monarch's accommodation considerable additions were made to the castle, with the view of improving its comfort as a residence. A kitchen was built for the king's special use; the queen's room was to have a chimney; new rooms were built for the priest behind the chapel, which received the addition of a bell-tower. A Florentine architect was employed, and 100*l.* borrowed from the Bishop of Salisbury to pay him. In 1245 all the poor clerks of Oxford were feasted here on the occasion of the funeral of the king's mother. In 1267 Henry's last Parliament was held here, and passed "the Statute of Marlborough," confirming some of the chief demands of Simon de Montfort. On Henry's death it formed part of the dowry of his widow Eleanor, on whose de-

[*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*]

cease it was granted by Edward I. to his queen. Edward II. granted it to his favourite Hugh le Despencer in 1308. On his fall Queen Isabella obtained it. In the next reign it was held for the king's sister Joanna of Scotland, by a succession of wardens. Richard II. granted it to Sir Wm. Scrope, on whose execution in 1399 it reverted to the crown. From this point the history of the castle becomes obscure, but in the reign of Henry VI. it was held by "the good Duke Humphrey" of Gloucester. When and why the castle was dismantled there is no record; but it was still used as an occasional residence by the Seymours, into whose hands it had passed by a grant from the crown to the Duke of Somerset, temp. Edward VI., from which family it was purchased 1779 by the Marquis of Ailesbury.

Marlborough had its full share in the disasters of the Great Rebellion. Clarendon speaks of it as "the most notoriously disaffected of Wiltshire," and it was stormed and partly burnt by the Royalists under Wilmot, Dec. 5, 1642, of which the shot-battered tower of St. Mary's is standing evidence, when John Franklyn, the popular member, and several of the chief townsmen were sent prisoners to Oxford. At this time the castle and town were at variance. The former then belonged to Francis Lord Seymour of Trowbridge, a determined adherent of Charles I., by whom the old fortress was put in a state of defence to support the royal cause. Lord Seymour's wife and daughter were made prisoners by the Parliamentary leader, who filled the buildings with his musketeers, and occupied the mound as a place of retreat in case the town were taken. In 1643 we find the castle held by Sir Neville Poole for the Parliament. The same year the king and Prince Rupert defeated the Earl of Essex on Aldbourn Chase; and

Marlborough Castle twice, in April and November, afforded quarters to Charles I. and his retinue. He was again quartered here in 1644, when he reviewed his army on Aldbourn Chase. During all this time the unlucky town was perpetually suffering from the marauding exploits of Major Dowett, commander of the Devizes troopers, who seems to have looked upon Marlborough as an unfailling object of attack and depredation.

The civil wars over and the royal line restored, Marlborough Castle opened its doors to Charles II. and his queen and James Duke of York, who in a progress to the West were received here in great state by the above-mentioned Francis Lord Seymour, who had built the house now forming the nucleus of the college. The design is said to have been furnished by Webb, son-in-law to Inigo Jones. After this, wars ended, and the ordinary occupations of a nobleman's family in a large country house began.

The most remarkable mistress of Marlborough during this period was Frances, granddaughter of the 1st Lord Weymouth, Countess of Hertford and afterwards Duchess of Somerset, whose energetic interference in behalf of Richard Savage when convicted of murder, is recorded in Johnson's 'Lives of the Poets.' She was a great patroness of the spurious picturesque and bombastic pastoral, which characterized the early part of the 18th century. Under her auspices the Castle gardens were altered, and as was supposed, beautified, while Nature was twisted into grotesque and hideous forms. The cascades were widened, fresh ruins dispersed over the grounds, a grotto made under the mound, which her ladyship compares with Pope's at Twickenham. In a letter written in 1741, to her friend Lady Pomfret, granddaughter of Judge Jeffreys (who singularly enough died here 1761, after the conversion of the

house into an inn), the Countess of Hertford tells us that she finds her own garden at Marlborough full of sweets, and that she has a terrace between a border of pinks and a sweet-briar hedge. Two of the principal heroes of Lady Hertford's entertainments were Dr. Watts, the hymn writer, and Thomson, author of 'The Seasons.' To Dr. Watts she writes about the education of her son, Lord Beauchamp, bewailing his inability to learn repetition, a difficulty apparently smoothed away by the kindness of his tutor, who gave him very little of it to do, and "was very favourable to him in his impositions of this kind." Thomson she regarded with such favour that he dedicated to her his poem on Spring, in the following prosaic verses:—

"O Hertford, fitted or to shine in courts
With unaffected grace, or walk the plain
With Innocence and Meditation joined
In soft assemblage, listen to my song,
Which thy own season paints; when Nature
all
Is blooming and benevolent, like thee."

Indeed it would appear that a great part of 'Spring,' was composed during a visit to the Castle. But "Hertford," as he somewhat familiarly calls her, found that the poet was little better than a drunkard, and that he preferred carousing with her husband to pastoral meditations with herself, and he was not invited a second time to Marlborough. Another of her literary protégées was Elizabeth Rowe, who is said to have written some of her poetry in the grotto under the mound.

Lord Beauchamp, whose repetition was so bad, died young: and his sister, Lady Elizabeth Seymour, married Sir Hugh Smithson, representative, through his mother, of the great house of Percy, and afterwards created Earl of Northumberland.

But the Northumberland family felt no hereditary attachment to the old manor-house of Inigo Jones,

or to the sweet-briar hedges and cascades of the Countess of Hertford. They preferred the Thames and the Aln to the Kennet, and deserted Marlborough for their princely palaces of Alnwick and Sion. We find evidences of its desolation in a series of letters directing a few necessary repairs in the house, forbidding any expense in the garden, and at last agreeing to let it on lease to Mr. Cotterell, who was to open it as an inn. It was sold by Charles, 4th Duke of Rutland, to Lord Ailesbury. The house itself remained an inn for almost another century, and as the "Castle Inn" long maintained the character of one of the best in England. Being on the great Bath road it received a large number of the chief personages of the land on their way to or from the medicinal springs. In 1767 it was for a time the quarters of the great *Lord Chatham*, who had been attacked by the gout on his road to London. "When he reached the Castle Inn," runs the story, "he stopped, shut himself up in his room, and remained there some weeks. Everybody who travelled that road was amazed by the number of his attendants. Footmen and grooms, dressed in his family livery, filled the whole inn, though one of the largest in England, and swarmed in the streets of the little town. The truth was that the invalid had insisted that during his stay all the waiters and stable-boys of the Castle should wear his livery." (See for further details *The Antiquities of Marlborough College*, a lecture delivered by the late Bp. Cotton.)

Among the natives of Marlborough are *Henry Sacheverell*, the political divine, b. 1672,—

"the sentinel

Who loudest rang his pulpit 'larum bell."
Wordsworth.

whose father was Rector of St. Peter's. *Sir Michael Foster*, a Judge of the King's Bench, b. 1689, d. 1763,

and *Walter Harte*, the poet, friend of Pope, and biographer of *Gustavus Adolphus*, d. 1774.

In a "Mr. Daniell's house, St. Margaret's," when on a journey from Bath, died *Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury*, Lord High Treasurer to James I. 1612.

Marlborough was constituted a Suffragan see by Henry VIII., to which Thomas Morley was consecrated 1537. In Queen Mary's reign two husbandmen of this place, John Hunt and Richard White, were presented at Salisbury as heretics, and condemned to be burnt; but the under-sheriff, "Master Michell," says Fuller, "instead of burning the prisoners, burnt the writ, and before it could be renewed both Dr. Geoffrey, the bloody Chancellor of Salisbury who procured it, and Queen Mary, were dead, to the miraculous preservation of God's poor servants."

St. Peter's is a Perp. church of some elegance, mostly of good stone, but some small portions are of flint. The porch has stone groining, as also has the chancel. The arcades are light, and the windows have good tracery. The tower is late and situated at the W. of the S. aisle; it has large heavy pinnacles and too much of blank wall.

St. Mary's has been much mutilated, and partly rebuilt in a debased style. There is a good Norman doorway at the W. end; the S. aisle has some tolerable Perp. windows, and the tower is of the same character, but very plain.

The ch. of *Preshute* has been partially rebuilt. It contains a black basalt font of remarkable size, of the early half of the 12th cent., in which a long standing tradition mentioned by Camden tells us that King John, and other royal personages were baptized. It is by no means improbable that the font may have been transferred hither from the chapel of St. Nicholas in Marlborough Castle on the dismantling of that fortress.

At *Manton* are preserved two rickety specimens of antique coach-making. They are a carriage and a phaëton with harness, built for one of the Baskerville family on his being appointed high sheriff of the county either in 1698 or 1736. The arms of Baskerville, quartering Ward and Danvers, are painted on the panels.

Marlborough College was opened Aug. 26, 1843, as a school designed to offer an education of the highest class to the sons of clergymen and others; the former receiving special advantages. By the original charter two-thirds of the pupils were to be sons of clergymen; but by a second charter in 1849, the number was reduced to one-half. Under the management of the second head-master, Dr. Cotton, the lamented Bishop of Calcutta, and its present chief the Rev. G. Bradley, it has gained a very high place among the educational establishments of the country. The nucleus of the College is formed by Lord Seymour's old brick house, afterwards the "Castle Inn," so well known to travellers on the Bath road (see *ante*); other blocks of building have been added in the same style, forming 3 sides of an irregular quadrangle. In 1848 a chapel was consecrated from Blore's design, which contains a memorial window to Bp. Cotton. The principal entrance to the College is from the Bath road, and beyond it is seen the figure of a *white horse*, in a trotting attitude, cut on the chalky slope of the valley. It is the work of no Celt or Saxon, but of some school-boys, 60 years since, who had seen the white horses of Cherhill and Bratton.

[The neighbourhood of Marlborough contains sufficient objects of interest to engage the attention of the traveller for 3 or 4 days. The chief of these are: (1.) The Cromlech, known as the *Devil's Den*, the gigantic mound of *Silbury Hill*, and the remains of the wonderful earthwork

and megalithic monument of Avebury; (2.) Martensell Hill and the Wansdyke; (3.) Savernake Forest; (4.) Littlecote.

The *Devil's Den*, Avebury and *Silbury Hill* may be taken in a day's excursion from Marlborough. The distance to Avebury is 6 m. A carriage may be had from the Ailesbury Arms to Silbury Hill, Avebury, and to return for 7s. 6d., and the expedition usually takes about 3 hours; but by far the best way of seeing the remains is on foot.

Leaving the town by the Devizes road, with the Kennet on the l., at $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. we have the entrance to *Clatford Bottom* on our rt. through a gate opposite the farmhouse of Clatford; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. up this winding grass-clad combe is the cromlech or sepulchre called the *Devil's Den*. It is about 10 ft. high, consisting of a slab stone some 12 ft. by 15 ft., supported on 2 upright blocks, the remnant of 4 which originally propped the impost, and formed a sort of cave, whence the name. Proceeding up the valley the traveller will soon find himself entangled among the "Greywethers," boulders of *sarsen*, or silicious sandstone, which extend for upwards of a mile, and present one of the most remarkable geological phenomena in the country. They are believed by Mr. Prestwich to be consolidated portions of the sands and quartz of the Plastic clay series. He will thread this labyrinth of stones, and, having passed a ride from the Marlborough race-course, which crosses the vale obliquely, ascend Overton hill on the l., and proceed direct for Avebury. The vantage ground of this hill will afford him an excellent view not only of the surrounding country, but of the interesting spot he is approaching. He will look upon an extensive basin, containing in the centre, within a grassy ring or rampart, the remains of the great circles of stones and the modern village of Avebury; and

towards the S. upon the culminating ridge of the Marlborough Downs, sweeping from Bowood to Savernake, and scored by a long waved line marking the course of the Belgic boundary, the *Wansdyke*.

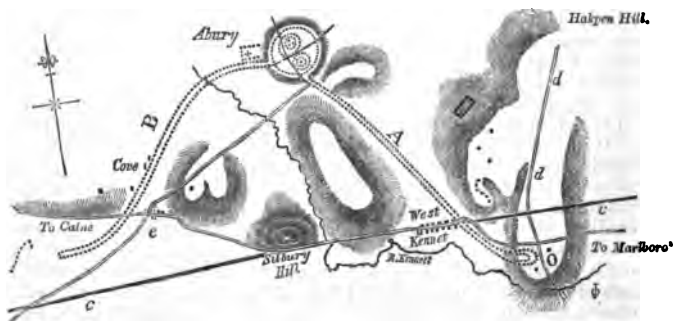
The village of *Avebury* or *Abury* is chiefly built with the fragments of the huge stone circles, which have been used as a quarry for centuries. More than 650 stones have been destroyed, and even the walls and roads have been formed of their ruins. It occupies an area, once partitioned into circular spaces by the enormous stones, but now cut into quadrants by roads from the four cardinal points, and still girt by the original earthen mound and inner ditch. Outside the mound, at a distance of $\frac{1}{2}$ m., are scattered British barrows, many of large size and sharp symmetrical outline.

The visitor should climb the earthen ramparts to obtain a general view of Avebury and its remains. The scene is one of great singularity; but the area within the earthwork is now so covered by the village that it is difficult, even with a plan of the ancient appearance of the place in one's hands, to understand its original arrangements. But if the visitor will suppose for a moment every house and hedge, tree and wall, &c., to be effaced, he may perhaps be able to form a general notion of it. There was in the first place an enormous earthen rampart about 70 ft. high from the bottom of the fosse, 4442 ft. in circumference, circular, but not a perfect circle. Within this a deep fosse, and the fosse being on the inner side of the rampart, it is at once clear that it was no military work. This rampart and fosse enclosed a level area of 28 acres 27 perches. Immediately on the inner margin of the fosse forming a kind of coronet all round the level area, was a row of unhewn stones supposed to have been 100 in number, placed 27 ft. apart. Of these 10 only are now

erect, and 5 prostrate. The position of others can be traced. The dimensions of 2 stones standing near the turnpike are—the one 13 ft. high by 16 ft. wide and 4 ft. thick; the other 13 ft. 10 in. high, 18 ft. wide, and 5 ft. 6 in. thick. The longer diam. of the circle is 1260 ft.; the shorter diam. 1170 ft. Within the large outer circle or oval, were 2 smaller ones, each originally composed of 30 stones. Of the southern of these circles 2 stones remain erect, 3 prostrate. Of the northern circle 3 stones are erect and 1 prostrate. Within each of these 2 circles was probably a concentric circle of 12 stones, of which there were indications. Within the northern, in its centre, were 3 large stones which formed an adytum or cove; of these 2 remain; the taller 17 ft. high, 7 ft. 7 in. wide, and 2 ft. 4 in. thick. At the present time there are within the entire enclosure only 17 stones remaining upright and 11 recumbent. (See 'Abury Illustrated,' by W. Long, Esq., M.A.; *Wills Archæol. Mag.* 1858, vol. iv.)

The circular earthwork, with the circles of upright stones enclosed by it, was approached (according to Dr. Stukeley's idea) from the S.W. and S.E. by a double avenue of upright blocks, recalling the arrangement of sphinxes in the approaches to some of the Egyptian temples. Each of the avenues was about 72 ft. wide, and consisted of 200 stones placed in pairs at intervals of about 48 ft., and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, curving so as to give the idea of a serpent. That from the S.W. is thought to have ended at Beckhampton in a single stone, that from the S.E. in an oval group on Overton Hill, representing, according to Stukeley, the tail and head of the serpent of which the avenue formed the body, transfixing the great central circle. Stukeley gives an engraving of them as they existed in 1723, and mentions when they were

removed. Of the S.W. avenue, towards West Kennet, 8 or 10 stones remain; on the S.E. only 2, near Beckhampton, in a field to the N. of the road: but these latter are of larger dimensions than the stones of the avenue generally. One of them, 16 ft. high by as many broad and $3\frac{1}{2}$ thick, formed a member of a triad called in Aubrey's time "the Devil's Quoits," and now known as the "Long Stones."



Plan of AVEBURY and surrounding Country.

- A. The Kennet Avenue of Stones, leading to Overton Circle, O.
 B. Dr. Stukeley's supposed Avenue to Beckhampton. No trace remains.
 c. Roman Road. d. British Trackway. e. Beckhampton. g. West Kennet Long Barrow.
 h. East Kennet Long Barrow.



AVEBURY (from the North), with Silbury in the distance. Its general appearance in the original state, as well as can be conjectured, by Google

N.B.—The Circles, both Earthwork and Stone, were much more irregular in shape than here represented. For the more exact form, see the other Plans.

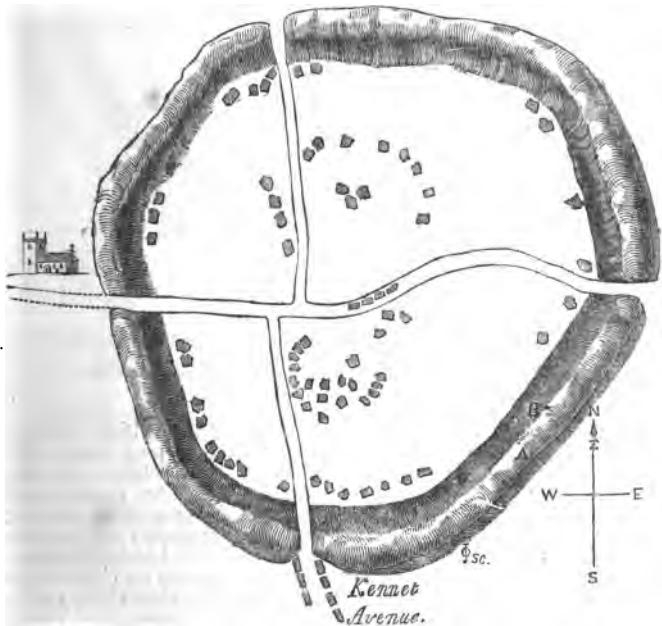
The stones of which the circles and avenues are composed are called *sarsens*. They are found in the immediate neighbourhood. The weight of the largest stone at Avebury is about 62 tons; one of the stones now destroyed weighed 90 tons.

Many are the theories respecting Avebury. There can be little doubt that it dates from a period anterior to the Roman conquest of Britain. It is considered by most antiquaries to be older than Stonehenge.

Wansdyke passes to the S. of Avebury, and approaches within 4 m. of it, but Avebury is outside this earthwork, which is supposed to mark

the extent of the last Belgic conquest, prior to the coming of J. Cæsar. (See a paper by Dr. Guest, *Archæol. Journ.*, 1851, p. 157.)

Stukeley gives Avebury a very remote date, about the time of Abraham. The Rev. Mr. Lisle Bowles supposes it to be Phœnician. (See 'Hermes Britannicus,' 1825.) Mr. Bathurst Deane considers it a Serpent Temple, and compares it to the remains at Stanton Drew and at Carnac in Britany. (See Deane, 'On the Worship of the Serpent,' 2nd edit., 1833.) The Rev. E. Duke regards it as part of a vast Planetarium described on the Wilts Downs.

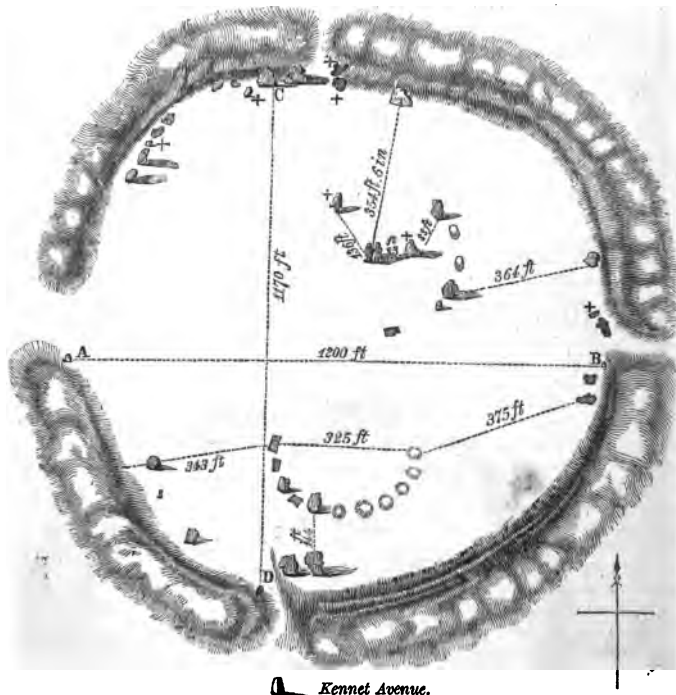


AVEBURY. The oldest known Plan made by JOHN AUBREY, about A.D. 1660.

Showing the irregularly Circular Earthwork and Ditch; the arrangement of the Large Stones within; and one Avenue only of Stones leading to Kennet.

A. The earthen vallum.

B. The ditch inside the vallum.



Kennet Avenue.

AVEBURY. As surveyed by Sir R. C. HOARE, A.D. 1812. [Roads and houses being omitted.]

The Area contains 28 acres and 27 perches. The circumference on the ridge of the vallum, 4442 feet. The seven stones marked + were removed between 1819 and 1867.

(See 'Druid. Temples, co. Wilts,' 1846. Mr. Herbert ('Cyclop. Christianus,' 1849) ascribes it to the period after the Romans had left this island. But the discoveries of similar remains in India appear to throw a light upon its history, and lead us to attribute it to a people who had migrated from the East.

The following passage is from Dr. Hooker's address to the British Association, Aug. 1868 (see also Col. Yule's memoir, 'Bengal Asiatic Journal,' 1844)—"There exists within

300 miles of the British capital of India a tribe of semi-savages who habitually erect dolmens, menhirs, cists, and cromlechs, almost as gigantic in their proportions and very similar in appearance and construction to the so-called druidical remains of Western Europe. . . . The method of removing the blocks is by cutting grooves, along which fires are lit, into which when heated cold water is run, which causes the rock to fissure along the groove. The lever and rope are the only mechanical aids used in

transporting and erecting the block. The objects of their erection are sepulture, marking spots where public events have occurred, and the like. The Khasian word for a stone, 'man,' is the same as commonly occurs in names of their villages and places, as the word 'maen' does in those of Britany, Wales, Cornwall, &c." This seems to give a clue to the interpretation of these monuments, and would induce one to ascribe their origin to a very early Eastern migration.

It is somewhat remarkable that there is no historical account whatsoever of this great work, nor the mention of it by name, and the only allusion to it is the one discovered by J. Kemble in the 'Codex Cævi Saxonici,' in the words "along the stonerow" (Kennet Avenue), "thence to the burial-places." (? Avebury Circle.) One thing only seems undeniable: that it was not a military work. Other monuments of this kind were religious, sepulchral or monumental; erected in memory of some great person, or some national event, victory, massacre, &c. From this analogy, many are disposed to consider Avebury to have been of the same sort, though the particular event commemorated cannot now be recovered. As to its having been a "Druidical Temple," there seems to be no trustworthy evidence that the Druids ever made use of such places for temples; and of "serpent temples," the very name is unknown in ancient history.

The earliest existing notice of Avebury is in the writings of John Aubrey, the Wiltshire Antiquary, who came upon it unexpectedly whilst hunting over the down in 1648, with Mr. Charles Seymour of Marlborough Castle House. He was at that time only 22 years of age, but had been from a boy observant of the antiquities of his native county. He was so much struck with his discovery that he left his hounds to follow their game and paused to pursue his

own. He re-visited the place many times, and in his MS. work called 'Monumenta Britannica,' (now in the Bodleian Library, Oxford) left most interesting plans and a description of it, as it appeared to him at that time.

In 1743 Dr. Wm. Stukeley, a clever but very fanciful writer, published a volume on the subject. But his description is considered by many less romantic modern antiquaries to have been, in some respects, his own imagination of what Avebury might have been, rather than a faithful account of what it was in his time.

Avebury Ch. stands to the W., just outside the huge earthen rampart which has been levelled at this point. It is a Norman fabric of flint and stone, with tower, aisles, and chancel in late Dec. The Norman arcade was replaced by a Pointed one a few years since. There is an early porch and a Norman door of excellent character with a zigzag moulding. Within, the leaden Norman font and coloured and gilt rood-loft deserve notice. *Avebury House* (T. Kemm, Esq.) stands close to the ch. Avebury was a cell of St. George Boscherville in Normandy.

Silbury Hill rises from the valley of the Kennet, about a mile S.S.E. of Avebury church, close to the Roman road from Bath to Marlborough, and to its modern successor, the once thronged but now almost deserted Great Bath road which here coincides with it. It has been warmly debated whether Silbury is posterior or anterior to the Roman occupation of Britain; but there can be no reasonable doubt that the Roman road here makes a slight deviation from the straight line to avoid the hill. Prof. Tyndall remarks that Silbury Hill afforded "a splendid landmark to the Roman engineers." The Roman road from Cunetio to Aquæ Solis being carried in a straight line to the base of the hill, and there slightly deflected to avoid it. This is called in question by Mr. Fergusson, who considers

that the hill is posterior to the Romans, and that it was raised to commemorate a battle, probably "Arthur's 2nd and last battle of Badon Hill." His opinion, also, is that Avebury was nothing more than a burying place, and was a "full sized plan of a battle lithographed on the field where it was fought." The earlier date is supported by Sir John Lubbock, and Dr. Thurnam. During the autumn of 1867 the exact course of the ancient road was ascertained by removing the surface of the ground in the field above the turnpike road S. of the hill, and the question was set at rest, though the actual date of the monument remains as deeply shrouded in mystery as ever. (*Wilts Arch. Mag.*, vol. ii.)

This gigantic mound is probably the largest artificial hill in Europe, and if we may derive its name from the A.-S. *sel* great, and *burh* stronghold, its proportions accord completely with its designation. Others have identified the first syllable with the goddess, "Sul Minerva" who presided over the hot springs of Bath "Aquæ Sulis." The shape of Silbury is a truncated cone, 1657 ft. in circumference at the base which occupies upwards of 5 acres with a diameter of 552 ft. A circle of *sarsen* stones, 3 or 4 ft. across, set at intervals of about 18 ft., surrounded the mound at its bottom; but few of these are now visible. Its sides slope regularly upwards at an angle of 30°. Its height is 125 ft., and the diameter of the circular area of its summit 104 ft. Its cubical volume is computed at nearly 468,170 solid yards of earth. The object of this enormous work has been a frequent subject of discussion, and investigations have been undertaken with the view of determining whether the ordinary view which considers it to be a sepulchral mound raised over some mighty hero of old time is correct. In 1777 the hill was opened from the top by Cornish miners under the direction of the then Duke of

Northumberland and Col. Drax; and again in 1849, under the superintendence of Dr. Merewether, Dean of Hereford, when the mount was tunneled at its base, and a space 12 ft. in diam. in the very centre of the mass examined. On neither occasion was any trace of interment discovered. But the apertures hitherto made have been so insignificant compared with the size of the hill that the question cannot be considered to have been settled by these excavations. As with Avebury we are completely destitute of any information as to when, by whom, and for what purpose it was formed (see *Wilts Arch. Mag.*, vol. vii.)

The visitor should ascend to the top for an interesting view, and he should here call to mind Southey's 'Inscription for a tablet,' for, if not certainly applicable to Silbury, it may at least be transferred to one of the many barrows which surround it:—

"This mound, in some remote and dateless
 day
 Rear'd o'er a chieftain of the age of hills,
 May here detain thee, traveller! from thy
 road
 Not idly lingering. In his narrow house
 Some warrior sleeps below, whose gallant
 deeds
 Haply at many a solemn festival
 The Scald hath sung; but perish'd is the song
 Of praise, as o'er these bleak and barren
 downs
 The wind that passes and is heard no more.
 Go, traveller, and remember, when the pomp
 Of earthly glory fades, that one good deed,
 Unseen, unheard, unnoted by mankind,
 Lives in the eternal register of Heaven."
Bristol, 1796.

The turnpike road from Marlborough passes on l. the villages of *Fyfield*, *West Overton*, and *East Kennet*, to *West Kennet*, where the river Kennet turns N. at right angles to its former course, parallel to which the road to Avebury diverges from the main road. Shortly after passing *Fyfield* a valley to the rt. of the road will be noticed completely filled with *sarsen* stone or "grey wethers." The few survivors of the giants of the eastern avenue will be seen, rt.,

at West Kennet. "Tens of thousands of sarsen stones," writes Dean Merewether, *Salisbury* vol. of the *Archæol. Institute*, p. 74, are "still scattered over these hills and their valleys: some having evidently formed 'cistvaens' with the gallery of approach to the chamber, some cromlechs, some avenues of approach to consecrated spots, some circles round the sepulchral deposits, some lines of demarcation." It is to be regretted that the number of these interesting relics of a former age is being rapidly diminished by the requirements of the builder. The rly. bridge at Windsor is built with stone from Clatford Bottom. At Beckhampton is an Inn, the Waggon and Horses, where refreshment may be had.]

Returning to the main route the rly. continues from Savernake Stat. up the valley of the Avon between the escarpment of Marlborough Downs N., and Salisbury Plain S., passing at 72 m. close to the ch. and village of *Wootton Rivers* on the other side of the river.

1½ m. S. is the village of *Easton*, on the round chalkhill above which is a circular entrenchment and British village. To the S. are also *Milton Hill* with a group of barrows, and *Pewsey Downs* on which are traces of British villages.

75½ m. *Pewsey* Stat. (*Inn: Phoenix*), a small town pleasantly situated on the Avon, between which and *Savernake Hill* rises like a wall to the rt. 2 m. N.W. is the pretty village of *Wilcot*. *Wilcot House*, *Miss Gore*; *Stowell Lodge*, *Col. Wroughton*.

The chalk range is here divided by the *Vale of Pewsey*, which separates the Marlborough Downs from Salisbury Plain. *Martensell* and *St. Ann's* are elevated points on the steep escarpment, commanding a most extensive prospect, including Salisbury Plain and the Forest of Savernake.

Martensell is situated about 3 m. S. from Marlborough. The name is a corruption of the A.-S. "Mærthorn" "the boundary thorn," and has nothing to do with St. Martin. It is a fine bold hill, descending sheer on the E., and throwing out a spur to the S.W. The ditch and rampart of a Celtic camp gird the summit, enclosing an area of 31 acres, and commanding a distant view of the entrenched heights of *Sidbury*, *Clearbury*, *Bratton*, and *Cley Hill*, of *Salisbury Spire* and *Alfred's Tower*. If we proceed W. from *Martensell* along this ridge of high land, we shall reach in succession *Hewish Hill*, remarkable for extensive vestiges of a British village; *Knap Hill*, crowned by an earthwork of high antiquity, enclosing 2 tumuli; *Walker Hill*, above *Alton Prior*, conspicuous by its long barrow; and beyond *Walker Hill*, 5 m. W. of *Martensell*, *St. Ann's*, the highest point of the Marlborough Downs, and known throughout Wilts and the neighbouring counties as the site of *Tan Hill Fair*, held annually for pleasure and business on the 6th of Aug., *St. Anne's Day*, old style. On the projecting buttress of *St. Ann's* S. rests the elliptical camp of *Rybury*, formed by a single bank and ditch, and evidently the work of a primitive people. Along the northern verge of the hill runs that interesting relic of antiquity,

The *Wansdyke*, or *Wodens dike*,

"For a mighty mound sith long he did remain,

Betwixt the Mercians rule and the West Saxon reign."—*Drayton*.

seen in its pristine state on the downs between *Savernake Forest* (W. of *Martensell*) and *Heddington*. It is generally considered to have been constructed by the Belgæ, as they gradually expelled the British tribes before them, and like the other ditches of the same origin, the *Old Ditch* N. of *Amesbury*, and *Bokerly Ditch* S. of *Salisbury*, has the fosse

to the N. Dr. Stukeley mentions 4 great ditches as marking the advance of this people from the S. The 1st extended through Dorsetshire from Shaftesbury to Wimborne; the 2nd, called the Bokerly Ditch, skirted the N. side of Cranbourne Chase (these two Dr. Guest, the first authority on such points, combines in one as parts of one continuous boundary. 'Belgic Ditches,' Oxford vol. of the Archæol. Instit.); the 3rd traversed Salisbury Plain, about 2 m. N. of Wilton (Dr. Guest denies this the character of a Belgic earthwork at all); the 4th was the Wansdyke, which at this day may be traced through Wiltshire for 19 m., including gaps. This magnificent earthwork extended from the woodlands of Berkshire to the Severn, and was the last frontier of the Belgic province, and Dr. Guest does not forbid the belief that it may have been Divitiacus who here fixed the limits of the Belgic dominion. It consists of a huge rampart and ditch, the ditch on the northern side, and runs in a waved line along the summit of the hills, which being unenclosed and solitary contribute much to the effect of this rude bulwark of a race so long passed away. "Offa's Dyke in Wales and the Wansdyke in England," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "are the most conspicuous examples of the ancient territorial boundaries."

A person walking from Marlborough to Devizes can pursue a delightful route along this dyke. He will proceed by the Calne road as far as Fyfield (some 2 m.), there turn to the l. (by the Fighting Cocks) to Lockeridge, situated in a bottom among masses of sandstone, and thence direct his way to the summit of the downs. 4 m. from Lockeridge he will reach the dyke, about 1 m. E. of St. Anne's Hill, from which a valley running N.E. contains 2 rows of sarsen stones, of large size, standing 3 or 4 feet out of the ground. In the same valley,

more to the S., are the remains of a cistvaen, with the larger chamber, and passage traceable; another monument of the same kind is on the top of the hill to the S.E. These are locally known as the *Hares' Holes*. From this point he can follow the dyke N.W. unchecked by hedge or other impediment, to *Shepherd's Shore*, a lone house formerly an inn, on the Devizes and Marlborough road, or farther to Morgan's Hill, the heights N. of *Roundway Down*, the scene of the rout of Waller in 1643. He will then quit it and turn S. over Roundway to Devizes.

[A very agreeable détour may be made from Pewsey, down the valley of the Avon to *Amesbury* (Rte. 7), 16 m. The road is good, and the scenery, though possessing no striking features, of a quiet English beauty. The valley now expands to a dell, now narrows to a winding glen. The road runs for a considerable distance by the side of the stream; now descending to its very edge; now ascending halfway to the summit of the treeless down, and diversified with a picturesque village and ch. at almost every mile.

Leaving Pewsey and skirting the rounded sides of Pewsey Down we reach 2 m. *Manningford Abbots* and *Manningford Braose*. The Ch. of the latter has an apse, and contains a tablet to Mary Nicholas, who aided Charles II.'s escape after the battle of Worcester. Crossing the Avon at Woodbridge we reach in 2 m. *Rushall*, a picturesque spot at the foot of the downs, where once stood a splendid mansion of the Poores, now pulled down. Rushall Park is the property of Lord Normanton. The land has been divided into farms, but much fine timber remains.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. up the Avon is *Charlton*, where was born Stephen Duck, "the thresher," whose poetry having recommended him to the notice of Q. Caroline, he entered holy orders, and became preacher at Kew and Rector of

Byfleet. He drowned himself in melancholy madness at Reading, 1750.

Rushall is followed by *Upavon*, now a village of 500 people, but a market-town in the time of Edward II.'s favourite, De Spencer, to whom it belonged. The once celebrated demagogue "Orator Hunt" was born 1773 at Widdington Farm, in this parish. The *Ch.* is large, E. E., with a square Norman tower. On the top of the hill 2 m. W. is

Casterley Camp, an area of 64 acres surrounded by a single vallum 28 ft. in height. It was probably a British town. "It will be found," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "to be one of the most original and unaltered works of the British era which our county can produce." In the centre is a sacred circle.

2 m. brings us to *Chisenbury de la Folie*, a hamlet in Enford parish. Chisenbury Priors, the beautiful seat of Mr. Chafyn Grove, was the residence of Henry Grove, executed at Exeter, 1655, for an attempted rising in favour of Charles II. 1 m. E. is *Chisenbury Camp* or *Trendle* (A.-S. circle), a circular work formed by a bank 16 ft. high. Some antiquaries have thought it was a British amphitheatre.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m., W. by S., distant, the small camp of *Lidbury*, girt by a rampart 40 ft. high. A bank and ditch lead from it to the site of a British village in the valley. The *Twin Barrows* are 1 m. to the S.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. further down the Avon is the village of *Enford* (Avonford), one of the meets of the late Mr. Assheton Smith's hounds. The *Ch.* was one of the finest in the diocese, with a lofty spire, which was struck by lightning in 1817, and fell crushing the *ch.* The whole has been rebuilt. The country round is studded with numerous barrows.

1 m. S. is *Fittleton*, where is a good small *ch.* with a spire, containing a singular punning brass inscription to the Jays. The road here crosses the river to *Nether Avon*, taken by

Henry III. from Gilbert Basset for adhering to R. Marshal Earl of Pembroke, and given to Peter de Maulay, causing a great popular outcry. The *Ch.* retains traces of its Norman structure in the chancel and belfry arches. This was for 2 years the curacy of *Sydney Smith*, who is said to have here undergone the most imminent risk of starvation, both mental and bodily. "Once a-week," writes Lady Holland, "a butcher's cart came over from Salisbury; it was then only that he could obtain any meat, and he often dined on a mess of potatoes sprinkled with a little ketchup. Too poor to command books, his only resource was the squire, and his only relaxation long walks over these interminable plains, in one of which he narrowly escaped being buried in a snow-drift."

1 m. lower down on the opposite bank stands *Figheldean*. The *Church*, prettily surrounded with trees, is better than most of its neighbours, which are mostly small flint buildings, and has been well restored. It has Norman portions, and contains crossed-legged effigies, probably of the Hussey family, and in the chancel some monuments of the Poores.

1 m. further brings us to *Milston*, a group of very pretty cottages where the river makes a loop. This manor was forfeited by John Lord de Zouch, for having sided with Richard III., and granted by Henry VII. to his maternal kinsman Jasper, Duke of Bedford, son of Owen Tudor and Queen Katharine. The *Church* is small and mean. The old gabled parsonage, now a farm-house, has a classic interest as the birthplace of *Joseph Addison*, May 1, 1672. His father, Lancelot Addison, was made rector of the parish on the loss of his chaplaincy at Tangier.

On the opposite side of the Avon is *Durrington*, where the *Long Walls* are considered by Sir R. C. Hoare to mark a British village. The *Church* is fair, of flint and stone, and contains

an old pulpit and seats of oak. Again crossing the stream we come $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to *Bulford*, with its pretty church, and is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to *Amesbury* (Rte. 7).]

Continuing the main route we reach $78\frac{1}{2}$ *Woodborough Stat.* This is an increasing place with a handsome new church. 2 m. N., immediately under Walker Hill lie the little villages of *Alton Barnes*, or *Berners*, and *Alton Priors*. The former manor was bought by William of Wykeham, and bestowed on his foundation of New College. Among its rectors may be named the Rev. W. Crowe, 1812–29 (author of ‘*Lewesdon Hill*’ and other poems, and for many years public orator at Oxford, in which office he introduced the Allied Sovereigns on their visit in 1815), and Augustus W. Hare, author of ‘*Sermons to a Country Congregation*,’ and with his brother Archdeacon Julius C. Hare, of the ‘*Guesses at Truth*.’ On the S.W. slope of the chalk down is a white horse, cut in 1812 at the expense of Mr. Pile, of the Manor Farm, which may be seen from Old Sarum. Its dimensions are:—height 180 feet, length 165 feet, circumference of eye 12 feet, superficial area 700 yards.

80 m. rt. is *Beechingstoke*, 1 m. S. of which is *Marden*. The Church has a fine Norman chancel arch, and S. door. On *Wivelisford Hill*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. further S. is *Broadway Camp*. The *Ridge-way* runs along the crest of the hill, dotted with barrows on each side. From *Broadway* a British trackway struck N. over the vale by *Broad Street* and *Honey Street*, and climbed the *Marlborough Downs* between *Walker Hill* and *Knap Hill*, crossing the *Wansdyke* at a point where some large sarsen stones are still standing.

The old cottages in this neighbourhood, with their long roofs of thatch and frames of woodwork, are exceedingly picturesque.

Proceeding on our route

1 m. W. *Stanton Fitzwarren Church*,

has a good chancel arch, and font with bas relief.

1 m. further W. is *All Cannings*, with its fine cruciform Church, with a square Perp. tower rising at the intersection. The *Manor House* is now a farmhouse, and thoroughly modernized, but some few moulded timbers may belong to the 14th century, when licenses of crenellation were issued to the Bishop of Salisbury. Coleridge was a visitor of the Rev. T. A. Methuen, in 1817, and became a focus of attraction. 2 m. S.W., nearer the rly., is the small but very interesting Dec. church of *Etchinghampton*, with a Norm. font, and effigies of a knight and his lady, c. 1400.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. is *Bishops Cannings* (more conveniently visited from *Devizes*, 3 m.), with its beautiful cruciform E.E. Church, one of the most interesting churches in the county. It has a central tower of 2 stories, and stone spire. The roof, aisles, and clerestory of nave are Perp. additions. The east, west, and transept windows are fine E.E. triplets. The nave is of 4 bays, with low, thick columns. The S. porch is vaulted, with a Dec. doorway. The chancel is vaulted. The *Ernie* chantry chapel attached to S. transept, dedicated to “*Our Lady of the Bower*,” contains a large monument to *Michael Ernie*, d. 1571. The E. window and others filled with glass by *Wailes*. In N. transept is an almost unique piece of furniture, a very singular moveable chair, still called, for want of a better name, a “*confessional chair*,” more probably a “*carrel*” for meditation. On the back panel is painted a hand outstretched, with inscriptions on the palm and fingers suggestive of repentance. The oldest part of the church is the little sacristy, with priests’ room over, at the N.E. corner of the chancel. It once had a bell-turret. The organ was originally given by *William Bayley*, a native, who sailed round the world with *Captain Cook*. In the 17th century when old Au-

brey tells, us "the parish would have challenged all England for music, football, and singing," it boasted of a musical vicar, one Geo. Ferraby, who entertained James I. and Anne of Denmark, with a rustic masque on the occasion of their visit to Bath. The king was received at "the Bush, Coatefield," the Queen, in April 1613, at the Wansdyke, when the Vicar appeared as an old bard, with his scholars, "in Shepherd's weeds," who sang a four-part song, composed by himself, "to the great liking and content of the Queen and her company."

85½ DEVIZES Stat. (Inns: Bear, Castle. Pop. 4591). A market and assize town, a municipal and Parliamentary borough, returning one member since the Reform Act of 1868. It stands nearly in the centre of the county, of which it may be considered the secondary capital, and the capital of N. Wilts. It is one of the largest corn markets in the W. of England. The manufacture of cloth, for which it was once famous, ceased to be carried on in 1828. The Gt. W. Rly. affords land, and the Kennet and Avon Canal water communication both with the E. and W. The canal, commenced in 1794 and completed in 1805 at a great outlay, is carried over the hill to the N.W. of Devizes by a series of 29 locks. Devizes forms a curve on the top of a hill, flattened at top so as to form a table-land of considerable extent and elevation. The town stands 500 feet above the sea, and the situation is cold and exposed, but salubrious.

"At Devizes the escarpment of the greensand is very steep, and is deeply cut into by ravines, two of which so nearly meet at their heads as to leave a peninsular eminence with steep sides attached by a narrow isthmus to the high ground behind. The peninsula was an admirable site for a castle; and on the high ground behind grew up a town in the form of a semicircle, the curve being marked by the line of New Park Street and Bridewell Street."—*Dr. Fitton.*

The main street is wide and airy, and the market-place spacious, and ornamented by the *Cross* erected in 1814 by Lord Sidmouth, as a mark of esteem for the borough of which he had been for 30 years Recorder, and which he had represented in 6 successive Parliaments. But Leland's observation still holds good, "The beauty of the town of Vies is all in one strete," and that "it standeth on a ground somewhat clyvinge," but it is no longer "most occupied by clothiers." As in Fuller's days, "the market is very celebrate, and it is the best and biggest town for trading in the shire." The oldest charter of the town is that of the Empress Maud.

The name of Devizes has been a subject of much discussion among the learned. Till a comparatively recent time it was always known as "*the Devizes*," a corruption of which, "*the Vies*," is not yet quite extinct. Its Latin appellation, *Castrum* or *Villa Divisarum*, or simply *Divisæ*, and *ad Divisas*, "at the divisions," clearly shows the origin of the name. The only question remaining is what the divisions or boundaries were on which the town was built. Dr. Guest remarks that "Devizes stands in the middle of the Wansdyke, and the probability is that the district, where the Roman road from London to Bath stooped down into Welsh territory (*i.e.* territory occupied by original inhabitants of Britain), was known as *Divisæ*, the borders, and that in the 12th centy., when Devizes was founded by Bishop Roger, it took its name from the district" (*vide supra*). Canon Jackson, however, informs us (*Wiltshire Collections*) that it has been recently discovered that in the reign of Henry I., when Devizes was founded, the three adjoining manors (*viz.*, Rowde, Cannings, and Potterne) met precisely at the point at which the castle was built. This appears to be the true solution of the problem.

Devizes, as we have said, owes its origin to the castle erected here.

temp. Henry I., by his chancellor, the warlike Bishop Roger of Sarum, that great builder of churches and castles. The first prisoner of note it received was the ill-fated Robert, the Conqueror's eldest son. On the outbreak of the struggle between Stephen and Matilda, Roger garrisoned and provisioned the castle for the Empress, which was held by his nephew, the Bishop of Ely. Roger and his other nephew, the Bishop of Lincoln, having fallen into the king's hands, he proceeded with all speed to Devizes, where he imprisoned the prelates, one in a cowshed, the other in a wretched hovel, and threatened worse unless the castle was surrendered. The castle having thus fallen into Stephen's hands he took it from the see of Sarum and made it a royal fortress. During the course of the civil war it was alternately taken and retaken. In 1140 Robert Fitzherbert, a mercenary of the Earl of Gloucester, scaled the battlements by ladders made of leather, and, having surprised the sleeping garrison, seized it for Maud. It again fell into the king's power; but the next year, after Stephen's captivity, Count Hervé, who held it for the king after a long siege by the peasantry who had risen against him, surrendered it to the Empress. After she had been compelled to raise the siege of Winchester (Sept. 14, 1141), Maud took refuge here, whence, according to popular tradition, she was conveyed in a coffin to Gloucester; but she returned in 1142 and fixed her temporary abode in the castle. It was held by John during Richard I.'s absence in Palestine. Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, who was imprisoned here by Henry III., escaped by favour of part of the garrison, and fled for sanctuary to St. John's ch., whence he was dragged by the governor and conveyed back to the castle; but the threat of the Bishop of Salisbury and the dread of excommunication for the violation of sanctuary prevailed, and he was conveyed back to the ch.

It was the abode of two royal hostages, sons of Charles de Blois, great-nephews of the King of France in Edward III's reign. The castle formed part of the dowry of several of our queens—Philippa, Good Queen Anne, Margaret of Anjou, Katharine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn (who visited Devizes in 1530), and Katharine Howard. It was the occasional residence of Duke Humphrey of York. The castle was granted by Edward VI. to Lord Seymour of Sudely, and afterwards came to William, Earl of Montgomery.

The Castle stood in a picturesque situation to the W. of the town, behind the Bear Inn, now a private garden. The walls have almost entirely perished, but the ditch and mound of the keep may still be seen. A path winds up through the trees to a modern castellated house on the summit. The ruins remained in Leland's time, who speaks of "dyvers goodly toures all goyng to ruine." "Such a piece of castle wall so costly and so strongly was never afore set up by any byshope of England." After this the Castle became a stone quarry for the vicinity, from which Bromham Hall and the lodge at Spye Park were built. The keep was standing in Charles I.'s time, when it was besieged by the Parliament in 1643, and fortified by the King, and after the fall of Bristol stormed and taken by Cromwell, 23rd Sept., 1645, with the loss on his part of five men. He remained here three days, and marched hence to Donnington Castle, near Newbury. The castle was afterwards "sighted," *i.e.*, destroyed by order of Parliament. Stukeley wrote in 1723, "the castle is ignobly mangled and every day destroyed by persons who care not to leave a stone standing, though for a wall to their gardens." Mr. Leach in 1839 brought to light, by excavation, fragments of the walls, the foundations of the keep and a dungeon pit, perhaps Hubert de Burgh's prison. The street known as "the Brittox" derives

its name from *Bretesque*, i.e. a wooden tower placed on a drawbridge.

After the site of the castle, the most interesting objects in Devizes are its two noble old *Churches*, both deserving careful attention.

St. John's, near the Castle, is one of the most interesting in the county. It was originally a cruciform Norman church with central tower, erected towards the middle of the 12th century, probably by Bp. Roger. Aisles were added to the naves (c. 1450), and N. and S. chapels to the chancel later still. The N. wall of the chancel retains one of the original Norm. windows, traces of which are also to be seen in the transepts. The massive tower rests like that of *St. Bartholomew's*, *Smithfield*, on 2 semi-circular and 2 pointed arches, the transepts being narrower than the nave. The chancel, which retains its Norm. vaulting, is of two bays, divided by a transverse arch springing from richly carved capitals. The walls are ornamented by an intersecting arcade. Both the chapels have rich ceilings of oak. That to the S. may be ascribed to Rich. Beauchamp, of Bromham, Lord St. Amand, temp. Hen. VII. In the church are several monuments to the Suttons and Heathcotes, including one to Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Lord Mayor of London, d. 1768. The church has lately undergone a restoration. The chancel was the sanctuary of Hubert de Burgh.

St. Mary's, in the N.E. skirt of the town, commands a view of Roundway Hill. This was also a Norman church like *St. John's*, and the chancel is of the original structure, with groining and transversal arch. The nave has been rebuilt in Perp. and is a good specimen of the style, with lofty clerestory and elaborately carved roof bearing in the second bay from the E. the name of the founder, "William Smith, qui istam Ecclesiam fieri fecit, 1436." The tower is of stately proportions. The S. porch is a good specimen of tran-

sition, c. 1200; repaired 1612. In the chapel near the S. door is a panelled dove-stone.

St. James's, a chapel of ease to Bishops Cannings, rebuilt in 1834, except the pinnacled tower, stands at the E. end of the town on the Green.

Devizes contributed martyrs to the persecutions which ushered in the Reformation. Wm. Prior of this town was burnt at Salisbury, 1507. John Bent, of Urchfont, was burnt here, 1533. John Maundrell, of Rowde, after having recanted in Hen. VIII.'s time, and done penance with white sheet and lighted candle in the market-place here, gained heart, and in 1556 was burnt with two friends between Salisbury and Wilton.

The *Town Hall*, built by Baldwin of Bath, 1808, with a segmental Ionic portico, contains a handsomely decorated Assembly Room, Council Chamber, &c. The *County Assize Court*, erected 1835 by T. H. Wyatt, has a pedimental portico of 4 Ionic columns.

The *Corn Exchange* is a handsome stone building of the Corinthian order, designed by Hill, of Leeds. It is 142 ft. long, and affords standing room for nearly 3000 persons. The façade, 46 ft. in length, is ornamented with appropriate carving and a statue of Ceres. It was opened Dec. 3, 1857.

In the *Market-place*, an area of triangular form, stands the *Market-cross*, designed by Benj. Wyatt, which bears an inscription to record an awful event which occurred here in 1753. "A woman named Ruth Pierce, of Potterne, having, with 2 others, bought a sack of wheat, and each paid as was thought their part of the money; a deficiency was found, and Ruth was accused of not having paid. To this she replied, 'She wished she might drop down dead if she had not.' She had scarcely spoken the words when she fell down and expired, having the money concealed in her hand."

At the *Savings Bank*, erected 1848, are deposited the museum and library of the *Wiltshire Archaeol. and Nat. Hist. Society*, founded 1853, under the patronage of the Marquis of Lansdowne. They include the collections of the antiquary John Britton, consisting of original drawings of Salisbury Cathedral and of other Wiltshire churches; illustrated copies of Mr. Britton's works relating to this county; and his unique Celtic cabinet, enclosing models of Stonehenge and Avebury. In the town is also a remarkable collection of fossils, formed by Mr. William Cunnington, local secretary to this society, and grandson to the associate of Sir R. C. Hoare in his Wiltshire investigations.

The museum of a *Literary and Scientific Institution*, in St. John's-street (near the Bear), contains specimens of birds, minerals, and fossils.

The father of *Sir Thomas Lawrence* (b. 1769, at Bath) was landlord of the Bear, and here the youthful artist first learnt to draw likenesses, as well as to repeat poetry for the entertainment of customers. His father would introduce him to his visitors with, "Gentlemen, here's my son; will you have him recite from the poets, or take your portraits?" His first picture was painted here when he was about 7 years old. Devizes was the birthplace of *Joseph Allein*, an eminent non-conformist minister, b. 1633. He was several times imprisoned for preaching, and is best known by his 'Alarm to the Unconverted.' Rob. Nicholas, of All Cannings, M.P. for Devizes, was an active manager of the impeachment of Laud, whom he is accused of having treated with "unseemly insolence and insult, using foul and gross language." His name appears as one of Charles I.'s judges, but he prudently abstained from attending the trial. He subsequently became a Baron of the Exchequer.

"Orator Hunt" married the daughter of the landlord of the Bear

Inn, and became chairman of the Ordinary there, which gave him frequent opportunities for declamation. Devizes was the scene of not a few of his turbulent meetings.

The Lent Assizes for the county are held at this town. Devizes is also the head-quarters of the Royal Wiltshire Militia, and stores have been erected here for the regiment, at a cost to the county of nearly 10,000*l.* Gibbon the historian visited Devizes in 1761, when captain of the Hants Militia, and entertained an unpleasing recollection of that "populous and disorderly town."

1 m. S. is the *Wilts County Asylum*, a plain but handsome building, by T. H. Wyatt; opened in 1851.

New Park, N., under Roundway Down (now called Roundway Park), was built by S. Wyatt. The park is commended by Repton as combining "all the materials of natural landscape." It was the seat of Wm. Sutton, Lord Sidmouth's brother-in-law.

Potterne, 1½ m. S., is a picturesquely situated village, with a good ch. and ancient houses (Rte. 6),

Roundway Hill, which rises immediately from Devizes, was the scene of the defeat of Sir William Waller by Lord Wilmot, 1643. After the battle of Lansdown, the Royalists, under the Marquis of Hertford and Prince Maurice, retreated to Devizes, closely followed by Waller, who soon invested the town, and erected a battery against it. He, however, was repulsed in many desperate efforts to force an entrance, and the news soon arrived that Lord Wilmot was approaching with 1500 horse to the succour of the besieged. Waller drew off his men to oppose the coming foe, and took up a position on Roundway Down; but when he had descried the advancing troop, and perceived the smallness of their number, he descended from the hill and charged with his cavalry, confident of success. He had, however, much miscalculated the strength of the Royalists, for after

a severe struggle his troopers were overthrown, and his infantry, assailed on one side by Wilmot and on the other by the garrison of Devizes, were obliged to surrender. Waller himself put spurs to his horse and fled towards Bristol (from which this was styled by the Royalists "Runaway Hill"), leaving behind him his artillery, ammunition, and baggage, and 2000 men, either killed or prisoners. The view from the brow of Roundway should not be missed by any visitor to Devizes. A path leads from the church of St. Mary to the *Quaker's Walk*, which, skirting the grounds of *New Park*, seat of the Colstons, runs direct to the foot of the hill, whence the ascent is steep to the top. In a westerly direction the prospect is very extensive; to the S. it is limited by the chalk range of Salisbury Plain; E. it embraces the bold heights which abut upon Pewsey Vale; and N. it extends to the blue distance of N. Wilts and Gloucestershire. If inclined to extend his ramble, the pedestrian will find, a little way to the N.W., the Roman camp of *Oliver's Castle*, marked by a straggling group of beech-trees; and N.E., at the distance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ m., the *Wansdyke* nearly as perfect as on the day when it was first thrown up.

Leaving Devizes,

87 m. is *Rowde*, 1 m. rt.: the *Ch.*, rebuilt in 1833, contains a font designed by Sir Digby Wyatt, who was born here; 2 m. l. is *Poulshot*, the houses interspersed with trees standing picturesquely round the village-green, of which Dr. Blayney, Hebrew Professor at Oxford (d. 1801), was incumbent.

89 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Seend* Stat. A manor-house belonged to Humphry de Bohun, E. of Hereford and Essex, who, 1347, received a licence to fortify it. It is now a seat of the Awdrys. The manor in later times belonged to Lord Berners, the translator of Froissart,

who directed his executors to sell it "for his soul's health."

Beautiful chalcidized casts of ammonites are found in the ferruginous sand in this parish. The view from the churchyard is pretty. In the *Ch.*, which is a chapel-of-ease to Melksham, is a brass to John Stokys and his wife, 1498. The N. aisle is said to have been built by him: and in the moulding of its W. window is his device, a pair of shears. Many Walloon families settled about here temp. Henry VII. The same vein of iron ore as at Westbury has been found and worked here, but the operations are now suspended.

93 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. is *Holt Junction*, where lines diverge N.E. by Melksham to the main line of the Gt. Western, and S.W. to Trowbridge (Rte. 3).

95 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Bradford* (Rte. 3).

From Bradford the rly. follows the course of the Avon. The valley soon becomes very narrow, hemmed in between hills, in some places rising almost precipitously, clothed with hanging woods and orchards. The scene is strikingly picturesque, and the traveller may well feel regret at being hurried so rapidly through beauties that might make him wish to linger repeatedly. Happily the frequent stations give him opportunity of halting and examining the county more leisurely. He may do so with the assurance of being well repaid for the delay. The *Kennet and Avon Canal* accompanies the river through the whole of the valley, and crosses it by an aqueduct below Monkton Combe. The two counties of Wilts and Somerset meet in this valley, so that the traveller is sometimes in one and sometimes in the other. He commences in Wiltshire at

96 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. passes rt. *Winsley*, said to have been the scene of a battle between Alfred and the Danes. Here is a house, a good work of Wood, the architect of Bath. On the other side of the valley is *Westwood*.

97 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. 1. *Freshford* Stat. (co. Somerset) (*Hinton Abbey* is 1 m. distant, *Farleigh Castle* 2 m., by very pleasant walks). Here Sir W. Napier wrote his 'History of the Peninsular War.' The high ground, known as *Sharpstone* and *Mount Pleasant* commands views up the 2 valleys, the *White Horse* at *Westbury* in the far distance in one, and the town of *Bradford* in the other. A path leads from *Mount Pleasant* to the ruins of *Hinton Abbey*.

We re-enter Wilts, and reach

98 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. 1. *Limpley Stoke* Stat., a romantic village with hanging woods and gardens, and a wild hillside well suited for picnic or sketching parties. Here is a *Hydropathic Establishment*. A short distance beyond the Stat. the *Avon* is crossed by a fine well-proportioned bridge. Wiltshire is left again at

99 m. 1. *Monkton Combe*. At the *Viaduct Inn* the road to *Frome* is carried across the valley by a stone viaduct of 11 arches; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. further the *Dundas Aqueduct* carries the *Kenet* and *Avon Canal* over the rly. and river. *Combe Down*, above the village overhanging *Bath*, is honey-combed with quarries.

100 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. 1. *Claverton*, a very pretty village, standing in a most picturesque part of the winding valley. Opposite, reached by *Warley Ferry*, is the Gothic mansion of *Warley House* (H. D. Skrine, Esq.), embowered in the hanging woods that clothe the lower slopes of *Monkton Farleigh Down*. At *Claverton* are the stone terraces of a former mansion of the *Bassets*. The existing house, seated high on the hill, was built from a design by Sir *Jeffrey Wyattville*. The old house, which stood lower down the hill, and was flanked by terraced gardens, was besieged and taken by a Parliamentary force in the Civil War. *Claverton* was for 60 years the living of *Richard Graves*, author of the 'Spiritual Quixote.' He is buried

in the church, which was rebuilt and enlarged 1858. In the churchyard, a pretty enclosure, full of roses, is the tomb of *Ralph Allen* of *Prior Park*, interred here 1766. An agreeable walk leads to *Bath* by the road over *Claverton Down*, whence, from the summit of the hill, there is a fine view up the wooded valley to the distant oolite escarpment.

The geologist will find in the *Avon* valley and its branches many examples of the subsidence of the strata. On the hills bounding the l. bank of the river the effect of landslips may be observed in the inferior oolite, and from the commanding eminence of *Hampton-Rocks* the spectator looks down upon rugged masses of oolite, which, having slipped from the cap of the hill, now lie in picturesque confusion among the trees.

On the opposite side of the river, near the point of union of the *Avon* and *Box* valleys stands *Monkton Farleigh Tower*, looking down on *Bathford*, and commanding a magnificent view of *Bath* and the heights and valleys around.

102 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Bathampton* Stat.

105 m. *BATH* (Rte. 19).

ROUTE 5.

HUNGERFORD TO SALISBURY
[COLLINGBOURNE, LUDGERSHALL,
EVERLEY], TIDWORTH, THE WIN-
TERBOURN VALLEY.

Hungerford. (See *Handbook for Berks*).

The road runs through the edge of Berkshire to

4 m. *Shalbourn*, partly in Berks and partly in Wilts, in a valley surrounded on the N., E., and S. by the chalk hills, across which the road stretches, crossing the Roman Road from Marlborough at *Marton*, 6 m., and at 7 m. leaves on l. the little village of *Tidcombe*, perched on the down, and the *Long Barrow* close by. Further to E. is the entrenchment of *Haydon Hill Castle* and the hamlet of *Fosbury*. Leaving to the l. *Chute Heath* and the village of *Chute*, which bears the name of a forest which formerly extended far into Hampshire and in a northerly direction to the skirts of *Savernake*, the road crosses the exposed uplands of *Collingbourn Heath*, passing rt. the villages S. of *Collingbourn Kingston* and *Collingbourn Ducis*.

[*Collingbourn Kingston*, 2 m. rt., which has an E. E. Ch., with Perp. additions, restored in 1862, containing an elaborate canopied monument to Sir Gilbert Pile of Collingbourn and his wife, 1626, is a scattered village with some picturesque cottages of red brick and flint ornamentally worked. *John Norris*, the mystical divine, known for combating the opinions of *Dodwell* and *Locke*, was born at the parsonage, 1657, and died at the rectory of *Bemerton*, 1611.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is *Collingbourn Ducis*, so called from having belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster; granted by Henry VIII. to Protector *Somerset*,

and re-granted by *Elizabeth* to the Earl of *Hertford*. In the Ch., of flint and stone with a square embattled tower, is a small brass to *Edw. St. Maur*, son of the Earl of *Hertford*, d. 1631, with a curious inscription.

3 m. E. is the village of *Chute*, bearing the name of a forest once extending from *Savernake* deep into Hampshire. *Conholt Park* is the seat of *Lady Charles Wellesley*; *Chute Lodge* of *T. E. Fowle, Esq.*]

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. a road crosses that we are pursuing, leading rt. by *East Everley* and *Upavon* to *Devizes* 18 m.: $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. to the little town of

7 m. *Ludgershall* (the inns are but village alehouses, *Queen's Head* and *Crown*), pleasantly situated. It stands on high ground, over which sweep invigorating breezes from *Salisbury Plain*. This was formerly a borough town, which returned 2 members, but the first Reform Bill very naturally lopped off the privilege, for, although *Ludgershall* figures in large letters on the map, it is but a poor village of thatched cottages, built of red brick and flint. It was, however, a place, though possibly not of much greater size, yet of much more importance in early days. The ancient name was *Lutegar's Hall*, from some Saxon owner. The *Empress Maud* took refuge here in her wars with *Stephen* A.D. 1141. The seal of her chief partisan, *Milo Earl of Gloucester*, was found in the neighbourhood some years ago. *Marlborough* and *Ludgershall Castles* were sometimes held under the crown by one and the same Governor. Among these officers we find the name of *Geoffry Fitzpiers*, Earl of *Essex* and Chief Justice of England, at whose death *John* is reported to have exclaimed, "Now, indeed, I shall be king and lord of this realm!" In 1464, *Edw. IV.* granted it with 200 acres of park at *Collingbourne* to *George Duke of Clarence*. Soon after *Edw. VI.* it became the property of

the Brydges family, ancestors of the Duke of Chandos. The castle was "clene down" at Leland's visit, 1540. Subsequent owners have been Selwyns, Sidneys, and Sir James Graham. Many particulars about it may be found in Canon Jackson's *Wiltshire Collections*. The ruins of the castle are at the N. end of the village, but consist of little more than a fragment of the keep, now forming part of a farmyard wall; they are still encompassed by an earthen rampart and two deep ditches. Their Norman origin may be traced in the shape of the windows. A pleasant view is gained from the spot, the eye ranging in a northerly direction over *Collingbourn Wood*, 2 m. in extent.

On the roadside, by the Queen's Head, is the foot of an ancient cross, rudely sculptured.

The Church is an old building, of flint, and contains the Jacobean tomb of Sir Richard Brydges, Knt., and of his wife, whose effigies repose within an archway piercing the wall which divides the S. transept and nave.

Biddesden House $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. (Rev. Thos. Everett) was built by Gen. Webb, who served in the Duke of Marlborough's campaigns, and was once occupied by the Duke of Chandos. *Crawlboys Wood* preserves the name of an ancient Norman owner, Oroillebois.

Should the traveller visit Ludgershall about the beginning of October, he should be reminded that *Weyhill Fair* (see *Hdbk. to Hants*), 3 m. E., one of the largest in England, commences on the 10th of that month, when, in the language of Carlyle, "assembling from all the four winds come the elements of an unspeakable hurly-burly." 140,000 sheep have changed hands on the first day. The staple commodities of the fair are Dorsetshire sheep, Farnham hops, and the cheeses of the neighbouring counties. In 1784 great damage was done at this fair by fire, which de-

stroyed many booths and much property.

[2] m. rt. in the open country, over which the eye ranges freely, is *East Everley* (Inn: George), traditionally the residence of the old Saxon King Ina, whose hunting lodge is said to have stood near the encampment of Sidbury. The Ch. was re-built in 1813. Everley was a market-town in comparatively modern times. It stands on the old road from Marlborough to Salisbury, which ran most of the way over the turf. The lordship belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster, and was granted by Hen. VIII. to Sir Ralph Sadleir, afterwards falconer to Queen Elizabeth, d. 1587, a worthy knight, appointed to guard the unfortunate Queen of Scots at Tutbury, but so fond of hawking that he could not refrain from it, or from allowing his prisoner to participate in the amusement, for which he was severely reprimanded. His portrait still hangs on the walls of

Everley House, a mansion probably built by Sir R. Sadleir and now the seat of Sir Francis Dugdale Astley, Bart. Another painting in this house represents two duels fought on horseback by Sir John de Astley in the reign of Hen. VI.: one with a Frenchman in the street of St. Antoine in Paris; the other with a knight of Arragon in Smithfield.

On the surrounding hills are many remains of British villages, barrows, and camps. Sir R. C. Hoare states, in his 'Ancient Wiltshire,' that he knew no tract of country more abundant in British tumuli than that between Everley and Amesbury. Many of these ancient sepulchres he opened, and in one near this village he found some interesting remains. "The first object," he says, "that attracted our attention was the skeleton of a small dog, deposited in the soil 3 ft. from the surface; and at the depth of 8 ft. 10 in. we came to the bottom of the barrow, and disco-

vered the following very perfect interment collected on a level floor. The body of the deceased had been burned, and the bones and ashes piled up in a small heap, which was surrounded by a circular wreath of horns of the red deer, within which, and amidst the ashes, were 5 beautiful arrow-heads, cut out of flint, and a small red pebble. Thus we most clearly see the profession of the Briton here interred. In the flint arrow-heads we recognise his fatal implements of destruction; in the stags' horns we see the victims of his skill as a hunter; and the bones of the dog deposited in the same grave, and above those of his master, commemorate his faithful attendant in the chace, and perhaps his unfortunate victim in death. Can the language either of history or poetry speak more forcibly to our feelings than these mute and inanimate memorials of the British hunter?"

On *Milton Hill*, to the N. of Everley, are a group of 8 barrows, arranged in 2 parallel lines, one of which is remarkable for a form more pointed than any other in the county; 2 m. S. is the bold entrenchment of

Sidbury Hill, crowned by a heart-shaped entrenchment, formed by two ramparts and ditches, the inner 46 ft. deep, and enclosing an area of 17 acres, gorgeous in the early summer with a profusion of the Rosebay willow herb. From the principal entrance a raised causeway runs N. towards E. Everley, intersecting a barrow in its course, and passing W. of a British village. At other points banks and ditches diverge like rays from the earthwork, and lead either to the remains of British villages or to groups of tumuli; S.W. 2 m., the *Twin Barrows*, enclosed by a ditch; and W. *Lidbury* and *Chisenbury*.

In the neighbourhood are traces of no less than 9 British villages: 1. on *Easton Hill*, N.; 2. on *Milton Hill*, N.; 3. on *Pewsey Heath*, N.W.; 4. at *Lid-*

bury, W.; 5. on *Comb Hill*, S.W.; 6. in a vale adjoining *Bulford Field*, S.W.; 7. on *Haxton Down*, W. of *Sidbury*; 8. between *Everley* and *Sidbury*; 9. on *Westdown Hill*, S. of *Sidbury*.

The old road from *East Everley* to *Salisbury* (15 m.) passes over the bare open downs, and, until recently, existed as a turnpike-road only as far as *East Everley*, beyond which it was linked together by tracks on the turf.]

To resume our route:

1½ m. beyond the road to *Ludgershill* the *Salisbury* road divides; that to the rt. traversing the lonely downs, which are known as *Salisbury Plain*.

1 m. rt. is *Sidbury Hill*.

3 m. the road crosses *West Down*, and beyond it runs for about 3 m. below *Beacon Hill*, a ridge 690 ft. above the level of the sea, the summit bearing the mark of the ordnance corps, who, in the trigonometrical survey, measured a base line from this point to *Old Sarum*. Numerous large barrows are disposed in groups about the valley and the neighbouring hills.

3 m. the traveller crosses one of the great western roads from *London* to the *Land's End*, skirted by an ancient bank and ditch, between the 75th and 76th milestones, and at the 74th joined by another, which descends to it from *Beacon Hill*.

[1 m. to the rt. is the town of *Amesbury*, and about 2 m. beyond *Amesbury*, *Stonehenge* (Rte. 7).]

3 m. About 1 m. to the rt. is *Ogbury Camp*, a circular entrenchment of 62 acres, regarded as an unaltered work of the Britons, but in the general opinion miscalled a camp. The reasons assigned are the absence of a fosse, and the name, the word *og*, said to signify a hurdle or boundary of a sheepfold. The rampart is, however, more than 30 ft. high.

3½ m. *Old Sarum* (Rte. 7).

½ m. *Salisbury*.

Returning to the l.-hand road, which runs through a valley enlivened by numerous villages, we reach in

2 m. *North Tidworth* (*Inn.*: Ram), a village pleasantly situated in a valley below the woodlands and prospect tower of

Tidworth Park, now the property of Mr. Sloane Stanley, but formerly the seat of T. Assheton Smith, Esq. This gentleman was distinguished for his ardent love and pursuit of the chace, and as the proprietor of a kennel and stables which were the admiration of sporting men. They accommodated 3 packs of hounds and about 30 hunters, which here led no life of luxurious ease; as the squire, before his great age incapacitated him, took the field on every week-day during the season. The gardens are very beautiful. They were the creation of Mr. Smith, who, on succeeding to the paternal property in 1826, rebuilt the family mansion, and remodelled the grounds on a grand scale. A conservatory, connected with the house and stables by a corridor, measures no less than 310 ft. in length by 40 in breadth. At the death of Mr. A. Smith in 1858, he had hunted the Tidworth country for the long period of 31 years. He commenced his career in Northamptonshire; then purchased the Quorn in Leicestershire, and afterwards worked the Burton Hunt in Lincolnshire. He was a bold and excellent rider—in his youth quite “a miracle on horseback”—and his numerous exploits have found a worthy chronicler in ‘Nimrod.’ His love of the chace remained to the last. He erected a lofty tower in his grounds, and from this elevated position he would watch the running of his hounds, when unable to follow them on the saddle. In memory of Mr. Smith, the “Tidworth Hunt” has been preserved: his hounds were presented by his widow to the county, and the Marquis of Ailesbury, Sir E. Antrobus, and

others, have undertaken the duties of a committee for their management; but a large portion of Mr. A. Smith's stables and exercising-house have been taken down. The mansion occupies the site of a manor-house reputed to have been haunted, in 1661, by an “invisible drummer,” immortalised by Addison in his comedy. North Tidworth then belonged to Mr. John Mompesson, who early in that year had sent a vagrant drummer before a magistrate. This man had been a soldier of Cromwell's, and was an escaped convict, tried and convicted for a wizard at Salisbury. The magistrate imprisoned him, and seized his drum, but the fellow soon contrived to elude his gaoler. The drum was then sent to Tidworth, and nothing further was heard of the supposed wizard until Mr. Mompesson's return from a visit to London, when he found his house and family disturbed by nocturnal noises of the strangest description. Thumping and drumming were the prevailing sounds; but these were varied by a scratching under the beds, by the panting of dogs, by the clinking of money, and by unearthly singing in the chimneys. The chairs and tables danced as if bewitched, and invisible beings appeared to flit about the house. The children had their hair pulled at night, marks, as of claws, were observed upon the stairs, and knives were found upright in the beds. This strange state of things continued throughout the year, the ingenuity of Mr. Mompesson and his friends being vainly exerted to unravel the mystery. North Tidworth, in 1607, was the birthplace of *Robert Maton*, an eccentric millenarian divine. In passing through the village notice the slate railing by the roadside, from Mr. A. Smith's Welsh quarries.

At a spot called *Hampshire Cross* our route enters Hampshire, in which it continues for 3 m.

1 m. The road traverses *Tidworth Park*; the house may be observed on the rt. To the l. is the hamlet of *South Tidworth*.

1 m. *Shipton* to the rt. If on foot, and bound to Amesbury (6 m.) or Stonehenge (8 m.), you may take a green road which strikes into the downs from this village.

1 m. Our route crosses the high road from Andover to Amesbury (6 m. W.), and re-enters Wilts. *Park House*, an inn, stands at the crossing, and near it an ancient bank and ditch traverse the neighbouring fields. In a S.E. direction is the oblong camp of *Quarley Hill* close above *Grately Station*.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Cholderton*, with a manor-house, now the property of the Dowager Countess Nelson. This was for years the residence of the family of Foyle, by whom it was probably built in the 17th centy. The *Church*, erected 1844 by Messrs. T. H. Wyatt and Brandon, is in the Perp. style, constructed to carry an ancient timber roof brought from one of the Eastern counties, with an octagon tower, and a spire at one of the angles of the W. front.

[2 m. S. of Cholderton the *London and S. W. Rly.* enters Wilts at the *Hampshire Gap*, 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from London, and runs side by side with the Roman road, rt., from Silchester to Old Sarum, to

78 m. *Porton Stat.*, and
83 m. *Salisbury*.]

The road we are pursuing follows the course of the Winterbourn stream, passing through pretty villages almost every $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, and running in the main parallel to the rly.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Cholderton is *Wilbury Park*, seat of Sir Alexander Malet, Bt., built by Auditor Benson. It is an estate of some 3000 acres, and was purchased by Sir Charles Malet in 1803. It is in the parish of *Newton Toney*, S.; the *Ch.* rebuilt 1844.
[*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*]

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Allington*. The tiny *Ch.* stands in a little retired dell surrounded with chalk hills. When Nicholas Fuller, a very learned divine, was rector here, he was suddenly sent for by Lancelot Andrewes, Bp. of Winchester. The poor man was very much afraid, not knowing what hurt he had done. A dish was put before him at dinner, and on raising the cover he found in it a Presentation to a Prebend. The Roman road from Old Sarum to Silchester in Hampshire pursued its course along the hills to the l.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *East Boscombe*. Of this place *Richard Hooker*, author of 'The Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity,' was rector, 1591-95, by the presentation of Archbp. Whitgift during the vacancy of the see of Salisbury; and here he wrote the first 4 books of his great work. Part of Hooker's Rectory-house still remains. The *ch.* is small and mean.

1 m. *Idmiston*. The Rev. *John Bowle*, a scholar in Spanish literature and vicar of Idmiston, lies buried in the church, b. 1725, d. 1788. He edited an edition of 'Don Quixote' in 6 vols. 4to., and was familiarly known as Don Bowle. The *ch.* has a good E. E. chancel with triple lancet, nave and aisles Perp., with a fine roof. It is a very good specimen of a village church.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Porton* (stat. of S. W. Rly.), has a small flint *Ch.*, with wooden belfry.

1 m. *Winterbourn Gunner*, so named from Gunnora, wife of Henry De la Mere, the lord of this place in the reign of Hen. III.

1 m. further down the stream are the villages of *Winterbourn Dauntsey*, so called from the Dauntsey family (Rte. 1) to whom it belonged temp. Edw. I., and *Winterbourn Earls*. The mean and dilapidated churches of these villages were pulled down, and a new one for the two erected 1868 from designs by T. H. Wyatt.

1 m. *Winterbourn Ford*, where the

Roman road from Winchester forded the stream on its way to Old Sarum. About 1 m. to the l. on the other side of the rly. is the conspicuous earthwork known since Stukeley's days as

Chlorus's Camp, but more truly *Figbury* or *Fripsbury Ring*, an entrenchment of 15 acres, remarkable for containing a deep ditch within the ramparts. The outer vallum girdling this circular camp is 46 ft. in height, and pierced by 3 entrances, pointing E., W., and S.; that towards the E. is fortified by outworks. On the S. are remains of the Roman road from Old Sarum to Winchester; and towards the N. and N.E. a network of Celtic banks and ditches. This camp was supposed by some to have been made by the Roman general and emperor Constantius Chlorus, who married Helena, the daughter of "Old King Coel," and whose son was Constantine the Great. But the only foundation for this fancy was the conceit of an old topographer, who wished to invent a connexion between "Clarendon" and "Chlorus." "It standeth," says Kennet, in his 'Paroch. Antiq.,' "upon the N. corner of Chlorendon Park, which taketh its name thereof." Old Sarum is a very conspicuous object to rt.

1 m. *Laverstock*, the *Ch.* of which was rebuilt in 1844. *Laverstock House* is a large private lunatic asylum. The *Hill* is the seat of W. H. Maund, Esq.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Salisbury*.

The old road from Andover to Salisbury enters Wilts at *Lobcombe Corner*, on Salisbury Plain.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. The *Pheasant Inn* or *Winterslow Hut*. Numerous banks and ditches and barrows to the rt., including 2 of the largest in the county. 1. *Winterslow*. The manor was held by John de Roches in the reign of Edw. III. by a singular service. Whenever the king should be staying

at Clarendon the lord of Winterslow should go to that palace, take from any vessel he chose as much wine as would be needful for making "one pitcher of claret," which he should make at the king's charge; that he should serve the king, and then keep for himself the cup, the wine that was left, and (better still) all the wine that was left in the vessel from which he drew it.

Winterslow House, in W. Winterslow, formerly a residence of the family of Fox, was burnt to the ground in 1774, on which occasion Henry Richard, 3rd Lord Holland, then only 6 weeks old, had a narrow escape of his life, being borne through the fire in the arms of his mother. The second Lord Holland had purchased the estate of the Thistlethwaytes. The father of the late Sir Benj. Brodie, as a friend of C. James Fox, was presented to the living, and here the eminent surgeon was born, 1783.

Wm. Hazlitt during a considerable portion of his life spent several months of each year at Winterslow Hut. The chief attraction was the thorough quiet of the place, the sole interruption of which was the passage to and fro of the London mails. The Hut stands in a valley equidistant about a mile from two tolerably high hills, at the summit of which on their approach, either way, the guards used to blow forth their admonition to the hostler. After his marriage in 1806, Hazlitt lived in the village, where Charles and Mary Lamb paid him frequent visits, "thorough Londoners in a thoroughly country place, delighted and wondering and wondered at," walking from 8 to 20 miles a day, and heartily enjoying the "quiet delicious lazy holiday." Hazlitt's 'Winterslow Essays' were written here.

In Oct. 1816, on a dark still night, Winterslow Hut was the scene of a curious incident. (The Exeter mail, on its road to London, was in the act

of pulling up, when the off leader was seized by a lioness. Great was the uproar which immediately sounded over the solitary Plain. It re-echoed with the cries of the affrighted passengers, 2 of whom impetuously rushed into the inn, and locked themselves into an upper chamber. In the mean time a large mastiff had bounded to the rescue, but it soon paid the penalty of its temerity. The lioness left the horse, which had fought with great spirit, and pursued the dog, which it killed within 40 yards. The keeper of the animal had, however, now arrived, and, with considerable risk to himself, contrived to drive it into an outhouse, and there secure it. It had escaped from a caravan on its way to Salisbury fair.

ROUTE 6.

DEVIZES TO SALISBURY. (TWO ROUTES.)

POTTERNE, MARKET LAVINGTON:
URCHFONT, SALISBURY PLAIN.

From Devizes there are two roads to Salisbury. That to the W. leads by comparatively sheltered valleys, and through villages, and is the more picturesque and agreeable. That to the E. conducts the traveller over the bleak rolling surface of Salisbury Plain. The length of both is nearly the same, about 24 or 25 m. To commence with that to the W. Starting from the S. end of Devizes.

2 m. *Potterne*, in a small sheltered valley, remarkable for the mildness of the air and picturesqueness of its position. The aisleless cruciform *Ch.* is a fine example of E.E. on a

large scale, well preserved and unmixed. It has a square central tower Perp. with fine stone lattice work in the belfry windows. The village contains some good half-timbered houses with ornamental bargeboards and projecting upper story.

4 m. *Market Lavington* (sometimes called *Steeple Lavington*, by mistake for *Staple* i.e. *Market Lavington*) pleasantly situated in a fertile valley at the base of the chalk-hills, which form the N. boundary of Salisbury Plain, consists chiefly of one street. It was the birth-place, 1674, of Bp. Tanner of St. Asaph, author of the *Notitia Monastica*, whose father was Vicar of the parish. The *Ch.* stands on elevated ground W. of the town.

West or *Bishop's Lavington* lies 1 m. S.W.; in a house still standing here, Captain Henry Penruddocke, son of Sir J. Penruddocke, was brutally killed as he was sleeping in his chair after 2 nights of hard service, by a party of Ludlow's troopers, Dec. 1644. An inscription in the *Ch.* specifies that he was "slain by a soldier of the contrary party." In the *Lords aisle*, are 2 altar tombs, to members of the Danvers family.

[2 m. W. are *Great* and *Little Cheverell*, of the former of which Sir James Stonehouse, the friend of Hannah More, and the "Mr. Johnson" of her 'Shepherd of Salisbury Plain,' was incumbent. The character of the shepherd was drawn from a poor man named Saunders, whose cottage is still pointed out on Cheverell Down.]

½ m. beyond Market Lavington the road climbs the down, and enters on Salisbury Plain, crossing on the crest of the hill the *Ridgeway*. It continues over the exposed surface of *Tilshead Down* and by the village of *Tilshead* where the Norm. or Transitional church deserves notice. *Tilshead Lodge* in the midst of the downs was built by Wm. Duke of Cumberland as a racing establishment. Crossing the embankment

known as the *Old Ditch* between the *White Barrow* rt., and *Silver Barrow* l. descends into the valley of Winterbourne, with its almost continuous line of villages. The first of these are

7 m. (from Lavington) *Orcheston St. Mary* and *Orcheston St. George*, which are succeeded by *Shrewton* (*Ch.* rebuilt, 1855), *Maddington*, and *Rolleston*, each with an ancient ch. not undeserving of a visit.

1½ m. S. of Rolleston is *Winterbourne Stoke*. The *Ch.* is cruciform but aisleless, with a central tower and turret. The N. transept is demolished. There are good Norm. N. and S. doors, an E. E. triplet at the E. end and an hourglass stand. In a tumulus near Winterbourne Stoke was found by Sir R. C. Hoare, a "Gleyn Neyder" or "Holy Adder Stone;" an article of much rarity, said to have possessed some wonderful virtues, which the Druids turned to account. About

¾ m. is *Berwick St. James*. The cruciform *Ch.* has a Norm. N. door, and a stone pulpit entered through the wall.

1¼ m. *Stapleford*.

1½ m. *Wishford* Stat.

2½ m. *Wilton* Stat.

2½ m. *Salisbury*. (See Rte. 10, *Salisbury* to *Westbury*.)

The other road to Salisbury leaves Devizes at the E. end of the town and for 3 m. runs nearly parallel with the rly. to Hungerford (Rte. 4).

4 m. rt. lies *Urchfont* which has a highly interesting cruciform ch., chiefly Decorated, with E. E. remains, and Perp. sq. tower at W. end crowned with a belfry turret. The chancel and S. porch are both vaulted in stone, and are of excellent workmanship. The porch is very curious, being roofed externally in stone, with arched ribs enriched by finials at the ridge. The ridge of the chancel roof has also a flowered ornament.

Beyond this Salisbury Plain Proper is entered, still a bleak expanse. One

of the first steps taken for its improvement was by Mr. Lawrence, landlord of the Bear Inn, Devizes (father of Sir Thomas L. the painter), who at his own expense, c. 1770, set up tall poles every ½ m. along the road to Salisbury. These have now given place to ordinary milestones; but the pioneer of civilization should not be forgotten. At the present day clumps of trees are to be seen on almost every hill (planted chiefly as shelter for game) and even here and there along the road. The great bulk of the land is still occupied as sheep-walks, but large tracts have been brought under cultivation. Farm buildings are seldom out of sight, and the farm-houses are usually provided with well-kept gardens. But the Plain still presents much the same aspect in the main as when "Thomas Ingoldsby" wrote:

"O Salisbury Plain is bleak and bare,
At least so I've heard many people declare,
For I fairly confess I never was there:
Not a shrub nor a tree,
Nor a bush can we see,
No hedges, no ditches, no gates, no stiles,
Much less a house or a cottage for miles.
It's a very sad thing to be caught in the rain
When night's coming on upon Salisbury Plain."

16 m. *Redhorn Turnpike* where the road crosses the ancient *Ridgeway*.

Broadway Camp is 2 m. E. The wild open country which the road crosses is appropriately known as "*Black Heath*."

18½ m. l. *Ell Barrow* (*Ell A.-S.* strange, foreign). A large bank and ditch traverse the country to the E. of it. N.E. 1 m. is a small entrenchment called *Castle Ditches*: and 3 m. in a similar direction,

Casterley Camp, an area of 64 acres surrounded by a single vallum 28 ft. in height. It was probably a British town. "It will be found," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "to be one of the most original and unaltered works of the British era which our county can produce." In the centre is a supposed sacred circle.

21½ m. The *Bustard Inn*, a good well kept house. In old times this inn would have afforded appropriate quarters, one might think, for a highwayman. According to the adage, "Salisbury Plain" was "seldom without a thief or twain." It is now a convenient sojourning place for those who wish to explore Stonehenge, 4 m. S.E., and the earthworks of Salisbury Plain, at their leisure. The Great Bustard was formerly common on the Wiltshire hills, but is now never to be seen. In 1801 one of these birds attacked a horseman in the country near Tilshead; and in January, 1856, a fine male specimen was captured near Hungerford. 2 were seen near Newbury, Berks, in 1864, but escaped capture. The Rev. W. Chafin, in a book written 48 years ago, mentions that once between Andover and Salisbury, he put up 25 bustards at once.

1 m. l. ancient earthworks; near a clump of trees called *Robin Hood's Ball* is an earthen circle without ditch or entrance, with another within it, and, at a distance of 2 m., *Knighton Long Barrow*.

24 m. *Stonehenge* 1½ m. to the l. The view on all sides is wild and dreary:

"the spacious plain
Of Sarum, spread like Ocean's boundless
round,

Where solitary Stonehenge, grey with moss,
Ruin of ages, nods." *Dyer's Fleece*.

27 m. The *Druid's Head* or *Woodford Hut*, a lonely inn; S.W. of it, on the slope of a hill, is a large ancient enclosure formed by a bank.

31 m. rt. the *Field of the Tournament* (see Rte. 7). Adjoining is the *Salisbury Cemetery*. On l. a noble view of Old Sarum.

2 m. *Salisbury*.

ROUTE 7.

ROMSEY TO SALISBURY. OLD SARUM, AMESBURY, STONEHENGE, WILTON, LONGFORD, CLARENDON.

The South-Western Railway from Southampton by Bishopstoke and Romsey enters Wiltshire at

20¼ m. *West Dean*, partly in Hants and partly in Wilts.

West Dean House, now pulled down, was formerly a seat of the Evelyns, and afterwards of the first Duke of Kingston, and is mentioned in the letters of his celebrated daughter, Lady Mary Montagu. The *Ch.* is rich in monuments of the Evelyns and Pierreponts; among them are those to John Evelyn and his lady, 1625, their kneeling effigies being represented in the costume of the time of James I.; Sir J. Evelyn, 1685, and a very conspicuous and eccentric pile of white marble, with long and strange epitaphs, to R. Pierrepont, 1669. In the village a mosaic pavement was discovered 1741.

[3½ m. S. on the other side of Dean Hill, which stretches its long chalk ridge dotted over with yews along the line of the rly. S., is

Milchet Park (or *Melchet*), formerly a royal Forest, purchased in 1821 by Lord Ashburton. The house, now residence of the Hon. and Rev. Fred. Baring, occupies an elevated site commanding a wide and beautiful view: on an eminence in the park stands a Hindoo temple, erected 1800 by its then possessor, Major Osborne, in memory of Warren Hastings. It was designed by Thomas Daniell, R.A., and constructed in artificial stone by Rossi, R.A. Over the portal is the figure of Ganesa, the genius of wisdom, and with-

in the temple a bust of Warren Hastings rising out of the sacred flower of the lotus.

6 m. S. of West Dean is

Landford, where a new *Ch.* has been built from designs by Butterfield. *Landford Manor House*, the seat of the Lyghs and Davenants, was purchased c. 1720 by John Eyre, and now belonging to the Countess Dowager Nelson, his descendant, had its chief front modernized towards the beginning of the 18th cent. *Landford Lodge*, originally Breach House, belonged to Dodington Egerton, and was bought 1776, by Sir W. Heathcote, of Hursley, who rebuilt it.

To the W. of Landford 8 m. is the wild wood of the *Earldoms*, originally granted by King Edmund to Wulfgar his Thane, which derives its name from having anciently belonged to the Earls of Pembroke. In its recesses is an entrenchment called *Castle Hill*, undoubtedly of British or Saxon origin, formed by a single rampart and ditch, which encircle a little spring which wells up in the enclosure. On the southern verge of these woods is *Hamptworth Lodge*, erected by R. Duncombe Shafto, Esq., M.P.

To the N.W. of the Earldoms is *New House* or *Tychebourne Park*, erected c. 1619, and enlarged by Chief Justice Eyre, 1689.

3 m. S. is *Whiteparish*, in which there stands, W. of the church, a manor-house of the Lynches of the time of James I., with some carved work in wood on the outside, and at the entrance of the village, N.E., in a pretty position, *Whelpley*, an ancient farmhouse, and "very interesting relic of the old yeoman's establishment;" and on an adjoining knoll, commanding a view over the New Forest to the sea, the remains of a chapel to St. Leonard. E. of Whiteparish is *Cowfield House*, mansion of the Lawrences, partly rebuilt 1815, but still preserving the traces of its Eliz. date. 2 m. W. is *Brick-*

worth House, a Jacobean mansion, but modernised and much injured by fire, for many years a seat of the Eyres, and now of the Countess Dowager Nelson.

In *Whiteparish Ch.* are monuments of the St. Barbes, and Eyres of Brickworth. There is one to *Giles Eyre*, Sheriff 1640, who resisted forced loans to Charles I., was plundered by royal troops and imprisoned. He was the father of Rev. Wm. Eyre of St. Edmund's Sarum, "a rigid Calvinist, enemy to tithes, and a purchaser of church revenues; in those sad times he by his doctrine advanced much the blessed cause at Sarum as Commissioner for scandalous ministers." —*Anthony à Wood.*]

22½ m. W. *East Grinstead*, 1½ m. N. *Farley*, birthplace of *Sir Stephen Fox*, founder of the noble families of Fox and Ilchester. The *Alms House* or *Hospital* at Farley contains a portrait of Sir Stephen, by Lely. In the brick church is a tablet to Charles James Fox, and a monument to Henry Thomas, Earl of Ilchester, by the younger Westmacott.

23 m. l. *West Grinstead*.

23½ m. l. *Alderbury*, where an E. Eng. *Ch.* with a spire was built in 1858.

Alderbury House, G. Fort, Esq., was erected with the materials of the ancient belfry of Salisbury Cathedral, pulled down by James Wyatt. [Here a line diverges l. by *Downton* to *Wimborne* (Rte. 12). Proceeding along the line we have *Clarendon Lodge* rt. and *Ivy Church* l., and reach

26½ m. *Milford Junction*, connecting the S.W. and G.W. railways, where the line strikes N., and piercing *Mizmaze Hill* by a tunnel reaches

28½ m. SALISBURY (*Inns*: White Hart; Red Lion; Three Swans). Population 12,278. [Railways diverge from Salisbury: the *Great Western* by Heytesbury and Warminster to

Westbury: the *South-Western* by Andover and Basingstoke to London; by Sherborne and Yeovil to Exeter; by Romsey and Bishopstoke to Southampton; and the *Salisbury and Dorset Junction* by Downton to Wimborne. The Stations are at Fisherton N.W. of the city.]

This cathedral and county town is situated in a valley at the confluence of 3 streams, the Upper Avon, Bourn, and Wily, and near the junction of a 4th, the Nadder, from which, until lately, copious rivulets flowed uncovered through the principal streets: from this Salisbury has been absurdly likened to a "heap of islets thrown together," and, with a bolder fancy, to Venice. The epitaph to Mr. Francis Hide, who died while secretary to the Embassy at Venice, runs,

"Born in the English Venice, thou dost lie,
Dear friend, in the Italian Salisbury."

After the fearful visitation of cholera in 1849, a thorough system of drainage was carried out in the years 1853-4, at an expense, including the water supply, of 27,000*l.* Salisbury is now one of the best drained and healthiest towns in the kingdom.

The plan of the city is remarkably regular, an advantage due to the fact of its being a new town laid out in its entirety at its first foundation, and not allowed to grow up without system, as is usually the case. Before the buildings were commenced the ground was very wisely partitioned into squares or "chequers," as they were called, and to this we owe the regularity and airiness of the place, the houses being arranged in rectangular groups, which face a thoroughfare on each side, and enclose in the centre an open space for yards and gardens, the streets running in straight lines—5 from N. to S., and as many from E. to W. It was once famous for clothing and cutlery, but both these manufactures have now dwindled to nothing.

Salisbury owes its origin to the re-

moval of the episcopal see from Old Sarum by Bp. Poore. The situation of Old Sarum, naturally strong and rendered almost impregnable by its formidable lines of entrenchment, was in many respects inconvenient. There was a scarcity of water; and the cathedral stood so high and exposed that, according to an old tradition, "when the wind did blow they could not hear the priest say mass."

"Est ibi defectus aque."

run the verses of Peter of Blois, himself a canon of Salisbury,—

"... sed copia creta,
Sævit ibi ventus, sed Philomela silet."

In addition to this, after the fall of Bishop Roger, the castle of Old Sarum, which up to that time had been in the custody of the bishops, was transferred by the King to the keeping of lay castellans; and the ecclesiastics complained of suffering much insult and annoyance from the castellans and their rude soldiery. On one occasion, after a solemn procession, they were shut out from their precincts, and compelled to remain without shelter during a long winter's night. At other times, even on solemn festivals, they were refused access to their own cathedral. "What has the house of the Lord to do with castles?" continues Peter of Blois: "it is the ark of the covenant in a temple of Baalim. Let us, in God's name, descend into the level. There are rich champaigns and fertile valleys, abounding in the fruits of the earth, and profusely watered by living streams. There is a seat for the Virgin patroness of our Church to which the whole world cannot produce a parallel."

Accordingly, license having been obtained from Pope Honorius, the long-expressed wishes for a removal were carried into effect by Bishop Poore. The site of the new cathedral, according to one tradition, was determined by an arrow shot from the ramparts of Old Sarum; accord-

ing to another, the site was revealed to Bishop Poore in a dream by the Virgin herself. There is evidence, however, that the lay inhabitants of Old Sarum as well as the Churchmen were beginning to find the limits of the castle somewhat too narrow, and that they were already removing to new habitations in the meadow of Merryfield, or Miryfield, where three streams — the Upper Avon, the Bourne, and the Wily—unite; and where, on the festival of St. Vitalis (April 28, 1220), the first stones of the existing cathedral of Salisbury were solemnly laid by Bishop Poore. The strong defences which at the period of the Conquest had rendered the castle of Old Sarum a desirable place of refuge, were no longer so greatly needed; and the land on which the new town and cathedral were building was the actual property of the Bishop.

Salisbury soon increased in extent and grew into importance. In 1227, Henry III., in the eleventh year of his reign, granted a charter to incorporate the new town, making it a *free city*, with the same extensive immunities and privileges as Winchester enjoyed. In 1278 Edward I. granted a charter confirmatory of the original one.

In 1244 Bishop Bingham availed himself of the royal charter granted to his predecessor, and brought the Icknield Street, or great western road, through Salisbury. [The original course of this road was over the hill from Old Sarum, through the rectory garden at Bemerton, and across the meadows towards the race-plain. Bishop Bingham diverted its course to the New City, and built the bridge over the Avon at Harnham.] This proceeding, so advantageous to the interests of the rising community, was most injurious to Wilton, and fatal to Old Sarum. In 1295, the city first sent members to Parliament. In the year 3110 a deep fosse was made by the

citizens (by permission of the Bishop) for the defence of the city on the north and north-east sides, it being sufficiently defended by the rivers on the south and south-west.

The new city soon began to take the place of the old one as an important centre of the national life of England, and its annals are illustrated with many stirring events. From its position on the great western road it was in times of civil commotion a place of importance, and particularly exposed to the passage of troops. Here, in 1289, the Commissioners met to arrange a match between Prince Edward and the Princess Margaret of Scotland, "the Maid of Norway," when 4 ambassadors from Eric, King of Norway, were also present. A great meeting of the Barons of the Realm was held here in 1298, when they refused to attend the King to Gascony. "By God, Earl," exclaimed the exasperated Edward to the Earl, either of Hereford or Norfolk, "Thou shalt either go or hang." "By God, King," was the cool reply, "I will neither go nor hang." A Parliament was held here April 20, 1384, when the Duke of Lancaster was accused by a Carmelite friar of a design of killing Richard II. A day was appointed for hearing the charge, but the day before the friar was found murdered. Salisbury was visited by Richard II. before his first expedition to Ireland. The citizens espoused the cause of Henry IV., and received letters of thanks from him for their attachment to his cause. The city was honoured by the presence of Henry VI., in 1434 and 1438, and his Queen in 1445, when all householders were ordered to provide themselves with "a good gown of blood-colour and a red hood." After Jack Cade's execution one of his quarters was sent here. The year 1484 witnessed a visit from Richard III., and the execution of the Duke of Buckingham, who had

been brought hither from Shrewsbury, where he had been betrayed and arrested. "Without arraignment or judgment he was in the open market-place, on a new scaffold, and put to death. This death he received at the hands of King Richard (III.), whom he had before, in his affairs, purposes, enterprises, holden, sustained, and set forward above all Goddess forbode."—*Hall's Chronicle*. The fact is "The deep-revolving witty Buckingham" had become too dangerous:—

"The first was I that helped thee to the crown,

The last was I that felt thy tyranny;
O, in the battle think on Buckingham,
And die in terror of thy guiltiness."

Richard III., Act v. sc. 3.

The execution is said to have taken place in the yard of the *Blue Boar Inn*, which stood on the site of the present *Saracen's Head*. A headless skeleton, wanting the right arm, exhumed in the kitchen of this inn in 1838, is supposed to have been Buckingham's, but more trustworthy accounts state that he was buried at the Grey Friars, London. The then Bishop of Salisbury, Lionel Woodville, was brother-in-law to the Duke, and his death, which occurred the next year, is supposed to have been hastened by the bloody end of his relative and the accumulated sorrows of his house. Salisbury was now frequently honoured by visits from royal personages. Henry VII. was here in 1491, and again, accompanied by his Queen and his mother, in 1496. Henry VIII. and Anne Boleyn in 1535. Edward VI. in 1551. In Mary's reign the fires of martyrdom were kindled here, and three men were burnt as heretics at Fisherton-field, March 23, 1556. Elizabeth was here on her progress to Bristol, 1574, and received a present of "a cup of gold, and 20*l.* in gold, whereat her majesty was both merry and pleasant." Salisbury was a favourite place of retirement of James I., who

liked the freedom from restraint, and facilities for the chase he found here. His first visit was in 1603, soon after his coronation, when he received, not a gold, but a silver-gilt cup, and 20*l.*, and his queen 20*l.* also. James always occupied the Palace during his visits, in the Hall of which, in 1618, he created Robert Viscount Lisle Earl of Leicester, and William Compton Earl of Northampton. Sir Walter Raleigh spent a few sad days here on his last journey to London. James was here, and Raleigh sought to gain time by feigning sickness by the aid of a French quack named Manourie. Here he wrote his 'Apology for the Voyage to Guiana.' Charles I. came here in 1625, when Davenant declined to resign his Palace to him, and the king moved on to Wilton. The year 1627 saw a much less welcome guest, the plague. A general panic and flight ensued. The excellent Mayor, John Ivie, proved himself a true Christian hero, and relieved the poor, checked insubordination, and repressed rapine and excess. At the period of the Rebellion it was alternately occupied by either party as they marched through the country—by Ludlow, then by Dodington, and next by Waller, who in turn retreated before the King and Prince Maurice. In 1645 Ludlow with a few horsemen held the Close against Sir Marmaduke Langdale, and for several hours maintained an unequal fight in the market place and adjoining streets, his troopers on one occasion charging through the narrow passage by the Poultry Cross. Oct. 17 of the same year Cromwell was here after the siege of Basing House. After the battle of Worcester Charles II. lay concealed for a few days near Salisbury, and at the King's Arms, St. John-street, his friends met in secret and successfully planned his escape. The city then regained the tranquillity it had lost, but in 1655 it was once again disturbed by the

abortive rising of Penruddocke and his companions, who entered it in considerable force at the time of the Assizes, captured the judges and sheriff, and proclaimed Charles II.; but meeting with no sympathy, retired, and were soon afterwards seized and executed. The memoirs of the excellent Lady Fanshawe present us with a pleasing picture. She and her family were accompanying Sir Richard, who was on his way to Portugal, charged with an important public mission, August 1662. "My husband and I and our children," she writes, "having begged of the Bishop (Humphry Henchman) a blessing at his own house, dined at Blandford." Charles II. took refuge here from fear of the plague in 1665. The last event of moment of which this city was the scene occurred at the memorable crisis of the Revolution of 1688. The army had been concentrated at Salisbury to oppose the Prince of Orange, but, his landing having been effected in Torbay, it hastened forward to welcome him, and James, who had taken up his quarters in the Palace, November 19, found it necessary to retrace his steps. On the 4th of December the Prince of Orange triumphantly entered the city, "with the same military pomp he had displayed at Exeter, and was lodged in the Palace James had occupied but a few days before."—*Macaulay*. A few days later William removed to Littlecote, where he received the welcome intelligence of the King's flight from London.

The Cathedral is the chief object of attraction to every visitor to Salisbury. In some respects it may be considered the first of our English cathedrals, and, taken as a whole, it must always hold a very high place among them.

"In this church," writes Mr. Fergusson, "we have a plan not only

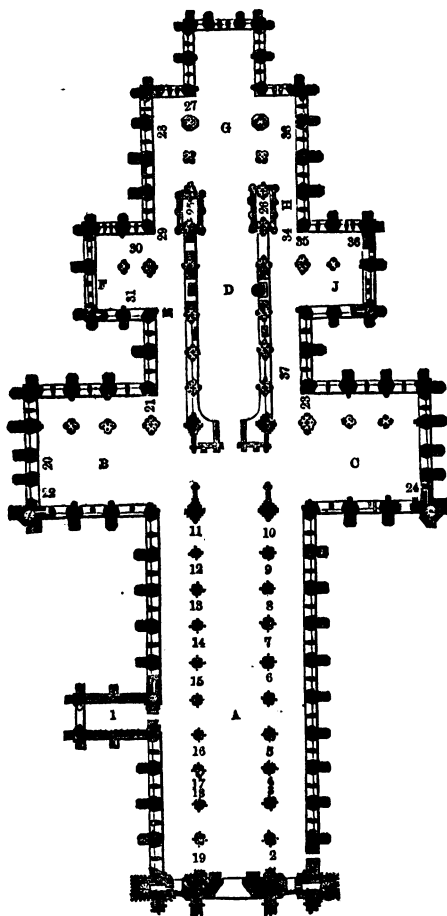
extremely beautiful, but perfectly original. There is scarcely any trace of French or foreign influence; everything is the result of the native elaboration during the previous century and a half. The apsidal arrangement, so universal in Norman cathedrals, has disappeared never to return (except in Westminster Abbey and Lichfield); and the square E. termination may henceforth be considered as established in this country—the early symbol of that independence which eventually led to the Reformation. When viewed from any point E. of the great transept, it displays one of the best proportioned and, at the same time, most poetic designs of the middle ages. The spire is among the most imposing objects of which Gothic architecture can boast."

The foundation was laid by Bishop Poore, April 28, 1220: the first stone for the Pope, Honorius III., who had consented to the removal of the church from Old Sarum; the second for Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury, then absent with the young king, Henry III., in the marches in Wales; and the third for Bishop Poore himself. The fourth stone was laid by William Longespée, Earl of Salisbury; and the fifth by the Countess Ela, his wife. Others of the nobles and clergy who were present then added to the foundations; and when the great body of the nobles returned with the King from Wales, many of them visited Salisbury, "and each laid his stone, binding himself to some special contribution for a period of seven years." In five years' time (1225) the work was so far advanced that three altars were consecrated by Bishop Poore, at the principal of which Henry III. and the Grand Justiciary, Hubert de Burgh, offered, the first ten marks and a piece of silk, the latter a "Textus," or book of the Gospels, richly adorned with gold and jewels. Bishop Poore's immediate successors, Robert Bing-

REFERENCES.

- A. Nave.
 B. North Transept.
 C. South Transept.
 D. Choir.
 E. North Choir-aisle.
 F. North-east Transept.
 G. Eastern Aisles and Lady-chapel.
 H. South Choir-aisle.
 J. South-east Transept.

1. North Porch.
2. Monument assigned to Bp. Herman.
3. Bp. Jocelyn.
4. Bp. Roger.
5. Unknown tomb.
6. Bp. Beauchamp.
7. Robert Lord Hungerford.
8. Lord Stourton.
9. Bp. de la Wyle.
10. Longespée the first Earl of Salisbury.
11. Sir John Cheney.
12. Walter, Lord Hungerford, and his wife.
13. Bp. Osmund.
14. Sir John de Montacute.
15. Unknown tomb.
16. Unknown tomb.
17. Longespée the second Earl of Salisbury.
18. Boy Bishop.
19. Unknown tomb.
20. Bp. Blythe.
21. Bp. Woodville.
22. Staircase leading to tower.
23. Bp. Mitford.
24. Doorway to Cloisters and Chapter-house.
25. Bp. Audley's Chantry.
26. Lord Hungerford's Chantry.
27. Sir Thomas Gorges.
28. Bp. Roger de Mortival.
29. Bp. Bingham.
30. Bp. Poore.
31. Brass of Bp. Wyvill.
32. Edward, Earl of Hertford.
33. William Wilton.
34. Bp. William of York.
35. Bp. Giles of Bridport.
36. Doorway to Muniment-room.
37. Sir Richard Mompesson.



ham (1229—1246), William of York (1246—1256), and Giles of Bridport (1256—1262), carried on with great zeal the building of the new cathedral, which in 1258, during the episcopate of Bishop Giles, was consecrated by Boniface of Savoy, Archbishop of Canterbury, in presence of Henry III. and his Queen. Before the completion of the cathedral, William Longespée died, and was buried in it; and the bodies of three bishops—Osmund, Roger, and Joscelyn—were brought to it from Old Sarum. Elias de Dereham, a personal friend of Bishop Poore's, acted as clerk of the works for the first twenty years, and a certain "Robertus" for the twenty following. The cost of the whole work is said to have been 40,000 marks, or 26,666*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* This sum was collected by contributions from the prebendaries themselves, by collections from different dioceses, to each of which a prebendary of Salisbury was duly despatched, and by liberal grants from various benefactors, such as Alicia de Bruere, who gave all the stone necessary for the work during twelve years.

The cloisters and chapter-house were commenced during the episcopate of Walter de la Wyle (1263—1270), and perhaps completed in that of his successor, Robert de Wickhampton (1270—1284). The spire (which seems, however, to have formed part of the original plan) was erected in the time of Bishop Robert de Wyvil (1330—1375).

The history of no English cathedral is so clear and so readily traceable as that of Salisbury. With the exception of St. Hugh's Choir at Lincoln (commenced 1192), it was the first great church built in England in what was then the new, or pointed style (Early English); of which it still remains, as a whole, one of the finest and most complete examples. The Abbey Church of Westminster, commenced in 1245, is

the only great building of this age, in England, which can be considered finer than Salisbury; and it is probable that Henry III. was induced to undertake the rebuilding of Westminster from admiration of the rising glories of the new Wiltshire cathedral, which he had several times visited.

The usual alterations took place in Salisbury Cathedral at the Reformation, when much of the painted glass is said to have been removed by Bishop Jewell. Although desolate and abandoned, it escaped material profanation during the Civil War; and workmen were even employed to keep it in repair, replying, says Dr. Pope (Life of Bishop Ward), when questioned by whom they were sent,—"Those who employ us will pay us; trouble not yourselves to enquire; whoever they are they do not desire to have their names known." On the Restoration, a report of the general condition of the cathedral was supplied by Sir Christopher Wren, and certain additions for the strengthening of the spire were made at his recommendation. The great work of destruction was reserved for a later period, and for more competent hands. Under Bishop Barrington (1782—1791) the architect James Wyatt was, unhappily, let loose upon Salisbury. He swept away screens, chapels, and porches; desecrated and destroyed the tombs of warriors and prelates; obliterated ancient paintings: flung stained glass by cart-loads into the city ditch; and levelled with the ground the campanile—of the same date as the cathedral itself—which stood on the N. side of the churchyard. "It was multangular in form, surmounted by a leaden spire with walls and buttresses similar to the chapter-house and cloisters, and a single pillar of Purbeck marble in the centre, supporting the bells and spire with its leaden covering."—His operations, which at the time were pronounced "tasteful, effective,

and judicious," will be noticed more at length in their proper places.

The *Close*, within which the cathedral stands, was first surrounded with an embattled wall in the reign of Edward III., who in 1326 granted a licence for this purpose, and in 1331 issued letters patent to the bishop and canons empowering them to remove for the building of the *Close* wall, and of the tower, the walls of the church of Old Sarum, which was still standing. Stones covered with carving of the Norman period, no doubt brought from this church, may still be seen over the N. gate of the *Close*, and in the wall S. of that leading into St. Anne's Street.

The *Close* has 4 gateways: *Harnham Gate* to the South; *St. Anne's* to the N.E., with a chapel over it; the *Cemetery Gate* at the end of the *High Street*, ornamented with a statue of James I. by Beckwith, on the S. front; and *Bishop's Gate* fronting Exeter Street.

Passing into the *Close*, the visitor finds himself confronted by the great cathedral, rising grey and time-honoured from the broad lawn of greensward that encircles it, and well contrasted by groups of fine trees, here as ever increasing the effect of noble architecture. The position is unusually clear and open; "Nor can the most curious, not to say cavilling, eye," says old Fuller, "desire anything which is wanting in this edifice, except possibly an ascent,—seeing such who address themselves hither for their devotions can hardly say with David, 'I will go up into the house of the Lord.'" The best point of view is from the north-east, which Rickman has pronounced "the best general view of a cathedral to be had in England, displaying the various portions of this interesting building to the greatest advantage." "The bold breaking of the outline by the two transepts, instead of cutting it up by buttresses and pinnacles," to which the N. porch may be added,

"is a master-stroke of art; and the noble central tower, which, though erected at a later age, was evidently intended from the first, crowns the whole composition with singular beauty."—*Fergusson*. The cathedral is built throughout with freestone obtained from the Chilmark quarries, situated about twelve miles from Salisbury, towards Hindon, and still worked. The stone belongs to the Portland beds of the oolite. The pillars and pilasters of the interior are of Purbeck shell-marble. The local rhyme in which the cathedral is celebrated may here be quoted; it is attributed by Godwin, who gives a Latin version of it, to a certain Daniel Rogers:—

"As many days as in one year there be,
So many windows in this church you see.
As many marble pillars here appear
As there are hours through the fleeting
year.
As many gates as moons one here does
view,
Strange tale to tell, yet not more strange
than true."

The point to which the attention of the stranger is at once drawn is, of course, the grand peculiarity of Salisbury, the "silent finger" of its *spire*. This is the loftiest in England, rising 400 feet above the pavement (Chichester, said, but very doubtfully, to have been built in imitation of it, is 271 feet in height; Norwich, 313 feet), and its summit is 30 feet above the top of St. Paul's. The central spire of Amiens, a mere *flèche* (422 feet) is 22 feet higher than Salisbury; and that of Strasburg (468 feet), the highest in the world, 68 feet. It may well be doubted, however, whether in general effect and in grace of proportion Salisbury should not occupy the first place.

It is almost certain, judging from the very remarkable abutments running through the clerestory of the nave, choir, and transepts, that the central tower and spire formed part of the original plan. The Early English portion, however, terminates

with the first story, about eight feet above the roof; the two additional stories and the spire above them date, as has already been stated, from the reign of Edward III. At each angle of the tower is an octagonal stair-turret, crowned with a small crocketed spire. The great spire, itself octagonal, rises from between four richly-decorated pinnacles. Its walls are two feet in thickness from the bottom to a height of twenty feet; from thence to the summit their thickness is only nine inches. The spire is filled with a remarkable frame of timber-work, which served as a scaffold during its erection. Whilst making some repairs in 1762, the workmen found a cavity on the south side of the capstone, in which was a leaden box, enclosing a second of wood which contained a piece of much decayed silk or fine linen, no doubt a relic (possibly of the Virgin, to whom the cathedral is dedicated) placed there in order to avert lightning and tempest.

Owing to a settlement in the two western tower-piers, the spire, as a plumb-line dropped from the vane indicates, is twenty-three inches out of the perpendicular. Great fears were in consequence entertained at one time for the safety of the building, but no further movement has been detected for the last two centuries. The test of the plumb-line was repeated Sept. 30, 1858—the 600th anniversary of the dedication of the cathedral.

The *West Front*, recently restored, very inferior as it is to those of Wells or Lincoln, is nevertheless striking. It was no doubt the portion of the cathedral last completed, as is especially indicated by the occurrence among its mouldings of the ball-flower, characteristic for the most part, of the Decorated style of the 14th cent. The front itself consists of a central compartment, rising into a steep gable, and flanked by two lower compartments, the angles of

which are supported by square buttress towers, capped by small spires. A small square buttress rises on each side of the central compartment, in which is a triple porch with canopies, and the western window, a triplet divided by slender clustered columns. In the gable are two double lancets. The entire front is divided into five stories by its mouldings, and the canopies of its blind arcades originally sheltered a host of more than a hundred statues, which are being restored to their places. The *Consecration Crosses*, on different parts of the exterior, are large and numerous. The *North Porch*, which serves as the usual entrance to the cathedral, is lofty and fine, lined with a double arcade, and having a chamber in its upper story. The pinnacles on either side of the gable should be noticed, and the entire porch may be compared with that at Christchurch, Hants, of the same age and character.

One of the most peculiar features of Salisbury cathedral, its *masonry*, has been especially noticed by Professor Willis:—"The regularity of the size of the stones is astonishing. As soon as they had finished one part, they copied it exactly in the next, even though the additional expense was considerable. The masonry runs in even bands, and you may follow it from the south transept, eastward, round to the north transept, after which they have not taken such great pains in their regularity. It is almost impossible to distinguish where they could have left off, for it is hardly to be supposed that they could have gone on with all the parts at the same time." This great regularity in the masonry, it should be observed, is a distinctive peculiarity of the Early English period.

We now enter the *Nave*, and the visitor, if he has passed into it through the north porch, should proceed at once to the western extremity, for the

sake of the general view. This is intercepted eastward by the organ and choir-screen; but the general effect, in spite of a certain coldness arising from want of stained glass, is exceedingly beautiful, the perfect uniformity of the architecture contributing not a little towards it. Even Wyatt's arrangement of the monuments, on the continuous plinth between each pier, monstrous in its principle, and altogether inaccurate in its execution, has a certain solemn grandeur when the two long rows of warriors and prelates are contemplated from the western end of the nave, without any examination of details. The nave itself is divided into ten bays by clustered columns of Purbeck marble. Above the nave-arches runs the beautiful *triforium* (which greatly resembles, and should be compared with, that of Westminster); and above again the clerestory windows (triple lancets) are placed, each in a bay of the vaulting. This, which is plain, without ridge-ribs, rises from clustered shafts with foliated capitals. The windows in the nave-aisles are double lancets.

A certain plainness of mouldings and deficiency of elaborate ornamentation which may be observed throughout the cathedral, and are characteristic of buildings early in the style, perhaps indicate that the original plans were carefully adhered to, although the work was extended over so many years. The plate-tracery of the triforium (the first form in which tracery appears, and so called because the tympanum of the arch always retains the character of a flat surface or *plate* of stone pierced with openings) is another characteristic of the first period of Early English architecture.

The height of the nave of Salisbury is 84 ft.; the width 82. Among English churches these proportions are exceeded only by Westminster, which is 103 feet high, but only 75 wide; and by York, 93 ft. high and 106 wide.

The greater part of the ancient stained glass throughout the cathedral was removed and destroyed during Wyatt's 'restoration.' The scanty fragments that remain were collected and placed about 30 years since in their present situations, in the west triplet of the nave, in the west window of each aisle of the nave, and in some other parts of the cathedral.

The *western triplet* is filled with glass of dates ranging from E.E. to cinque cento. The E. E. glass is of two periods, and consists of the remains of a Jesse window in the lower part and sides of the central light of the west triplet, c. 1240, and of some medallions removed from the windows of the chapter-house, not earlier than 1270. The Perp. and cinque-cento glass in the west triplet is said to have been brought partly from Rouen and partly from a church in the neighbourhood of Exeter.

The present arrangement of the monuments in the nave was made by Wyatt in 1789. Not only have they been displaced from their original positions, by which their historical interest has materially suffered, but their architectural portions (as the tombs on which effigies are lying) "are ignorantly made up of fragments evidently belonging to totally different erections, and to distinct periods from those to which the sculptured figures they support are attributable." Beginning at the W. end they are as follows:—

On the S. side, (2) a flat coffin-shaped stone, said to have been brought from Old Sarum, and to have covered the remains of Bishop Herman (d. 1078.) (3) (4) Immediately beyond are two slabs with figures in low relief, which are among the earliest examples of their class in England, their only rivals being the sepulchral slabs of two abbots (dates 1086 and 1172) in the cloisters of Westminster Abbey. They were brought from Old Sarum, and are

supposed to represent Bishop Joscelyn (d. 1184) and Bishop Roger (d. 1139). "The head of Bishop Joscelyn, though of very early work, is evidently a later addition to the original figure; the action of the right hand displays great feeling and considerable power of art."—*R. Westmacott*. On what appears to be the central ornament of his cope are the words "Affer opem devenies in idem;" on the edge of the slab is an inscription, commencing at the head of the figure.

In the slab of Bishop Roger "the treatment of the drapery and other parts is very characteristic of the rudest era of sculpture, closely resembling, in many respects that will occur to the antiquary, what is called the Etruscan style."—*R. W.* The foliage and ornaments are of early E. E. character.

(5) Unknown. (6) An altar-tomb removed from the north transept aisle, and now containing the remains of Bishop Beauchamp (d. 1482), whose chantry was destroyed by Wyatt, and whose own tomb was 'mis-laid' during the operations of the same great destructive. (7) The effigy of Robert Lord Hungerford (d. 1459), who served in France under the Regent Duke of Bedford, and whose widow, Margaret, daughter of Lord Botreaux, founded the Hungerford Chapel, destroyed, like Beauchamp's, by Wyatt. The tomb on which the effigy rests was made up from portions of that chapel. The figure has a collar of SS round the neck, and is in plate-armour,—an excellent example, shewing an approach to that extreme splendour which was attained under Richard III. All the pieces of armour are beautifully ridged, the origin of the fluted style so prevalent during the reign of Henry VII. — (*Meyrick*.) The highly-ornamented sword and dagger are suspended from a jewelled girdle. (8) Charles Lord Stourton, the original place of which was at

the east end of the church, near the Somerset monument. The 3 apertures on each side, representing wells or fountains, are emblematic of the six sources of the Stour, which rise near Stourhead, the ancient seat of the Stourtons, and occur in their armorial bearings. Lord Stourton was hung March 6, 1556, in the market-place at Salisbury, for the murder of the two Hartgills, father and son; the story running as follows:—"On the death of his father, Lord Stourton endeavoured to persuade his mother to enter into a bond not to marry again. The Hartgills, it appears,—a father and son, agents of the family,—were possessed of much influence with Lady Stourton, and on their refusal to further the designs of her son, he vowed vengeance against them, and commenced a system of persecution which was only to end with their death. This had continued for some time, and the Hartgills had been frequently way-laid and maltreated by ruffians hired for the purpose, when they sought redress at law, and obtained a verdict against Lord Stourton, who was sentenced to be fined, and imprisoned in the Fleet. After a while, however, he was allowed to revisit his country-seat, upon entering into a bond to return. It was then that he sent to the Hartgills, desiring them to meet him to be paid their fine, and this they consented to do at the sanctuary of Kilmington Church. On the day appointed they arrived, a table was placed on the grass, and the business commenced; but it had not proceeded far when at a signal from Lord Stourton the Hartgills were seized by armed men and pinioned, Lord Stourton himself assaulting with his sword the young wife of the son. They were then hurried to a house called Bonham, two miles distant, and again, in the dead of night, brought to a field adjoining Stourton, and there knocked on the head, Lord Stourton him-

self standing at his gallery-door to witness the deed. The bodies were then brought into the house, their throats were cut, and they were buried in a dungeon. But the disappearance of the Hartgills soon led to the discovery of these bloody doings, and Lord Stourton was committed to the Tower. He was tried in Westminster Hall, found guilty, and condemned to be hung, with four of his men." The only concession made to Lord Stourton's noble birth was that he should be hung by a silken cord. A twisted wire with a noose, emblematic of the halter, was hanging over the tomb as a memorial of his crime as late as the year 1775.

(9) The next effigy, much mutilated, is that of Bishop De la Wyle (d. 1270). The base is made up of fragments of much later date. (10) Last on this side, on his tomb, is the fine and very interesting effigy of William Longespée (d. 1226), first Earl of Salisbury of that name, and natural son of Henry II. "The manly, warrior character of the figure is particularly striking, even in the recumbent attitude, while the turn of the head, and the graceful flow of lines in the right hand and arm, with the natural, heavy fall of the chain-armor on that side, exhibit a feeling of art which would not do discredit to a very advanced school."—*R. Westmacott*. The effigy is entirely in chain-mail, covering the mouth as well as the chin in an unusual manner. Over the mail is the short cyclas or surcoat. On the earl's shield are the six golden lioncels also borne by his grandfather, Geoffrey Count of Anjou. Longespée acquired the earldom of Salisbury through marriage with its heiress, the Countess Ela. The earl and his countess, as has already been mentioned, had assisted in laying the foundation-stones of the cathedral in which he was now interred. The slab and effigy of this monument are of stone. The base is of wood, and all has been richly

painted and gilt. The wood within the arcade was covered with linen, on which was laid a white ground for gilding or silvering. On the N. side, the linen, with its silvering, remains, and each arch has different diaper pattern hatched with a point on the silver.

On the N. side of the nave, returning westward (11), opposite William Longespée, Sir John Cheyney (d. 1509). Round the neck, appended to a collar of SS, appears the portcullis-badge of Henry VII. Sir John, who was of extraordinary size and strength, was the standard-bearer of Henry of Richmond at the battle of Bosworth, and was unhorsed by Richard III. in that desperate final rush, when the King killed Sir William Brandon, and making a savage blow at Richmond himself, was overpowered by numbers, thrown from his horse, and killed. When the remains of Sir John Cheyney were removed by Wyatt from their original resting-place, the traditions of his great size were confirmed, the thigh-bone measuring 21 inches, nearly 3 inches longer than ordinary. (12) The tombs below Sir John's are those of Walter Lord Hungerford and his wife. The brasses have been removed. (13) A low altar-tomb, on the covering-slab of which is the date 1099. This was formerly in the Lady-chapel, and is a memorial, if not the actual tomb, of Bp. Osmund (d. 1099), the sainted patron of Salisbury. (14) The effigy of Sir John de Montacute (d. 1389), younger son of William, the first Montacute Earl of Salisbury. He was present at the battle of Cressy, and served in Scotland under Richard II. His effigy "affords a good specimen of highly-ornamented gauntlets, of a contrivance for the easier bending of the body, at the bottom of the breastplate, and of the elegant manner of twisting the hanging sword-belt, pendent from the military girdle, round the upper part of the sword."

—*Meyrick*. The two next tombs (15, 16) are unappropriated. (17) The effigy of the *second Longespée*, Earl of Salisbury (d. 1250), son of Earl William, already noticed. It is cross-legged; and the chain-armour has elbow-plates, and "poleyns," or small plates of mail at the knees. Earl William II. was twice a crusader; in 1240, returning in 1242; and again in 1249, when he joined St. Louis of France at Damietta. Early in the following year he accompanied a body of Christians, led by the brother of Louis, towards Cairo. They were surprised and surrounded by the Saracens; and Longespée, with his standard-bearer, fell fighting valiantly. His remains were at length delivered to the Christians, who deposited them in the Church of the Holy Cross, at Acre. This monument is said to have been raised by his mother. (18) Beyond is the curious monument of the Boy Bishop, removed to its present place about the year 1680, when it was found buried under the seating of the choir. It is of E. E. character. The boy, or choral bishop, was elected by the boys of the choir on St. Nicholas day (Dec. 6); and until Holy Innocents' day (Dec. 28), he sustained the dignity of bishop, the other choristers representing his prebendaries. A solemn service, with a procession, was performed by the children on the eve of Innocents' day. The custom, which was not confined to Salisbury, was forbidden by Henry VIII., and finally abolished by Elizabeth. In this case the boy bishop must have died during his time of "brief authority." (19) The last tomb on this side—an ancient one—is that of some unknown personage. Against the west wall of the nave, on either side of the entrance, are—north, a monument for Dr. Turberville, an oculist of Salisbury, died 1696; and south, a monument of Rysbräck for Thomas, Lord Wyndham, died 1745.

From the nave we enter the *North*

Transept, passing under the wide Perp. arch, which (as at Canterbury and Wells), was inserted early in the 15th centy. by way of counter-thrust against the weight of the central tower, under which the central piers had already given way to some extent, as will be at once perceived. The triforium and clerestory of the nave are carried round the transept; the triforium, on the N. side, being replaced by two-light windows of very elegant character. The clerestory window above with its slender pilasters, and graceful flow of lines, deserves especial notice. Each transept has an eastern aisle divided by clustered piers into three chapels. The screens which formerly enclosed them were swept away by Wyatt.

The *monuments* to be noticed in this transept are three by Flaxman,—the most important to William Benson Earle, the bas-relief on which represents the Good Samaritan. The other two are to Walter and William Long. "There is nothing extraordinary in the design, but the workmanship is good, and there is real feeling in the heads."—*Waagen*. The monument to James Harris, author of 'Hermes,' is by Bacon; that to his son, the first Earl of Malmesbury, by *Chantrey*. The seated figure of Sir Richard Colt Hoare, the historian of Wiltshire, is the work of Lucas, a native of Salisbury. Remark also, against the W. wall of the transept, a memorial of *John Britton*, one of the fathers of modern archæology, placed here, in the cathedral of his native county, by the Royal Institute of British Architects, in 1857. Against the N. wall is the mutilated effigy of a bishop, probably Bp. Blyth, d. 1499 (20); and partly in the eastern aisle is a large tomb with canopy, assigned to Bp. Woodville, d. 1484 (21).

A staircase in the angle of the transept leads upward to the *tower*, which may be ascended by staircases in each of its corner turrets. The

top of the tower is called the "Eight Doors," from the double doors on each side, through which the visitor will obtain magnificent views over the town and surrounding country. The first story of the tower is of E. E. date, and originally formed a lantern, open to the nave. It is surrounded by an arcade of slender pilasters. The ascent of the *spire*—which is a formidable undertaking—is made internally by a series of slender ladders as far as a little door about 40 ft. below the vane; and from that point the adventurous climber has to scale the outside by means of hooks attached to the walls. The interior is filled with a timber frame, consisting of a central piece with arms and braces. This entire frame, the arms of which were made to support floors which served as scaffolds whilst the spire was building, is hung to the capstone of the spire by iron cross bars, and by the iron standard of the vane, which is fixed to the upper part of the central piece. Great additional strength is thus given to the whole shell of the spire, and especially to its summit. The arms and braces are not mortised into the central piece, but are so fitted as to be removed at pleasure, for the sake of easy repair.

The *South Transept* is in all respects a counterpart of the north. The windows of the S. end of this transept are filled with stained glass; that in the two uppermost lights being E. E. The rest contain modern copies of the E. E. patterns. The principal monuments in this transept are, between the S. choir-aisle and that of the transept,—the very fine altar-tomb, with effigy, of Bishop Mitford, d. 1407 (23). The panels and arches of the tomb deserve notice; and the effigy itself, of white marble, is unusually solemn and impressive. In the hollow moulding of the canopy are birds bearing scrolls, with the inscription, "Honor Dei et gloria." Against the E. wall

of the aisle is a small quatrefoil in Caen stone, enclosing a floriated cross, designed by *Pugin*, for Lieut. Wm. Fisher, killed at Moodkee, Dec. 18, 1845; and near the S.E. angle, a modern memorial of unusual character, for Bp. Fisher, d. 1825, and buried at Windsor. Against the S. wall is the monument of Edward Poore, d. 1780, and his wife; and on the W. wall, the monument with bust of Lord Chief Justice Hyde, Lord Clarendon's first cousin, d. 1665. A door at the S.W. angle of this transept leads into the Cloisters and Chapter House.

Returning to the central tower-arches (the *lierne vault* above which is *Perp.*), we enter the Choir. The *organ-screen*, under which we pass, is formed of fragments from the Hungerford and Beauchamp chapels, destroyed by Wyatt. The *organ* itself, built by Green, of Isleworth, was the gift of George III. in the character of a "Berkshire gentleman," as the inscription on its W. front testifies. Until 1836, Berkshire formed part of the diocese of Salisbury.

On passing into the *choir* the "coldness and leanness" which have been complained of as detracting from the effect of this cathedral become more apparent than in the nave; mainly owing, however, to the widespread destruction wrought by Wyatt in this part of the edifice. He removed the reredos behind the high altar, and the screen at the entrance of the Lady-chapel; thus throwing open the low eastern aisle and the Lady-chapel itself to the choir. The altar was placed at the eastern end of the Lady-chapel, from which monuments and chantries were ruthlessly swept away. The effect thus produced is decidedly not good; and although a very high reredos entirely shutting out the eastern end of a cathedral is always a dis-sight, the present condition of Salisbury is a sufficient proof that such

a screen cannot be entirely dispensed with. The staining of the wood-work, and the rich colouring of the glass recently placed in the Lady-chapel, have materially improved the appearance of the choir since the time of Wyatt.

The architecture of the choir,—piers, triforium, and clerestory,—differs in no respect from that of the nave. Above the 3 arches at the eastern end, the triforium, instead of its ordinary grouping, is formed by 5 small arches with cinquefoil headings. Above is a triplet window, with a blind paneling on either side. The glass in this window, the subject of which is the elevation of the brazen serpent, was the gift of the Earl of Radnor in 1781. It was executed by Pearson, after a design by Mortimer; and is not without merit. "The colouring is lively, and the picture has a certain degree of brilliancy."

—C. Winston.

The stalls and bishop's throne, dated originally from the episcopate of Bishop Hume (1766—1782), but were remodelled and canopies added by Wyatt. They have been stained of a dark oak colour, and the name of the prebend to which each stall is appropriated is placed at the back.

Opposite each other, in the second bay of the choir counting from the E., are the chapels of (25) Bp. Audley, and of (26) Walter Lord Hungerford, the latter removed in 1778 by the Earl of Radnor, who claimed descent from the Hungerford family, *Bp. Audley's chantry* (d. 1524) is one of the few monuments occupying their original places in the cathedral. It is a very fine example of late Perp.; and may be compared, though far less rich in all its details, with the almost contemporary monument of Bp. Fox at Winchester. The numerous figures which filled the niches have long since been removed. The arms and initials of the founder appear on the

shields projecting from the cornice, and supporting the episcopal mitre. The interior, which retains much bright colouring, has a rich fan-vault. The *Hungerford Chapel* (c. 1429) opposite, interesting as an example of early ironwork, has suffered more serious degradation, in spite of its restoration and blazoned shields. It has been converted into a pew for the Radnor family, for which purpose it was removed from its proper situation in the nave. The upper part is entirely of iron, with the projections gilt. The arms on the different compartments of the base are those of the founder and his two wives. On the ceiling within are a series of bearings, illustrating the descent of Lord Radnor from the Hungerfords. Iron chapels, such as the present, are rare, especially of so early a date. The finest and most elaborate example is the chantry of Edward IV. (died 1483), in St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

From the Choir we pass into the low eastern aisle behind it, now open both to the choir and the Lady-chapel. The aisle itself is narrower and of less importance than the "procession paths" of either Winchester or Exeter; but the slender clustered shafts which separate it from the Lady-chapel invest this part of the cathedral with unusual grace and beauty. The height of each shaft is 30 ft., and the diameter little more than 10 inches. The *Lady-chapel* is divided by similar clusters and by single shafts, into a central and two side-aisles. The slender, and almost reed-like columns assist in carrying the vault. At the E. end is a triple lancet, with an additional light on either side; the intervening space being occupied by an exterior buttress. All five lights have recently been filled with stained glass in commemoration of the late Dean Lear. The subjects represented are the principal events in the life of our Saviour. This

glass has replaced an indifferent painted window, displaying the Resurrection, from a design by Sir Joshua Reynolds. The *altar-piece*, below the window, is a curious composition. The three central niches formed the original altar-piece of the Beauchamp Chapel (date 1481), whilst those on either side were constructed from the entrances to that and to the Hungerford Chapel (date 1470), both of which were destroyed by Wyatt. Both were rich and highly decorated, as their remains fully prove. The canopies of the niches under the side-windows of the Lady-chapel were formed by a cornice from the Beauchamp chantry. In this chapel, after his canonization in 1456, stood the magnificent shrine of St. Osmund, whose tomb in the nave has already been noticed.

On the N. side of the altar, but without any memorial or inscription, are interred six Earls and four Countesses of Pembroke, the first laid here having been Earl Henry, d. 1601; his countess, d. 1621,

"The glory of all verse,
Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother,"

also lies here, unrecorded like the rest. Her epitaph is written on pages more enduring than brass or marble, in the 'Arcadia,' and in Ben Jonson's (or Browne's) verses. Her son, Earl William, d. 1630, and Earl Philip, d. 1669—the unworthy original of the wonderful picture at Wilton—also repose here.

At the E. end of the *North Choir Aisle* is the monument of Sir Thomas Gorges (27), of Longford Castle, and of his widow, Helena Snachenberg, a fine example of "the very worst taste of design." Four twisted pillars support the entablature with its ornaments,—obelisks, globes, spheres, and the cardinal virtues. The effigies of the knight and his lady lie beneath this "heavy load." The latter accompanied the Princess Cecilia of Sweden to England, where

she became one of Queen Elizabeth's maids of honour, and married, first the Marquis of Northampton, and afterwards Sir Thomas Gorges. The monument was erected in the year of her death by her son, Edward Lord Gorges, Baron of Dundalk. Under an arch in the north wall of this aisle is a tomb with a cross fleury in relief, assigned to Bp. *Roger de Mortival* (28), d. 1227. The stone slab on which it is set is said to have covered the remains of Bp. *Longespée*, d. 1396, son of the second Earl William Longespée. In the same aisle, at the back of the choir, in the bay below the Audley Chapel, is the tomb assigned—but questionably—to Bp. *Bingham* (29), d. 1246. The existing structure seems of later date. The crockets of the arch are enriched with figures of angels; and from the centre rises a lofty pinnacle in 3 stories. The slab was inlaid with a brass, which has disappeared.

In the N. E. *Transept*, now called the Morning Chapel, the chief objects of interest are the monument of Bp. Poore and the brass of Bp. Wyvil. Small secondary transepts, such as these at Salisbury, occur also at Canterbury, Lincoln, Worcester, and Beverley; and on the continent, the great conventual church of Cluny (now destroyed) afforded a fine example of the same arrangement. The ground-plan of the entire ch. was thus made to resemble a double or archiepiscopal cross. This arrangement is cited by M. Didron as an indication of a certain Byzantine influence to be found in architectural works in England. This plan is found at Athens and Mt. Athos, in buildings of a very early period.—*Iconographie Chrétienne*, pp. 371, 382.

The effigy said to be that of Bp. Poore (30) was removed by Wyatt from its original position on the N. side of the high altar. The bishop himself, the founder of the existing cathedral, was translated to Durham

in the year 1228, where, according to authentic records, his body was conveyed after his death in 1237. There seems to be no sufficient reason for believing that he was interred in his former cathedral of Salisbury, but he may possibly have had a monument erected there as the founder and especial benefactor of the new church. The effigy, which is in many respects a striking one, may very well be of his period, and the turrets at the head of the canopy perhaps refer to his church building. Over the centre of the arch is an angel supporting the circle and crescent of the sun and moon. The leafed heading of the bishop's crozier is unusually graceful.

Immediately within the entrance to the transept is the very curious brass (removed from the nave) of (31) Bp. Wyvil (d. 1375). This bishop recovered for the see Sherborne Castle, which King Stephen had seized from the warlike hands of Bishop Roger. It had been granted by Edward III. to William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, against whom the bishop brought a writ of right. The disputants agreed to abide by the trial by battle, and both produced their champions in the lists. But the matter was compromised, the earl ceding the castle on payment of 2500 marks. The brass represents the contested castle, with keep and portcullis. At the door of the first ward appears the bishop with mitre and crozier, bestowing the episcopal benediction on his champion, who stands at the gate of the outer ward in a close-fitting "Jack," with a battle-axe or "uncinus," the weapon appropriated to judicial combat, in his right hand and a shield in his left. The rabbits and hares before the castle gate refer to the chase of Bishop's Bere within Windsor Forest, a grant or restitution of which was also procured by Bishop Wyvil.

The gravestone of Bishop Jewel (d. 1571), from which a small brass

has been removed, and that of Bishop Gheast (d. 1576), still retaining his effigy, lie near the great brass of Bishop Wyvil. Both were removed from the choir.

A lavatory, of early Perp. character, which formerly stood near the vestry, and is now placed in this transept, should also be remarked.

Returning through the E. aisle we enter the S. *choir-aisle*, at the E. end of which is the stately though tasteless monument (partly blocking the windows) of the unfortunate Edward Earl of Hertford (d. 1621), and of his still more unfortunate Countess, the Lady Catherine Grey, who died in 1563, nearly sixty years before him. The Earl of Hertford, it need hardly be said, was long imprisoned by Elizabeth for his private marriage with the sister of Lady Jane Grey, who had certain claims to the royal succession. His wife, after her release from the Tower, was separated from her husband, and died in the following year. "It is worth while to read the epitaph on his (Lord Hertford's) monument, an affecting testimony to the purity and faithfulness of an attachment rendered still more sacred by misfortune and time. Quo desiderio veteres revocavit amores."* Charles Duke of Somerset (the "proud" duke) and his wife, the famous heiress of the Percys, are also interred here; and the monument, which is gilt and painted, was restored by the late Duke of Northumberland.

In the S.E. angle of this aisle is the altar-tomb (formerly assigned to Bishop Wickhampton) of (33) Wm. Wilton, Chancellor of Sarum, 1506-1523. The shields on the cornice bear the device of Henry VIII. (a rose) and that of Catherine of Aragon (a pomegranate); the arms of Bishop Audley, Wilton's patron; and of Abingdon Abbey, to which he may have been formerly attached.

* Hallam, 'Const. Hist. Eng.,' chap. iii.

Other shields display his rebus, the letters W. I. L. on a label, and a *ton* or barrel. Immediately below the Hungerford chantry is a tomb from which the brass has been removed, (34) ascribed, but most improbably, to Bishop William of York (d. 1267). The canopy is certainly of much later date. Adjoining, and near the choir door, is a memorial for Dean Clarke (d. 1757), the friend of Newton.

The monument (35) opposite William of York's, between the choir-aisle and the eastern aisle of the transept, is one of the most important and interesting in the cathedral. It is that of Bishop Giles de Bridport (d. 1262), during whose episcopate the cathedral was completed and dedicated. All the details of this remarkable monument deserve the most careful examination. The effigy, at the head of which are small figures of censing angels, lies beneath a canopy, supported, north and south, by two open arches, with quatrefoils in the heads. Each arch is subdivided by a central pilaster, and springs from clustered shafts, detached. A triangular hood-moulding, with crockets and finials of leafage, projects above each arch; and between and beyond the arches pilasters rise to the top of the canopy, supporting finials of very excellent design. "The sculptures of this monument are indeed remarkable productions for the time of their execution, and in many respects are well worthy the study and imitation of artists of our own day."—*R. Westmacott*. The sculptures both here and in the chapter-house must have been executed by artists who were contemporary with Niccola Pisano (born circ. 1200, d. 1276).

The S.E. transept contains memorial windows of stained glass for the officers and men of the 62nd or Wiltshire Regiment, who fell during the campaign of the Sutlej, 1845-46, and for those of the same regiment who fell in the Crimea. Both win-

dows were the gift of surviving comrades. Here is also a tablet for Bowles the poet (a canon of Salisbury), d. 1850; and two small ones, erected by him for Hooker and Chillingworth, both prebendaries of this cathedral. Remark also the monuments of Bishop Burgess (d. 1837), and of Bishop Seth Ward (d. 1689). On the floor is the gravestone of Dean Young, father of the poet.

The *monument room*, which is entered from this transept, is a dimly-lighted octagon, the oaken roof of which is supported by a central column of wood. In the chests and presses contained in this room are deposited the various charters and other documents connected with the cathedral and its property, in admirable preservation and order.

In the S. *choir-aisle*, which we now re-enter, are the monuments of Bishop Davenant (d. 1641); of Bishop Salcot, or Capon (d. 1557); and of (37) Sir Richard Mompesson and his wife (d. 1627). This last is a good example of the time. The grapes and vine-leaves which cluster about the black marble pillars are coloured green and gold.

We may now return to the S.W. transept and pass into the cloisters, above the E. walk of which is the *library*, a long room, built by Bishop Jewel, 1559-1571, and fitted up by Bp. Gheste 1571-1576. The number of printed books is about 5000, and 130 manuscript volumes are also preserved here, many of which are of considerable importance. The earliest is the Gregorian Liturgy, with an A.-Saxon version. The pen-drawings of the capital letters are remarkable. An early copy of Geoffrey of Monmouth, and a copy of Magna Charta, supposed to be the transcript committed to the care of William Longespée, Earl of Salisbury, as one of the original witnesses, should also be mentioned.

The *cloisters* themselves, which are of later date, and exhibit a more

developed style than the rest of the cathedral, are among the finest in England; and nothing can be more beautiful than the contrast of their long grey arcades and graceful windows with the greensward of the cloister-garth, or "Paradise," the "layers of shade" of the dusky cedars in its centre, and the patch of bright blue sky above. The length of each side is 181 feet. The arrangement of the windows, with their large six-foiled openings above, and the double arches below, again subdivided by a slender pilaster, is very striking. They should be compared with the triforium of the cathedral. Remark also the gradation of the clustered shafts, originally of Purbeck marble, between and in the centre of each window. The upper part, above the mullions, was originally glazed, and fragments of the stained glass still remain. A blind arcade fills the opposite side, between each bay of the vaulting, which, like that within the cathedral, has no ridge-ribs. The clustered columns at the angles of the cloisters have enriched capitals, the rest are simply moulded. The building of the cloisters must have immediately followed that of the cathedral, since the chapter-house, which opens from them, and is perhaps of slightly later character, dates early in the reign of Edward I., many of whose pennies, during the recent restoration, were found in those parts of the foundations which required under-pinning. The cloisters were restored by Bishop Denison, who d. 1854, and is buried, with his first wife, in the central enclosure. The original Purbeck shafts were then replaced by common stone, "to the no small detriment of the general effect."

In the centre of the E. walk of the cloisters is the entrance to the *Chapter-house*, dating early in the reign of Edward I. It is "a noble octagonal building, having an internal diameter of about fifty-eight feet. Each side

is occupied by a large window of four lights, with an arcade of seven bays below it; the vaulting-ribs fall upon a central pillar, and their filling-in is composed of the same light concrete found throughout the cathedral. Whether there was or was not anciently a high-pointed roof remains a disputed point. All we know is, that the present roof is modern, and that the poinçon has evidently formed part of an older roof contemporary with the building. The great defect of the structure is its want of boldness; externally the buttresses do not project far enough, and internally the small columns at the angles look flat, and resemble reeds. Altogether, the impression is left on the spectator that the architect, whoever he might have been, was by no means up to the mark of the designers of Westminster, Canterbury, or Wells." — *W. Burges*. A plinth of stone, supporting 42 niches for as many prebendaries, runs round below the windows; and at the east end is a raised seat, divided into seven compartments, for the bishop and his principal dignitaries. The arcade, on this side alone, has double shafts. The restoration of the entire building, which had fallen dangerously out of repair, was commenced soon after the death, and as a memoria of, Bishop Denison, under the superintendence of Mr. Clutton; and after the works had been partly completed, the chapter-house was re-opened with a solemn service in July, 1856. The Purbeck shafts have been cleaned and polished; the floor has been laid with Minton's encaustic tiles; the walls of the arcade have also been diapered; the colouring and gilding of the roof has been restored; the windows have been newly glazed; and, most important of all, the sculptures, which had been much mutilated, have been carefully restored, and are resplendent in all the glories of polychrome.

These sculptures fill the voussoirs

of the arch in the vestibule, and the spandrels of the arcade below the windows in the chapter-house itself, and are among the most interesting remains of early Gothic art which exist either in England or on the Continent. The doorway forming the entrance to the chapter-house from the cloister is of great beauty. The niche in the centre of the arch is at present empty, and it is impossible to determine the subject of the sculpture with which it was filled. (A coronation of the Virgin, as "Mater justitiæ, misericordiæ, caritatis," and other virtues, has been suggested). In the voussours are fourteen small niches, containing figures of the different virtues trampling on the vices. This subject, partly owing to the popularity of the Psychomachia of Prudentius, was an especial favourite throughout the middle ages, and almost every large church had its pictured or sculptured virtues and vices. "Canterbury has them incised on the stone historiated pavement round the shrine of Becket; Chartres has them sculptured on the west portal of the N. transept, but without the vices." — *W. Burges*. These at Salisbury are not very readily interpreted.

Within the chapter-house, starting from the quatrefoil above the entrance, as a centre, "run first a series of heads, representing the various conditions of life at the time the edifice was constructed. Thus we see the shaven monk, the in and out-door costume of the fine lady, the nun, the merchant, the sailor, the countryman, and many others. Then, above these, and filling in the spandrels of the arcade running below the windows, is the history of man, from the creation to the delivery of the ten commandments on Mount Sinai. It will thus be perceived that the series begins and ends with the ministrations of our Lord."

The subjects in the arcades are as follows:—

[*Wills, Dorset, &c.*]

West arcade (left of doorway).—
1. God creates the light. 2. Creation of the firmament.

North-west arcade.—1. Creation of the trees. 2. Creation of sun and moon. 3. Creation of fishes and birds. 4. Creation of beasts, and of Adam and Eve. 5. God rests on the seventh day; He is blessing the earth. 6. God shows Adam the tree of good and evil. 7. Adam and Eve eating of the fruit of the tree. 8. Adam and Eve hide themselves.

North arcade.—1. The Expulsion. Remark the door of paradise—yellow, with black foliated hinges. 2. Adam working a spade. Eve suckling Cain. 3. Sacrifice of Cain and Abel. 4. Murder of Abel. 5. God sentences Cain. Abel's blood crying from the earth is represented by Abel buried in it up to his arm-pits, praying. 6. God commands Noah to build the ark. He is at work with an auger. The ark has the figure-head of a dog. 7. Noah enters the ark at one end; at the other he receives the dove with the olive-branch. The raven is seen feeding on the dead bodies. 8. Noah prunes his vineyard; the vines are trained on a trellis in the Italian fashion.

North-east arcade.—1. The drunkenness of Noah. 2. The building of the tower of Babel. An inclined plane with pieces across is used instead of a ladder. 3. Abraham implores the three angels to stay with him. He is on one knee, and the angels are in albs with the amice. 4. Abraham waits on the angels at table. One of them has his hand on a fish. 5. Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. 6. Lot's departure. His wife is turned into a pillar of salt. 7. Abraham leading the ass, with Isaac on its back. 8. Abraham, about to slay his son, is stayed by the angel.

East arcade.—1. Blessing of Jacob. Rebecca listening at the door. 2. Blessing of Esau. 3. Rebecca sends

Jacob to Padan Aram. 4. Jacob takes the top off the well to give water to Rachel's cattle. One beast is a camel. 5. Rachel brings Jacob to her father. 6. Jacob talks with the angel. Two others are near. 7. The angel touches Jacob on the thigh with a stick. 8. Meeting of Esau and Jacob. Leah and Rachel behind with the sheep.

South-east arcade.—1. Joseph's dream. 2. Joseph tells his dream to his father, mother, and brothers. 3. (1) Joseph seized by one of his brothers. (2) He is put into the well. (3) A kid has its throat cut over Joseph's garment. 4. (1) Joseph is sold to the seneschal of the King of Egypt. (This variation from the biblical narrative occurs also in the magnificent Cottonian MS. known as Queen Mary's Psalter.) (2) The seneschal on horseback with Joseph behind him. 5. The brothers bring back the coat. 6. The seneschal presents Joseph to Pharaoh, who gives a stick into his hand. 7. Temptation of Joseph by Pharaoh's queen, not, as in the Bible, by Potiphar's wife. Both this and the former scene occur also in the MS. 8. Joseph accused.

South arcade.—1. Joseph is put in prison. 2. (1) The baker is hung. (2) The butler offers the cup to Pharaoh. 3. Pharaoh's dream. 4. Pharaoh consults a magician (?). 5. (1) Joseph delivered from prison; (2) kneels before Pharaoh. 6. Joseph seated, presiding over the threshing of the corn. A man throws straw into the Nile. In the MS. Joseph communicates the intelligence that there is corn in Egypt by throwing straw into the river, which thus reaches his father, "com il est en soun chastel." 7. (1) Arrival of the brothers. (2) One of them on his knees before Pharaoh. 8. (1) Presentation of Benjamin to Joseph. (2) The cup is put into his sack.

South-west arcade.—1. The cup found in Benjamin's sack. 2. (1)

The brethren on their knees before Joseph. (2) Joseph falls on Benjamin's neck. 3. Jacob and his family going into Egypt. They are on foot. 4. The brethren imploring Joseph not to take vengeance on them after Jacob's death. 5. The subject very doubtful. It possibly represents Joseph embracing his family and assuring them of his protection. 6. Moses and the burning bush. 7. Passage of the Red Sea. 8. Destruction of Pharaoh and his host. Armed figures with shields (one of which is kite-shaped) and banners in a carriage.

West arcade (right of doorway):—

1. Moses strikes the rock. 2. God gives the Law to Moses.

An ancient table, which stands in the chapter-house, and is apparently of the early Dec. period, should be noticed. It has been carefully restored.

A door from the cloisters opens into the grounds of the *Episcopal Palace*, a very long irregular but picturesque pile of building, the chief feature of which is the gateway tower. The most interesting part is the Hall, dating from 1460, and hung with portraits of the bishops since the Restoration, chiefly copies. Those of Hyde, Burnet, Sherlock, Barrington, and Douglas, are originals. The Palace was sold by the Puritans to one Van Ling, a Dutch tailor, who did much harm, converting part into an inn, and letting out the rest into tenements. A good view of the chapter-house is obtained from the lovely garden; and a very fine one of the cathedral itself, from a seat nearly opposite the gateway of the palace. The wonderful height of the tower and spire here shews to the greatest advantage. The palace was entirely remodelled by Bp. Barrington, who made a new entrance. Before this it is described as "one of the most gloomy mansions that can be imagined."

DIMENSIONS OF THE CATHEDRAL.

INSIDE.		Ft. In.
Length of Nave, 229 ft. 6 in.;	} Total	449 0
Choir, 151 ft.; Lady		
Chapel, 68 ft. 6 in.		
Principal Transept	203 10	
Eastern Transept	143 0	
Width of Nave and choir from pillar	} 34 3	
to pillar		
Aisles from pillar to wall	17 6	
Principal Transept, with Aisle	50 4	
Eastern Transept, with Aisle	38 10	
Height of Vaulting of the Nave, Choir,	} 81 0	
and Transepts		
Aisles and Lady Chapel	39 9	
OUTSIDE.		
Extreme length	473 0	
Length of Principal Transept	229 7	
Eastern Transept	170 0	
Width of West Front	111 4	
Nave and Aisles	99 4	
Principal Transept, with	} 81 4	
its Aisles		
Eastern Transept	65 0	
Height from pavement to top of Spire	400 0	
to top of parapet wall of Nave	87 0	
Aisles	44 0	
Roof	115 0	
West Front	130 0	

The admeasurement round the exterior is 880 yards, or half a mile.

DIMENSIONS OF THE CHAPTER-HOUSE.

Out to out of the walls, diameter	78 feet.
In the clear within side	58 "
Height of the vaulted ceiling	52 "

Several of the houses that surround the Close are of architectural or historical interest. That to the N. of St. Anne's Gate was the residence of James, or "Hermes" Harris, who used to give concerts and private theatricals in the chapel over the gate. The house to the S. of the gate was once occupied by Fielding the novelist, who wrote a large portion of his 'Tom Jones' in a mansion at the foot of Milford Hill. The residential house, formerly tenanted by Archdeacon Coxe, and afterwards by Canon Bowles, is a gabled building to the N.E. of the Close, with some remains of a Hall, and an E. E. chapel. Another residential house, at the N.W. corner, also preserves some portion of its chapel.

The *Deanery* is an irregular pile of building opposite the W. front. The *King's House*, a very picturesque [*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*]

gabled mansion, is now a Training College for Schoolmistresses. The *Wardrobe*, N. of Deanery, deserves notice. *Leydyn Hall* was once the residence of Abp. Chichele.

Near the N. entrance into the Close from High-street l. is the *Matron's College*, a long low red brick building in the fashion of the time, which was founded and endowed by Seth Ward, Bishop of Sarum, in 1682, for the maintenance of 10 widows of clergymen of the Established Church.

The *Parish Churches* of Salisbury are not very remarkable.

St. Thomas's of Canterbury, founded by Bp. Bingham 1240, restored with new woodwork by Street, 1868, in the centre of the city, close to the Market Place, is a good specimen of a rich Perp. Town Church, with roofs of carved timber, and panelling over the nave arches with which the clerestory windows are combined. The S. aisle was the chantry of W. Swayne, whose name and arms appear on its ceiling. That of the N. aisle was repaired by Wm. Ludlow; butler to Hen. IV., V., VI., to whom is ascribed an altar-tomb in the chancel. In the chancel are monuments to the Eyres of New House, and on the exterior wall, near the W. door, there is a rude bas-relief representing the reconciliation of Jacob and Esau, flanked by the Sacrifice of Abraham, and Jacob's Vision, carved by *Humphrey Beckwith*, a self-taught sculptor of this city, d. 1671, as a monument to himself. In the Vestry is preserved a fine *antependium*.

St. Edmund's, at the N.E. extremity of the city, was originally a Collegiate Ch. founded for Secular Canons by Bp. De la Wyle in 1268, and dedicated to the recently canonized Edmund Rich, Abp. of Canterbury, who had been Treasurer of Salisbury. In 1653 the central tower fell, and so completely crushed the transept and nave, that it was found necessary to take them down. The choir was retained as sufficient for

the wants of the parish, and forms the nave of the existing Ch., to which a chancel has been added, from Scott's designs, replacing one of debased character. The fall of the tower is commemorated by a tablet with a curious inscription above the W. door.

St. Edmund's Ch. is historically interesting from its connection with one of Abp. Laud's most notorious acts of arbitrary power. One Sherfield, then Recorder of the city, being offended with the pictures in some of the painted windows of the Ch., especially one of the Creation, in which the Deity was represented as an old man, broke them with his staff. In this act of Protestant zeal he was proceeded against in the Star Chamber 1632-3, and sentenced to be deprived of his office (this was not carried into effect), to pay 1000*l.* to the King (afterwards lowered to 500*l.*), and to make a public acknowledgment of his offence in the Church.

St. Edmund's Schools (Woodyer, Arch.) form a picturesque group of buildings near the churchyard, which is overshadowed with avenues of limes. The chief schoolroom has a fine ancient wooden roof.

In the College adjoining is preserved the cathedral porch, removed by Wyatt from the front of the N. transept. The spire and pinnacles are modern. The old fosse of the city crossed the site of the pleasure-ground, and in levelling it 1771, nearly 30 skeletons and rusty weapons were found. This is supposed to have been the scene of the fierce struggle in which Old Sarum was captured by the Saxons under Cynric, A.D. 552.

St. Martin's, at the E. extremity of the city has a nave with gabled aisles, of equal height, and large Perp. windows. There is a tower and a spire at the W. end of the S. aisle. The chancel has some lancet windows, and there is a Norman font and a brass eagle.

The *Roman Catholic Chapel*, dedicated to *St. Osmund*, was erected from the designs of the elder Pugin.

Harnham and *Fisherton*, though generally considered as suburbs of Salisbury, are much more ancient than the city itself. "*Harnham* was a pretty village ere Salisbury was builded," writes a chronicler; and *Fisherton* is mentioned in Domesday book as *Fiscartone*, held in the time of Edward the Confessor by Godric.

The old church of *Fisherton* has been pulled down and a new church erected not far from the Railway termini, in the style of the close of the 13th century.

The *Church of E. Harnham*, on the hill beyond the limits of the city S., was erected (1854) by Mr. Wyatt as a memorial to the late Dean Lear. It is a small but very beautiful structure in the Dec. style, with porch and bell-turret, and, in the interior, some good carving and painted glass.

West Harnham Ch. contains a good Norman N. door; an E. E. chancel arch; an early font; and a singular squint in the chantry. The old part of *Harnham Mill*, temp. Hen. VII. or VIII., is very curious.

St. Nicholas' Hospital forms a very picturesque and interesting pile of building between the S. wall of the Close and *Harnham Bridge*. It was founded under the auspices of Bp. Poore 1227, by Ela, the widow of Wm. Longespée, Earl of Salisbury, for poor men and women. The buildings form 3 sides of a quadrangle: on the N. are the apartments for the brothers and sisters, 12 in number, showing much original work; the domestic offices to the E.; and the chapel and chaplain's apartments to the S. The chaplain's lodgings are formed out of the W. end of the original church. The west gable shows 2 lancets and a quatrefoil circle. The eastern gable has also 2 lancets and an octofoil over. The whole is pure E. Eng., and has been well restored by Mr. Butterfield.

Harnham Bridge was built over the Nadder by Bp. Bingham, 1244. The central pier built on an islet supports the remains of an E. Eng. chapel of St. John the Baptist, now incorporated with a dwelling-house, and divided into 3 stories. The E. end still shows 3 lancets, and 4 may be traced on each side, and a piscina basin within. The chaplain's dormitory is on the opposite side of the bridge.

The *Market Place* is a large open square near the centre of the city. This was the scene of the execution of the Duke of Buckingham 1483, described above. At the S.E. corner stands the *Council House*, a heavy building, erected 1788-1794, from designs by Sir Robert Taylor, by Jacob Earl of Radnor, Recorder of the city. The *Council Room*, 75 ft. by 24 ft., contains the following portraits:—Charles I. and II.; Queen Anne, by *Dahl*; the Earl of Radnor, founder of the building; and the late William Hussey, Esq., M.P. (bearing in his hand the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons, which resolved that "the influence of the Crown had increased, was increasing, and ought to be diminished"), by *Hoppner*. The *Grand Jury Room* also contains some good original portraits of various benefactors to the city: viz., King James I.; John, Duke of Somerset; Bishop Seth Ward; Sir Robert Hyde, Chief Justice of England; Sir Samuel Eyre, Justice of the King's Bench; Sir Thomas White, founder of St. John's College, in Oxford; William Chiffinch, Esq., Master of the Wardrobe to King Charles II.; Bishop Douglas, and Bishop Fisher.

In front of the Council Chamber, on a pedestal of polished Cornish granite, is a bronze statue, by Baron Marochetti, of the late Lord Herbert of Lea, who as Mr. Sidney Herbert for many years represented the Southern Division of Wiltshire in Parliament.

The new *Market House*, erected by a Joint Stock Company, was opened May 24th, 1859. It is connected by a branch line with the London and South-Western Railway. The façade consists of 3 arches, corresponding to the 3 aisles of the building, divided by rusticated Tuscan piers.

Leaving the Market-place by a narrow passage at the S.W. corner, we come to the *Poultry Cross*, where poultry, fruit, vegetables, &c., are sold. It consists of 6 arches between as many massive buttress-piers, forming an open hexagon. In the centre is a pillar, square at the bottom, but towards the top of 6 sides, round which are clustered demi-angels holding blank shields, said to have once borne inscriptions. A square pillar with sun dials has been appropriately replaced by a canopy surmounted with the cross.

Salisbury still contains many interesting remains of mediæval architecture, though the number is diminishing every year with the march of modern improvement.

One of the earliest and best specimens is to be seen in a house with carved gables, adjoining the Poultry Cross, now occupied by a watchmaker.

The finest example of mediæval domestic architecture existing in the city is the *Halle of John Halle*, now the show-room of Mr. Watson, china merchant, on the Canal. This noble banqueting-room was built, c. 1470, by John Halle, an eminent woolstapler, who flourished in the reigns of Henry VI. and Edward IV. It is open to the lofty roof, which is of dark oak or chesnut, the compartments formed by the intersection of the timbers ornamented with white fans of plaster beautifully contrasting with the dark wood. The south end of the hall is occupied by a large oak screen or cabinet, the carving and figures of which are extremely elaborate and curious. Above it is a painting by

the late A. W. Pugin, who, gratuitously, began and finished it at once, in 6 hours. In the S.E. corner is a low pointed door, formerly the only entrance into the apartment. On the opposite side is the massive stone fire-place. High up on the walls are busts of angels holding shields, on which are painted arms and the merchant's mark; lower down hang some fine stately portraits. A brilliant series of armorial bearings run through the lofty mullioned windows, which are glazed with stained glass.

The *George Inn* stands in the High Street at the end of the Canal. A passage under a carved gateway conducts to a court, along the S. side of which ran one of those covered galleries often seen in the court-yards of old inns. These premises are mentioned as far back as the year 1406, in the city Domesday or Register as the "George Inn." It was visited by Pepys in 1668, who writes, "Came to the George Inne, where lay in a silk bed, and very good diet." But he adds, that the reckoning was so exorbitant, particularly the charge for horse-hire, and 7s. 6d. for bread and beer, that he was "mad," and resolved to trouble the mistress about it, and get something for the poor.* A large part of this interesting old house has been pulled down, and the whole will probably be soon destroyed.

Near Crane Bridge is the *City Workhouse*, a building early in the 15th cent. This was formerly called Audley house, and belonged to Mervin, Lord Audley, who suffered death on Tower Hill for infamous crimes, in 1631. His property was forfeited, and his house in Crane street escheated to the Bishop as Lord of the Manor, by whom it was presented to the city as a workhouse and house of correction.

In St. John's-street, below the White Hart, is a house which bears

the name of the *King's Arms*, which after the battle of Worcester, while Charles II. lay concealed at *Heale House*, was the secret rendezvous of the royalists, where Lord Wilmot and Henry Peters, a faithful servant of Colonel Wyndham's of Trent, found a secure asylum, and concerted measures for effecting the King's escape to the coast.

In St. Ann-street is the *Joiners' Hall*. The front is all that now remains, the inside having been completely modernized, and fitted up as 2 dwellings. The windows still contain some stained glass, and rest on brackets of grotesque figures. Below runs a frieze, on which are carved roses and griffins with most voluminous tails, said to be the handy-work of Humphrey Beckwith. The hall itself has been destroyed, but some of the oak carvings are still in the possession of the proprietor of the Hall.

The *Tailors' Hall* is situated at the end of a narrow passage leading out of Milford-street. The Giant and Hob-nob, relics of the Midsummer shows and city pageants, now in the Museum, were formerly kept in this deserted hall. Round the walls are many little shields, about the size of the palm of one's hand, inscribed with the initials of the members, and the date of their admission. The arms of the Company are over the fire-place, and a mutilated St. Christopher, in stained glass, in one of the windows. There are portraits of Charles I. and his Queen. The confraternity of Tailors is the only one of the ancient chartered companies now existing in Salisbury.

In *New Street*, at the last house, called *Mitre Corner*, being the first spot where a house was built in New Salisbury, and where Bp. Poore lived, every new prelate used to be invested in his robes of office, and conducted thence to the Cathedral.

The *Salisbury and South Wilts Museum* in St. Ann Street is open to the

* Pepys's Diary, li. 237-8.

public (free) daily, from 2 to 5 (Saturday excepted), and on Monday evening from 8 to 9.

The collection is arranged in 3 rooms. In the *first* room is a fine collection of British birds, exhibited by Mr. Henry Blackmore. It is intended to devote this room to the display of objects illustrative of the *Natural History* of the neighbourhood of Salisbury. The *second* room contains the *archæological specimens*. The mediæval objects secured during the excavations made in Salisbury for drainage purposes are of great interest. These consist of pilgrims' signs, spurs, arrow-heads, daggers, swords, knives, spoons, workmen's tools, keys, rings, &c. A small but illustrative series of pottery and porcelain is shown. The *third* (circular) room contains the *geological specimens*. Especial prominence has been given to fossils derived from the local geological formations, and among these should be noticed a series of fossils from the upper chalk, exhibited by Mr. C. J. Read, and a slab of stone, obtained by that gentleman from the insect bed of the Vale of Wardour, containing a very large number of specimens of *Archæoniscus Brodiei*.

The *Blackmore Museum* is open to the public (free) the same days and hours as the *Salisbury and South Wilts Museum*. This museum was founded by Mr. William Blackmore, of Liverpool and London, in 1864; it is supported entirely at his expense, although placed by him under the management of the Committee of the *Salisbury and South Wilts Museum*.

The collection, which is wholly illustrative of prehistoric archæology, is arranged in four groups. 1. Remains of animals found associated with the works of prehistoric man. 2. Implements of stone. 3. Implements of bronze. 4. Implements, weapons, and ornaments of modern savages, which serve to throw light upon the use of similar objects be-

longing to prehistoric times. In *Group 1* are placed the mammalian remains obtained from the local brick-earth at Fisherton, including teeth and bones of cave lion, cave hyæna, wolf, fox, mammoth, rhinoceros, musk-sheep, &c. These have been named and arranged by Dr. Blackmore.—*Group 2* includes the finest and the most extensive series of flint implements from the "drift" of England to be seen in any public museum. About one-fourth of the specimens have been obtained from the valley-gravels (drift) of the neighbourhood of Salisbury. These drift implements, and the objects exhibited from the bone-caves of France, belong to the *palæolithic* or old-stone period. In the *neolithic* series are stone hatchets, arrow-heads, and implements from various parts of England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, France, Switzerland, Italy, Belgium, Denmark, and Sweden; from Algeria and the Cape of Good Hope; from the East Indies; from the West Indies; and from Canada and the United States of America. The collection from the sites of ancient lake-villages (Pfahlbauten) of Switzerland claims special notice, as also does the unique series of sculptured stone pipes and other objects, obtained from the tumuli of the Scioto valley, Ohio, and so well known by archæologists as the "Squier and Davis" collection.—*Group 3*. The bronze objects consist of swords, daggers, spear-heads, and celts. These have been selected from a very large number, with reference to minor typical peculiarities; and as such, they, and the celts in particular, form a most instructive series. Specimens are shown from England, Ireland, France, Germany, Sweden, and America.—In *Group 4* are weapons, implements, and ornaments in use by the Esquimaux, the Ahts of the N.W. coast of America, the Prairie Indians, the Indians of British Guiana, the Fuegians, the Poly-

nesians, the Melanesians, and various semi-savage tribes of the African continent.

Few collections are calculated to throw more light upon the habits of prehistoric man than that in the Blackmore Museum. The stone, bronze, and modern groups have been arranged by Mr. Edward T. Stevens, to whose energy and labour the satisfactory completion of this fine collection must be in a great measure attributed. Catalogues may be obtained at the Museum.

Salisbury can boast of some distinguished natives and residents.

Philip Massinger the dramatist, b. 1584, *James Harris* the philologist, known from his celebrated work as "*Hermes Harris*," b. 1709, and *Thomas Chiffinch* the infamous agent of the intrigues of Charles II., b. 1600, were natives of the city; *William Lawes* the musician, the almost equally gifted brother of *Henry Lawes* (b. at Dinton) (to whom we are indebted for the suggestion of Milton's "*Comus*," and the author of the dedicatory epistle to it), was born in the Close, 1603. Their father, *Thomas Lawes*, was a Vicar Choral of the cathedral, of which *Matthew Wise*, d. 1687, the ecclesiastical composer, was organist. *Chubb "the Deist,"* author of the '*Sufficiency of Reason in Religion*,' designated by Pope, in writing to Gay, as "a wonderful phenomenon of Wiltshire," was born at East Harnham, 1679, apprenticed to a glove-maker, and became the leading spirit of a debating club. He was the original of the "Square" of Fielding's "*Tom Jones*," while "*Thwackum*" was drawn from Hele, master of the Close Grammar School. *Joseph Addison*, born at Milston, near Amesbury, was educated in the Grammar School here.

To these we may not improperly add

John of Salisbury, born at Old

Sarum, 1110, who, according to Leland, combined in himself "omnem scientiarum orbem," described by Bale as "a good Latinist, Grecian, mathematician, musician, philosopher, divine, and what-not," who died Bishop of Chartres, 1182, author of "*Polycraticon*," dedicated to Becket.

Salisbury may be wisely selected by the tourist as the centre for excursions. The chief excursions that may be made from the city are those to (1) *Stonehenge* and *Amesbury*, including *Old Sarum*; (2) *Wilton House* (shown Wednesdays and Fridays) including *Benerton*; (3) *Longford Castle* (shown Tuesdays and Fridays) including *Trafalgar House* and *Clarendon*; and (4) *Wardour Castle* (shown Wednesdays and Fridays).

[STONEHENGE will probably be the first object selected by the tourist for a visit. This wonderful and mysterious monument of antiquity lies about 1½ m. W. of Amesbury, 9 m. from Salisbury. The best plan is to take a carriage (charge from White Hart, there and back, 10s. 6d. for one horse, 21s. for a pair; if Wilton is included, an additional 2 miles, the charge is 2s. more), going by *Old Sarum*, and returning by *Lake House* and *Heale House* and the *Valley of the Avon*.

2 m. rt. is *Old Sarum*, a huge conical knoll, presenting in the open country a bold outline that instantly attracts the stranger's eye. It is now a bare hill encircled with entrenchments, with a central mound peering above them; but for centuries this spot was crowded with buildings, religious, military, and domestic, and was one of the most important cities in our island. Some say (but it is doubtful) that the ancient British name was *Caer Sarflog*, the "City of the Service Tree;" its Roman name was *Sorbidunum*, the Saxon *Scarobyrig*. The face of the hill is quite smooth and very steep. The summit is

fenced by a mighty earthen rampart and ditch, the height from the top of the one to the bottom of the other being 106 ft. The surface of the hill within this vallum is an elongated circular area of $27\frac{1}{2}$ acres. In the centre of this area is a second circular earthwork and ditch 100 ft. in height; and within these stood the citadel. On the top of the earthwork surrounding the citadel was a very strong wall, 12 ft. thick, of flint embedded in rubble, and coated with square stones, of which some portion remains. To the great outer earthwork there were two entrances, one (guarded by a hornwork still remaining) on the western, another (the postern) on the eastern side. The site of the citadel is now overgrown with briars and brushwood: the rest of the area is partly in a state of nature, partly cultivated. Though there may have been a British stronghold here, still it is the opinion of good antiquaries that there is now no British work to be seen; that when the Romans took possession of the hill they defended it by a simple escarpment, without any ditch, but with outworks at the entrances; and that the ditch now on the face of the scarp, as well as the central citadel and its defences were added by the Saxons, perhaps by Alfred, who, in his war with the Danes, certainly paid great attention to strengthening the position. The foundations of the cathedral (B. V. M.) were visible in the very dry summer of 1834. It was in form a plain cross, 270 ft. long by 70 wide: the transept of the same width, and 150 ft. long. Its plan is remarkable for having a square instead of an apsidal E. end, and a Galilee or Atrium at the W. end. Several Roman roads radiated from the city: to Silchester, Winchester, Dorchester, Uphill on the Bristol Channel, and others, it is believed, to Bath and Marlborough. Cynric the Saxon won it by a victory over the Britons in 552.

In 960 Edgar held his council here. In 1003 Sweyn and the Danes are said to have stormed it. In 1036 Canute died here. Its name became Sarum, and afterwards, towards Norman times, Sarisbirie and Salisbirie (the letters *r* and *l* being often interchanged, just as Ambresbury is written in Domesday Book *Amblesberie*). In the time of the Confessor a monastery of nuns was established. Wessex had undergone many subdivisions of dioceses; and about 1072 two sees, Wiltshire and Sherborne, were reunited and transferred to Old Sarum, Herman being the first bishop. William I. gave the lordship to his nephew Osmund, who afterwards succeeded Herman in the see. In 1086 the king assembled here, the year before his death, all the barons of the realm to renew their oath of fealty. Bishop Osmund finished his new cathedral in 1091, and established the new ritual "*ad usum Sarum*." Henry I.'s celebrated chancellor, Bishop Roger, improved both the church and fortifications. In the reign of Stephen the place began to decline. The soldiers and priests cooped up in so small a space could not agree. The situation was cold and windy, and water was scarce. Bishop Richard Poore obtained a grant of "Merrifield;" there a new church (the present one) was commenced; the citizens migrated; the great travelling road was diverted to the new site, and the days of Old Sarum were numbered. A charter granted to the New, 2 Henry III., sealed its fate. Very little, however, is known about the real history of the transference of the people from the one place to the other. There are many reasons for believing that a new town had been growing up by degrees long before the cathedral was built at New Sarum. Being only 1600 ft. in diameter, Old Sarum must have been somewhat compact: a cathedral, bishop's palace and its chapel of Our Lady, a church of the Holy Rood, a

garrison, streets and houses. But outside each gate was a suburb; in the eastern one a church of St. John the Baptist; but Leland (Henry VIII.), who reports some portions of the sacred buildings as visible in his time, says "there was not a single house left within or without Old Saresbyri." The cathedral had been taken down in 1331 (Edward III.) and its materials used in building the new spire, Close, &c. The walls remained till 1608, and served as a quarry. Fisherton Old County Jail (*inter alia*) was built out of them. The great hollow enclosure of Old Sarum girt by its frowning earthwork (not unlike the crater of a volcano) is certainly a solemn and desolate place. Pepys passing by, not knowing what it was, alighted to examine it, but "it being very dark it frightened him to be all alone." A subterranean passage was discovered in 1795. The foundations of towers may be traced, and many Roman coins have been met with. Old Salisbury has given a title to the families of D'Eureux or Devereux, Longespée, Montacute, Nevill, Plantagenet, and the Cecil family who still enjoy it. The ground ceased to be Crown property in 1447 when it was granted to the Lords Stourton: on forfeiture by them it was granted by James I. to the Cecils. They sold to Governor Pitt, and the Earl of Chatham sold to the Earl of Caledon. It has been lately purchased by the Ecclesiastical Commission. Its dignity as the resort of kings and seat of councils ceased in the 15th centy.; but it retained for 536 years longer one relic of its former greatness—the right of returning 2 members to parliament, which was duly exercised until the passing of the Reform Bill, although for many a year not a single house had existed. The elections were held at the foot of the hill, on *Election Acre*, where a tent was pitched beneath the branches of an elm-tree, which is still pointed out

as occupying the site of the last remaining house.

The upper road from Old Sarum to Amesbury traverses the bleak, unsheltered downs of Salisbury Plain. About 1 m. short of Salisbury, beyond the intersection of a cross-road from Wilton, a peculiar hollow may be noticed to the rt., between a copse-wood and the road. It was one of the five places or "steads" in England in which tournaments were held according to a charter of Richard I. An imaginary line from Old Sarum to Wilton would intersect the actual spot. 8 m. brings the traveller to the little town of

Amesbury or Ambresbury (Inn : George. Pop. 1138), prettily situated in a fertile bottom embosomed in woods, in the valley of the Upper Avon. It is a place of the highest antiquity, and is reasonably supposed to derive its name in the A.-S. form *Ambres-burh* (answering to the Welsh *Caer Emrys*), from Aurelius Ambrosius, the British king of the 6th centy., identified by Dr. Guest with Natan-leod, *i. e.* "the Prince of the Sanctuary." This sanctuary being, according to the same authority, the Great Monastery which the Welsh Triads inform us was established here in the very earliest times of Christianity. "The choir or sanctuary of Ambrosius was probably the monastery of Britain, the centre from which flowed the blessings of Christianity and civilisation."—*Guest*. The eponymic Abbot Ambrisi appears in the not very trustworthy chronicle of Geoffrey of Monmouth. Amesbury is of much interest in legendary history as the place of Queen Guinevere's penitential retirement. A Benedictine nunnery was founded here, c. 980, by Queen Elfrida to expiate the murder of her stepson Edward at Corfe. In 1177 Henry II. expelled the nuns for dissolute living, and gave it to the great convent of Fontevrault in Anjou, whence it received a prioress

and 24 nuns. It increased in splendour and in royal favour, and became a favourite retreat of ladies of royal or noble birth. Mary, the 6th daughter of Edward I., in company with 13 ladies of noble birth, took the veil here; and here died Eleanor, Queen of Henry III., in 1292. Katharine of Aragon lodged within its walls on her first arrival in England in 1501. Florence Bormewe, the last abbess but one, resisted the attempts of Cromwell's emissaries to induce her to surrender her monastery into the King's hands. "Albeit we have used as many ways with her as our poor wits could attain, yet in the end we could not by any persuasion bring her to any conformity, but at all times she resteth and so remaineth in these terms, 'If the King's Highness command me to go from this house I will gladly go, though I beg my bread, and as for pension I care for none.'" One is hardly sorry to learn that the death of the abbess almost immediately afterwards saved her from further humiliation.

After the dissolution the monastery was granted to the E. of Hertford, afterwards Protector Somerset, who made a residence out of the old buildings, and the Protector's son, Edward E. of Hertford, lived here. His 2nd wife was Frances, d. of Lord Howard of Bindon, of whom Sir Geo. Rodney, of Rodney Stoke (Rte. 20), was so enamoured that on her marriage he came to Amesbury, wrote a copy of verses to the countess in his own blood, and then fell on his sword. The property passed by marriage, sale, and inheritance respectively to the families of Ailesbury, Boyle, and Queensberry. William, 4th Duke of Queensberry, d. 1810, and in 1824 his estate was bought by Sir Edmund Antrobus. It was formerly the residence of the Duke of Queensberry and his charming Duchess—Prior's

"Kitty, beautiful and young,
And wild as colt untam'd—"

and the happy retreat of *Gay*, who here composed the *Beggar's Opera*. Interesting allusions to it occur in *Gay's* correspondence with Swift. The Duchess's sons died prematurely: Henry, the eldest, from the accidental discharge of his pistol as he was riding before the coach containing his father and brother, near Bawtry: Charles, the 2nd, escaped from the earthquake at Lisbon; having spent from 9 till 2 o'clock clambering over the ruins, but died the next year.

The *House* was built from Inigo Jones's, or more probably his son-in-law Webb's designs, but has been since much altered. "It is interesting," writes Mr. Fergusson, "as one of the earliest examples of the type on which nine-tenths of the seats of English gentry were afterwards erected." The Avon flows through the beautiful grounds, and is famous as a trout-stream.

Amesbury was famous in Aubrey's time for the best tobacco-pipes in England, marked with a gauntlet, the name of the maker: many are to be seen in the Museum at Salisbury. The *Ch.*, repaired in 1852 by Sir Edm. Antrobus, is thought to have been that of the Abbey. It is a fine large cruciform edifice, of E. E. character, 128 ft. long, with a low square central tower. There are some rich Dec. windows to the S. of the chancel. The Avon sweeps round the base of the so-called

Vespasian's Camp, a name imposed by the fanciful Stukeley, but locally known as "*the Ramparts*." The work crowns a densely-wooded hill, which forms the principal feature in the view from the House. Its ancient lines of defence enclosing 39 acres, and boldly scarped towards the W., environ the summit in the form of a scalene triangle. It is a British work, though not impossibly occupied and strengthened by the Romans when under Vespasian they were engaged in the conquest of the Belgæ. The area of the camp,

now divided by the high road which passes Stonehenge, and intersected by drives, was entered through two openings, one on the N. and the other on the S.; and the former, which is still used as a roadway, commands a beautiful view over the subjacent vale, and of the church.

There are several places near Amesbury deserving notice, not to mention Stonehenge. They lie mostly on the banks of the Avon, which the traveller may explore by an excellent road to Pewsey, a distance of 14 m. At some little distance from Amesbury are found, lying detached, three large blocks of *sarsen* stone, similar to those at Stonehenge, with which some writers on the county have connected them. *One*, 5 ft. in length, may be found on the cultivated open land, 1 m. N. of Amesbury, close to a barn: *another* in the river, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. below the Nag's Head at Bulford, sometimes under water, but generally above it, close to the l. bank. An attempt was once made to drag it from its bed. By means of an iron ring a number of oxen were harnessed to the block, but their united strength proved unavailing. A *third* stone, which, however, is of small size, stands in Mr. Long's field, E. of and near Bulford.

For the villages in the valley of the Upper Avon above Amesbury, see Rte. 4.

Stonehenge is 2 m. from Amesbury, in an angle formed by the high road, where it branches rt. to Heytesbury, l. to the late Deptford inn. It is situated in the midst of *Salisbury Plain*, an undulating tract of chalk country, which has been aptly likened to the surface of the ocean when heaving after a storm—to the long rolling swell, "in fluctuation fixed." Until a comparatively recent period this district was entirely in a state of nature. It was coated with a fine turf, which afforded pasture to sheep, but the soil was in many places but skin-deep, and the whole region bare

of trees. Even the works of man were here of a desolate character—mysterious mounds and barrows enshrining the bones of the dead, and the huge ruin of a temple which, looming through the misty air, served the traveller as a landmark. But the natural features of this country are now much changed. The genius of the Plain is retiring before cultivation, which has for some time been creeping over the hills, and is indeed now advanced to the very precincts of Stonehenge. N. and S. of the great monument there is still a wild slope of thistle-covered turf, but E. and W. of it are gaily-coloured fields, and within a gunshot farm-buildings and cottages neatly slated and white-washed. But Stonehenge, as seen from a distance, has generally disappointed. Its vastness is lost in the expanse of open country. It is only on the spot—where the traveller beholds around him the ponderous masses, some erect, supporting impost, some leaning—that its true proportions can be appreciated.

Stonehenge when perfect, so far as we can now judge, consisted of 2 circles and 2 ellipses of upright stones, concentric, and environed by a bank and ditch, and, outside this boundary, of a single upright stone and a hippodrome or *Cursus*. The entrance to the great cluster of circles faced the N.E.; and the road to it, *Via Sacra* or *Avenue*, is still to be traced by banks of earth. The traveller approaching Stonehenge by this course (which commands a grand outline of the ruin when the sun is low in the west) first reaches the isolated stone called the *Friar's Heel* (B), a block 16 ft. high, and now in a leaning position. This stone, we may observe in passing, takes its name from a legend of Salisbury Plain: viz. that whilst the Evil Spirit was busy erecting the great structure, he made the observation that no one would ever know how it was done. This was overheard by a Friar who happened to

be lurking about to watch the operation, and who incautiously replied in the Wiltshire dialect, "That's more than thee can tell," and fled for his life. Whereupon the other caught up an odd stone, flung it after the fugitive and hit him fortunately only on the heel.

From the Friar's Heel it is about 36 yards to the low circular earthen boundary—a bank and ditch—now very slightly marked upon the turf, enclosing the area within which Stonehenge stands. Just within the entrance of this earthen ring lies a large prostrate block (c), ridiculously misnamed the *Slaughtering Stone*, as it evidently once stood upright. On the margin of the earthen ring, one 55 yards on the l., the other about 95 yards on the rt. of the entrance, are 2 smaller and unhewn stones (D). Some have thought that there may once have been a circular row of stones all round the earthen ring (as at Avebury). Of this there is no proof, but it is impossible to say what there may not have been at Stonehenge. What 2 solitary stones could have been put there for, must be left to conjecture.

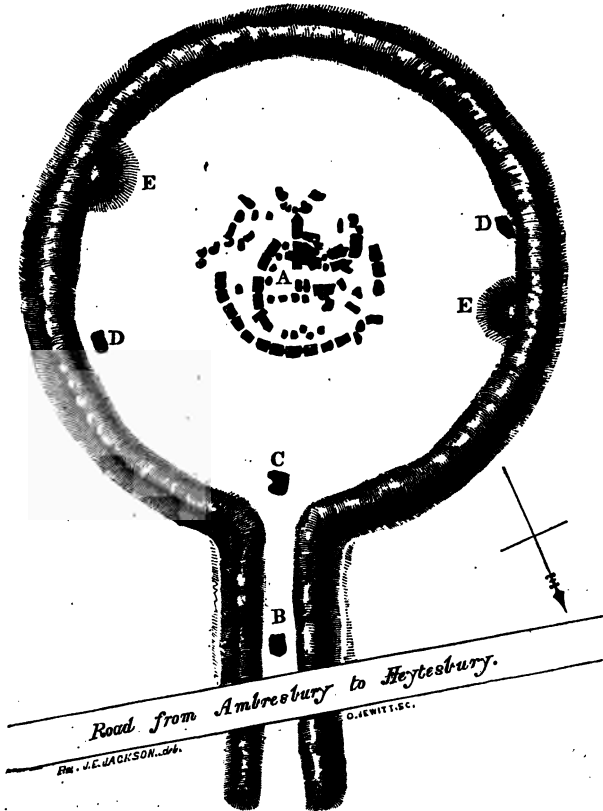
Upon the inner side also of the margin of the boundary ring will be observed, one on the south side, the other on the north, two low tumuli very slightly elevated above the ground, and imperfectly ditched round (E). The one on the N. side, if closely looked at, will be found to abut upon the boundary ring in such a manner as to prove that the tumulus (which has been opened, and was found to contain the burned bones of an interment) was on the spot before the earthen ring.

From the friar's heel to the first or outer circle of the great structure is about 39 yards.

The *outer circle* consisted of 30 upright stones fixed in the ground at intervals of $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. connected at the top by a contiguous line of 30 imposts forming a *corona*, or ring of stone, at a height of 16 ft. above the ground.

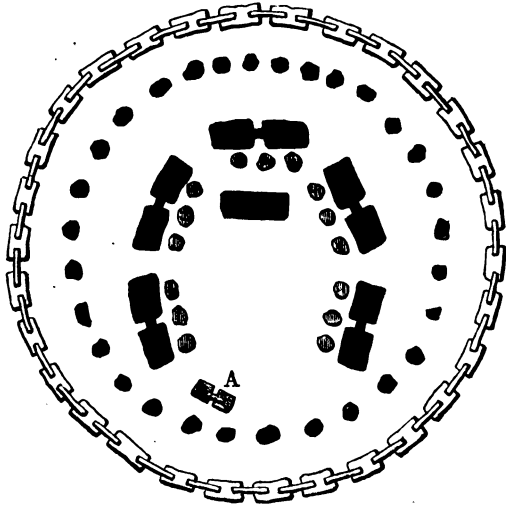
These blocks were all squared and rough-hewn, and cleverly joined together. The uprights were cut with knobs or tenons, which fitted into mortice-holes hewn in the undersides of the horizontal stones, and the imposts were dovetailed to each other. About 9 ft. within this imposing peristyle was the *inner circle*, which resembled one of the simple stone monuments common in Wales and Cornwall, being a circle of unhewn syenite obelisks, apparently 36 or 40 in number, pillars about 4 ft. in height. Within this, again, was the grandest part of Stonehenge, the *great ellipse*, formed of 5, or, as some think, 7 trilithons, or triplets of stones, all certainly hewn, 2 placed upright and 1 crosswise, like the frame of a doorway. These imposing structures rose progressively in height from N.E. to S.W., and the loftiest and largest attained an elevation of 25 ft. Lastly, within the trilithons was the *inner ellipse*, consisting of 19 obelisks of syenite, similar in character to those of the inner circle. In the cell thus formed was the *altar-stone*. Such seems to have been Stonehenge before time and ignorant men had defaced its fair proportions. The ruin of to-day presents a very different appearance. It is, indeed, but a confused pile of enormous moss-grown stones, which, according to the saying, cannot be counted twice alike. Yet enough remains to excite our wonder and admiration. Of the outer circle, or peristyle, 16 uprights and 6 imposts retain their original position; of the inner circle, the stones of which are unfortunately of a size very convenient for the farmer, 7 only stand upright; of the great ellipse, there are still two perfect trilithons, and 2 single uprights, one, however, in a leaning position, but a striking and interesting object with its boldly-cut tenon at top; of the inner ellipse there are 6 blocks in their places, and in the centre remains the so-called altar-stone.

STONEHENGE. Plate I.—General Plan.



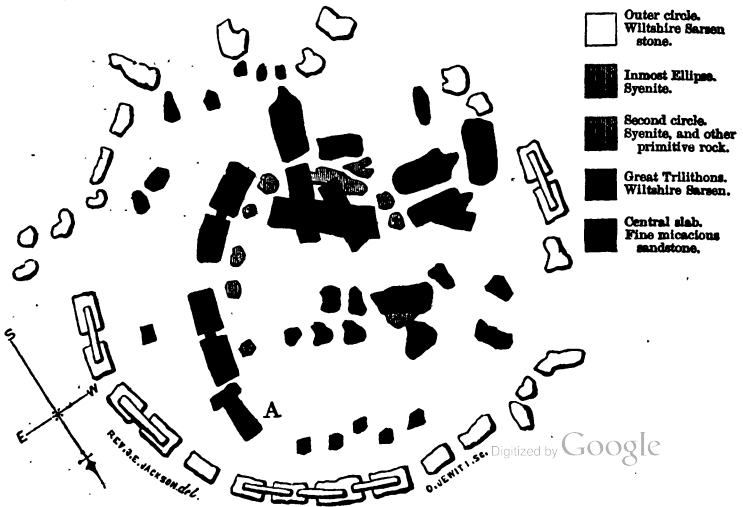
- A. Stone Circles (see Plate II.), in centre of circular earthen bank, and ditch.
- B. Standing stone, called "The Friar's Heel."
- C. Large fallen stone.
- D D. Two smaller stones on margin of earthen bank.
- E E. Barrows, which, being absorbed in the earthen bank, appear to have been on the spot when the bank was made.

STONEHENGE. Plate II.—The Circles and Ellipses, of Trilithons and Monoliths, occupying the centre of the earthen circle. See A, Plate I.



1. **GROUND PLAN:** as presumed to have been originally.

A. Small Trilithon of Syenite. That it stood here, is only conjecture. It now lies as marked A below.



The outer circle is all of native Wiltshire stone, viz., the *Sarsen* or *Grey-wether*, a hard siliceous sandstone, certainly brought to this spot from the Marlborough Downs. The 5 great trilithons are of the same kind of stone. The small obeliscal stones of the inner circle and the inmost ellipse are all of primary igneous rock called syenite, except 3 of greenstone and 1 of siliceous schist. These smaller stones must have been brought from a great distance, as this formation is not found in the co. of Wilts. Mr. Prestwich says that, without asserting them to have come from that district, they are of the same nature as the igneous rocks of part of the Lower Silurian region of North Pembrokehire and Carnarvonshire. The large black flat stone lying in the centre is of fine micaceous sandstone different from all the rest. Lying on the ground to the left, on entering at the N.E., is a stone with two mortice holes, one certainly used as a horizontal impost. This is also of syenite, and it has evidently been the cap-stone of a trilithon of smaller size than any trilithon now at Stonehenge. This proves that the number of trilithons must have been more than 5, so that we cannot positively say what their original number or arrangement may have been.

Having examined the ruin of the monument itself, the visitor should direct his attention to the neighbouring plain. He will observe the sepulchral tumuli ranged round at a distance. The cluster ($\frac{1}{2}$ m.) to the N. is called the *Seven Barrows*, and adjoining it is the western end of the *Cursus*. This enclosure, bearing a strong likeness to a Roman race-ground, is marked out by banks of earth along the gently sloping plain, E. and W., to a distance of more than a mile and a half. At one end (the E.) it is barred by a high mound, supposed to have been the seat of the principal spectators; near the other

by a low bank, which would appear to have been the goal. But we have no certain knowledge of the purpose this enclosure served. At a short distance farther N. is a much smaller but similar work, likewise barred by a bank at its western end.

Before the stranger bids adieu to Stonehenge, he will probably feel desirous of information with regard to its date, origin, and use. It must, however, be confessed that they are all equally unknown to us. The depths of time transmit but a feeble light for our guidance. We will endeavour, nevertheless, to collect these rays, such as they are, into a focus, premising that the subject may prove uninteresting, and giving the reader the option of closing the book with Warton's beautiful sonnet:—

“Thou noblest monument of Albion's Isle!
Whether by Merlin's aid from Scythia's
shore
To Amber's fatal plain Pendragon bore,
Huge frame of giant-hands, the mighty pile,
To entomb his Britons slain by Hengist's
guile:
Or Druid priests, sprinkled with human
gore,
Taught 'mid thy massy maze their mystic
lore:
Or Danish chiefs, enrich'd with savage spoil,
To Victory's idol vast, an unhewn shrine,
Rear'd the rude heap: or, in thy hallowed
round,
Repose the kings of Brutus' genuine line;
Or here those kings in solemn state were
crown'd:
Studious to trace thy wondrous origin,
We muse on many an ancient tale re-
nown'd.”

And Sir Philip Sydney's lines:—

“Near Wilton sweet, huge heaps of stones are
found,
But so confus'd that neither any eye
Can count them just, nor reason reason try
What force them brought to so unlikely
ground.”

There are two opinions respecting the period at which the different series of stones were set up. By some it is thought that the *outer circle* and the *outer oval* existed before the smaller stones of the *inner circle* and *inner oval* were placed; by others that the smaller stones were

first erected; but if any inference as to the contemporaneous date of the whole structure may be drawn from the chippings of the various kinds of stones of which it is composed being found mixed together at the bases of the stones, and in the adjacent Barrows, we are led to assign *one date* to the whole.

The first author who makes mention of Stonehenge is Henry of Huntingdon*, who wrote at the commencement of 12th cent. In his "Chronicle" he speaks of it as the second wonder of England, and calls it *Stanenges*. Geoffrey of Monmouth, who wrote at the same time, declares it to have been a monument erected in the reign of Aurelius Ambrosius, King of Britain, in order to commemorate the slaughter of the Britons by Hengist, and hence the etymology which has sometimes been assigned to it of "Hengists' Stones;" but the true etymological explanation of Stanhenges seems to be (A.-S. *Stán*, used as an adjective, and *henge*, from A.-S. *hón*). i. e. *Stone hanging-places*, from the groups of stones resembling a *gallows*. This is the opinion of two eminent Saxon scholars. The name given to it, therefore, by the Saxons evidently shows that it was not set up by that people, who would hardly have bestowed such a title on a work emanating from themselves, and it is almost certain that it is much anterior to the coming of the Saxons.†

But if Stonehenge was erected anterior to the coming of the Saxons,

* Secundum est apud Stanenges ubi lapides miræ magnitudinis in modum portarum elevati sunt, ita ut portæ portis superpositæ videantur: nec potest aliquis excogitare quâ arte, tanti lapides adeo in altum elevati sunt, vel quare ibi constructi sunt.

† Giraldus Cambrensis (A.D. 1187) mentions Stonehenge, and says, that the stones were transported from Africa to Ireland, and called there the Giant's Dance, because giants from the remotest parts of Africa brought them to Kildare. These stones Aurelius Ambrosius procured Merlin by supernatural means to bring from Ireland to Britain.

can we refer the construction to Roman times? Though this was maintained by Inigo Jones, who broached the theory that it was a temple erected by them to the god *Coelus*, we know sufficient of the Roman conquerors of this island to assert boldly that such an edifice cannot be attributed to that people.

It is indeed hardly to be doubted that the large stone circles of these islands were used as *places of religious assembly* by the ancient Britons. In Scotland there appears to have been a general tradition that they were *places of sacrifice* in heathen times.* Their Gaelic name of *clachan* is equally applicable to a church. They have also the name of *law-stones*, and there is documentary evidence that as late as the 14th cent. they were used for holding *courts of justice* (see 'Prehistoric Ann. of Scotland, p. 113). By various Councils stones which were the objects of worship were ordered to be destroyed or buried, and the terms in which they are described by the Council of Nantes (A.D. c. 658) seems applicable to *circles* as well as *menhirs* and *cromlechs*—"lapides quos in ruinosis locis et sylvestribus demonum ludificationibus decepti venerantur, ubi et vota vovent et deferunt." The laws of Edgar and Canute, in the 10th and 11th centuries, show the same veneration in England for stones, which were even resorted to as *places of sanctuary*.

In most parts of France stone monuments seem to have been sedulously destroyed, but they are abundant in Brittany. In our own Island they are found in all parts, from the Scilly Isles to the Orkneys, and are generally *circular* in form, and usually surrounded by an earthwork, consisting of a foss and vallum, the vallum being on the *outside*.

The stones are often of great size, 15 ft. and upwards in height, and

* See Hector Boece, Hist. Scotland, A.D. 1526. Archæol. vol. i. p. 315.

selected with some regard to symmetry, some having been hammer-dressed. The diameters of the stone circles vary from 60 ft. to 366, and even to 1200 ft, which is the diameter of the great circle at Abury. The more usual diameter, according to Dr. Thurnam (*Cran. Brit. c. v. p. 124*), is about 100 ft., which is that of Stonehenge.

Some of the sacred circles were approached by avenues formed of parallel rows of stones, and are of considerable dimensions and rectilinear, as at Classerness, Merivale and Scorhill. That of Shap was of large size, and is said to be traceable for 2 m. The avenue is traceable at Avebury, and is most striking at Carnac, in Brittany, where there are 11 rows.

Avebury and Stonehenge are the most remarkable *consecrated sites* in Britain. Both are in Wilts, and are conjectured to have been the sites of *national congress*, where the chiefs and people met for religious rites, for the settlement of disputes, and the administration of justice. Avebury was probably in the district of the Dobuni, and is formed of *unheun* stones. One of the avenues by which it is approached is a mile and a half in length, yet there is no appearance of the use of implements of metal in this vast construction. Stonehenge is different; it is formed partially of hewed and squared stones. The columnar uprights are connected with a continuous transom or architrave, and by a system of mortice and tenon joints. The opinion of some is that when the Belgæ settled in this part of Britain they established a "*Locus consecratus*" within the limits of their own territory, of which the Wansdike appears to have been the northern boundary. That Stonehenge is *more recent than Avebury* there can be little doubt. If the people who erected it were the Belgæ, the period of its erection would be about the *second century* prior to the Christian era.

Fergusson maintains that Stonehenge, Silbury Hill, and Avebury, are of post-Roman date, and were probably erected during the 5th and 6th centuries. Sir John Lubbock, representing the more generally received views of English antiquaries, assigns them all to a pre-Roman period of uncertain date.

On returning to Salisbury, the route by the valley of the Avon, locally known as *the Bournes*, may be advantageously taken. Proceeding over Normanton Downs, in 2 m. we reach the village of *Wilsford*.—Wilsford House is the handsome modern house of Giles Loder, Esq. A little further down the stream is *Lake House*, Rev. E. Duke, a very picturesque mansion in the Elizabethan style, of the time of James I., and a remarkably fine and perfect specimen of the architecture of that period. It contains some valuable antiquities collected by the late Mr. Duke, the antiquary, author of 'The Halle of John Halle,' 'The Druidical Temples of the County of Wilts,' &c. In the park are some fine barrows planted with fir trees.

2½ m. is *Great Durnford Ch.*, with very rich Norm. N. and S. doorways and chancel arch. The font is Norm. with an intersecting arcade. There is a curious brass to Edw. Young, his wife, and 14 children, 1670. Great Durnford House was once a seat of the Hungerfords. Evelyn notes in his diary, July 22, 1654, "We dined at a ferme of my uncle Hungerfords, called Darneford Magna, situate in a valley under the plaine, most sweetly watered, abounding in troutes."

Opposite to Great Durnford is *Ogbury Camp*, an entrenched circular British work, with a vallum more than 30 ft. high.

5m. At *Middle Woodford* is *Heale House*, one of the many hiding-places in which Charles II. found shelter after the battle of Worcester. The house has been altered, but some of

the carved work remains. Charles II. came to Stonehenge from his concealment at Heale House, to meet the friends who were to conduct him to the coast of Sussex, where they had secured a vessel for his escape. Arriving at the spot before the appointed hour, the king, to beguile the time, counted and recounted the stones, and proved to his satisfaction the fallacy of the vulgar notion that they cannot be told twice alike.

Heale Hill is remarkable for a sacred circle on the summit, and for traces of a British village on the S. slope: we reach at

6 m. *Stratford*, lying close under the hill of Old Sarum, which derived its name from the Roman *street* or road which here *forded* the river on its course to Badbury Rings and Dorchester. The manor-house was the birthplace, or at least the residence, of *William Pitt, Earl of Chatham*, who was first returned to parliament (1735) as member for those vacant mounds on the hill above. Governor Pitt purchased the manor in 1690 for 1500*l.*, and Lord Grenville, who had married the sister of Thos. Pitt, Lord Camelford, afterwards sold it for 65,000*l.*, to Lord Caledon. In 1801 John Horne Tooke was returned by Lord Camelford, and in his case the question of the disability of clergymen to sit as Members of Parliament was tried and settled. The door-head of the quaint gabled Parsonage bears the inscription—"Parva sed apta domino, 1675." A charming lime avenue leads from the parsonage to the *ch.*, a debased Perp. building, bearing on the tower in large letters the inscription—"Thomas Pitt, Esq., Benefactor, Anno 1711." It contains an hourglass stand for the pulpit.]

[(b) The second object of interest to be visited from Salisbury is *Wilton House*, the seat of the Earl of Pembroke, and celebrated for its marbles and pictures. It may be seen on Wed-

nesdays and Fridays from 10 to 4. It is 3 m. distant. There are stations at Wilton, both of the G. W. and S. W. Rlys.; but by far the most agreeable way of visiting it is in a carriage, or still better on foot. To the l. of the road is the hamlet of

1½ m. *Bemerton*, interesting as the living of *George Herbert* (1630-35), so charmingly described by Isaac Walton as "the good and more pleasant than healthful Parsonage of Bemerton," in which he died, 1635, in his 43rd year. Herbert restored the parsonage and old church, within the altar-rail of which he lies buried. According to the tradition, an aged fig-tree against the wall of the rectory, and a medlar in the garden, were planted by him. *Norris* the poet and divine, and *Coxe* the traveller and historian, were also rectors of Bemerton. The bells in the church turret, the same tolled by Bemerton at his institution, are of the 14th century, the S. and W. windows of Dec. date (about 1300), the doorway and pulpit canopy Jacobean, and the font Early English. A new ch. has been erected near the old one as a memorial of Herbert by his admirers. One of the earliest paper-mills in England was established at Bemerton.

WILTON, 3 m. (*Inn*: Pembroke Arms, close to the park gates, Pop. 1930), is a small quiet town situated on the junction of the Wily and Nadder. It is of great antiquity, and, as the capital of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Wessex, gave name to Wiltshire, and was the scene of many stirring events. It was here that, according to Palgrave, when Wessex and Mercia were contending for the possession of all England S. of the Humber, Egbert King of Wessex overthrew, in the year 823, his rival Beornwulf in the bloody victory of Ellendun. The seat of the battle is perhaps more probably placed at Allington near Amesbury. In 871 the great Alfred here defeated

the Danes in a pitched battle, which procured him a peace of 2 years' duration. In 1003 the Danes had their revenge, when under Sweyn they burnt the place to the ground. At a later period, July 1, 1143, King Stephen came to Wilton with his mind intent on building a castle here, and by this means curbing the rebellious burghers of Sarum; but the Earl of Gloucester, having assembled a force for the Empress Maud, fired the houses and put the monarch to flight. According to Harding he was aided by K. David of Scotland.

The kyng Stephan a castell then began
At Wilton, where kyng David with power
And Erle Robert of Gloucester that was then
Him drove awaye out of that place full
clere,
And bet it downe to the ground full nere.

During all these early times Wilton flourished as a large and busy town, quickly recovering from its disasters, and it continued to prosper down to the year 1244, when it received the blow which was to prove fatal to its importance, in the diversion of the great western road, which formerly passed through it on its way from Old Sarum.* In our times the name of Wilton has been associated with *carpets*, which were first made in England at this town (by a Mr. Moody), and are still 'the staple of the place. In the factory of Messrs. Lapworth Brothers the finest Axminsters are manufactured, as well as those called Saxony, made of short-staple wool.

The *Wily* and *Nadder*, which wash the sides of Wilton, effect a junction below the park of the Pembrokes. The *Wily* rises on the high land formerly bosomed in Selwood, and on its approach to this place flows for a

long distance by the side of the ancient forest of Grovely.

The monastery here is usually said to owe its foundation to Alfred, who endowed it with his manor of Wilton, established it in the royal palace, and added an abbess and 12 nuns. But he was really the *re-founder*, for it had been originally founded by Wulstan, Earl of the Wilsaetas, while languishing of his wounds after the battle of Cynemaresford, A.D. 800. This first foundation was merely a chantry or oratory, changed A.D. 830 into a priory of Benedictine sisters, of which Ethelburga, Wulstan's widow, became first prioress. It was much patronized by Anglo-Saxon kings, and refounded by Alfred at the instigation of his queen. Wulftrude or Wulfrith, a noble mistress of Edgar's, and mother of St. Edith of Wilton who had been educated here, became abbess c. 968. Edgar wished to marry her on the death of his wife, but she devoted herself to religion. There is a curious tale told of the relics of the Welsh saint Ivius or Yweg. "The clerks who bore the sacred remains were entertained by Wulfrith, and the casket containing them was placed on the altar. The next morning it was found immovably fixed. The abbess gave them 200s., and they departed sorrowful." St. Edith refused the abbesship her father wished her to receive, and died A.D. 984, at the early age of 23. Miracles were worked by her remains, and she became the patron saint of the convent. "I have very often seen her," says the pseudo-Ingulf, "when only a boy I visited my father at the royal court. Often as I came from school she questioned me on letters and my verse, and willingly passing from grammar to logic caught me in the subtle nets of argument. I had always 3 or 4 pieces of money counted by her maiden, and was sent to the royal larder for refreshment." Christina,

* "The chaunging of this way was the total cause of the ruine of Old Saresbyri and Wiltown, for afore W. had 12 paroch churches or more, and was the hedde town of Wilesbir." —*Leland*. The 12 churches are all identified by Sir R. C. Hoare.

sister of Edg. Atheling, was abbess of Wilton, and her niece Maude was brought up here, wearing the veil unwillingly to save herself from the insolence of the Normans; but as soon as she got out of her aunt's presence she would take it off, throw it on the ground, and trample it under foot. When Juliana de Giffard was abbess, *temp.* Edw. I., her relation Osborn de Giffard carried off 2 nuns, for which he was sentenced among other things to be whipt naked with rods 3 several Sundays in the ch. of Wilton, and also in the ch. and market-place of Shaftesbury, lay aside all knightly insignia, and wear russet and sheepskins, and wear no shirt till he had been 3 years in the Holy Land. In 1379 the discipline was lax, and Bp. Wyvill issued an ordinance for its regulation, from which we find that the bread, milk, and beer were so bad that the nuns were obliged to sell them and buy better. The abbess was ordered to supply the same she had herself, under pain of suspension. There are curious letters extant of Henry VIII. to Wolsey, and Anne Bullen, who had a favourite she wished to be abbess, but who proved to be of very low life. "I wolde not," writes the king, "for all the gold in the world elog your conscience nor mine to make her a ruler of a house which is of so ungodly a demeanour, nor I trust you would not that neither for brother nor sister I should so destain mine honour or conscience." At the Dissolution there were an abbess and 31 nuns. The abbess, by virtue of her office, was a baroness of England, a privilege shared only by Shaftesbury, Barking, and St. Mary's Winton.

The so-called see of Wilton was really that of Wiltshire, established at Ramsbury A.D. 909. Ethelstan was the first bishop; Herman the 9th and last, d. 1078; shortly after the Conquest the see was removed to *Sarum*,

The *Hospital of St. John* was founded by Bp. Hubert, c. 1189. There are some remains of the buildings, including a small chapel, with a piscina.

The former parish church, in the centre of Wilton, has been partly pulled down, but the remaining ivy-clad fragments are very picturesque; the ancient *borough cross* remains on the site it has so long occupied by the churchyard wall.

Wilton received a great ornament by the erection in 1844, by the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, afterwards Lord Herbert of Lea, of a new *Church* in the Lombardic style of the N. of Italy, from designs by T. H. Wyatt, which for gorgeousness and beauty of detail stands unrivalled. Elevated on a terrace, it presents its front to the road, the bell-tower rising on the side to a height of 108 ft. distinct from the ch., after the fashion of the Italian campanile, but communicating with it by a cloister of elaborately worked columns in pairs. The front is approached by a flight of steps 100 ft. in width, and presents 3 deeply recessed circular porches, the central and principal entrance being ornamented with mouldings, exquisitely worked, and with pillars, the foremost of which are twisted and detached, resting on lions sculptured in stone from the Isle of Man.

The usual entrance for visitors is by the door under the campanile, and through the cloister. The internal door has black marble twisted columns, above it the visitor will observe a Jacobean monument skilfully utilized. On each side of the nave are 8 semicircular arches, supported on cylindrical shafts with richly carved capitals, each of a different design. Between the clerestory windows and the principal arches is a kind of triforium arcade, skilfully breaking the barrenness of the walls. The roof is open, and needs colour and gilding. At the E. end is a gallery of Painswick

stone, supported on marble columns with alabaster capitals, and bearing the motto, "All things come of Thee, and of Thine own have we given Thee." Below the gallery is the font of variously coloured marble, resting on a polished black slab of the same material, and decorated with the fruit and leaves of the vine, in allusion to the parable of our Saviour: "I am the vine, ye are the branches."

One window to the l. is filled with very gorgeous Flemish glass. That opposite is a memorial to the lamented founder of the ch., erected by the townspeople. There are several other memorial windows in the nave. The pulpit is one of the most magnificent and interesting of the many works of art for which this ch. is conspicuous; it is of Caen stone, and is supported on 16 black marble columns, with alabaster capitals. In the upper part the visitor will notice some small twisted marble columns, with spiral bands of mosaic. These formed part of a shrine set up in S. Maria Maggiore in Rome, A.D. 1256, and being ejected during some repairs in the last century, found their way to Strawberry Hill, where they were purchased by the builder of the ch. Other larger members of the shrine (of the same shape and pattern) may be seen in and about the chancel. They are interesting as rare specimens of the "opus Græcanicum," of which the only other ancient examples in England are the shrine of the Confessor, and the tomb of Hen. III. in Westminster Abbey. A piece of good modern mosaic, formed of porphyry, serpentine, and white marble, of Italian manufacture, lies in the pavement at the foot of the chancel steps, between the pulpit and the reading-desk. This last is ornamented with fine bas-reliefs in wood, executed in Belgium, representing the 4 Evangelists. The lectern is formed by a gilt eagle standing on 3 black marble

pillars. The arches dividing the aisles of the chancel from those of the nave are supported by lofty shafts of black and gold marble, each of a solid block, from Porto Venere in the Gulf of Spezzia. The shafts supporting the nave arch are imitations in scagliola. The central apse is adorned with an arcade of twisted columns of rich Sienna marble, with alabaster capitals. The communion table, gorgeously vested, stands according to ancient precedent in the centre of the chord of the apse. The windows of the great apse are filled with medallions of richly coloured glass of the 13th cent. Many of these are French, and some are fine examples of the best period of glass painting. The side apses have glass of different periods, including some whole-length figures of excellent drawing and colours. The apse to the l. of the communion table contains a mural brass (1585), and an alms chest of wrought iron from Venice. In the opposite apse are the monuments of the Pembrokes removed from the old parish ch., one by Westmacott, and another by Rossi; good specimens of a bad style. In far higher taste are the two altar-tombs, with white marble recumbent effigies, sculptured by Francis, lately erected within the altar rails in memory of the late Lord Herbert of Lea, d. 1861, and his mother, Catherine Countess of Pembroke, daughter of Count Woronzow, d. 1856. The tombs are of alabaster, arcaded, and inlaid with coloured marbles. The spandrils of Lord Herbert's tomb are carved with subjects illustrative of his public life, especially when as Secretary of War, the British soldier was indebted to him for so many improvements in his moral and sanitary condition. These monuments are very successful examples of a return to a better taste in sepulchral memorials. The floor of the chancel is laid with Singer's tesserae.

The ch. is lighted by hanging lamps of embossed brass, copied from Venetian examples. The organ formerly belonged to Lord Fitzwilliam, the founder of the museum bearing his name at Cambridge, from whom the Pembroke family inherited large estates. The carvings in pear-tree wood, which form the panels of the doors, must not be unnoticed. Beneath the altar is the Pembroke vault, entered from without, and open to the air. The tombstones in the churchyard are nearly all varieties of the memorial cross.

Wilton House:—

“Pembroke’s princely dome, where mimic Art
Decks with a magic hand the dazzling
bowers;
Its living hues where the warm pencil
pours,
And breathing forms from the rude
marble start.” *T. Warton.*

occupies the site of the monastery, given, with the lands attached to it, by Henry VIII. to Sir William Herbert, 1st Earl of Pembroke. The place abounds in interesting associations. “Charles I. did love Wilton above all places, and came there every summer. By his advice the garden front of the house was built in the Italian style.”—*Aubrey*. The family of Herbert have been distinguished equally in arts, arms, and literature. They were the patrons of Holbein, Shakespeare, who with his troop acted here before James I. in 1603, Ben Jonson, Inigo Jones, and Vanduyck; and of Massinger, whose father was a retainer of the family. Sir Philip Sidney wrote part of his ‘Arcadia’ on this spot, at the request of his sister, Countess of Pembroke, whose beautiful epitaph, generally attributed to Ben Jonson, was really written by William Browne, author of the ‘Pastorals.’

“Sidney’s sister, Pembroke’s mother,
Death, ere thou hast slain another
Wise, and fair, and good as she,
Time shall throw a dart at thee.”

A lock of this lady’s hair is preserved here.

The present mansion, famed for its marbles and pictures, but particularly renowned for its *Vandycks*, is, for the most part, modern. It was begun temp. Elizabeth. Holbein designed the porch. The house was altered temp. Charles I. from designs of a Gascon named Solomon de Caus, and was restored, after a fire, by Webb, Inigo Jones’s son-in-law. It was “Gothicised” in questionable taste by James Wyatt at the beginning of the present century, but has been improved by more recent alterations.

A *Triumphal Arch*, surmounted by a cast from the equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius, leads to the chief entrance.

The *Hall* is adorned with suits of ancient armour, which have an interest independent of their splendour in being trophies of the victory of St. Quentin, gained by the Spaniards over the French, with the co-operation of a brave band of English sent by Queen Mary, under the command of Wm. Earl of Pembroke, 1557. His armour is here, together with the full suits of the Constable Anne de Montmorency, Louis de Bourbon, Duc de Montpensier, &c.

The *Pembroke Marbles*, arranged in the hall and around the cloister, were collected, 1678, by Thomas, 8th Earl of Pembroke, of whom Pope said,

“For Pembroke, statues, dirty gods, and
coins;”

and include a portion of those of Thomas Earl of Arundell (the rest are at Oxford), and of the collection of Giustiniani, of the Valetta Gallery at Naples, and of Card. Mazarine. They long possessed an undeserved reputation; for, in truth, many of the specimens are modern antiques: among the genuine ancient marbles not a few are mutilated, the limbs, &c., are badly restored; and the greater part are of second-rate value as works of art. The best are—

In the *Entrance-Hall*—Statues of Apollo, Jupiter, and the Elder Faustina;—a Mosaic in relief of Hercules in the Garden of the Hesperides;—a serpent twined round the golden apple-tree, very curious, and probably unique;—a colossal horse, workmanship admirable, head noble and delicate;—Curtius leaping into the fiery chasm, a bas-relief in a circle.

In the *Gallery*—No. 1. An altar of Bacchus, the figures in relief. 8. A sleeping Nymph. 23. The Gods summoned by Vulcan to see Venus and Mars taken in the net, an oval relief. 48. Bas-relief of Jupiter on his throne. 61. Death of Meleager, 3 bas-reliefs on a sarcophagus, after the Greek model; the figures finely designed, the workmanship indifferent. 62. Silenus drinking out of a cantharus; the action spirited. 109. A Cippus: "the figures very noble and simple in action."—Waagen. 115. A relief of Venus accompanied by Tritons and Nereids. 117. Statue of a female seated. 124. Cupid bending his bow, a copy of the well-known work of Praxiteles; very delicate, but only the torso is old. 136. An ancient Roman consular chair, part bronze, part iron. 137. A sarcophagus, with reliefs from the story of Ceres and Bacchus; the principal subject represents Ceres sending Triptolemus to sow corn; workmanship indifferent, of a late time. 151. Statue of a young Faun, gracefully twisting back his body to look at a panther at his feet; a repetition of an often-repeated group, the design good, and of delicate execution. 163. Large sarcophagus, with high relief of the destruction of Niobe's children; of a late period; the attitudes very beautiful, and probably from older models. 170. An Amazon defending herself against a horseman. 171. The family of Niobe, "an elegant bas-relief of the cinque-cento time, and strongly resembling the works of the able Florentine sculptor Benedetto da Ro-

vezzano, who was for a time in England."—Waagen's 'Treasures of Art.'

Busts—of Nero; Julia Mæsa; Lucan; and a so-called Lucilla, daughter of Marcus Aurelius (wonderfully finished). Passavant, however, in his Tour, remarks that those of Germanicus, Augustus, and several of the Greek poets, are the finest in the collection.

Paintings:—"The chief strength of the collection consists in works of the German and Flemish schools."—Waagen.

Alb. Dwer (1512) (? *I. H. Rhemus*): the Descent from the Cross, "wrought with amazing labour and neatness; the composition good and well conducted throughout, but the style dry and hard. The expressions poor, but the actions good. The colours are positive, without any attempt at harmony, and yet are well arranged."—*T. Phillips*, R.A. From the Arundell collection.—*Parmegiano*: Virgin, Child, St. John, and Catherine; "very beautifully designed, but rather hard in the execution, and inharmonious in colour."—*P.* It was given by the Grand Duke of Tuscany to Philip E. of Pembroke. — *Spagnoletto*: Democritus, whole length, laughing, exceedingly fine, and expression entirely appropriate.—King Richard II. when young (*i. e.* about 1377), backed by his patrons, St. John Baptist, St. Edmund King, and St. Edward Confessor, praying to the Virgin and Child; a Diptych, or folding picture, curious from its age and style, and probably by an Italian painter. It is mentioned by Walpole as an early specimen of *oil-painting*, whereas it is in *distemper*, not in oil. It is on a gold background; the finish careful, the arrangement formal, the faces uniform and without expression. The arms of the king, the broom-pod (*Plantagenet*), and the white hart, derived from his mother, are seen on his robe and on the

angels' necks.—*Netscher*: Portrait of De Witt.—*Holbein*: the Father of Sir Thomas More; shows the simple truth of nature; hands excellent.—*Mabuse*: the Three Children of Henry VII., same as those at Hampton Court and Longford, but good.—*Honthorst*: Prince Rupert; one of the finest paintings here.—*And. Mantegna*: Judith with the Head of Holofernes; "her features and attitude noble and graceful; carefully executed."—*And. del Sarto*: Holy Family.—*Balthazar Peruzzi*: the Ascension of our Lord.—*N. Poussin*: two boys playing with a bird.—*Mieris's* own portrait, capital.—*Titian*: Head of the Magdalen; has suffered much.—*Vandyck*: Ph. Herbert Earl of P., with his wand of office; small sketch for the larger picture.—*Rubens*: Four children, Christ and St. John with a lamb, a little girl, and an angel; a subject often repeated by Rubens.—*Steenwick*: Peter conducted out of prison; a dark crypt, minutely painted, but with good effect.—*Parmegiano*: Ceres, genuine, but affected attitude.—*Guido*. Charity; must have been beautiful, but is spoiled by rubbing. It belonged to Charles I.—*Lucas Van Leyden*: Men and women playing cards; one of the very rare genuine works of this master; heads animated and spirited, full of expression, though hard in manner.—*Sir Josh. Reynolds*: Henry, 10th E. of Pembroke.—*An Antique Painting* from the Temple of Juno, representing Minerva, Hercules, Diana, Apollo, Ceres, Vertumnus, and Juno; rude in the treatment, but worthy of notice on account of the broad handling.

In the double Cube, or *Great Room*, are the *Portraits* by VANDYCK, the pride and boast of the Wilton collection. The finest are—

The Herbert Family: ten figures. Philip Earl of Pembroke, and his Countess, in black, seated on a raised platform; on their rt. their 5 sons;

on their l. their daughter, in blue, and her husband, Robert E. of Caernarvon; before them Lady Mary, daughter of George D. of Buckingham, betrothed to Charles Ld. Herbert; above, in the clouds, as angels, 2 sons and a daughter, who died young. This large work stands alone in point of merit. The personages are not dramatically connected together, but they all look out of the picture.

The late Mr. Phillips, R.A., observes, "I am at a loss for words to convey my admiration of this picture. An air of nobleness reigns over it, with rich and deep colouring. Yet I think the expression bad; and wish it had an unity of subject, or any subject. But, as it is, when shall we see its like again?" 1801.

Charles I. in armour, $\frac{1}{2}$ length, very excellent. Henrietta Maria, inferior, perhaps a copy. 3 Children of Charles I., beautifully painted, particularly the Princess, dated 1635. The Duchess of Richmond and her Dwarf, Mr. Gibson, whole length, very good, especially the dwarf (the Duke is probably by Jansen). The Countess of Castlehaven, in an orange dress. The 2nd Earl Philip, $\frac{1}{2}$ length, not one of Vandyck's best. Mrs. Killigrew and Mrs. Morton, beauties of Charles I.'s court, "well-painted heads, especially Mrs. Killigrew's, which is in his most finished manner—rich, soft, and true, beyond measure."—*T. P.* Earl and Countess of Bedford, same size of canvas, but very inferior. Philip E. of Pembroke. Penelope, wife of Ph. E. of P. ("A genuine, carefully executed, and excellent picture.")—*Waagen*.

In the *Library* are portraits of William, 1st Earl of Pembroke, the friend of Shakespeare, and founder of the family, with his dog, who pined away at his death: it is called *Holbein's*, but either it is not his, or it has been repainted, the hands very bad. Portraits of Alexander Pope and of St. Evremond. A copy of the

'Arcadia' contains a lock of Queen Elizabeth's hair, given by her to Sir Ph. Sidney, together with some verses in his hand in acknowledgment of the gift.

The grounds and gardens of Wilton, although flat, are exceedingly beautiful, owing to the views they command, especially the vista opening on Salisbury spire, opposite the S.E. angle of the house—to the noble trees, particularly the group of cedars, and an ancient ilex, beneath whose branches Sir Philip Sidney may have reclined, when he here composed his 'Arcadia'—to the architectural ornaments, such as the *triumphal arch* by Chambers, and the covered *Palladian bridge*, built by Henry Earl of Pembroke, over the water (the Nadder). The Italian garden, tastefully arranged with balustrades and vases, terminates in a *pavilion*, once a vestibule of the house. This was designed by *Holbein*, in the style of the Renaissance, and consists of a portico of pillars, with busts of Edward VI. and the Earl of Pembroke inserted.]

[c. Longford Castle, seat of the Earl of Radnor, but occupied by Lord Folkestone, is situated on the Avon. l. of the road to Downton, 3 m. from Salisbury. It may be seen on Tuesdays, or by travellers and foreigners, with Lord Folkestone's permission, on any week-day. It is of curious construction, and celebrated for its picture-gallery, one of the finest in the country, and particularly rich in paintings by *Holbein*. [The road is that by Downton to Fordingbridge.]

[1½ m. S.W. is *Britford Ch.*; a cruciform building without aisles with an embattled tower and low spire. The N. and S. doorways are examples of so-called Anglo-Saxon work. It contains a mausoleum of the Bouveries, and in the chancel a curious altar-tomb, sculptured with figures of St. Margaret, St. Nicholas, St. Ed-

mund of Canterbury, St. Catherine with her symbols, the sword and the wheel, St. George, and the Virgin and Child, which is reported to have been brought from the College de Vaux at Salisbury a few years since. This tomb was erroneously attributed by Sir R. C. Hoare to the Duke of Buckingham, beheaded at Salisbury.

3 m. Longford stands in the marshy valley of the Avon, a little to the N. of its confluence with the stream from the valley of Chalk. It was built about 1591, by Sir Thomas Gorges, buried under a gorgeous tomb in the N. aisle of the choir of the Cathedral, who married a Danish lady, Helena Snachenberg, who had come over to England in the suite of Princess Cecilia, daughter of Eric, King of Sweden. She became a favourite at Court, and her first husband was William Lord Parr of Kendal, Marquis of Northampton, brother of Queen Katharine Parr, and he was induced by her, nearly to his own ruin, to construct his house after the model of the Castle of Uranienberg, designed by Tycho Brahe. He accordingly pulled down an ancient mansion of the Cervingtons, and prepared the ground for the new building; but so great proved the expense of driving piles as a foundation, that Sir Thomas nearly sunk his fortune at the outset. At this juncture came the alarm of the Spanish Armada, when Sir Thomas was appointed governor of Hurst Castle, and, as luck would have it, a Spanish galleon was soon wrecked near his post. His wife modestly begged but the *hull* of the queen, and in this were found bars of silver and other treasure, ample, and more than sufficient, to complete the intended structure at Longford. The work, therefore, proceeded merrily, and was completed in 1591, at a cost of about 18,000*l.* The architect was Thomas Thorp, who built Holland House. The castle, as it then appeared (the "Castle of Amphialeus" of Sir Philip Sidney's

'Arcadia'), had the singular form of a triangle, enclosing a court of a similar shape, and flanked by circular towers at the angles, the whole being surrounded by a moat filled with water from the Avon. In this form it was surrendered in 1645 to Cromwell, who had mounted a battery opposite the garden front. "I shall be at Longford House to-night, if God please. I hope the work will not be long" (Oct. 16, 1645). "I came thither this day" (Oct. 17), "and immediately sent them a summons. The governor desired I should send two officers to treat with him. The meeting produced the agreement."—*Cromwell's Letters*. In 1641 it had been sold by the 2nd Lord Gorges to Hugh Hare, Baron of Coleraine; and in 1717 it came into the possession of the present family, the Bouveries, by purchase. But Longford Castle, as it now stands, is very different from the triangle of the Gorges, having been altered by a former Lord Radnor, who had intended to rebuild it in the form of a hexagon. He, however, left it unfinished, and in this condition it remains, flanked by 5 towers. It is chiefly remarkable for its collection of *paintings*, one of the very finest in Britain. "This collection is not only the first in England as regards Holbein, but, considering the master-works of other schools, and also the large number of valuable pictures it contains, generally speaking, it may justly be considered one of the most important in the country."—*Waagen*. Among them are the following:—

In the *Chapel*—*A. Durer* (? probably by *Henry de Bles*, an old Flemish painter): Adoration of the Virgin by Saints George, Agnes, &c.; very good and curious; the female figure on the rt. painted with great feeling for beauty; on the wings St. John the Baptist and Evangelist.—*A. Durer* (?): the Nativity and Salutation.—*Mabuse*: Children of Henry VII., a repetition of the original picture at

[*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*]

Hampton Court. It was in the collection of Charles I.—*Zuccherò*: Queen Elizabeth; very characteristic of the harsh, imperious woman.—*Holbein*: Edward VI.; "too poor a production for the master:" *Waagen*.—*Mabuse*: Virgin and Child.

In the *Long Gallery*—*Murillo*: Ruth and Naomi.—*Guido*: Head of a Magdalen; a picture of a most attractive sweetness, painted with great clearness. 2. Europa and the Bull, a masterpiece, the original of many repetitions.—*Claude*: 2 celebrated pictures known as the Morning and Evening, or Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire. One represents the landing of Æneas in the Bay of Naples by sunrise, "the morning freshness of nature typifying the beginning of the Roman empire;" the other the ruins of the Arch of Titus and the Coliseum, with the sun sinking towards the sea. "Two masterly pictures, with great depth and fulness of colour, combined with softness of gradations:" *Waagen*.—*Rubens*: a large landscape of the desolate country around the Escorial. "Carefully and admirably painted, but not the original of this often-repeated view, which is said to be at Petworth:" *Waagen*. 2. Diana with her Nymphs returning from the Chase; a sketch for the picture at Dresden.—*Seb. del Piombo* (?): St. Sebastian's Martyrdom, after a design by Michael Angelo; carefully executed in very clear colouring; in the background rocks and ruins of singular forms.—*Nicolas Poussin*: the Worship of the Golden Calf, and the Passage of the Red Sea; capital works, of the artist's best period, scarcely equalled by any in the Louvre.—*Correggio* (?): Venus disarming Cupid; a picture in the style of those in the National Gallery.—*Holbein*: the Ambassadors at Vienna, 2 whole-length portraits, apparently of philosophers, with books, geometrical and musical instruments; "one of the finest works

by Holbein in England," says Waagen. 2. Sir Anthony Denny, chamberlain and favourite of Henry VIII. 3. (Ecolampadius).—*Velasquez*: Adrian Pulido Pareja, admiral of the Spanish Armada; a first-rate portrait.—*Titian*: a whole-length portrait of a General, his helmet on a table; carefully executed in a full, warm, golden tone.—*Vandyck*: Rubens on a Grey Horse; 2. Gaston Duc d'Orléans.—*Carlo Dolce*: Christ crowned with thorns; 2. portrait of himself.—*Gaspar Poussin*: 2 small landscapes.—*Jan Wynants*: a landscape, with figures by *Adrian Van der Velde*.—*W. Van der Velde*: 2 sea-pieces. In this gallery stands a wonderful and probably unique specimen of sculpture in metal, a *steel chair*, presented to the Emperor Rudolph II. by the city of Augsburg, where it was made by one Thomas Ruker, in 1574. It is covered by 130 groups of figures in relief, representing events in the history of the Roman Empire from Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the colossal image, and from the landing of Æneas in Italy, down to Rudolph's own time. It was carried off from Prague by the Swedes, brought to England in the 18th century, and sold to the Radnor family. "It is the richest and most tasteful work of the kind I am acquainted with."—*Waagen*.

In the *Green Drawing-room*—*Rubens* (?): his son; a beautiful portrait.—*Titian* (?): Cæsar Borgia; "a most perfidious countenance." *Holbein*: a male portrait, called Luther; broad in treatment, and noble in expression.—*Giorgione* (?), more probably *Paris Bordone*: a portrait of Violante, daughter of Palma Vecchio, commonly designated Titian's Mistress.—*Velasquez*: the Moorish Slave.—*Walker*: portrait of Oliver Cromwell.—*Rubens*: Duke of Alva.—*Sir P. Lely*: his own portrait.—*Rubens* (?): portrait of Mary of Medicis, attributed by Waagen to Vandyck.—*H. Van Vliet*: interior of a church,

a capital work.—*Vandyck*: Countess of Chesterfield; 2. Countess of Monmouth.—*Sir Josh. Reynolds*: Anne Countess of Radnor, in a cart-wheel hat; 2. Lady Tilney Long.

In the *Long Parlour*—*Holbein*: portrait of Erasmus; brought to England by the painter, with a letter of introduction from Erasmus to Sir Thomas More. This picture, says Waagen, "is alone worth a pilgrimage to Longford. Seldom has a painter so fully succeeded in bringing to view the whole character of so original a mind as in this instance." The execution is most masterly and careful, even to the accessories—the brown fur for instance; and it is evident that the artist here tried to do his best. 2. Portrait of Peter Ægidius, the traveller: "as animated in conception as it is delicate in individuality."—*Salvator Rosa*: a sea-coast; a picture remarkable for "happy composition, unusual warmth of tone, and spirited treatment."—*Teniers*: Return from the chase; 2. Boors playing at bowls.—*Sir Josh. Reynolds*: James, second Lord Radnor, as a boy.—*Rubens*: Cupids gathering the harvest; "one of the great master's most original and attractive inventions." *Waagen*.—*J. Ruysdael*: Landscape by moonlight.

On an eminence nearly opposite Longford, on the E. side of the river, stood *Joy Church*, an Augustine Priory founded by Henry II. within the boundaries of the forest of Clarendon, with the object of providing its wild denizens with spiritual instruction. Some remains of its walls may still be seen in a school which occupies its site, and one of its old fire places, 7 ft. in length, and cut from a single block of Portland stone, is in the kitchen of the Green Dragon at Alderbury, a village on the Southampton road.

On the return to Salisbury, the small remains of the royal palace of Clarendon may be visited, lying

2 m. E. of Salisbury. The drive is a most attractive one. This ancient forest was granted by the Conqueror to Humphrey the Bearded, the first of the family of Bohun, and its palace was celebrated as a residence of our kings from the reign of Hen. I. to that of Edw. III., and as the scene of some important events in our history, particularly of the enacting, by a great council of the nation summoned by Henry II. in 1164, of the famous 'Constitutions of Clarendon,' by which the King, alarmed by the increasing assumptions of Becket and the ecclesiastical order, sought "to settle beyond dispute the main points in contest between the Crown and the Church; to establish thus, with the consent of the whole nation, an English constitution in Church and State."—*Milman, L. C.* Its traditional name of *King John's Palace* has preserved the memory of its selection by that monarch as his favourite abode, but it attained its greatest magnificence in the reign of his successor, Hen. III. At a later period, in 1356, Philip of Navarre did homage here to our Edw. III., as King of France and Duke of Normandy; and, in 1357, after the battle of Poitiers, the glades of Clarendon were enlivened by a royal chase, in which the captives John of France and David of Scotland rode side by side with our king. After the reign of Edw. III. the palace of Clarendon appears to have been neglected, but its forest remained for many years a favourite hunting-ground of our monarchs. In the 14th century this royal domain was granted for a term to the first Earl of Pembroke. It was mortgaged by Charles I. to Chancellor Hyde, who, it is believed, whilst mortgagee only, but in full and not unreasonable expectation that it would be ultimately his own, took the title of his peerage from this place. To his great mortification, however, Charles II. paid off the

mortgage, and bestowed the estate in fee upon George Monk, Duke of Albemarle, whose successor left it by will to his cousin the Earl of Bath. In 1713 it was purchased by Benjamin Bathurst, Esq., an ancestor of the present possessor. *Clarendon Lodge* (Sir F. H. H. Bathurst) is situated about a mile from the site of the ancient palace, of which there still remains a fragment of flint-wall, now propped by buttresses, and bearing an inscription which enlightens the passing traveller as to the many interesting memories connected with the spot. Clarendon is absurdly supposed by Kennet to derive its name from Chlorus's camp, which crowns a hill to the N. of it, and is, to bolster up this derivation, supposed to have been constructed by the Roman general Constantius Chlorus.

[If any one fond of walking should find himself in Salisbury with a day or two to spare, he may be glad to know how to fill up his time by one or two pleasant expeditions.

1. *Harnham Hill* (fine view) to *Hummington*, about 3 m. S. of Salisbury; on reaching the top of *Hummington Down*, before going down the steep hill into the village, turn off a little way on the rt. over the down, and look into and along the valley for a very characteristic view of Wiltshire scenery, with its retired villages and their water meadows, nestled in the valleys between the hills. Passing *Homington, Ch.* (consecrated 1860) go straight on up the hill for nearly 2 m., till immediately on crossing *Grims' ditch* you will come to a fine wood of yews. The road continues on southwards skirting the yews on its left, but it is well worth while to spend half-an-hour or more in exploring this wood. Some of the yews are very large, and the effect is sometimes striking to any one standing under the vaulted space made by the meeting of five or six in a group. The botanist may find things to re-

ward a search, and late in the year the bright green leaves and scarlet berries of the spindle tree (*Euonymus Europæus*) will attract notice. The whole district here is wild and lonely, and the wood was some years back the haunt of a gang of sheep stealers, who were at last detected by the smoke made in cooking some of their spoil. [If you have had enough of walking you may strike through "the yews" towards Odstock Avenue, and return to Salisbury by the route to be mentioned directly.] After coming to the end of the yews, on standing at their S.W. corner, you will look over a wide range of open country. Strike off in a south-westerly direction (or rather S.S.W.) to *Damerham Knoll* (about 9 or 10 m. from Salisbury), which you will recognize by its three clumps of trees; walk along the knoll and begin your return by striking down from the end of the knoll (N.E.) into the village of *Rockborn*, then to *Whichbury*, about a mile further N.E.; there is a fine view from Whichbury Churchyard, and from Whichbury Camp or *Castle Ditches*. Whichbury is a large camp, enclosing, according to Sir R. C. Hoare, fifteen acres and a half, the circumference of the ditch he states to be 1210 yards, and the height of the vallum 39 feet; part of the site is occupied by a farm, and the ramparts and ditch are overgrown by copses. From Whichbury go on (N.E.) to *Mizmaze Hill*, on *Breamore Down*, and amuse yourself by following the windings of the circular maze cut in the turf, and enjoy the view of the undulating down broken by the frequent clumps of trees, and proceed on (N.W.) to *Gallows Hill*. The barrow or small knoll bearing this ill-omened name is marked by four Scotch firs, one dead and blasted; and on reaching the lonely spot you may believe, if you like, the local tradition, that the place was so named because one of the owners of Breamore, in the

time of Charles II., having gambled away great part of his mother's fortune, shot her in one of the rooms at Breamore House, and was hanged on this mound. Grims' Ditch comes up to this mound, and may be seen stretching away to left (S.) for a long way, as yet undefaced by the plough. From Gallows Hill (N.N.W.) to *Clearbury* (marked by its crown of firs), and if the day is fine, you will see easily by the aid of a glass the tower and roof of Christ Church Priory in Hampshire, and the high downs in the Isle of Wight above the Needles, which are more than 25 m. off in direct distance. The red house on the hill side to the left is *Trafalgar*, the seat of Earl Nelson. From Clearbury make your way to *Odstock*, a little village in the valley below, about a mile to the N.W. The most pleasant way is to return a short distance back, and to come down through the fine avenue leading from the woods on the hill west of Clearbury down to Odstock Farm. The farmhouse at Odstock is the left wing of the manor house of the Webbs, the date 1567 is marked on one of the stores, and some fine trees will be noticed about the grounds, especially the maples in front of the house. The *Ch.* (it is not worth while to take the trouble to go inside) has a picturesque E. E. chancel, and contains an altar-tomb without effigies, of the end of the 17th centy. to several of the Webbs; the pulpit has the date 1580, with a couplet testifying to the popularity of Queen Elizabeth, though some might think such an inscription rather out of place in its present position.

"God bless and save our royal queen,
The lyke on earth was never seen."

Odstock is about 2½ m. south of Salisbury, and as you come over the hill and down into Salisbury note and enjoy the view.]

[2. Through *Laverstock*, or by several other routes (if by Clarendon,

see below), to the landmark on the down, above the targets of the rifle volunteers. The view is very extensive and characteristic of Wiltshire, though not very picturesque. Martensell Hill, by the Wansdyke, some 20 m. distant (nearly due N.), stands out boldly over the valley of the Avon, and a little to the left of Martensell may be seen with a glass the white horse cut in the turf above Woodborough. Clarendon is close by on the next hill below on the rt. (S.E.); on the l. the round head of *Cley Hill*, between Warminster and Longleat, is seen rising over the nearer downs; on the S. is *Clearbury*, marked by its clump of trees; the cathedral is well seen, and the woods by Wilton and Dinton. From this down you may go straight on across the turf to Chlorus's Camp, or *Figbury Ring*, which you will mark by a single tree standing within the ring, and can return by the London road if disinclined for further rambling over the downs; Chlorus's Camp is 3 m. from Salisbury by the road.]

[3. As suggested above, *Clarendon* may be visited first, and it would not be very much out of the way; leave Salisbury by Milford Street or St. Ann's Street, and after exploring *Clarendon Woods* and the crumbling fragments of the castle, strike down across the valley under the castle, and go straight up the hill on the other side in a direction from the castle. (*E.P.E.*)]

ROUTE 8.

SALISBURY TO WIMBORNE BY DOWNTON AND FORDINGBRIDGE [CRANBORNE—CRANBORNE CHASE.]

(*Salisbury and Dorset Railway.*)

This line runs S. along the valley of the Avon, leaving Wiltshire in 9 m. S. of Downton, and joining the Southampton and Weymouth line at West Moor, 23½ m. It passes on its course, l., *Britford*, seat of G. P. Jervoise, Esq.;—in 3 m. l., *Longford Castle*;—and further to the l. *New Hall*, residence of Major-General Buckley, who has here a valuable collection of pictures. "The number is considerable, and the majority of them attractive"—*Waagen*. Among them are fine examples of Vandervelde and Claude. On rt. the village of *Nunton*, of which the small church, restored by T. H. Wyatt, contains the monument of J. T. Batt, Esq., from whom General Buckley inherited *New Hall*;—*Odstock* church is also on the rt. (See *Rte. 7.*)

4 m. rt. an earthwork, called

Clearbury Ring, crowns a lofty hill. It is of an oblong shape, containing 5½ acres, protected by a single ditch and rampart about 40 ft. in height, and has been generally attributed to the W. Saxons, particularly to Cynric, who fought with the Britons 4 m. below *Charford* in 519, captured *Old Sarum* in 552, and finally completed the conquest of Wiltshire. The spot commands a most extensive view.

5 m. l. *Trafalgar House* (Earl Nelson), built by Sir Peter Vandepuit in 1733, and purchased in 1814, under an act of parliament for the heirs of the conqueror of *Trafalgar*. The wings were designed by *Dawkins*, and a portico by *Revet* was added in 1766. The hall, a cube of 30 ft., is decorated with a profusion of stone carving.

The ceiling of one of the rooms was painted by Cipriani. In the park are noble woods of beech, and near the river-side a chapel of the 17th century, said to have been founded as early as 1147. Adjoining Trafalgar House is *Barford*, now a farm-house, purchased by the late Lord Nelson, and formerly the residence of Lord Feversham; the old *Standlinch House* stands l. under *Standlinch Down*, with its prospect house erected by the Eyres, from the foot of which on a clear day Southampton and Netley Hospital may be easily seen.—In 6 m. *Brickworth House*, a Jacobean mansion (but modernised), for many years seat of a branch of the Eyres, and now of the Earl of Ilchester. To the E. of it is the old terraced garden.

8½ m. *Downton* (Pop. 3566) (6 m. from Salisbury by the road), a place of great antiquity and early importance, and still retaining a vestige of Saxon times in a mound called the *Moot*, at the E. end of the village. After the Conquest Downton belonged to the bishops of Winchester, who resided in it for many years. The site of their mansion, *Old Court*, is still pointed out on the rt. bank of the river, and there they are supposed to have entertained King John, who is known to have visited Downton on three separate occasions. Downton was a borough returning 2 members, disfranchised by the Reform Act. Among its representatives may be noticed Sir Carew Raleigh, Sir Walter's brother; Sir Charles Pratt, afterwards Ld. Chancellor Camden; Sir W. Scott (Ld. Stowell); and James Brougham. Southey was returned in 1826, but declined to sit.

The *Church* is a large cruciform building with a central tower, superior in size and character to its neighbours, chiefly E.E. with triplets at the ends of the transepts. The tower arches are fine with marble shafts. The chancel is somewhat later. It contains some sumptuous monuments

to the Duncombes, including those to Margaret Lady Feversham, by Scheemacker, and (opposite) to her husband Anthony Lord Feversham d. 1763, and his second wife d. 1757. The tower (perp.) was raised 30 ft. by the E. of Radnor 1791. In the churchyard stands a time-worn *cross*.

The old *manor-house*, of Eliz. or Jacobean date, but now a farm-house, was for a long time a residence of the Raleighs, and also the birthplace of *Admiral Sir Roger Curtis*, who commanded the gunboats at the siege of Gibraltar. One of the old chimney-pieces, sculptured with shields, may still be seen in the hall.

The *Moot*, will be interesting to the antiquary, presenting to his notice the singular earthwork in which either Saxon parliaments or Saxon courts of justice have been supposed to be held. It is in good preservation, and surrounded by an old-fashioned garden.

W. of Downton, on *Wick Down*, are remains of several complicated circles, forming a *maze*. The hills are crowned by the entrenchment of

Whichbury, or *Castle Ditches* (see Rte. 7), from which the

Grims-ditch may be traced in a winding course of some 6 m. This name occurs in many parts of England, and is generally derived from the Anglo-Saxon *grime*, an evil spirit, as if it signified the *Devil's Ditch*. A less romantic derivation has been given by Dr. Guest,—from *gruma*, a mediæval word meaning *boundary*. This work has its foss to the S.

The rly. leaving Wilts, enters Hants, and reaches 11½ m. *Breamore Stat.* The ancient house of Breamore (Sir Edward Hulse) burnt down 1856, has been rebuilt. The *ch.* with its Norm. doorway is worth a visit. There was a priory of Augustinian Canons here, founded by Baldwin de Redvers, in which Isabella de Fortibus, the last feudal

possessor of the Isle of Wight, was buried.

Close to Breamore on the other side of the Avon is *Charford*, formerly *Cerdeford*; without doubt the *Cerdicesford* of the A.-S. Chronicle; the scene of the great battle fought by Cedric and Cynric with the Romano-Britons A.D. 519, by which the Celtic power in Wessex was finally broken.

Proceeding down the Avon valley we reach

14½ m. **FORDINGBRIDGE** Stat. (*Inns*: Greyhound, Star, well known to anglers.) (Pop. 3178). The town is ancient and claims to be anterior to the Conquest. The single object of interest is the *Ch.*, which is large and worth examination. The nave is early Dec. with a good Perp. roof. Perp. clerestory windows, seem to have been inserted in place of the original Dec. ones. There is a small brass to Wm. Bulkeley, d. 1568. The main chancel E.E. is divided from the N. chancel by early Dec. pillars in groups of 4. The E. window is a triple lancet with singular flat headings to the lights. The roof of the N. chancel deserves especial notice. It is Perp., open, and much enriched. In the churchyard are 2 clipped yews of considerable size. For the neighbourhood of Fordingbridge see *Handbook to Hants.*)

Soon after leaving Fordingbridge the rly. enters Dorsetshire, and crossing Verwood Heath reaches

19¼ m. *Verwood* Stat. This is the stat. for the little town of Cranborne.

[rt. 4 m. **CRANBORNE** (*Inn*: Fleur de Lis; Pop. 2656), an old market-town on the high road from Salisbury to Poole. It had anciently a monastery, founded as early as 980, but its name is best known in connection with *Cranborne Chase*, an extensive tract of woodland on the borders of Dorsetshire and Wiltshire. Cranborne is described

by Leland as "a praty thorroghfair, and for one streat meatly well builded. There rennith a fleting bek thorrogh it, and passid down thorrogh the streat self on the right hand." The *Church* has a heavy sq. tower built 1440 by means of indulgences granted by Bp. Aiscough of Salisbury. The N. door is Norman. The parish of Cranborne is one of the largest in the county, being 40 miles in circumference. A priory for Benedictines was founded here by Aylward de Meaux, c. 980, which in 1102, when Tewkesbury was rebuilt by Robert Fitz-Hamon, saw all its monks save 3 transferred to the new foundation, of which it became a cell. There is here a most charming Manor House belonging to Lord Salisbury (engraved in Nash's *Ancient Mansions*), built probably *temp.* Hen. VIII., and embellished by Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury, *temp.* James I.

Edward Stillingfleet, Bishop of Worcester (died 1699), was born close to Cranborne, on a small estate possessed by his family.

Cranborne Chase, so named from this town, was in early times an extensive territory, which comprised considerable parts of Dorset, Hampshire, and Wiltshire. Its limits were then Salisbury, Wilton, Tisbury, Kingsettle (near Shaftesbury), Blandford, Wimborne, Ringwood, Fordingbridge, and Downton, in circuit about 80 miles. For many years it was the property of the Earls of Gloucester, but it belonged to the Crown in the reign of John, and from the time of Edward IV. to that of James I. By the latter monarch it was granted to the Earl of Pembroke, from whose descendants it passed through several noble families to its present proprietor Lord Rivers. Cranborne Chase, though now disfranchised, is still an extensive wooded tract, consisting principally of the Wiltshire hills on the border of this county. As late as 1828 it contained 12,000 deer, and as

many as 6 lodges, each of which had its "walk," and was under the management of a Ranger appointed by Lord Rivers. It presents many a charming scene. "Nothing," says the poet Bowles, "can be more wild than this leafy labyrinth, opening at times, and showing, through the hollies and thorns and hazels, some distant woodland hamlet in sunshine. On the bordering downs no object meets the eye, except here and there, at a distance, a small round clump of trees on summits, called by the people of the country appropriately *a hat of trees*." Over the hills of this forest ran the *British Ridge Way*. The ancient *Chase Prison* was at Cranborne.

Cranborne Chase was formerly famous for its deer-hunters. The unlawful sport was practised by the gentlemen of the neighbourhood as a knight errantry. "From 4 to 20" we are told "assembled in the evening, dressed in cap and jack and quarter staff with dogs and nets. Having set the watchword for the night and agreed whether they should stand or run if they should meet the keepers, they proceeded to the chase, set their nets, let slip their dogs to drive the deer into the nets; a man standing at each net to strangle the deer as soon as they were entangled. Frequent desperate bloody battles took place; the keepers, and sometimes the hunters were killed." In Hutchins' 'Dorset' there is a print of a noted Deer-hunter, in his costume, from a portrait painted by Byng, 1720.

2 m. S.W. is *St. Giles's House*, the seat of the Earl of Shaftesbury, and birth-place in 1621 of *Anthony Ashley Cooper*, the statesman and leading member of the Cabal ministry, created Baron Ashley, 1661, and Earl of Shaftesbury, 1672—and at a later date of the author of 'The Characteristics,' here educated by Locke, who came into his grandfather's family as doctor, 1666, and some years afterwards found a wife for his father.

The house is a long, low, embattled pile, standing round a quadrangular court, and is chiefly Elizabethan, built 1561, and partly rebuilt in 1661, and renovated by the present eminent possessor. The east wing is more ancient, and probably dates from the 16th cent. It contains many interesting family pictures, including those of *Ld. Chancellor Shaftesbury* in his robes of office, the 2nd Earl and his countess, by Sir Peter Lely, Squire Hastings, &c. The manor came into the possession of the Ashleys in the reign of Edward IV. The heiress of Sir Anthony, who was knighted at the siege of Cadiz, brought it to the Coopers of Rockborne, Hants. The river *Allen* flows through the park. The *Ch.* is modern. The pleasure-grounds contain some noble cedars, and a grotto, which is said to have cost 10,000*l.* in 1751. In the kitchen-garden, according to the tradition, that homely but useful vegetable the cabbage was first grown in England.

23 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *West Moors Stat.* where the Salisbury and Dorset line joins that from Southampton to Weymouth, midway between *Ringwood* (*Hndbk. to Hants*) and

27 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Wimborne Stat.* (Rte. 12).

ROUTE 9.

SALISBURY TO SHAFTESBURY, BY THE VALE OF CHALK.

This road leaves Salisbury by Harnham Hill, from which there is a very fine view of the Cathedral, and descends into the *Vale of Chalk*, through which runs the little river of *Ebele* or *Stopford Water*. The Roman road from Old Sarum to Dorchester traversed this vale, probably taking the line of an old British trackway.

3 m. *Combe Bissett*. The *Ch.*, cruciform, with aisles and a tower over the S. transept, well built of stone, stands picturesquely on an eminence. In the nave are two Norman arches. The E.E. font has been retouched.

[Below Combe Bissett are the villages of *Homington*, *Odstock*, *Nunton*. See Rte. 7.]

4 m. *Stratford Tony*, where is a small mean *Ch.*, taking its distinguishing name from the family of Toni, the founder of which, Ralph, came over with the Conqueror as standard-bearer, and fought at the battle of Hastings. Robert, the last baron, was at Caerlaverock, 1300.

4½ m. *Bishopston*. The *Ch.* will well repay a visit: it is cruciform, of some size, and much interest. The chancel and S. transept are very good examples of late Dec. c. 1360, with fine vaulted roofs and rich flamboyant windows. Note the E. window with its drip moulding continued up to the unglazed opening (a spherical triangle foliated), which lights the roof; the side windows of unusual length, the unique S. chancel door with its ogee crocketed canopy and vaulted recess, and the singular external cloister, or whatever else it is to be called, on the S. wall of the S. transept: it is part of the original structure, and the visitor may amuse himself with conjectures as to its purpose and intention, re-

membering, however, that the two tombs of different dates placed one upon the other inside it will afford him no clue, as they were only a few years ago removed to their present position from the interior of the church; it at any rate adds greatly to the picturesque appearance of the church. The nave and N. transept are later and inferior, but they contain some features worth noticing, especially the rich tomb in the N. transept. Examine also the arch which opens into the S. transept, and the apparent remains of a Norman arch above it. The chancel has fine sedilia. The church has been restored in a careful and loving spirit, though perhaps not quite in accordance with the critical requirements of modern ecclesiology, by a late rector, Mr. Montgomery, whose elaborate tomb by Pugin is in the S. wall of the S. transept; the carvings on the pulpit are said to have been brought by him from Spain. The church plate, presented by John Earle, successively Bp. of Worcester and Salisbury after the Restoration, and formerly rector of Bishopston, is probably of Flemish manufacture. —(E. P. E.) It contains a small brass to John de Wykeham, presented to the Rectory by William of Wykeham, 1379. The parish takes its name from the Bishops of Winchester, who were lords of the manor till the Reformation, when it passed into the hands of the present owners, the Earls of Pembroke.

8 m. *Broad Chalk* has a large cruciform church, with a central tower and S. porch, over which till lately there was a room or "parvise;" but the intermediate floor and ceiling were destroyed some years ago. The chancel and N. transept are E.E.; the rest of the church of the 15th century. Broad Chalk was the birthplace of John Bekinsel, a learned Wykehamist, a friend of Leland's, and author of a work on "Defence of the Supremacy of

Hen. VIII," and for some years the residence of John Aubrey, the antiquary.

2½ m. S.W. lies the little village of *Bover* or *Burgh Chalk*, a chapelry to Broad Chalk. The *ch.* is cruciform, with the tower to the S., and is a very interesting specimen of primitive E.E. The chancel was rebuilt, and an aisle and memorial window added, 1866, in memory of Lord Herbert of Lea by his widow.

9 m. The church of *Fifield Bavent* is the smallest in the county, and almost one of the smallest in England. The parish derives its name from having originally contained five hides of land, and from the family Bavent, who were its Norman owners.

The road passes through

12 m. *Ebbesborne* or *Ebelesborne Wake*, which takes its name from standing on the banks of the Ebele.

13 m. *Alvediston*. The *Ch.* is cruciform, with tower at west end. In the S. Trans. or Gawen's aisle an effigy in complete armour rests on an altar-tomb. ½ m. W.N.W. are the remains of *Norrington*, once the mansion of the Gawens, one of the oldest names in Wilts. *Norrington* was their seat from 1377 to 1658, when it passed to the Wyndhams. Its ancient importance is attested by the remains of the formal terraces and gardens, and the wreck of the old hall, which appears to have been built about the time of Rich. II. "Norrington," writes Mr. Parker, "is a tolerably perfect manor-house of the 15th cent., with the hall and porch perfect. The hall windows are good perp., and the doorway of the porch has a fine set of mouldings with shafts and deep hollows." The rest is about the time of Elizabeth. The hall is divided into several rooms. There is a cellar with a good vaulted roof, and a so-called "banquet-chamber" with a fireplace of the date of Elizabeth.

The road passes under the high

chalk down known as *Whitesheet Hill*, and reaches

17½ m. *Berwick St. John*, under *Winkelbury*, an entrenchment of 12½ acres, girt by a single ditch and rampart 39 ft. high. Beyond are the far-extending forest heights of *Cranborne Chase*. The *ch.* is cruciform, c. 1500. The ceiling bears the Tudor rose, and the arms of the Willoughby de Brokes, one of which family was rector here, 1485-1506. In the S. aisle may be seen 2 monuments, with effigies in chain armour. They are supposed to be those of Sir Robert Lucy in the N. Trans., and John de Hussey in the S. Trans.. Knights Templars in the reign of Edw. I.

A former rector, Rev. John Gane, left a bequest, 1735, for ringing the great bell of the *ch.* at 8 o'clock every night for ¼ of an hour during the winter months to guide travellers over the Wiltshire Downs. *Fern House*, the seat of T. Grove, Esq., was rebuilt 1811. The estate has been in the family since 1563.

3 m. S. in *Cranborne Chase* is *Tollard Royal*. The *ch.* contains a fine effigy in chain mail of Sir W. Payne of East Lulworth, d. 1388, who married the heiress.

Our route quits the Vale of Chalk; and leaving the *Donheads* and *Ticklepath Hill*, with the *Castle Rings* on the rt., enters Dorsetshire, and reaches

24 m. *Shaftesbury* (Rte. 11).

Ashcombe 5 m. S.E. (in *Cranborne Chase*), an estate formerly of Lord Arundell, and now of Mr. Grove, is a very romantic spot. It is in a deep circular dell, from the centre of which rises a small hill. Upon this isolated knoll stands a relic of the old mansion, in the midst of an amphitheatre of woods. The only outlet is by a steep road carried up the heights.

ROUTE 10.

SALISBURY TO WESTBURY, BY WILTON, HEYTESBURY, AND WARMINSTER (LONGLEAT).

(Great Western Railway.)

Leaving Salisbury, the Gt. Western Rly. runs side by side with the S.W. Rly. to Yeovil and Exeter as far as $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Wilton Stat.*, where it crosses the Wily, and continues up the valley of the river to the watershed at Warminster.

$4\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is *South Newton*. The *Ch.* restored by Lady Herbert of Lea.

5 m. *Wishford Stat.* The village of mud-built thatched cottages is prettily wooded. The *Ch.* is rich in monuments worth notice, particularly the stately tomb of Sir Richard Grobham, steward of the Gorges family of Longford, 1629, and of Thomas Bonham, 1473 a former lord of this manor, whose effigy is represented in the habit of a pilgrim. According to the absurd local legend, he was the father of 7 children, who were all born at one birth, after his return from a 7 years' pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and were brought together to the christening prettily grouped in a sieve. An unnamed female fig. lies in a low recess in the N. wall.

To the l. rises the hill of

Grovely or *Graveling Wood*, formerly one of the largest woods in the county, and a forest as late as the reign of Elizabeth. It is remarkable for a number of ancient earthworks. On the down immediately opposite *Wishford* are *Grovely Works*, the remains of a *British town*, in a crescent

form, extending a mile in length, and occupying 60 acres; further to the W., (to the S. of Little Langford,) are *Grovely Castle*, encircled by a single ditch and rampart, but, in the opinion of Sir R. C. Hoare, of no very high antiquity; and *East Castle*, to the S. of Steeple Langford, a work remarkable for its small size ($\frac{3}{4}$ acre), and for containing a central mound.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of East Castle is

Hanging Langford, evidently a British camp; and *Bilbury Ring* (due S. of Wily Stat.), now nearly destroyed, a farm having been built on the site. It was fortified by double and triple ramparts, and enclosed a still older work in its area of 17 acres. On the S. side of Grovely, on Barford Down, is another entrenched village, called *Hanshill Ditches*, and through the heart of the wood runs the Roman road from Old Sarum to Uphill on the Bristol Channel; $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Old Sarum at the E. corner of Grovely Wood the pitched causeway is visible. Grovely is the property of the Earl of Pembroke. "In old times the tenants and others who claimed custom in the wood used to go in a daunce to Salisbury Cathedral on a certain day, and there make their clayme in these words, 'Grovely, Grovely, and all Grovely.'" "The circuit of this wood," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "is an *iter* rich in food for the antiquary, and interesting to every eye that is not totally indifferent to the many varied and beautiful views which it continually affords."

A pleasant excursion for a pedestrian is from *Wishford Station* to ascend the Downs to Grovely Works, and then follow the undulations of the Downs, exploring the camps by the way, to *Hanging Langford*, or further, if he feels inclined; then to turn into Grovely and walk along the broad open drive to Wilton, and so back to Salisbury; the view of the Cathedral and the surrounding country from the hill-side is very fine.

Just beyond Wishford, rt., the valley of the Winterbourne opens and affords a glimpse of

Stapleford, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Wishford Station N. The *Ch.* well deserves a visit. It is cruciform, and has a fine Norm. N. door and very good Norm. arcade within. The piscina and sedilia deserve notice. *Old Castle Ground* is a moated site adjoining a meadow called *the Park*. For the villages up this stream, *Berwick St. James*, *Winterbourne Stoke*, *the Orchestons*, &c. (see Rte 6).

$7\frac{1}{2}$ m. Close to the rly., rt., overshadowed with elms, is the small Dec. church of *Little Langford*, restored by Lady Herbert in pursuance of the wishes of the late Lord Herbert, where the Norm. S. door, with a rude bas relief and a Jacobean tomb, deserve notice.

$8\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Hanging Langford* is close to the line rt., and *Steeple* (or *Staple*, i. e. Market) *Langford*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. This *ch.* contains a rich altar tomb to the family of Mompesson, and a lively portraiture of the Rev. J. Collier, rector, d. 1635. In taking the chancel down lately a Purbeck marble slab with the figure of a man with a horn slung round him was found. In the troubles in Charles I.'s time the rector, the Rev. J. Collier, was ejected as "ignorant, scandalous, and inefficient," leaving his wife and 11 children without provision in a time of deep snow. They took shelter for 6 nights in a barn, and the children gathered sticks in Grovely Wood. Two of his sons joined in Penruddock's abortive attempt; and, being taken, were sold as slaves in Jamaica.

$9\frac{1}{2}$ *Wily Stat.* There is a picturesque view of the wooded hill of Bathampton from the bridge over the river. *Wily Ch.* was rebuilt 1844, but retains a fine E.E. eastern triplet, and contains an oaken pulpit brought from Old Wilton Ch. It has a low pinnacled tower.

On the old road from Salisbury to

Warminster, immediately N., was the once celebrated *Deptford Inn*, the half-way house, now pulled down. The garden commands a pleasing view. In the hollow lies *Bedhampton* (properly *Bathampton*), the seat of H. N. Jarrett, Esq., and on the rt. a bold and lofty down rises abruptly from the road. 2 m. N.E., on the highway to Stonehenge and Amesbury, is

Yarnbury Camp, a very perfect and interesting work, placed on the summit of a solitary eminence of the great Plain, the undulating surface of which is seen from it in a panoramic view. It is circular, and of great size, the entrenchments being two banks and ditches, the inner about 50 ft. deep. The principal entrance faces the E., and is defended by a complicated outwork. Another entrance on the S. should be noticed for its complete preservation. E. of Yarnbury are *Staple Langford Downs*, with singular and diversified earthworks and mounds, probably the sites of huts. On the 4th of October Yarnbury is the scene of an annual fair for the sale of sheep and colts. The old road from Salisbury to Bath (long disused) skirted the camp on the E., and its course is still marked by many of the milestones. $3\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. is *Oldbury*, or *Codford Circle*, marking the summit of a hill by its earthen bank. The eye ranges over a wide uncultivated country.

1 m. S. of Wily is *Bilbury Ring*; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. farther the British camp of *Hanging Langford* and the *Dinton Beeches*; and, about 2 m. towards Hindon, *Stockton Works*, the site of a British town, afterwards occupied by the Romans as a station on their road from Old Sarum. *Fonthill* is 10 m. distant.

Fisherton Delamere, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W., is so named after its ancient lords, the Delameres of Nunney Castle, Somerset. *Fisherton House*, seat of J. Davis, Esq., is said to occupy the site of their

mansion. The remains of terraces are to be traced in the garden. The rly. continues up the valley, here broad and green, with the chalk hills on each side, to

11½ m. rt. *Stockton*: *Stockton House* (H. Biggs, Esq.) is a fine Elizabethan mansion embowered in woods. It was probably built by John Topp, d. 1635. The exterior is rather plain, and the interior has been partly modernized; but it contains a splendid sitting-room and bed-room with gorgeous plaster ceilings, inscribed with E. R. The Trans. Norm. Ch. contains a handsome tomb with recumbent effigies to the builder and his wife Mary, and other memorials of the Toppes. There is an almshouse founded by the same John Topp, 1641.

13½ m. *Codford Station*. There are two parishes l., the straggling village of *Codford St. Mary's* (the ch., nearly rebuilt 1843, has a tomb with effigies of Sir Richard Mompesson, a Norm. font, and a communion-table made out of the old pulpit of St. Mary's, Oxford); and the more compact one of *Codford St. Peter's*. The Ch. of the latter is Norman, aisleless, with a zigzag moulded chancel arch. The Rectory was given to St. John's Coll., Oxford, by Abp. Laud. It contains a font coeval with the ch., a piscina and sedilia. Dr. Ingram, the antiquary, President of Trinity Coll., Oxford, was b. at Codford St. Mary's, 1774.

About 1 m. to the rt. is a curious earthwork, called *Oldbury*, or *Codford Circle*, which was evidently not designed for the purposes of defence. It occupies the summit of a hill commanding a most interesting view. E of Codford St. Mary, on a projecting spur of the down, 8 venerable yews mark the site of a Hermitage founded by Hen. de Mareys, 1317. S., on the rt. bank of the Wily, lies the pretty little village of

Sherrington, remarkable for a moated mound, W. of the ch., 100

ft. in diameter at top, on which stood of old a castle of the wealthy and powerful Giffards, whose property in Plantagenet times extended over many parishes in this county. Beyond Codford St. Peter the valley expands considerably.

Boyton House (Rev. Prebendary Fane) will be observed on the l. of Codford Stat. Here, in the days of Hen. II., and for many subsequent years, was the seat of the Giffards.

Boyton Ch. (St. Mary), which has been well restored by Prebendary Fane, deserves notice. It is a fine example of E.E. and early Dec. The tower stands to the N., and has a very fine E.E. doorway. The S. or Lambert Chapel has some fine Dec. windows, especially that to the W. (a circle containing 3 triangles), two altar tombs, one with the effigy of a cross-legged knight in chain armour, Sir Alexander Giffard, the companion of William Longespée, the crusader, and one of his knights in the fatal conflict of Mansoura, from which he escaped to fulfil the dying wishes of his friend; the other, without effigy, but richly adorned with canopied niches, perhaps to Lady Margaret, in whom the house of Giffard expired. A large slab of Purbeck marble, with the matrix of a brass in the N. chancel, on being removed, was found to cover a decapitated skeleton, probably that of the last male Giffard, beheaded at Gloucester for his share in the Earl of Lancaster's rebellion, temp. Ed. II. The ch. was probably built by Bp. Giffard. There are good piscinæ and sedilia both in the chancel and S. chapel. The estate afterwards belonged to Maltravers, then to the Earl of Arundell, who, 1572, sold it to Rd. Lambert, Ald. of London. The house was built by Thos. Lambert, 1618. The late owner was the distinguished botanist, Mr. Bourke Lambert, who discovered on this estate 2 plants previously unknown to the British flora—*Cnicus tuberosus* and *Centaurea nigrescens*, the

former in *Great Ridgewood*—and here collected from all parts of the world a most valuable Hortus Siccus, which consisted of more than 30,000 species. Between Boyton and Corton grounds the country people point out a pit called *Chapel* or *Chettle Hole*, as the spot where a church was once mysteriously engulfed. A little spring bubbles up from it. (*Cetel* is A.-S. for a caldron.) The *Corton Beech* is a tree 14 ft. in circumference.

14½ m. rt., *Upton Lovel*, bears the name of its ancient lords, the lords of Castle Cary, Somerset. The small aisleless church contains the effigy of one (perhaps) of this family stretched at length on an altar-tomb in his armour; and also a brass, the demi-figure of a priest, c. 1430, and a circular font. Here is an Endowed Grammar School. The Wily is here spanned by an ingeniously constructed bridge, by J. Chapman of Frome. Each parapet is formed by trussing a beam of red pine.

15½ m. *Knook Ch.*, has a Norm. S. door with carved tympanum, and a Norm. chancel arch.

16 m. *Heytesbury Stat.* (*Inns*: Angel, Red Lion; Pop. 1103) is commonly called *Haytchbury*.

The Anglo-Saxons called it *Hegtre-desbyri*, a formidable name which, in Domesday Book, the Norman clerk converted into *Hestrebe*. Sir R. C. Hoare was led (very excusably) to suppose that this meant Hazebury. Hence some part of his parish history is out of place, and belongs to Haselbury, near Box. It is now an inconsiderable place, with a small manufacture of broadcloths and kerseymeres. Between the years 1830 and 1841 its population diminished from 1350 to 1311, and is now only 1103; in 1832 the borough was disfranchised. Its claims upon the interest of the traveller arise from the accident of its forming the central point of a district peculiarly rich in earthworks of the olden time, and

from a very good collection of paintings at Heytesbury House.

The property here, under various subdivisions of *East, West, and South H.*, belonged, from Hen. II. to Rich. II., to the families of Dunstanville, Montfort, Badlesmere, and Burghersh. They were then united, and from Rich. II. to Hen. VIII. were held by the elder house of Hungerford. In that reign it was forfeited by the attainder of Walter Hungerford, who had been created "Lord Hungerford of Heytesbury." The Hungerfords possessed this place before they bought Farley Castle; and some of them preferred living here. Their house at Heytesbury has been long since taken down, but in the present offices still remains an old stone shield, bearing the arms of Courtenay impaling Hungerford. They were followed by the families of Wheeler, Moore, and Ashe. By marriage of the heiress of Wm. Ashe, the estate passed in 1750 to Pierce A'Court, Esq., ancestor of the present owner, Lord Heytesbury.

The *Ch.* (restored by Butterfield: re-opened 1867) was made collegiate by Jocelyn, Bp. of Sarum, c. 1165, with a dean and 4 prebendaries. It is cruciform, chiefly E.E. The nave was rebuilt in the perp. style, probably by the Hungerfords, c. 1404. During the restoration the aisles of choir have been rebuilt, the original pitch of the roofs restored, and the N. transept, which had been turned into a family vault, thrown open to the ch. A new font was given by Rev. R. Beadon. The E. window is internally a triplet, with only the centre lancet pierced. In the chancel are 14 oaken stalls. In the S. transept is a tablet to the memory of Mr. Cunnington, whose antiquarian researches formed the groundwork of Sir R. C. Hoare's 'Ancient Wiltshire.' He resided for many years at Heytesbury, where he died in 1810.

Heytesbury Hospital, a red brick building, forming 3 sides of a square,

originally founded for 12 poor men and one woman, and a *Custos*, about 1472, by Robert Lord Hungerford and his widow, Margaret Lady H. and Botreaux, is endowed with lands. The Hungerford arms are over the entrance.

On the N. side of the town is *Heytesbury Park*, the seat of Lord Heytesbury. Its woods clothe the base of Cotley Hill, and sweep in dark plantations of fir to the neighbouring heights. The mansion is modern and perfectly plain, but it contains some fine pictures of the Italian, Spanish, French, and Netherlandish schools, particularly of the Spanish. In the drawing-room—*Roger de Bruges*: Descent from the Cross.—*Guercino*: Genius of Painting.—*Raphael*: Holy Family (belonged to Card. Mazarin), “an early and careful copy, somewhat hard in form and dark in colour.”—*Waagen*. *Parmigiano*: Christ and St. J. Bapt., belonged to Mad. Murat.—*Albano*: Cupid bending his bow, a copy from Coreggio.—*Teniers*: several.—*Paul Veronese*: Moses in the Bulrushes; the Baptism, elevated in sentiment, and powerful in colour.—*Luca Giordano*: Philip II. examining the plan of the Escorial, a sketch for the picture in the Escorial, rich composition, conceived as a landscape.—*Valasquez*: the sketch for “*los Borrachos*” in the gallery at Madrid; full of spirit and expression, in the coarse reality of the powerful peasants’ heads.—*J. Juannes*: good copy of the *Ecce Homo* by Rogier Van de Weyden the younger; 2. *Mater Dolorosa*; “of portrait-like but noble character; of pale tone and intensely moving expression, not a copy. One of the best specimens of the early Spanish school I have ever seen,” *Waagen* (companion picture).—*B. Luini*: the Baptism; “among the few pictures on a small scale by the master, this is the most beautiful I know:” *Waagen*.—*B. Schidone*: Virgin and Child, with

St. John and Joseph.—*Murillo*: St. John and the Lamb; 2. painted at Seville for Count Almodovar, “*las Gallegas*” (Gallician girls), a well-known picture, “of animated conception and admirable drawing:” *Waagen*.—*Zurbaran*: 2 masterly pictures of Sts. Jerome and Benedict, saints, life-size.—*Guercino*: the Magdalen, “of unusual nobility of form and expression.”—*Jan Van Eyck*: St. Francis receiving the Stigmata, “a finely preserved little gem:” *Waagen*. In the Ante-room—*G. Poussin*: a grand mountainous Landscape.—*Zurbaran*: St. Francis; 2. a Saint. In the Dining-room—*A. Cano*: the Magdalen.—*Van Helmont*: May Day; Condemnation of a Deserter.—*Ribera*: St. Jerome.—*G. Romano*: Marriage of St. Catherine.—*Murillo*: Virgin and Child, with SS. Joseph and John.—*N. Poussin*: View of Ponte Molle; 2. Herminia seeking refuge with the Shepherds.—*Claude*: 2 small Landscapes, “delicate and clearly coloured works, of his best time.”—*S. Rosa*: portrait of a man.—*Zurbaran*: the Infant Christ on an ass, with Joseph and St. John, “coarsely realistic in conception, but the heads animated and of masterly treatment.”—*C. Cignani*: Charity.—*Domenichino*: a Landscape, with St. John preaching.—*Vanni*: Flight into Egypt.

In the *Drawing Room* is preserved Charles I.’s cap, given by him to Hen. Vernon, Esq. of Farnham, at whose house he passed the night on his way to Carisbrook.

The *Library* contains family portraits of the Ashes and A’Courts; on the *Staircase* are portraits of the Worsleys and Holmes from Appuldurcombe, in the Isle of Wight.

At *Greenhill*, in the adjoining parish of *Sutton*, is the residence of Captain Everett, who also has some excellent pictures. By *Paul Potter*: a Landscape with cattle and sheep, of great power both in execution and colour.—*J. Van Ostade*: a village scene, with travellers; “a

rich composition, in a deep glowing tone, and of solid impasto:”

Waaagen. — *Jan Steen*: a domestic after-dinner scene in a garden bower, the dessert on the table, one of the best pictures of the master. — *B. Denner*: portrait of an old woman, of which there are several repetitions. — *Teniers*: a Dispute at Cards. — *Van der Helst*: portrait of a young girl. — *Uchterfeld*: 2 girls at the piano, “a charming picture by this second-rate master.” — *Waaagen*. Of these Dr. Waagen says, “some would take an honourable place even in the largest gallery.”

At *Sutton Veney* (miscalled *Fenny*), about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from *Heytesbury Station*, is an old parsonage, in which may be recognised the remains of a manor-house in the windows of the hall and buttery-hatch. A new *Ch.* has been built.

Imber, 5 m. N. of *Heytesbury*, is entombed among the chalk hills, in one of the most lonely situations conceivable. A local rhyme runs—

“Imber, on the Down,
Four miles from any town.”

It can only be approached by a track-way across the turf, and is almost inaccessible in winter. The *Ch.*, which suffered restoration in 1631, contains 2 effigies of members of the ancient family of Rous.

At *Heytesbury* the valley has expanded to a considerable width, the downs sweep to it with their grassy sides in bold slopes, and the singular eminence of *Cley Hill* rises midway where it opens on the plain at *Warminster*.

Cotley Hill rises immediately above *Heytesbury*, and commands one of the finest panoramic views in the county. It is remarkable for a tumulus crowning the very summit, and formerly encircled by a low bank and ditch, which in part remain to the present day. This mound was opened by Mr. Cunnington, who found in it the bones of animals

and fragments of pottery, but no trace of any human interment. The bank is on the outer side of the ditch, and for this reason it is concluded that the work was of a religious character.

Knook Castle is another ancient work, about 2 m. N.E. of the town. It is a single-ditched entrenchment, supposed to have been originally a British village, afterwards occupied by the Romans as a summer camp, British and foreign pottery, native implements, and Roman coins having been found in it. To the N. of it are remains of another British settlement, and the *Old Ditch*, which runs for 11 m. across *Salisbury Plain* in the direction of *Tilshead* and *Orcheston*. The site of these villages, says Sir R. C. Hoare, “is decidedly marked by great cavities and a black soil; and the attentive eye may easily trace out the lines of houses, and the streets, or rather the hollow ways conducting to them.” Long barrows are very numerous on these hills.

Proceeding on our route:—

rt., *Scratchbury*, a magnificent and well-preserved specimen of a British camp, supposed to derive its name from the Celtic word *Crech* or *Crechen*, a hill. The area (blue in summer, with campanula and scabious) occupies 40 acres. It is of an irregular form, following the outline of the hill, encompassed by a ditch and rampart in places 66 ft. in height. The entrances are three, the principal one, opening to the S.E., being fortified with outworks. Within the area is an inner camp and several tumuli. The railroad runs at the foot of the hill. Separated from this work by a deep valley is the camp of

Battlesbury, another entrenchment attributed to the Britons. You ascend to it by a giants' stairway, the slope of the intervening valley being formed in a series of parallel terraces, called “linchets,” following the ascent as exactly as if made by the hand of

man. The precise origin of these "lynchets" (or "lanchardes," as sometimes pronounced), is not known. That cattle could have made such accurately parallel and regular walks is impossible. These certainly have (as many lynchets have) more the appearance of having been produced by the action of water. It is undoubtedly to the gradual effect of tides in some ancient geological sea, that the downs themselves owe the graceful slopes which they present. Some harder layer of the chalk has resisted that action, and hence probably these singular projecting banks. In some instances they may have been formed, or altered by the plough. On the S. and S.E. the height and abruptness of the hill render this camp almost inaccessible; on the N. it is more easily approached, and there the defences are double. The area encircled is more than 23 acres, and the rise of the ramparts 60 ft. In the view, which is most extensive, the pretty knoll of *Cophead*, the singular outlying eminence of *Cley Hill*, the town of Warminster, and woods of *Longleat*, are interesting features.

Near the hamlet of *Boreham*, 2 m. W., remains of an earthwork called the *Berries*—a corruption of "Bury"—mark the site of a Roman station on the road from Old Sarum to Bath. Pottery and numerous coins have been found on the spot, and at *Pitmead*, lower down the river, the tessellated pavements of 2 villas. The road is supposed to have proceeded down the valley as far as Stapleford, and thence across the downs to Old Sarum.

200 yards north of Boreham is the *King-Barrow*, so called as one of the largest in Wiltshire. It is 206 ft. in length, 56 in width, and 15 in height. It was opened in 1800, when two human skeletons and the bones of a horse, together with the horns of a stag, the tusks of a boar, and fragments of pottery, were found in it.

19½ m. *Warminster Stat.*, overshadowed by the heights of *Arn Hill* and *Cophead* rt.

WARMINSTER (*Inns*: Bath Arms; Lamb, Pop. 5995), the seat of Quarter Sessions, Visitations, &c., with a Saturday market, to which the ready-money dealing in corn, and a considerable malting business, give importance. It is a place of great antiquity, and deriving its present name from a "minster" or church which stood on the banks of the *Were*. The site of this ancient church is traditionally supposed to have been at a place called the nunnery, and there is a so-called *Nuns' Path*, a track ascending the neighbouring hill; but there is no record of any monastic foundation having existed here. At the period of the Conquest, Warminster belonged to and was held by the Crown; but the tenant under the Crown held the manor by the service of providing the King and his suite with one night's lodging when they visited the neighbourhood. This right was claimed in 1663 by Charles II., and paid by Sir James Thynne of Longleat, and almost in our own days by George III., who with the Queen and Princesses was entertained by the lord of the manor of Warminster at Longleat. Warminster is a clean, airy town with one long street of white stone houses, which in the last century was so full of hollow ways that you might step from the footpath on to the top of a loaded waggon. It stands in a beautiful country, situated at the entrance of a valley under the escarpment of the downs, which here expose their flanks in long perspective, or rise from the plain in isolated knolls.

The Mauduits were lords of Warminster from Hen. I. to Richd. II.

The *Ch.* possesses little interest. It has a low, pinnacled, central tower. The S. chapel was built by the Mauduits temp. Hen. VII. In 1626 an

order was made to repair the ch., "which weeps many a fresh tear for her decayed house, especially when the wind is in the west." It underwent a destructive restoration in the taste of the day in 1723. The chapel of *St. Lawrence*, on the S. side of the principal street, was a chantry founded temp. Ed. I. by two sisters named Hewitt, bought by the townsmen at the Reformation. It has a tower and spirelet, and the initials of Hen. VII. over the W. door.

The *Town Hall*, built by the Marquis of Bath from designs by Blore in the Jacobean style, 1830, contains Courts for the Quarter Sessions and other county business. There are other well-designed buildings of public utility, as Savings Bank, National Schools, &c.

The *Free School* was founded by Thomas Lord Weymouth 1707. Bp. Huntingford was one master of it, and at a later period Dr. Arnold was a pupil here, under Dr. Griffith. He "long retained a grateful remembrance of the miscellaneous books to which he had access in the school library at Warminster, and when, in his Professorial Chair, he quoted Dr. Priestley's 'Lectures on History,' it was from his recollection of what he had read there when he was 8 years old."—*Stanley's Life of Arnold*. Hampden, Bp. of Hereford, was also educated here.

Two of the royal regiments, under Kirke and Trelawney, were posted at Warminster in 1688, while Churchill and his chief accomplices were at Salisbury. "All was ripe for the execution of the long-meditated treason. Churchill advised the King (James II.) to visit Warminster, and inspect the troops stationed there. James assented. The coach was at the door of the bishop's palace at Salisbury, when a violent bleeding at the nose compelled him to postpone his journey."—*Macaulay*.

Among places to be visited are *Cley Hill* and the camps of *Scratchbury* and

Battlesbury; and, by the angler, *Sheerwater* [A.-S. Scir, clear], rt. of the road to Longbridge Deverill, where there is excellent fishing. It is a pretty little lake of 45 acres deeply embosomed in wood, and belongs to the Marquis of Bath, by whose orders permission to fish is readily given.

The antiquary may be attracted by the barrow so conspicuous on the wooded knoll of *Cophead*, close to the Stat. N. It was opened by Sir R. C. Hoare, who found in it a skeleton with beads and flints, and the horns of deer. There are earthworks on Arn Hill, the adjacent eminence. In Southley Wood, S. of Warminster, there is a small square earthwork, called *Robin Hood's Bower*.

At *Corsley*, W. of Warminster, a farmhouse near the church, formerly a manor-house. Sir Carew Raleigh, brother of Sir Walter, married the widow of Sir John Thynne (who had purchased the property). She had this as her dower-house, and Sir Walter Raleigh may have probably visited them here.

The Church of *Upton Scudamore*, 2 m. N., possesses a font and porch of the Norman period.

Cley Hill. There are really two hills, but the principal one may be climbed on the way to Longleat, turning off to the rt. 1½ m. of level road and another ¼ m. of field-path will bring you to the foot of it. It is so singularly shaped as almost to appear at a distance artificial, but it is an isolated outlying member of the chalk range, and is 900 ft. high above low-water mark at Bristol. A bank and a ditch of great antiquity encircle it midway, and at the top, which commands a view as extensive as it is beautiful, are two barrows. The larger one, when opened, presented ears of wheat undecayed, charred wood and broken pottery. The other, decided indications of burnt bones which had been previously disturbed. A beacon was set upon Cley Hill at the time of the

Spanish Armada. On the S. the eye ranges over the woods of Longleat; on the E. along the boundary of Salisbury Plain; and on the W. over a cultivated country to the distant heights about Bath and the indented line of the Mendips. Cley Hill is thought by some antiquaries to have been the "Æglea" where Alfred halted one night on his way to fight the battle of "Ethandun," supposing that place to have been Edington, a few miles off. Its name has been explained as the Celtic word *cleis*, or chalk, of which material the hill is formed; but this may be doubtful, as there is a well-known height in Shropshire of the same name, where the material is altogether different. There was anciently a custom for the young folks of the neighbourhood to slide down this hill on Palm Sunday, and Sir R. C. Hoare informs us that the skulls of horses were used by them as convenient sledges for the purpose. The same frolic was performed on other high hills in this county.

The chief point of interest near Warminster is *Longleat*, the seat of the Marquis of Bath, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant. It is shown to the public every Wednesday and Friday between the hours of 11 and 4. (A carriage from the Bath Arms will take you there and bring you back for 7s. 6d.) The entrance of the domain is $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the house. After entering, the road rises 1 m. between wooded and ferny slopes to the boundary of the Home Park, beyond the gate of which, another drive to the l. leads to the point called *Heaven's Gate*, where the traveller beholds spread out below a forest region. From this spot the House is well seen, standing in the foreground of the wide landscape, and in almost the lowest part of the fine domain, and is of that mixed Italian and English style which prevailed at the end of the 16th century. Its venerable fronts of lichened stone are pierced by nu-

merous large windows, and are ornamented with pilasters and cornices; and on the roof are turrets and colossal statues. The flower gardens lie at the N. and E. sides of the house, divided from the Deer Park, a noble slope of lawn and wood, by a large sheet of water. The stream which feeds this gave the original name to this place. When many centuries ago a Priory was built where the House now stands, there was a mill close by, to which the water was brought by a long *leat* or *aqueduct*, from Horningsham.

The Priory, a very small one, founded by Sir John Vernon, c. 1270, was of the Augustinian Order, and was dedicated to St. Radegund. It was dissolved 1529, and sold by the Crown to Sir John Horsey, of Clifton Maubank, and by him 1540, to Sir John Thynne, who owed his advancement to Protector Somerset, with whom he was imprisoned in the Tower. He escaped his patron's fate, and was made Comptroller to the P. Elizabeth in Mary's reign. He was knighted on the field of *Mus-selburgh* "while his wounds were still bleeding." By him the foundation of the present structure was laid in 1564, after designs, it is said, of one John of Padua, of whose history little more is known than that he was also architect of *Old Somerset House*, in London (long since destroyed), and Surveyor of Buildings to King Hen. VIII. The House so far as finished by Sir John Thynne, was 12 years building. Sir James, the fourth owner, employed Sir C. Wren to carry on the work. By him certain staircases were erected, and a principal entrance, since removed to a schoolhouse at Warminster. In 1670 the estates came to Sir James's nephew, "Tom of Ten Thousand," the hero of the "hospitable treats" of Dryden's 'Absalom and Achitophel;' the entertainer of Monmouth in his Western progress 1680; and second husband of the very youthful

heiress Lady Elizabeth Percy. Thos. Thynne was shot by Count Konigsmark in Pall Mall, and buried in the S. aisle of Westminster Abbey. On his death Longleat passed to his second cousin, created first Viscount Weymouth 1682, "a person of strict honour, purity, and integrity," the College friend of Thos. Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, to whom, after his deprivation, Longleat afforded an asylum, where for 20 years he experienced the untiring kindness of his early companion. On Lord Weymouth's death without male issue, the mansion remained without an occupant for 40 years, his cousin and successor preferring to live in the manor-house at Horningsham. The 3rd Viscount Weymouth, created Marquis of Bath, added much to the beauty of the domain by forming the "Pleasure-ground" and gardens under the direction of the celebrated "Capability" Brown. Before that time the gardens had been laid out in the formal Dutch style. "Longleat is one of the largest as well as one of the most beautiful palaces in England of its day. Far greater purity pervades its classical details than in most of the buildings of its age. It consists of 3 stories, each ornamented with an order—the details throughout being elegant, though not rigidly correct."—*Fergusson*. The projections that break the façade, and the large mullioned windows give the whole "a cheerful habitable look, eminently suitable to a country residence of an English nobleman." The N. or Garden front is due to Jeffrey Wyatt, better known as Sir J. Wyatville. The length of the chief front is 220 ft., of the flanks 180 ft.

The interior of the House presents a series of grand apartments remodelled by Sir J. Wyatville, c. 1808, and hung with a collection of paintings, chiefly limited to portraits, but interesting from the celebrity of the persons whose likenesses they preserve. The visitor is first ushered

into the *Hall*, a lofty room with noble wooden roof, a screen supporting a gallery, and surmounted by the Arms of Thomas Ratcliffe, Earl of Sussex, the Protector Somerset (in the middle), and W. Cecil, Lord Burghley; below are various shields of the alliances of the Thynne family. At the other end of the Hall is the shield of Savile, Earl of Halifax, and over a door, Devereux, Earl of Essex. On the walls are antlers of the stag, and large hunting pictures by *Wootton*, containing portraits of the 2nd Lord Weymouth, his friends and servants. From this apartment the visitor will be conducted through the different rooms in the following order.

The *Stone Corridor*, furnished with ebony chairs, cabinets, &c. To l. and rt. are portraits of Sir Walter Raleigh, *Zuccherò*; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, and his page, *the same*. In the *Western* half, are (S. wall) Lady Lansdowne (mother of 2nd Viscount Weymouth), *Kneller*; the 2nd Viscount and his Lady. On N. wall, Grace, Countess Granville, Edward, Earl of Jersey, both *Kneller*. In the *Eastern* half, are (S. wall) Lady Covert, *Jansen*; Sir Walter Covert, *Mytens*; Lady Isabella Thynne, *Dobson*; and the Two wives of Sir Thomas Thynne, *Mytens*. On N. wall, Sir James Thynne, *Dobson*, and Sir Thomas Thynne, his father, *Mytens*.

The *Ante-Library*, some views of Venice, and landscapes.

The *Library*, portraits of Sir F. H. Thynne, George Granville, [Lord Lansdowne,] Thos. Wriothesly, Earl of Southampton; Thos. Seymour, Lord Sudeley, *Holbein*; Henry VIII., *do.*; one unknown (? Sir Thos. More); Henry Rich, Earl of Holland, Edward Sackville, 4th Earl of Dorset, *Jansen*; Lord Keeper Coventry, *do.*; Lucius Cary, 2nd Viscount Falkland, The Protector Duke of Somerset, *Holbein*; First Earl of Shaftesbury, Bishop Ken, *Lely*; 1st Viscount Weymouth, *do.*

The *Drawing-room*, an unique Florentine cabinet of coral, surmounted by a clock. There are also some buhl cabinets, and a time-piece which belonged to Louis XIV.

The *Billiard-room*. Thomas, 1st Marquis of Bath, *Lawrence*; Lord Chancellor Thurlow, *Reynolds*.

The *Dining-room*. Frances Howard, Duchess of Richmond (d. 1639), *Vandyck*; Thos. 2nd Marquis of Bath, K.G., Lord Keeper Coventry, 1st Viscount Weymouth, 1st Viscountess Weymouth, 2nd Viscountess Weymouth, his Lady, Sir John Thynne, founder of Longleat (d. 1580), Sir John Coventry, *Dobson*; Sir Egremont Thynne, Sir James Thynne, Thomas Thynne, Esq., murdered in Pall-Mall 1682, Henry Coventry, Esq., Sir H. F. Thynne, 4th Viscount Torrington, Lady Lansdowne (same as in Corridor), Lady Isabella Thynne (do.), James Thynne, Esq., Duchess of Portland. The side-board is of carved ebony.

The *Staircase*, which with the upper corridors was constructed by Wyattville, in 1808. The Lion Hunt, after *Rubens*; Bear Hunting, Stag Hunting, *Snyders*.

Upper Corridor, West: on S. wall, Earl of Arlington, *Lely*; Geo. Monk, Duke of Albemarle, Earl of Nottingham, Lord Keeper, *Lely*; on N. side, Thomas Thynne, Esq., Geo. Villiers, Duke of Buckingham: *East* (N. wall), William, Duke of Hamilton, Hen. Maria, 3 children of Charles I., Thos. Wentworth, Earl of Strafford. (S. wall) Archbishop Laud, and Bp. Juxon. Here also are some fine ebony cabinets and antique furniture.

Saloon (unfinished) 100 ft. long. Duke of York (James II.), *Lely*; Viscount Dundee, *Vandyke*; William Seymour Marquis of Hertford, Lady Margaret Harley, Charles Brandon Duke of Suffolk, Philip Earl of Pembroke, Sir J. Lowther Lord Lonsdale, Charles II. when a boy, Sir H. Sidney, Earl Russell when young, Charles I. when Prince of

Wales, 2nd Marchioness of Bath and children, R. Kellefet, Mrs. Delaney, Countess of Waldegrave afterwards Duchess of Gloucester, *Gainsborough*; Earl and Countess of Carnarvon, Essex Rich Countess of Nottingham, and some others.

Upper Dining-room, Gustavus Adolphus King of Sweden, Heron Hawking, *Snyders*; Dr. Leopold Finch, Lady Lonsdale, Duchess of Albemarle, Sir K. Digby, Bishop Fisher of Rochester, and Martin Luther, &c.

Among valuable pictures in the private apartments are, Lady Arabella Stuart, *Vansomer*; the Cobham Family, *Lucas de Heere*, believed by H. Walpole to represent Geo. Brooke Lord Cobham (temp. Eliz.), his lady and her sister and 7 children.

The domestic chapel (consecrated 1684) is plain, but contains some old German glass windows, and an altar-piece.

It has been long and generally supposed that *all* Bishop Ken's Library is here. That is not the case; there is only a very small part of it at Longleat. His library was bequeathed to his relatives, subject to the selection of any works that were not already in the library of his friend and protector, Lord Weymouth. (*J. E. J.*)

There is an approach to Longleat House from the S., on the Horningham side, through a handsome arched gateway, and by a straight drive of nearly a mile in length, skirted by ancient elms, and bounded on one side by a Pleasure-ground and on the other by the water. The highly decorated and stately mansion forms an appropriate finish to the vista. Looking from the house, the view on this side is terminated by the bold heights of *Brimson* or *Cold Kitchen Hill*, and *Bidcombe Hill*. In the woods is to be found the Weymouth pine, introduced from N. America by the 1st Lord Weymouth, and first planted by the Duchess of Beaufort in the

grounds of Badminton, in 1705, and soon afterwards in considerable numbers at Longleat. The woods and plantations cover 2000 acres. S.W. of the park, on rising ground, with an extensive view, is

Woodhouse, now a farm, but formerly the site of a castellated house of the Vernuns and Stantors, temp. Charles I., belonged to Wm., brother of Lord Arundell of Wardour, when it was stormed by the forces of the Parliament. According to a local tradition, Lady Arundell, upon finding its capture inevitable, contrived to escape in a coffin. The place was subsequently retaken by the Royalists, under Sir Francis Dodington, when 12 prisoners, most of them clothiers, were hanged on one tree, and buried under a tumulus, which is still pointed out as their grave. The square outline of the courtyard is marked by a high bank, but nothing remains except a fragment of wall.

Beyond the S. gate of Longleat is the hamlet of *Horningsham*, in a most picturesque district, resembling the best parts of Devonshire; and, on the slope of the hill, its little well, covered with masonry, partly old, and bearing the inscription, "O ye wells, bless the Lord. With Thee is the spring of life." The church, a handsome structure, was rebuilt, save the tower, in 1844 by Harriet, Marchioness of Bath, at an expense of more than 5000*l.* T. H. Wyatt and Brandon were the architects. To this ch. Bp. Ken was accustomed to repair during his residence at Longleat. Adjoining the ch. is a house erected by the Arundels, after the destruction of *Woodhouse*. It contains two chimney-pieces, that probably came from *Woodhouse*. That in the upper room is sculptured with their arms, and reaches from the floor to the ceiling. From *Horningsham* a lane threads a winding valley between golden furze and broom in the direction of

Brimsdon, or *Cold Kitchen Hill*, a height remarkable not only for its beauty, but for numerous vestiges of the ancient inhabitants, and for a view which all admit to be one of the finest in the county. On a bright clear day even the Welsh mountains are visible; but the prospect towards the S.W. forms the charm of the landscape, the downs sweeping to a distance in bays and promontories, the fine outliers of *Bradley Park Knoll* and *Long Knoll* giving character to the scenery. Towards the S. *Alfred's Tower* at *Stourhead* is a conspicuous object; and on the N. lies the park of Longleat. The curious name *Cold Kitchen* is supposed to be a corruption of *Col crechen*, the chief summit, Celtic.

Maiden Bradley, W. of *Brimsdon*, and on the road from *Frome* to *Shaftesbury*, was in early times the site of a hospital founded temp. Stephen, by *Manasses Biset*, for leprous women, with a prior and some seculars to manage for them. It was afterwards made a monastery of Augustines. A small portion still exists incorporated with a farmhouse to the N.E. of the village. *New Mead*, in the parish of *Maiden Bradley*, was the birthplace of *Edmund Ludlow*, the Parliamentary General, 1620. The situation is beautiful. The village occupies high ground, but is surrounded by more elevated and isolated hills, *Brimsdon Long Knoll* and *Bradley Park Knoll*. *Park Knoll* is so called, as being the ancient deer-park of *Bradley House*, the seat of the Duke of Somerset. A visitor to this village should notice the old inn, the *Somerset Arms*. There is in this parish a favourite spot for a view called "*Kate's Bench*," where they say one of the leprous maidens used always to resort; but the old name is only *Gate-bench*.

The *Church* contains a monument to *Sir Edward Seymour*, Speaker of the House of Commons in 1672, and who died 1707. *Maiden Bradley*

came into the possession of the Seymours in the reign of Hen. VIII. In a line between Brimsdon and Warminster are 5 small villages, all distinguished by the name of

Deverill (commonly but very doubtfully said to mean *Dive-rill*), and to be so called from a stream, one of the sources of the Wily, which *dives* under ground near Maiden Bradley. *Hill Deverill* was for some time the residence of the Ludlows, to one of whom there is a fine old monument in the church. The church possesses a rich screen. *Brixton Deverill*, says Hoare, "was undoubtedly the Petra *Ægbryhta*, 'Ægbryhts Stone,' mentioned by Asser as the spot where Alfred halted for one night on his march towards the Danes." A different derivation from that adopted by Hoare is suggested by Domesday, where we find one Brictric named as its lord. The name would then be "Brictric's Town." *Deverill Long-bridge* derives its name from a bridge supposed to have been built by the Abbots of Glastonbury, its former lords. The church is the burial-place of the Thynnes, and contains among their monuments one to the builder of Longleat.

Lastly, in this description of the environs of Longleat, may be mentioned 2 small circular earthworks just N. of the park, *Roddenbury* and *Hays Castle*, both on *Roddenbury Hill*.

Proceeding on our route from Warminster, we reach at

2½ *Westbury Junction Stat.* (Rte. 3).

ROUTE 11.

SALISBURY TO YEOVIL, BY DINTON TISBURY [WARDOUR CASTLE, FONT-HILL, HINDON], SEMLEY [SHAFTESBURY], GILLINGHAM [MERE, STOURHEAD], TEMPLE COMBE, MILBORNE PORT, SHERBORNE.

(*London and S. - Western Railway.*)

From Salisbury the line runs side by side with that of the S.-Western to Westbury, as far as

86½ m. (From London) *Wilton* (Rte. 7). The rly. continues up the valley of the Nadder with a range of high bare Chalk Downs to the S. dividing it from the *Vale of Chalk*. This range is diversified with earth works, and terminates in the abrupt slope of *White Sheet Hill* above *Donhead*. The line passes

87½ m. l. *North Burcombe*. The E. end of the chancel of the little *Dec. Ch.*, has the long and short quoins characteristic of what is called Saxon work.

89 m. l. *Barford St. Martin*. The *Ch.* is cruciform without aisles. A curious effigy in a winding-sheet lies under an arch S. of the altar. Immediately to the N. rises *Grovely Wood*, in which is the crescent-shaped earth-work known as *Grovely Works*, the remains of a British village. 1 m. S.W. is *Hurdcot House*, the residence of the Powells.

90½ m. rt. lies *Baverstock Ch.* (St. Ediths) and a little further N. the village of the same name.

½ m. S. is *Compton Chamberlayne House*. The seat of Charles Penruddocke, Esq., to whose family it has belonged for 300 years. At the time of the Usurpation by Cromwell, the owner was Col. John Penruddocke, who lost his life in an unsuccessful attempt to raise the country in favour of the lawful

Prince. In the early morning of the 11th of March, 1655, Penruddock, in company with Sir Joseph Wagstaff and other adherents of the King, to the number of 200 horsemen, rode into Salisbury, and, seizing in their beds the High Sheriff and the judges, who were then holding the assizes, proclaimed Chas. II. But the boldness of this measure failed to produce the desired effect. The citizens remained passive, and, after waiting some hours in the expectation of their rising, the discomfited royalists were fain to beat a retreat. The country had, however, been alarmed, and a troop of horse, galloping from Andover in pursuit, captured Penruddock near South Molton in Devonshire. He was tried with his companions at Exeter, and condemned to be beheaded, a sentence which was soon carried into execution. On ascending the scaffold he exclaimed, "This, I hope, will prove like Jacob's ladder; though the feet of it rest upon the earth, yet I doubt not but the top of it reacheth to heaven. The crime for which I am now to die is Loyalty, in this age called High Treason." Insignificant as this rising was its consequences were grave. "This little rebellion," remarks Hallam, "meeting with no resistance from the people, but a supineness equally fatal, was soon quelled. It roused Cromwell to secure himself by an unprecedented exercise of power. He knew that want of concert or courage had alone prevented a general rising. Dividing the kingdom into 11 districts he placed at the head of each a major general as a sort of military magistrate, responsible for the subjection of his prefecture."

Compton House contains the portrait of the unfortunate colonel, together with those of many members of his family, some by *Lely* and *Vandyck*. They are in frames carved by *Grinling Gibbons*, and fill the panels of an old oaken chamber. Among

them is a picture representing an unknown person (perhaps Sir John Davies), handsomely dressed in the style of Elizabeth's reign, but whose rt. hand is withered. In the upper part of the painting is the single word "*utinam*," (oh that!).

The adjoining *Ch.* contains an obituary of the Penruddocks. The laced cap which Col. Penruddock wore at his execution, showing the slice of the axe, is preserved at the House. The park covers both sides of a pretty wooded glen in the green sand formation with a large sheet of water in the hollow. The house has lately been much enlarged.

9½ m. *Dinton* Stat.

Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, Lord Chancellor, and historian of the Great Rebellion, was born here, Feb. 18, 1608, in the old rectory-house, now pulled down and a school built on the site. But the tradition of Clarendon's birthplace has been transferred to a picturesque farmhouse E. of the ch. He lived for some time at Hatch House, S. of Fonthill. *Dinton* was also the birthplace, Jan. 5, 1598, of *Henry Lawes*, the musician:

"Harry, whose tuneful and well-measur'd
song

First taught our English music how to span
Words with just note and accent."—*Milton*.

He was the friend of *Milton* and of *Waller*, and was shot at the siege of *Chester*, 1645. Adjoining the village W. is *Dinton House*, the seat of *William Wyndham, Esq.*, containing good family portraits. On the hillside W. of the house is *Wick Ball Camp* a single-ditched entrenchment of 9 acres embosomed in wood. The *Ch.*, E.E. and Dec., is well worth inspecting. It is cruciform, with a central tower, pleasantly situated near Mr. Wyndham's grounds.

On a promontory of the Downs, 1, is *Chiselbury*, a circular encampment enclosed by a single fosse and vallum 27 ft. high, containing 10½ acres.

93 m. rt. *Teffont Evias*, a very pretty village, adorned with rich

woods, and watered by a pretty brook (more properly Ewyas from its owners the lords of the Castle of that name in Herefordshire). The *Manor House* (W. Fane de Salis, Esq.) of the age of Henry VII., contains pictures by *Mabuse, P. Perugino* and *G. Romano*, with portraits of the Mayne family by *Gainsborough, Morland, &c.* In the manor chapel attached to the parish *ch.* is a monument to Henry Ley, Esq., d. 1574, with effigies of himself and 2 sons. The tower is lofty and richly ornamented and is crowned by a spire. The *Rectory* is worthy of notice.

94½ m., 2 m. rt. is *Chilmark*, the birthplace, says Fuller, of *John of Chylmark*, a famous mathematician of the reign of Rich. II., accounted the Archimedes of that age. It is better known for its *freestone* (the Portland beds), of which Salisbury cathedral is built. The quarries are 1 m. to the l., but not seen from the road. The *Ch.* (munificently restored, 1856) is cruciform, with a noble tower and spire at the intersection. An old Norm. door is the entrance to the new N. aisle. The interior is rich in colouring and stained glass. On the rt. rises *Chilmark Down*; and close to the rly. rt. is *Chicks Grove* where the farmhouse of *Gaston* belonged to the Abbey of Shaftesbury, and still retains mediæval doors and windows.

¾ m. l. is the village of *Fovant*. The *ch.*, restored and partly rebuilt 1863, has some points of interest, especially the Norman priest's door and the Tower, the date of which is fixed by an inscription on a small mural brass to George Rede, 1495, "Rector when the new Tower was built;" representing the Annunciation with the legend, "O blessed moder of pite (pity) Pray to the sone for me."

To the l. above *Sutton Mandeville* is *Buzbury*, a promontory projecting conspicuously from the downs. At

95 m. l. is *Castle Ditches*, a very interesting camp and fine point of view,

[*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*]

commanding the valley of the Nadder and the woods of Wardour Castle. It is an earthwork of great strength, formed by 3 concentric ditches and ramparts 40 ft. in height. The area is 23 acres.

96½ m. *Tisbury* Stat. (the Stat. for *Wardour Castle* 2 m. S.W., and for *Fonthill*, 2 m. N.W.) *Tisbury* was granted by *Ethelred* to the abbess of *Shaftesbury*, A.D. 984. The *Ch.* is one of the largest in S. Wilts, with a central tower, the piers supporting which and some of the doorways are relics of an earlier building. The chancel is of more modern work, and tradition assigns the windows to Sir C. Wren. The roof of chancel bears date 1616, that and the roof of nave are of rich plaster-work. The aisles and N. transept have rich wood ceilings, bearing the date 1535, and a centre beam, 1569. It contains many monuments of the *Arundells*, to 1808. Among them are those of *Lady Margaret*, daughter of Lord *Edm. Howard*, sister of the unfortunate Queen of Henry VIII., wife of Sir *Thomas Arundell*, d. 1571; the heroic *Lady Blanche*; *Thomas*, of *Wardour*, 1st Lord *Arundell*, created by *James I.*, and count of the Holy Roman Empire by *Rodolph II.*, 1595, for his gallantry at the siege of *Gran* in Hungary, where he captured with his own hands the Turkish standard, afterwards sent to Rome. There is a brass to *Lawrence Hyde*, grandfather of the Earl of *Clarendon*, and his wife. In the churchyard is a hollow yew-tree 37 ft. in circumference, entered by a rustic gate. *Tisbury* was the birthplace of *Sir John Davies*, poet, author of 'The Immortality of the Soul,' and 'The Dignity of Man,' and attorney-general in Ireland, b. 1569, husband of the would be prophetess, *Lady Eleanor Davies*, whose anagram of her name "reveal O Daniel," "too much by an l, and too little by an s," was capped by *Lamb*, Dean of the *Arches*, by "never so mad a ladie."

Place House, at the N.E. end of the village, is an ancient house formerly a Grange of the Abbess of Shaftesbury, which will repay careful examination. It is "a fine manor house of the 15th cent. without much pretension to ornament or much fortification; but with the buildings of the farmyard perfect. The outer gatehouse is perfect and very good with unusually large buttresses; simple but imposing and very picturesque. The room over it is later and was probably the chapel."—*J. H. P.* Crossing the outer court we come to a second gatehouse, opening into the inner court, with the house on one side and the offices (rebuilt) on the other. The house is a parallelogram with the *Hall* for the centre. This retains its roof but is divided by a floor and partitions into small apartments. Behind the Hall is the *Kitchen*, now the finest and most perfect part of the house; but the roof is hidden by a plaster ceiling. Above the fireplace which occupies $\frac{1}{2}$ of the room is a remarkably beautiful louvre chimney. At the other end of the Hall are the living rooms of the family. On the rt. of the entrance court is a remarkably fine *Barn* of the 15th cent., with good buttresses and transeptal gateway, and plain original timber roof. Opposite is a row of stables of the 15th cent., "remarkably perfect with a row of doorways of the usual Perp. style, and small windows of single lights quite original and very uncommon."—*J. H. P.* *Hasledon*, now a farmhouse, belonged once to the Lord Delawarr.

Tisbury has quarries of excellent building stone of the lower Purbeck beds, and upper oolite.

[2 m. S.W. is *Wardour Castle* (shown on Mondays and Fridays from 11 till 4), the seat of Lord Arundell of Wardour, situated in its park, on a gentle eminence rising from the Nadder. It is a large stone mansion, more

remarkable for size than for architectural beauty, with a Corinthian portico attached to the S. front, but justly celebrated for its collection of paintings and of other rare and curious works of art. It was erected between the years 1770–76, after a design by Payne. The visitor enters it on the N. front, the wings of which, curving outwards, form a crescent. He is conducted to the *rotunda staircase*, formed by a peristyle of fluted Corinthian columns supporting a cupola, and by this very grand and beautiful approach, to the following suite of apartments, which contain the pictures.

The *Drawing-room*, in which are the *Storm and Calm* by *Vernet*; a striking contrast, the latter being a moonlight scene; a landscape, *Hobbema* (? *Ruysdael*); the *Virgin and Sleeping Child*, *Sassoferrato*; *Moses striking the Rock*, and the *Children of Israel collecting Manna*, *Breughel*; and a landscape by *Rembrandt*.

The *Little Drawing-room*, with *Tobit going to meet his Son*, *Gerard Dow*, the largest picture by the master known, measuring 6 ft. by 4, drawn with great care and highly finished, the details executed with the painter's usual minuteness; portrait of a lady, *Sir Josh. Reynolds*; 2 landscapes, *G. Poussin*; a small circular *Claude*; 2 rocky landscapes with robbers, *Salv. Rosa*; 2 pictures by *Linglebach*; and a large *Banditti scene*, by *D. Teniers*—a remarkable picture.

The *Boudoir*, containing *Christ driving the Money-changers from the Temple*, *Rembrandt*; the *Marriage of St. Catherine*, *Correggio*; the *Virgin and Child*, *Don Alessandro*; a landscape with cattle, *Loutherbourg*; and some beautiful carvings in ivory, family relics, and other curiosities. Among them are an ivory crucifix, attributed to *Mich. Angelo*; the *Scourging at the Pillar*, 3 figures in solid silver on a stand of lapis lazuli inlaid with precious stones, a work made for *Pope Alexander III.*, and

presented by him to Queen Christina of Sweden; china saucers painted in imitation of Raphael's cartoons; and the *Glastonbury Cup*, a very interesting relic, but not older than the "renaissance," c. 1600. It may take its name from having been carved out of a bit of the Glastonbury thorn. It is a wooden cup resting on crouching lions, the bowl carved in relief with the 12 apostles, and the lid with the Crucifixion. "The contents," says the antiquary Milner, "are just 2 quarts of ale measure, and there were originally 8 pegs placed one above another in the inside, which divided the contained liquor into equal quantities of half a pint each." Notice a remarkable silver beaker, enamelled in black, with figures in lavender, of the 15th century.

The *State Bedroom*, on the walls of which are the Angel conducting Peter out of Prison, *M. Angelo*; a Hurdigurdy Player in a Dutch village, *Albert Durer*; portraits of the late Lord Arundell, Miss Markham as an Augustine nun, *Bartoli*; and the Duke of Tuscany, *Giorgione*; and 3 small pictures by *Schidoni* and *Domenichino*.

The *Small Ante-room*, containing Sir Thomas Arundell taking the Turkish standard, *Cooper*; Constantine's victory over Maxentius, *Filippi*; a small interior by *Teniers*; and head of an old woman, *Rembrandt*.

The *Billiard-room*, with the Martyrdom of Pope Sixtus X., *Palma Giovane*; the 3 Children of Charles I.; Cardinal Pole; Etna and Vesuvius in eruption (2 paintings by the same master); Pope Benedict XIV.; and other popes and cardinals.

The *Saloon*, enriched by one of the finest pictures in the collection, Our Saviour taken from the Cross, by *Spagnoletto* — a powerful work; the despair expressed by the attitude and countenance of the Virgin most touching. Among the other pictures in this room are 2 large landscapes, *G. Poussin*; a *Pieta*, *Ribera*; a male

head, *Velasquez*; a Boy playing on a Bagpipe, *Caravaggio*; St. Bernard, and the Infant Christ sleeping on the Cross (exquisite in colour), *Titian*; Santa Maria, *Carlo Dolce*; St. Jerome, *Rubens*; John the Baptist, *Guido Reni*; the Holy Family, *A. del Sarto*; Christ's Charge to Peter, *Ann. Carracci*; and Joseph relating his Dream to his Brethren, *Murillo*.

The *Dining-room*, hung with portraits: Hugo Grotius, *Rubens*; Sir Thomas More, *Holbein*; Card. Pole, a copy of *Titian*; Villiers Duke of Buckingham (a handsome face); the first Lord Arundell of Wardour, *Vandyck*; his wife, by the same artist; Viscount Falkland, *Vandyck*; and the 2 daughters of the 1st Earl of Rivers, *Sir P. Lely*.

The *Music-room*, with the 8th Lord Arundell of Wardour and his wife, *Sir Josh. Reynolds*, the latter much faded; the 7th Lord A. and his wife, by the same artist; the Holy Family, *Giorgione*; Hagar in the Desert, *P. Bartoli*; and the Lady Blanche who defended Wardour so gallantly, a copy from a portrait by *Angel. Kauffman*, a most delicate face with small features; on the ceiling a copy of Guido's Aurora, by *P. Bartoli*.

The *Chapel* is in the W. wing, and contains an Assumption by *Caspar de Crayer*; a beautiful relief in marble of the Virgin, Child, and St. John; and a sumptuous altar of agate and marble resting on an antique sarcophagus, and surmounted by a crucifix of solid silver. Here is preserved the Westminster chasuble, exquisitely embroidered with the badges of Henry VIII. and Katharine of Aragon. To the rt. of the altar stands the monument of the 2nd Lord Arundell and his heroic lady Blanche. The sacrarium was added by Soane.

The *Park* is large and finely wooded, and surrounded by hills: *Castle Ditches* on the E., *White-sheet Hill* on the S., and *Castle Rings* and the high land of Shaftesbury on the W. The pleasure-

grounds bound it N.E., extending more than 1 m. from the house to the ivy-mantled ruin of the ancient castle, standing in the bosom of rich woods. Wardour was the possession of the Lovels; and the castle was built by John, Lord Lovel, A.D. 1393.

The Lovels lost Wardour in the civil wars from their adherence to the Lancastrian cause, and it was granted by Ed. IV. to John, Lord Audley, and was finally purchased by Sir J. Arundell of Lanherne 1547, whose grandson Sir Matthew greatly embellished the castle, as recorded in Latin verses above the Great Gate, which also commemorate his singular fate in having to purchase his father's (Sir Thomas's) inheritance of Lord Pembroke, after its confiscation on his execution as an adherent of Protector Somerset. His grandson was the first Lord Arundell, "the valiant," whose son Thomas, the 2nd baron, was the husband of Lady Blanche Somerset, the heroine of the siege of Wardour. Wardour was attacked by a powerful force under the command of Sir Edward Hungerford, 1643, at a time when Lord Arundell was in attendance on the king at Oxford. But his lady, Blanche, refused to surrender, and, with her little garrison of 50, only half of whom were fighting men, aided by the women who steadily loaded the muskets, most heroically withstood the onslaught of 1300 soldiers, and a bombardment which lasted 6 days. After defending the castle as long as it was tenable, she capitulated on honourable terms; but the Republican leader, having once gained possession, did not scruple to violate his engagements, and to plunder the mansion of its most valuable contents, and devastate the park and grounds. They tore up the park palings, burnt the lodges, and cut down the trees, which they sold for 4d. or 6d. a-piece. They drove away the horses and cattle; "and having left nothing in the air or water,

they dug under the earth," where they tore up two miles of leaden piping which conveyed water to the castle, which they cut up and sold at 6d. a-yard. It was then garrisoned by the Parliament, and placed under the command of Col. Edmund Ludlow, who held it from May, 1643, till the following March (see Ludlow's Memoirs), when young Lord Arundell, whose father had died of wounds received at Lansdown, and Sir Francis Dodington invested it, and compelled Ludlow to surrender after a long siege and gallant defence.

The *Castle*, which is "very valuable as an example of a nobleman's house at the beginning of the 15th cent." (*J. H. P.*) is hexagonal in plan, with 2 sq. towers attached to the eastern or entrance point. The walls are nearly perfect and unusually lofty; a good example of early Perp. Over the gate of entrance is a Latin inscription. The windows of the dining hall are on the first floor. The kitchen, with tall narrow windows, was on the same level, behind the hall, with vaulted chambers below. The staircase from the courtyard remains with its groined roof.

The visitor, having entered the precincts of the ruin through a gatehouse, stands on a carpet of turf under the shadow of the cedar, the cypress, and the iron-wood tree (the last springing from the ground in a cluster of stems), which combine with the ruins in producing a most picturesque effect. An hexagonal court forms the centre, and contains the well sunk by Ludlow during the siege. Adjoining the ruins, in the buildings of a farm, are the remains of the mansion occupied by the family after the destruction of this castle, and to the time of their removal to the present house.

Wardour was the birthplace of Sir Nicholas Hyde, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench 1526-31.

[3 m. N.W. Hindon (Inns: Lamb;

Swan; Pop. 604), an ancient but inconsiderable market-town, on the high road from Salisbury to Taunton, as a borough, "memorable only for its venality."—*Gough*. It was represented by *Monk Lewis*, and *Henry Fox*, afterwards Lord Holland. It is said that a member, returning thanks for the honour of his election, was interrupted by an elector, who bluntly told him "he need not trouble himself to thank them; 'for if the squire had zent his great dog, we should have chosen him, all one as if it were you, zur.'" It is needless to add that the first Reform Act robbed it of its Parliamentary honours. It consists of one broad street, and has a small manufacture of linen. The *Ch.* is interesting, as having been built in the reign of Philip and Mary. The inn is excellent, and affords convenient head-quarters for an excursion to *Fonthill*. *Stourhead* is within reach, but much nearer the pretty town of Bruton (Rte. 21). N. and W. Hindon is bounded by a wild expanse of down, tumid in many places with ancient earthworks. The site of a British village may be traced at a little distance to the N.W., and several others on the border of the *Great Ridge Wood*, 2 m. N. A Roman road runs from end to end of the same wood.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. is the little village of *Berwick St. Leonards*, where are some remains of the old manor-house, built in the reign of James I., and from 1629 to 1735 the seat of the *Howes*. In 1688 the Prince of Orange slept in it on his road to London. The porch forms the entrance to the kitchen-garden, in which is a sycamore of remarkable size, perhaps coeval with the ruins. A little church of great antiquity, adjoining the house, contains monuments to the *Howes*, including one with effigies of *Geo. Howe*, d. 1647, and *Dorothy* his wife.

$\frac{1}{4}$ m. further E. is *Bishop's Font-*

hill, with an ancient cruciform *ch.*; on the *rt.* is the entrance to

Fonthill, once so well known as Fonthill Abbey, the seat of the author of 'Vathek,' which has undergone many changes within the last half-century. The Abbey, built by *James Wyatt*, and furnished by *Mr. Beckford* with the choicest works of art, has lain a ruin in the solitary woods for many years. The estate has been sold and subdivided; and now belongs in part to the *Marquis of Westminster*, and in part to *Alfred Morrison, Esq.*, the heir of the late millionaire *James Morrison*. As a baronial seat, it dated from a very distant period, having been the lordship of the *Giffards* about the time of the Conquest. From the *Giffards* it has passed in succession through the families of *Maundevill*, *Maudit*, *Molyn*, *Hungerford*, *Mervyn*, *Cottington*, and *Beckford*.

The history of *Fonthill* has been checkered by many disasters. The ancient mansion of the *Mervyns* fell a prey to the flames; the second, built by the *Cottingtons*, 1650, and purchased by *Alderman Beckford*, shared a similar fate in 1755; and the third, "Fonthill splendens," as it has been called, erected by the *Alderman* at a cost of 240,000*l.*, became dilapidated, and was sold by his son, who disliked the damp site, for 9000*l.* It was then that the author of 'Vathek' shifted the site, and planned his magnificent abbey, upon which more than another quarter of a million was expended. But this fairy palace, having arisen to become the wonder and admiration of all beholders, was fated to a brief existence, for its destruction commenced Dec. 21, 1825, with the fall of the tower. This, however, did not take place until after the sale of the whole estate in 1823, with the abbey and its valuable contents, to *Mr. Farquhar*, for the round sum of 290,000*l.* On hearing of the fall of the tower, *Beckford* is reported to have said,

"Well, it has shown more civility to Mr. Farquhar than it ever did to me. He has had it but one year. I had it 27, and during all that time it neither bowed nor curtsied." Mr. Farquhar cared nothing for the place, and degraded it by the erection of a cloth mill on the lake. In the days of its glory Fonthill had been the scene of many splendid fêtes, particularly those of 1781, on the occasion of Mr. Beckford's coming of age, when music, dancing, and feasting were continued for a week, when 300 guests assembled at the dinner-table, and 1200 of Mr. Beckford's tenants and the people of the neighbourhood dined on the lawn, when the surrounding hills were illuminated by bonfires, and the park by 30,000 lamps; and that of 1797, during the building of the Abbey, when, after a succession of rural sports in the park, and the roasting of an ox and 10 sheep at 11 fires, 700 persons were feasted, and blankets and fuel distributed to all the poor of the neighbourhood.

But Fonthill was the scene of still greater excitement when the abbey and all its contents were thrown open for sale, first by Mr. Christie in 1822, and afterwards by Mr. Phillips in 1824. For not only had the art treasures of that princely place been sealed against the public, but the park itself—known by rumour as a beautiful spot—had for several years been enclosed by a most formidable wall, six miles in circuit. This had been built by Mr. Beckford to exclude poachers and the hounds, but by no means with the object of "preserving" the game. "I never suffer an animal," he said, "to be killed but through necessity. In early life I gave up shooting, because I consider we have no right to murder animals for sport. I am fond of animals. The birds in the plantations of Fonthill seemed to know me. They continued their songs as I rode close to them; the very hares grew bold.

It was exactly what I wished." In a solitary ride—such as he has described—he encountered a whole bevy of men and dogs ranging at full liberty over his land. He at once returned to his house, and sent a notice for a contractor who was to build a wall around all the planted and arable part of his estate, extending about 7 m., within 12 months. It was to be 12 feet high, and to have a chevaux-de-frise on the top, and such a wall was completed in 1796. "I found remonstrances," he said, "vain, and so I built a wall." Mr. Beckford was born at Fonthill, 1759, and on attaining his majority found himself one of the richest subjects in England, the possessor of nearly a million in ready money, and an income of 100,000*l.* a-year. Unfortunately this wealth was derived in great part from West Indian property, and its depreciation in value obliged the accomplished and magnificent patron of the arts, the millionaire of Fonthill and Cintra, eventually to sell his estates and content himself with a house at Bath. His abbey was commenced about 1796, and at Christmas 1800, when partly finished, was visited by Nelson, who came by invitation in company with Sir William and Lady Hamilton.

About $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Hindon is a series of beautiful terrace walks, one above the other, overlooking the grounds of Fonthill. The uppermost is much the longest, and runs into Mr. Morrison's grounds.

The entrance is 1 m. from Hindon towards Salisbury, by an archway, supported by a very handsome wall of great massiveness. Having passed it, the traveller will view with delight the noble expanse of park-like scenery. A lake glistens in the vale, and on either side of it, at some distance, rise finely-wooded hills. To the rt. is the mansion of Mr. Alfred Morrison, with a lofty tower in the Italian style (the nucleus of which is

a wing of Alderman Beckford's mansion), full of artistic treasures, seated under a splendid screen of trees. Continuing along the road, the visitor in $\frac{1}{2}$ m. will reach the *Hermit's Cave*, made by the younger Beckford in imitation of one at Painshill, the seat of his eccentric uncle, the Hon. Charles Hamilton. It consists of 2 subterranean excavations; one a series of chambers lighted by openings in the wood above, and passing under the road; the other a circular cavern with 2 dark recesses, in one of which lies the mutilated figure of the hermit. By the water-side, below these caves, stands a cedar of great size, and there is a ferry to the opposite shore, where a landing-place of stone, with balustrade and vases, forms a pretty feature. From the Hermit's Cave the road ascends a hill to an Inn, and the little church of *Fonthill Giffard*, where Beckford's ugly classical structure, with a portico and cupola, has been replaced by a beautiful building erected by the Marquis of Westminster.

A little beyond the Inn a stone lodge guards the iron gates, by which the privileged visitor obtains admission to the approach, which leads under silver firs of great beauty to the new mansion recently erected near the lake by the Marquis of Westminster. This resembles a Scotch castle, and was built from the designs of W. Burn, Esq. On the hill, to the north-west of the house, stands one tower of the old abbey, which has been strengthened, and converted partly into a cottage for its guardian, and partly into rooms, furnished with oak, one of which is very long and large. The view from the top of the tower is very extensive, commanding the Dorset hills, the Wiltshire downs, and their highest point, Whingreen, and the woods of Wardour; and on the west a green glade nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile long, which forms the chief approach to the abbey ground, and is

one of the many miles of drives which Mr. Beckford constructed in the magnificent woods. The proper name of the lake, which is a very pretty one, is the "Bittern Lake." The "Beacon Hill" is the highest point in the woods.]

Proceeding on our route, $98\frac{1}{2}$ m., $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the rt. is *Pyt House*, the seat of Vere Fane Benett, Esq., a short m. S. of Fonthill, and 3 from Hindon. It is a handsome stone structure of Grecian architecture, erected by Mr. Benett about 50 years ago. It is faced by a portico, and commands a view across the valley of the Nadder of the hills about Shaftesbury. It contains a few choice pictures—among them the portrait of Francis I., by *Albert Durer*; the Rape of Helen, by *Luca di Giordano*; 2 cabinet paintings by *Vandervelde*, a Storm and a Calm; and portraits of Prince Rupert, King William, and Queen Mary. Behind the house, quite hidden among the woods, is a pretty little chapel, now disused. Adjoining the park-wall is

Hatch House, an old manor-house, originally a seat of the Hyde family; but now incorporated with the buildings of a farm.

$100\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Semley Stat.* The village of Semley, which takes its name from the little river *Sem*, which here joins the Nadder, lies $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. farther E. It was granted by Edwy to the abbess of Wilton in 955. Its little *ch.* has a Norman font, and is remarkable for a self-sown apple-tree growing on the top of the tower.

[3 m. N. is *East Knoyle*, conspicuous by its windmill on the high ground behind it, the birthplace of *Sir Christopher Wren* (1632). He was the son of the rector, and the roof of the rectory kitchen still shows proofs of his early love of building and accuracy of judgment. His father, Dr. Christopher Wren, descended from an old family of Danish origin, was a fellow of St. John's, Oxford; chaplain in

ordinary to Charles I., Dean of Windsor, and registrar of the Order of the Garter. He was a learned divine, and had even studied the art in which his son so distinguished himself. He got himself into trouble with the Committee for Scandalous Ministers by the stuccos and pictures in his church. *Knogle House* was formerly the seat of Mrs. Seymour, who had here a small collection of well chosen pictures, chiefly of the Netherlandish school. Among them are the following:—*A. Van der Velde*, a pastoral landscape;—*W. Van der Velde*, a sea-piece, the water calm and studded with vessels, a beautiful specimen of the master;—*J. Vernet*, a coast view;—*M. Hondecoeter*, a white hen, "of the utmost truth and mastery of painting;" *Waagen*;—*J. Van der Heyden*, a charming landscape, the figures by *A. Van der Velde*;—*B. Van Orley*, the Virgin and Joseph adoring the new-born Child; *A. Turchi*, a Pietà;—*Luis de Morales*, Virgin and Child, a picture of elevated feeling, and of which there is another example in the Berlin Gallery. *Sedgehill*, 1 m. N. of the Station, S. of Knogle, is a property of the Marquis of Westminster.]

[2½ m. S.E. of Semley Stat. lie the villages of *Donhead St. Andrew*, and *Donhead St. Mary*, straggling picturesquely over the steep descent to the park of Wardour Castle. The Ch. of *Donhead St. Andrew*, badly restored some years back, contains a curiously sculptured capital. It represents a shield bearing the emblems of the Crucifixion and supported by angels. This rests on a head of the Saviour which terminates the shaft.

The ch. of *Donhead St. Mary*, standing on rising ground above the little river, deserves a visit. The S. side of the nave is E. E., c. 1220, the N. side, c. 1260. The tower-arch, porch, and side chapels, c. 1350. The tower and chancel, c.

1500. There is a rude circular Norm. font. An old farmhouse near the spring in the manor of Combe is called "the *Priory*," from the fact of a handful of monks of the Carthusian order having taken refuge there during the first French Revolution. The monumental slab of one of the number, Ant. Guillemot, may be noticed in the parish ch.

The scenery here in the higher parts is exceedingly diversified, rising into lofty hills, partly covered with wood, and intersected with deep ravines or combes. In one of these called *Chilver Combe*, near the hamlet of *Ashgrove*, is a burial-place belonging to the Society of Friends. Below the chalk is a bed of upper greensand, or firestone, extensively quarried for building purposes.

Donhead Hall, adjoining these villages, was once the property of a grandson of Sir Godfrey Kneller, to whom it came by marriage with the heiress of the Weekes. It is now the seat of John Du Boulay, Esq., who purchased it of Mr. Wyndham.

White Sheet Hill commands extensive views on either side. Below to the l. lies the village of *Berwick St. John*, under *Winkelbury*, or *Vespasian's Camp* (Rte. 9.)

To the rt. the eye ranges from the park of *Wardour Castle* to the woods of *Fonthill*. Shaftesbury and the far country to the W. are well displayed on the descent from this high tract of land.

A striking feature of this neighbourhood is *Sticklepath Hill*, an eminence of greensand, the W. point of which is cut into a singular shape by the ditch and lofty rampart which girdle it. The area thus enclosed is 15½ acres, and known by the name of *Castle Rings*. The abrupt slope on the E. side of *Sticklepath Hill* forms *Donhead Cliff*. Below the hill to the S.W., is *Wincombe Park* (Charles Gordon, Esq.)]

[2½ m. S. of Semley Stat., just with-

in the Dorsetshire border, perched high on the narrow ridge of a green-sand hill, which pushes itself forward from the chalk down into the low country to the W., stands the town of

SHAFTESBURY (*Inns*: Grosvenor Arms, Abbey Arms. Pop. of parliamentary borough, 9,404; of the town, 2503), or Shaston as it is locally called, a municipal and parliamentary borough returning one member. "It is one of the most remarkable towns in England for its position. It is truly a city set on a hill, below which the fertile and picturesque vale of Blackmore stretches far and wide in every direction. The abbey stood on the southern edge of the bluff, which was walled up from the valley to make the precipitous declivity secure." — *Elihu Burritt*. It commands an extensive prospect on every side but the E. Towards the S. the scarp slope of the hill is curved like a bow. Shaftesbury has a traditional claim to be one of the oldest towns in England. Geoffrey of Monmouth assigns its foundation to Hudibras, grandfather of King Lear, 950 B.C., and reports that an eagle spoke while the wall was being built. Brampton, who dares not take so long a flight, assigns its origin to Cassivelaunus, A.D. 52. Its ancient name was *Caer Pallador*, of which Shaftesbury is said to be an Anglo-Saxon equivalent. What is certain is that a Nunnery was founded here in 880 by Alfred, of which his daughter Elgiva was the first abbess. Edmund Ironside and Athelstan were liberal patrons of the abbey, in which Elgiva, the queen of the former, was buried. In 901, the body of Edward the Martyr was solemnly translated here from Wareham, by Elphere, E. of Mercia, in the presence of Abp. Dunstan, Alfwold Bp. of Sherborne, Wulfrith Abbess of Wilton with her nuns, and an immense concourse of nobility and commonalty. The miraculous

cures wrought at the saint's tomb brought multitudes of pilgrims from all parts of the kingdom, by whose offerings the abbey soon became exceedingly rich. The town and abbey now became known as Edwardstow. Ethelred in 1001 gave the convent the town of Bradford, "that the nuns might have a safe refuge from the Danes." Canute died at Shaftesbury, Nov. 12, 1035, but was buried at Winchester. By successive donations the possessions of the abbey became so extensive that Fuller records an old saying, that "if the abbess of Shaftesbury might wed the abbot of Glastonbury, their heir would have more land than the King of England." The king on his accession had the right to nominate a nun. After the dissolution the abbey estates were granted to Wriothesly, E. of Southampton, and now belong to the Marquis of Westminster. In 1558, John Bradley, abbot of Milton, was consecrated suffragan Bp. of Shaftesbury. In the civil wars Shaftesbury was held alternately by the forces of the king and the parliament. The neutral body of *Clubmen*, formed to protect the district from both parties, met here Aug. 1645, when 50 of their leaders were seized by Fleetwood, by which, and their defeat on Hambleton Hill the party was broken up. In 1672 this town was chosen by Anthony Ashley Cooper as the title of his earldom, which still continues in his family.

The abbey, which stood to the S. of Trinity Ch. between it and "the Park," appears to have been levelled with the ground immediately after the Dissolution, and few traces of it were known to exist till July, 1861, when excavations carried on by Mr. Batten, Lord Westminster's agent, brought to light the foundations of an apsidal choir, with apsidal chapels to the N. and S., contained like those at Romsey in the thickness of a rectangular wall, with an encaustic tile pavement; and other architectural

fragments testifying to the style of the ch.

Shaftesbury is said to have contained many churches besides that of the abbey. The only 2 remaining are St. Peter's and Holy Trinity.

Holy Trinity, the chief ch. of the town, was rebuilt 1842; too soon to share in the great advance ecclesiastical architecture has lately made.

St. Peter's is an ancient building of Perp. character. The aisles and clerestory run the whole length of the ch. The N. wall facing the High St. is surmounted by a remarkably rich battlemented parapet, elaborately carved with pomegranates, roses, portcullises, pointing to the early years of Henry VIII.'s reign, and shields bearing arms. The tower is sq. and massive. On the belfry wall are inscribed some quaint lines which may deserve perusal.

The streets are narrow, and the houses wear an antique appearance. A new *Town Hall*, and a market-house 270 ft. long, chiefly for the sale of corn and butter, have been erected by the liberality of the Marquis of Westminster.

The Rev. James Granger, author of the 'Biographical History of England,' was born at Shaftesbury, 1716.

The entrance to the *Park Walk*, so called from the abbey park, is close to the Grosvenor Arms. At the E. end are some remains of the abbey wall. It overlooks the country to the S. and S.W. The great eminence to the S. is *Melbury Hill*, the boundary of the high land of *Cranborne Chase*.

The *Castle Hill* is the W. end of the ridge, and commands a most extensive and beautiful landscape, "through which a white road, sometimes losing itself among woodlands, and sometimes traversing verdant pastures, winds westward into the distance." The side-scenes to this charming picture are 2 conical hills, very singularly alike, and each about 2 m. from Shaftesbury. That on

the rt. is *Kingsettle*, a wooded point on the line of hill which terminates in *Castle Hill*; that on the l., the mitred summit of *Duncliff*.

Standing, as the town does, on an elevated ridge, it was formerly but scantily provided with spring-water, and the supply of this necessary article was brought on horses' backs from *Enmore Green*, near *Motcombe*, in the parish of *Gillingham*, until the liberality of the Marquis of Westminster constructed engines and reservoirs in the town itself, conveying a good supply direct to the houses. Hence arose a curious custom which was annually observed here. On the Monday before Holy Thursday the mayor proceeded to *Enmore Green* with a large fanciful broom, or *Byzant* (besom), as it was called, which he presented as an acknowledgment for the water to the steward of the manor, together with a calf's head, a pair of gloves, a gallon of ale, and 2 penny-loaves of wheaten bread. This ceremony being concluded, the *Byzant*, which was usually hung with jewels and other costly ornaments, was returned to the mayor, and carried back to the town in procession.

1 m. N.W. is *Motcombe House* (Marquis of Westminster), a plain modern mansion. The original of Fielding's "Parson Trulliber" was one Oliver, curate of *Motcombe*. The novelist resided at *East Stower*, 4 m. W.

In *Wincombe Park*, N.E., seat of Charles Gordon, Esq., rises the river *Nadder*, forming at its source a small lake, from which in the olden time the nuns of Shaftesbury were supplied with fish.]

Returning to the rly. at

102 m. we enter Dorsetshire, and crossing the *Lidden* reach

105½ m. GILLINGHAM Stat. (*Inns*: Phoenix, Railway Inn; Pop. 3957). The parish of *Gillingham* is of immense size; 41 miles in circuit, and containing 61,000 acres. The

land was once chiefly forest, but is now almost entirely dairy pasture. It was a royal forest, often assigned in jointure to the queen's consort. It was held by Margaret of France, Margaret of Anjou, Jane Seymour, Katharine Howard, Katharine Parr, and Anne of Denmark. In early times Gillingham was a town of some importance. The *Witan* at which Edward the Confessor was accepted as King of England was held here 1042. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of the ch. stood a hunting lodge of our early kings, repaired by John. Edw. I. spent his Christmas here, c. 1270. The foundations may still be traced. It was disforested by Charles I. The *Ch.* was rebuilt in meagre Gothic in 1838, except the chancel, which is good Dec. It contains some good open benches, and recumbent effigies of John Jessop, M.D., Fellow of Merton, d. 1615, and his brother John, vicar of this parish, d. 1625. Over the tower-arch is the long Latin epitaph of Edward Davenant, nephew of the Bp. of Salisbury, who, dispossessed in the Great Rebellion, lived to regain his vicarage.

Gildon, Pope's bitter critic, was born here, d. 1724.

Yet then did Gildon draw his venal quill,
I wished the man a dinner and sat still.

Gillingham is a thriving and increasing town. It contains mills for flour, silk, rope and twine, sacking and flax, and a large brewery giving employment to many hands. A large number of bricks, tiles, and drain tiles are also made here. The air is very salubrious, and the neighbourhood highly picturesque.

The three rivers, Stour, Shreen water, and Lidden, unite a little below the town.

[2 m. S. is *East Stower*, the *Manor House* of which (pulled down 1835) was the property of Fielding the novelist, in right of his mother. On her death he settled here with

his first wife, but lived too expensively, and in less than 3 years had devoured the whole property with hounds, horses, and entertainments. The *ch.* was rebuilt 1842.

1 m. W. is *West Stower* standing on an eminence. The Rev. Wm. Young, incumbent of West Stower, editor of 'Ainsworth's Dictionary,' was the prototype of Fielding's "Parson Adams." As an instance of his absence of mind it is recorded, that once when chaplain to a regiment in Flanders he wandered in a reverie into the enemy's camp, and was only aroused to his error by his arrest. The commanding officer, perceiving the good man's simplicity, allowed him to return to his friends. To the N.E. the escarpment of the chalk from Hindon to Bradley Knoll forms the leading feature of the landscape. The wooded cone of *Duncliff* has a very beautiful appearance. Its summit is encircled by a solitary entrenchment, partly concealed by the trees, and watered by a spring.

3 m. N.W. is *Silton*. The *Ch.* stands on a knoll above the Stour, commanding pleasing views. To the N. is a stone-vaulted chapel. A cumbersome marble monument, with a life-size effigy, commemorates Sir Hugh Windham, one of the justices of the Common Pleas, d. 1684.

4 m. N. of Gillingham (Semley 6 m., Wincanton 8 m.) stands the little market-town of *Mere* (*Inns*: Ship, George; Pop. of entire parish 2929), on the borders of the 3 counties of Wilts, Dorset, and Somerset, in a wild and bleak down country, with wide views all round. It is the centre of a district in which much coarse linen or dowlas is manufactured. The *ch.* is one of the best in S. Wilts. It has a stately tower with lofty pinnacles, and within a richly carved oaken ceiling, good rood-screen, stalls, and parcloes. The clerestory is continued in the chancel. It is chiefly Perp., but the S. chapel and other parts are transitional from

Dec. to Perp. The chapel contains an altar-tomb and 2 brasses; one, a large and fine one, to the founder Sir John Bettesthorne, d. 1398, is remarkable for commemorating the dominical letter of the year.

The *Market House* is of some antiquity. To the N.W. is the mound of the castle. The castle, which was built 1253 by Rich. E. of Cornwall, to whom Mere had been granted by his brother Hen. III. To the S.W. near the town is *Mere Park*, and 1 m. S. *Woodlands*, where the remains of the 15th centy. mansion of the *Doddingtons* deserve a visit. The *Hall* has 2 square-headed windows, and there are (or were) a chimney-piece, ceilings, and carvings of Elizabethan date within; but has been modernized and spoilt. The domestic portion of 2 stories contains a rich Dec. window, either copied or brought from an earlier building.

3 m. W. of Mere is *Pen-Selwood*, and the excavations known as *Pen Pits* (Rte. 18).

2 m. N.W. of Mere, on a precipitous hill, is *Whitesheet Camp*, considered by Hoare as a British work further strengthened by the Saxons. It occupies 15 acres, and is defended on the side most easy of access by triple ramparts. 2 m. further N. is *Long Knoll*.

3 m. W. is *Stourhead*, the beautiful seat of Sir Henry Ainslie Hoare, Bart., planted on a range of lofty hills. It is well known for a fine collection of pictures, but more celebrated for the extreme beauty and decoration of its park and grounds. By the liberality of the owner the house is shown on Fridays, and the grounds at all times. The road to *Stourhead* from Mere passes on the l. *Zeals House* (Miss Grove), a manor-house, formerly of the *Chafyns* (John Grove, who married the heiress of the *Chafyns*, was beheaded at Exeter in 1655 for his share in *Penruddock's* attempted rising), and keeps

in view on the rt. the heights of *Whitesheet Camp* and *Bradley Knoll*.

Stourhead is entered by an embattled gatehouse, flanked by round towers, and beautifully ivied. The mansion consists of a centre, built after the designs of Colin Campbell in 1720, and of 2 wings added 1800, the former fronted by a Corinthian portico and 2 flights of steps, each terminated by a large ornamental basin, on the rims of which 2 sculptured birds lean forward in the attitude of drinking. The view embraces a fore-ground of beech-trees and Spanish chesnuts, remarkable for the large size of their trunks, and originally planted along the approach to the castle of the *Stourtons*. Of the pictures, and other curiosities, the following may be enumerated.

In the *Entrance Hall*: portraits of the Hoare family, including one of Sir R. Colt Hoare the antiquary, by *Woodforde*; a small Landscape, *Hobbenma*; a Welsh Mill, *Culcott*; the Cottage-door, *Collins*; the Broken Pitcher and the Bird's Nest, *Witherington*; Bust of Pope, by *Roubiliac*.

In the *Saloon* (or dining-room): Three Children of Charles I., after *Vandyck*; Stonehenge and gateway of Malmesbury Abbey in water-colours; the Judgment of Midas, *S. Bourdon*; the Death of Dido, after *Guercino*; the Rape of Helen, after *Guido Reni*; Antony and Cleopatra, *Raphael Mengs*; Portrait, *Angelica Kauffman*; the family arms in gold and precious stones; a piece of plate of silver-gilt, representing the story of Cyrus and Queen Tomyris, presented by the Corporation of London. On the marble chimneypiece, which is exceedingly handsome, is a head of Medusa.

In the *Cabinet Room*: Lake Nemi, engraved by *Vivares*, *Claude*; a Seaport by Moonlight, *Vernet*; a Landscape, *G. Poussin*; a Landscape, *Nic. Poussin*; a Storm, with story of Jonah and the Whale, copy of

Nic. Poussin ; Lake Avernus, with Æneas and the Sibyl, *Turner* ; a Landscape, *D. Teniers* ; a Landscape, presented by the artist to his friend *Zuccarelli, Wilson* ; Diana and her Nymphs, in a frame carved by *Gibbons, Zuccarelli* ; 2 small Landscapes, *Bartolomeo* ; Views at Venice, *Canaletti*. Here also is the beautiful Cabinet which gives name to the room. It belonged to Pope Sixtus V., and was left by the last of his family, a nun, to a convent at Rome, where it was purchased by Mr. Henry Hoare. It is made of ebony, agate, and lapis lazuli, fronted by pillars of precious stones, and inlaid with gold, and upon it are the heads of the Peretti family modelled in wax, the Pope's forming the centre of the group, and a gold medal extremely scarce and valuable, struck in the reign of Elizabeth to commemorate the defeat of the Spanish Armada.

In the *Anteroom* : the Daughter of Herodias with the head of John the Baptist, *P. Battoni*, after *Guido Reni* ; St. Peter denying Christ, and the Card-players, *Caravaggio* ; St. Mark's, Venice, *Canaletti* ; a Field of Battle, *Borgognone* ; a Holy Family, *Palma*.

In the *Picture Gallery* : Elijah restoring the Widow's Son to Life, *Rembrandt*, engraved by Earlom (considered the finest picture in the collection) ; St. John in the Wilderness, a sketch for the picture at Venice—2, a Peasant's head—3, Portrait of a Girl as St. Agnes, *Titian* ; the Birth of our Saviour, *Lud. Caracci* ; the Rape of the Sabines, and the Judgment of Hercules, *N. Poussin* ; a Holy Family—2, Head of St. Francis, *Guido Reni* ; a Holy Family, from the Barberini Palace, *Leon. da Vinci* ; the Virgin and Child with St John and St. Ambrose, *And. del Sarto* ; the Magdalen washing the Feet of the Saviour—2, Sketch of an Apollo, *Paul Veronese* ; the Marriage of St. Catherine, *Baroccio* ; the Virgin and Child—2, the Good Shepherd, *Guer-*

cino ; the Virgin and Child—2, St. John with the Lamb—3, an old man's head, *Schidone* ; David and Goliath—2, Tobit and the Angel, *Pietro Francesco Mola* ; the Adoration of the Kings, a fine work, *Cigoli* ; the Flight into Egypt—2, portrait of the painter, with the 3 Graces—3, Hope, *Carlo Maratti* ; an Old Woman, *Murillo* ; Distress by sea and Distress by land, *Thompson* ; the Triumph of Bacchus, copy of *Ann. Caracci* ; Holy Family, *Fra Bartolomeo* ; the Madonna, *Carlo Dolce* ; Democritus, *Sal. Rosa* ; Madonna and Child, *Carlo Cignani* ; a Holy Family, after *Raphael* ; Introduction of a young Carthusian to St. Teresa, *Pacchiarotto* ; Madonna and Child, *Palma Vecchio* ; the Emperor Charles V., after *Titian, Rubens* ; Temptation of St. Anthony, *D. Teniers* ; the Annunciation, *Albano*.

In the *Music-room* : St. Peter's, *P. Panini* ; the Car of Cuthullin (from Ossian), *Cooper* ; Sheep and interior, *Morland* ; Cattle, *Cuyp* ; the Dumb Girl talking, *Northcote* ; Diana and Actæon, *Calcott* and *Owen* ; a storm by land and a storm by sea, *Nicholson* ; the Martyrdom of St. Peter, after *Titian, F. Mola* ; Peasant Children, *Gainsborough* ; a scene in the East Indies, *T. Daniell* ; Head of a Child, *Holbein*.

In the *Library* are some remarkable drawings by *Canaletti*, representing 10 of the most celebrated buildings in Venice, arranged around a portrait of Petrus Landi, Doge in 1538. In this room are also the busts of Milton, when young and old, by *Rysbrack* ; and a window by *Egginton*, with figures copied from Raphael's School of Athens.

The *Museum* contains the valuable antiquities collected by the late Sir R. C. Hoare and Mr. Cunningham during their examination of the earthworks of this county. They comprise the various articles found in the barrows, in the camps, and on the sites of ancient villages, some of the funeral urns being particularly remarkable for their large

size and excellent preservation. The Antiquities of Wiltshire are further illustrated by drawings by *Buckler*, and the cathedral of Salisbury by 10 views by *Turner*.

A visitor to the *Pleasure-grounds*—after passing the gate-house, where he will notice on the opposite side of the road an enormous sycamore decked with fern—descends between banks of turf and hedges of laurel to the hamlet of

Stourton, a group of pretty cottages, ancient church, and *Inn*, ensconced in a little dell beneath impending woods. The church is a small building, with embattled tower, rising from a churchyard decked with flowers, but is principally remarkable for its secluded and pleasing site. The churchyard contains a lofty stone cross, the mausoleum of the Hoare family, and a monumental tower enclosing the marble tomb and remains of *Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart.*, the author of 'Ancient Wiltshire,' and of several other learned topographical and historical works. In the church are memorials of the Stourtons (including the effigies of Edward, the 5th baron, 1535), and his lady Agnes Fauntleroy, and a mural monument to Henry Hoare, Esq., 1785, with inscription by the pen of Hayley.

Opposite the church is the entrance to the *Pleasure-grounds*, where a prospect as delightful as unexpected meets the view. The confined scene of Stourton is suddenly shifted to give place to a large and beautiful lake embosomed in wooded hills, which open as if to show the distant vistas ascending through the park. After a glance at its leading features, the visitor will proceed to seek the beauties of this dainty garden in detail. He will make the circuit of the lake, a distance of 2 m., the water occupying an area of 30 acres. At the entrance his attention will be directed to a beautiful, though rather

incongruous, ornament, the *High Cross of Bristol*, erected in that city about 1373, as a mark of gratitude to Edward III., who had conferred important privileges on the citizens. It is an elaborate piece of stonework, decorated with the statues of 8 of our monarchs, King John, Henry III., Edward I., Edward III., Henry VI., Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I., the four last added in 1633, when the cross was enlarged and curiously painted and gilded. It was taken down in 1733, and shortly afterwards given by Dean Barton, whose brother was rector of Stourton, to Mr. Henry Hoare, who re-erected it where it now stands, at an expense of 300*l.* Descending to the level of the lake, a hemlock spruce will be pointed out, and then the *Temple of the Muses*, *Paradise Well*, and an old font removed to this locality from the church. Pursuing the path which follows the windings of the shore, the visitor will observe a silver beech of extraordinary beauty, its branches drooping to the ground in the form of a tent, and a thorn-tree on which a mountain-ash has been engrafted, an unnatural union which has changed the character of the leaf. A view now opens on the rt. up *Six Wells Bottom* to *St. Peter's Pump*, a plain hexagonal building with coarse sculptures, another relic from Bristol, covering the six sources of the Stour. The path next crosses an arm of the lake, and winding past the *Swan House* dives into the *Grotto*, a dim and cool retreat, perpetually reverberating the plunge of the Stour, which conducted underground from the Six Wells, is here poured forth from the urn of the river god. A sleeping nymph in marble reclines by a bath in another recess, the following lines by Pope being inscribed on the rock:—

"Nymph of the grot, these sacred springs I
keep,
And to the murmur of these waters sleep;

Ah! spare my slumbers, gently tread the
cave,
And drink in silence, or in silence lave."

Emerging from this cavern, the visitor threads a beech-grove to a spring of delicious water, which, rising under a tulip-tree, flows swiftly to the lake. And here opens to his view the portico of the *Pantheon*, a copy of the famous temple at Rome, occupying a charming site, and decorated with several statues, including an antique marble of Livia Augusta in the character of Ceres. Hercules and Flora, by *Rysbrak*, and casts of Peace, Diana, Meleager, and the Egyptian Isis. In the portico are Alexander and Pompey (antique), and on the outside Ceres and Minerva. The counties of Wilts and Somerset meet in the centre of the building; and on the hill to the W. of it is an ancient *camp*, of 7 acres, formed by a double line of ramparts. The path now turns in the direction of the house, and affords a view of the *Cascade*, which, though natural in itself, is not in character with its banks. Beyond it is reached the foot of a dense wood, first planted on the naked down by Sir R. C. Hoare, where, midway on the hill, shines the *Temple of the Sun*, designed after that at Baalbee, fronted by Corinthian columns, and commanding a bird's-eye view of lake and garden. Trees of fantastic growth next claim attention—an ash ingrafted on an acacia; a thorn-tree of America; a tulip-tree, a giant of its kind; and, last, a spruce-fir, as singular as old, grotesquely branched, and rising in distinct trees from its far-extended roots. Leaving this haunted company, the visitor ascends again to the beautiful Bristol Cross, and quits the garden with lingering steps by the gate at which he had entered it.

Alfred's Tower, not the least of the curiosities at Stourhead, occupies a magnificent point of view called *Kingsettle*, one of the loftiest of the greensand hills 800 ft. above the sea.

It is 3 m. distant from the house, but strangers are not allowed to drive to it through the park; they will pursue the old British road, or *Hardway*, by which Alfred is supposed to have advanced from the fastnesses of Selwood to the attack of the Danes. The tower was erected by Henry Hoare, Esq., in memory of that event, and is a triangular building of red brick, 150 ft. high, flanked at each corner by a slender tower. The entrance is on the E. side, surmounted by a colossal statue of Alfred and a tablet bearing the following inscription:—"Alfred the Great, A.D. 879, on this summit erected his standard against Danish invaders. To him we owe the origin of juries, the establishment of a militia, the creation of a naval force. Alfred, the light of a benighted age, was a philosopher and a Christian, the father of his people, the founder of the English monarchy and liberty." The tower is plainly seen from all parts of the neighbouring counties, and every visitor should ascend it. The key will be found at the adjoining lodge, which commands an extensive view to the S. The roads down the hill are very beautiful. 1 m. S. of the tower rises an enormous mound, vulgarly called *Jack's Castle*, long considered as a beacon on which fires were formerly lighted to spread signals through the country, but constructed for a different purpose, as was ascertained by Sir R. C. Hoare, who found within it the remains of some old warrior buried with his weapons.

Stourhead is the name given to this place since its purchase by the Hoares. It was originally called Stourton, and belonged to a family of that name as early as Edward I.'s reign. John S. was created Baron Stourton in 1448. In Queen Anne's reign Edward the twelfth lord sold it to Sir Thomas Meres, Kt., from whose heirs it was purchased, in 1720, by Henry Hoare, Esq., founder

of the London banking-house, and ancestor of the present proprietor.

For the remarkable story connected with the Stourtons—the murder of the *Hartgills* by Charles Lord Stourton, in the reign of Queen Mary, 1556, see *ante*. (For fuller particulars of this strange event, illustrated by many curious letters and original documents, see a memoir by Canon Jackson, *Wilt's Archæolog. Mag.*, vol. viii.)

Kilmington Ch. lies $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Stourhead. It has a fine lofty tower, groined within. Close to Kilmington S. is *Blackwater Spring*, the source of the *Wily*; and in *West End Wood*, 1 m. W., is the source of the *Brue*. 1 m. N.E. is the *Long Knoll*, 973 ft. above the sea, the extreme W. point of the Chalk of Salisbury Plain.]

Proceeding on our route we pass at 109 m. rt. Buckhorn Weston.

110 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. we cross the *Cale*, flowing from Wincanton, and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. further the *Bow Brook*, which, uniting their waters below, are joined by the *Lidden* near Stalbridge. Here we enter Somersetshire, and continue in the county till we pass Milborne Port.

112 m. *Temple Combe Junction Stat.* —[Here the S. W. Rly. crosses the Somerset and Dorset line from High-bridge and Burnham on the Gt. Western line to Wimborne and Poole (Rte. 18) forming a communication between the Bristol and English Channels.]

Temple Combe takes its name from a commandery of the Knights Templars, to whom it was granted c. 1185. Some remains of the *chapel* are still to be seen in the garden of the *Manor House*, now a farm S. of the village.

113 m. rt. *Stovell* has a manor house of ancient date, and a modern church.

114 m. *Milborne Port Stat.*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of the town of that name. (*Inn*: King's Head; Pop. 1814), a small collection of cottages, with a manufacture of sail-cloth, leather gloves,

and shoes, and highly respectable for its antiquity. It returned representatives in the reign of Edward I., and not again till that of Charles I., but was disfranchised by the first Reform Act. The *Church* is a massive cruciform structure of Anglo-Norman date, with a transept and embattled tower rising from the centre, on 2 circular and 2 pointed arches. The W. end is of Anglo-Saxon character. The N. side of the tower and S. side of the chancel are ornamented with intersecting arcades. It contains the monuments of the Medlycotts.

The *Town Hall* has a Norman doorway. In the street are the pediment and steps of an ancient *cross*. A *Ball Court*, further down the High-street, was erected by Sir William Medlycott for the use of the townspeople.

Milborne Port during the Rebellion was occupied for some time by Cromwell's soldiers, who, it is said, stole the Bible from the church. This so incensed the inhabitants that they rose to a man and drove the soldiers from the town.

Ven (Sir William Medlycott, Bart.), lies close to the town, S.E. The scene is exceedingly pretty; a branch of the Yeo winds beneath the wooded crescent of *Henover Hill* on its course to Sherborne Castle. *Ven* is a red-brick mansion; its front inlaid with stone, and its wings pierced by large archways. It is attributed to Inigo Jones.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. is *Charlton Horethorne*, the church of which has a good pinnacled tower and is worth notice. A N. chapel of superior workmanship belonged to the Prior of Kenilworth, the impropiator of the rectory.

The top of *Bullstake Hill*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ E., commands extensive views E. and W. Shaftesbury and Alfred's Tower are conspicuous in the former direction.

At 115 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. the Rly. crosses the river *Yeo*, and re-enters Dorsetshire.

116 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. l., site of *Oborne Church*, which has been pulled down with the

exception of a chancel window, over which is an inscription, and rebuilt in another position. The woods of *Sherborne Castle* cover the hills on the l., which sweep round to Sherborne in the form of a crescent. Passing through the suburb of *Castleton*, the traveller reaches

118 m. **SHERBORNE** (*Inns* : King's Arms ; Antelope ; Pop. 5523). An antique-looking town, pleasantly situated on the S. slope of a steepish hill descending to the valley of the Ivel or Yeo. It has small pretensions to beauty, and with the exception of the grand Abbey Church and Grammar School, is entirely destitute of striking buildings ; but its general appearance is quaint, and "the quiet aspect of its grey stone buildings, with stone-tiled roofs and mullioned windows, lying pleasantly among gardens and orchards," impresses the visitor very favourably. To the archæologist it is very attractive, for besides the church, and the remains of the abbey buildings incorporated with the school, Sherborne is full of ancient houses, which well deserve notice, though too many (including the famous *New Inn* figured in Parker's 'Dom. Arch. of the Middle Ages,' ii., 348) have of late years been destroyed, or new-fronted and otherwise spoilt. The principal street, still bearing its A.-S. name of *Cheap Street*, descends the hill from the N. *Long Street* intersects it at rt. angles, and runs up E. to *Castleton* and the gates of the old castle. The ground on the S. side of the river rises rapidly, and is laid out in public walks commanding a wide view. The richly-wooded park and lake to the S.E. is a very agreeable feature in the surrounding landscape.

The town takes its A.-S. name *Scireburn* from the transparent waters of the Yeo, or Ivel (*scir burne* A.-S. = bright brook) which flows in the valley. As usual, little is known of its early history ; but it was of sufficient importance in the time of King Ina,

A.D. 705, to be chosen as the seat of a bishoprick. The first Bishop of Sherborne was the learned Aldhelm (see *ante* Malmesbury, Rte. 1). Twenty-six prelates succeeded him here, including Asser, the biographer, and friend of Alfred the Great, A.D. 900. The line of Bishops of Sherborne ended in Herman, who, 1078, removed the see to Old Sarum. It was dignified by being made the burial place of two kings, Ethelbald and Ethelbert, the brothers of King Alfred. It suffered severely from the ravages of the Danes, by whom it was burnt and plundered. Its rise from its fallen fortunes was so slow that William of Malmesbury expresses his surprise that so mean a place could have been for so many years the seat of a bishopric. Its prosperity gradually was increased through the establishment of the cloth manufacture, and the traffic of the great western road, which made it in Leland's time "the most frequented town in the county." Later on button and lace making were introduced, and in 1740 *silk-throwing*, which is now its only manufacture.

The *Abbey Church* of St. Mary the Virgin (5 minutes' walk to the N. of Rly. station) is the chief object of attraction, and will repay a long and careful survey. It is, in its main features, one of the richest and most beautiful examples of the later Perpendicular style, and its recent restoration, by the munificence of the late Earl Digby, and his heir, the present G. Wingfield Digby, Esq., of Sherborne Castle, has invested it with a degree of splendour almost unparalleled.

Sherborne was never a church of the first rank, either in design or dimensions. Its low central tower, with its insignificant pinnacles, and want of picturesqueness of outline render the exterior heavy and uninviting ; nor are the faults of design atoned for by imposing magnitude. The length of the church from E. to

W. is only 200 ft., that of the transepts from N. to S. 95 ft. ; the height of the tower is 109 ft. But on a nearer view many of its defects of form disappear, and the exceeding richness of the interior, and the magnificence of its recent ornamentation, fully redeem its external deficiencies. The whole is built of the rich-tinted and fine-grained Hamhill stone. Sherborne was constituted a Benedictine Abbey in 1139 by Bishop Roger, of Sarum, to whose passion for building, the original fabric of the church which still survives in the main under its later accretions, may probably be assigned. "It is essentially a Norman church entirely transformed, the nave and presbytery into the Perpendicular style. The transepts, tower, and other appendages still retain Norman characteristics, with E.E. insertions and additions, especially a portion of a fine Lady chapel at the E. end. The Perp. work is of an unusually grand and beautiful character, and has the advantage of being accurately dated." —*Willis*. The walls of the transepts show Norman masonry, and one of the round-headed windows may be seen in the clerestory of the E. side of the S. transept. The Perp. clerestory of the nave and choir is unusually fine and lofty. The latter is supported by flying buttresses springing from rich crocketed pinnacles. One of the most interesting features of the exterior is—or rather was before the alteration—the Norman S. porch attached to the westernmost bay of the nave. This was rebuilt from the ground by Mr. Carpenter, during the restoration in 1850. In the lower part the stones were accurately replaced, but the upper portion or *parise*, which had been made to harmonize with the general design of the exterior when the nave was rebuilt by Abbot Ramsam, was unhappily restored in the Norman style after a modern plan. All who remember the old porch, or

who knew it from drawings, will echo Mr. Petit's opinion, endorsed by Prof. Willis, that "the old porch of Sherborne, Norman below and Perpendicular above, was far more valuable, and, to the eye of the artist, perhaps more pleasing than a restoration of the same Normanized to the very point of the gable." The W. window is a fine Perp. composition of 9 lights.

Attached to the W. end of the ch. are the remains of the parochial ch. of *Allhallows*, consisting of the wall of the N. aisle, with the pilasters supporting the roof, and four responds or semi-pillars engrafted into the W. part of the minster. The style is Dec. or Early Perp. These remains indicate a three-aisled ch. of 6 bays in length, the easternmost being occupied by a vestibule common to the two churches, communicating by doors now built up.

At the Dissolution, 1540, the abbey ch. of Sherborne was granted, by Henry VIII. to Sir John Horsey, by whom it was sold to the parishioners for 100 marks. On this, there being no further use for *Allhallows* ch., as we learn from Leland, it was taken down.

Wherever a monastery existed in a town, quarrels between the monks and the parishioners were of constant occurrence in the middle ages ; the former always endeavouring to eject the latter, or embitter their occupation of the church they held in common, and they in their turn were not scrupulous in the means they adopted to annoy their conventual neighbours. Sherborne was no exception. A deadly feud raged in the 15th centy. between the monks and townsmen, which issued in the destruction by fire of the whole eastern limb, and the splendid re-edification of the whole. The cause of quarrel was whether the children of the townspeople were to be baptized in a new font in the parish ch. as of immemorial custom, or in the Abbey

font; this, it seems, had been removed to an inconvenient part of their ch. by the monks, who at the same time had narrowed the door of communication between the two churches (still to be seen at the W. end of the S. aisle), to the great annoyance of the parishioners, who vented their spite by unseemly ringing of bells disturbing the conventual services. The matter was referred to Bp. Nevil of Salisbury in 1437, who decided against the parishioners. This did not stop the feud. "A stout butcher" of Sherborne, named Walter Gallor, siding with the monks, took upon himself to break the illegal font, which exasperated the townspeople so much that in Leland's words "the variance grew to a plain sedition until a priest of Allhallows shot a shaft with fire into the top of that part of St. Mary Church that divided the east part that the monks used, from that the townsmen used; and this partition chancing at that time to be thatched in, the roof was set on fire, and consequently all the whole church, the lead and bells melted, was defaced." This disaster rendered the re-edification of the ch. necessary. The whole eastern limb was rased to the ground, and the present choir, "a fine and magnificent design of the period" (*Willis*), erected in the time of Abbot Bradford, 1436-59, the townsmen being forced to make amends for the destruction they had caused by contributing to its building. [Our account follows Prof. Willis's history of the fabric, *Archæol. Journal*, vol. xxii. But we should state that the late Vicar, the Rev. E. Harston, to whose exertions the restoration of the ch. is mainly owing, is of opinion that the choir had been completed up to the springing of the clerestory windows when the fire took place. (See Harston's 'Hdbk. to Sherborne,' pp. 41, 42.)] After the choir was completed, the nave was reconstructed in the

(or de Rampisham), 1475-1504. The nave appears to have suffered less from the fire; the Norm. piers were not therefore taken down but recased, as at Winchester, in the later style, and surmounted by an entirely new clerestory. The transepts retain their Norman masonry, with the insertion of large Perp. windows, and the addition of roofs of the same style. Three of the tower arches obtrude their plain Norm. semi-circles into the midst of the richness around them. The easternmost arch was boldly removed by the rebuilders of the choir so as to leave the fan-vaulting uninterrupted.

The ch. is usually entered by the Norm. S. porch. The interior presents a splendid coup-d'œil, chiefly due to the unusual magnificence of the fan vaults which cover the whole church with the exception of the S. transept, all ablaze with gilded ribs and bosses, and gorgeous heraldic decorations, among which the arms of the Digbys, of Sherborne Abbey, and the See of Salisbury, may be noticed. The nave is divided into 5 bays by heavily panelled arches without pillars. The width of these is irregular, as will be seen by comparing them with the regularly spaced clerestory above, owing to the retention of the Norman plan. The vaulting shafts are supported by angels bearing shields, and shields also occur at the apex of the arches, bearing the rebuses of Abbot Ramsam (a ram and the syllable *sam*), Bp. Langton, and the arms of Sherborne and Milton Abbeys. The S. aisle is known as St. Mary's aisle; that to the N., the *Trinity aisle*, has the only Dec. windows in the ch. The glass of the great W. window was restored by Hardman in 1841.

Moving eastwards we reach the transepts, and notice the 3 heavy Norm. arches supporting the tower. The belfry story, now hidden by the rich fan-vault was originally open as a lantern. The Norm. arcades, though walled up, may be seen in-

side. The huge cylindrical Norm. buttress filling up the E. angles of the W. tower piers, and the Norm. arches opening from the aisles into the transept, should here be noticed. Here we may mention that the *great bell*, recast in 1866, was the gift of Cardinal Wolsey, who in the early part of his career was rector of Limington, near Ilchester. It was the smallest of 7 brought from Tournay; the others were given to Lincoln, Exeter, Oxford, &c.

The *N. transept* contains a magnificent organ, by Gray and Davison, the tones of which peal gloriously beneath the vaulted roof. On the E. side of the transept is a small chapel retaining Norm. walls and traces of work of the same date, known as the Wickham Chapel.

The *S. transept* has a framed roof of black Irish oak. The S. window is one of noble dimensions filled with glass by Hardman after a design by Pugin, illustrating the "Te Deum." On the W. wall is a cumbersome monument to John Digby, Earl of Bristol, d. 1698, with statues of himself and 2 wives by *Nost*, an Italian sculptor, and an epitaph by Bp. Hough. Below the "Te Deum" window a tablet to the memory of 2 children of William Lord Digby challenges notice by an epitaph from the pen of Pope.

The *choir* presents a tout-ensemble of unusual magnificence with its intricate-traceried roof, glowing with rich colour, its painted windows, its panelled walls, gorgeous with polychrome, its sculptured reredos, metal candelabra and gates, carved oak stalls, and encaustic tiled floor. The general impression is one of the most harmonious richness, reminding one of an illuminated missal. The visitor will notice the deep Indian-red of the stonework, the effects of the conflagration, which contributes no little to the general richness of effect. The colouring of the choir was executed by Mr. Crace of Wigmore Street, and

reflects great credit upon him. The altar or martyr window, and those of the clerestory, are filled with painted glass by Messrs. Clayton and Bell of London. In the former are represented the Entry into Jerusalem, the Agony and Betrayal, the Ecce Homo, the Bearing the Cross, the Crucifixion and Resurrection, and, in the tracery, the various orders of martyrs; in the latter, life-size figures of saints, &c., and of the bishops of the ancient see of Sherborne. The reredos designed by Mr. Carpenter, a rich work of Caen stone, forms a frame-work for 2 large subjects in alto-relievo, designed by Mr. Slater, the Last Supper, and Ascension; and near it is a monumental brass in memory of the late Lord Digby, to whose munificence the present beautiful appearance of the nave is mainly due.

Adjoining the N. choir aisle is an E. E. chapel with an eastern triplet, known as Bp. Roger's Chapel. This is now used as a vestry, and contains some of the incongruous monuments that formerly disfigured the church. This has been "ingeniously formed by building 2 E. E. walls to form N. and E. sides, and utilising the E. wall of Bp. Roger's Chapel and the N. wall of the aisle, decorated with the external Norm. intersecting arcades." — *Willis*. In this aisle are some remains of early monuments, including mutilated effigies of several of the early Abbots and a fragment of the tombstone of Abbot Clement, 1163. In the procession path behind the high altar, lie the Saxon kings Ethelbald and Ethelbert, elder brothers of Alfred.

The Horsey monument with effigies of Sir John, d. 1546, and Dame Edith his wife, d. 1564, has been removed to the Wickham Chapel. *Sir Thomas Wyatt*, the poet, is said to be buried in the ch., but there is no monument to him. Here also rests Asser, Alfred's biographer. In St. Catherine's Chapel is a canopied

tomb with effigies to John Lewston, d. 1584, and his wife Joan.

The E. E. Lady Chapel to the E. of the choir escaped the conflagration, and is noticed by Leland as "an old piece of work that the fire came not to." Part was pulled down at the Dissolution; the remainder, together with the chapel of "Our Lady of Bow," built by Abbot Ramsam, at the E. end of the S. aisle, was converted into a most uncomfortable residence for the master of the Freeschool founded by Edw. VI., 1550. The rich fan-tracery vault of this latter formed the ceiling of the drawing-room; one compartment of good E. E. vaulting of the Lady Chapel may be seen in one of the bedrooms. The opening of the Lady Chapel to the ch. was by a fine E. E. arch, now blocked: the centre not coinciding with that of the choir, the corbels of the fan-vault of the procession path, it will be seen, are out of symmetry. A new residence has now been built for the master, and this house is used as a hospital for the sick boys.

The whole ch., with the exception of the Lady Chapel, was restored with the most unsparing munificence, and with extraordinary ability and success by the late Mr. Carpenter and his pupil Mr. Slater. The work of the nave and transepts commenced June, 1848, and was completed in 1851, at the cost of nearly 14,000*l.*, more than one-half being borne by Lord Digby. The cost of the restoration of the choir and its aisles, nearly 18,000*l.*, was borne exclusively by Mr. Wingfield Digby, between 1856 and 1858. The whole of the restorations are considered by Prof. Willis to have been carried out from the beginning in the most careful and judicious manner.

The remains of the Abbey buildings which lay to the N. of the ch. are now inconsiderable, and have been incorporated in the buildings of the *Grammar School*, which, under a succession of able head-masters, has

gained a well-deserved reputation as one of the first schools in the W. of England. These buildings chiefly lie round the cloister and to the N. of the nave. The old school-room, built 1670, containing a statue of its founder Edw. VI., now serves as a dining-hall, the school-room having been removed to the original Guesten Hall (erroneously called the Refectory), to the N. of the W. front of the ch., long used as a silk-mill, but restored to a nobler use by Lord Digby. It is a well-proportioned room with a fine oak roof. Adjoining the school-room is a chapel, built 1855 by Mr. Slater on the reconstructed vault of a Norm. structure. Further N. are the remains of the *Abbot's House*: the E. side of the court is occupied by the head-master's house, dormitories, and library, the last containing some curious old books.

To the S.E. of the ch. is one of the gateways of the Abbey, beyond which at the bottom of Cheap St. stands the *Abbey Conduit*, erected by Abp. Frith, 1349-71, groined within, bearing the escutcheon of Sir John Horsey, who removed it from the centre of the cloisters. The S. side of the Abbey Close facing Half-Moon Street is occupied by the *Church House*, an ancient but mutilated building deserving notice.

The *Vicarage* is an interesting Perp. building, well restored in the old style by the late vicar, Rev. E. Harston.

After the ch. the most interesting object in the town of Sherborne is the *Alms House*, or properly the *Hospital of St. John Baptist*, founded in 1406, on the basis of an older institution. The buildings were erected in 1448 and are a very good example of their class, including a Hall below, with dormitories over each opening to the E. into a chapel, the whole height of the building parted off by a screen. Some good glass remains in the S. windows. New buildings in excellent style by

Mr. Slater were erected in 1865. In one of the rooms is a Triptych of the Flemish school, representing our Lord's 3 acts of raising the dead, and other of His miracles.

Pack-Monday Fair is held at Sherborne on the Monday after Old Michaelmas Day, the anniversary of the completion of the nave by Abbot Ramsam, when, according to the tradition, the workmen were ordered to pack and be off by midnight on Sunday; and now, annually, as the clock strikes the hour, its deep tones are accompanied by the clattering of tin-kettles, the marrow-bones and cleavers, and other rude instruments.

Sherborne was the birthplace of *Joseph Towers*, a learned divine, b. 1737, and here the tragedian Macready found a retreat from the stage and devoted himself to the educational improvement of his poorer neighbours.

After inspecting the ch. the traveller should proceed up *Long St.* to the ruins of the *Castle* to the E. of the town, stopping to examine the ancient houses which he will pass on his way. The entrance to the Castle is at the lodge by *Castleton Ch.*, a small unattractive building. The Castle was from early times the principal residence of the Bps. of Sherborne, and was confirmed to the see of Sarum by Wm. the Conqueror. The existing Castle was the work of Bp. Roger, 1107-42, Henry I.'s warlike Chancellor, the great Church and Castle builder of his age. The Bp. having espoused the side of the Empress Maud, his Castle was seized by Stephen 1139, retaken by Maud, and retained in the hands of the crown under various pleas for 200 years until it was recovered, in 1355, by Bp. Wyvill, who thus proved himself "pugil intrepidus," as he is styled on his brass in Salisbury Cathedral, which bears a rude representation of this stronghold (Rte. 7). In the spoliation of the Church that followed the accession of

Edw. VI. it was made over to Protector Somerset, but restored subsequently to the see, and finally alienated to Sir Walter Raleigh by Bp. Cotton as the price of his promotion. Raleigh before his conviction settled the estate on his son, but an accidental flaw in the deed enabled James I. to wrest it from him and bestow it on his minion, Carr, Earl of Somerset. It is said that Lady Raleigh begged the monarch on her knees to spare her son's heritage, but his only reply was "I maun hae the lond; I maun hae it for Carr." It is recorded that on Raleigh's last journey to London and passing within view of Sherborne, he said with a deep sigh, "all this was once mine." On Somerset's conviction for Overbury's murder the land reverted to the Crown, and was granted by James to Sir G. Digby, twice ambassador to Spain, created Earl of Bristol 1618. In the Great Rebellion it was one of the first fortresses attacked by the Parliamentarians, and one of the last to hold out for the king. In 1642 it was held by the Marquis of Hertford for the king against the Earl of Bedford. The Earl's sister, Lady Anne Digby, who was then staying at the Lodge, rode to her brother's quarters and told him, if he persisted in his purpose of demolishing the Castle and Lodge, "he should find his sister's bones buried in the ruins." The siege continuing the Marquis was hard pressed, and offered to surrender on conditions. If they were not accepted, he threatened to place Lady Anne as a flag of defiance on the battlements. On the 5th day the Earl raised the siege. In 1645 Sir Lewis Dives, Lord Bristol's stepson, being governor, after a siege of 16 days, it was taken by Fairfax on his triumphant progress through the West, who found in it so much plunder that he held a fair on the occasion. Sir L. Dives, Sir John Strangways, 55 gentlemen, and 600 soldiers, were taken prisoners (see

Sprigge, *Anglia Rediviva*). The castle was then destroyed, in the language of the time "sighted," by order of the Parliament, and with a part of its materials were built Castleton church and the wings of the present mansion. The last incident of any consequence that occurred at Sherborne Castle was the visit of the Prince of Orange, who slept in the modern mansion on his road from Torbay to London, 1688.

The castle is entered by the *Gate House*, picturesquely clothed with ivy. A Norman chimney-shaft deserves attention. The windows are later. The remains of the Castle are chiefly confined to the solid walls of the keep. A very noble cylindrical pillar still stands supporting the floor of the Hall above which has perished, and there are some dark vaulted apartments of the substructure. Of the *Chapel*, which projected at right angles to the N.E., the walls alone remain; that to the S., ornamented with an interesting arcade resembling that in Bp. Roger's work in the minster. On the N. is a good Norm. window. The chapel was on the upper story, and the traces of the projecting staircase are still visible.

Passing through the Castle Green verdant banks clothed with wood and shrubbery slope down to the lake enlivened by numerous swans, on the S. side of which rises the present *Castle* (G. D. Wingfield Digby, Esq.) formerly known as "the Lodge," a quaint and picturesque structure. The regular way of approach to it and the park is from the other side of the river. The house is not usually shown; but the exterior may be seen by all, as there is a public footway through the park. The ground-plan is in the form of the letter H, consisting of a centre and two far-projecting wings, the former built by Sir Walter Raleigh, the latter by the Earl of Bristol, after the Restoration. The entrance into the court-yard is by an arch of

Hamhill stone, surmounted by the crest of the Digbys, an ostrich holding a horseshoe in its beak, a device which originated in the vulgar notion that this bird could digest iron. Over the central doorway appear the arms of Sir Walter Raleigh, with the date 1594. The house contains several portraits of the Digby family, including one of Sir Kenelm Digby, the countess of Southampton by *Corn. Jansen*, and a full-length of Dogget, the great actor, by *Murray*; also the Procession of Queen Elizabeth, a noted picture by *Mark Gerrard* of Bruges. It probably represents Elizabeth in a sedan-chair, as she was carried to Blackfriars to the marriage of Lord Herbert and Anne, daughter of John Lord Russell, June, 1600, by 6 noblemen of her court, Lord Cobham carrying the sword of state before her, Knights of the Garter walking in advance, and ladies following in the train (*Archæol. Journ.* vol. xxiii. p. 131). The furniture and fittings of the interior are in admirable keeping.

The *Park*, of over 300 acres, rises steeply to the S. and is well wooded. Towards the E. side are a number of huge old oaks, perfect giants of their race. It is a delightful place for a long ramble, every now and then rousing the herds of deer from the fern. The platforms will be noticed among the branches of the trees where the keepers are posted to bring down a stag. The view from *Jerusalem Hill* is very wide and beautiful. The pleasure ground near the house, where, in the words of Pope, who visited "the good Lord Digby" here and described the place in a long letter to Martha Blount "you lose your eyes in the glimmering of the waters under the wood, and your ears in the constant dashing of the waves," were laid out by the famous "Capability Brown." A stone seat is pointed out as the spot where Raleigh was in the habit of smoking, with a lower stone for the bowl of the pipe to rest on.

The Dairy contains a tessellated pavement discovered on Lenthay Common.

The tourist should not omit a visit to the *Cemetery*, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the town, for the sake of the splendid Mortuary Chapel, in the later Norm. style, of Hamhill stone, with columns of Devonshire, Irish, and Italian marble, erected by Mr. Digby at an immense cost. The arch of entrance is richly carved, and is surmounted by a bas-relief of the Resurrection. Within is a bas-relief of the entombment of Christ. The windows are filled with stained glass, and the sacarium is paved in mosaic.

[The country round Sherborne is agreeably diversified with hill and dale, naked downs and sheltered valleys, and it may be chosen as a centre for rural walks and drives by a tourist with time at his disposal. *Trent*, the hiding place of Charles II., with its beautiful *ch.* and Italian pictures at the Rectory (see Rte. 21), is $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. *Sandford Orcas*, of which Bp. Godwin, author of the Catalogue of Bishops, was rector, with its fine Elizabethan Manor House, 3 m. N., and the fine entrenchment of *Cadbury* 6 m. N. $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. is *Bishop's Caundle* with a good small Perp. *ch.*, well restored. The *ch.* of *Holwell*, formerly on an island of Somersetshire, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. further S., stands very picturesquely on the bank of a branch of the little river Lidden. The N. aisle has a rich oak roof. Here is *Buckshaw House*, B. Littlehales, Esq.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. *Poyntington Ch.* has a Norm. door, and the recumbent effigy of a knight of the Cheyney family.

4. m. N. on the W. declivity of the Corton Hills is the little secluded village of *Corton Denham* with curious oak seats in the *Ch.* bearing date 1541.]

The rly. continues along the valley of the Yeo, or Ivel, and passes close to the noble *ch.* of *Bradford Abbas* l.

which may be conveniently visited from Yeovil Junc. Stat. 1 m., or Yeovil Stat. 2 m. The village takes its name from the broad ford over the Yeo, and its distinctive appellation from the Abbot of Sherborne, to whom it belonged, and who had a country seat at Wyke, about 1 m. E. The whole *Ch.* which has been carefully restored, is Perp. and well deserves notice. The tower is one of the finest in the county, about 90 ft. high, divided into 4 compartments, supported by graceful buttresses, lessening as they ascend, and surmounted with pinnacles. The W. front is richly decorated with 11 canopied niches, only 2 retaining mutilated statues. The chancel is poor, but there is a S. chapel with a pedimented doorway which deserves notice. A screen of Hamhill stone divides the nave and chancel. The panelled roof is ornamented with red and white roses indicating the date. The woodwork is excellent. In the churchyard is a mutilated cross, of rich design.

This parish is united with that of *Clifton Maubank*, 1 m. W. The *ch.* has disappeared, together with the greater part of the mansion of the Horseys, of which this was the seat from the time of Rich. II., by marriage with the heiress of the Maubanks. The present house, of the end of the 15th cent., is only one wing of the original mansion. It has a rich open parapet along the front, and a good oriel window projecting from the end gable at a very unusual height, ornamented with the Tudor rose and the horses' heads of the Horseys. The front is divided by small turrets. The annexed buildings contain a loop-holed stair turret, and some original fire-places, and a good panelled door. Inigo Jones designed a gateway for the mansion which when the house was dismantled was removed to Hinton St. George (Rte 25). Some very rich panelled work was transported to Montacute House, where it forms an

ornamental screen connecting the wings (Rte. 27).

122½ m. YEOVIL Junction and
124 Yeovil (Rte. 21).

ROUTE 12.

**SOUTHAMPTON TO WEYMOUTH BY
WIMBORNE MINSTER, POOLE,
WAREHAM [CORFE CASTLE], AND
DORCHESTER [ABBOTSBURY].**

(*London and South-Western Railway.*)

[For the rly. from Southampton to Ringwood, see *Handbook to Hants*, Rte. 23.]

4 m. from Ringwood Station the rly. crosses the Moors river, which divides the counties, enters Dorsetshire, and crossing Hampreston Heath, one of the wild desolate heaths not wanting in many elements of the picturesque which characterize the S. E. part of the county, reaches at

38 m. l. Little Canford, in the rich valley of the Stour, and at

39½ m. WIMBORNE Stat. (The town lies ¾ m. N.W. Omnibuses meet every train.) (*Inns*: Railway Hotel; Crown; King's Head. Pop. of town, 2275; of parish, 4860.) The ancient town of Wimborne, more famous in the early West-Saxon annals than in later times, stands in a valley, the *Stour* flowing on the S. side of the town, and the *Allen* or *Win* to the E., joining the *Stour* a few yards above Canford Bridge. It is a clean, neat, and pleasant town. The Somerset and Dorset Rly. branches off here by Blandford to Temple Combe and Glastonbury, and joins the Great Western at Highbridge.

The *Minster*, which gives its name [*Wills, Dorset, &c.*]

to the town, is a cruciform building, with a Transition Norman tower of red sandstone (from quarries near Ringwood) at the intersection, and a second tower of Perp. date (1448) at the W. end of the nave. These towers group most picturesquely from nearly every point of view, and give the church a majesty of outline hardly warranted by its size. The double use to which it was applied is indicated, as Mr. Petit remarks, by its form. The central tower of the true minster type, and the western tower of ordinary parochial character, point at once to its twofold purpose as a collegiate and parish church. The structure is one of great singularity and beauty, and will repay a lengthened examination. It has suffered restoration, which, however commendable, has wiped out the charm of antiquity.

The history is soon told. It was founded as a nunnery by Cuthberga, sister of King Ina, c. 700. Ethelred was buried here in 871. One of the nuns, who had been carried off and married by Alfred's nephew, the pretender Ethelwald, was deserted by him here, on his flight, A.D. 901, and restored to her convent. Secular canons took the place of the nuns before the Conquest: the change is attributed to Edward the Elder, c. 920. It continued a collegiate ch. till the Reformation. In 1517 it had Reginald Pole (afterwards cardinal and archbp.), then a lad of 17, as its dean. The existing foundation of 3 priests, with a staff of singing men and choristers, dates from the time of Elizabeth.

The original Norman ch. consisted of a nave of 4 bays and a choir of 2, and transepts of only half the present projection. Of this remain the lantern arches, the piers of the nave, and the clerestory brought to light during the late repairs, together with the walls of the transept and choir. Both of these last have been extended. The singular cylindrical staircase

turret, now projecting into the N. trans., stood originally at its N.W. angle.

The *Central Tower*, of Trans. Norman, later than the piers which support it, was originally surmounted by a stone spire, which fell in 1600. It forms a very noble open lantern of 2 stories within. The pinnacles and battlements were added after the fall of the spire. The Western Tower, though well proportioned, is of a commonplace type, and has no elaborate workmanship.

The *Nave* contains 3 pointed Trans. arches richly set with zigzag mouldings, set on earlier piers. The original clerestory may be traced above. The present clerestory is of square-headed Perp. windows; the small arch immediately W. of the tower marks the site of the rood-loft, the choir having been, as was usual in Norman churches, under the lantern. Two late Dec. or Perp. bays complete the nave to the W. A lunar orrery at the W. end of the nave displays the moon's phases. A quarter-boy notes the lapse of time with his hammer and bell.

The most striking part of the interior is the *Lantern*. This is Transitional, of two stories, erected on earlier piers and arches. "The small height of the ch.," says Mr. Petit, "which brings this lantern nearer to the eye, perhaps gives it a grandeur we do not equally recognise in loftier buildings. I do not know an interior more striking in its effect than this portion of Wimborne Minster." Above the lantern the squinches of the spire are still to be seen. The S. window of the trans. is very good Dec. The N. transept was known as Dean Brembre's chantry, or *Death's Aisle*, a figure of Death having been painted on the walls.

The *Choir* is raised on a vaulted crypt, constructed in the Dec. style, beneath the existing E.E. work (compare St. Joseph's Chapel at Glastonbury). The walls of the two first

bays are Norman, the eastern extension E. E. The eastern window (filled with rich glass from Italy, given by the Bankes family) is one of great singularity and beauty: "a good example of plate tracery, showing germs of tracery of the developed type. It is, I suppose, unique." *J. L. P.* The clerestory of the choir is modern. The S. chapel is known as the *Trinity Aisle*: the N. chapel as *St. George's Aisle*. The choir was fitted with screens and stalls of rich Jacobean work, erected in 1608, to replace those crushed by the fall of the spire. It is greatly to be deplored that in the late repair the supposed necessities of a parish ch. led to the removal of the gates at the W. end of the choir, and the lowering and reconstruction of the very interesting and almost unique examples of church fittings. The sedilia and piscina are very good. On the S. side of the choir is a fine altar-tomb with an effigy of John Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, grandson of John of Gaunt, d. 1444, and Margaret Beauchamp, his wife, erected by their daughter, the Lady Margaret Tudor, mother of Henry VII., who founded a chantry at the E. end of the S. aisle. Opposite is another altar-tomb to Gertrude, Marchioness of Exeter, d. 1556, mother of Edward Courtenay, last E. of Devonshire. In the pavement near the altar a monumental brass with a regal effigy is said to mark the burial-place of "St. Æthelred, King of the West Saxons, A.D. 873," restored c. 1600. There is also a fine Jacobean monument, removed to the N. choir aisle, to Sir Edward Uvedale, d. 1606. In the same aisle is a mutilated effigy of a mailed knight. Note in the S. chancel aisle also the tomb of Anthony Etrick, the magistrate who committed the Duke of Monmouth after his capture at Woodlands. Etrick was buried in a slate coffin above ground, half-way through the S. wall of the aisle, having, so goes the tale, charged his

heirs to bury him "neither in the church nor out of it." In the same aisle is the slab of Dean Berwick, d. 1312. Two daughters of Daniel Defoe, one of whom had married an excise-man here, lie buried in the centre of the N. aisle. The brass eagle bears date 1623. There is a chest hollowed out of a solid oak tree. A fine stone pulpit has been erected in the minster at the cost of H. Gerard Sturt, Esq., M.P.

To the S. is the *Vestry*, a groined room with sexpartite vaulting, above which is an ancient *library*. The visitor will remark the iron rods to which the volumes were attached by the chains. Among other curious books there is a MS. of the 'Directorium Pastorale,' containing on the fly-leaf the date 1343; a very early example of the use of Arabic numerals. A copy of Raleigh's 'History of the World' has a hole burnt through the leaves from end to end, the result, it is said, of an unlucky spark which fell on the volume while Matthew Prior, then a schoolboy of the place, was nodding over the volume by the light of a candle secretly smuggled in.

The total length of the ch. is 184 ft.; that of the transepts 107 ft. The width of the nave and aisles is 53 ft.; the height of the central and western towers to the battlements is 80 ft. and 87 ft. respectively.

The *Grammar School*, founded by Lady Margaret, Countess of Richmond, and re-established by Q. Elizabeth, occupies a handsome pile of Elizabethan buildings, erected 1851. The Rev. John Lewis, the historian of the Isle of Thanet and of Wicliff, and Matthew Prior, the poet (born at Abbot St., 1 m. from Wimborne: *Wilson's Defoe*, iii. 646), were scholars of this school.

[Wimborne is a good centre from which the tourist may visit *Canford Manor*, *Kingston Lacy*, the camp at *Badbury Rings*, *Charborough Park*, and *Monmouth's Ash*.

1 m. S. of Wimborne Stat., approached by pleasant green meadows by the side of the Stour, is

Canford Manor, the seat of Sir Ivor Bertie Guest, Bart., an Elizabethan mansion, built by Blore, in 1826-1836, for Lord de Mauley, and in part reconstructed by Sir C. Barry for Sir John Guest in 1848. It occupies the site of the mansions of the Longespées and Montacutes, Earls of Salisbury, of which the kitchens, usually called John-of-Gaunts, but really of the 16th century, still stand, with 2 stupendous fireplaces and curious chimney shafts. The old house was chiefly pulled down in 1765, and the house then erected, that has given place to the present splendid structure, became in 1804 the residence of a society of Teresan nuns from Belgium. The tower entrance is remarkably striking, and the hall, with a timber roof, is lofty and well proportioned. The dining-room and the whole of the S. front are by Blore, the remainder of the mansion by Sir Charles Barry. It is interesting, as the best example of his treatment of a large Gothic house, and as a proof how perfectly real comfort and convenience can be united with architectural grandeur. A gallery, connected with the house by a conservatory, is devoted to a series of Assyrian winged lions and bulls, bas-reliefs, &c., sculptures brought from Nineveh, and presented to Sir J. Guest, by Mr. Layard. The gardens are much admired, and beyond them are fir-woods intersected by drives which reach nearly to Poole. The manor, once held by John of Gaunt, has peculiar privileges, extending over the river from Blandford to the sea, and giving right to a fishery, which is exercised once a-year, under the name of the "Royal Draft," or "Hawl." The ivy-mantled *Church*, which stands in the garden, is a small but curious building, with some Norman features, particularly the tower. In the chancel are mo-

numents by *Bacon* to the Willetts of Merly.

Merly House, W. L. Adye, Esq., was built 1752–60 by Ralph Willett, Esq., from a design of his own in the Vitruvian style. He decorated the Library, containing a well-chosen collection of books, with arabesques and frescoes illustrative of the rise of religion and literature, including Zoroaster, Confucius, Osiris, Manco Capac, Mahomet, and Moses, and “the venerable author of our own most excellent religion.” It stands rt. of the Poole road, 1 m. from Wimborne, and contains 30 pictures and sketches in oil by *Hogarth*, particularly the sketches of the ‘*Marriage à la Mode*,’ of which the finished pictures are in the National Gallery. 2 *Albert Durers*, Adam and Eve and Melancholia, and a very beautiful *Paul Potter*.

2 m. N.W. from Wimborne, on the upper road to Blandford, a road bounded by elms of remarkable size and beauty, is

Kingston Lacy, seat of the *Bankes* family, one of the oldest (of commoners) in England. The house, once the residence of James Duke of Ormond, built by Sir Ralph Bankes 1663, and restored by Barry, is a very stately mansion of stone, with lofty apartments, and a staircase of white marble. The doors have marble frames. Here are preserved the key and seal of Corfe Castle, so gallantly defended by Lady Bankes; some beautiful vases, and a small but choice collection of Italian and Spanish paintings, collected with great discrimination and success by the late W. J. Bankes, Esq. “The paintings of the English and Flemish schools have been long in the family—many of them ever since they were painted.”

—*Waagen*. The frames of some of the pictures are skilfully carved. No collection in England has so many valuable pictures of the Spanish schools. In the rich and tastefully adorned *Spanish room*, having walls

covered with gilt leather, and of which the ceiling came from the *Contarini* palace at Venice, the central compartment containing the apotheosis of an aged saint by *P. Veronese*, are—*Velasquez*: Philip IV., a whole length, very fine; 2. Philip’s family, stiffly draped infants, in front a dog, in the background the painter (the original sketch of the celebrated “*las Meninas*” in the Madrid Gallery): 3. Head of Cardinal Borgia, Archbishop of Seville:—*Spagnoletto*: St. Augustine:—*Murillo*: St. Augustine receiving inspiration from heaven; an angel holding a cardinal’s hat over his head, an admirable picture; a portion cut out of a larger picture, found in the knapsack of a dead French soldier in Spain: *Sta. Rosa* and the infant Saviour:—*Orrentes*: Moses and the Burning Bush: 2. David and the lion:—*Zurbaran*: *Sta. Justa*, a whole-length, fine:—*Rebatta*: Virgin and Child with angels:—*Morales*: Christ scourged:—*Espinosa*: portrait of Francisco Vives (with a dog), a whole length. In the *Saloon*—*Rubens*: two fine whole-length portraits of the Marchese Brigetta Spinola, as the bride of the Doge Doria, and Maria Grimaldi, brought from Genoa:—*Giorgione*: the Judgment of Solomon, an unfinished sketch from the *Marescalchi* Palace, Bologna, “incomparably the most important of the whole collection”—*Waagen*:—*Titian*: Portrait of Marchese di Savorgnano, “of masterly and careful execution,” Venus surrounded with jewelry, and the motto “*Omnia Vanitas*”:—*Vandyck*: Charles I.; Queen Henrietta Maria; Prince of Wales (afterwards Charles II.); Duke of York (afterwards James II.); Princess Mary (afterwards Princess of Orange); Princes Rupert and Maurice (?); Sir John and Lady Borlase; Richard Weston, Earl of Portland:—*Raphael*: attributed by *Waagen* to Giulio Romano, Virgin and Child, with St. John; in the late manner of the artist; the picture bears the mark

of King Charles I., and was brought from the Escorial:—*Laurence*: Mrs. Reddell and Lady Falmouth:—*Salvator Rosa*: Mr. Altham as a hermit in a desert:—*Greuze*: a child reposing on its pillow; full of sweetness and innocence:—*Corn. Jansen*: Ralph Hawtrey and his lady (parents of Lady Bankes):—*Sir P. Lely*: a Magdalen; Mrs. Middleton (a duplicate is at Hampton Court); Sir Ralph Bankes; Lady Jenkinson; Lady Cullen; Mrs. Gilly; Mr. Stafford; Mr. Brune; Betterton, as Tamelane (a drawing):—James, the great Duke of Ormond, who died at Kingston Lacy, 1688; Lord Chancellor Clarendon; and Sir John Bankes, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. *Dining-room*—*Guido*: a ceiling-picture of Dawn sending forth Day and Night; “colossal figures of great power of colour”:—*Tintoretto*: Apollo and the Muses:—*Drawing-room, Berghem*: A hilly landscape, “a stately picture.” The house contains numerous works of art besides pictures, including a variety of unrivalled wood carvings, marbles, bronzes, and paintings in arabesque. In the park stands an Egyptian obelisk, transferred to this site from the island of Philæ, whence it was removed by Belzoni. Its base was laid by the Duke of Wellington in 1827.

Dr. Johnson visited Kingston in company with Reynolds, and astonished its master with his uncouth gestures. “The conversation turning on pictures, which he could not well see, he retired to a corner of the room, stretching out his right leg as far as he could before him, then bringing up his left leg, and stretching his right leg still further on. Mr. Bankes observing him, went up to him, and in a very courteous manner assured him that though it was not a new house, the flooring was perfectly safe. The Doctor started from his reverie like a person wakened out of his sleep, but spoke not a word” (*Boswell*, p. 42).

1½ m. further on is the camp of *Badbury Rings*. This earthwork, planted with firs, and set as a crown upon the point of a naked hill, long rivets the attention of a traveller approaching it from the W. It is formed by 3 concentric rings or ramparts, each with its exterior ditch, the outermost a mile in circumference, wide spaces intervening between the lines of fortification. From the top the panoramic view embraces the Needles and cliffs of Alum Bay, the high land of Purbeck, the woods of Kingston Lacy and Charborough, and the glistening reaches of the Stour. This entrenchment stands on a Roman road which ran hither from Old Sarum, but it was originally a British work. It is identified by Dr. Guest with the famous “Mons Badonicus,” the site of the great victory gained by the Britons under Arthur over Cerdic and the Anglo-Saxons, A.D. 520, by which the triumphant progress of the invaders westward received a serious check. (See the ‘Early English Settlements,’ Salisbury vol. of the Archæological Institute.) After the death of Alfred the Great his son Edward the Elder encamped in it. Ethelwald the Pretender had seized Wimborne, but on Edward’s approach he abandoned it, and eventually joined the Danes in Northumbria.

Several other seats are situated at some distance round Wimborne:—to the W. 3 m. *Henbury House*, C. J. Parke, Esq.; and *the Knowle*, St. J. Coventry, Esq.; 6 m. *Lytchet House*, W. Fryer, Esq.; 5 m. *Ensbury*, J. H. Austen, Esq.; and

8 m. W. *Charborough Park*, J. S. W. S. Erle Drax, Esq., was the ancient seat of the Erles, burnt in the Parliamentary wars, and rebuilt by Sir Walter Erle 1720, containing on the ceiling of the staircase a painting of the Judgment of Paris, by *Thornhill*, who was a native of Weymouth. In the park is an obelisk, a conspicuous

object for miles around, and a small building with an inscription recording that under its roof, in 1686, the plan of the Revolution was concerted. The Erles were a very ancient family. Their present direct male representatives are the Rt. Hon. Sir W. Erle, and his brothers.

Drax was an old Yorkshire family. Col. Drax, an adherent of the King's party in the civil wars, retired to Barbadoes 1647, where he married the daughter of the Earl of Carlisle, the proprietor of the island, and amassed a large fortune. One of his descendants married the heiress of the Erles, and was made secretary to Frederick, Prince of Wales, 1744.]

[To the N. 2 m. is *High Hall*, on the Allen; 3 m. *Uddens House*, Sir Edw. Greathed; and *Gaunt's House*, Sir Richard Glyn, Bart., supposed to have belonged to John of Gaunt; and *More Criche*, H. Gerard Sturt, Esq., a fine well-wooded place, formerly belonging to the Napiers, now to the Sturts, burnt 1742, rebuilt by Sir W. Napier, and greatly enlarged by Humphrey Sturt, occupied by George IV. when Regent in 1802; 6 m. the *Woodlands* estate, Earl of Shaftesbury, on which the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth was captured, July, 1685; and 7½ m., near Cranborne, *St. Giles's House*, seat of the Earl of Shaftesbury. (Rte. 8).

The circumstances attending the capture of the Duke of Monmouth are thus narrated. Having separated from his companions near Wood-yates inn, where they had been forced to abandon their horses, the Duke, disguised as a peasant, hastened towards the recesses of the New Forest. Pressed by his pursuers, he took refuge in some fields called the "Island," in the midst of a heath, in the parish of Horton. The soldiers soon arrived, and, being informed by a woman that she had seen a stranger lurking in the covert, they searched diligently till night-

fall, but without success. The next morning, however, when on the point of departure, one of the troop espied the Duke in a ditch, half concealed by the fern. He was immediately seized and carried before a magistrate, one Anthony Ettricke of Holt. He was conveyed under a strong guard to Ringwood, and thence to London. The ash-tree under which he was discovered still stands on the Woodlands estate, in a field called *Monmouth's Close*. It is scored with the names of numerous visitors.]

[*Horton*, 6 m. N.E., was a cell to Sherborne. *Horton Park*, once the seat of the Sturts, now belongs to the Earl of Shaftesbury, and is occupied by a farmer. The *Ch.* is a quaint-looking structure, almost rebuilt 1720. In the vestry under the tower is the monument of the notable "Squire Hastings," d. 1650, aged 99, the son of George Earl of Huntingdon, the original of the well-known character drawn of him by Lord Shaftesbury, and inscribed beneath his portrait at St. Giles's. *Woodlands*, 1½ m., was his residence; now all pulled down except some portions of the stables and offices.

On an eminence S. of the village of Horton stands the "Observatory," or Tower built by Humphrey Sturt, Esq. It commands an extensive and beautiful view.]

To proceed on our route:—

From Wimborne Stat. the rly. runs due south, and leaving Canford Manor on the l. and Merly House on the rt., runs over broad black heathy hills, thinly scattered over with firs, crosses the Blackwater, and approaches by an abrupt curve the inlet of *Holes Bay*, *Lytchet Beacon* appearing conspicuously on the rt., to 45½ m. *Poole Junction Stat.*, whence it throws off an arm across the triangular tongue of land dividing Wareham Harbour W., and Holes Bay E.,

on which is the village of *Hamworthy*, the ch. of which, destroyed in the Parliamentary wars, was rebuilt 1826, to

47½ *Poole Stat.*, which, situated on the shore of Poole harbour, an extensive estuary, that has been scooped out by the sea in the yielding tertiary sands and clays, at a comparatively recent period, commands an uninterrupted view of this estuary and its beautiful islands, of the wide heaths which encompass them, and of the bold chalk range, which, enclosing S. Purbeck like a wall, has a deep cleft in its centre, in which are seen the ruins of Corfe Castle, standing like sentinels in a gateway. Crossing by a bridge a branch of the water which expands into another inlet called *Hole's Bay*, the traveller enters

POOLE (*Inns*: London Hotel; Antelope. Pop. 6815.) Poole is an old town of red brick, reminding the traveller of such seaports as Sheerness and Portsmouth. It is an intricate cluster of houses, pierced by a High-street a mile in length, and terminated towards the water by capacious quays well lined with shipping. Poole is the principal seaport of the county. Its trade for a long period was chiefly with Newfoundland, and thence to the Mediterranean; but this declined immediately on the fall of Napoleon I., and is now nearly extinct. Its chief activity now is in the coasting trade: its imports being timber, grain, and coal, and its exports potters' clay—about 60,000 tons are sent annually to Staffordshire, London, Seville, Stockholm, and Dordt—and pitwood (fir), for Wales and the North, about 4000 tons annually. On the opening of the Somerset and Dorset Railway connecting Poole and Bristol, a steamer ran regularly to Cherbourg (now discontinued), which brought in a considerable number of live stock, poultry, and eggs, and car-

ried back some quantity of cotton, tin, and iron. The average number of vessels entering the port during the last 10 years has been about 1300, with a registered tonnage of 90,000. Shipbuilding is also carried on, and Mr. Wanhill has acquired considerable reputation for the speed of his yachts. Within the last few years potteries have sprung into active operation. At Saltern Lake, in Poole Harbour, is the S.W. pottery for drain-pipes; at Hamworthy, an architectural pottery; and one for sanitary pipes, &c., at the W. end of Branksea Island, all of which will well repay a visit.

The name of Poole does not appear in Anglo-Saxon or Norman times. The first notice of it is William Longespée's charter, long before which however it must have existed. By 1224, an embargo laid by Hen. III. on all vessels lying in the port of Poole, amongst others, proves that it was a place of considerable maritime resort. The town supplied 4 ships and 94 men to Ed. III. for the siege of Calais. It suffered fearfully in 1349 from the "black death," the victims of which were buried on the projecting slip of land known as "the Baiter." Leo von Rosenthal, brother-in-law of the K. of Bohemia, embarked here on his return to Germany between 1645 and 1647. In 1483 the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Hen. VII., was off Poole with the idea of landing to raise the W. of England, but finding the shores too strongly guarded, made off again.

Poole was much decayed in the time of Leland, who speaks of it as "a poore fisshar village."

At the outbreak of the Civil Wars, Poole declared zealously for the Parliament, and proved a very troublesome neighbour to the adjacent country. In Aug. 1642 it was summoned in the king's name by the Marquis of Hertford, but the determined spirit of the townsmen forced him to retire. In 1643 the garrison,

aided by that of Wareham, defeated Lord Inchiquin's Irish regiment, and 2 days afterwards carried off 3000*l.* that Prince Rupert was despatching to Weymouth.

The same year it had part in the unsuccessful attempt upon Corfe Castle (see *post*), as it had in its capture under Col. Bingham in 1646. In August, 1643, Prince Maurice determined to attack the town, but found its preparations too formidable to venture the enterprise. The next month the townsmen found means to decoy the Earl of Crawford who was left in command and his men, under fire, to their grievous loss, the earl narrowly escaping with his life. In March, 1644, they had their share of disasters, when Sir Thos. Aston, having fallen on 120 of the Parliamentary horse, drove them with great loss into the very port of Poole, laughing at the cannon balls and bullets that were raining thick upon them from the walls. This disaster was retrieved the following October, when the governor attacked 100 of the Queen's horse, and took 40 prisoners with 2 colours.

Upton, 2 m. W., formerly the seat of the Hileys, was, according to constant family tradition, one of the places of refuge of Charles II. after the battle of Worcester.

After the Restoration, Poole had the honour of entertaining Charles II. during the time the court had removed from London to Salisbury to avoid the plague in 1665. Another royal visitor was Charles X. of France, who landed here Aug. 23, 1830, and passed on to Lulworth Castle.

From the position of this town on a labyrinth of creeks, it afforded convenient shelter in former times to a number of very questionable characters, who obtained a living from the sea by other modes than lawful commerce or fishing. Hence it acquired a considerable notoriety, and

became the subject of the following doggrel—

"If Poole was a fish-pool, and the men of Poole fish,
There'd be a pool for the devil, and fish for his dish."

One of the most daring and successful of English buccaneers was *Harry Page* of Poole, or, as he was more commonly called, *Arripay*. His enterprises were principally directed against the coasts of France and Spain, where he committed great havoc. On one occasion he brought home 120 prizes from the coast of Brittany. He is said to have "scoured the channel of Flanders so powerfully that no ship could pass that way without being taken." He ravaged the coast of Spain, burnt Gijon, and carried off the crucifix from Finisterre. At last, in 1406, an expedition was fitted out by the Kings of France and Spain against him, under the command of *Pero Nino*, Count of Buelna. It sailed along our southern shores, destroying as opportunity offered, until it reached Poole. Here it landed, and a battle ensued, in which the inhabitants, after a brave resistance, were worsted, and forced to retire, leaving the brother of *Arripay* among the slain. The enemy returned to the ships with some plunder and a few prisoners, and sailed towards Southampton.

The same dauntless spirit subsequently displayed itself in other romantic adventures. In 1694 *Peter Jolliffe*, captain of a small hoy, attacked a French privateer three times his strength which had captured an English fishing-boat off Weymouth, forced her to give up her prize, and drove her on shore near Lulworth. For this exploit he received a gold chain and medal from William III. The next year *William Thompson*, master of a fishing-boat, with only a man and a boy, got the better of a privateer of Cherbourg, with 16 men, which was preparing to attack him,

and brought her safely into Poole harbour, receiving also a gold chain and medal from the Lords of the Admiralty. Nov. 5, 1797, the brig "General Wolfe," of Poole, having been taken by a French privateer, the mate, his man, and a boy, rose against their captors, overpowered them, and brought the brig into Cork harbour. The audacity and determination with which smuggling was carried on along this coast was such that it was with difficulty checked by the Government after a most desperate resistance, marked by some hideous atrocities. The task was rendered more difficult by the wideness of its ramifications, and the large number of respectable people who were involved in the illegal traffic.

Poole furnishes very little to interest the passing stranger.

The *Ch.*, an uninviting building, erected in 1820, contains a monument to Captain J. Jolliffe, the Poole hero. Among the incumbents was Thomas Hancock, a bold preacher of the doctrines of the Reformation in Edward VI.'s reign, whose autobiography has been published by the Camden Society in 'Nichols' Narratives of the Reformation.' Among the natives of Poole we may notice the Rev. John Lewis, author of 'The History of Thanet,' &c., and Prof. Thos. Bell, the naturalist. *Knap*, the author of the well-known Psalm tune "Wareham," d. 1768, was parish clerk of Poole. The large-hearted dissenter J. Angell James of Birmingham, born at Blandford, was apprenticed to a draper here. The antiquary may be interested by an old gateway of the time of Richard III., and by the long low buttressed building at the quay called the *Town Cellar*, or *Wool-house*. In the *Town Library, Literary and Scientific Institute* there is a *Museum*, which contains among other things a good collection of Purbeck fossils, and some specimens of the rarer wild fowl shot in the harbour.

The *Town-house*, built 1822, contains a portrait of Charles II. in his robes of state.

Poole is situated in the neighbourhood of extensive heaths, and all the higher grounds command a prospect of great beauty, seen in perfection when the tide fills the numerous inlets. On the one side there is the sea, on the other the estuary, and beyond it the purple moors extending to the downs. The suburb of *Parkstone*, on the road to Bournemouth, is a very lovely spot, and on the high levels and spurs of the hills many beautiful villas are erected, and claiming a climate equal to Bournemouth. At Springfield (W. Pearce, Esq.) is a good collection of ancient and modern paintings.

[Several delightful excursions can be made, viz.—to *Brownsea Island*, *Corfe Castle*, *Creech Barrow*, the *Agglestone*, *Studland*, *Bindon Abbey*, and *Lulworth Castle*. *Bournemouth* and *Wimborne Minster* may also be visited, and the *Isle of Purbeck* (Rte. 16), by a walk round the coast, returning by rail from the Wool Stat. During the summer a steamer runs daily to Swanage and back.

The harbour of Poole is a beautiful and capacious estuary, resembling at high water an inland lake, which branches in every direction into the heaths which surround it. It opens into a bay bounded at Studland N. by the bastion-like promontory called the *Nodes*. Beyond this point are the rocks called *Old Harry's Wife*, and *Old Harry*. Further round the Foreland is a headland perforated by a rugged archway called *Old Harry's Gate*, then the lofty cavern styled the *Parson's Barn*, and beyond, the insulated needle called the *Pinnacle Rock*. *Ballard Head* forms the N. horn of Swanage Bay; the oolitic promontory of *Peteril Point* and *Durlston Head* the S. This interesting chalk range, together with Poole Bay and its islands, is best seen from

the steamer which runs in summer between Poole and Swanage. The direction and narrowness of the mouth give rise to the phenomenon of 2 tides in the time commonly allotted to one. The retreating water runs against the ebb tide of the Channel; it is driven back and kept ponded in the estuary, until, by its accumulation and the abatement of the Channel current, it obtains an exit. But the rise and fall are very irregular, and even the sailors of the place can never predict with certainty the time of high water. The chief ornament of Poole harbour is

Brownsea or *Branksea Island*, a romantic cluster of lonely hillocks and glens, once belonging to Cerne Abbey, and the abode of a hermit. It was long used as a deer-park by the families who formerly possessed it. Sombre fir-woods clothe its sides, and at its extreme point E. stands *Brownsea Castle*, first erected as a defence for the harbour in the reign of Hen. VIII., strongly fortified during that of Charles I. by the Parliament, but since occupied as a family residence. A few years ago Brownsea Island was sold to Colonel Waugh, afterwards notorious for his connection with the "Royal British Bank," so disastrous to himself and others, who, after his purchase, found it to consist mainly of a deposit of potter's clay, in places 70 ft. deep, and in great part fit for use in Staffordshire. Pits were opened here to a large extent. Potteries, a pier, and a tramroad, were constructed; and a village and Gothic church built for the men employed. Colonel Waugh also added 100 acres to the island by embankment, and made other improvements. After his defalcation, the estate was offered for sale by order of the Court of Chancery, and is now in the hands of the mortgagees. The little E.E. chapel of *Arne* (4 m. from Wareham) stands on a promontory running out into the mud-lands of the estuary, and

terminating in a long narrow tongue of land known as *Patchins* or *Pagan's Point*. On the top of the hill is a barrow formerly used as a beacon, commanding an extensive view.

Corfe Castle may be visited from Poole. The ruins stand 2½ m. from *Wych Passage*, the usual landing place; and 4 m. from *Ower Passage*. Ower was for a considerable period the principal port of the Isle of Purbeck, and the chief if not the only quay for the shipping of stone and marble.]

After leaving Poole Junction Stat. the rly. crosses Lytchet Bay on a long timber viaduct; a little beyond which there is a fine view of the Purbeck Hills, with Corfe Castle crowning its mound in the gap. It runs across a richly-tinted moorland, close to the shore of the bay, to

50½ m. WAREHAM Stat. Close to the stat. l. are the deserted works of the company formed for utilizing the Kimmeridge bituminous earths.

Wareham (*Inns*: Red Lion, Bear. Pop. 3076), a municipal and parliamentary borough, docked of one of its 2 representatives by the Reform Act of 1832, is a town of remote antiquity, whose magnificent quadrangular earthworks stood the brunt of many a Danish invasion; it stands astride on the ridge between the rivers Frome, S., and Piddle, N., just above their junction, and a short distance from where their united waters fall into Poole Harbour, at Frome-mouth name occurring more than once in (a the A.-S. Chronicle), and forms the outpost and key of Purbeck, as Corfe does its citadel. War or Var, from which it derives its name, seems to have been the Celtic name of the river Frome.

It is a neat place, with spacious airy streets intersecting it in the direction of the cardinal points, and respectable-looking brick houses; but it does not show much life or ani-

mation, or offer many objects to detain the tourist. The area within the ramparts of about 100 acres, is "a world too wide" for the "shrunk" dimensions of the modern town, and much of it has been ever since Leland's time occupied by gardens.

S. of the town runs the *Frome*, the boundary of the Isle of Purbeck, and navigable as far as this. It has a salmon-fishery, let on lease by the proprietors. Above the river stood the castle, the site of which is still pointed out as the *Castle Close*.

In Saxon times it was already a place of note, and it is said that Beohtric King of Wessex was buried here A.D. 800. During the period of the Danish invasions those piratical marauders continually landed at Wareham, and made it their headquarters. In 1015 Canute entered the Frome and having ravaged Dorset, Somerset, and Wilts, and plundered Cerne Abbey, returned hither, and sailed thence to Brownsea. At the time of the Domesday survey the unfortunate town was in very sunken fortunes, but it revived again under the rule of the Conqueror, who appointed 2 mint masters here, the same number it had in the time of Athelstan. The strength of its position brought much misery on the inhabitants during the struggle between Stephen and the Empress Maud. It was seized for the latter by Robert of Lincoln in 1138, and taken and burnt by Stephen in 1142 during the temporary absence of the Earl of Gloucester, who on his return with young Prince Henry, then a boy of 9, retook the town and castle, the latter after an obstinate defence of 3 weeks. In 1146, when Prince Henry was forced to leave the kingdom, he took ship here for Anjou. After this the poor town seems to have enjoyed a breathing time. John landed here in 1205, and again 11 years later. In 1213 Peter of Pomfret, the mad hermit, who had foretold the king's deposition, was brought out of his

prison at Corfe, and after being dragged through the streets of the town was hanged and quartered here.

During the Civil Wars it again became an object of contention between the two parties, being repeatedly taken and retaken after its first occupation for the Parliament in 1642. The townspeople were chiefly loyal to the Crown. Their "dreadful malignancy" was used as an argument by Sir Anth. Ashley Cooper for the complete destruction of the town. The ruin averted then was accomplished 120 years later,—July 25, 1762,—when nearly the whole town was consumed by fire; but two years after it rose from its ashes "fairer than before."

There are some small remains of the *Priory* founded by Aldhelm, Bp. of Sherborne, d. 709, between St. Mary's Ch. and the river. The Castle Hill at the S.W. angle of the town above the Frome marks the site of the stronghold in which Robert de Belesme, Earl of Montgomery, one of the most zealous supporters of Duke Robert's claims, was imprisoned and starved to death b Hen. I., 1114.

The walls are of remote antiquity, and are probably of British construction, but were much altered and strengthened by the Parliament during the Civil Wars. On the W. side is the "Bloody Bank," so called from the execution of some of the insurgents in Monmouth's rebellion by order of Judge Jeffreys.

Wareham is said to have had 8 churches, 3 of which remain, though only 1 (St. Mary's) is used for its original purpose. *St. Martin's*, picturesquely covered with ivy, stands on the bank to the l. on entering the town. *Trinity* at the S. end is used as a school.

St. Mary's Ch. is worth examination. The body was rebuilt in 1841; the tower and chancel are remains of the former structure. The chief objects of interest are the very cu-

rious hexagonal leaden font, adorned with figures of the Apostles, of the 12th centy.; the double S.E. chapel, with its effigies; and the inscribed stones, supposed to belong to a ch. of primæval antiquity, built into the new walls. One of these last, at the E. end of the N. aisle, has been read "Catug consecravit Deo." An Armorican bp. of that name was deputed by the prelates of Gaul, with Germanus, to visit Britain to withstand the Pelagian heresy, A.D. 430. The S.E. chapel will be viewed by the antiquary with great interest from the singularity of its construction. It is a low, vaulted room, with an E. window of 2 lights, piscina and aumbry, temp. Hen. III., and contains two cross-legged effigies, that to the S. probably that of Sir Wm. de Estoke, 1293, and a stone coffin. This is known as St. Edward's Chapel, and reproduces the little wooden chapel in which the body of Edward the Martyr was deposited after his murder at Corfe, in the same way as St. Joseph's Chapel at Glastonbury has succeeded to the small wattled church. Above this is a second chapel, entered by an E. E. door high up in the chancel wall, with a pointed window overlooking the high altar. A very remarkable small vaulted room, with piscina and sedilia, is formed within a massive buttress at the S.E. angle. At the outbreak of the Civil Wars Mr. Wm. Wake (grandfather of Abp. Wake), "an honest, merry, kind-hearted person; a good scholar, and a good soldier, and an excellent drum-beating parson," was rector here. For his hard treatment by the party in power see Walker's 'Sufferings of the Clergy.' There is also a monument to the Rev. John Hutchins, author of the elaborate county history of Dorset, formerly rector here.

[The following residences stand in the vicinity of Wareham: *Creech Grange*, Rev. Nath. Bond, below *Creech Barrow*; and *Encombe*, Lord

Eldon, 7 m.; S.W. *Smedmore*, J. C. Mansel, Esq., 8 m.; *Tynelam*, T. Bond, Esq., 8 m.; *Lulworth Castle*, Ed. J. Weld, Esq., 7 m., and *Lulworth Cove*, 10 m.; N. *Morden Park*, 4 m.; *Bloxworth House*, H. P. Cambridge, Esq., 5 m.; *Lytchet House*, W. Fryer, Esq., 6½ m.; and *Charborough House*, J. S. W. S. Erle Drax, Esq., 7 m. *Exacum filiforme*, or marsh centaury, a plant of some rarity, may be found on the surrounding heaths. About Stoborough and Arne the *Erica ciliaris* grows, almost to the exclusion of the more ordinary species of heath.]

[Wareham is the most convenient point for the tourist to diverge to visit Corfe Castle, Swanage, and the Isle of Purbeck (Rte. 16.) There is a daily omnibus from Wareham Station to Swanage, 10 m. Corfe Castle is distant 4 m. S. The road from Wareham runs direct over the desolate expanse of *Creech Heath*, formed of the lower Bagshot strata. Here *potter's-clay* is extracted from numerous pits, yielding annually thousands of tons, which are shipped to Staffordshire and Scotland, to Spain and Holland, and other parts of the world. Clay which will burn white instead of red is also largely raised for the manufacture of tobacco-pipes and stoneware. Above it is a bed of lignite, and veins of clay containing fossil leaves. The railway for the transit of this raw material to the water crosses the road (2 m. from Wareham), and leads on the rt. to one of the principal pits, which is about 60 ft. in depth, and provided with a steam-engine to raise the water and the clay. Above it is a very pretty scene. An abandoned excavation, forms a pool of emerald green water of which the sandy sides, tinted with rosy red, blue, and fawn colours, beautifully contrast with the sombre heath. Adjoining it are the slopes of

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Creech Barrow (*Creeg* in Welsh is

a great mound), which are pleasantly reached by this diversion to the pits. This is a tertiary hill, towering over all the other heights, and crowned by a few remains of the chief hunting-lodge of the Purbeck Forest. The view from the summit is perhaps the finest for colour in the W. of England, its predominant feature being an expanse of heath, which stretches from the sea to Lulworth Castle, a distance of 10 m. In combination with this are the silvery surfaces of Poole Harbour and its numerous ramifications; a background swelling up to Salisbury Plain, which is visible on the horizon; the blue sea and promontories of Portland, W. and the Needles, E.; and the rounded masses and grassy flanks of the downs themselves, which, terminating abruptly W. at Worbarrow Bay, and E. at Studland Bay, so completely isolate a part of Purbeck from the rest of the county. At the foot of the hill lies *Creech Grange*, the Tudor mansion of the Bonds, formerly a possession of the abbot of Bindon. It was built in the reign of Elizabeth by Sir Oliver Lawrence, and rebuilt in the old style in 1846. Sir Thomas Bond, of the Creech Grange family, gave his name to Bond St., London, which he built, writes Evelyn, "to his great undoing." He was a confidential friend of James II., and left England with him. There is a small chapel at Creech, built from fragments removed from the Priory of East Holme. In the distant woods to the W. is *Lulworth Castle*, seat of the family of Weld.

Descending from this airy height, a walk of 2 m. E. along the crest of the ridge, 369 ft. above the sea, will bring the traveller to that convenient gap which forms the gateway of Purbeck, where, in mid entrance, set as a coronet on a knoll, are the beetling walls and rocklike towers of Corfe Castle.

Corfe Castle derives its name from

the A. S. *ceorfan*, to cut; its original designation, *Corvesgate*, not referring to the gate of the castle, to the erection of which it is long anterior, but to the singular cut or cleft in the line of steep chalk hills which forms the boundary of the Isle of Purbeck, in the centre of which, on a minor eminence, the castle stands.

The earliest mention of Corfe is in connection with the murder of King Edward the Martyr, A.D. 978, "the foulest deed," as the A.-S. Chronicle designates it, "which was ever committed by the English since they came to Britain." No castle existed here then; but Elfrida, the Queen-Mother, had a "hospitium," or hunting lodge, on the site of the present edifice. According to the received tale (on which, however, no reliance is to be placed, as it is entirely mythical in its details: a ballad turned into history), Edward had been hunting in the neighbouring forest, and, having lost his attendants, and being wearied, he stopped at Elfrida's lodge to obtain a draught of wine. Whilst raising the goblet to his lips he received the fatal stab, some say from Elfrida herself. His horse, alarmed at the noise, dashed away on the gallop, and dragged the unfortunate prince by the stirrup to the spot where he was found dead and mutilated by the persons sent in search of him. Elfrida, however, reaped little benefit from her cruelty. She was haunted by the shadow of the murdered Edward, and died conscience-stricken at Wherwell which, with Ambresbury, she had founded in expiation of her crime. The ill-fated king's corpse was removed to Wareham (see *ante*), whence it was translated still uncorrupt to Shaftesbury.

We have no mention of a castle at Corfe till after the Norman Conquest, nor does it appear in the Domesday Record. The first notice of Corfe Castle is in the reign of Henry II., A.D. 1154, when, and in the following

reigns, sums appear in the royal accounts for repairs. It was a favourite residence with John. He used it for the safe custody of his treasure of his regalia, and his prisoners. After the suppression of his nephew Arthur's attempt on the throne by the capture of Mirabeau in Poitou, 24 of the 200 leading nobility and knights there taken and sent to England, were confined in Corfe Castle, where it is recorded all but two died of starvation. Here also were imprisoned Peter, the mad hermit of Pontefract (see *ante*, Wareham), and a fairer and nobler victim, Eleanor "the Damsel of Brittany," Prince Arthur's sister, whose possible claims on the English crown procured for her a lifelong captivity. She was immured for several years at Corfe, having as companions two daughters of William, King of Scotland, sent as hostages for peace. In the succeeding reign she was removed to Bristol, where she died, after a wearisome imprisonment of 40 years.

In the rebellion of Simon of Montfort this castle was held by the barons against Henry III. for five years. In 1326 it was for a short time the prison of Edward II., who was conveyed hence to Berkeley Castle, where he was murdered Sept. 21st. His keeper was Sir John Matravers. The castle was visited in 1356 by Edward III., in preparation for which extensive repairs were made. Passing over a couple of uneventful centuries, it was granted by Edward VI. to his uncle, Protector Somerset, and Elizabeth sold it to Sir Christopher Hatton. It was again sold 1635 to Sir John Bankes, Lord Chief Justice, the ancestor of the present owners, the family of Bankes of Kingston Lacy. On the outbreak of the great civil war, Sir John Bankes having been summoned to the king at York, his lady and children retired to this place for security. They remained here unmolested until 1643, when the parliamentary forces,

having captured the towns on the coast, took advantage of a customary stag-hunt on May-day to despatch a body of horse to surprise the castle; but their plans were discovered in time to close the gates. The committee of Poole, thus foiled, next demanded the surrender of the cannon which the fortress contained, and sent a body of sailors to enforce it; but Lady Bankes, assisted by her daughters, serving-men and women, contrived to mount one of these rude pieces and to fire it against the enemy, who was thus put to flight. She then summoned assistance by beat of drum. But the castle was without provisions or ammunition, and to obtain them she had to beguile the authorities at Poole by the pretence of a surrender. Having completed her arrangements she despatched messengers to Prince Maurice, who had advanced to Blandford, urgently pressing for assistance, when a Captain Lawrence was sent to take command. The parliamentary forces soon made their appearance. Horse and foot, they took post on the adjoining heights, and cannonaded the castle, but with little effect. On the 26th of June they made their grand attack. They came streaming up the hill, under the command of Sir Walter Erle and others, to the number of 600, and, favoured by a mist, obtained possession of the town. From all quarters they opened their fire, and advanced against the castle under cover of two engines called the "Boar" and the "Sow," vociferating that they would grant no quarter. The garrison, however, were not to be intimidated; and they not only returned with interest the musketry and shouts, but sallied from their walls with great success. But an additional force was now at hand to assist the Republicans. A large band of sailors came with peters and grenadoes to join in the assault, and the fight was continued. Twenty pounds were offered to the

first man who would scale the wall; strong liquors were distributed; and a brisk cannonade issued from the church, the leaden roof of which had been converted into balls. All rushed to the assault, carrying wild-fire in their hands, and ladders which they planted, but vainly strove to mount. On every side they were met by a shower of stones or hot embers. Their hopes waxed faint beneath this storm of missiles; the fumes of the wine evaporated, and they were at length compelled to abandon the enterprise. The same night, an alarm being raised that the king's forces were approaching, the siege was raised by Sir W. Erle, who speedily withdrew to Poole. In 1645 Corfe Castle was again besieged by Col. Bingham, and this time with a different result. A gallant resistance was made, but the stronghold was captured through the treachery of Lieut.-Col. Pitman, one of the officers of the garrison, who admitted a number of the enemy in disguise. The Parliament had no sooner gained possession than it ordered the building to be destroyed, and accordingly the towers and walls were undermined and partly blown up by gunpowder. The key and seal of the castle are still preserved at Kingston Lacy.

Corfe Castle occupies an irregular triangle, the walls following the crest of the hill, which descends almost vertically on the E., W. and N. sides. It is almost encircled by two brooks, uniting just below St. Edward's Bridge to form the Corfe River; the rest of the peninsula between the Castle and the town being defended by a deep dry trench. The northern or highest point of the hill is occupied by the keep and principal buildings. The *Great Gateway* caps the southern or lowest angle. The *Buttavant Tower* the western. The *Queen's Hall, or tower*, rises near the eastern angle. The area of about $3\frac{1}{4}$ acres is divided into three wards,—the

outer, by far the largest, the middle and inner ward. The architecture shows to a practised eye evidence of the three leading periods of its history, corresponding to the epoch of the Saxon "hospitium," the Norman castle, and Edwardian fortress.

The visitor approaches the ruin from the S. by a bridge of 4 arches, probably the work of Sir C. Hatton, thrown across the moat, and enters it through a gateway, grooved for portcullises, and with a remarkable cylindrical pipe with an opening in its side, originally formed for the working of a weight as the counterpoise of the drawbridge, on the principle of a modern sash-window, and flanked by 2 massive round towers pierced for arrows; erected, together with the greater part of the first ward, c. 1280. He then finds himself in the first ward, now a wide area of turf, enclosed by a line of ruinous walls and towers, resembling rather a chain of rocks than a work of human hands. From the main entrance the ground rises rapidly to that of the second ward, a fosse and a gateway similar to the first, where the force of the powder has produced a remarkable effect. The 1. hand tower has been moved bodily down the hill, but, although 9 ft. below its original position, it is still upright. The archway shows 2 grooves for portcullises. The lower ward or baily is traversed towards its upper part by a fosse, about 20 feet deep, attributed to King John, beyond which the ground rises precipitously into a rough cliff, on the edge of which hang the mossy towers of the keep, undermined and riven into fragments by the force of the powder, but still held together by the tenacity of the cement.

The S.W. front, to the 1. of the gateway, is the longest, extending 270 yards. The curtain of the lower ward was strengthened by 4 towers, now rent and shaken, huge fragments resting on the slope below. Beyond

the second gateway, also of Edward I.'s time, the curtain of the middle ward, strengthened by a semicircular tower in the centre of its length, runs to the octagonal *Buttant Tower*, which caps the western angle, and is a marked object in the outline of the castle. The curtain between these two towers displays rude herring-bone work, with three plain round-headed windows and the place of a fourth, closed by the exterior casing of the wall in the reign of Henry III. This wall is not improbably a fragment of the Anglo-Saxon palace the scene of Elfrida's treachery. The N. curtain of this ward also displays a half-round tower, as well as the seat and drain of a large garderobe under an arch in the wall. A corbel, once supporting a roof timber, is called by the country people "the gallows."

Returning to the great gateway: the east front, of almost 200 yards in length, is for the most part a mere curtain wall. At the S.E. angle stands the *Horse-Shoe Tower*, and further along the *Plukenet Tower* named from a well-preserved shield, on its outer face, supposed to commemorate Alan Plukenet, Constable of the Castle, 54th Henry III., 1270. Beyond this tower the wall shows regular Norman ashlar up to the *Gloriette Bastion*, the site of the tower of the same name, built by Richard II., which guarded the S.E. angle of the inner ward.

Passing through the middle gateway, a very fine structure of Edward the First's time, the road rises rapidly, and turning to the rt. reaches the entrance of the *Inner Ward*, which occupied the summit of the hill, and contained two gateways to the Norman keep, the Queen's Tower and offices, and a well. The keep was a quadrangular tower of pure Norman work of the time of Henry I., with an annexe to the S., rising from the precipitous face of the lower ward. This is assigned to Henry II., and contained garde-robcs. The stair,

9 ft. broad, is built against the W. face of the tower. Each floor contained a chamber 42 ft. by 28 ft., dark and comfortless.

E. of the keep is the *Queen's Tower*, a work of the latter part of the reign of Henry III. constructed on vaulted crypts, containing the *Queen's Hall* and *Chapel*. Some of the pointed windows of the Hall remain. The tracery is gone. They have deep arched recesses, and stone side seats. The *Chapel* runs across the Hall to the N. The door is excellent both in design and execution. A depression close to the east end of Hall is said to mark the castle *Well*, which must have been of great depth.

The destruction caused when the Castle was "slighted" by order of the Parliament 1645, probably exceeds anything of the kind known in England. Far more injury was perpetrated than was necessary for the object of making the castle untenable. The broken down walls of the keep are an astonishing spectacle, from the huge masses of the fragments, and the firmness of their cohesion. "They lie in the wildest confusion, and some considerable lumps have rolled down the slope, and, bounding across road and brook, rest half-buried in the turf beyond."

The visitor who wishes for fuller details should consult, for the general architectural history, the admirable essays of Mr. T. Bond and Mr. G. T. Clark in the '*Archæological Journal*,' vol. xxii.; and for the siege '*The Story of Corfe Castle*,' by the late Rt. Honourable G. Bankes.

The village of Corfe Castle (*Inns*: Ship, Talbot,) consists of a long street of picturesque stone-roofed cottages, and is chiefly inhabited by clay-cutters. The fine old mansion of the Dackhams contains some quaint carved-oak wainscotting. The *Ch.* was rebuilt a few years since, with the exception of the tower. The *Museum* of the Purbeck Society possesses specimens of the natural

history, geology, and antiquities of the district, and will repay a visit. Corfe Castle formerly returned two representatives to Parliament. It is now united to Wareham and Bere Regis, the joint constituency returning one member.

1½ m. W. is *Church Knowle*, in which parish stands the very interesting Edwardian house of *Barneston*, preserving the name of Bern, the Saxon thane, who owned it in the Confessor's time. The earliest portions are at the back. There is a handsome double oriel; and an oak-roofed hall, now divided into rooms.

Encombe, the seat of Lord Eldon, is situated by the sea, 3 m. S. *Rempton House*, of the Calcrafts, 2 m. E. towards Studland. *Swanage* is 6 m., and *Studland* 5 m. distant. The shortest route, and a most charming one, to *Lulworth Castle* is along the top of the downs, about 9 m. W. *Lulworth Cove* is 2½ m. further (Rte. 16). This range of downs is remarkably rich in barrows, cemeteries and earthworks.

A beautiful view of Corfe Castle is obtained from the road running up the hill towards Studland and the Agglestone. The walk along the summit of this ridge, over *Nine Barrow Down* (642 ft. high), is, in point of scenery, one of the finest things in the county.]

From Wareham the rly. runs along the valley of the Frome, and at 53½ m. passes close to East Stoke Church rt. and reaches

55½ m. *Wool Station*, where the traveller may halt to visit the ruins of *Bindon Abbey*, ½ m. E., and *Lulworth Castle*, 7 m. S. (Rte. 16). *Bere Regis* (Rte. 13), is 5 m. N. The view from Wool Bridge is very pleasing; it commands the woods and prospect-tower of Moreton. An old Manor House, now a farmhouse, stands close to the bridge on the l. bank of the river, where a barn on the rt. is raised on a basement of 11th century work. *Wool Church* is chiefly E.E. and Perp.

It contains a curious brown velvet pulpit-cloth embroidered with figures, probably made from a cope. Heth felton, 1¼ m. N., is the seat of the Fylers.

Bindon Abbey lies ½ m. E. of the stat., embowered in trees, among copious running streams which once fed the monks' fishponds. It was founded for Cistercians in 1172, by Roger de Newburgh and Matilda his wife. At the Dissolution it was granted to Thomas Lord Poynings, from whose heirs it descended to the Earl of Suffolk, by whom it was sold to the Welds. The buildings have nearly disappeared, but the foundations remain, and the ground-plan of the church, cloisters, and appended buildings can be accurately traced. The style of the whole is E.E. of the time of the foundation. The *Ch.* consisted of a nave, with 2 western towers, a fragment of which remains, crossed by a solid screen with 2 side altars, beyond which are the monks' cruciform church, with transepts, 2 altars in each, and shallow sacrum. In the S. transept is a fine slab, robbed of its brasses, with a Lombardic inscription to Abbot Richard de Maners. To the S. of the ch. is the cloister court, surrounded with the usual buildings. To the E. we may trace the sacristy, chapter-house, containing monumental slabs, the slype leading to the cemetery, and the locutorium or monks' day-room, divided by a row of columns. We may also notice the vestiges of the staircase from the transept to the dormitory above the chapter-house. To the S. of the cloisters were the kitchens and refectory; to the W. the guest chambers. A story goes that the 12 bells of the abbey were stolen by night, and are now in the churches of Wool, Combe, and Fordington, commemorated by the following doggerel—

Wool streams and Combewells,
Fordington cuckolds stole Bindon bells.

Crossing Moreton Heath, with a

view N. of the range dividing the valleys of the Frome and Piddle, and S. of the Purbeck chalk hills, we arrive at

59½ m. *Moreton* Stat., standing lonely on the heath 2 m. from the village of that name. *Moreton House* (H. Frampton, Esq.) was built in 1744. An obelisk stands in the park in memory of James Frampton, 1786. The *Ch.* is a curious specimen of Batty-Langley Gothic, 1776, with an apse and painted windows.

[*Woodsford Castle*, about 2 m. N.W., the archæologist must by no means omit to visit. It guards the passage of the Frome, but is more of a manor-house than a castle. The manor belonged to Guy de Brian, and afterwards to the Staffords. It is a long low parallelogram, with originally a sq. tower at each corner. The ground-floor is vaulted; the chief rooms are above, including the King's Hall, with an oratory with piscina attached; a solar, or Queen's room, with a squint into the chapel, guard-chamber, ante-chamber, and South Hall containing an ancient fireplace. The Beacon Tower at the N.E. corner is the only one of the four remaining perfect; it contains a good water-drain. The whole appears to have been built by Guy de Brian, temp. Ed. III. It was admirably restored by Henry Lord Ilchester, and is most lovingly cared for by its excellent tenant Mr. Warne. The *Ch.* is E.E. and has been nearly rebuilt.]

[*Affpuddle Heath*, with its singular conical cavities, is 2 m. to N.W. of Moreton; and the interesting house of *Athelhampton*, in the valley of the Piddle, 1 m. further W. (Rte. 13.)]

[3 m. S. is *Winfrith*, a village lying under the chalk downs, with a *ch.* partially rebuilt in 1852, retaining its Perp. tower, 2 Norm. doors, and E.E. chancel. Among its rectors have been Lindwood, the famous

canonist, d. 1446, and James Atkins, Bp. of Moray and Galloway, d. 1687. A road leads over the downs to *Lulworth Cove*, 6 m. from *Wool Stat.*

2½ m. S. of *Moreton* Stat. at *Over Moynes* (held by the Moynes by serjeanty of the kitchen) are the remains of an ancient house, with beautiful examples of the E.E. style, c. 1200. The most interesting portion is the hall on the first floor, with 3 fine 2-light windows. The *Ch.* has some ancient portions. The arcade is Tr. Norm. On the S. slope of the chalk downs is the figure of George III. on horseback, formed by the removal of the turf.

2½ m. further W. is *Warmwell*. The Manor House (Captain Foster) is of James I.'s time, but incorporates portions of an earlier mansion. The *Ch.* is chiefly E.E. and has a Norm. font.

1½ m. S. is *Porwell*, with an old manor house of the Hennings with the date 1634 on the porter's lodge, and a curious E.E. *ch.*

½ m. N.W. are the remains of one of those British *hut-circles* so common on Dartmoor (see *Hdbk. for Devon*). To reach this, leave the road at the lime-kiln, ¼ m. nearer *Weymouth*. The circle is at the summit of the down on the l. by the hedge. It is about 12 ft. in diameter, and consists of 14 small stones. There are also remains of an outer ring (4 stones), and some traces of a line of stones running parallel with the hedge.]

63½ m. the rly. passes rt. the ivied tower of *West Stafford Ch.* and *Stafford House* (J. Floyer, Esq.), and reaches

65½ m. **DORCHESTER** (*Inns*: King's Arms; Antelope. Pop. 6823). This is a rly. centre. Branch lines of the Gt. Western Rly. from Yeovil, and of the S.-W. from Southampton, meet here. There is rly. communication with *Weymouth*, S., and by branch

from Maiden Newton with Bridport, W. The stations are in the open Fordington Field, S. of the town.

Dorchester is a thriving town, in a commercial point of view. The cloth manufacture which once was carried on here is now extinct; and its prosperity depends on its rank as the county town, and its position as the centre of a wide sheep-breeding and dairy country. About 750,000 sheep are fed on the adjacent downs, and the markets are well supplied with Dorsetshire skim-milk cheese and Dorset butter. The fame of the "Dorset Ale" has sunk before its younger rivals, Burton and Alton.

Dorchester is one of the lightest, cleanest and prettiest towns in the W. of England. Its reputation for healthiness is such that Dr. Arbuthnot, who in his early days came to settle here, was driven away, saying that "a physician could neither live nor die at Dorchester." The town lies on a hill sloping on the N. to the valley of the Frome, and extending on the S. and W. to an open country, across which run the straight lines of the ancient roads still used as highways. It bears evidence of its Roman origin not only in its name, Dornwara-ceaster, the *castra* of the Dwrin people, who occupied this district before the arrival of the Romans; but also in the four streets, which, as is usual with towns of a Roman origin, intersect in the centre of the town; and in the earthworks, which, planted with fine rows of sycamore and chesnut, form beautiful *boulevards* nearly encircling the town—a feature unfortunately as uncommon in England as it is attractive. The foreign air thus given is increased by the avenues of trees that line some of the roads.

Dorchester is prevented from extending its limits by being hemmed in on nearly all sides by *Fordington Field*, a wide open tract of ground of 3400 acres, held under the Duchy of Cornwall in farthings, or fourthings

(the quarter of a hide or carrucate), from which it derives its name in its original form of *Fourthington*. The various holdings are known as a wholeplace, a halfplace, and a farthing. No one holds more than 80 acres, and that dispersedly.

The junction of the 4 streets in the centre of the town is marked by *St. Peter's Ch.* with its fine pinnacled tower, and the modern Town Hall, with its angular spirelet. Walks on the agger or in the fosse run round the W. and S. sides of the town. At the bottom of High St. a pleasant walk leads along the banks of the crystal Frome, with green water-meadows to the rt.: from the extremity of it you may climb up into the town by the new E.E. ch., and reach the W. walls, or continue over verdant meadows by Frome-Whitfield House (Major Henning)—to Charminster.

The chief objects of interest are the *Ch. of St. Peter*; the *Amphitheatre*; and the Camps of *Poundbury* and *Maiden Castle*.

Dorchester has unquestioned claims to antiquity. It was a British town before the invasion of Cæsar, and was long afterwards known by the Romanized form of its British name *Dwrinwyr*, as *Durnovaria*. The Romans made it one of their principal stations. They carried roads from it in different directions; and fortified it with walls, which remained in fragments as late as the year 1802, and of which a portion is still to be seen in Mrs. Stone's garden on the W. walk, a little to the l. of the W. gate. Under the Saxons its name, we have seen, became *Dornwara-ceaster*. The Danes are said to have besieged it in 1003, and burnt it to the ground, but the fact is very doubtful. Its mediæval annals are of little interest. John often visited it.

Several Roman Catholics suffered here in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I., commencing with Thomas Pilchard, hanged, drawn and quar-

tered in 1583. Four were executed the same day, July 4, 1594. The visitation of the plague the next year was deemed a judgment for these martyrdoms by the Roman Catholics. In 1613 upwards of 300 houses were burnt, and property amounting to 200,000*l.* was destroyed. Other serious conflagrations occurred in 1622, 1725, 1775. The last was got under by the dragoons of Sir John Cope's regiment; a detachment of which was quartered here. Lord Clarendon records that when the Great Rebellion broke out, a place more entirely disaffected to the king England had not. It was the magazine whence other places were supplied with principles of rebellion. Its deficiency in natural and artificial strength was supplied by the malignant spirit and obstinacy of its inhabitants, by whom it was early (1642) fortified against the king. But their courage failed on the approach of the Earl of Carnarvon in 1643, and the town with all its arms and ammunition was surrendered to him. After this the town lay open to the mercy of the victors, and paid dearly for its malignity, when Prince Maurice's troops moved hither. In July, 1644, Lord Inchiquin, who had marched hither from Wareham to occupy it for the king, was repulsed by Col. Sydenham, and in a few days the Earl of Essex took possession of the town for the Parliament. Cromwell was here with a large force March 29, 1645, which met with some rough handling from General Goring. Sept. 3, 1685, Judge Jeffreys opened his bloody assize. "The court was hung, by order of the chief justice, with scarlet; and this innovation seemed to the multitude to indicate a bloody purpose. More than 300 prisoners were to be tried. The work seemed heavy, but Jeffreys had a contrivance for making it light. He let it be understood that the only chance of obtaining pardon or respite was to plead

guilty. 29 who put themselves on their country, and were convicted, were ordered to be tied up without delay. The remaining prisoners pleaded guilty by scores. 292 received sentence of death."—*Macaulay*. 13 were executed here Sept. 7. The formidable judge's chair is preserved in the Town Hall. He lodged in High West Street (Dufall's glass shop).

St. Peter's occupies a conspicuous position at the intersection of the 4 streets, and with its stately Perp. tower is one of the chief ornaments of the town. The S. door is Tr. Norm. with zigzag. The ch. is Perp. The arcade of the interior and chancel and tower arches are well proportioned. It contains several interesting cross-legged effigies, sadly maltreated during the last repair in 1857: some being hoisted on to the window-sills and one banished behind the organ. They have not been identified, though they have been supposed to be Chidiocks, removed from the priory. A rich Jacobean monument to Sir J. Williams, of Herringston, and his lady, 1628, has been awkwardly erected against the E. window of the N. aisle. At the opposite end of this aisle is an absurd effigy in full-bot-tomed wig to Denzil Holles, who with Sir John Eliot and others forcibly held down in his chair Mr. Speaker Finch till the House had passed its famous Resolutions in 1689; one of the "five members" in 1642; the impeacher of Laud; the brother-in-law of Strafford; d. 1679. A brass with female effigy preserves the memory of "Johanna de Sto Omero, relicta Robt. More," d. 1436. The rood staircase remains, and gives access to a fine Jacobean pulpit.

All Saints, in High East Street, is a pleasing building, with a lofty spire erected by Ferrey in 1845. The glass in the E. window was a gift from Bp. Dennison; that in the W. window is "in loving, remem-

brance of Arthur H. D. Troyte, who fell asleep June 19, 1857." The ch. owes its erection chiefly to Mr. Troyte; much of the work was done by his own hands. Under the tower is an altar-tomb with effigy of Matthew Chubb, d. 1625.

Trinity Ch. in High West Street was rebuilt in the Gothic of the time in 1824. No more need be said of it. It contains a monument to Dr. Cuming, a physician of the town, "who desired to be buried in the ch.-yard rather than in the ch., lest he who studied whilst living to promote the health of his fellow-citizens should prove detrimental to it when dead."

Fordington Ch., originally one of Trans. Norm. style and cruciform plan, has been miserably mutilated, but preserves some features of peculiar interest. The tower is a good one of the Somersetshire style. The tympanum of the S. door retains a curious flat bas-relief of the Vision of St. George (to whom the ch. is dedicated, and who gives its name to the hundred) before the battle of Antioch. There is a small holy-water basin at the S. door, of very unusual form, shaped like a small font. The stone pulpit bears the date 1592. Fordington is a stall in Salisbury Cathedral, held by William of Wykeham and Archbishop Chicheley.

The County Gaol occupies the site of the *Castle* on a rising ground on the N. side of the town, above the river. Some small portions of the earthworks may still be traced. A tessellated pavement, 20 ft. sq., which, with other Roman antiquities, was discovered while digging a grave for a murderer, in 1858, has been relaid as an ornamental floor to the gaol chapel. Priory Lane, hard by, preserves the memory of a Franciscan Priory, reported by Speed to have been built out of the ruins of the castle by the Chidoocks.

The *County Hall* in High West St. is a plain stone building erected in 1745. The *Town Hall*, which stands

conspicuously at the intersection of the 4 streets, is a pleasing building of red brick, with spired tourelle by Ferrey. It has an effective open timber roof, and contains Judge Jeffreys' chair.

The *County Museum* in Trinity St. contains a good collection of local fossils, especially the fishes and testacea, &c., of Purbeck, which is unrivalled; and some unique fossils of the Kimmeridge series. It has also a fine archæological collection, including British and Roman antiquities, coins found at Poundbury during the rly. works, urns, and other examples of early art from the Dorset tumuli, &c.

The *County Hospital*, a good Jacobean building, by Ferrey, opened 1841, has a chapel built in memory of A. Dyke Troyte by his brother-in-law R. Williams, Esq., of Bridehead, in 1862. *Napper's Mite* is a small almshouse with a picturesque little cloister, and desecrated chapel, founded by Sir Robt. Napper, 1615.

The *Amphitheatre*, called *Mambury*, or *Maumbury*, and first brought into notice by Sir Christopher Wren, when M.P. for Weymouth, lies to the S. of the town, l. of the Weymouth road, in close vicinity to the 2 rly. stations. The line of the S.-W. rly. as originally planned was carried through the amphitheatre; but it was rescued from mutilation chiefly through the zealous intervention of Mr. C. Warne, F.S.A. It has been generally considered a Roman work of the time of Agricola. It is, however, very different from the amphitheatres existing in Italy, whilst it closely resembles the British "rounds," of which there is a specimen in Cornwall. Whether British or Roman, it is equally interesting as the most perfect relic of the kind in this country. It is an oval or elliptical earthwork, formed by excavating the chalk and heaping it around to a height of 30 ft. The area thus enclosed is 218 ft. in length

and 163 in width. The rampart rises from the ends towards the centre, where it attains its greatest elevation and breadth, and, according to a calculation by the antiquary Dr. Stukeley, would accommodate as many as 12,960 spectators. Its capabilities were tested in the year 1705, when the body of Mary Channing was burnt here after execution. 10,000 persons are said to have assembled on that occasion. Up to 1767 it was the place of execution of criminals.

From the walk on the W. rampart is seen another ancient work—the camp of *Poundbury*—cresting the head of a hill which rises from the river Frome, a few hundred yards from the western gate. Camden and others think it was constructed by the Danes, on their supposed siege of Dorchester, under Sweyn. The Rev. C. W. Bingham and others maintain that it is a Roman work. It is a tolerably regularly-shaped entrenchment, protected by a lofty vallum and ditch, double on the W. side. On the N. the steepness of the hill appears to have been the only defence. The summit commands an extensive view, in which *Maiden Castle* is seen to the S., and *Hardy's monument* to the S.W., and *Wolveton Hall* immediately below, E. The hill is pierced by the G. W. Railway.

[Excursions may be made to

(a) *Maiden Castle*, properly *Maidun*, "the Hill of Strength," one of the most stupendous British earthworks in existence, enclosing in its inner area about 45 acres, and covering full 115 acres altogether, rising in conspicuous grandeur to the rt. of the Weymouth Road, here coincident with the ancient *Ridgeway*, 2 m. S. of Dorchester. This hill-fort was the stronghold of the Durotriges, and may be identified with the *Dunium* of Ptolemy. It occupies the flat summit of a natural hill, entrenched

and fortified by human labour. It measures about 1000 yards from E. to W. and 500 from N. to S. The whole is surrounded with two, in some places three, ramparts, 60 feet high, and of amazing steepness. There seem to have been 4 gates, the entrances being defended by the overlapping ends of the earthworks, and additionally strengthened by outworks. The interior area is divided across the middle by a low bank and ditch. There are traces of a tank or pit to catch and retain water. According to the opinion of General Lefroy, the people who constructed it cannot have been acquainted with any tools like our modern spades with broad flat blades, but must have employed celts or narrow tools, by which only a small quantity of earth could be removed at a time. It could not be defended in the strict sense of the term, as it would take as many people to defend it as to make it. Other means besides earthworks must have been resorted to, to render the place tenable.

The view from Maiden Castle is very extensive, but bare and not very beautiful. The chief features are the Roman roads diverging from Dorchester, and the innumerable barrows that stud the hills. To the S.W. is *Black Down* with *Hardy's Pillar*.

Below Maiden Castle, E., to the l. of the Weymouth road, stands *Herringstone* (E. W. Williams, Esq.), a house of much interest, for many generations the seat of the Herring family, which late in the 16th centy. passed to that of Williams. The house was built by Sir John Williams, temp. James I. The drawing-room has a curious coved ceiling richly decorated with plaster bas-reliefs, among which may be noticed the initials C. P. and the heraldic insignia of Charles I. when Prince of Wales.

(b) $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W., in the valley of the Frome, is the very interesting house of *Wolveton* (W. H. Weston,

Esq.), built 1584 by Sir Thomas Trenchard. The gatehouse has circular bastions and steep roofs. There is a good barn.

Wolveton is of historic interest as the scene of the foundation of the fortunes of the noble house of Bedford. Philip the Handsome, Archduke of Austria, having with his wife Johanna, the eldest daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella, and heiress of their dominions, been driven by stress of weather into the port of Weymouth, when on their way from the Low Countries to Spain, January 1502, they were hospitably received at Wolveton by Sir Thomas Trenchard. Unfortunately the old knight knew no Spanish and his royal guests no English. In his perplexity he be thought him of his young neighbour and kinsman, John Russel of Kingston Russel (see *post*), who had only recently returned from Spain, and sent for him to act as interpreter. It happened fortunately for Mr. Russel that he was gifted with the art of pleasing, for, having ingratiated himself with the royal visitors, he accompanied them to London, and was introduced to Henry VII. as a man of abilities, "fit to stand before princes, and not before meaner men." Thus established at court, he soon rose to high office, and in the reign of Henry VIII. was created Lord Russel, and at the Dissolution was enriched with the spoils of the religious houses. On the occasion of the marriage of Philip II., the grandson of his royal patron, with Mary I., he was sent to Spain to attend the royal bridegroom to England, 1544. He died the following year.

At the time of the Great Rebellion Wolveton was the seat of another Sir Thomas Trenchard, who played an active part in this county as a commander on the side of the Parliament.

From Wolveton the pedestrian may proceed

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. to *Charminster*, whence he

may return by pleasant meadows to *Dorchester*, 2 m. The *Ch.* has a handsome Perp. tower bearing on its buttresses the rebus of Sir T. Trenchard, c. 1520. There is a curious earthwork at the extremity of the village on the rt. The traveller may with advantage continue his walk from *Charminster* along the barrow-studded hills of *Cerne Abbas*, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m., whence he may strike over *Sydling Hill* to *Sydling St. Nicholas*, and mounting the down again descend on *Maiden Newton* Stat. (Rte. 14), 5 m., and return by rly. to *Dorchester*—a very agreeable and interesting circuit.

(c) Another circuit of much interest to the archæologist, and displaying wide and varied views, is through the fields to *Puddletown* (see Rte. 13), 5 m., thence to *Athelhampton*, 1 m., and over the ridge into the valley of the *Frome* at *Woodsford Castle*, 3 m.; returning to *Dorchester* either on foot, 5 m., or by rly. from *Moreton* Stat.

(d) A longer expedition may be made to the heights of *Blackdown*, 789 ft. above the sea, and the *Hellstone*, the *Nine Stones*, and other prehistoric remains on the bare chalk downs about *Little Bredy*.]

From *Dorchester* the traveller may pursue his way by rly. to *Weymouth*, 7 m., or, which is far preferable, he may walk, enjoying the wide prospect of down and sea.

Pursuing the rly., the traveller has a fine view rt. of *Maiden Castle*, nestling on the S. slope of which is the little village of *Monkton*.

3 m. the rly. enters *Bincombe* tunnel, taking its name from a village S. of the hill, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. of the line. The small ancient *Ch.* has a circular Norm. font. The view from *Bincombe barrows* is one of the most extensive in the county. A large camp was formed here during the apprehensions of Napoleon's invasion, often visited by George III. when staying at *Weymouth*. Two young German

deserters lie buried in the churchyard.

5 m. rt. is the village of *Broadway*, l. the camp-crowned hill of *Chalbury*.

The rly. skirts the *Backwater* which peninsulates *Melcombe Regis*, and reaches

60½ m. WEYMOUTH Stat.

Weymouth (*Hotels*: Royal; Burdon; Victoria; Gloucester, formerly the residence of the Duke of Gloucester and then of George III.; Golden Lion; and Crown. Pop. 11,383). This popular watering-place is very pleasantly situated. The coast here, turning to the S., forms a wide open bay, which is shaped in the form of the letter E., the projection in the centre dividing it into two parts—Weymouth Bay and Portland Roads. N. of this projecting point (called the *Nothe*) lies the old town of *Weymouth*, and connected with it by a bridge across the harbour, formerly the estuary of the little river *Wey*, from which it derives its name, is *Melcombe Regis*, the modern town, extending nearly a mile along the curving shore. It is built on a narrow strip of land, with the sea on one side and an estuary (the *Backwater*) on the other, and commands in long perspective the coast to the E. as far as *St. Aldhelm's Head*. Its principal feature is the *Esplanade*, distinguished by its length and symmetrical curve, on which stands a monumental statue of George III., erected by the townspeople in 1809, in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the accession of their great patron. At the extremity of the *Esplanade* a handsome stone pier runs out into the sea, affording a very attractive promenade. At the Royal Monument diverge the two main streets, *St. Thomas* and *St. Mary* streets.

Weymouth is distinguished above many of our modern watering-places by the historic interest belonging to it. *Athelstan* granted Weymouth to *Milton Abbey*. In 1042 Edward the

Confessor gave the manor to *Winchester*, on the traditional deliverance of his mother from the ordeal; a grant confirmed by Henry I. and II. In the reign of Edward I., as the town rose in importance, the monks lost the manor, which formed part of the dowry of *Eleanor of Castile*. Edward III. was driven in here by rough weather on his return from France in 1343. It supplied 20 ships for the siege of *Calais*, 1347, and was in return greatly harassed by the French, whose inroads impoverished the place. *Leland* says of it: "This toun, as is evidently seene, hathe beene far bigger than it now is. The cause of this is layd onto the Frenchmen that yn tymes of warre rasid this toun for lack of defence." To render it not worth the burning, Henry VI. transferred its privileges as a port and its woolstaple to *Poole*, a measure which deprived it of much of its former trade. Queen *Margaret of Anjou* landed here with her young son, April 17, 1471, the very day of the disastrous defeat at *Barnet*; on hearing of which she took refuge at the Abbey of *Cerne*. During the Great Rebellion it was alternately garrisoned by both parties, and became the scene of some fighting. Jan., 1505, the Archduke *Philip* with *Joanna of Castile*, on their voyage to Spain, were forced to take shelter here, to the great alarm of the inhabitants, who feared that the squadron came with hostile purpose. (See *Wolveton House*.) In spite of its fallen fortunes, 6 ships were supplied by Weymouth to the squadron that met the Armada, and one of the Spanish ships was taken and brought into this port. In 1643 it was occupied by Lord *Caernarvon* and Prince *Maurice*, but in 1644 it fell into the hands of the Parliamentary forces, who successfully defended it against an 18 days' siege by the Royalists. As boroughs, its two divisions of Weymouth and *Melcombe*

Regis were long at open war with each other. The narrow channel of their harbour was as jealously guarded by the contending factions as the boundary of rival kingdoms; and in the reign of Elizabeth, A.D. 1571, their animosity had reached to such a height that the Government interfered and compelled the inhabitants to coalesce and incorporate for municipal purposes, and from that time to the present day their interests have been one, as the united borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis. As parliamentary boroughs, however, the two towns continued distinct, each returning 2 members till the first Reform Act, which united them, giving 2 members to the new constituency. Sir Christopher Wren, Sir James Thornhill, and Sir Fowell Buxton, have illustrated the parliamentary history of the borough.

The *tides* on the shore at Weymouth differ from those which prevail along the coast, the irregularity being most marked at the time of the "springs." According to the sailors there are 4 hrs. flood, 4 hrs. ebb, and 4 hrs. standing water, but this description is scarcely correct. There is generally a secondary tide—a slight flow and reflux—which takes place after the lowest ebb, and is popularly known by the name of the *Gulder*. Steamers in connection with the Great Western Railway ply between Weymouth and the Channel Islands, and at times to Cherbourg. During the summer, steamers make excursions to Lulworth, Swanage, and the Isle of Wight,

The ecclesiastical and other public buildings of Weymouth may be soon dismissed.

St. Mary's Ch. (Melcombe Regis), built in 1817, is a very ugly edifice, galleried all round, with an altarpiece, "The Last Supper," by Sir James Thornhill, the painter of the cupola of St. Paul's, and the "Painted Hall" at Greenwich (d. 1734), a na-

[*Wills, Dorset, &c.*]

tive of the town, who represented Melcombe Regis in Parliament.

Trinity Ch. (Weymouth), opposite the Bridge, built in the Gothic of the day, 1836, contains a good picture of the Crucifixion. The *schools* adjoining are handsome, and form a conspicuous feature in the view of Weymouth.

St. John's Radipole, at the northern extremity of the town, built 1854 from a design by Mr. Talbot Bury, has a lofty tower and spire, and is by far the best ecclesiastical edifice in the place.

The *Congregational Church*, built in 1865, with 2 spires, is a conspicuous object.

The *Guildhall* near the Bridge, built 1837, has an Ionic portico, and contains a marble statue of the late S. Weston, Esq., and portraits of George III. (Beechy) and the Duke of Wellington (Weigel), presented by Sir J. H. Lethbridge.

The *Market House* in St. Mary Street (Talbot Bury, *Arch.*) is a very handsome building, showing much originality of invention.

The *Literary and Scientific Institution* is in St. Thomas Street. The building comprises a Reading Room, Library, and Lecture Hall.

The *Baths* form a handsome building below George III.'s statue.

Weymouth became of note as a bathing place towards the middle of the 8th century. The first bathing machine was constructed for Ralph Allen, of Bath, Fielding's "Squire Allworthy," in 1763. The Duke of Gloucester passed a winter here, and built Gloucester Lodge, and his recommendation induced George III. with Queen Charlotte and the Princesses to visit it in 1789. There is an amusing account of the discomfiture of the monarch when on his first plunge into the sea he heard the strains of "God save the King" strike up from an adjoining bathing-machine. The royal family became partial to it, and continued to resort to it for many years. The Prin-

cess Charlotte was here in 1814 and 1815.

The charm of Weymouth is found in its beautiful bay, and smooth and level shore, as well as in its walks and excursions. It is also the centre of a district of much geological interest, to which Mr. Damon's excellent work on 'The Geology of Weymouth and the Isle of Portland' will prove an admirable guide. The first point to invite a ramble is

(a) The *Nothe*, the green promontory which rises from the mouth of the harbour, and is reached in a few minutes from the Esplanade, either by the Swing-bridge or a boat. It is a delightful spot, commanding a wide and beautiful view. It is being converted into a battery fitted with Armstrong guns for the defence of the harbour and roadstead. The whole is to be cased in stone to obviate the frequent landslips. During the Rebellion the *Nothe* was fortified, with the object of "keeping in the Portlanders," as an old writer expresses it. From this point the visitor should ramble past the *Look Out* along the cliffs to

Sandsfoot Castle (1 m. from Weymouth by road), a picturesque ruin on the verge of the yellow rocks. Leland calls it "a right goodly and waryke castle having one open barican." It is, however, more attractive at a distance than on a nearer approach, and its architectural interest is but small. It was erected as a coast defence by Henry VIII., about the year 1539, at which time the country apprehended an invasion prompted by the Pope. Its last governor, Humphrey Weld, was appointed in 1685.

Near Sandsfoot Castle commence the *Smallmouth Sands*, which extend to the long timber bridge over the *Fleet*, a distance of 1 m. They were once remarkable for a firm and level surface, but are now spoilt by the erection of the Portland Breakwater. The view is delightful.

[From Sandsfoot it is a pleasant walk to *Wyke Regis*, 1½ m. from Weymouth, of which it is the mother church. The road to it passes on the l. *Belfield House*, the seat of the late Sir T. Fowell Buxton, Bart., who represented Weymouth for many years. Wyke Regis is seated on an eminence with a fine view of Portland and of *Deadman's Bay*, as sailors term the fatal West Bay. The lofty square tower of the *Church* is a well-known sea-mark. The church is a good plain Perp. building. In the churchyard, among numberless graves of shipwrecked sailors, is one which contains 140 of the passengers and crew of the "Alexander" East Indiaman, lost on the Chesil bank, March 26, 1815: only four Lascars escaped, as is recorded in a tablet on the West wall. Here are also the graves of eighty persons drowned in the wreck of the "Abergavenny," off Portland, in the winter of 1805. The captain was brother of Wordsworth, the poet. The fishermen assert that the timbers of the vessel may still be discerned through the water, and speak of the spot where she sank by the name of the ship, or, as they abbreviate it, "The Abbey." It is a favourite spot to fish for whiting.]

[(b) To *Radipole*, 2 m., a pretty walk along the shore of the *Backwater*. This is a village embowered in trees, where the *Wey* joins the inlet. Radipole boasts of a sulphurous mineral spring and bathing establishment, about 1 m. from Weymouth. There is another mineral spring at *Nottingham*, 3 m. N., just before entering the village of Broadway, where a Pump-room and Baths have been erected.

¼ m. N. in a cleft at the foot of the Downs is the very attractive little village of *Upwey*, the source of the little river *Wey*, a favourite spot with George III. On the downs above, 402 ft. above sea, runs the ancient *Ridgeway*, from which there

is a noble view of Weymouth, Portland, and the neighbouring country.]

[(c) Another favourite expedition is to Preston, 3 m., and Osmington, 5 m. Leaving St. John's Church the road starts along the shore, and passing the race-ground, known as *Lodmoor Marsh*, climbs *Jordan Hill*, identified by some with the Roman station *Clavinium*, where are extensive traces of Roman buildings and a large cemetery, and reaches *Preston*. The *Ch.* is interesting, chiefly *Perp.* with a Roman door and ancient font. On a spur of the hill above is the circular entrenchment of *Chalbury* enclosing 2 large barrows. "*Preston Valley* is a little gem; a verdant dell opening to the sea, through which a streamlet runs, with the sides and bottom covered with woods."—*Gosse's Aquarium*. At *Preston* is a bridge of great antiquity, considered by Mr. C. Warne to be of Roman date.

Beyond *Preston* the downs rise abruptly on the rt., and on one of their steepest slopes appears the colossal figure of George III. on horseback, formed by removing the turf from the chalk. It was the work of a private soldier, and must be regarded as a proof of considerable skill; for, being cut on an inclined surface, it had to be distorted to produce a true image. It is visible from the sea at a great distance. Along the crest of the ridge are a great number of barrows, arranged in groups.

5 m. is *Osmington*, a pretty village, embowered in a woody valley, among lofty hills. It is an ancient place, with a *Ch.* dedicated to St. Osmund, rebuilt in 1842, with the exception of the tower, and once the property of the abbots of Milton. 1 m. to the l. is *Osmington Mill*, a coastguard station, a pretty spot, where a cascade tumbles to the shore; and further E., along the coast, near the hamlet of S. Holworth, the *Burning Cliff*, which, between the years 1824 and 1827,

emitted clouds of heated vapour, and exhibited on a small scale the phenomena of a volcano. The effect was produced by the decomposition of the iron pyrites and bituminous shale of the *Kimmeridge* beds by a long-continued rain.

It is a pleasant row or sail to *Osmington Mills* across the bay.]

[(d) A walk round the *Isle of Portland* (Rte. 17), which can be accomplished in one day. The chief points of interest are—view of the *Chesil Bank* from *Fortune's Well*—*Breakwater*—*Quarries*—*Convict Prison*—*Bow and Arrow Castle*—*Pennsylvania Castle*—*Cave's Hole*, and *Portland Bill*. A steamer plies continually between *Weymouth* and the island, and a railway connects the two.]

[(e) To *Lulworth Cove* (Rte. 16), by excursion steamer] during the summer months. The distance by road is 16 m., 9 m. by water.]

[(f) The most interesting excursion to be taken from *Weymouth* is that to *Abbotsbury*, 8 m. W., a village famous for the ruins of its abbey, and for its *Swannery* and *Decoys*. The road thither is over a bleak but cultivated country between the downs and the sea.

3 m. *West Chickerell*. On l. a lane leads in $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to *East Fleet*, on the *Fleet Water*. This retired village suffered greatly in the memorable storm of November 23, 1824, when the church and nearly all the village were destroyed by a tide of extraordinary height. A beautiful little ch. has been erected in a picturesque situation further inland, at the cost of the late rector, Rev. G. Gould. E. of it 1 m. is *Fleet House*, formerly the seat of the Rev. George Goodden.

7 m. *Portisham*, a village situated under bold furzy hills, from which a lively little rivulet runs to the sea. Here were born *Sir Andrew Ricard*, a notable East India merchant, d. 1672,

and *Admiral Sir Thomas Hardy*, one of the most illustrious of Nelson's captains, to whose memory a tower has been erected on the adjacent height of *Black Down*, 817 ft. above the sea. On the summit of the intervening *Ridge Hill* (rt. of the ascent to *Winterbourn*) are remains of a cromlech or kistvaen called the

Helstone, which, according to the legend, was thrown by the Evil One to this spot from the isle of Portland. It consists of a ponderous slab about 8 ft. square of a very hard conglomerate (the Hertfordshire pudding-stone), resting partly on one of its supports, which were originally numerous, as six others lie around it. The locality commands a good view of Hardy's pillar on Blackdown, to the l. of which is *Bridehead* (Rte. 13), the seat of R. Williams, Esq.; an ancient earthwork known as the *Old Warren*; and a stony valley called *Bride Bottom*.

½ m. *Abbotsbury (Inn : Ship)*. This village is very pleasantly situated in a vale about a mile from the sea, below picturesque hill-sides golden with furze; one of which is crowned by the ancient chapel or chantry of St. Catherine. It was famous in the olden time for its monastery, founded in the reign of King Canute, c. 1026, by Orc, one of his "house-carls," and his wife Thola, who bestowed on the abbey the manor of Tolpuddle; but there is a tradition of a ch. having been founded here in the early times of the British Church by one Bertelfus, and the name of *Abodesbyri* is said to have been given it by St. Peter, who, according to a legendary tale, appeared personally to consecrate the building. At the Dissolution the abbey was granted to Sir Giles Strangways. The things to be seen here are the ruins of the *Abbey*, the *chapel of St. Catherine*, the *Decoy* and *Swannery* on the Fleet, and the *Chesil Bank*. There is also an *intermittent spring* near the limekiln on the hill-side opposite the village;

and, in the neighbourhood, *Hardy's monument*, and *Abbotsbury Camp*, an earthwork enclosing 20 acres.

The *Abbey ruins* are inconsiderable, though scattered over a large area. The gatehouse, dormitory, and some of the offices, supposed to have been the malthouse and cellar, remain tolerably perfect. The noble barn of the 14th cent., for the excellence of its masonry, the beauty of its proportions, and the admirable execution of the decoration of its transeptal entrance, and gable ornaments, would put to shame many a modern church. Among other remains are portions of the walls of a cell, in which, according to the popular tradition, the last abbot was imprisoned and starved to death. W. of the abbey, under Chapel Hill, are remains of the abbey terraced gardens and fishponds.

The *Church* is perpendicular, of very uniform character, with clerestory, light arcades, and a good tower. There is a weather-worn figure of the Trinity in a niche over the W. door. The rood door and steps remain, together with some old stained glass, and some good wooden benches. The pulpit is well carved, and bears the marks of a fray which occurred in the church at the time of the Great Rebellion, Nov. 8, 1644, when Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper assailed a Royalist party under Col. Strangways, who had here taken refuge.

The *Chapel of St. Catherine* is perched on the crown of a steep and lofty hill overlooking the sea, ½ m. S.W. of the village. It is a little building of much architectural interest, of Perp. date, 15 ft. in breadth by 45 in length, very strongly constructed without timber, entirely of stone, which is ingeniously dove-tailed together in the roof; the walls are 4 ft. thick, and supported by heavy buttresses, which rise above the parapet. It has 2 arched entrances with external porches, and

at the N.W. angle a look-out tower. It was intended for the shipwrecked mariners to return thanks in. The view is wide and beautiful. From this spot the visitor can descend to

The *Decoy* and *Swannery*, at the end of the Fleet, which form a scene of great interest, almost unique in England, not to be missed by the visitor (for a detailed account see *Good Words* for March, 1867). The Decoy is constructed for the wholesale capture of wild fowl, which are enticed into its mazes by tame birds trained for the purpose. The *Swannery* is an inlet of the Fleet, and affords a home to a flock of about 600 or 700 swans, which, in the time of the abbots, were many times more numerous. In the winter they are visited by wild birds of their species. At the entrance a tall pole records the extraordinary tide of Nov. 23, 1824; depth of water 22 ft. 8 in.

The *Chesil Bank* presents at Abbotsbury the same remarkable appearance as at Portland; but the pebbles, which at Chesilton were nearly 3 in. in diameter, have here decreased to the size of coarse gravel. The music of the sea has also changed, for there is more hissing in the sound. The bank is steeply sloped on both sides, and of immense bulk. Looking towards the land we find that the village has disappeared—a turn of the valley has concealed it—and the eye rests on ferny hills and the solitary little chantry on its airy height. To the rt. of the valley stands the *Castle*, a summer residence of the Earl of Ilchester, who has a considerable property here, including the *Swannery*. The gardens are very beautiful, and would repay inspection.]

ROUTE 13.

SALISBURY TO LYME REGIS, BY
BLANDFORD, PUDDLETOWN [BERE
REGIS], DORCHESTER, BRIDPORT
[BEAMINSTER], AND CHARMOUTH.

Leaving Salisbury the road descends *Hurnham Hill* and descends into the Vale of Chalk to Combe Bissett, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. (Rte. 9).

$9\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Bockley Dyke* may be seen running in a serpentine line for 4 m. from E. to W. Crossing Crowden Down we reach *Vernditch Lodge*, a hunting lodge of the extensive *Vernditch Chase*, formerly a walk of Cranborne Chase. 2 m. N.E. is the village of *Martin*, with a small E.E. ch.

$9\frac{3}{4}$ m. the road enters Dorsetshire at *Woodgates Inn* (Woodgates, as being the entrance to Cranborne Chase). Near this spot the Duke of Monmouth, in his flight from Sedgemoor, was obliged to abandon his horse. He proceeded on foot towards the coast, but was overtaken and captured by his pursuers on the Woodlands estate near Horton (Rte. 12).

Here the highway falls in with the *Via Iceniana* or *Ikniel St.* from Old Sarum, running in a straight line towards *Badbury Rings*. Numerous tumuli are scattered over the downs. The wooded hills of *Cranborne Chase* are well seen on the rt. 1 m. on the l. the long straight line of the *Ackling Dyke*, or Roman road, may be traced across *Thorny Down*, running S. to *Gussage St. Michael*.

$14\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Cashmore Inn*. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. is *Gussage St. Andrew*, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. *Gussage St. Michael*, and *All Saints* (divided by the Roman road), little villages along the course of the *Terrig*, with small ancient churches. *Gussage All Saints* lies embosomed between two beautiful hills, half

hidden by luxuriant woods. The ch., restored 1865, deserves notice. The chancel was rebuilt, and the old chancel arch erected as an entrance to the organ chamber. The tower stands on the S. side, c. 1330. On Gussage Cow Down, 2 m. N., is the Roman Stat. *Vindogladia*.

Horton (Rte. 12) is 3 m. further S. 3½ m. S. is *More Cricchel* (H. G. Sturt, Esq., M.P.), a magnificent house and demesne formerly occupied by George IV. when Regent. 3½ m. N. in Cranborne Chase is *Rushmore Lodge*, the seat of Lord Rivers, the house being in Wiltshire, but upwards of 30,000 acres of his estate are in Dorset. In 1814 the Princess Charlotte was placed here under the care of the Dowager-Countess of Rosslyn and the Countess of Ilchester.

About 1 m. W. of Rushmore is the picturesque little village of *Tollard Royal*, where was a royal hunting-seat, the successor of which still bears the name of "King John's House." 1 m. further the *Alarum Tree* still stands, where tradition says the keeper used to sound his horn for the commencement of the chase. The *Ch.* contains the effigy of a knight in chain-armor.

17 m. *Tarrant Hinton*. The *Ch.* stands picturesquely on the hill slope N.W. of the village. The chancel and tower are Perp.; the arcade E.E. There is a Norman font and a curious Jacobean monument. Over the porch door of the rectory is an inscription, commemorating the builder, Thomas Trotteswell, 1430.

1 m. rt. is *Eastbury Park* (Young's "*Pierian Eastbury*"), formerly the site of a mansion by Vanbrugh (see Campbell's *Vitruv. Brit.* vol. iii.), of great size and splendour, erected 1718 at a cost of 140,000*l.* by George Bubb Dodington. (Bubb Dodington, the son of an apothecary at Weymouth, and nephew of George Dodington, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, by address in electioneering gained political importance,

and was created Lord Melcombe. He was a retainer of Frederick Prince of Wales.) The house was taken down and sold piecemeal, all but one wing, in 1795, by Earl Temple, who had previously offered an annuity of 200*l.* to any gentleman who would occupy it and keep it in repair. It is celebrated in verse by Thomson (who dedicated his 'Summer' to Dodington), Young, and Christopher Pitt, who writes:—

"Where with your Dodington retired you sit,
Charmed with his flowing Burgundy and
wit:

Where a new Eden in the wilds is found,
And all the seasons in a plot of ground."
Pitt to Young.

They with Fielding, Bentley, and other literary men of the day, were frequent guests here. Voltaire was also a visitor at Eastbury:—

"On Dorset Downs where Milton's page
With Sin and Death provoked thy rage."
Young.

The estate is now the property of J. J. Farquharson, Esq. Just outside Eastbury Park is *Tarrant Gunville*, with a *ch.* built 1503, with a pinnacled tower.

[From Tarrant Hinton the pedestrian may take a very pleasant walk down the valley of the little river Tarrant, an affluent of the Stour, with a pretty village called from the stream, and an ancient church, almost every mile, to Spetisbury Stat., and regain the route at Blandford by rly. He will come in succession to *Tarrant Monkton*, *Rushton*, *Keyneston*, and *Crawford*. *Tarrant Rushton Ch.* is an interesting small cruciform building. The chancel is Norman; the N. transept E.E.; the rest Dec. The tympanum of the porch has a curious bas-relief: there is a low side window, and a squint filled with tracery. *Tarrant Keyneston* takes its name from the ancient family *De Caneto*, of which it was the seat; one of which took Stephen prisoner at the battle of Lincoln. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1853. The very curious

"Ancren Rewle," containing rules for female anchorites, was drawn up for 3 young ladies of rank, who immured themselves here c. 1200. *Tarrant Crawford* was the site of a Cistercian nunnery founded by Ralph de Caneto, temp. Rich. I., and re-endowed by Bishop Poore of Salisbury, 1217. The site of the ch. is marked by rough ground, and a barn contains some remains of the old buildings. *Crawford Castle* is a circular earthwork. *Buzbury*, 1 m. N. on the downs, is a circular entrenchment with a double ditch, commanding fine views N.E. and S.E. *Crawford Bridge* was repaired by 40 days' indulgences, A.D. 1506.]

Returning to the main route we reach

19 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Pimperne*, where was a curious maze cut in the turf on the down, "much used by the young people on holidays and by the school-boys," destroyed in 1730, now the site of the Blandford Cemetery. The *Ch.* has a very rich Norm. S. door and font. The chancel arch has bold chevron mouldings and good capitals. There are remains of the sancte bell cot. The porch of the parsonage, built like that of Tarrant Hinton by Thomas Trotteswell, 1430, deserves notice. The village cross still stands on the green. *Frampton*, Bp. of Gloucester, one of the suspended bishops, was b. at Hyde Farm, 1622. He steadfastly opposed James II.'s efforts to introduce Popery, but remained firm in his allegiance to him. He appealed to William III. in behalf of his lawful and injured sovereign, and received for answer, "I will take care of the church." After boldly preaching before him in James's favour at Hampton Court, William remarked, "I perceive the Bp. of Gloucester don't expect a translation." Soon after this he was deprived. He took no part in the nonjuring schism.

Christopher Pitt (the poet), the translator of the 'Æneid' and

Vida's 'Art of Poetry,' was rector here: d. 1748. Succeeded by G. Bingham, B.D., author of 'Ecclesiastical History.'

The road descends into the valley of the Stour, and reaches

22 m. *Blandford* (see Rte. 18).

The road rises from the valley over Charlton Down. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is *Down House*, Sir Wm. Smith Marriott, Bart.

25 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. The road crosses the Belgic earthwork of *Combe's Ditch*. Two barrows face each other on opposite sides of the highway, like posts for sentinels. The dyke may be traced S.E. along the crest of the down to Great Colwood, where it descends into the Winterborne valley, and is lost there.

27 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Winterborne Whitchurch*, where the road crosses a feeder of the Stour, which gives a name to this and many neighbouring parishes. The chancel of the *Ch.* is E.E., the tower is central and of Perp. date on Tr. Norman piers. The nave was rebuilt in 1841. The pulpit is ancient, c. 1450; the font a very curious architectural design of the same date. John Wesley, the grandfather of the founder of Methodism, was vicar here. He married a niece of Thos. Fuller. He appears not to have been regularly ordained, and was much harassed after the Restoration, which led to his commencing a career of itinerant preaching in striking similarity to that of his grandson. George Turberville the poet was born here c. 1540. On the l. is *Whatcombe House*, built 1750.

[Continuing up the stream we come to *Winterborne Clenston*, 2 m. once the seat of the De la Lyudes. A picturesque fragment of this manor-house remains. The hall, with a fine timber roof, has been divided into several rooms. The barn has a good roof of 6 bays. The *Ch.* is modern. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. further up the stream is *Winterborne Stickland*, with a modernized church,

Below Whitchurch are several other villages on the road from Bere Regis to Sturminster Marshal. On the S.E. border of the high table-land above *W. Kingston*, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E., are the remains of a British station with tumuli and hut circles. On the slope of the down close to this station is a remnant of the Iknield Street, where Roman and British remains have been discovered. A leaden coffin with a nearly perfect skeleton, with nail-studded *caligæ*, was found near the road to Bere a few years since. This is probably the site of Ibernium.

At *W. Anderson* is the fine gabled mansion of the Tregonwells, ascribed on slight evidence to Inigo Jones, c. 1622. The small *Ch.* hard by, almost entirely rebuilt at the same time, retains its little E.E. double bell-gable.

Winterborne Thomson, 4 m., preserves some highly picturesque remains of the manor-house of the Husseys, with some good plaster ceilings. The little *Ch.* was rebuilt by Abp. Wake.]

$29\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Milborne St. Andrew's* was the birthplace of Card. Morton, Abp. of Canterbury, the deviser of "Morton's Fork," b. 1410. There are some remains of the ancient seat of the Mortons. The little *Ch.* has Norm. and E.E. portions, and contains a Norm. font.

1 m. l. is *Weatherbury Castle*, or, as it is called here, *Castle Rings*, a long rectangular British camp, with 2 ramparts and ditches containing 7 acres. An obelisk has been erected within the enclosure, which is now covered with fir-trees.

[2 m. S.E. of Milborne is the market-town of

Bere Regis (*Inns*: Royal Oak; Drax's Arms. Pop. 1624), a poor place of thatched cottages on the high road from Poole to Dorchester, and in the immediate vicinity of a wide tract of barren heath. It is a

place of great antiquity. In Saxon times it assumed its present name, a corruption of Byrig, A.-S. a building; *Regis* being subsequently added to mark it as a royal demesne. The Romans are thought to have had a station here, of which the Belgio-British work, *Woodbury Hill*, has been erroneously supposed to have been the "castra æstiva." Queen Elfrida had a mansion here, to which she retired after the murder of her step-son at Corfe Castle. In later times the royal dwelling was occupied by the ubiquitous John. In a field opposite the church are shown the so-called remains of his palace. By Henry VIII. the lordship of Bere was granted to the Turbervilles, who had possessed a moiety of it from the time of the Conquest. In common with many of the thatched Dorsetshire villages, Bere has been repeatedly ravaged by fire. The philanthropist may be interested to learn that near Bere is the Dorset Reformatory for boys; while the lover of field sports may care to be informed that at *Hyde*, 2 m. S.E., is Mr. Radclyffe's kennels for the S. Dorset Hunt.

Bere Ch. is a fine architectural study, from the variety of styles. It is wholly Perp. externally, built of flint and stone, with a stately pinnacled tower (temp. Henry VII.) with canopied niches. Within we find earlier styles. The S. arcade is Trans. Norm.; that to the north E.E. The capitals deserve notice. The timber roof is much enriched. The chancel has an E.E. piscina. The font is Norman, with intersecting arcades on the bowl. In the S. aisle is a late but rich canopied tomb. Among the vicars was the Rev. H. Fisher, commemorated on his sepulchral slab, as on the buildings erected from his benefaction at Balliol College, Oxford, by the brief motto, "Verbum non amplius. Fisher."

N.E. of the town $\frac{1}{2}$ m. on the ex-

treme point of a high ridge rises *Woodbury Hill*, a circular entrenchment, containing 10 acres, formed by 3 ramparts and ditches. On the W. side are the foundations of a chapel. It is annually the scene of *Woodbury Fair*, a large market for sheep, cheese, &c., and formerly very celebrated. It begins September 18th, and lasts 6 days. E. of this hill is *Bere Wood*, and adjoining this wood *Bloxworth House*, a fine old gabled house of the Savages, now of the Cambridges, built in 1608. Abp. Morton was once rector here, and was attainted as "parson of Bloxworth." The *Ch.*, rebuilt in the 16th century, incorporates remains of Dec. work. The S. door is Norman. An hour-glass stand is attached to the pulpit. 2½ m. on the road to Poole. 4 m. on the same road is *Morden Park*. The surrounding country is covered with barrows.

[From Milborne a pretty lane runs up a vale to *Milton Abbey*, 2½ m. N., the seat of Baron Hambro, known for its *Abbey Church*. From the park-gate, with its huge dogs supporting with raised paws armorial shields, the lane turns rt. to

Milton Abbas (Inn: Hambro' Arms), a prim but pretty village which lines a steep road between two wooded hills. It was built 1786 by Joseph Damer, first Earl of Dorchester, and consists of two rows of cottages, each cottage with high thatched roof, and in all respects similar to its neighbour, from which it is separated by an open space planted with a chestnut-tree. In the centre of one row is the almshouse, and in that of the other the church, built in debased Gothic 1786, with pinnacled tower.

Milton Abbey is seated in a hollow at the confluence of three deep valleys below swelling downs and woods, in a park which extends 3 m. from E. to W. It occupies the site of an abbey founded by Athelstan c. 933 for secular priests, who were

made to give place to Benedictine monks in 964. At the Dissolution, it was given by Henry VIII. (for 1000*l.*) to Sir John Tregonwell, his proctor in the divorce from Queen Katharine. From the Tregonwells it passed by marriage to Sir Jacob Banks, secretary to the Swedish Embassy (b. 1663), and then by purchase, in 1752, to Joseph Damer, afterwards Earl of Dorchester. With the exception of the hall, the whole of the monastic buildings were pulled down in 1771, when the present house was built by the Earl of Dorchester, from the designs of Sir William Chambers. It is a large quadrangular mansion with a central court, and is constructed of white limestone, alternating with layers of flint. It is a curious example of its architect's notions of the Gothic style. The principal fronts face the N. and the W., and on the S. is the noble abbey church.

The only interesting part of the house is the *Monks' Hall*, or *Refectory*. The walls are hung with ancient weapons, and emblazoned with the arms of Athelstan and other patrons of the abbey. It is a stately apartment, with a roof of Irish oak, a much-admired screen of the same material (but painted white and gilded), and a sideboard, on which a stag-hunt is finely carved. Among its curiosities are also the antlers of an elk found in Tipperary; the great bugle-horn used in the old deer-hunts, and 2 portraits of monks. The date, 1498, and the rebus of Abbot Middleton (a mill and a tun) will be observed on the screen and cornice.

The *Abbey Church* is a truly noble specimen of ecclesiastical architecture, deserving to take high rank among the minsters of the land, but till recently, from its remote situation, almost unknown to architectural enquirers. It consists of the three eastern arms of a cross church, with a very richly pinnacled tower

rising at the intersection of the transepts. Its outline recalls that of Merton College Chapel at Oxford; and there is every reason to believe that, as in that instance, the nave was never erected. The church, which existing fragments show had been erected with much elaborate ornament towards the end of the 12th centy., was set fire to by lighting in 1309, and burnt down. The rebuilding soon commenced, and was carried on gradually. The choir is the earliest part, and is also the plainest. The S. transept was the next part built, of much finer work; followed by the N. transept, in which the Decorated of the other portions passes into Perpendicular, which style is fully developed in the elaborate tower. The nave was planned, but the existing window jambs are not grooved for glass, and no foundations have been discovered by digging, so that it is concluded that it was never erected. The Lady Chapel has been destroyed. The best view of the ch. is that from the S.E., which displays the beautifully designed double flying buttresses, supporting the clerestory. The whole of the interior is vaulted in stone. The arrangement of the choir arcade is singular, having rather the effect of a wall pierced with arches than a continuous arcade. The design is heavy and suffers from the want of a string-course above the arches, which is found in the transepts. The lantern arches are noble. The rich altar-screen (dated 1492), which was walled up for security, but now uncovered and restored in artificial stone, is an elaborate work, of the same character as those of Winchester and St. Albans, divided into niches, with highly-decorated canopies. The carving of the stalls is good. Two ancient paintings are preserved in the ch. They are supposed to represent Athelstan, the founder of the abbey, and his queen, the former presenting a model of

the church to a monk who is kneeling; the latter holding in her hand a hawk, which is devouring a small bird. Among other things, the visitor should notice, on the rt. of the altar, the 3 canopied sedilia; in the N. transept the marble monument of Lord and Lady Milton, by *Carlini*, 1775; in the S. transept, the Jesse window by Pugin, and a curious wooden tabernacle for the sacring bell in the S. aisle; on the wall, the rebus of the name Milton (a mill and a tun, or cask, with date 1218); and in the N. aisle, the marble monument of Sir John Tregonwell, 1565. A beautifully executed but inappropriate white marble font, by a pupil of Thorwaldsen's, has been given by Baron Hambro, by whom the whole building has been munificently restored under the direction of Mr. Scott.

The dimensions of the church are—length, 132 ft.; breadth, 61 ft.; transept, 107 ft.; tower, 101 ft. high.

On the hill to the E. of the abbey, reached by smoothly kept grass slopes, stands the chapel of *St. Catherine* in the early Norman style, with encaustic tiles paving the chancel, and a curious declaration of indulgence on the side of the S. door.

About 3 m. N.W. rises *Bullbarrow*, the loftiest chalk down on the range, 927 ft. above the sea. It is crowned by the camp of *Ravelsbury Rings*, a circular work formed by double ramparts, and commanding very extensive views over the country. *Nettlecomb Toot*, 4 m. W., is another entrenched hill.

Hilton, 1½ m. N.W., possesses a very attractive ivy-grown *Ch.* The tower is stately, and there are fine Perp. windows. 1½ m. S.W. of *Hilton*, in a quiet recess, deep down among the round chalk hills, approached by avenues of stately trees, stands the fine old residence of *Bingham's Melcombe* (Col. Bingham), the seat of the Binghams without a break in

the male succession since about 1250. It was the birthplace of *Sir Richard Bingham*, "a brave soldier," says Fuller, "*fortis et felix* in all his undertakings." He was at the battles of Lepanto and St. Quentin, and has a monument in Westminster Abbey.

On entering the courtyard under the buttressed gatehouse, the terraced front of the Hall, with its oriel of remarkable projection, presents a very picturesque composition, in combination with a gable richly decorated with escutcheons and angular shafts. The windows of the little *Ch.*, a plain Dec. building, contain some good bits of glass from Milton Abbey.]

33 m. *Puddletown*, a large village on the river Puddle. The *Ch.* deserves a visit: it consists of a very broad nave with N. aisle, and a S. transeptal chapel opening by a panelled arch, containing fine recumbent effigies of cross-legged knights of the Martin family of Athelhampton, to whom also there are some brasses. The nave has a very fine panelled ceiling of the 15th cent. The tower is Tr. Norm. patched in Perp.

[From *Puddletown* the tourist should visit *Athelhampton Hall* (Mrs. G. J. Wood) (pronounced Admiston), 1½ m. E., one of the best examples of Domestic architecture in the county, probably built by the Martins in the reign of Henry VII. The chief feature is the noble hall, with a grand trefoiled wooden roof and beautiful oriel. The domestic apartments are in a later building set at right angles to the hall, with a beautiful corbelled shaft projecting at the angle. The very picturesque gatehouse has been pulled down, but it has been partially reconstructed. The *ch.* is new.

Pursuing the river we reach

2 m. *Tolpuddle*, taking its distinctive name from Tola, wife of Orc, one of Canute's house-carles, the co-

foundress of *Abbotsbury Monastery*, on which she bestowed this manor. (Rte. 12.)

3¼ m. *Affpuddle*, a *ch.* and manor once belonging to *Cerne Abbey*. The *ch.*, standing picturesquely among fine trees on the S. bank of the little river, is a very interesting structure, with an E. E. chancel, almost wholly restored in the Perp. period, to which the very fine tower belongs. Remark the beautiful E. E. S. door and curious carved pulpit, "mayd" in 1547 by Thos. Lylynton, a monk of *Cerne*, who being "honest and conformable," became vicar at the Dissolution. The beautifully carved benches are also his work and bear his name. The whole partake of a Renaissance character. The font is Norman. The views from the hills, especially *Black Ridge*, are delightful. *Affpuddle Heath*, S., is covered with multitudes of conical hollows, which attracted attention as early as *Leland's* time. They are supposed by *Mr. Prestwich* to be formed naturally, by the loose superincumbent stratum being washed by the rains into the sand-pipes in the chalk below: but there is no real doubt that, like the similar hollows at *Pen Pits*, they are the sites of the huts of a British village.

2 m. E. *Turners* (probably *Toners*) *Puddle*. The *Ch.* has a fine Norm. font, with interlacing work, and some good bench ends with arabesque ornamentation. From *Blackhill*, an eminence to the N., with a clump of firs, there is a very extensive view.]

33¾ m. a hamlet known as *Troy Town*, a name anciently borne by the maze or labyrinth of which an example has been mentioned above at *Pimperne*, and which still exist in other parts of the kingdom. (See *Archæol. Journal*, vol. xv.)

34¼ m. the road crosses *Yellowham Hill*, a picturesque eminence covered with fir and other trees, and passing *Stinsford*, where are some remains of

the ancient residence of the Staffords, reaches

38 m. DORCHESTER (Rte. 12). The traveller leaves this town by the Roman *Via Iceniana*, or *Icknield Street*, now for $\frac{1}{2}$ m. an avenue. On the rt. is *Poundbury*; on the l., in the distance, *Maiden Castle*.

Now o'er true Roman road our horses sound,
Grævius would kneel and kiss the sacred ground.

From the end of the avenue the road runs in a straight line up the long slope of *Bradford Down*, and from the summit, in 3 m., commands an extensive prospect. Heights and hollows are alike studded with barrows. Many may be counted on the crests of the distant hills ranging from *Ridgway Hill* to *Blackdown*. There are others on the low ground of *Fordington Field*, and several by the roadside, in the adjacent meadows. After a descent of $\frac{3}{4}$ m. we turn l., leaving the Roman road, which pursues a direct course towards *Eggardon Hill*. In front rises the dark height of *Black Down*, 817 ft. above the sea. It is crowned by an octagonal tower in memory of the gallant *Admiral Sir Thomas Hardy*, who was born in the village of *Portisham* to the S. of it. On the southern slope of the down is the cromlech known as *Helstone* (Rte. 12).

43 m. *Winterborne Abbas* (Inn: Coach and Horses), a rural village sunk among the chalk downs, $9\frac{1}{2}$ m. from *Weymouth*. The Ch. has a fine tower, and remains of E. E. work; a Norman font, and a good piscina, c. 1320. *Winterborne*, in common with other places of the name, is so called from a stream, peculiar to the chalk valleys, of which the fountains periodically well up, or "break," as it is termed, in the winter.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. beyond this village, l., is a stone circle, known as the *Nine Stones*, 28 ft. in diameter. It stands on

a bare spot, and there is a popular notion that trees will not grow within the circle. The stones are of a cherty conglomerate, and 8 in number, and one only appears to be wanting. The largest is 7 ft. in height by 4 ft. in width; the next in size $5\frac{1}{2}$ ft. by 6 ft.; the others are mere fragments little raised above the ground.

Climbing the downs we reach the entrance of *Bridehead* (R. Williams, Esq.), formerly the residence of the Mellers, which takes its name from a copious spring, which, issuing from the chalk, forms a beautiful lake, the head of the river *Bride*, which, flowing W. past *Berwick*, *Bridy*, and *Granston*, falls into the sea at *Burton Bradstock*. The E. E. ch., with tower and spire, was built in 1850, and is that of the parish of *Little Bredy*.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. Another entrance to *Bridehead*, which is about 2 m. l. The road here quits the enclosed country for the open downs, on which it continues for some miles. Upwards of 20 barrows stud the adjoining slopes. Dr. Stukeley pronounced this locality "for sight of barrows not to be equalled in the world."

1 m. rt. *Kingston Russel*, an ancient mansion, now a farm-house, with tall trees and a rookery—an oasis among the furze-covered hills. It was for 4 centuries the seat of the Russels, ancestors of the Duke of Bedford (see *ante*, *Wolveton*, Rte. 12.). On the summit to the l. are several barrows, and a bank and ditch running E.N.E. and W.S.W. Below the S. side of this hill lies the village of *Long Bredy*.

$46\frac{1}{4}$ m. *The Hut Inn* and *Long Bredy Gate* (540 ft. above the sea), on cross roads, where there is a pass through the downs. By the gate are 2 grassy tumuli, and the remains of a third, which helps to support the inn stable. The road now ascends to the summit of a lofty ridge, reaching a height of 702 feet, on which it continues for

2½ m. To the l. is a delightful view of fertile valleys, of the hills by the coast, and a fringe of blue sea. The earthworks of *Abbotsbury Castle*, and the height of *Punchknoll Knob*, with its sea-mark, are conspicuous.

48¾ m. Here the whole of western Dorset, and parts of Somerset and Devon, open on the traveller, who commences a descent of 2 m. On the rt. beyond an intervening valley stretches the long rolling down of

Eggardon Hill, crowned by a remarkable camp, resembling in its shape and the strength of its defences *Maiden Castle*, near *Dorchester*. On the N. and E. its entrenchments are double; on the W. triple; on the S. they cannot be accurately traced. The inner rampart is more than 50 ft. in height, and the oval area it encloses, of 20 acres, is studded with tumuli. The entrances are two in number, on the N.W. and S.E., and artfully made by overlapping banks. To that on the S.E. ran the Roman road direct from *Dorchester*. The hill stands in 3 parishes.

50 m. *Travellers' Rest* (253 ft. above the sea). l. is *Shipton Beacon*, like a ship turned keel upwards, with an elliptical camp. It is irregular in form, with a single low rampart and ditch. Just S. of it is *Hammerdon Hill*, and to the N.W. are seen the singular twin heights of *Lewesdon* and *Pillesdon*, called by sailors the *Cow and the Calf*, the latter the highest hill in Dorsetshire, 934 ft. above the sea.

3 m. BRIDPORT (*Inns*: Bull; Greyhound. Pop. 4645.) [Bridport is connected with the G. W. and S.-W. system by a branch line to *Maiden Newton* on the *Dorchester and Yeovil* line. A daily omnibus runs from *Bridport*, through *Beaminster* to the *Crewkerne* Stat. of the S.-W. Rly. to *Exeter*.] This is a large airy town, surrounded by hills, and seated on a gentle eminence between 2 small streams, the *Brit*, W., and *Asker*, E., which unite below the town. The

streets form a Y, two branches rising from the E. and W. towards the centre, where stands the red-brick *Town Hall*, and a third running S. towards the harbour. The town is chiefly built of red brick, and has no architectural pretensions. *Bridport* has long been celebrated for its manufacture of twine, rope, shoethread, &c., and in the reign of *Henry VIII.* supplied most of the cordage used in the royal navy. A quantity of hemp was formerly grown in the neighbourhood, and hence the local phrase for a man being hanged, "he was stabbed with a *Bridport dagger*." This was taken by *Leland* in a literal sense; "at *Bridport*," he says, "be made good daggers." There are *twine walks* at the backs of most of the houses, which are worth inspection.

The *Ch.* is a fine cruciform building with a central tower, chiefly *Perp.*; but the transepts are *E. E.*, with *Perp.* windows inserted. In the N. transept is a beautiful cross-legged effigy of a mailed knight, supposed to be one of the *Chidiocks*. There is a fine modern stone pulpit. In the S. aisle is a mural brass to *Edw. Coker* of *Mapowder*, killed by one of the *Duke of Monmouth's* men, *June 14, 1685*.

The antiquary will find some ancient houses worth a visit. The chief of these is a fine *Tudor* building of 2 stories, now used as a "working men's association," on the E. side of the S. street. On the opposite side of the street is a plainer building, known as *Dungeness*, now dilapidated, said to have been the house of the *Prior of St. Leonard's*. It has a newel staircase, and its interior arrangements are very interesting. Behind a house on the S. side of the E. bridge is the remnant of *St. John's Hospital*.

The *Quay* is 1½ m. distant, where there is a double wooden pier of rather primitive appearance, each end being sharp like the prow of a

vessel. The harbour thus formed is of consequence to Bridport, but useless as a place of refuge, the entrance being narrow and obstructed by sand. Around the inner basin are grouped some cottages and an *Inn*, the *George*. At this inn, on his escape from Charmouth, Charles II. narrowly missed being discovered and seized, the ostler recognizing his face as one he had seen before. Escaping from Bridport he made his way to Broadwindsor, and thence to Salisbury. The coast is very beautiful, undulating towards the W. in irregular heights, including that striking eminence *Golden Cap Hill*. It also displays an excellent geological section, the strata, from their easterly dip, being exhibited in succession on the cliff. On *Golden Cap* the sands of the inferior oolite are seen resting on lias, which forms the body of the hill. On *Down Cliff* the blue stratum of lias is at a much lower level, and E. of the harbour it disappears altogether beneath the shore, being succeeded by the beds of yellow sand and marl belonging to the oolite. Again, beyond the mouth of the small river Bredy, the oolite is lost to view in its turn; the low *Burton Cliffs* being formed of fullers' earth, abounding in fibrous calcareous spar. At Bridport harbour the *Chesil Bank* begins, its materials passing gradually from fine sand to coarse shingle between this point and Portland.

Bridport has never been distinguished by any important event. It was occupied during the Civil War as quiet quarters by Royalists and Roundheads, but it was never contested by either party. Upon Monmouth landing at Lyme, it was surprised by his forces, and became the scene of some temporary confusion and riot. For this the inhabitants had to reckon with Judge Jeffreys, who hung up a dozen of their number in the market-place.

Bridport was the birthplace of

Bp. Bridport, of Sarum, consecr. 1256, who, according to Leland, "kyverid the new cathedrall ch. of Saresbyri throughout with lead." It gave the title to Sir Alexander Hood, Baron Bridport, the famous admiral.

There is a pleasant walk over the hills, returning by the cliffs or along the shore to

[*Burton Bradstock*, 3 m. S.E. of Bridport, which takes its name in its original form, *Brideton*, from the river Bredy on which it stands, near its embouchure (a pretty spot). The manor was given by Henry I. to St. Stephen's, Caen, to redeem the regalia which the Conqueror at his death had bequeathed to that abbey. It at one time belonged to Bradstock Priory in Wilts (Rte. 1). It was afterwards assigned to St. Stephen's, Westminster, and remained the property of that college till the Dissolution. The *Ch.* is cruciform, mainly Perp., with a central tower supported on panelled arches.

Swyre, 2½ m. E., lying just below the conspicuous hill *Puncknoll Knob*, may be visited for the sake of its *intermittent spring*, at Berwick farm, ¾ m. N., said to ebb and flow with the tide, and to have a briny savour. It is protected by a small thatched shed].

[6 m. N., deeply seated among the hills in the beautiful and fertile vale of the Birt, stands the market town of BEAMINSTER (*Inn*: *White Hart*. Pop. 2614), a neat, well-looking place, owing its modern appearance to its frequent conflagrations. On Palm Sunday, 1644, during the civil war, when Prince Maurice was quartered here, it was fired in five places in consequence of a quarrel among the different forces, and nearly burnt to the ground. Sprigge passed through it the next year with Fairfax's army, and found it "the pitifullest spectacle that man can behold: hardly a house

left not consumed." A large part was again burnt in 1684, and again in 1781. The *Ch.* (a chapel of ease to Netherbury) happily escaped these repeated fires, and is a very noble building, with rich memorial windows of stained glass. It is Perp. externally, with a stately square tower c. 1503, (on which the quarters of some of Monmouth's followers were exposed), ornamented with niches and sculptures of the B. Virgin and the Crucifixion, Resurrection, Ascension, &c., on the W. face. The arcade of the nave, and a curious squint from the S. aisle into the chancel, are E. E. The chancel arch has some good panelling. It contains monuments of the Strodes, including a marble statue to Thos. Stode, serjeant-at-law, d. 1698, and one with marble effigies and statues of fine workmanship to George Stode and his wife, 1753. A curious building called "the Mort House" adjoins the ch., and has been laid open to it and seated. There is a Free school here, of which the Rev. S. Hood, the father of the naval heroes Lords Bridport and Hood, was master. Thos. Sprat, Bp. of Rochester, was born here, 1635.

Beaminster is in the centre of a district famous for the double Dorset or mould cheese, and the surrounding hilly country is mostly laid out in dairy farms.

From Axe Knoll, a considerable eminence 2 m. N.E., flow the rivers Axe and Brit.

At *Knolle*, 1 m. S.W., is a burial-ground set apart by James Daniel for the burial of his family and relations, chiefly Anabaptists, in memory of his preservation after the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth, whose cause he had espoused.

2 m. S.W., under Lewesdon Hill, *Stoke Abbot Ch.* has an E. E. chancel, and rich Norman font. The tower was rebuilt after being struck by lightning, 1828. The Rev. W. Crowe, the once well-known public

orator of Oxford, author of 'Lewesdon Hill,' was rector here. Crowe's 'Lewesdon Hill' was much admired by Rogers, who says in his 'Table-talk,' "When travelling in Italy I made two authors my constant study for versification, Milton and Crowe."

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Beaminster, on the Bridport road, is *Parnham* (Sir Henry Oglander, Bart.), formerly the seat of the Strodes, from whom it passed by marriage to the Oglanders in 1764. The house (which is occasionally shown) is a Tudor building at the end of an avenue of wide-branching elms. It contains a fine Hall, built by John Stode, 1449, and altered by Nash, emblazoned with coats of arms, and a gallery of portraits, chiefly of the Stode family. In the drawing-room are original portraits of Thomas, Lord Cromwell, and Gregory, his son. William Stode, one of the five members in Charles I.'s time, was a cadet of this house. The *Birt* flows behind the house; and along its banks is a pretty walk to the village of *Netherbury*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m., one of the largest parishes in the county, abounding in rivulets. The *Ch.* is Perp., with a square tower, containing an alabaster monumental effigy in complete armour, with a collar of SS. round the neck, to one of the Moore family. Charles II. halted here on his way to Salisbury, after the failure of his attempted escape from Charmouth. There is an ancient Manor House at *Strode* (G. T. Gollop, Esq.) At *Melplash* is a new ch., built 1845, in the Norman style by James Bardinell, Esq. *Melplash Court*, now tenanted by a farmer, is a large ancient mansion bearing the arms and motto of the Paulets. There is a small domestic chapel at the back. At *Mapperton*, 2 m. S.E. of Beaminster, is a Manor House of the time of Henry VIII., with octagonal turrets and spiral pedestals surmounted with heraldic figures. N.W. rises a conical hill called *Chart Knoll*.

Broad Windsor, 3 m. N.W. of Beaminster, was the rectory of that quaint old writer *Thomas Fuller*, who there finished his 'History of the Holy Warre,' and prepared his 'Pisgah Sight.' He was presented to it 1634, by his uncle, Bp. Davenant, and ousted at the Rebellion; but he returned to it at the Restoration, and held it until his death in 1661. The ch. was rebuilt in 1868. The parish lies chiefly in a rich vale of meadows and orchards watered by innumerable brooks, and bounded by bold hills. The chief of these are the twin heights of

Lewesdon Hill and *Pillesdon Pen* (this latter remarkable for the peaked form of its southern extremity), two conspicuous eminences of greensand, remarkable for their likeness to one another when viewed from certain points, about 3 m. W. of Beaminster. Sailors, whom they serve as a landmark, call them the *Cow and the Calf*; and the two hills together have given rise to a proverbial saying current in this county, and applied to neighbours who are not acquainted—

"as much akin
As Lew'son Hill to Pil'son Pen."

These hills command a charming prospect; and *Pillesdon*,

"that rival height south-west,
Which like a rampire bounds the vale beneath,"
—*Crowe*.

is further interesting as the site of an ancient camp, of oval form, encompassed by three strong ramparts and ditches. It is the highest point in the county, 934 ft. above the sea.

Wordsworth and his sister settled at *Racedown Lodge*, on the N.W. slope of *Pillesdon*, in the autumn of 1795, in a house belonging to Mr. Pinney, of Bristol, a friend of Basil Montague's. The place was very retired, with little or no society, and a post but once a week. Miss W. describes it as "the place dearest to my recollections upon the whole surface of the island; the first home I had;"

and speaks with rapture of the lovely meadows above the tops of the combs, and the scenery on *Pillesdon*, *Lewesdon*, and *Blackdon Hill*, and the view of the sea from *Lambert's Castle*. Here Wordsworth wrote 'The Borderers,' and in June, 1797, received his first visit from Coleridge, which led to their removal to *Alfoxden*.

Pillesdon, 5 m. W. of Beaminster, was the birthplace of Sir John Hody, Chief Justice of King's Bench, 1440, temp. Hen. VI., whom a false tradition asserts to have passed sentence of death for a capital crime on his own son, who (alas for the tale!) could not have been 7 years old at his father's death. Of the same family were Lord Chief Baron Hody, dec. 1524, and Humphrey Hody, the learned divine of 1706. The Ch., restored 1830, contains a good piscina, and a stoup in the porch.

Bettiscombe, a beautiful little ch. built in 1862 by J. Tatchell-Bullen, Esq., of Marshwood Manor, is a conspicuous object on the E. side of the vale. It contains memorials of the Pinneys.]

The drive from *Bridport* to *Lyme* (8 m.) is very attractive, up and down a series of long and steep hills, succeeding one another like waves, and commanding very varied prospects, with every now and then a peep of the blue sea to the l. through gaps in the downs.

Through *Bridport's* stony lanes our way we take,
And the proud steep descend to *Morcomb-lake*.

On unadulterate wine we here regale,
And rob the lobster of his scarlet mail.
On either side low fertile vallies lie,
The distant prospects tire the travelling eye.
—*Gay*.

As we commence the ascent the remarkable conical eminence of *Colmer's Hill*, almost volcanic in its outline, is a striking object on the rt. At its foot lies *Symonds-bury*, the birthplace of Addison's friend and fellow

worker Eustace Budgell, the son of the rector of the parish, who, maddened by losses in the South Sea Bubble, drowned himself at London Bridge, 1737. The cruciform *Ch.* with central tower lessening as it rises, deserves notice. Bp. Gulston of Bristol is buried in the chancel, d. 1684.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Chilicock*, the seat of an ancient family of the same name, whose noble house, continually taken and retaken in the Great Rebellion, was at last "slighted," (*i.e.* ruined) by order of Col. Ceeley, Governor of Lyme, 1645. The remains were still standing in 1733, when Buck published a view of them. The site of the house may be traced in a field N.E. of the *ch.* The *Ch.* is most Perp. and contains an effigy of a knight in plate armour, probably of Sir John Arundell, on an altar-tomb of black marble. A little stream running through the valley enters the sea at *Down Cliffs*. Another long climb brings us to the hamlet of

$4\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Morcomb Lake* (296 ft. above sea), commanding a wide view over the Vale of Marshwood and the remarkable hills which encircle it. To the l. lies *Golden Cup*, with its signal station 610 ft. above the sea that washes its base: rt. is *Hardown Hill*, looking down upon *Whitchurch*.

[To the rt. spreads the deep enclosed district known as the *Vale of Marshwood*. This district is little visited, and presents no very attractive features, except in the early summer, when it is a perfect blaze of wild flowers. It is truly spoken of as "a terrible rough country," based on the cold stiff clay of the lias. Crowe, who knew it well, thus describes it—

"In wintry days,

Cold, vapourish, miry, wet, and to the flocks
Unfriendly, when autumnal rains begin
To drench the spongy turf."

—Crowe's '*Lewesdon Hill*.'

It is, however, remarkable for the

large size of its oaks. Loudon mentions a tree of this kind, on the estate of *Stockham*, below *Lewesdon Hill*, as 52 ft. in height and 22 ft. in circumference. "It stands," he says, "singly on rising ground, and attracts the notice of travellers." The *Chapel* of *Marshwood* was ruined in the Great Rebellion. Of the *Castle* there are some remains of a Norman keep.

The capital of this ill-favoured tract of ground is 1 m. N., *Whitchurch Canonycorum*, one of the largest parishes in the county, lying in the heart of the vale, the soil of which is uninvitingly described by Hutchins as "rich, deep, and dirty," with roads almost impassable in winter or wet summers. Since his time some improvement has taken place. The name of the parish points to a time when its church of *white* stone was a notable object among the mean wattled or wooden edifices with which the religion of our early ancestors was contented. Later authorities derive it from a mythical "St. White" or "Sancta Candida," whose well was shown in Coker's time. The name *Canonycorum* was given in consequence of the rectory being appropriated to the canons of Salisbury and Wells. The kings of Wessex had large estates in this vicinity. *Whitchurch* was bequeathed by King Alfred to his youngest son Ethelward.

The *Ch.* (Holy Cross) deserves notice (restored 1849). It is cruciform with a W. tower. The chancel and part of the nave are Trans. Norman, of which style the S. door is a beautiful example: the transepts c. 1200; the tower c. 1400. The nave arcade is partly Trans. Norman. The capitals merit attention. The oak roof, c. 1400. The font is coeval with the earliest part of the edifice. In the N. transept is a large altar-tomb to some of the De Mandeville family. In the chancel is a remarkably rich altar-tomb with pedimental canopy, and well-exe-

cuted effigy to Sir John Jeffery, Knt., of Catherstone, d. 1611. There is also a tomb to John Wadham, of Catherstone, Captain of Sandsfoot Castle, and Recorder of Lyme, d. 1584; and a slab with Lombardic capitals to Geoffrey de Luda and his wife Eleanor, with the matrix of a floriated cross.]

A long descent along the flank of *Stonebarrow Hill*, with the heights of *Catherston* (where is a beautiful little ch., built by the late R. C. Hildyard, Esq.; the bell a trophy from Sebastopol), *Coneygore*, and *Lambert's Castle*, rising one beyond the other, before us, brings us to the little watering-place of

7 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Charmouth* (*Inns: Coach and Horses; George*), a charming village in a lovely situation, with a sprinkling of villas slowly climbing the hill, called by Hutchins the *Plinlimmon* of Dorset. It consists of one long street, or rather road, situated above the mouth of the *Char*, flowing from the abundant springs of the *Vale of Marshwood*, the leading feature of the view being the heights which hedge in the valley, particularly those from which the road has just descended. It is a place with some historical memoirs. Here were fought two sanguinary battles between the piratical hordes of the Danes and Saxons. In the first, A.D. 833, the Saxons were commanded by Egbert; in the second, A.D. 840, by Ethelwolf. In both, the Danes were victorious. At Charmouth, too, in the attempted escape of Charles II. to France, after his concealment at Trent, subsequent to his defeat at Worcester, occurred the incident which so nearly led to the discovery of the fugitive. A plan had been concerted with the captain of a merchantman trading to Lyme, that a boat, at a particular hour of the night, should be sent to the beach at Charmouth. Charles rode hither under the guidance of Lord Wilmot and

Colonel Wyndham, and rested at the little inn to await the appointed time. The suspicions of the wife of the owner of the vessel being awakened, she threatened to give instant information to the local authorities if he did not give up the engagement. No vessel therefore was forthcoming at the appointed hour, so that the fugitive was obliged to give up the enterprise, and to pass the night in the village. The next morning it was found that his horse had cast a shoe, and the village blacksmith was summoned to repair the loss. This was a curious fellow, who remarked that "the horse's 3 shoes had been set in 3 different counties, and one of them in Worcestershire." The hostler, who was a Republican soldier, and who had had his suspicions already aroused, carried the information to the Puritan minister of the place, Bartholomew Wesley, the ancestor of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. From the minister it went to the magistrate; and from the magistrate to the captain of a troop of horse, who soon galloped with his men in pursuit. Fortunately for the king, they took the wrong road, and he escaped to Bridport, and thence by Broadwindsor to Salisbury. The "king's bed-room," in a part of the old inn, now inhabited as a cottage, is pointed out. The house is the next above the chapel.

• The *Church* was rebuilt in the E. E. of the time, in 1836, and improved in 1861.

Charmouth began to emerge from its condition of an agricultural and fishing village at the beginning of the century, and to assume the character of a watering-place. Miss Austen, in her charming novel 'Persuasion,' speaks of its "high grounds and extensive sweeps of country, and its sweet retired bay backed by dark cliffs, where fragments of low rock among the sands make it the happiest spot for watching the flow of the tide."

The cliffs at Charmouth, descending in dark slopes to the sea, exhibit a fine section of the strata (described under Bridport), and abound in interesting fossil remains. These include the bones of colossal Saurians (see Lyme), of the Pterodactyle, and numerous fish. Ammonites and belemnites, are found in great quantities on *Golden Cap*. The lias contains much bituminous matter and iron pyrites, which have frequently taken fire after heavy rains. Remarkable instances occurred in 1531 and 1751. A bed of gravel at the mouth of the river contains the bones of the elephant and rhinoceros, and the remains of trees.

Trout, and in the proper season salmon-peel, may be caught in the *Char*.

N. of Charmouth 3 m. is *Conie* i.e. the King's) *Castle*, supposed to have been the camp of Egbert when he fought with the Danes; and 4 m. *Lambert's Castle*, another strong entrenchment, having triple mounds and ditches, pierced by 3 outlets. The area of the last is 12 acres, and shaped like a D. A fair is held here twice a year.

From the higher end of this village you ascend into a deep cutting called the *New Passage*, which forms rather a perilous pass in the winter, as the rocks have the habit of falling after rain. The road then skirts the slope of a great hill-crescent, with a beautiful view of Lyme far below on the margin of the sea. The descent is long and steep. One on foot may shorten the distance by a field-path, which runs direct from the summit to the new *Cemetery*, a pretty spot on the outskirts of the town.

9½ m. LYME REGIS (*Inns*: Three Cups; *Golden Lion*. Pop. 2537.) Public conveyances run from Lyme to the Axminster Stat. of the S.-W. Rly. Lyme, described by Macaulay as "a small knot of steep and narrow alleys lying on a coast, wild, rocky,

and beaten by a stormy sea," is situated in a most romantic position at the foot of the hills, being built in the hollow and on the slopes of a deep combe, "the principal street almost hurrying into the water" (*Miss Austen*), through which flows the small stream of the *Lym*, or *Buddell*, to the sea. It is seated on a grand coast, which rises E. in the blackest precipices, and W. in broken crags thickly mantled with wood. The climate is very mild during the winter; and it is at all times exceedingly healthy. It contains a good hotel and lodging-houses, and is well supplied with shops. The neighbourhood is so abundant in beauty and interest that we may thoroughly accept *Miss Austen's* dictum, that "he must be a very strange stranger who does not see charms enough in the immediate vicinity of Lyme, to make him wish to know it better."

Leland describes Lyme as "a praty market town set in the rootes of an high rocky hille down to the hard shore. There cummith a shalow broke from the hilles aboue a 3 miles by north, and cummith fleting on great stones through a stone bridge in the botom."

Lyme first appears (A.D. 774) in a charter of Kynewulf, king of the West Saxons, who granted one manse to the Abbey of Sherborne to supply the monks with salt. Edward I. enfranchised it, and granted it the liberties of a haven and borough. It supplied Edward III. with 4 ships and 62 mariners for the siege of Calais, but was much impoverished by invasions of the French during the reigns of Henry IV. and V., when it was twice plundered and burnt by the French. It also suffered much from inroads of the sea. The men of Lyme furnished 2 ships to the fleet which met the Spanish Armada in 1688. The first engagement between the two fleets was in sight of the hills above the town,

During the Great Rebellion it was held by the Parliament against the King, and successfully withstood a siege, which was one of the most important of the time, the failure of which greatly tarnished the military reputation of Prince Maurice. It commenced on April 20, 1644, and lasted till June 15, when the town was relieved by the approach of the Earl of Essex. The defence was maintained with the utmost heroism by the inhabitants, under the command of Col. Ceely, the governor, assisted by Blake, afterwards the well-known Admiral. Even women took part in the defence. One is said to have discharged 16 muskets at one attack. A maid who had one hand cut off professed her readiness to lose not only her other hand, but her life also in the cause. The besiegers concentrated their force at *Colway* and *Hay*, in the former of which Prince Maurice had his quarters. He was supported by Lord Talbot, &c., with 2500 men. The town was speedily invested, batteries were raised, frequent assaults made, and the inhabitants soon began to suffer all the miseries of a siege. The arrival of the Lord High Admiral, Lord Warwick, on May 23, with a small naval force, greatly encouraged them; but provisions ran short, and the condition of the town began to wax desperate when the approach of Lord Essex forced the besiegers to raise the siege and retire. On May 16, Hugh Peters, who had supported the courage of the inhabitants by his fiery eloquence, preached a thanksgiving sermon for the deliverance of the town. Lyme is said not to have lost more than 120 men during the siege, while the loss of the besiegers nearly reached 2000, whom they buried near Colway. The Parliament testified their sense of the importance of the result of the siege by a vote of 2000*l.* and 26 dozen pair of shoes, and other gratuities to the men of Lyme.

The next event of historic interest that illustrates the annals of Lyme is the landing of the Duke of Monmouth, June 11, 1685. Immediately on reaching the shore Monmouth knelt down and thanked God for having preserved the friends of liberty and pure religion from the perils of the sea, and implored the Divine blessing on his enterprise. The townspeople at once espoused his cause with enthusiasm. The little town was in an uproar with men running to and fro, and shouting "a Monmouth! a Monmouth! the Protestant Religion!" His ensign was set up in the Market-place, his military stores were placed in the Town-hall, and his declaration was read from the Cross. The mayor, Alford, was a zealous Tory, and immediately gave the alarm to the neighbouring gentry, and took horse for the West, despatching a few hurried lines with the ill-tidings to London. An event of evil omen clouded the outset of Monmouth's enterprise. Fletcher of Saltoun having quarrelled with Dare, Monmouth's secretary, about a horse he had seized, drew a pistol and shot him dead, and was forced to retreat to the ships to escape the clamorous vengeance. Still recruits came in by hundreds, among whom was Daniel de Foe, then about 24 years old. Arming and drilling went on all day, and in spite of the repulse of Grey, who had marched with 500 men to attack Bridport, and "never stopt till they were safe in Lyme again," a sufficient force was raised by June 15, to present so formidable a front to Albemarle at Axminster as to cause him to retreat. The unfortunate town soon had to pay for its burst of enthusiasm. After Jeffreys' Bloody Assize at Dorchester, 13 townsmen were executed here, Sept. 12, among whom were William Hewling, a lad of 19, whose brother Benjamin ("they were young, handsome, accomplished, and well connected"—*Macaulay*) perished at Taunton; and Christopher

Battiscombe, "a young Templar of family and fortune of Dorchester, where he was regarded as the model of a fine gentleman. He was engaged to the sister of the high sheriff, who threw herself at the feet of Jeffreys to beg for mercy; but he drove her from him with a hideous jest. He suffered at Lyme, firmly and courageously."—*Macaulay.*

Cosmo di Medici, Grand Duke of Tuscany, landed here on his visit to England in 1669, Mar. 30. The English and Dutch fleets had an engagement off Lyme in 1672, in which the latter were defeated.

"This town," says Leland, "hath good shippes, and usith fishing and marchaundise. Marchaunts of Morleys in Britaine (Morlaix in Brittany) much haunt this town." In Camden's time it was hardly reported a seaport town, and was frequented by few but fishermen. Salt, wine, and wool were among the early articles of commerce, and trade in elephants' tusks and gold dust was carried on with the African coast. The trade with Morlaix, mentioned by Leland, was in serges and linens only manufactured here; a branch of commerce which was totally destroyed at the breaking out of the war with France, temp. William III. From this date the general trade of the town began to decline, and at the end of the 18th century was almost extinct. About 1760 the prosperity of the town was at its lowest ebb. It had but little shipping, few respectable inhabitants, and no influx of strangers. After this it became a place of resort for sea bathers, and its fortunes began to revive. It is well sheltered from the N. and E. winds, so that the climate is warm in winter, while the sea-breezes temper the too great heat during the summer. The bathing is good, the sands pleasant, and the force of the sea is broken by the Cobb. There is not much gaiety; but Lyme affords an agreeable resort for those who wish to spend a quiet

holiday by the seaside, and its neighbourhood affords many attractions in its varied scenery, and the geological riches of its cliffs.

The *Church* (St. Michael), which has been well restored, is a Perp. building of some merit, standing perilously near the edge of the crumbling cliff. The ground plan is curious, a large late Perp. church having been added to the E. of the low rude tower of a cruciform ch. of the 12th century. A stump of the original nave remains to the W. of the tower, and serves as vestibule and vestry-room. On the capitals of the nave are the initials of William Day, mayor in 1491; and the Harrington knot, commemorating the benefaction of Cicely Bonville, Lady Harrington, of Shute, d. 1480. A Jacobean gallery and pulpit, the gift of Richard Harvey, mercer of London and merchant-adventurer of Lyme, deserve notice. The three largest bells were cast into cannon during the siege. Hewling's tomb, ginally in the S. of the ch., has been mutilated, and only a portion of the inscriptions remains.

Among the natives of Lyme may be named *Sir George Somers*, b. 1554, the discoverer of the Bermudas, or "Somers' Isle." He died at Bermuda 1610, and was buried at Whitechurch Canonieorum. *Arthur Gregory*, whose "admirable talent of forcing the seal of a letter, that it appeared untouched," recommended him to Sir F. Walsingham, then member for Lyme—who by his means obtained knowledge of the contents of the correspondence of the foreign ambassadors, as well as of Mary Queen of Scots. *Captain Thomas Coram*, b. c. 1668, the founder of "The Foundling Hospital" in London. *Dr. Case*, quack and astrologer in the reign of James II. Case made a large fortune by his practice, and on setting up a carriage placed the following quaint motto under his arms—"The Case is altered;" and lastly, *Mary Anning*,

who discovered the Saurian remains. She was the daughter of a vendor of curiosities, nicknamed from his pursuit the *Curi-man*, and was only 10 years of age when in 1811 she found the wonderful reptile in the cliff. The specimen was sold almost immediately for 23*l.*, and is now in the British Museum. A painted window has been put up in the ch. to her memory by the members of the Geological Society.

The *George Inn*, where Monmouth slept during his stay at Lyme, was burnt down 1844.

The *Cobb*, or pier, so called from a very remote period. It was probably first constructed in the reign of Edward I. It has been frequently washed away, and restored at a great price, and was finally renewed and strengthened in 1825-6, after the tremendous storm of Nov. 23, 1824, when 232 ft. of the pier and 447 ft. of the parapet were rebuilt at a cost of 17,337*l.* It is a semicircular structure, of great strength, the thick outer wall rising high above the roadway, so as to protect it from the wind and sea. Its length is 1179 ft., and its extreme breadth 35 ft. The regular curve of this parapet produces a singular effect. It concentrates at a certain point the sounds uttered at another, and thus forms a "whispering gallery," in which two persons may converse at a distance from each other, as in the dome of St. Paul's. For this purpose one speaker should take his station by the steps near the tablet, and the other by the slip. The view from this pier is extremely beautiful, extending across the West Bay to Portland. Close at hand are hills whose bleak bare fronts descend in precipices to the sea, tier upon tier. The most remarkable of these is called *Golden Cap*, a well-known landmark. Above the town rises *Rhodehorn*, its summit pierced by the cutting of *New Passage*, sometimes called the *Devil's Bellows*, from the extreme fury

of the gusts which sweep through it. The pier is a busy spot, there being a considerable export of cement stones, now so largely used for stucco. To the geologist the cliffs will be a mine of interest. The spot most prolific in the bones of reptiles is the *Black Vein*, between Lyme and Charmouth. The cliffs waste rapidly under the assault of the sea, the *Church cliffs* at Lyme receding at the rate of 3 ft. a year. Charmouth Lane, which once traversed them from Lyme to Charmouth, has long since disappeared.

[Among the walks in the neighbourhood may be mentioned—

To the *Undercliff*, W. of the town. The path proceeds to it through Holmbush-field, commanding a fine view of the coast, and then runs for about a mile along the broken ground, as far as *Pinhay House*. Beyond this place it is but slightly marked among the crags, and over these you must scramble if bent on further progress. The path passes at one spot the *Chimney Rock*, projecting from the *Ware Cliffs*, and at another the *Whitechapel Rocks*, so called as the place of meeting of dissenters, who, being persecuted after the Restoration, met for worship in this solitude.

To *Middle Mill*, about a mile up the combe at the back of the town. In its vicinity are *Old Colway House* and *Hay Farm*, the head-quarters of Prince Maurice when he besieged Lyme.

To *Charmouth* by the sands when the tide permits it.

The *Pinhay Landship* is rather more distant than the preceding, but still within an easy walk. You take the lane to *Dowland's Farm*, 3 m., where a ticket, price 6*d.*, must be obtained, after which you are allowed to proceed along a cart-road down the cliff. The entire coast between Lyme and the mouth of the river *Axe* has been the scene of disturbances similar to those which have produced such

charming scenery in the Isle of Wight, and to be attributed to the same cause—the undermining action of the land-springs. The chalk and sandstone forming the upper portion of the down rests on loose sand, which in its turn reposes on an impervious bed of clay shelving towards the shore. The rain, percolating the upper beds, collects on the clay, and washes away the sand as it filters to the sea. Cavities are thus formed, and into these at length the superstratum is precipitated, and being rent by the convulsion, it glides forward on its slippery basis. Such landslips have occurred along this coast at various periods, but that of Pinhay was remarkable for the extent of ground it devastated, and for the wild scene it created. It occurred at Christmas, 1839, over an area of 40 acres, on the farms of Bendon and Dowlands; but the catastrophe, although so wide spread, was unattended by any sudden convulsion, nature seeming to deliberate as she formed the craggy buttresses and pinnacles which now so delight and astonish the beholder. For a week previously cracks had been observed on the brow of the hill, but on the night of Christmas-Eve the land began slowly to subside, while crevices extended in every direction. This disturbance continued on the following day, and at midnight a party of the coastguard were witness to the commencement of the great chasm by the opening of fissures, which produced a noise like the rending of cloth. This was the most eventful period; by the evening of the following day the down had regained its stability, but it presented for a long distance a scene of great ruin. The damage done was considerable; 40 acres of good land had been lost for ever to cultivation, an orchard had been roughly transplanted, and two cottages moved bodily and deposited with shattered walls at a much lower level. The visitor will

now find this scene enriched by a variety of shrubs and trees, many of which were carried down by the débâcle, and survived the rough treatment, particularly the orchard, which still flourishes and bears fruit. The finest views are to be obtained from the brink of the cliffs overhanging the landslip, from the cottage, from the knolls near the sea, and from the E. end of the great chasm, which is situated just W. of the mural precipice. This precipice is the finest feature, and from its rocky wall an echo repeats sounds with great distinctness. The great chasm will probably disappoint. It too much resembles a gravel-pit; but the view from the E. end of it is wonderfully fine, and the old hedges which cross it, disjointed by the fall, are interesting. The features of the scene are much changed since the landslip occurred. They are, in fact, continually changing; and many curiosities, such as the beaches heaved up on the shore, and the *havens* which were formed by it, have long since disappeared. A path runs E. for about 1 m., and, though intruding on the privacy of the rabbits, you are advised to explore it. You may ascend again at *Whitlands*, 2 m. from Lyme. A small landslip occurred here, Feb. 1840, a month or two after that at Dowlands, and between this point and Pinhay House the path is difficult to find. The farmhouse at *Bendon*, nearly opposite the great chasm, and rt. of the lane to Axmouth, retains the interesting features of a manor-house of the 16th cent. It was long a seat of a branch of the Erles. Sir Walter Erle, a distinguished officer on the side of the Parliament, resided here. Bendon is about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. both from Axmouth and the ferry at Seaton.

Ford Abbey, 10 m. N., (Rte. 25,) may be made the object of an excursion from Lyme.

Hawkdown over Axmouth, and *Musbury* to the N. of it, are Roman

camps commanding the valley of the Axe, and affording extensive views. *Conie Castle* and *Lambert's Castle*, the strong entrenchments in the vale of Marshwood, N. of Charmouth, and *Lewesdon* and *Pillesdon*, curious twin hills further N., are often visited from Lyme.]

5½ m. l. *Frampton* (Frome-town), embowered in umbrageous woods, and surrounded by gently rising hills. It was formerly a cell of St. Stephen's of Caen. For many generations the seat of the family of Browne, it passed by will in 1833 to Sir Colquhoun Grant, a distinguished military officer, who served in the Peninsular campaign, and had 5 horses shot under him at Waterloo. His daughter married the grandson and namesake of the famous Richard Brindsley Sheridan. Frampton Court (R. B. Sheridan, Esq.) was built in 1704 by Robt. Browne, Esq., who also added an incongruous tower to the *Ch.*, which was thoroughly restored in 1862, and contains memorials of the Brownes from Sir John, d. 1627. The ancient stone pulpit is adorned with figures in monastic attire, bearing ecclesiastical vessels and books, and a modern relief of the Virgin and Child. The visitor looks in vain for a memorial to John Browne, the zealous Parliamentarian, d. 1659, styled by Oliver Cromwell the "Old Roman," for the determination with which he gave his vote for bringing Charles I. to trial.

ROUTE 14.

DORCHESTER TO YEOVIL [MAIDEN NEWTON TO BRIDPORT.]

(Great Western Railway.)

Leaving the Gt. Western station on Fordington Field the rly. skirts the W. side of the town, and dives in a tunnel under Poundbury Camp. Emerging into the valley of the Frome, we have rt. *Wolveton Hall* and *Charminster*.

At 2¼ m. we cross the Frome and espy l. among the orchards the spire of *Bradford Peverel* (the Broad ford across the Frome): rt. is *Stratton*, "the street town," taking its name from its position on the Roman Way.

4½ m. *Grimstone* Stat., where we look over the green meadows and runnels of water to the woods of Frampton. Here we enter a tunnel of 600 yards through the chalk, on emerging from which we have

A mosaic pavement was discovered at *Frampton*, 1794-6, on Mr. Sheridan's estates. George III. took so much interest in the discovery that he ordered a detachment of soldiers to be placed at Mr. Lyson's disposal for its careful disinterment.

Continuing along rich cattle-studded water-meadows, we pass l. *Frome Vauchurch* with its tiny chapel, and reach

14½ m. *Maiden Newton* Stat. *Maiden Newton* was given by the Conqueror to "Waleran the Hunter." The *Ch.* will reward examination: it contains some early Norman work, including the N. door and window. The base of the tower is earlier still, and may be Saxon. The Dec. roof of the nave is of unusual design. The Perp. porch includes the remains of a Nor-

man one. In the village are an old inn and the base of a cross.

[A branch line of the Gt. Western Rly. here diverges to Bridport, $9\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. It runs at first up a valley watered by a little feeder of the Frome, under Whitesheet Hill, N., and passes $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Toller Fratrum*, the *Ch.* of which (St. Basil) has a fine Norm. font.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Toller Porcorum* Stat., a place deriving its uneuphonious name from the number of swine that formerly found food here.

[*Wynford Eagle*, 2 m. S., was the birthplace of Sydenham, the famous physician in the reign of Charles II. b. 1624. The old house of the Sydenhams remains, boasting still of a richly carved fireplace. Chief Justice Best took his title of Lord Wynford from this place. The modern *Ch.* preserves outside the E. end a very remarkable tympanum of a Norman door with inscriptions. At Lord Wynford's cottage at Stratcombe, remains of a Roman villa with tessellated pavements have been discovered.]

The line runs over a rolling gorse-covered common to

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Poorstock* Stat. (Beaminster is 5 m. N.W.) The *Ch.* has been rebuilt, preserving all the more interesting features, including the rich Norm. chancel arch, the S. arcade of the nave, and the S. door with its elevated arches. 1 m. S.E. is the remarkable entrenchment of *Eggardon Hill* (Rte. 13). To the rt. of the rly. in a nook in the hills stretches the long grey front of *Mappercombe*, worth inspection.

$7\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Loders Ch.*, a picturesque object from the rly., is mainly Perp. with a Norm. font, and contains a monument to Sir Evan Nepean, d. 1822.

$9\frac{1}{4}$ m. BRIDPORT (Rte. 13.)

Returning to the main line—

$15\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Chilfrome*, with a small [*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*]

bell-gabled *Ch.*, stands at the base of Chilfrome Down, across the S. flank of which runs the Crewkerne road, known by the very curious name of *Crimmer* (quasi-*Cromlech*) *Crock Lane*. A little further on the other side of the line the traveller has a glimpse of the fine E.E. *Ch.* of Cattistock, nearly rebuilt, and elaborately decorated; and further still of the gables and chimneys of *Chalmington House* (Col. J. A. Digby).

$16\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Wraxhall* was the seat of the Laurences, two of whom, William and Henry, were of note in the civil disturbances of Charles I.'s time. Milton's sonnet,

"Laurence of virtuous father virtuous son,"

was addressed to the son of the latter, who was a member of Cromwell's Parliament of 1653, President of the Council, and member of his Upper House. The *Ch.* has a Norm. door and chancel arch, and E.E. chancel.

2 m. up the valley is *Rampisham* (pronounced *Ramsom*), known for its prettily situated church, and for a cross (in the churchyard) which has excited much interest from its curious sculpture, and the long flat stone for preaching attached to it. On the 4 sides of this relic (according to Britton's account fifty years since) are represented "the stoning of St. Stephen, the martyrdom of St. Edmund, the martyrdom of St. Thomas à Becket, and two crowned figures sitting at a long table, to which a man kneels on one knee. Over the projections at each end of the panels are carved whole-length figures of St. Peter, with a scroll, the cock standing on a pillar; a man sitting in the character of a fool; a monk sitting; another fool and another monk, both sitting; and two men in armour, standing." The sculpture is now nearly obliterated, with the exception of the stoning of St. Stephen. In the lane which runs to Evershot is the mutilated shaft of

another cross 5 ft. high. The *Ch.*, which is a very good one, has been partly rebuilt, and is very well arranged with a stalled chancel. The tower is at the E. end of the S. aisle, and has the traces of an altar and reedos on the E. wall.

17½ m. l. the long gabled front of the manor-house of *Chantmarle* attracts attention, and leads the tourist to wish to stop and examine it. [It is a pleasant walk of 3 m. from the Maiden Newton Station, by Cattistock and Chalmington. Evershot Station is 1½ m. N. distant.] *Chantmarle* was built A.D. 1619 by Sir John Strode at the cost of 1142*l.*, but never completed. Detached from the house S. stands the chapel, a curious specimen of the debased Gothic of the period.

19 m. *Evershot Stat.* Just beyond the station is *Holywell tunnel*, a very difficult and expensive work, as it is excavated in a loose greensand full of springs. It pierces the hill in a curve 220 yards. The village is 1 m. W.

Melbury Park, the seat of the Fox Strangways, Earls of Ilchester (shown when the family is absent), is situated immediately to the N. of Evershot, and the road through it is a public footway. The house was built, according to Leland, by Sir Giles Strangways, who died 1547, "with a lofty and fresche tower." Much of the mansion is earlier, but none before the 15th cent. The plan forms three limbs of a cross, with a hexagon tower at the intersection. In the S. limb is a fine oriel, and a rich Elizabethan ceiling and fireplace. The E. front is of Queen Anne's time, with Corinthian pilasters. The saloon contains several fine pictures,—a good Rembrandt, Canaletti, &c.; and in the dining-room is a replica, if not the original, of the picture of Queen Elizabeth's progress described under Sherborne Castle. The view of the house standing on its rising lawn, with

its quaint front and tower, as seen from the lake below, is very picturesque. On the S. side is the *Ch.* of *Melbury Sampford*, an ancient structure, with pinnacled tower, containing several monuments to the Brownings, and one, with alabaster effigies, to "Egidius Strangewaies" and "Dorothee" his wife. There is also a brass to Sir Giles Strangways, 1562. On the S. side a sloping lawn descends to a lake in a charming dell, from which rises a wood terraced at the top. W. of the house is a remarkably fine avenue of 4 rows of sycamores; N. of it a grove of lofty oaks, limes, sycamores, and chesnuts; and E., beyond a valley, the wooded eminence of *Bubb Down*, a conspicuous landmark, over which are numerous drives commanding a most extensive and beautiful prospect. Alfred's Tower at Stourhead, Wells cathedral, the Mendips and Quantocks, may be seen at different points. Towards the S. a road traverses the park to *Evershot*, and towards the N. another directs its course between two valleys (each with its stream) to the rural little village of *Melbury Osmund*, which is decked with innumerable creepers, ivy, and laurel hedges, and contains a whimsical old yew-tree which leans over the road. The estate of Melbury is distinguished for the size of its oaks, which thrive on the stiff, retentive soil. There is one in particular, known as *Billy Wilkins*, which is 50 ft. high and 37 ft. in circumference. It is a very gnarled tree, and is called by Mitchell, in his 'Dendrologia,' "as curled, surly, knotty an old monster as can be conceived."

The Oxford clay of this district contains masses of septaria or cementstone, which are polished under the name of *Melbury marble*.

The rly. has now reached its highest point, and begins to descend towards Yeovil, accompanying a small stream, one of the affluents of the

river Yeo. *Bubb Down* rises to the l.: rt. is the village of *Chetnole*, a chapelry to

23½ m. *Yetminster Stat.* (The *minster* or church standing at the *gate* in the line of downs through which the little river flows.) The *Ch.*, with a pinnacled tower, has a fine brass to Sir John Horsey (in complete armour), d. 1531, and his lady.

26¼ m. is *Yeovil Junction Stat.*, close to the remains of the fine old manorial house of Clifton Maubank.

27½ m. YEovil (Rte. 21).

ROUTE 15.

DORCHESTER TO SHERBORNE, BY CERNE ABBAS.

Leaving Dorchester, and crossing the Frome with Poundbury on the l., we reach

2 m. *Charminster* (Rte. 12). The road continues to ascend the valley of the little river Cerne to 4½ m. *Godmanstone*. The little *Ch.* has some Norman remains.

5½ m. *Nether Cerne*. The *Ch.* has a Dec. chantry chapel, and a curious font.

7¼ m., 1 m. l., CERNE ABBAS (New Inn. Pop. 1185), is a small town on the river Cerne, surrounded by chalk hills. It was the site of a very large and important abbey, founded A.D.

987, by Ethelmar, Earl of Devon and Cornwall, on the site of a hermitage established by Ædwold, brother of Edmund the Martyr. The famous Ælfric, afterwards Abp. of Canterbury, was the first Abbot. He had been sent to Cerne by the Bishop of Winchester, to whom Ethelmar had applied for a monk to instruct his new society in the Benedictine rule. He translated his homilies into Anglo-Saxon, for the benefit of the brethren of Cerne who were unacquainted with Latin. The monastery was plundered by Canute, who afterwards atoned for his sacrilege by large endowments. Its after history supplies nothing worthy of mention till 1471, when Margaret of Anjou took refuge here with her young son on landing from the Continent at Weymouth, the day of the battle of Barnet. From Cerne she proceeded to Beaulieu (*Handbook to Hants*).

The only remains of the Abbey consist of the *Gate House*, the *Abbey House*, and a very fine *barn*. The *Gate House* is a very fine one, with a 2-storied oriel window over the fan-groined entrance, with escutcheons, and bands of panelling below and between the windows. The upper room is floored with encaustic tiles. The *Abbey House* was the residence of Denzil, Lord Holles. The *barn* of the 15th century is a very fine example, with noble buttresses. Some traces of the park and gardens can still be discerned. On the summit of a hill to the N.E. are the foundations of the chapel of St. Catherine.

The *Ch.* is a fine example of the Perp. style with a noble tower, displaying a beautiful canopied niche enshrining a statue of the Virgin and Child. Within is a stone rood-screen. N. of the churchyard is an earthwork.

Immediately above the town rises a lofty eminence, popularly called the *Giant's Hill*, from an uncouth colossal figure cut on its chalky surface. It represents a man, 180 ft. in height, hold-

ing in his rt. hand a club 120 ft. long, and stretching forth the other. "Vulgar tradition," says Britton, "makes this figure commemorate the destruction of a giant, who, having feasted on some sheep in Blackmoor, and laid himself to sleep on this hill, was pinioned down, like another Gulliver, and killed by the enraged peasants, who immediately traced his dimensions for the information of posterity." On the summit of the hill is an entrenchment called *Trendle* (i.e. a circle, A.-S.). *Up Cerne*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E., has a curious little E.E. *Ch.* The Manor House has, on the outside, circles containing heads boldly carved. N. of Cerne, about 2 m., is *Minterne House*, seat of Lord Digby.

[*Piddletrenthide*, 3 m. E., is a very pleasant village on the slopes of the chalk downs, which command wide and beautiful views. The *Ch.* is an interesting building with a fine lofty pinnacled tower. Over the W. door is the following inscription, probably commemorating Nicholas Locke, a native vicar, by whom the tower was erected:—

Est Pydel Trench villa in Dorsedle comitatu
Nascitur in illa quam rexit vicariatu.

It bears the date 1487; a somewhat early example of the use of Arabic figures.]

$10\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Revels Hill*, 1. The road here descends the escarpment of the chalk, and commands an extensive view over Somerset. *High Stoy*, 2 m. to the l., is one of the loftiest of the Dorsetshire downs.

11 m. *Middlemarsh*, near the source of a branch of the river Lidden. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is a very conspicuous earthwork, now overgrown with trees, crowning a hill, known as *Dungeon*, which commands a fine view. At the foot of this hill is *Glanvilles Wootton*, the residence of J. C. Dale, Esq., a well-known entomologist. The *Ch.* deserves notice. The S. aisle, ori-

ginally the chantry of Sybilla de Glauville, has some rich Dec. windows, and contains a recumbent effigy of a knight, and some monuments of the Williams family. In this parish stands the ancient mansion of *Round Chimnies*, built c. 1590, now a farmhouse, but once the residence, if not the birthplace, of John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough.

$13\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Holnest*. The lodge is the seat of J. S. W. S. Erle Drax, Esq.

15 m. *Long Burton*.

Lewston Park, occupied by Sir R. G. Glyn, Bart., master of the Blackmore Vale Foxhounds, 1 m. N.W. of Long Burton, was originally the seat of Sir John FitzJames, Lord Chief Justice of King's Bench, died 1539; the house was rebuilt 1800, but a chapel built by the Chief Justice was preserved. Bp. Ken visited Lewston, then the seat of the Hon. Mrs. Thynne, shortly before his death, Aug. 1710, and was there seized with his fatal illness. In *Long Burton Church* is a rich Jacobean monument to Sir John FitzJames, d. 1625, and his wife, with effigies; and a monument with 3 effigies to Thos. Winston, Sir H. Winston, his son, "Lieutenant of the Brill," under Sir Thos. Cecil, d. 1609, and his wife Dionise, transferred from Standish, Gloucestershire, by their daughter Eleanor FitzJames.

Holwell House, 1 m. W., till lately a part of Somersetshire, islanded by Dorset, occupies the site of the chief hunting lodge of the Forest of Blackmore, visited by King John and other of our sovereigns.

The road descends Dancing Hill, and, crossing the Yeo, reaches 18 m. Sherborne (Rte. 11).

ROUTE 16.

THE ISLE OF PURBECK, AND THE
COAST FROM SWANAGE TO WEST
LULWORTH.

The *Isle of Purbeck* has but little claim, regarded geographically, to the designation of an island. The eastern portion forms a bold promontory, divided from the mainland by the wide digitated expanse of Poole harbour, eaten out of the softer sands and clays by the erosion of the waves: but the remainder of the district cannot even be regarded as a peninsula. The civil boundaries are constituted by nothing more marked than the little stream of *Luchford Lake*, which, rising in the park of Lulworth Castle, runs N., and joins the Frome near Holme Bridge, and the Frome itself. The so-called *Isle* forms an irregular oval some 12 m. in length by 10 in breadth. It is in many respects a very interesting district. To the admirers of fine scenery it offers the attractions of a heath 10 m. in length, of a range of downs nearly 700 ft. in height, commanding magnificent views, and of a rock-bound coast sometimes fronting the open sea, sometimes retiring in bays of remarkable beauty. The geologist also can here revel in a variety of strata, including beds of the tertiary, cretaceous, wealden, and oolitic formations, which are so arranged, by tilting of the strata on the eastern shore, that they may be as readily distinguished one from the other as books on a shelf. The southern part of the district is isolated by a range of chalk hills, known as the Purbeck Hills, running down to the sea at *Handfast Point*, between Studland and Swanage Bays to the E., and at Worbarrow Bay to the W., at both of which points the chalk rises in lofty perpen-

dicular cliffs. Another range of hills of the oolitic formation runs nearly parallel with the chalk range to the S. from *Peveril Point*, E., to *Gad Cliff*, the southern point of Worbarrow Bay, W. Between these ranges lies a rich and fertile undulating valley of the Hastings sands, 11 m. long and from $\frac{1}{2}$ m. wide, diversified with a succession of isolated farms. Still further S., between the oolitic ridge and the sea, the coast line presents a series of low-level pasture lands in the Kimmeridge strata, and a succession of picturesque bays, extending from St. Aldhelm's Head westward. In ancient times the Isle of Purbeck was a royal deer-forest. Edward the Martyr had been hunting in its hills when he was murdered by Elfrida at Corfe; and successive kings continued to follow the chase here as late as the reign of James I. It is, however, better known for its quarries, which have been worked from a very early period, supplying both the shell-marble so largely used in the decoration of our more ancient cathedrals, and the freestone employed for paving and building purposes.

The geological structure of the district is well displayed on the cliffs between Studland and Durlston Head, the beds dipping to the N. and so appearing in succession. First come sandy slopes of the Alum Bay series, gay with a variety of colours. At Old Harry these give place to walls and flanking towers of *chalk*, with bands of flint at the Foreland, where the strata are tilted vertically. By their side are ranged *firestone*, *galt*, and *greensand*, 3 layers descending to the sea from the foot of the hills. Next come the beds of the *wealden* formation, viz. the *Hastings sand*, and *Purbeck limestone*, the former sweeping round the bay to Swanage, which stands on the junction line; the latter appearing to the W. of the point of Peveril, and extending in curved and twisted strata to Durlston Head,

where the *Portland oolite* emerges from the sea and forms the headland. Beneath Encombe and Gad Cliff appears the *Kimmeridge clay*, with its beds of bituminous shale known as *Kimmeridge coal*. Ammonites of large size abound in the oolite, which is overlaid by the "dirt bed" which contains large trunks of trees, and in the wealden the bones of fish and of huge reptiles, the bucklers of turtles, the little bodies of flies and beetles. The teeth of fish are very numerous, and are called "fishes' eyes" by the quarrymen, who in 1847 first brought to light the *Swanage crocodile*, described by Dr. Mantell, and now in the British Museum. Remains of the iguanodon occur in the Hastings beds of Swanage Bay.

The chief place in the Isle of Purbeck is the little town of *Swanage* (*Inns*: Royal Victoria; *Ship*. Pop. 2004), which may be reached either by steamer from Poole, or by omnibus from the Wareham station, from which it is distant 11 m. Its position is most attractive, and being open to the S.E. it is one of the coolest of our summer watering-places. The views from it are varied and extensive, embracing the Hampshire coast in long perspective, and the Isle of Wight, 15 m. distant. It is thus described by Prof. Kingsley:—

"At the east end of the Isle of Purbeck is a little semicircular bay, its northern horn formed by high cliffs of white chalk, ending in white isolated stacks and peaks, round whose feet the blue sea ripples for ever. In the centre of the bay the softer 'wealden beds' have been worn away, forming an amphitheatre of low sand and clay cliffs. The southern horn is formed by the dark limestone beds of the Purbeck marble. A quaint old-world village slopes down to the water over green downs, quarried, like some gigantic rabbit-burrow, with the stone-workings of seven hundred years. Landlocked from every breeze, huge elms flourish

on the dry sea beach, and the gayest and tenderest garden flowers bask under the hot stone walls. A pleasanter spot for summer sea-bathing is not to be found eastward of the Devon coast than Swanage, and all that is wanted to make it famous is houses into which visitors can put their heads at night.

"As was to be expected from a variety of soils, and the sheltered situation, I found the neighbourhood rich in rare plants and insects, the sea-beach strewn with numberless sea-weeds; but the great attraction of Swanage, to those who dabble in science, is the extraordinary number and value of its fossil remains."

The want mentioned by Kingsley, of sufficient accommodation, is being rapidly supplied. Good lodging-houses have been built in the outskirts, opening on the green hill-side, and a fashionable suburb, styled Mowlem Park, is in progress. This derives its name from the late John Mowlem, Esq., a descendant of John de Mowlem, who is said to have come to England with the Conqueror, and held land still known by his name by service done at Corfe Castle. The late Mr. Mowlem raised himself from the humble position of a quarryman, and became a great benefactor to his native place.

The old town of Swanage consists chiefly of one long narrow street of grey stone-roofed houses, climbing the slope of the hill which forms the southern horn of the bay. It stands precisely over the outcrop of the upper Purbecks, which run out to sea eastward in a low headland and double reef known as *Pevenil Point* and *Ledge*, shutting in Swanage Bay on the S. The bay sweeps in a noble curve 2 m. N., retiring about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. inland, under the low cliffs of the *Hastings Sand*. Its northern horn is formed by the huge chalk headland of *Ballard Head*, soaring in perpendicular precipices from the sea, and reaching an elevation of 584 ft.

at the highest point of the down above. The N.E. angle of the chalk promontory is called *Handfast Point*. At the extremity of the chalk are the insulated lofty fragments known as *Old Harry and his Wife* and the *Pinnacle Rock*, and nearer Swanage a large cavern called the *Parson's Barn*. "As big as a parson's barn" is a Dorsetshire proverb. In 877 Swanage Bay was the scene of the shipwreck of a Danish fleet, which had been driven from Wareham by King Alfred. It forms a convenient shelter for vessels wind-bound by westerly gales.

The *Ch.* was a plain solid building of great antiquity, and little pretensions to beauty. The body was rebuilt in 1860, but the plain E.E. tower remains. Near it a tablet on a cottage commemorates a night passed beneath its roof by John Wesley, Aug. 13, 1787. Dr. Andrew Bell, the introducer of the "Bell system of Education," was rector of Swanage 1801-1816.

Numerous quarries of Purbeck marble are worked in the hill above the town. The stone is reached by a slanting pit about 120 ft. deep, which allows of the ingress of the quarryman by a flight of rude steps, and of the egress of the stone by a slide. Each quarry is generally worked by two men, who are employed either in excavating the stone, or in shaping it in the sheds. The Purbeck strata are estimated at a total thickness of 275 ft., of which the upper 55 are useful stone. The top vein of all, called *Purbeck marble*, is almost entirely composed of a small freshwater shell (*Pahudina carinifera*) cemented by lime, and interstratified with the upper *Cypris* clays and shales. The stone is carried for shipment to Swanage, where it is piled in the unsightly "bankers" which encumber the shore, and is embarked by the aid of a small tramway and pier.

Few places possess a more interesting neighbourhood than Swanage.

In the vicinity of the town are *Durlston Head*, *Tilly Whim*, the *Dancing Ledge*, and numerous caverns; and at distances suitable for excursions, *Studland*, 3 m., and the *Agglestone*; *Corfe Castle*, 6 m., and *Creech Barrow*; *St. Aldhelm's Head*, 6 m.; *Gad Cliff* and *Worbarrow Bay*, 12 m.; *Lulworth Castle*, 13 m., and *Lulworth Cove*, 15 m.

At *Godlingstone*, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W. (unless recently pulled down), are the remains of an old house of some interest.

3 m. N. of Swanage is the pretty little village of *Studland*, embowered among lofty elms, reached by a charming walk over Ballard Down. The plastic clay and other tertiaries of the Bagshot series crop out here in rough slopes covered with rank vegetation. The sea has eaten out a pretty little bay in these friable strata, bounded by low red cliffs, which terminates S. in the bastion-like promontory called the *Nodes*, the northern angle of Handfast Point. The village communicates with the shore by a picturesque little chine, excavated by a small stream that trickles through it. The *Ch.*, though small, is one of great interest. It is of nearly unmixed Norman, preserving its original corbel table. It has a central tower gabled N. and S., supported on arches, and, together with the chancel, groined within. The porches under the tower are much enriched, and have some curious sculpture. The E. window is an E.E. triplet. King John landed at Studland in 1205, having given up an intended expedition to France, and again in 1213.

1 m. N.W. of Studland, and about the same distance from the nearest point of the shore, is

The *Agglestone* (from Halig-stan, Saxon for Holy-stone), or *Devil's Nightcap*, as it is commonly called. It is an isolated block of ferruginous sandstone, in the form of an inverted cone, perched on the summit of a

hillock, elevated more than 70 ft. above the surrounding heath, where the moor dips to the low ground which borders Poole harbour. It is a most singular object, and has naturally given rise to many conjectures as to its origin. Some have regarded it merely as a monster pebble of the stone common to the country; others, who have looked at it with the eye of the antiquary, either as a Druidic idol, or the monument of some old warrior who sleeps within the hill. But the country people tell a tale that is more in unison with the wildness of the locality. The devil, they affirm, one day seated on the Needles, espied the towers of Corfe Castle, and with the design of demolishing its rising fortress, tossed the rock across the sea. It fell short, and lodged on this heath, and here it has remained to the present day, a wonder to the passing traveller. It measures $16\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height, and 36 ft. by $16\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter, and is computed to weigh about 400 tons. On the surface are 3 cavities, which may be artificially-formed basins; but though it may not improbably have been used as an heathen altar, there is no doubt that it is the work of nature, and rests in its original position, the earth which once surrounded it having been removed, partly by the action of the weather, partly by design.

Swanage is the best place from which to commence the exploration of the coast of Purbeck, of equal interest to the geologist and to the lover of fine rock scenery. The tourist should provide himself with Mr. P. Brannon's 'Guide to Purbeck,' which will direct his attention to every object of geological or picturesque interest. Mr. Damon's 'Geology of Weymouth,' &c., is also a good guide to the strata of Purbeck. For fuller details the student should consult Professor E. Forbes' 'Memoir on the Purbeck Beds,' and the Rev. O. Fisher's 'Purbeck Strata,' in the

Cambridge Philosophical Transactions.

[From Swanage to Lulworth Cove is a delightful walk of 16 m. by *Tilly Whim, Seacombe, St. Aldhelm's Head, Encombe* (3 hours), and one hour besides for seeing the *Chapel* at the Head. From Encombe Bay, a long terrace above *Kimmeridge*, crossing the valley, which runs from sea to sea between Swanage and Worbarrow, by *Tyneham* up to *Flowers Barrow* (2 hours). *Flowers Barrow* by *Arish Mell* up *Bindon Hill* to Lulworth Cove ($1\frac{1}{4}$ hours), where is a neat little hotel, at which good refreshments can be procured, and a vehicle hired to take you to Wool Station, 6 m.; or, on Wednesdays and Saturdays during the summer, the steamer may be caught to take you to Weymouth. (O. W. F.)]

Leaving Swanage a road leads up the hill across *Sentry Field* to *Peveril Point*, with its ledge of synclinal rocks forming a double reef, along the edge of the cliffs of *Durlston Bay*, where nearly all the Purbeck beds appear successively rising up southwards from the beach to the middle of the bay, with the stone-pits on our rt., to

1 m. *Durlston Head*, a lofty down descending to a cliff of Portland oolite. If the tide permits it, you should descend to the shore and examine an arched band of rock to the rt., and the parallel beds of limestone curved and contracted like the bark of old trees. The tide hurries round the point with rapidity. A gorge between *Durlstone Height* and *Round Down* leads to

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Tilly Whim*, a cliff quarry, said to derive its name from the person by whom it was opened and worked, in defiance of the advice of experienced quarrymen, who warned him of the increasing hardness of the stone. The scene is romantic. A hollow, descending from the hills,

conducts the stranger to a terrace, hewn midway on the cliff, about 30 ft. above the sea. Opening to this terrace are capacious chambers, remarkable for their flat and solid roofs, and entered by square apertures, reminding one of Egyptian or Cyclopean architecture. The black cliffs, grandly divided into enormous cubes, are of Portland oolite capped by Purbeck limestone. At some distance from this spot we pass two smaller cliff quarries now at work. Immediately W. of the furthest is

2 m. the *Dancing Ledge Quarry*, which "may be considered as one of the best types of the Purbeck Portland quarries" (*P. Brannon*), containing fine specimens of ammonites from 18 in. to 30 in. in diameter, and of the *ostrea gigantea*. The quarry takes its name from the *Dancing Ledge*, a beach of solid stone, descending at a gentle inclination to the sea, which here breaks with a lively motion, *dancing* up the ledge. It is the floor of a quarry, about 150 ft. in length by 50 in breadth, abutting on a cliff which has been worked back in the form of an amphitheatre. E. and W. rises a magnificent coast—huge piles of stone, which re-echo with the thunder of the waves. The ledge is covered at high water, and, being continually washed by the sea, its surface is much worn, and has the appearance of pumice-stone.

West of the *Dancing Ledge* are busy quarries, with cranes perched on the cliff for lifting the stone into the vessels. After rounding a hill-spur we descend into *Seacombe*, where a fertile green valley winds among the hills towards the village of *Worth Matravers*, the *Ch.* of which is of considerable interest. The nave and tower are Norm., the chancel E.E. In the churchyard is the tomb of Benjamin Jesty, of *Downshay*, the first known practiser of vaccination, "who, from his strength of mind, made the experiment from the cow on his wife and 2 sons in 1774."

Downshay, a small 17th-century house of the *Dollings*, is a rather picturesque building a little further inland. A little W. of *Seacombe*, towards *Winspit*, occurred the melancholy wreck of the *Halsewell*, East Indiaman, Jan. 6, 1786, with the loss of 186 souls, 82 being saved by the exertions of the neighbouring quarrymen. The graves of some of the drowned may still be seen on the little patch of flat ground where the cliffs divide. Rounding the boldly advancing hill of *Eastman*, we reach *Winspit quarry*, situated on the E. face of *St. Aldhelm's Head*, consisting of a terrace and numerous subterranean chambers. Above it the path rises rapidly to the cape, and commands a fine view of the coast and sloping downs which have been traversed from *Swanage*. Looking back eastwards, the lofty arch of *Connaught's Hole* will be observed E. of the *Dancing Ledge*.

3 m. *St. Aldhelm's Head* was so named after the first bishop of *Sherborne*. This promontory is 440 ft. in height, and crowned by an ancient chapel or chantry, in which prayers were said for the safety of mariners passing this dangerous shore, while the roof carried a beacon light. It is a small square stone building, well cared for by its present proprietor, *Lord Eldon*, the walls supported by buttresses, and the roof by a central pillar from which spring four intersecting semicircular arches. The entrance is a round-headed Norman doorway, and the window a slit in the wall. On the face of the promontory are exhibited in section the *Portland limestone*, the *Portland sand*, and the *Kimmeridge clay*; the first forming the precipice, the second the long slope, and the third the base, which is, however, concealed beneath the débris of the cliff. The view is superb, the eye ranging down a coast unsurpassed for variety. The colossal profile of *Gad Cliff* will tempt every visitor to prolong his ramble.

W. of this headland the coast, pass-

ing from the limestone to the sand and clay, assumes a new character. It dives at once to a deep valley, and then rises in *Emmit Hill* to a height of 250 ft., forming a range of ivy-mantled ragged precipices. Long dark slopes, covered with fragments of fallen stone, descend from these walls to the sea, with intervening channels of trickling streams, which seem for ever busy in the work of destruction. The path winds along the undercliff to a very pretty little bay called *Chapman's Pool*, from which rises a towering height of Portland sand, with alternate layers of sand and stone, the Kimmeridge clay appearing below, containing beds of bituminous shale.

The undercliff ceases at the W. end of *Egmont Bight*, where the drainage of the valley of *Encombe* reaches the sea at *Freshwater*, in a small cascade; and a flight of steps leads from the private grounds of *Encombe*, the seat of the Earl of Eldon, to the beach. Near this spot the W. India mail packet *Tyne* was stranded on her homeward voyage, Jan. 13, 1857. No lives were lost, and ultimately the vessel was got safely off. The house, long and low, and of no architectural beauty, is situated about half-way up the green valley, a portion of which from its fertility is known as "the Golden Bowl." The planting has been judicious, and produces a good effect in spite of the strong S.W. winds. Two pieces of water form very pretty objects from the house and grounds. An obelisk which forms a conspicuous object in the view was erected by Lord Chancellor Eldon to his hardly less distinguished brother, Lord Stowell. *Encombe*, held at one time by the Abbey of Shaftesbury, came in the reign of Edward VI. to the Cullifords, from whom it passed, 1734, to Mr. John Pitt, who built the house, and whose son sold it, 1807, to Lord Chancellor Eldon. The place is full of memories of the great statesman.

"*Encombe*," writes Lord Campbell, "became a very dreary abode to Lord Eldon in the latter years of his life. His sporting days were over; he had but little interest in gardening or farming; and his only reading, besides the newspaper, was a chapter in the Bible. His mornings he spent in an elbow-chair by the fire-side in his study—called his *shop*—which was ornamented with portraits of his deceased master, George III., and his living companion, Pincher, a poodle dog."

Perched on the high ridge, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., is the little Ch. of *Kingston*, rebuilt by Lord Chancellor Eldon, and where he was buried, Jan. 26, 1838, in the vault he had constructed for his beloved "Bessy." The Ch. contains a monument to him, with a likeness by Chantrey, and others to Lady Eldon, their two sons, and their grandson the late Lord Eldon. A little to the N.E. of *Kingston*, at *Scowles*, now a dairy-house of E. Lynch farm, are some interesting remains of a 13th-cent. residence.

The next valley to *Encombe* is that of *Kimmeridge*; in a retired nook, overhung with trees, stands *Smedmore*, formerly the seat of the Clavells, and now of their descendant, John Clavell Mansel, Esq. Part of the house is old, and was perhaps built by Sir W. Clavell (d. 1643). A little nearer the sea at *Little Kimmeridge*, are some remains of a very diminutive old house with an oriel window of two stories.

Between *Encombe* and *Gad Cliff* the hills receding form an amphitheatre, enclosing the vale of *Kimmeridge*, which gives name to the *Kimmeridge clay* series. Its dark blue beds are seamed by limestone, some strata of which abound in bituminous shale, quarried under the name of *Kimmeridge coal*. It is a combination of bitumen with clay, and burns with a bright flame, emitting considerable heat, but a disagreeable sulphureous smell. The

products of its distillation are a volatile mineral oil, grease, asphaltum, &c. More than one company has been formed to utilise this formation, but without any satisfactory commercial results. The disused buildings of the last-formed company are close to the Wareham Station. Here also are found, about a foot below the surface of the soil, particularly in the neighbourhood of Smedmore, and elsewhere in the Isle of Purbeck, small disks of shale known as *Kimmeridge coal-money*. This name has been given under the popular idea that they were the coins or amulets of the old inhabitants, but they have been satisfactorily proved by the late Mr. John Sydenham, of Poole, to be merely refuse pieces thrown aside from the lathe by the fabricators of beads, bracelets, and other ornaments for the Roman population. Some, indeed, have a round hole for the chuck of the lathe, and others a square hole for a mandril-head. In 1839 bracelets made of this coal, and evidently turned, were discovered in a Romano-British burial-place at Dorchester; and similar ornaments have been frequently discovered elsewhere.

At the eastern turn of the bay rises the bold bluff of *Hen Cliff*, surmounted by a look-out tower. E. of the Coastguard houses are the terraces where the coal is extracted, and there is a small pier for its shipment, and $\frac{3}{4}$ m. inland the village of *Kimmeridge*, with its venerable little *Ch.*, the Norman door and bell-gable of which deserve notice. From the low point of this bay the land rapidly rises to the bold hill known as *Tyneham Cap*, above the ledges of *Broad Bench*, beyond which the oolitic strata are exposed to the wild beating of the waves in the grand and romantic

2 m. *Gad Cliff*, the thin edge of a steep hill, cut vertically at a height of above 500 ft. Along the summit are ranged the most fantastic preci-

pices, overhanging a tangled under-cliff, and the débris of the rocks, among which lies a noble specimen of a fossil tree of the order *Cycadeæ*. From this the path rapidly descends to

1 m. *Worbarrow Bay*, a scene of surpassing beauty, and unique in many respects. The sea has here broken through the whole series of Purbeck strata to the flinty chalk, here nearly vertical, thus exposing in each side of the bay similar sections of all the strata. It is 1 m. in width, and compassed by cliffs, which exhibit a number of striking contrasts in their colour, height, and structure. Where the chalk hills have been thus worn into, the cliffs are very high, in two points reaching an elevation of 500 ft. The oolitic strata form high rocks at the entrance of the bay, very highly inclined, and bent and broken in the most fantastic manner. To the W. the cliffs are cleft to the sea by *Arish Mell Gap*, where there is a miniature bay, and a view through the opening of the park and castle of Lulworth. The various strata of the isle of Purbeck, spread at Swanage over a distance of more than 2 m., converge as they run westward, and are here so compressed that they all appear in the small compass of *Worbarrow Knob*, the bluff promontory at the E. point formed of Portland and Purbeck limestone, darkly coloured and contorted; adjoining it are the yellow sands of the wealden, forming low cliffs which terminate the long valley of Swanage. Immediately below the Knob, E., is the picturesque little inlet of *Punfell Cove*.

The most striking feature of this beautiful bay is the gigantic chalk bluff known as *Ringshill* or *Flower's Barrow*, the W. termination of the ridge of downs that insulates S. Purbeck, uprearing its cliffs of pearly whiteness vertically lined with black layers of flint to a height of 500 ft. The summit commands a most enchanting view of the coast from

Portland to St. Aldhelm's Head. It is crowned by an ancient earthwork formed by 3 ramparts and ditches, partly destroyed by the falling of the cliff. Its name has been derived by Hutchins from a supposed Roman officer named Florus; but the camp is Celtic. To the E. of Flower's Barrow is the part of the bay known as *Tyneham Cove*, where the long valley of Purbeck comes down to the sea. It takes its name from the pretty little village of *West Tyneham*, standing a little inland and commanding an unsurpassed prospect of the sea between the heights of Flower's Barrow and Worbarrow Knob. *Tyneham House* (Thomas Bond, Esq.) is a fine old mansion built by H. Williams, 1567-1582, but disfigured by modern alterations. To the W. of Flower's Barrow the ground suddenly dips down to *Hawcombe Bottom*, and as suddenly rises again in the chalk headland of *Culver*, 200 ft. high, advancing into the middle of the bay, the base of which is worn by the waves into deep caverns, with dark mouths. Beyond this is another great break in the chalk ridge known as *Arish Mell Gap*, up which the rich woods and grey towers of Lulworth Castle, and Lulworth Ch. form a picture not soon to be forgotten. Bindon Hill succeeds with its white chalk precipices, followed by low cliffs of wealden sand. The western horn of the bay, like the eastern, is formed of a contorted mass of Portland oolite. Huge wave-worn fragments of the wall of stone which once connected the two extremities of the bay and protected the softer strata within, form a chain of insulated rocks, gradually lessening as they approach the centre of the bay. These are known as the *Mewps Rocks*, and from them the western half of the inlet is often called *Mewps Bay*.

1½ m. inland of Arish Mell Gap stands *Lulworth Castle* (3½ m. S. of Wool Station, but less by pleasant footpaths), a feudal-looking pile, situ-

ated in a park 5 m. in circumference, and in a most secluded locality. E. of it, for 10 m., extends a heath only terminated by the sea, and S. a naked range of chalk downs, abutting on one of the most unfrequented but romantic coasts in the kingdom. There was a castle here in early times, which was taken in 1142 by the Earl of Gloucester and occupied for the Empress Maud. Lulworth belonged to the ancient family of Newburgh, and descended by marriage to Thos. Howard, 3rd son of the 3rd duke of Norfolk, created Viscount Howard of Bindon, and thence to his kinsman the E. of Suffolk, the builder of Audley End, and thence by sale to the Welds, 1641. The present castle was begun by Thos. Lord Bindon, c. 1600, and completed by Humphry Weld, fifty years later. It was garrisoned in the Civil Wars for Charles I., but in 1644 was occupied by the Parliamentary soldiers, who committed sad havoc on the lead and metal work. It was constructed chiefly from the ruins of Bindon Abbey. In form an exact cube, it is flanked at each corner by a lofty round tower, and ornamented on its principal front, which is of Chilmark stone, by the arms of the Weld family, and by statues of Music and Painting, and of two Roman worthies. The interior contains some family portraits by *Lely*, and others in pencil by *Hussey* (d. 1788), an artist who drew the human head by the musical scale, and was a native of Marnhull, in this county. Among those in oil is one of Sir John Weld, who raised a troop for Charles I. There is a state bedroom, once occupied by Charles X., who found a shelter here after his abdication; a drawing-room, with ceiling painted in the Pompeian style; in the hall, an eagle shot in the park. The *Chapel* is a modern building detached from the castle, now disused. At Lulworth is preserved the famous "Lutterell Psalter," executed for Sir Geoffrey de Lutterell, temp. Edward III., so re-

markable for the illustration of domestic manners and customs afforded by the illuminations. In the castle is also a model of Mr. Weld's famous yacht, the *Alarm*. In 1794 some refugee French monks of the Trappist order were sheltered near Lulworth by Mr. Weld, and founded a monastery dedicated to St. Susanna, where they remained till 1817, when they returned to France.

Lulworth has on several occasions been honoured by the presence of royalty. It was visited by James I. in 1615, when the plague raged in London; by Charles II., 1665; and by George III., who often rested here on his road to Weymouth. In 1830, as above stated, it afforded an asylum to Charles X. and his family, when driven from his throne.

The castle commands a pretty view of the sea, through the opening in the chalk hills, towards which a large gun, planted in the park, is pointed. The woods are extensive, and in one of their recesses, tradition says, a former Mr. Weld kept an "ornamental hermit." The lake lies 1 m. N., adjoining the great heath which stretches towards Wareham. It is a pleasant solitude. A walk runs around it; and it possesses a mimic fort and harbour. The Church has been rebuilt with the exception of the tower, the belfry story of which is curious, and the Weld monuments have been removed to the vaults beneath the chapel. It however retains some memorials of the family, including that of Sir John Weld, 1674, in which is set forth a genealogy, tracing his descent from Edrike the *Wild*, a nephew of the Duke of Mercia, the son-in-law of King Ethelred.

Returning to the coast, the walk to *West Lulworth* lies along the continuation of the chalk-ridge known as the *Swinesback* or *Bindon Hill*, presenting a rugged face of oolitic precipices to the sea, called the *South Rocks*, where a bed of fossilized cycadaceous trees, similar to those to be

seen in Portland, will arrest the attention of the geologist. On the hill above Lulworth Cove, E., is *Little Bindon Abbey*, a small desecrated E.E. chapel, probably an infirmary of the monastery near Wool. From this point we rapidly descend to

4 m. *Lulworth Cove* (*Hotel, Cove Hotel*); one of the most romantic inlets on the coast. It is a little circular basin eaten out by the sea in the soft strata of the Hastings sands, encircled by towering cliffs, and entered by a narrow opening between two bluffs of Portland stone, the remnants of the solid barrier which once shut it in, but has fallen before the incessant action of the watery hammers. It exhibits a section of all the beds between the chalk and oolite, and owes its peculiar form to the unequal resistance of these strata to the action of the sea. The perpetually moving water, having once pierced the cliff of stone, soon worked its way deeply into the softer sand and chalk.

West Lulworth, situated in a retired valley under Bindon Hill, consists of an old village a mile from the sea, and of some lodging-houses by the cove.

Starting for a ramble W. of *Nelson Fort*, the signal-station at the entrance of Lulworth Cove, we soon reach

Stair Hole, an oblong chasm walled off by a rock of Portland limestone from the sea, which flows into it at high water through chinks and caverns. It strikingly shows the manner in which the neighbouring coves have been formed, the waves here leaping through the breached barrier of limestone to attack the sand and chalk. It is a wild and interesting spot, with its huge ribs of contorted stone. Beyond it is *Dunzy Head*, alive with rabbits, and then *Oswald*, or *Horsevall, Bay*, with beach of shingle, and the magnificent chalk escarpment of *Marm. Tout*. These are terminated W. by a low but most picturesque promontory formed

by vertical and curved bands of limestone variously coloured, called *Tongue Beach*. Crossing the neck of this point, we find

Durdle Bay, and the *Barn-Door*, an archway 30 ft. high, piercing a wall of rosy rock, on whose ledges, says Gosse, nestle the guillemot, the auk, the puffin, the shag, and one or two kinds of gulls. *Suyre Head* rises from this bay to a height of 669 ft., its slopes of turf cresting a vertical chalk cliff, on each side of which they descend to within a few feet of the beach. At the W. end of the bay is *Bat's Corner*, tunnelled by a cavern, and a pinnacle of chalk, called the *Butter Rock*, standing detached among the waves. The next bay terminates with

Whitenore, 3½ m. from W. Lulworth, and the last chalk cliff on the S.W. coast of England, except Beer Head, between Lyme and Sidmouth. Immediately W. of it is an undercliff, and, in *Ringstead Bay*, low cliffs of *Kimmeridge clay*, which in 1824 spontaneously ignited and continued to moulder for some years.

West Lulworth is 10 m. from Weymouth, and 6 m. from the Wool Stat., 14 m. from Weymouth and 13 m. from Dorchester by carriage road, but a pedestrian may do it in 10 m. A steamer runs every Wednesday and Saturday from Weymouth to Lulworth during the summer months.

ROUTE 17.

THE ISLE OF PORTLAND.

The *Isle of Portland* is a rocky peninsula projecting 4 m. into the Channel, in the shape of a tongue or

beak, from which configuration its southern extremity is known as the *Bill of Portland*. The peninsula is one solid mass of oolitic limestone, and presents an even surface, which slopes southward in a long inclined plain from a height of 495 ft. at the *Verne* to 30 ft. above the sea-level. The cliffs that form its sides, exposed to the fury of the waves, are extremely rugged. It is only 9 m. in circumf., and may be therefore walked round in one day from Weymouth. Its distance from that town is 4 m. by land, 3 m. by water; a steamer plies several times daily during the summer. There is also a railway, with a tramway to the breakwater. The chief points of interest are the *Chesil Bank*, the view from the heights above Fortune's Well, the convict prison and quarries, the *Breakwater*, and *Bow and Arrow Castle*.

Portland offers a peculiarly interesting field for geological research in its unique dirt-bed and fossil trees, and its alternations of marine and fresh-water deposits. (See Mr. Damon's 'Geology of Weymouth and Portland.')

Portland is asserted to have been the first place on which the Danes landed in this country in the reign of Beorhtric of Wessex, at the end of the eighth century, and in the year 1404 it was selected by the French for invasion, but their attempt proved unsuccessful. At the commencement of the Great Rebellion, Portland was seized by the Parliamentary forces, who garrisoned the island in 1643, and made it a depot for their plunder after the capture of Wardour Castle. This, however, together with the island itself, soon fell into the hands of the Royalists, who captured the stronghold by a stratagem. A party of horsemen with the Parliamentary colours flying galloped towards the castle, crying out that they were pursued by the King's troops who, with the

Earl of Caernarvon, were by design close in their rear; the gates were opened to them, and, having thus gained an entrance, they speedily overpowered the garrison. The Portlanders were *Baleares*, or slingers of stones, in ancient times. They are a sturdy race, and long maintained themselves distinct from the people of the adjacent country, intermarrying, and handing down from father to son many curious customs; but they are now less exclusive, and their customs are in great measure discontinued. The island is famous for its building-stone, and for a breed of small black-faced sheep well known for their excellent flavour as Portland mutton. Owing to the great Government works of the Breakwater, and the fortifications, the pop. of the island has nearly doubled since 1851; it was 8464 in 1861, and is steadily increasing, though Portland is not a desirable residence, owing to the dust from the quarries, and the restrictions which the presence of some 1500 convicts labouring in the open air naturally give occasion for. Indeed, it is only on Sundays, when the "Government people," as they are termed, are shut up, that the island can be freely rambled over. On this day the tourist can ascend the tramroad into the convict quarries, notice the loop-holed watch tower on a green mound in their centre, and get some idea how such an assemblage is controlled by an armed force of very moderate numbers. The island is but one parish, but it is divided into 8 hamlets, viz., *Chesilton* and *Fortune's Well* (N.), and *Castleton*, on the E. coast, which are tolerably built, and form a striking contrast to the rest. In the centre of the isle is *Reforne*, with the parish church of St. George's in the Wreanean style (the other church is at Fortune's Well); *Easton*, *Wakeham*, and *Weston* stretch across the centre; and *Southwell* is near the S. extremity;

all these are shapeless collections of stone hovels, with here and there a chapel of the approved Zion or Bethesda type. The *Prison* is on the E. coast, at a place known as the *Grove*, a satire on its treeless bareness; *Pennsylvania Castle* is a mile lower down; on the same side, the pretty dell of *Church Hope* adjoins; *Cave Hole* is further S., and the *High* (W.) and *Low Lighthouses* (E.) are very near the S. extremity—the *Bill*. A walk along the W. coast gives a good view of the quarries which are worked by free labour; the contrast between the brisk activity of the workmen there, and the listlessness of the convicts, is sufficiently striking.

The island is entered from Weymouth over a long timber bridge, on the site of a former ferry across the East Fleet. It has a "Royal Victoria" inn, a coast-guard station, and a military post, where every passer-by is closely scrutinised; a railway bridge crosses the Fleet somewhat nearer the sea. The road is bounded on one side by the sea, and on the other by the

Chesil Bank. It may be likened to a string stretched from Portland to the mainland at Abbotsbury, 10½ m. distant, being separated from the land so far by a narrow channel called the *Fleet*. It is a compact ridge of shingle, in places mixed with sand, and slopes steeply on each side to the water, its extreme height at its S.E. end being 37 ft., and its width 200 yards at Portland and 170 at Abbotsbury. "The pebbles forming this immense barrier are chiefly siliceous, from the chalk hills to the W., all loosely thrown together. The fundamental rocks on which the shingle rests are found at the depth of a few yards only below the level of the sea. The formation of that part of the bar which attaches Portland to the mainland may have been due to an original shoal or reef, or to the set of the tides in the narrow

channel, by which the course of the pebbles which are always coming from the W. has been arrested.”—*Lyell*. Another singular fact is the gradual increase of the size of the pebbles from W. to E. as we go farther from the quarter which supplied these, the bank commencing at Bridport with sand, and terminating at Portland with stones 3 or 4 inches in diameter. “The true explanation of this phenomenon is doubtless this: the tidal current runs strongest from W. to E., and its power is greater in the more open channel or farther from the land; the size of the masses being carried from the W. and thrown ashore being largest where the motion of the water is most violent.”—*Lyell*. Throughout this distance of 17 m. the change is gradual, but constant; so that smugglers, landing on the bank in thick weather or a dark night, can determine the exact spot without any difficulty. In heavy gales from the westward this long line of desolate beach is lashed by a frightful sea, the slope being abrupt, and the water deep. Shipwrecks are unfortunately too frequent, and upon such occasions it is a work of considerable danger to proceed to the assistance of the stranded vessel, the landward side being swept by heavy showers of shingle. The shipwrecked sailor has indeed but a poor chance of saving his life. Owing to the steepness of the bank, the broken water rolls back with resistless force, springing high into the air as it meets the advancing wave; and the strength of the under-current alone will frustrate the efforts of the strongest swimmer. Such melancholy scenes have been repeatedly witnessed, and hence the bay has acquired its dismal name, the *Deadman's Bay*. In the great storm of Nov. 1824 the bank was considerably lowered, shingle to the amount of many hundred tons having been thrown to the land side. On that occasion an Ordnance sloop,

laden with stores, was carried by a wave to the very top of the ridge, where the crew disembarked and walked into Portland. They afterwards launched her down the other side into the Fleet, and thus she is said to have gone round the peninsula by land.

A road, formerly often washed away by the sea, but now protected by the rly. embankment, connects the bridge with the island, which on a near view presents a dreary aspect, with its stone hedges, gaunt cottages, and slides of rubbish. On the l. is

Portland Castle, built by Henry VIII., 1520, after his return from the “Field of the Cloth of Gold,” when it was thought advisable to protect the coast against a surprise by the French. He granted it in succession to three of his queens—Jane Seymour, Kath. Howard, and Kath. Parr; and in 1588 it was garrisoned in expectation of a landing by the Spanish Armada. During the Rebellion it was several times besieged and taken by the contending parties, once in 1643 by stratagem, as already related, when the Royalists found in it the plunder of Wardour Castle. Col. Win. Ashburnham was besieged here for 4 months till relieved by the Earl of Cleveland, 1644. The next year, Aug. 23, it was stormed by the Parliamentary forces, and surrendered Ap. 6, 1646. In 1816 it was granted by the Crown to the family of Manning, and it is now occupied by Capt. Chas. Manning, her Majesty's lieutenant for the island. A number of very curious and beautiful things adorn the interior of this ponderous building; they are not shown to the public, but we may mention, in the *Hall*, formerly the guard-room, a grand collection of ancient arms. On the wainscot within is the following quaint inscription: “God save Kinge Henri the VIII. of that name, and Prince Edwarde begotten of Queene Jane, my ladi Mari, that godli virgin, and the ladi Elizabit so

towardli, with the kinges honourable counselors." In the *Drawing-room*, portraits of William and Mary by *Mytens*, and of the Mannings by *Lely* and others; a splendid Indian cabinet, and a clock of rich workmanship, for more than a centy. in the possession of the family of the French General Montcalm, killed in the storming of Quebec.—In the *Gallery*, 2 very rare prints of the interview between Francis and Henry on the Field of the Cloth of Gold, and the Coronation Procession of Edw. VI. In *Queen Jane's closet*, a portrait of an ancestor of the Mannings, ambassador to Persia, 1699, painted at Isbahan, and presented by the Shah; and in the *Dining-room*, arms from the date of Marathon to that of Waterloo, arranged in the form of a shield.

Chesilton, where is the *Rly. Stat.*, is the first village in Portland. Vehicles may be here obtained for a drive to the Breakwater, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant, and round the island, a pleasant excursion of 2 or 3 hours. It straggles up the hill to meet

Fortune's Well (*Inn*: Portland Arms), which occupies the higher ground, and derives its name from a spring which rises behind the inn, 200 ft. above the sea-level. From this elevation there is a magnificent view of the Chesil Bank, which appears stretched out in long perspective westward, conducting the eye to the distant heights above Lyme, among which the truncated cone of Golden Cap is conspicuous. Above the village the stony hill attains a height of 490 ft., commanding a panorama of which the leading features are the Chesil Bank and the lofty coast of the Isle of Purbeck. This is the summit of Portland, and is called the *Verne Hill*, the highest portion of which is occupied by a strong work, called *Fort Victoria*, which its designers intended should as nearly approach impregnability as ditches, walls, earthworks, and guns could make it. It is surrounded by

a dry ditch, for the formation of which upwards of 1,500,000 tons of stone had to be blasted. It is in some parts nearly 200 ft. wide, and displays the strata and faults in beautiful sections. Casemated barracks within will accommodate 3000 men. Beneath the N.E. face of the fort is a line of works cut on the steep slope of the hill called the *East Weir Batteries*. Two main outworks at Easton and Weston, mounting 30 or more guns a-piece, will strengthen the central fortress of the Verne. A curious relic of antiquity may be seen at the Portland Arms—the *Reeve Pole*, "a sort of wooden Domesday Book," bearing a record of every estate in the island, and of which a silver model was presented to the Queen by the tenants of the royal manor, 1850. It is referred to as an authority in all questions of manorial dues. Steep roads lead from Fortune's Well to the

Quarries of Portland stone, which lie enconced among enormous heaps of rubbish, the ruins of the overlying useless beds. There are about 100 of these quarries scattered over the island, worked by men and boys. This famous stone was first brought into repute by Inigo Jones, who selected it for the Banqueting Hall at Whitehall, and from his time employed for most of our great public edifices. One bed of the building or *merchantable* stone, as it is called, extends throughout the island like a floor, at an average depth below the surface of 30 ft. The quarryman, having worked his way to this solid pavement, splits it into blocks by means of wedges driven into holes which he has prepared for the purpose. Having separated these fractured masses by lifting them from their bed (a work of considerable labour), he squares them with his kever, a kind of pick, when they are ready for the market, and are despatched by tramroad to the wharf to be shipped. The strata thus ex-

cavated are the upper series of the oolitic limestones, and vary in thickness from 7 to 16 ft. They are 6 in number, and are named in a descending order, *top-cap*, *skull-cap*, *roach* (a good stone), *top-bed* (the best of all), *middle* or *curf-bed*, and *bottom-bed*, the last being of inferior quality to the *top-bed*. They lie immediately below the Purbeck beds, one of which, called the *dirt-bed*, contains the trunks of large trees of the fir tribe, now converted into stone, the roots being still fixed in the soil from which they derived their nourishment. In Chesilton there is a fine specimen of these silicified trees; it is 20 ft. in height, and has been placed against the wall of one of the cottages on the rt. as you ascend the hill. The quarries are Crown property, and either worked by the Government or leased to certain parties, who pay a royalty of 1s. on every ton of stone raised, half of which reverts to a trust fund for the islanders. This is a compensation for the destruction of the pasture land, and was granted by Charles II., in whose reign the quarries were first worked to any extent. The annual export of stone is estimated at 50,000 tons. Each quarry is managed by a steward, who has under him a master or a foreman, to superintend the operations. The annual extent of the excavations is calculated at an acre, and at this rate of progression the island will supply stone for the next 2000 years.

In a *walk* or *drive* round the island the visitor leaves Chesilton by the road along the E. coast, passing Portland Castle on the l. to

Castleton (Inn: Castle Hotel), where he will observe the *stone-wharf*, from which the vessels engaged in the carrying trade ship their cargoes, and where a pier for the use of the Weymouth steamer has been recently erected. On rt. is the *tram-road*, descending in a straight line the abrupt hill from the quarries. Down

this come the loaded waggons by their own weight, their impetus being controlled by the empty cars attached to the other end of the chain, which passes over a huge drum at the top of the incline.

From Castleton the visitor should proceed to the *Portland Breakwater*, a national work, commenced in 1847, and now (1869) on the point of completion, the full extent of shelter having been been afforded some years since. The site of Portland Harbour possessed natural advantages which had long been apparent. It was already protected by nature from westerly gales, and needed only a barrier towards the S.E. to render it on all sides secure. The roadstead was capacious, the depth of water ample, and the holding ground tenacious; the position was intermediate between Portsmouth and Plymouth, and opposite to the French arsenal of Cherbourg, a desideratum in a warlike point of view. It had the advantage of an inner harbour at Weymouth, and of a copious supply of spring water at Portland. Lastly, it was situated under heights covered by large quantities of stone already excavated and thrown aside as useless, but admirably adapted for the construction of a breakwater. The utility of such an undertaking appears to have been first urged upon the Government by a Mr. Harvey, of Weymouth, in the year 1794, with no result; he died in 1821, but Mr. John Harvey, his son, kept the matter before the public. In 1844 a Royal Commission was appointed "to inquire into the most eligible situation for constructing a Harbour or Harbours of Refuge in the Channel." Portland Bay, of course, claimed their attention, and the third recommendation in their Report was to the following effect: "That a Breakwater be constructed in Portland Bay, to extend a mile and a quarter in a N.E. direction, from near the Northern point of the

Island, in about seven fathoms water, having an opening of 150 ft. at a $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the shore, and sheltering an area of nearly 1200 acres." The first vote for the work was granted by Parliament in the year 1846; an Act of Parliament was passed in 1847, giving powers to purchase the necessary land, &c.; and the preliminary works were begun in August of that year. The works having been completed, His Royal Highness the late Prince Consort (to whose influence, it is said, is mainly owing the decision of the Government to carry out these works) performed the ceremony of depositing the first stone, weighing nearly 9 tons, 25th July, 1849. Up to Nov. 1856, the works were under the direction of the late Mr. J. M. Rendel, and from that time of Mr. J. Coode, who is now the engineer-in-chief. Strictly speaking, there are two breakwaters; one connected with the shore, starting about half a mile S.E. of Portland Castle, and running due E. for about 1800 ft.; and the outer, or main, breakwater, which is about 6000 ft. long, is separated from the inner arm by an opening of 400 ft. wide, with a depth of about 45 ft. of water at the lowest tides.

The whole of the stone was obtained from the top of the island, at about a mile from the breakwater; the greater portion was quarried by convicts, who loaded the whole into waggons. These waggons were conveyed by locomotive engines to the top of the inclined planes, where their weight was taken and registered, they were then attached to a strong wire rope wound round a drum fitted with powerful screw breaks, and by the force of gravity the full trains descended and pulled up the empty waggons from the bottom to be reloaded. Arrived at the bottom, the waggons were disconnected from the wire rope and attached to a locomotive engine, by which they were conveyed along

tramways laid upon staging of a peculiar construction, framed upon a plan introduced by Mr. Rendel. The piles for this staging were generally from 70 to 90 ft. in length, and were formed of large "balks" of timber securely bolted together, fixed into the ground by means of a massive shoe, with a large screw at the foot, according to the patented invention of Mr. A. Mitchell. Cross timbers were securely fixed to these piles, and upon them the tramways were laid. The waggons were of iron, formed with a moveable bottom; they were to a certain extent self-acting, and having reached the proper point on the staging, the loads, consisting of several tons, were shot into the sea with a tremendous uproar. More than 5,600,000 tons of stone have been put into the sea to form this great work; and about 1,000 convicts were employed upon it. The portion connected with the shore is crowned by substantial masonry, with a wharf for coaling vessels of the navy. At the extreme end of this arm there is a circular tower, with a fort carrying 9 guns. At the northern extremity of the great breakwater a circular tower has been constructed, on which it is intended to erect a fort to carry some of the heaviest guns that have been made.

The total expenditure upon the breakwater works, coaling and watering establishment, jetties, &c., has been about 1,010,000*l.*, an amount which will compare most favourably with the cost of any of our large harbours completed, or in progress.

Portland is now the largest artificial harbour in the kingdom, if not in the world; by an official chart it appears that the sheltered anchorage is as follows:—

Five fathoms deep and upwards at low water	Acres.
Three do.	1290
Two do.	1590
Up to low-water line	1768
	2107

From the extent of quarrying, fossils have been found in abundance. The stranger is followed by children importuning him to buy them, though there is seldom any interest in what they offer. Excellent collections, however, may be seen at the engineer's office at the head of the Breakwater, and also in the foreman's office at the

Convict Prison.—This has a handsome frontage to the sea, with a garden gay with flowers. The buildings, however, are mostly of wood or iron, being of a strictly temporary character, and scattered over a large area, the whole enclosed by a lofty stone wall, and with sentinels in uniform like that of railway guards before the gates. It is regarded as a model building of the kind, consisting of 8 wings, besides a hospital, chapel, barracks, and streets of cottages for the warders. Some of the garden walls are topped with fine ammonites. It accommodates a governor, deputy-governor, chaplain, 2 schoolmasters, and other officers, and about 1500 convicts, of whom the greater number are employed mostly in hewing and trimming the monster blocks of stone used in the construction of docks, basins, and buildings at Portsmouth, Chatham, and other naval stations. This prison is conducted in the best possible manner by the governor, who rules over an establishment numbering about 2600, including warders and those connected with them. The prisoners are treated with uniform kindness, and although many "distinguished" convicts are at this prison, no distinction is made between the *ci-devant* gentleman by birth and education and the common burglar and thief. The prisoners are induced to behave well by a promise of privileges; and a notice is exhibited that after the lapse of a certain time, if the convict's behaviour is good, he will be permitted to communicate with his friends.

Buoyed by this hope, the majority strive to earn the boon. Again, after another period of good behaviour, the convict is allowed to see his friends, and thus by exemplary conduct he secures privileges that alone can be obtained by decorum, attention, and obedience to orders. Insubordination is punished by the withdrawal of these favours, and by severe chastisement if the offence be grave and serious. They go to work at five in the morning, return to breakfast, and again work till dinner-time, and at an early hour in the afternoon retire to their separate cells. Portland prison is a place of much interest, and its condition reflects great credit on the governor. The arrangements are very perfect; the building is lighted with gas from its own gasometer, and abundantly supplied with both fresh and salt water, which is pumped into it by a steam-engine from reservoirs on the shore. From the entrance gate the visitor obtains a view over the southern part of the island, and sees before him the united villages of *Wakeham* and *Easton*. A walk of a few minutes will conduct us to the most romantic spot in Portland, the

Cove of Church Hope, containing *Pennsylvania Castle*, and on a cliff overhanging the sea the ruinous old keep of *Bow and Arrow Castle*. A rugged road leads down to the beach, and about midway is a spring which supplies the inhabitants with water.

Pennsylvania Castle is an unpretending mansion, charmingly placed in a rough dell here descending to the cove. It was built, at a cost of 20,000*l.*, by John Penn, governor of this island (d. 1834), and grandson of the founder of Pennsylvania. It is embowered among shrubberies, and contains a collection of Indian and Chinese antiquities. It is not now shown to strangers. Below it are the ruins of the old parish church of the island, ruined by a landslip. From a sea-girt crag rises

Bow and Arrow Castle, a pentagonal tower of rude construction, commonly said to have been built by William Rufus. The walls are pierced by small circular apertures for the discharge of arrows, and provided at the top with overhanging brackets from which stones or other missiles might have been hurled on an assailant. The ruin is situated 300 ft. above the water, and connected with the mainland by a bridge, the arch of which frames a beautiful view of the blue sea and lofty coast about Lulworth. In the year 1142 Robert Earl of Gloucester took possession of this castle for the Empress Matilda. On the other side of the cove the rocky ground has been broken by a landslip into the most romantic forms. There is a deep chasm, and in advance of it a detached mass which rises like a human figure from the cliff.

Continuing our course towards the S. end of the island, the slope of the land brings us nearer and nearer to the level of the sea, the cliffs being hollowed into caverns which resemble enormous sheds, and, according to the Portlanders, are haunted by mysterious monsters of the deep. Over the thin roofs of these vaults we unconsciously walk until startled by a well-like aperture in the path. This is known by the name of

Cave Hole, where the waves may be seen chafing beneath our feet in the calmest weather, but in storms they burst upwards through the opening with a sound like thunder, and scatter the salt spray far over the island. The scene is then a really impressive one. About a mile beyond it we reach the southern termination of the island, or

Portland Bill, a castellated mass of rocks. Around it is a busy quarry, and at some distance apart the 2 *lighthouses*, the lantern of one 130, and of the other 197 ft. above the level of the sea. In rough weather there is a wild waste of tumbling

water off this point. The tide rushes with extraordinary impetuosity between the land and a bank called the *Shambles*, 3 m. S.E., raising a dangerous surf, which is well-known to sailors as the *Race of Portland*.

From this promontory we can return along the western side of the island, an unenclosed sheep-walk, commanding a charming view of the Dorsetshire coast. The botanist may notice by the way *Euphorbia Portlandica* and *Lavatera arborea*, or tree-mallow, and the *Flos Adonis*, or pheasant's eye. Many bushels of the root of the Arum are dug yearly, and after being reduced to powder are sold as Portland Arrowroot.

ROUTE 18.

WIMBORNE TO HIGHBRIDGE, BY
BLANDFORD, STURMINSTER NEW-
TON, STALBRIDGE, TEMPLE COMBE,
WINCANTON, AND GLASTONBURY.
[WELLS.]

(*Somerset and Dorset Railway.*)

This very pretty and attractive route ascends the valley of the Stour and its tributary, the Cale, to the watershed near Wincanton, then passing Glastonbury, enters the valley of the Brue, and traversing the wide expanse of peat bogs which stretch between that place and the British Channel, joins the Great Western at Highbridge, and runs on in a branch line to the coast at the little watering place of *Burnham* (Rte. 19).

Leaving Wimborne, the rly. runs across the green meadows watered by the Stour, passing 1. Merly House, and at 2½ m. Corfe-Mullen (*The Knowle*, J. St. John Coventry, Esq.), strikes N.W. to

5 m. *Bailey Gate*, the station for *Sturminster Marshall*, so called from its former possessors, the Pembrokes, Earls Marshal of England. The *Ch.*, restored by Woodyer, has a good square tower, with angle turrets. The interior has a solemn religious effect, with a lofty open screen, and stalled chancel. It contains a brass to Henry Helme, a former vicar (d. 1581). E. on the hills beyond *Sturminster Marshall* are the woods of *Kingston Lacy*, seat of the Bankes family, and the camp of *Badbury Rings*. 1½ m. W. is *Charborough Park* (J. S. W. S. Erle Drax, Esq.), with its tower on the *Mount*.

To the W. opens the valley of the Winterborne, with its series of pretty villages and ancient churches (Rte. 13).

Passing close to the small entrenchment of *Crawford Castle*, 1, we reach

8 m. *Spetisbury Stat.* Here the little stream of the Tarrant comes down its pretty valley to increase the volume of the Stour. The villages of this stream will afford material for a very pleasant walk, returning over the downs by *Pimperne* to Blandford Stat. (Route 13). The line passes *Blandford St. Mary* rt. (see *post*), crosses the Stour, and arrives at

11½ m. **BLANDFORD Stat.** (*Inn* : Crown; Pop. 3900). Blandford Forum, taking its name from being a market situated at one of the chief fords of the Stour, is one of the most cheerful and prosperous looking towns in the county. It owes its handsome appearance to a tremendous conflagration in 1731, which destroyed nearly the whole town, leaving only 40

houses standing. Not fewer than 14 persons perished in this fire, and several died afterwards from alarm, fatigue, and grief at the destruction of their property. The houses have a certain air of stateliness from their high roofs and ornamented fronts. It is built entirely of red brick, in two main thoroughfares, *East-street* and *Salisbury-street*. These meet in a spacious market-place, terminated at one end by the church, and at the other by the park of *Bryanston*, which is separated from the street by a light iron fence. The chief manufacture was that of buttons, principally carried on by the women and children of the surrounding villages, but now discontinued; at one time the town was the most celebrated in England for point-lace. The manor belongs to the duchy of Lancaster. It was visited by James I. in 1615; and suffered much from its loyalty in the Civil Wars, and was plundered by Major Sydenham in 1644.

Blandford has produced its full share of eminent men, including various members of the family of *Ryves*: *George Ryves*, warden of New College (d. 1613); *Sir Thomas Ryves*, a famous civilian, who attended Charles I. at the Newport Treaty (d. 1651); and *Bruno Ryves*, chaplain to Charles I., and Dean of Windsor, who assisted Walton in publishing his "Polyglott," and the erroneously reputed author of the 'Querela Cantabrigiensis'; *Christopher Pitt*, the translator of the 'Æneid' (d. 1748); and *Thomas Creech*, the translator of Lucretius, Theocritus, &c. Natives of Blandford were at the same time primates of England and Ireland *Wm. Wake*, Abp. of Canterbury (b. 1657); and *Thos. Lindesay*, Abp. of Armagh (b. 1654). It was the birth-place (1785) of one of the ablest and best of modern Dissenters, J. Angell James. It gave the title of Marquis to John Churchill, afterwards Duke of Marlborough.

The *Church* is in the semi-classical style in vogue in the last century, with Ionic pillars supporting the ceiling. The tower is 80 ft. high. Adjoining it, under a portico, is a pump, erected by Mr. John Bastard, 1760, in remembrance of the great fire, and to provide against the recurrence of a similar disaster. It bears an inscription to that effect. An old mansion of red brick, about a gunshot N.E. of the church, was one of the few houses which escaped this conflagration. It is an ancient building, with a high roof and hexagonal chimneys, and a quaint un-English air, which it probably owes to the taste of the high German doctor, Sagittary, who lived here. *Ryves' Almshouse*, a handsome brick building, also escaped the fire.

The *Corn Exchange*, behind the *Town Hall*, is a fine spacious room.

Blandford was visited twice by Gibbon, the historian, when Captain of the Hants Militia, in 1760 and 1762. In his autobiography he recalls the attractions of "pleasant, hospitable Blandford"—"our beloved Blandford," though he records with regret that its dissipations interfered with his studies.

On the skirt of the town, beyond East-street, are some remains of *Damory Court*; in the reign of Edward II. the residence of Roger d'Amorie, constable of Corfe Castle, but now a farmhouse. A barn to the E. of it was *St. Leonard's Chapel*, with Perp. windows and doorway, now partly walled up. On this estate stood *Damory's Oak*, a celebrated tree 68 ft. in circumf. at the ground. During the Rebellion its hollow trunk was inhabited by an old man, who vended beer in it, and after the great fire it afforded a home for a considerable period to a houseless family. In 1703 it was greatly injured by a storm, and in 1755 it was taken down and sold as firewood for 14*l.*

Bryanston House, Lord Portman, is not accessible to strangers. It is a

large mansion erected in 1780 from a design by James Wyatt, the chief feature of the interior being an octagonal staircase 30 ft. in diameter. The park is more than 1 m. in length, and watered by the *Stour*, which sweeps through it below a beautiful crescent of wood. This is well seen from the bridge, a little distance from the *Crown Inn*.

Bryanston, or "Brian's Town," takes its name from Brian de Insula, or Lisle, its lord in the time of King John. The estate belonged to the family of Rogers for many generations, and was purchased from them by Sir William Portman, of Orchard-Portman, near Taunton, who took an active part in the suppression of Monmouth's rebellion, and captured the Duke himself, July 8, 1685. He was one of the earliest of the western landowners to join William of Orange at Exeter, and his adhesion secured the Prince's interest in Dorsetshire.

The *Ch.* is nearly entirely modern, and contains memorials of the families of Rogers and Portman. There is an epitaph worth deciphering to the wife of Rich. Rogers (d. 1566), and on the pedestal of an ancient font a mutilated inscription marks the resting-place of the heart of Ralph de Stopham, one of the early lords of the manor.

Blandford St. Mary, 1 m. S., was the birthplace of *Broune Willis*, the antiquary (1682), whose industry may be gathered from the fact that no less than 150 volumes of his MS. topographical collections are now preserved in the Bodleian Library. It is also the burial-place of Governor Pitt (of Pitt-Diamond notoriety), whose father was rector of the parish. His body lies in an aisle, added by him to the parish church for the purpose.

[Several fine earthworks are within a ride of Blandford, viz.: rt. of the Sturminster road, *Hod Hill*, 3 m.; and *Hambledon Hill*, 4 m. N.W.; on

the old road to Wimborne, *Buzbury*, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. E., and *Badbury Rings*, $6\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E.; and on the lower road to Wimborne, *Spetisbury Ring* or *Crawford Castle*, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. (See *Index*.)

The most interesting place near Blandford is *Milton Abbey*, the seat of Baron Hambro. It is 8 posting miles distant, but a horseman may reach it in 6 (Rte. 13).

Numerous *seats* are scattered among the chalk hills and valleys of this neighbourhood. Among them may be enumerated *Steepleton House* (just E. of Hod Hill), the property of Lord Rivers; *Ranston House* (adjoining Steepleton), Sir Edw. Baker Baker, Bart.; *Hanford House*, E. Seymer, Esq.; *Turnworth House* (5 m. N.W.); *Whitcomb House* (by Milton Abbey), Mrs. Michel; and *Charborough Park* (6 m. on Wareham road), J. S. W. S. Erle Drax, Esq.]

Proceeding on our route up the pretty valley bounded by a bare chalk down E., and the woods of Bryanston W., at 14 m. we pass between *Durweston* l. and *Stower-payne* rt.

The *Ch.* of Durweston has been rebuilt, with the exception of the very handsome W. tower, which is Perp., and ornamented with niches. Over the ch. door is built in a very curious sculpture, representing the interior of a smithy, where a horse is being shod, supposed to refer to St. Eloi, the patron saint of blacksmiths. The present rector is Lord Sydney Godolphin Osborne, the well-known S. G. O. of the 'Times.'

Stower Payne has a restored Dec. *Ch.*, with an ancient Perp. tower, and contains a kneeling effigy of Vicar Straight (c. 1669). Above the village, N., towering over the rly., is

Hod Hill, crested with an entrenchment which is separated from that on Hambledon Hill by a deep valley. It is constructed in the shape of the letter D with 2 ram-

parts, and is remarkable for containing within its area a small but very perfect Roman camp, and a number of hut-circles, marking the site of a British village. Still further N. is the rival entrenchment of

Hambledon Hill, crowning a bold outline of the chalk downs, 480 ft. above the valley below. It is about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile in length from E. to W. It is protected by 2 ramparts and ditches, strengthened by advanced works at different points. It was probably a British camp, but was occupied by the Romans. It played a part in the Civil Wars, when its entrenched camp was occupied by near 2000 of the west country "Clubmen," commanded by one Bravel Reeks, of Compton, whence they were ejected Aug. 1645 by Cromwell and Desborough. "We have taken about 300; many of which are poor silly creatures, whom you will please to let me send home; they promise to be very dutiful for the time to come, 'and will be hanged before they come out again.'"—*Cromwell's Letters*. The prisoners were confined at Shrowton or Iwerne - Courtnay Ch., with their 4 vicars and curates, which were taken with them on the hill. "The colours taken had sentences of Scripture profanely applied by their malignant priests, who were the principal stirrers-up of the people to these tumultuous assemblies."—*Sprigge*.

[At *Stower Payne* the little river *Iwerne* joins the *Stour*, running down a pleasant valley, and watering a chain of villages with churches, which will well reward the tourist for turning out of his way to visit them.

In the valley between Hod Hill and Hambledon Hill is *Steepleton House* the property of Lord Rivers, *Steepleton Ch.* will interest the antiquary from the singularity of its construction, the chancel being the base of a Norman tower adapted to

its present purpose in the 16th cent. Norman windows may be traced in the walls of the nave.

1½ m. further *Ranston House* (Sir Edw. B. Baker), a Palladian mansion at the foot of a prettily wooded hill, the stream flowing below.

2½ m. is *Iwerne-Courtney*, or Shropton, and 3½ m. *Iwerne-Minster* (*Iwerne House*, T. B. Bower, Esq.), where the fine cruciform *Ch.* is remarkable for possessing almost the only ancient stone spire in the county. The spire and belfry story are Perp.; the lower part of the tower and great part of the ch. is E. E.; one arcade of the nave is Norman. The chancel has lancet windows on the N. *Iwerne-Minster* belonged to the abbey of Shaftesbury, and was appropriated to one of the abbess's confessors. It was one of the many preferments held by William of Wykeham. 1 m. further, at *Sutton-Waldron*, a pretty little *Ch.* was built on a knoll to the S.W. of the village, at the expense of Archdeacon Anthony Huxtable.

1 m. further, at the foot of Fontmell Down, tumid with barrows, is *Fontmell Magna*, with a very good *Ch.*, chiefly Perp., with a small and inferior Dec. chancel. The tower is fine, and the S. aisle and porch much enriched, with bands of panelling, coats of arms, figures, and inscriptions: "O mankynd, have thou yn mynd," "Yer of our Lord God MVOXXX" (1530). The nave is wide, and the arcade remarkably elegant. The capitals of the pillars bear angels with inscribed scrolls. The font is Norman, and there is a little old coloured glass. There is a curious screen in the S. aisle with the heads of "Walter King and Esbell his wife." In the churchyard is a memorial cross erected by public subscription to Lieut. Philip Salkeld, who was mortally wounded in blowing up the gate of Delhi, Oct. 11, 1857. At the foot of the conical hill

[*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*]

of Melbury is *Compton Abbas*, 7 m. N.E. of Blandford, taking its distinctive name from having belonged to Milton Abbey.]

From Stourpayne the rly. pursues the valley of the Stour under the lofty heights of Okeford Hill.

16½ m. *Shillingstone* Stat., called also *Shilling Okeford*, taking its name from its ancient lords, the Eschellings. The pulpit of the *Ch.* was the gift of one Wm. Keen, a merchant of London (1666), who retired hither to avoid the plague. The long village straggles up the hill; in the centre of it are the steps and basement of a cross, and a maypole some 50 ft. high, which is annually dressed on June 9. At *Hayward Bridge* is a small camp, probably formed to defend the ford from which the three villages, Shilling and Child Okeford, and *Okeford Fitzpaine* derive their names. 2 m. S.E. *Hanford* (E. Clay Seymer, Esq.) is an interesting James the First house built round a court, and beautifully situated near the banks of the Stour.

19½ m. *Sturminster* Stat. *Sturminster-Newton-Castle* (*Inns*: Crown, Swan; Pop. 1880) is another market-town insignificant in size, but exceedingly ancient. It was bequeathed by Alfred to his son Ethelwold, and afterwards belonged to Glastonbury Abbey. At the Dissolution it was granted by Henry VIII. to Katharine Parr, and on her death, by Edward VI. to his sister Elizabeth, who demised it to Sir Christopher Hatton. In the Civil Wars the Parliamentary forces had a garrison here, which was forced by the Clubmen, July 3, 1645, when 16 dragoons were taken prisoners, and many killed and wounded. The *Ch.* is a modern cruciform building in the Norman style. There are remains of a cross in the village. It is built on a declivity descending to the sluggish *Stour*, which is here crossed by a bridge of 6 arches. Beyond the bridge rises a

beautifully wooded hill called *Piddleswood*, a cover belonging to Lord Rivers, the lord of the manor; and immediately opposite the end of the bridge a moated mound (now an orchard), on which the *castle* stood formerly. A fragment of this building still remains—worth a visit. Those in search of the picturesque should ascend the steep road above *Sturminster*, which commands a charming landscape.

3 m. N. of *Sturminster* is *Marnhull*. The *Ch.* is a good building, with a fine lofty Perp. tower, rebuilt 1718, on the fall of its predecessor. The main features are Perp., with some E. E. features in the nave arcade. The arches opening into the chancel and N. and S. transeptal chapels have excellent mouldings and well carved capitals. In the N. aisle are 3 well preserved sepulchral effigies. *Nash Court* (J. Hussey, Esq.), 1 m. N., is a fine mansion, containing some good paintings by *Vandyck*, &c. It was the birthplace of *Giles Hussey*, 1710, an ingenious artist. He contended that every human face was in harmony with itself, and that, taking the profile as an octave, it was only necessary to find the key-note to discover the correspondent proportions. Acting upon this idea, he corrected his drawings by a musical scale, and found that by so doing he produced a more characteristic likeness. After the death of the artist, Mr. Barry declared that "the public are likely never to know the whole of what they have lost in Mr. Hussey." A few of his drawings are preserved at *Lulworth Castle*.

1 m. S. is a small oblong camp called *Banbury*, and S.W., on the stream of the *Divelish*, *Plumber House*, a seat of the *Prideaux-Brunes*. 5 m. S., on a spur of the chalk downs, below *Rawlsbury* and *Bulbarrow*, is

Woolland, where a very handsome *Ch.* was erected 1857, after the designs of Mr. Gilbert Scott. It is

built of stone from *Hamhill* and the neighbouring quarries of *Hazelbury Bryan*, and is richly decorated with marbles of varied hues within. *Hazelbury Bryan*, 1½ m. N.W. of *Woolland*, was the rectory of the Rev. H. Walter (d. 1859), first Professor of Nat. Philosophy at the East India College of *Haileybury*. The *Ch.* deserves notice. On the W. side of the churchyard is an ancient house (c. 1480). The rly. now deserts the *Stour*, and crossing the little tributary of the *Lidden*, reaches

23½ m. *Stalbridge* Stat. (*Inn*: *King's Arms*; Pop. 1929), an insignificant market-town, chiefly of thatched cottages, once the property of the abbey of *Sherborne*. The view from the neighbouring hill and the *cross* in the street are the only things to remark in it. In the view are seen *Alfred's Tower* at *Stourhead*, and the out-lying knolls of *Duncliff* and *Kingsettle* near *Shaftesbury*.

The *Cross* is a light and beautiful structure about 30 ft. high, but much weather-worn and mutilated. The steps are modern. The figure of the Saviour is represented on the shaft; those of the *Virgin* and *St. John* on the stone above it; on the pediment are 4 rude designs, probably representing the *Resurrection*, in bas-relief. The whole is richly ornamented.

Stalbridge Park was purchased by the *Marquis of Westminster* of the late *Marquis of Anglesea*, and is now leased as a farm. The house, a fine Elizabethan structure, stood N. of *Stalbridge*, among a group of old chesnut-trees, and commanded a delightful view of the *Vale of Blackmoor* and of the downs beyond it. It was pulled down, 1822, by the steward of the *Marquis of Anglesea*; relics of its grandeur are to be found all over the neighbourhood. The present house was the laundry. The manor belonged to *Sherborne Abbey*, and at the *Dissolution* was granted

to Protector Somerset. It afterwards belonged to the Touchets, Lords Audley, and on the attainder of the last baron it passed to Richard Boyle, Earl of Cork, whose 14th child, the celebrated *Robert Boyle*, the natural philosopher, resided in it until 1650, and here made his first chemical experiments. He was born in the castle of Lismore, in the province of Munster, Ireland, 1626-7. It was subsequently the residence of Walters, infamous for his parsimony, a member of Pope's trio, "Walters, Chartres, and the Devil." Anthony Dalaber, one of the members of the first Protestant Divinity class at Oxford (whose interesting narrative has been reprinted by Froude, ii. 47-61), was connected with Stalbridge where his brother was parson of the parish, "a rank papist and the most mortal enemy that ever I had for the Gospel's sake." The living was bought by Abp. Tenison, and given to Corpus College, Cambridge. The *Ch.* is uninteresting. In a gravel-pit at Stalbridge there was a find of copper and bronze Roman coins, mostly of Constantius, and Roman pottery, in 1866.

[2 m. S.W. *Stourton Caundle Ch.* contains a curious alabaster female effigy in an elaborate costume on an altar-tomb, and also an altar-tomb to Sir Simon Chidioc.

2 m. E. of Stourton Caundle is *Thornhill*, seat of the Rev. H. Boucher, and formerly of *Sir James Thornhill* (whose father had sold it), the painter of the cupola of St. Paul's, born at Weymouth, who was its architect as well as owner. An obelisk—known as the *Thornhill Spire*—on an eminence near the house, was erected by Sir James to the memory of his patron, Geo. I. It bears the date 1727.]

The rly. now crosses the border, and, leaving Dorset, enters Somerset, and reaches

25½ *Henstridge* Stat. The *Ch.* contains a late altar-tomb with effigies

to Sir William Carent and his lady, Alice, the one in armour, the other in a robe decorated with rosettes.

The *Virginia Inn*, at *Henstridge Ash*, stands on 4 cross-roads. A young ash-tree, the successor of one of considerable age, surrounded by a circular stone seat, grows by the road-side. At this inn, according to the local tradition, told also in many other places, Sir Walter Raleigh astonished the villagers—and particularly the drawer, who is said to have dashed a pail of water over him—by indulging in the first pipe of tobacco smoked in England.

27½ m. *Temple Combe Junction* Stat., where the Somerset and Dorset Rly. crosses the main line of the S.-W. Rly. to Yeovil and Exeter (Rte. 11.)

The district we have been traversing is known as the *Vale of Blackmoor*, a wide fertile level, watered by the *Cale*, which flows southwards from Wincanton to join the Stour. It is celebrated among farmers as one of the richest of pasture lands. Its marshy surface is speckled by herds of lazy cattle, and by busier droves of pigs, of which this vale supplies to London a larger number than either of the counties of Somerset or Devon. Blackmoor is also known for the vigorous growth of its oaks, which thrive on the strong clay. It was originally called *White Hart Forest*, from Henry III. having here hunted a beautiful white hart and spared its life; and Fuller gives the sequel to the tale. He says that Thomas de la Lynd, a gentleman of fair estate, killed the white hart which Henry by express will had reserved for his own chase, and that in consequence the county—as accessory for not opposing him—was mulcted for ever in a fine called "White-hart Silver." "Myself," continues Fuller, "hath paid a share for the sauce who never tasted the meat." The memory of the White Hart is preserved by the "King's Stag Bridge" over the Lidden, at the vil-

lage of Pulham, 6 m. S. of Stalbridge, and the inn of the same name. The local tradition, which is still fresh, is that the stag was killed here. Loudon informs us that the vale contained *Lose's Wood*, in which stood the *Raven's Oak*, mentioned by White in his 'Nat. Hist. of Selborne.'

The rly. ascends the valley of the *Cale*, a tributary of the Stour, to 30½ m. WINCANTON Stat. (*Inns*: Greyhound, Bear; Pop. 2450), a thriving little town, situated on the *Cale*, in a position which may remind the traveller of Shaftesbury. It stands on the western slope of the hill at the head of the broad *Vale of Blackmoor*, where the hills form a natural terrace. Upon this many of the houses are built, commanding from their windows the vista of the vale and its long-drawn boundaries, and the little river.

Wincanton, formerly called Wincaleton, from the river on which it stands, is a town of great antiquity. The manor belonged in succession to the Lovells of Castle Cary, the St. Maurs and Zouches, of which the two latter families were seated at *Marsh Court*, now a farmhouse, 3 m. S. In 1553 Wincanton was terribly ravaged by the plague, to such an extent that the roads to it were closed, and travellers passed into Wiltshire by Alfred's Tower, along the old British trackway from Old Sarum to Ilchester. In 1688 it was the scene of a skirmish between a small party of Irish troops on the side of the Prince of Orange and some dragoons of James II.—an event remarkable as being the first blood shed in the Revolution (*Macaulay*, ii. 514). The Prince afterwards slept in a house in South-street, where the *Orange room* is still pointed out. Great part of the town was consumed in 1747. The *Ch.* is modern. In the *Town Hall* is a portrait of Lord Chief Justice Dier (d. 1581), who lived at Roundhill, in this parish. The grandfather of the fa-

mous Dr. Sacheverell was a Presbyterian minister at Wincanton, and suffered a 3 years' imprisonment, resulting in his death. There is a mineral spring and defunct spa at *Horwood*, at the foot of Coneygore Hill, 1 m. S.W. *Roundhill*, 2 m. N., was the seat of the Diers and the birthplace of the Lord Chief Justice; having been previously a grange of Stavordale Priory. The house was rebuilt 1701.

[The pretty road out of this town towards Bruton, and the view from that towards Castle Cary, should be seen. At a distance of 7 m. S.W. is *Cadbury Castle*, the traditional camp of King Arthur (Rte. 21), 3 m. in the direction of Bruton *Redlinch Park*, a seat of the Earl of Ilchester, the house built in 1672 by Sir Stephen Fox; to the N. *Alfred's Tower* and *Jack's Castle* (Rte. 11); below the heights of Jack's Castle and Penridge, about 3 m. N.E. from Wincanton, some remains of the Augustine priory of

Stavordale, founded 1263 by Richard Lovel. The *Church* was rebuilt c. 1443, when the estate was held by William Lord Zouche of Castle Cary, whose arms are seen in the stonework. The shell of the conventual ch. remains entire, but desecrated to the purposes of a farmhouse and offices. The choir is the farmhouse, the nave a barn, the N. chapel, with a fine tracery roof of exquisite beauty, the dairy. Stavordale gives the title of Baron to the Earl of Ilchester.

The road to Mere climbs *Bayford Hill*, which on the rt. looks far into Dorsetshire. 1. is *Bayford House*, the seat of the Messiters. In 3 m. we pass through a projecting tongue of Dorsetshire to *Pen Selwood*, 4 m. E., identified by Dr. Guest with "Peonne, near Gillingham," where Cenwealh of Wessex defeated the Welsh in 658, and secured the annexation of Somersetshire to his kingdom. It was also the scene of the

great victory of Edmund Ironside over Canute in 1016. The *Ch.* has a fine Norman doorway worked into the nave when rebuilt 1805, and a Norman font.

Pen Pits is the name popularly given to a tract of marshy ground, excavated with several thousand rudely conical holes. Many speculations have been made as to their origin, and it has been questioned whether they are natural or artificial. But there is little real doubt that those antiquaries are right who, with Fosbroke and Guest, regard them as the foundations of the thatched huts of the aboriginal inhabitants. The Rev. F. Warre conjectures that they were made for the sake of the stone which, in large masses, has been conveyed to form the extensive entrenchment of *Orchard Castle*, a British work of very early date, lying E. of the village, and of the pits on the banks of the Stour. "A good primæval study" (*E. A. F.*), perhaps the stronghold of the earlier Britons before the Belgic invasion.

Cucklington is 3 m. S.E. of Wincanton. The *Ch.* has a fine tower to the S. The arcades are Trans.; the E. window curvilinear. In this parish is *Shank's Hall* (D. F. Grant Dalton, Esq.), standing in richly wooded grounds, with some fine cedars.]

Bratton, 2½ m. N.W., stands on the steep slope of Bratton Hill, conspicuous from the rly. l. In 1834 on Cattle Hill, a lofty tumulus W. of Bratton *Ch.*, the foundations of a Roman building were discovered with some coins of Constantius II. It was probably a watch-tower, and a point of communication between *Cadbury Castle* and *Kingsettle Hill*, on which Alfred's Tower stands. *Yarlington* with its old *Ch.* stands W. of Bratton Hill. *Yarlington Lodge* is the residence of T. E. Rogers, Esq. *Hadspe House* (H. Hobhouse, Esq.) is a venerable-looking mansion, with woods rising above it. Passing on l. at 34 m. *Shepton Montacute*, close to the rly.,

with a *Perp. Ch.* restored in 1855, and rt. *Redlinch Park* (Earl of Ilchester) (Rte. 21), we run through a remarkably picturesque country, among wooded hills and deep valleys, reach

35 m. *Cole Stat.*, within 1¼ m. of *Castle Cary W.* and *Bruton E.* (Rte. 21), a very short distance of the village of *Pitcombe S.* A little beyond *Cole Stat.*, the Somerset and Dorset line crosses the *Frome* and *Weymouth* line and the wooded valley of the *Brue*, winds westwards, and passing *Week Champflower* rt., and at 37 m. *Lamyat* at the foot of *Creech Hill* (a bold promontory of the oolite, with a small camp on the summit), reaches, through very pretty country,

37¾ m. *Evercreech Stat.*, where the tower of the fine *Ch.*, 130 ft. high, resembling the still finer one of *Wrington*, is a pretty feature in the landscape. The nave and N. aisle are good *Perp.*, and there is a fine wooden roof. The E. window is *Dec.*

On the rt., about 2 m. N.E. of *Evercreech*, is the small but curious church of *Chesterblade*—originally a Norman building. It contains a stone reading-desk with shelf and panelling of the date of Hen. VIII., perhaps intended for a desk for the Bible immediately after the Reformation.

[*Ditcheat*, 1 m. l., has a *Ch.* fine enough to reward the tourist for turning out of his way to examine it. It is cruciform, with a central tower adorned with canopied niches and pinnacles, and with good stone groining within. The whole is *Perp.*, except the chancel, which is *Dec.*, and has a double tier of windows, the upper of which is also *Perp.* The E. window is of pure geometrical design. The nave has light arcades, a clerestory, and fine well-preserved wooden roofs. There is some curious post-Reformation woodwork, including chancel screen, stalls, and pulpit (1630.) The initials and monogram

of Abbot John Selwood of Glastonbury appear on the parapet. Ditcheat was a manor of the Abbots of Glastonbury. It afterwards belonged to Sir Ralph Hopton, a noble specimen of the Cavaliers of Charles the First's time. Some portions of the Abbot's mansion are still to be seen. Part of the house is of the time of James I., but the larger part dates from Charles II.]

The rly. continues up the beautiful valley, rich in woods and orchards, and sweeping round Pennard Hill S., reaches

39½ m. *Pylle* Stat., 1 m. from the hamlet of *Street*, on the Fosseway, which intersects the parish from N. to S., and climbs the Pennard ridge in bold defiance of natural obstacles. The *ch.* of *Pylle* is Trans. Norman altered into Perp.

Pylle House, now a farmhouse, was a mansion of the Berkeleys. The E. wing, in the Elizabethan style, is still standing. Near this is *Pennard House* (E. B. Napier, Esq.).

41½ m. rt. on the ridge of the hill, 1 m. N., stands *Pilton*, formerly belonging to the Abbey of Glastonbury. The *Ch.* is beautifully situated. It is Transitional in style, with Perp. clerestory, and a later chancel, said to have been built by Amberson, Precentor of Wells. The tie-beam roof is a good one of its kind. The pulpit is a fine specimen of its style (1618.) The pulpit-cloth has been made out of a cope. At *Pilton* was a grange of the Abbots of Glastonbury, of which a noble barn remains, figured in *Parker's Dom. Ant.*, vol. ii. This building is ornamented under the gable windows with the emblems of the 4 Evangelists, and appears to have been erected about the time of Rich. II., the architecture inclining rather to the Perp. than the Dec.

Penridge House is an old mansion pleasantly situated.

Passing under *Stickleball Hill*, 1, we arrive at

43½ m. *West Pennard Stat.*, 1½ m. E. of the village from which it takes its name. The *Ch.* is a fine Perp. building in excellent condition, thoroughly restored, and fitted with open seats. The tower has much elegant ornamentation, and is groined. The Tudor arches within bespeak a late date. The N. aisle and chancel have fine panelled roofs, and there is a good rood screen with vine-leaf carving, and a rich carved W. door. The pulpit retains the hour-glass stand. In the churchyard is an ancient cross. 1 m. W. on the road to Glastonbury is *Ponter's Ball*, a very curious earthwork.

The rly. here enters on the wide expanse once a peat bog surrounding Glastonbury, and sweeping round the N. side of the *Tor Hill* reaches

48½ m. GLASTONBURY Stat., where it joins the line from Wells. Glastonbury (*Inns*: George, Red Lion; Pop. 3593) is a municipal borough and market-town, owing its origin to its celebrated abbey, one of the earliest centres of Christianity in England. It was in far distant ages an island rising from the estuary of the Brue, the glass-like clearness of whose waters gained for it the name by which it is said to have been known to the Britons, *Ynys-witren*, or *Ynys-gwydryn*, which has descended to later times in the A.-S. *Glaestingabyrig*, and the modern Glastonbury. Another and perhaps more probable view is that the root-syllable *glas* is British, signifying *blue*, from the colour of the waters surrounding the place, and that *Ynys-witren*, "the glass island," is a modern antique coined to support a mistaken etymology. The Britons knew it also by the name of *Avalon*, or "Apple-Tree isle" (*Aval*=apple, Welsh), which the Romans adopting, called it *Insula Avallonia*, the mystic "Isle of Avalon," which later tradition assigned as the spot where, as men fancied, the Arthur of romance had been buried, but where he really

asleep in fairy bower to awake in due time, the avenger of his country's wrongs—

“ The island valley of Avilion,
Where falls not hail, or rain, or any snow,
Nor ever wind blows loudly, but it lies
Deep-meadowed, happy, fair with orchard
lawns
And bowery hollows crowned with summer
sea.” *Tennyson.*

Hither also the body of the disloyal but repentant Guinevere was brought from Amesbury to repose by the side of her wronged husband, in the same rude sarcophagus, hollowed from the trunk of a huge oak. The place of their sepulture was marked by two tall stone crosses, between which the royal pair reposed undisturbed till the days of Henry II., who, fired by the praises of the renowned conqueror chanted by the native bards, while he was tarrying at St. David's for the assembling of the fleet with which he was purposing to cross to complete the conquest of Ireland, desired his nephew, the then abbot, A.D. 1171, to have the royal remains removed from the open cemetery to a more honourable position within the church. A search was accordingly made, and at the depth of 16 ft. a massive oak trunk was discovered, with two cavities, the one containing a gigantic skeleton, the leg bone reaching to the middle of the thigh of a living man; the other the bones of a female. A lock of golden hair was still gleaming in the midst of the decay, but on a monk's hastily snatching at it to raise it from its recess, it immediately crumbled to dust. They also, it is said, found a leaden cross with a Latin inscription—“*Hic jacet sepultus inclytus Rex Arthurus in insula Avallonia.*”

The relics were removed to the Ch., and subsequently placed in a mausoleum before the high altar with the tomb of Edward the Elder on the N., where they were visited by Edward I. and Queen Eleanor, 1276, and were seen by Leland at

the middle of the 16th century. The skulls of Arthur and Guinevere were placed outside the shrine for the devotion of the people.

The chief interest of Glastonbury, however, arises from its connection with the early religious history of our country. Tradition assigns its foundation to Joseph of Arimathea, who had been sent with 11 companions by St. Philip, then preaching in France, A.D. 63, to evangelize Britain. Rejected by the King and his people, the missionaries took refuge in the island now known as Glastonbury, then overgrown with rough thickets and brushwood, and lying deep in the almost impenetrable recesses of a boggy estuary. William of Malmesbury, eleven centuries later, describes Glastonbury as a town nestled in a morass, only to be reached on foot or horseback, with no advantage either of site or pleasantness. At the commencement of the Christian era, it must have been nearly inaccessible. Here, at the command of the Archangel Gabriel, St. Joseph built a small wattled chapel in honour of the Virgin. The original missionaries died off, and the existence of the little oratory was lost sight of until, in A.D. 166, Pope Eleutherius, at the request of King Lucius, sent 2 missionaries, who in the course of their progress discovered the chapel, and received supernatural information of its dedication, and re-established a religious settlement in the island. Three hundred years later St. Patrick visited the spot, established the regular cenobitic life, and became the first abbot, and d. 472. Its fame grew, and the “*Vetusta Ecclesia*,” as it was called, became a favourite object of pilgrimage. Gildas the historian d. here 512, and was buried in the “*Vetusta Ecclesia*.” St. Paulinus, Abp. of York, c. 630, covered the little wattled structure with boards, and cased it in lead, as a precious relic. K. Ina, c. 700, by the advice of St.

Aldhelm, built and endowed a monastery here, and founded the "Major Ecclesia" in honour of SS. Peter and Paul. It was devastated in the Danish wars, but was thoroughly restored by the great Dunstan, who was born at Glastonbury, and educated by the Irish monks who were then the chief occupants of the monastery. This was the scene of his nightly wanderings over the parapets and roofs of the church in the paroxysms of brain fever, and it was in a cell in the churchyard that the tremendous struggle took place with sensual temptations, which he was vainly striving to repress by hard labour at the forge, to which later tradition has given so coarse and material a form. Dunstan by K. Edmund's appointment became abbot, A.D. 940, and introduced the Benedictine rule into England, and rebuilt the church and monastery. Edwy expelled and banished him; and it is recorded that when armed men were driving him from the church, a sound was heard, likened by some to the "wheezy voice of a gleesome hag," by others to "the bleating of a calf," but which was recognised unmistakably by all as the exulting voice of the devil.

The second Norman abbot, Herlewin, 1101-1120, pulled down the church as deficient in grandeur and began a new one, carried on by his successors Sigfrid, and King Stephen's brother, Henry of Blois. In 1134 the whole was burnt, and the relics, to the still greater grief of the monks, perished. The work of restoration was immediately commenced by the command, and at the expense, of King Henry II., the direction of the works being committed to his "camerarius," his nephew Ralph. The first part finished was the chapel of St. Mary (now erroneously known as St. Joseph's Chapel), on the site of the "Vetusta Ecclesia," the little wattled erection of the first missionaries. This was

dedicated June 11, c. 1186. The name of St. Joseph of Arimathea's chapel attached to this building is "a curious record of the permanency of local superstition."—*Willis*. It is due to the undoubted fact that it stands on the site of the oratory erected by the early missionaries, among whom the very natural desire, in an uncritical age, to identify the religious history of their country with some one or more of the most eminent characters of the New Testament, had placed Joseph of Arimathea. The tradition that afterwards grew up, and was carefully fostered by the monks, who found their profit in it from the number of devotees and pilgrims it brought to the abbey, was to the effect that St. Joseph lay buried "*in linea bifurcata*" (i.e. a linen shirt with 2 flaps) at the S.E. corner of the oratory.

The great church was, as usual, begun at the E. end, and carried regularly onwards to the W. The death of Henry II., and the warlike tastes of his successor Richard, interrupted the work, and the monks were at their wits' end for money, when, by a lucky inspiration, it was suddenly remembered that the body of St. Dunstan had been secretly removed from Canterbury, and was interred somewhere in the ruined church. The sacred relics were sought for, and, of course, found; and, in spite of the remonstrances of the monks of Canterbury, who claimed the possession of the Abp.'s body—a controversy which lasted almost up to the Reformation—began immediately to work miracles and cures, and to direct to Glastonbury a rich flow of offerings. Thus the church, of which the fragments remain, was completed, and received dedication A.D. 1303. The vaulting, the springing of which can be traced in the N. aisle of the nave, was added by Abbot Sodbury c. 1330, who also gave the clock, now at Wells. Abbot Mq-

nington, 1341-1374, vaulted the choir, and added 2 bays at the E. end. The last abbot but one, Richard Beere, a mighty man for building, raised inverted arches, as at Wells, to support the tower, and made other additions, especially St. Edgar's Chapel at the extreme E. end, which was finished by Abbot Whiting only a few years before he suffered the foul punishment of a traitor on the Tor.

Glastonbury was a mitred abbey, and its head ranked as the premier abbot of England till 1154, when precedence was given to the abbot of St. Alban's. "His apartment in the abbey," we are told, "was a kind of well disciplined court, where the sons of noblemen and gentlemen were sent for virtuous education, and returned thence excellently accomplished." Abbot Whiting had bred up near 300 after this manner, besides others of a meaner rank, whom he fitted for the universities. At home his table, attendance, and officers were an honour to the nation. Sometimes he even entertained 500 persons of fashion at a time; and twice every week all the poor of the neighbourhood were relieved by him. When he went abroad, he was attended by upwards of 100 persons. The library was one of the most richly stored in England. Leland, who spent some days there by Abb. Whiting's permission copying MSS., records that he had scarcely passed the threshold when the sight of so many sacred remains of antiquity struck him with an awe of astonishment, that, for a moment, he hesitated.

The execution of Abb. Whiting, however palliated by Mr. Froude, was one of the foulest of the many judicial murders that disgraced the stormy period of the Reformation. His alleged crimes were "the robbery of his church:" *i.e.* the concealment of its sacred vessels and other treasures from the legalised

depredators that were at hand; and "very haut and rank treason:" *i.e.*, in Froude's words, "that he was more faithful to the Church than to the State, and was guilty of regarding the old ways as better than the new."

Whiting was apprehended at his manor house of Sharpham, conveyed to the Tower, whence he was sent back into Somersetshire, "already condemned at a tribunal where Cromwell sat as prosecutor, jury, and judge."—*Froude*. He was arraigned at Wells, Nov. 14, 1539, in the Bishop's Great Hall, sentenced to death, and the next day drawn on a hurdle, with 2 of his monks, to the top of the Tor Hill, and there put to death. His head was fixed over his abbey gate. His quarters were sent to Wells, Bath, Ilchester, and Bridgwater, to strike terror into the hearts of all who might dare to question the King's prerogative to do what he would in his own dominions.

An attempt was made in Mary's reign to restore the abbey, but her death speedily put an end to the plan.

The manor of Glastonbury, with the site of the ch. and abbey, was granted by Edward VI. to the Duke of Somerset, and by Elizabeth to Sir Peter Carew. The buildings were abandoned, and allowed to fall into ruin; and, being regarded as the stone quarry of the neighbourhood, nearly the whole was gradually destroyed. Between 1792-94 the ground surrounding it was cleared, levelled, and converted into pasture, and cartloads of stones, capitals, corbels, pinnacles, and rich fragments of sculpture, were used for making a new road over the marshes to Wells. "Happily for the interests of archæology, the present proprietor, Mr. Austin, is an ardent admirer of these magnificent and beautiful fragments of antiquity, and spares no pains to preserve them from further mutilation."

The entrance to the abbey ruins is on the rt. of the chief street, under the new Assembly Rooms, through a garden in which a young scion of the famous Glastonbury Thorn (see *post*) still puts forth its leaves and blossoms when all its brethren are bare.

Of the vast ch. and its appended buildings, the remnants are scanty. Of the latter we have only the abbot's kitchen, and a small fragment adjoining, and a gateway, now converted into the *Red Lion Inn*. Of the ch. we have the 2 E. tower piers, with one of the N. transeptal chapels (erroneously called St. Mary's), nearly the whole of the S. wall of the choir aisle, some bays of the S. nave aisle, and the so-called St. Joseph's Chapel. The whole is of Tr. Norman, passing into E. E., corresponding with the date of its commencement (c. 1184); the same design having been maintained throughout with apparently but little variation in detail. The work is of the very highest type, and the excellence of the stone, from the Doulling quarries, renders the details almost as fresh as when they were first executed. The fragments of the triforium and clerestory attached to the tower piers enable us to restore the general design of the ch., which, both in size and architectural excellence, was on a level with our first-class cathedrals. The ch., exclusive of St. Joseph's Chapel, was 410 ft. long by 90 ft. broad; the transept 282 ft. long; St. Joseph's Chapel 118 ft. by 40 ft., making a total length of 528 ft., Winchester, our largest cathedral, being 530 ft. long. The nave was of 10 bays; the constructional choir (the ritual choir was under the tower) originally of 4, increased by Abbot Monnington in the latter half of the 14th century to 6, with a procession path, and chapels projecting to the E. The eye of the skilful antiquary will detect in the double respond the position of the original E. gable, and in the absence

of the bench-table, and in the difference of the mouldings of the easternmost bays, the marks of Monnington's addition. "The windows of the choir aisle are of the pointed Norman type throughout, ornamented with zigzag work of the late intricate kind in which straight lines alternate with the angles, as in the N. porch of Wells."—*Willis*. The inner arches of the nave windows are round, the outer pointed. The cills are higher than those of the choir, in consequence of the cloister standing against this aisle. The W. part, of which the central door remains, was of fully developed E. E., of a later character, as at Wells.

The best preserved and most interesting portion of the ruins is the chapel of the Blessed Virgin, popularly known as *St. Joseph's Chapel*, annexed, like the Galilee or Lady Chapel at Durham, to the W. end of the great ch. This, as we have seen, reproduces in stone the original watted structure of the first missionaries, and may therefore be regarded as one of the most interesting buildings in the ecclesiastical history of our country. As it was first built in 1184, it was an isolated rectangular edifice of 4 bays, with a square turret terminating in a pyramidal cap, at each angle. Subsequently the gap between it and the ch. was filled up by an E. E. addition of 3 bays, containing a broad flight of steps up to the W. door, added to give access to the ch. from the old cemetery of the monks on the S. and that of the laity to the N.; and, later still, the E. wall of the chapel was pierced with a large arch, under which stood the altar, with a reredos behind. The composition of St. Joseph's Chapel is singularly rich; the style of decoration florid, and the workmanship admirable. Rich interlacing arcades ornament the space beneath the windows within and without. Vaulting shafts in quadruple groups carried the ribs of the groined roof. Two richly carved semicircular

doorways give access to the chapel on the N. and S. 4 richly moulded windows light the chapel on each side, and a triplet pierces the W. wall. 2 of the 4 turrets, those to the S.E. and N.W., remain, and greatly add to the picturesque effect of the ruins.

The crypt is a later construction, not originally contemplated, but formed in the 15th centy., not for ornament, but for use, to provide a place of sepulture for the many—kings and queens, bishops and nobles—who were coveting a final resting-place near the hallowed site of St. Joseph's bones. The vault is a flat 4-centred one, and the ribs of the roof, and the shafts supporting them, are curiously and economically constructed from old Norman voussoirs, from some building then being demolished. [The architectural history of this crypt has been fully investigated by Professor Willis, with whose work on Glastonbury, from which the foregoing details are chiefly derived, the visitor should be provided.] A well, "which has attracted more attention than it deserves" as old as the chapel itself, originally outside the chapel walls, and unconnected with it, was discovered by Mr. Reeve in 1825, and is now reached from the crypt. There is no reason for accepting the popular belief of its ever having been "a holy well."

Of the abbey buildings within the precinct walls the only one standing is the magnificent *Abbot's Kitchen*, 33½ ft. sq. within the walls, and 72 ft. high to the top of the lantern, now standing alone, and entered by a gate in St. Magdalene-street. (The key is kept in the house opposite.) This kitchen is a curious specimen of domestic architecture, and of ingenious construction. It is commonly said to have been built by Richard Whiting, the last abbot, about 1524, and is entirely of stone. Externally it is a square building of very massive walls, strongly buttressed; within,

the 4 angles are occupied by fire-places and chimneys, which convert the interior into an octagon. This is surmounted by a stone roof in the shape of an octagonal pyramid, which supports in the centre a double turret or lantern, pierced with an aperture to allow the vapour and heat to pass out. The structure of this open stonework is curious. According to the tradition, this ingenious building was planned by Whiting, after a dispute with the king, who had threatened to burn his kitchen—a delicate reproach for the luxurious living of his merry monks. To this, it is said, "the abbot haughtily replied that he would build such a one that all the wood in the royal forests should not suffice to accomplish that threat, and forthwith erected the present edifice." The truth of this tale has, however, been doubted, and it is thought more probable that the kitchen was the work of Abbot Breynton, the style seeming to indicate the end of the 14th or the beginning of the 15th century. Pugin assigned it to Abbot Chinnock, 1374—1420.

The *Abbot's Barn*, of the 14th cent., at the top of Chinkwell-st., is perhaps the finest and most richly ornamented of the monastic granaries still remaining. It is cruciform, the transepts forming the entrances; 93 ft. long, with a grand collar-beam roof. The gables present the 4 evangelistic symbols, and have rich traceried triangular windows. The apex of the gable is crowned by the figure of an abbot.

The *Entrance Gateway* for the laity and guests is merged in the *Red Lion Inn*, in St. Mary Magdalene-st. The great gate is hidden by a modern house, erected in 1810; but the vaulted entrance for foot passengers is still accessible. Over it is a small room known as "the stone chamber." There is a good Elizabethan oriel. Passing through the inn, in the yard at the back,

there is a small *Almshouse* for women, with a chapel, founded by Abbot Beere. The gateway to the almshouse yard displays the abbot's rose and supporters, with the date 1512. At the W. end of the chapel are the arms of the abbey, a cross flory between 2 roses. The canting device of the founder, jugs of beer, also appears.

Towards the close of Edward VI.'s reign the abbey buildings, then the property of Protector Somerset, afforded a temporary home to a colony of foreign Protestants, weavers of kerseys, driven from Strasburg by the publication of the "Interim," with their pastor Pullein, or Valerandus Pollanus, who in 1551 published their order of service in Latin, which supplied some hints to the revisers of the Prayer-Book in 1552. The mercantile speculation proved unfortunate, and the accession of Mary soon broke up the colony, who removed to Frankfort.

The *George Inn*, in High-st., the old pilgrims' hostelry, built by Abbot Selwood, temp. Edw. IV., "is the best piece of domestic work in Glastonbury. The front is one splendid mass of panelling, pierced, where necessary, for windows. The centre is occupied by a 4-centred gateway, with a bay window to l. rising the whole height of the house."—*J. H. P.* The arms above the gate are those of the abbey and of Edw. IV., supported by the black bull of Clare and the white lion of Mortimer. There is a pillar and bracket for the support of the sign. The original newel staircase still gives access to the upper rooms.

A little higher up the street is the *Tribunal*, built by Abbot Beere, as the abbey court-house. The principal room has a wide square-headed window of 8 lights, with a large oriel above.

The town is characterised by Mr. Parker as "a perfect store of do-estime antiquities. Small portions,"

he says, "as late P. doorways, some wood, some stone, wooden windows, and the like, turn up at every step." In addition to those already mentioned, the tourist should see a very rich small timber front, in North-lode-st., l. side, and the *Almshouse* and *Chapel* of St. Mary Magdalene, in the street of the same name. It is an E. E. building, with debased P. alterations, the original arrangements of which were those of similar mediæval institutions, the nave forming the hall, with the cells for the inmates in the aisles. The nave is now unroofed, but the E. E. chancel remains, with a remarkably good bell-gable figured in Parker's 'Glossary.'

The *Market Cross*, at the junction of the 4 streets, is a feeble Gothic spirelet, erected in 1846 on the site of a picturesque gabled octagonal structure, with central column and pinnacle, and conduit attached (figured in Britton's *Arch. Ant.*), allowed to fall into decay at the beginning of the century.

Glastonbury has 2 churches. The principal is *St. John the Baptist*, the tower of which is considered by Mr. Freeman as the third finest in Somersetshire; surpassed only by Wrington, and St. Cuthbert's, Wells. It rises to a height of 140 ft., in 3 stories, and is richly adorned with canopied niches, and crowned with an open-work parapet and 8 slender pinnacles. The ch. is cruciform, and is a fine example of Somersetshire Perpendicular. The stone pulpit, designed by Scott, from fragments of an earlier one, was a gift of Lady Charlotte Neville Grenville. The churchwardens possess a very handsome mediæval seal.

St. Benedict's, in the street of the same name, is smaller and plainer; but the tower possesses much dignity. The pinnacles, blown down by a hurricane in 1703, have never been restored. The jugs of beer on its battlements show it to be the

work of Abbot Beere, whose initials and mitre appear on the N. porch, which also contains a holy-water stoup. An inscription in the interior records one of the inroads of the sea which have from time to time devastated this district. "The breach of the sea flood was Jan. 20, 1606." Tradition asserts that it reached the tower of this church.

The tourist should now visit *Wirrall*, and the *Tor* hills; if he has time for only one, choosing the latter. The name *Wirrall* (said to be a Welsh word for a promontary or projecting hill) has been of late days metamorphosed into *Weary-all-Hill*, in connection with the myth that it was here that St. Joseph and his companions, *weary all* with their long pilgrimage, first rested, and the leader of the band planted his hawthorn staff in the ground, which at once struck root and shot forth branches, and in memory of its sacred origin constantly put forth leaves and blossoms on Christmas Day.

This was the famous Glastonbury Thorn, which flourished as one of the chief marvels of the holy site till the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when one of its two huge trunks was hacked down by a Puritan, who would have destroyed the other also had not his impious zeal been miraculously checked by one of his blows falling on his own leg, while a chip flying upwards put out his eye. The remaining trunk, the blossoms of which, we are told, were considered such curiosities that Bristol merchants carried them into foreign parts, survived till the Great Rebellion, when "a military saint," undeterred by the ill fate of his predecessor, felled it. The spot where it grew is marked by a stone bearing the letters I. A. A. D. xxxi., commemorating St. Joseph and the date of his supposed visit. Though the original holy thorn has passed away, the curious visitor may find

several successors to its name and virtues in the neighbourhood. According to Withering, it is a distinct variety of the common hawthorn blossoming twice a year. "The winter blossoms," he says, "which are about the size of a sixpence, appear about Christmas, and sooner if the winter be severe." In 1753, when the change of style was made, the thorn was anxiously watched to see whether it would conform to the Act of Parliament, and great was the triumph of opponents of the change when the blossoms which had refused to appear on the new Christmas Day came forth in full luxuriance on the old anniversary, Jan. 5.

Besides the Holy Thorn, Glastonbury boasted of a miraculous walnut tree that grew near St. Joseph's Chapel, and never shot out leaves till St. Barnabas Day, June 11. A branch of each of these sacred trees was presented to Anne of Denmark, James I.'s queen, by Bp. Montague.

The *Tor Hill* is a more formidable height to scale, being 500 ft. above the sea, and steep at one part. [Follow the Shepton Malet road from the Barn for 200 yards, and turn off up the hill l. at the *Tor Hill Inn*. You are then in a straight path for the summit.] The hill is crowned by a beautiful tower, all that is left of a pilgrimage chapel of *St. Michael*, rebuilt soon after 1271, when it had been shattered by an earthquake. Over the doorway are 2 rude bas-reliefs—a woman milking a cow, and St. Michael weighing a soul against the devil in a pair of scales. Above are 7 canopied niches, in one of which a figure still remains; below the embattled parapet is another sculptured tablet representing an eagle with outstretched wings. Heavy buttresses support the building. The tower was restored in 1804, when the rubbish was cleared away and the foundations of the chapel laid bare. To this elevated spot, in 1539, *Whiting*,

last abbot of Glastonbury, as already related, was dragged on a hurdle, and hanged. The view here is complete of the Avalonian hills, islanded in the marshes. In their lap lies the town, and behind it is Weary-all. Around the horizon the eye ranges freely, embracing in its view the Bristol Channel, Brent Knoll, the Mendips, and the cathedral of Wells, Sir Samuel Hood's monument on the hills at Butleigh, Alfred's tower on the heights of Wiltshire, the Polden and Quantock hills, Blackdown, Montacute, and Ham Hill. Nearer at hand, below the Tor, to the E., lies *Northwood*, now a farmhouse, but formerly a residence of the abbots, and centred in a deer-park 4 m. in circumference. You may descend the Tor on the N.E. side, visiting *Bushey Coombe* on your way back to the town, which you will re-enter by Chinkwell-street.

In the middle of the last century, Glastonbury regained a short-lived celebrity from its mineral waters, rising at the foot of the Tor. A man named Matthew Chancellor, having been cured of an asthma of 30 years' standing in 1751, by drinking of these waters in obedience to a dream, their fame spread, and visitors flocked hither from all parts of the kingdom in such numbers that lodgings could scarcely be procured. A pump-room was built, but the celebrity of the spring soon waned, and the hopes of the inhabitants of a golden harvest passed away. Below the S. slope of the hill are some fields called the *Vineyards*, where grapes were formerly grown for the use of the abbey.

In Sept. 1856, Glastonbury was visited by a remarkable whirlwind, which will be long remembered along the path it pursued. Suddenly commencing at Northover, it swept through the town from W. to E., tearing the roofs from several of the houses, and cutting a lane through the apple orchards N. of the Tor. It passed on by N. Wootton, Croscombe,

and Warminster; and at Clyffe Pyppard, in N. Wiltshire, raged with undiminished violence. Its influence was felt as far N. as Oxford.

[*Sharpham*, 2 m. to S.W., a manor house erected by Abbot Beere, and where Abbot Whiting was arrested, was in 1707 the birthplace of Henry Fielding, the author of 'Tom Jones.' He was born in what was known as "the Harlequin's Chamber," lighted by a small window that is seen over the chapel. What remains of the mansion is now a farmhouse standing on a declivity with a view up the vale to the Tor.

Street, 1½ m. S.W., a long straggling village, of blue lias, taking its name from the Roman road on which it stands, deserves to be visited for the collection of Saurian remains made by the Messrs. Clark, whose large factories of shoes and rugs will also reward inspection.

At Butleigh, 4 m. S. on the road to Somerton (2 m. farther), is

Butleigh Court (R. Neville Grenville, Esq., M.P.). This fine mansion has been rebuilt in part under Buckler, the architect. Its saloon measures 45 by 25 ft. Among the pictures are a full-length of the Rt. Hon. G. Grenville, the minister, by *Sir Josh. Reynolds*, and, by the same master, the Marchioness of Buckingham and her son, the first Duke. There are also full-lengths of the great Earl of Chatham and his Countess, and other family portraits by *Gainsborough*, *Hoppner*, *Hudson*, &c.

The *Ch.* originally consisted of a long narrow nave and chancel with a groined tower between them, chiefly Dec.; N. and S. transepts have been added, and a N. aisle to the nave. The W. window is a fine Perp. one of 6 lights. The internal fittings are of superior excellence. It contains an epitaph by Southey to the 3 brothers Hood—Arthur, lost in the 'Pomona' in the Caribbean sea, together with Falconer, author of 'The Shipwreck;'

Alexander, who sailed round the world with Cook; and Sir Samuel,

“With Keppel and with Rodney trained,”

who died of fever on the Coromandel coast.

On a commanding position on Pol-den Hill, a ridge of lias running E. and W., stands a monument to Admiral Sir Samuel Hood, erected by the subscriptions of his officers.]

[At Glastonbury the tourist should diverge to visit the cathedral and other architectural remains at the city of Wells, 6 m. N.E. He may either take the rly. or follow the causeway constructed across the marshes with the ruins of the abbey.

WELLS (*Hotels*: Swan, Star, Mitre; Pop. 4684) has two rly. stations close to each other to the W. of the city—that of the East Somerset branch of the *Gl. Western*, from Witham on the Yeovil and Weymouth line; and that of the Glastonbury branch of the *Somerset and Dorset Rly.*, which joins the Bristol and Exeter line at Highbridge, and the South-Western at Templecombe, and Wimborne, affording communication with the Bristol Channel at Burnham N. and the English Channel at Poole S.

Wells is a city and municipal borough, market and assize town; abundantly supplied with water from the copious springs which have given it its name; placed in a position of no ordinary beauty in a basin at the foot of the Mendip Hills, whose outliers of mountain limestone rise round it like islands. (*Dulcote Hill* may be specially noticed as a detached craggy summit of much beauty.) Wells is perhaps the best example in England of a strictly ecclesiastical city, owing its existence and whatever importance it has had to the religious foundations of which from the time of King Ina (704) it has been the seat. Few towns of its

size are so completely destitute of civil history. Happily for its quiet inhabitants, it was not overshadowed by the frowning walls of any baronial castle; the city itself was never protected by any fortified enclosure, nor does it play any part in the military annals of the country. Neither did it enjoy any commercial importance. It was not the seat of any considerable manufacture, though at an early date weaving was one of the staple trades, and at a later period silk mills were set on foot. About 250 years back it was noted for boots and shoes, and early in this century many hands were employed in the production of knitted hose. Little manufacture of any kind, except brushes, is now carried on, and the city has a drowsy old world air.

The only events not strictly ecclesiastical illustrating the annals of Wells are the visit of Henry VII. in 1497, when on his march into the West against Perkin Warbeck; and its occupation by the Duke of Monmouth's forces, July 1685, on their retreat from Philips Norton, when they “tore the lead from the roof of the cathedral to make bullets, and wantonly defaced the ornaments of the building. Grey with difficulty preserved the altar from the insults of some ruffians, who wished to carouse round it, by taking his stand before it with his sword drawn.”—*Macaulay*. After the defeat of the insurgents a large number of the prisoners were confined at Wells, where they received daily temporal and spiritual relief from the saintly Ken.

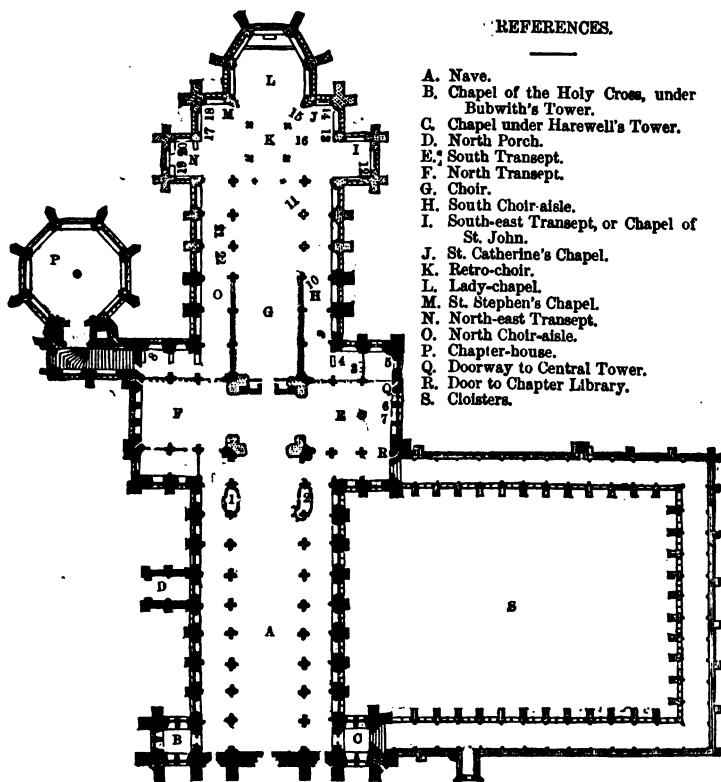
The chief point of interest at Wells is, of course, the *Cathedral*, with the *Bp.'s Palace*, the *Deanery*, the *Vicar's Close*, and the other dependent buildings of the great ecclesiastical establishment, which are here seen in a very unusual state of perfection, rendering this city one of the most interesting in Europe. To the lover of picturesque and architectural beauty

it affords no ordinary attractions ; indeed, the visitor who comes with a mind attuned to the scene around him will not be slow to accept the somewhat eulogistic character given of Wells as "one of the most beautiful things in the world."

A short walk, with the towers of the cathedral as our guide, conducts the tourist from the station to the Market Place, whence an ancient gateway, known as "*Penniless Porch*" (from alms having been distributed to the poor there), gives access to the Cathedral Close. The visitor will not care to be delayed to examine this gateway now, and the description of it may be postponed till he has completed his survey of the cathedral. Perhaps the best point for approaching the cathedral is "*Brown's Gate*," in Sadler-street, at the N.W. corner of the Cathedral Green. The full grandeur of the W. front is seen from this point. It rises at the end of a smooth, well-kept lawn, bordered with trees; and with its towers, the antique front of the Deanery on the N., and the exquisite Chapter House and Chain Gate to the E., forms a group of architectural objects rarely equalled. The *Close* is certainly not equal to that of Salisbury, and is perhaps surpassed by those of Peterborough and Winchester, but few can visit it without being singularly affected by its calm beauty. There is a profound peace about these precincts; the feeble sounds of the little town hushed and softened by distance, and all around breathing a holy calm.

Before commencing the inspection of the cathedral, it will be well to furnish the visitor with some particulars of the history of the see. The first ecclesiastical foundation here was a college of secular canons founded by King Ina, 704, and endowed with additional privileges by succeeding Kings of Wessex, until the place was selected as the seat of the new bishopric founded by

Edward the Elder for Somerset. The first bishop was Athelm, abbot of Glastonbury, translated to Canterbury, 914. Giso, the 15th in succession from Athelm, recovered after the Conquest the possessions of the see, which, it is said, had been seized by Harold, during the Confessor's lifetime. He replaced the canons who had been expelled, and caused suitable buildings to be erected for them. His successor, John de Vilula, influenced by the desire for safety in times of general disturbance, which had led to the transference of so many cathedrals to walled towns, removed the see to Bath, which he bought of Hen. I. for 500 pounds of silver, together with the abbey, which he rebuilt from its foundations. This transference naturally gave rise to much jealousy and discord between the men of Bath and Wells, until in the time of his next successor but one, Bishop Robert, 1135-66, it was determined that the bishop should be in future elected by the monks of Bath and the canons of Wells jointly, and should be styled "Bishop of Bath and Wells." Another squabble arose in the time of Bishop Savaric, 1192-1205, with the monks of Glastonbury. Savaric is said to have been a relation of the Emperor Hen. VI. of Germany, and to have received that bishopric from Richard Cœur-de-Lion in return for kindnesses shown to the monarch while in captivity; stipulation having been previously made that the rich abbey of Glastonbury should be annexed to the see, the Bishop resigning the town of Bath to the King. The monks of Glastonbury stoutly resisted this enforced union, and at last on an appeal to Rome, in the episcopate of Bishop Joceline (Trotman), his successor, 1206-1242, obtained its dissolution, on condition of resigning 4 of their best manors to the Bishop. Joceline was one of the greatest benefactors of the see



REFERENCES.

- A. Nave.
 B. Chapel of the Holy Cross, under Bubwith's Tower.
 C. Chapel under Harewell's Tower.
 D. North Porch.
 E. South Transept.
 F. North Transept.
 G. Choir.
 H. South Choir-aisle.
 I. South-east Transept, or Chapel of St. John.
 J. St. Catherine's Chapel.
 K. Retro-choir.
 L. Lady-chapel.
 M. St. Stephen's Chapel.
 N. North-east Transept.
 O. North Choir-aisle.
 P. Chapter-house.
 Q. Doorway to Central Tower.
 R. Door to Chapter Library.
 S. Cloisters.

REFERENCES

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| 1. Bp. Bubwith's Chantry. | 8. Tomb of Bp. Cornish. | 16. Bp. Button I. |
| 2. Dean Sugar's Chantry. | 9. Monument of Bp. Button II. | 17. Bp. Savaricus. |
| 3. Dean Husee's Tomb. | 10. Effigy of Beckington. | 18. Bp. Ailwin. |
| 4. Part of Beckington's Chantry. | 11. Effigy of Bp. Harewell. | 19. Dean Forrest's Tomb. |
| 5. Tomb of Chancellor Storthwit. | 12. Dean Gunthorpe's Tomb. | 20. Bp. Greyghton. |
| 6. Monument of Lady de Lisle. | 13. Bp. Burhwold. | 21. Bp. Giso. |
| 7. Monument of Bishop de la Marchia. | 14. Bp. Dudoc. | 22. Effigy of Bp. Ralph of Shrewsbury. |
| | 15. Bp. Drokensford's Monument. | |

of Wells, having nearly rebuilt the cathedral from the foundations, besides the erection of other buildings, and augmented endowments during his 37 years' episcopate—"God," says Fuller, "to square his great undertakings, giving him a long life to his large heart." Among the subsequent prelates we may mention William de la March, 1293-1302, the instigator of the forced loan, by which before the war in Guienne Edw. I. swept into his exchequer the accumulated wealth of the religious houses of his realm. John Drokenford, 1309-1329, appointed guardian of the realm in 1312 during the absence of Edw. II. in France, but afterwards attached to Queen Isabella's party. "He took," says an old historian of Wells, "some care of his diocese, but far more of his family." Thos. Beckington, 1443-1464, who emulated William of Wykeham in his love of building, and his architectural skill, his handiwork meeting us at every turn in Wells. Robert Stillington, 1465-1491, Lord High Chancellor 1468, accused of complicity in Simnel's imposture, and imprisoned at Windsor till his death. Oliver King, 1495-1503, the builder of Bath Abbey Ch. Cardinal Wolsey, 1518-23. William Barlow, 1548-54, the first married bishop. Archbishop Laud, 1626-28. Thomas Ken, 1684-90, who from his saintly character is now perhaps the most generally remembered of all his predecessors and successors in connection with the see of Bath and Wells; and the intruding Kidder, killed with his wife, as they lay in bed in the palace, by the fall of a stack of chimneys in the great storm commemorated by Defoe, Nov. 26, 1703.

The Saxon cathedral, which had fallen into complete decay, was repaired and partly rebuilt by *Bishop Robert*, 1135-1166. Notwithstanding this restoration, however, *Bishop Joceline*, 1206-1242, pulled down the

whole, and began to rebuild it on a larger scale and with far greater magnificence. Some part of this new church was consecrated by Bishop Joceline himself in 1239. The existing *nave*, the 3 first bays of the *choir*, the *transepts*, the *central tower* as high as the roof, and perhaps the *west front* of the cathedral, are the work of this bishop.

About 1286, during the episcopate of *Bishop Burnell*, 1275-1292, the *crypt* of the chapter-house seems to have been completed, and the *chapter-house* itself is generally assigned to the time of *Bishop William de la March*, 1293-1302. In 1321, under *Bishop Drokenford*, 1309-1329, the *central tower* was raised to its present height; and before 1326 the same bishop had seen the completion of the *choir* by the addition of the 3 easternmost bays, and of the "novum opus," or *Lady-chapel*.

The upper portion of the *S.W. tower* was the work of *Bishop Harewell*, 1366-1386; and the *N.W. tower* was raised by the executors of *Bishop Bubwith* 1425, who also built the E. walk of the *cloister*, with the library over it. The *W. cloister-walk* and part of the *S.* were the work of *Bishop Beckington*, 1443-1464. The latter was completed, soon after Beckington's death, by Thomas Henry, treasurer of Wells.

The cathedral displays very rich work of the E. E. period, full of local peculiarities, which distinguish it from any other building of its date, in the *nave* and *transepts*; E. E. of a more ordinary type in the *W. front*, and excellent examples of early Dec. in *choir*, *Lady-chapel*, and *chapter-house*. "Though one of the smallest, it is perhaps, taken altogether, the most beautiful of English cathedrals. The *W. towers*, above the roof, *clerestory* and *aisle windows*, and *cloisters*, are Perp. Externally, its three well-proportioned towers group so gracefully with the *chapter-house*, the remains of

the vicar's close, the ruins of the bishop's palace, and the tall trees by which it is surrounded, that there is no instance so characteristic of English art, nor an effect so pleasing produced with the same dimensions."

—*Fergusson.*

The best near views of the cathedral are from an eminence on the Shepton-Malet road, about a quarter of a mile from the city, and from the terrace in the garden of the palace. The former is very striking, and should not be missed.

The cathedral, with the exception of its pilasters of Purbeck, is built with stone from Doultling, about 9 m. from Wells. These quarries, which are still worked, are in the inferior oolite, and the stone differs but little from that of the Bath quarries, which are in the great oolite. The quarry which is said to have supplied the stone for both Wells and Glastonbury is called "St. Andrew's."

We are now fairly before the great *W. front*, and, with due precaution against the blasts which disport themselves round Kill-canon Corner, as the N.W. angle is appropriately called, the statues and general arrangement may be inspected at leisure. "The west front of Wells," says old Fuller, "is a masterpiece of art indeed, made of imagery in just proportion, so that we may call them 'vera et spirantia signa.' England affordeth not the like. For although the west end of Exeter beginneth accordingly, it doth not, like Wells, persevere to the end thereof." "The sculptures of its western façade," says a modern critic, "are quite unrivalled; and with the architectural accompaniments make up a whole such as can only be found at Rheims or Chartres."

—*Fergusson.* The varied outlines, the numberless sculptures, and the slender detached shafts which stretch upward tier above tier, still make the façade of this cathedral more

interesting and more impressive than that of any other English cathedral.

The breadth of the *W. front* of Wells (147 ft.) is considerably greater than that of the fronts of either *Nôtre Dame* (136 ft.) or of *Amiens* (116 ft.), both of them contemporary buildings. This unusual breadth may have been designed with reference to the arrangement of the statues, which differs altogether from that on the *W. fronts* of the French cathedrals, although the subjects are of the same character. The excellent stone which the neighbourhood of Wells affords—easily worked and hardening on exposure to the air—will account to some extent for the profusion and fine style of the sculptures throughout the cathedral.

Notwithstanding the marked difference in architectural character between the *W. front* and the interior of the nave, it is sufficiently clear that both were included in the original design. The whole of the foundations were laid at the same time; and the lower courses of stone, including the basement mouldings, are continuous, without any break, to the height of about 10 ft. from the ground. Above that height there is a change, and it is doubtful whether the *W. front* was proceeded with before the aisle walls, or otherwise.

In both style of work and in actual date, the *W. front* of Wells is intermediate between the *W. fronts* of *Lincoln* and of *Salisbury* (completed in 1258). It is throughout of decidedly *E. E.* character, and differs in the most marked manner from the nave. Hence Professor Willis has suggested that it was not commenced until after the death of Bishop *Joceline*, and it may very possibly have been erected by a different body of workmen from those—in all probability belonging to a local school—who built the nave and aisles.

The front consists of a centre, in

which are the three lancets of the W. window, and above them a gable receding in stages, with small pinnacles at the angles; and of two wings or W. towers, projecting beyond the nave, as at Salisbury. The upper part of these towers is of Perp. character, and has a somewhat truncated appearance. The three W. doors are unusually small, perhaps in order to leave ample room for the tiers of figures which rise above them. Six narrow buttresses, at the angles of which are slender shafts of Purbeck marble, supporting canopies, divide the entire front into five portions.

The identification of the "populus statuarum" which throng the front of the cathedral is still most uncertain, notwithstanding the labour bestowed on the subject by the late Mr. Cockerell.* Below the central gable six tiers of sculpture may be recognised, all of which encircle the N.W. tower. The *first*, or lowest, now nearly empty in front, consisted of full-length figures under canopies. The *second* is a series of small quatrefoils, in which are angels variously arranged. The *third* contains a series of subjects from the Old and New Testaments. The *fourth* and *fifth* tiers are of full-length statues; and the *sixth* exhibits the final resurrection in a series of small figures of most remarkable character and design. The three stages of the *central gable* have statues representing the celestial hierarchy, the twelve apostles, and above all, the Saviour in Majesty. Only the feet of this last figure remain.

In the tympanum within the porch is the Virgin seated on a throne, treading on a serpent, and supporting the Divine Infant, displaying remains of colour. In a niche above this porch is a coronation of the Virgin; the heads of the figures are destroyed.

The number of figures on the

* Iconography of Wells Cathedral,

entire W. front is upwards of 300, of which 152 are either life-size or colossal. Of the larger figures 21 are crowned kings, 8 crowned queens, 31 mitred ecclesiastics, 7 armed knights, and 14 princes or nobles; the ecclesiastics being to the S. of the central door, the laymen and females to the N. But "amongst all the historical statues not one can now be identified, and but one (Edward the Martyr) with any probability guessed at."

The *third* tier of sculpture contains medallions with subjects from the Old and New Testaments; the Old on the S. of the central porch, the New on the N. Both commence from the porch, and are divided by the niche containing the coronation of the Virgin. On the S. the subjects still remaining are—The Creation of Man. The Creation of Woman. The Garden of Eden. The Temptation. The Almighty in the Garden. Adam and Eve at Labour. Cain's Sacrifice. The Sentence. Noah Building the Ark. The Ark itself. The Sacrifice on Ararat. Isaac and Rebecca. Isaac's Blessing. The Death of Jacob.

On the N. are—St. John the Baptist. The Nativity. Christ among the Doctors. St. John in the Wilderness. Mission of the Apostles. Christ in the Wilderness. Christ Preaching. The Anointing. The Transfiguration.—(Proceeding round the tower, on the north side): The Mount of Olives. The Calling of Nicodemus. The Entry into Jerusalem. The Consultation with the High Priest. The Last Supper. Christ before Pilate. The Bearing of the Cross. Elevation of the Cross. The Deposition. The Resurrection. The Gift of Tongues.

A very high value as works of art was attached to the sculptures at Wells by Flaxman, who selected the death of Jacob, the figure of St. John, and the creation of Eve for the beauty of their composition, and made from them careful drawings,

"The work," he says, "is necessarily ill-drawn and deficient in principle, and much of the sculpture is rude and severe; yet in parts there is a beautiful simplicity, an irresistible sentiment, and sometimes a grace excelling more modern productions."

The *sixth* tier of sculpture contains 92 compositions of the General Resurrection. "Startling in significance, pathos, and expression," says Mr. Cockerell, "worthy of John of Pisa, or of a greater man, John Flaxman." This is perhaps the earliest existing representation of the subject in sculpture, and by no means the worst. The whole of this series will repay the artist's most careful examination.

The figures of angels in the first stage of the central gable represent the 9 orders of the celestial hierarchy. In the stage above are figures of the apostles, St. Andrew and St. John occupying the two central niches, immediately under the feet of the Saviour; and in the uppermost stage was the Saviour in Majesty, supported on either side by the Virgin and St. John. The circles of the sun and moon, attended by smaller stars, occupy the spandrels above the central niche.

The west front of Wells was no doubt in progress during the lifetime of Nicola Pisano (1200-1275). In spite of its mutilation it still remains one of the most interesting and impressive church fronts either in England or on the continent. The bending of the quatrefoiled recesses round the angles may appear a defect; but Professor Willis has truly observed that what looks "strained and stiff now that they are empty, was elegantly relieved when they were filled with sculpture."

Passing round the N.W. angle of the building, the visitor should now inspect the *north porch* (B), the architectural character of which differs from that of the west front, although

it belongs, like it, to the E. Eng. period. It was apparently the work of that local company of artists by whom, according to Professor Willis, the nave itself was built. The entrance is deeply recessed, and with the inner door has the zigzag ornament among its mouldings, an indication of lingering Norman traditions among its builders. These mouldings deserve the most careful attention. A singular instance of the architect's subtlety is seen in the interlacing and crossing of the mouldings. The outer, or dripstone, is formed of a very beautiful combination of E. Eng. foliage. Square panels on either side of the arch contain figures of mystic animals, one of which is a cockatrice. The gable above has a blind arcade, in the centre of which a small triplet gives light to a parvise chamber. From the flat and narrow buttresses at the angles rise slender spire-capped pinnacles.

The interior of the porch is of 2 bays, and its walls are lined with a double arcade, the upper row of arches being more deeply recessed than the lower. The vault springs from groups of triple shafts. The sculptures of the capitals on the E. side possibly represent the death of King Edmund the Martyr (A.D. 870)—bound to a tree as a mark for the Danish arrows, and afterwards beheaded. The figures are well designed, and full of life and character.

The walls of both nave and aisles are capped by a Dec. parapet. The windows of the aisles and clerestory are Perp. The picturesque grouping of the transept, the chapter-house with its staircase, and the *Chain-gate* with the Gallery above it, leading to the *Vicar's Close*, should here be especially noticed. On the W. buttress of the N. transept is the face of the *clock*, with the motto "Ne quid pereat." Two figures in armour of the 15th centy. strike the quarters with their battle-axes.

The visitor should go through this gate and proceed some little distance along the road for the sake of the view of the stately Central Tower, Chapter House, Lady Chapel, and the E. portions of the cathedral. The difference of style between the 3 E. and 3 W. bays of the choir is here plainly, and, we may add, disagreeably, discernible. In the clerestory of the latter, very plain Dec. windows with simple intersecting mullions have been inserted some distance below the original E. Eng. window arch to range with those of the E. portion, which are rich Dec. with ogee canopies. Another unpleasing distinction is that in the E. bays, the high-pitched roof of the aisles is discontinued, and the clerestory windows are brought down to the level of the parapet.

The *Lady-chapel*, one of the most beautiful examples of Dec. in England has a plan of singular complication. It is an irregular octagon with very fine 5-light Dec. windows, the heads filled with a rich succession of trefoiled triangles, on 5 sides, and is connected with the choir by a low E. transept, which breaks the outline in a very pleasing manner. The chapel is singular in standing entirely clear of the choir, and rising higher than the aisles. The best view of this portion of the ch., one of the most extraordinary beauty and interest, is that from the open space on the S.E., near which are the springs of clear crystalline water—the *wells* from which the city took its name.

The *Central Tower*, rich in ornament, and excellent in proportions, displays a later masking of an earlier work. Each face is of 3 bays, with ogee lights, divided by small pinnacled buttresses, and spire-crowned turrets at the corners.

Returning through the Chain Gate to the W. front, the visitor may now enter the *Nave*, which, though narrow, and not lofty, is of excellent

proportions. The chief defect that immediately strikes the eye is the continuous line presented by the triforium arcade, unbroken by vaulting shafts, thus severing the elevation into 3 distinct parts.

By whichever door the visitor enters, he should immediately take his place at the extreme W. end, from which point an excellent general view is obtained. The restoration of the nave, transepts, and Lady-chapel was begun in 1842, under the direction of Mr. Ferrey; who removed the thick coats of whitewash from the sculptures, repaired their fractures, and banished to the cloisters the long rows of marble tablets which disfigured the aisles.

The huge inverted arches beneath the tower, dating from 1337, when it was found necessary to provide additional support for the enormous weight of the superstructure, at once attract the attention. Designedly or not, they form the cross of St. Andrew, the patron saint of the cathedral; but it may fairly be doubted whether the inverted lines do not detract considerably from the general effect. The view into the choir is also injuriously intercepted by these arches. It is easy to see marks of the crushing process, due to the weight of the tower, in the nave arcade. The string courses have been dragged down, and the E. arch on each side entirely reconstructed. The nave is somewhat narrow (38 ft. wide between the columns, 82 ft. from wall to wall, including the aisles). The length, from the W. door to the choir, is 192 ft., the height 67 ft.

The nave (A), commenced by *Bishop Joceline* (1206-1244), and built throughout during the E. Eng. period, offers some very remarkable peculiarities. "By many this structure would be designated as an E. Eng. cathedral; but Wells evidently is only a little removed from the Norman style; it is only an improved Norman design, worked

with considerable ornament: the mouldings in particular are of an especial richness. The E. E. style of architecture originally (in all probability) came from the French, and there must have been in this district a school of masons who continued working with their own companions, in their own style, long after the E. E. style was introduced and practised in this country."—*Willis*. The cause probably was the possession of good stone in the district.

The whole of the nave is of this character, but a careful examination will show 2, if not 3, very distinct periods in the masonry and details. The heads of a king and bishop, which project on the S. side, between the 4th and 5th piers (counting from the W.), mark the point of change. Eastward of these heads, the masonry, is in small courses of stone; westward in larger blocks. Eastward, small human heads project at the angles of the pier-arches; westward there are none. Eastward the tympana of the triforium arcade are filled with carvings of grotesque animals, and there are small heads at the angles; westward the tympana are filled with leafage, and the heads are considerably larger. The medallions above the triforium are sunk into the wall eastward; westward they are flush. There is also a considerable difference between the capitals of the shafts encircling the piers, which are richer and of more advanced character in the 3 westerly bays. A further examination of the work, *within* the triforium gallery on the S. side, shows a third, or central, division, very evident at the back of the gallery, though it is not visible in front. These differences seem to prove that the work was begun at both ends, as was usual, and that the central division is the latest. All may be accepted as the work of Bishop Joceline.

The nave, as far as the piers of the central tower, is of 10 bays, divided

by octangular piers, with clustered shafts in groups of 3. The capitals are enriched with E. E. foliage, much of which is of unusually classical character—one of the many indications of a lingering local school with its Norman traditions. Birds, animals, and monsters of various forms—among which is the bird with a man's face, said to feed on human flesh—twine and perch among the foliage. Above the pier-arches runs the triforium, very deeply set, and extending backward over the whole of the side-aisles. The narrow lancet openings toward the nave are arranged in groups of 3, with thick wall-plates between them. The head of each lancet is filled with a solid tympanum, displaying foliage and grotesques, of which those toward the upper end of the S. side are especially curious. At the angles of the lancets are bosses of foliage and human heads, full of character. In the upper spaces between each arch are medallions with leafage. Triple shafts, with enriched capitals, form the vaulting-shafts, the corbels supporting which deserve examination. A clerestory window (the tracery is Perpendicular, and was inserted by Bishop Beckington, 1443-1464) opens between each bay of the vaulting, which is groined, with moulded ribs, and bosses of foliage at the intersections. The interlacing pattern in red, which has been traced on the vaulting with very good effect, is a restoration; portions of the original design having been discovered on the removal of the whitewash.

In the central bay, S. of the nave, level with the clerestory, is the *music gallery*, of early Perp. character, the front divided into 3 panels, with large quatrefoils containing shields.

The W. end and window are best seen from the upper part of the nave, under the tower-arches. The lower part of the wall presents an arcade of 5 arches, of which the central arch,

wider than the rest, is pierced for the double W. door. The window above is a triplet, divided by triple shafts, springing from the wall without bases. These shafts have Perp. mouldings, and there is a Perp. parapet at the cill, indicating that this part of the interior was partially rebuilt during the 15th cent., although the original design was not altered.

The cinque-cento glass in this window was principally collected on the continent by Dean Creyghton (afterwards bishop, 1670-1672). It illustrates the life (legendary as well as authentic) of St. John the Baptist, and was brought partly from Rouen and partly from Cologne. The date 1507 is traceable on one of the lights. The figures of King Ina and of Bishop Ralph of Shrewsbury are Perp., and possibly formed part of the glazing toward which Bishop Harewell, about 1385, gave 100 marks.

The *side aisles* are of the same character as the nave, and the same two periods may be traced in them. The difference of masonry is distinctly visible in the wall of the S. aisle. The windows, like those of the clerestory, were filled with Perp. tracery by Bishop Beckington.

Opening from the aisles are *chapels* in the two W. towers (B, C), both true E. E., with the same ringed shafts as on the exterior. The S.W. tower contains a peal of eight bells, and a doorway opens from it into the W. walk of the 'cloisters. In the N.W. tower is the chapel of the Holy Cross, now used as the Consistory Court.

The beautiful *chantries* between the 2nd and 3rd piers (counting from the E.) are those of Bishop Bubwith and Dr. Hugh Sugar. The screen-work and cornices of *Bishop Bubwith's chantry* (1), d. 1424, on the N. side, are of extreme grace and delicacy. The arms of the bishop, a fess engrailed between three groups of conjoined holly-leaves, appear on

the interior of the chantry, all the details of which are well worth examination.

To the S. the chantry of *Hugh Sugar* (2) d. 1489, Treasurer of Wells, and one of Bishop Beckington's executors, although of the same general character as Bishop Bubwith's, exhibits many indications of a later style. The fan-tracery of the roof, and the canopied niches above the altar, deserve notice. On the cornice are angels (compare those on Bishop Beckington's chantry) bearing shields with the five sacred wounds, the cypher of the founder, his arms, 3 sugar-loaves surmounted by a doctor's cap, and the arms of Glastonbury Abbey.

The *stone pulpit*, adjoining the chantry, was the work of Bishop *Knight* (1541-1547), who is buried near it. On the front is his shield of arms. The inscription surrounding it runs, "Preache thou the worde; be fervent in season and out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort, in all long-soffryng and doctryne. II Tim."

From the nave we pass into the *S. transept*. Both transepts are E. E., but earlier than the nave. Both have E. and W. aisles, with 3 windows at the N. and S. ends, and a triplet in the place of the clerestory. In each the triforium is arranged in groups of 2 openings, and has none of the rich ornamentation which it displays in the nave. The vaulting-shafts spring from corbels below the triforium between each 2 openings.

The *capitals* of the piers in both transepts display great richness and variety, but those in the S. transept are especially curious and interesting. On the *first* pier of the W. aisle remark the small figure of Elias (Moses, with the tablets of the law, is similarly placed in the opposite transept). On the *second* pier is a figure extracting a thorn from the foot, a man with the toothache, and other grotesque subjects. The *third* pier tells a story at length. Begin-

ning at the side nearest the S. window, we have, 1. two men stealing grapes from a vineyard; 2. the discovery of the theft by the vine-dressers, one of whom carries a pitchfork; 3. one of the thieves is caught by the ear, and threatened with the pitchfork; and 4. the second is caught and receives castigation with the pitchfork. The spirit and expression of all these sculptures are admirable.

The capitals of the piers in the E. aisle are of later date, and belong to the early geometrical period.

The E. aisle of the S. transept is divided into two chapels, with Dec. windows. The *chapel of St. Calixtus*, nearest the choir, contains the monument, with effigy, of Dean *Husee* (3), d. 1305. The eight panels in front of the tomb display alternately shields and sculptured figures, the latter representing the Annunciation and the Eternal Father holding the crucifix. Between are three figures of ecclesiastics with books. The screen and canopy above are Perp.

Against the E. end of this chapel is placed a portion of the chantry with a very elaborate canopy, of Bishop *Beckington* (4) (d. 1464), unwisely removed from the choir-aisle. It has been richly coloured. The vine-carving of the cornice should be remarked, as well as the ironwork, which formed part of the original chantry, and now divides this chapel from the choir-aisle.

In the chapel, called *St. Martin's*, and now used as the canons' vestry, is the tomb, with effigy, of *John Storthwit* (5), Chancellor of Wells (d. 1454). The canopy is much enriched. At the back are traces of a door which opened to the former *Lady-chapel*, and the chapel of Bishop *Stillington*, destroyed soon after its erection.

Among the monuments against the S. wall of the transept is that of *Joanna, Vicecomitissa de Lisle* (6), d. 1464, an arched canopy, with [*Wills, Dorset, &c.*]

remains of rich painting, discovered in 1809, and the inscription restored. (Lady Lisle was the daughter of Thomas Cheddar. Her husband was the son of John Talbot, the celebrated Earl of Shrewsbury, under whom he served in France, and was killed at the battle of Chatillon, 1453;) and that of Bishop *William de la Marchia* (7) (d. 1302). The effigy lies in a recess below the central window, enclosed in front by a screen of three open arches with rich canopies. The canopy has been richly coloured.

The *font* in this transept is late Norm. A door in the S.W. angle leads to the cloisters; a smaller one (N) to the chapter library; and one in the S.E. angle to the central tower.

The N. trans. is of precisely the same architectural character as the S. All the sculptures—the capitals of the piers and the corbels of the vaulting-shafts—should be noticed. On the *capitals* remark the figure of Moses and that of Anna the Prophetess (?). Of the *corbels*, remark the graceful forms of those on the E. side, compared with the more grotesque carvings W. The twisted leaves at the angles, adjoining the inverted arches, should also be noticed.

The W. aisle of this transept is closed by a heavy screen of Perp. date, and was divided into two chapels. In the E. aisle (which has decorated windows, and, like that in the S. trans., is probably altogether of later date) are the tombs of Bp. *Still*, d. 1607: the effigy vested in scarlet; Bishop *Kidder*, killed in the great storm, 1703, his wife and daughter; and *Thomas Cornish* (8), d. 1513, "Tinensis Episcopus," titular bishop of Tenos in the Archipelago, and suffragan of Bath and Wells from 1486 to 1513. Adjoining this tomb is a door opening to the chapter-house staircase.

In the transept stands a large *lectern* of brass, the gift of Dean *Creighton*, afterwards bishop. The

inscription runs:—"Dr. Robert Creyghton, upon his returne from 15 years exile with our soveraigne lord King Charles II., made Deane of Wells in the yeare 1660, gave this brazen deske with God's holy worde thereon to the saide Cathedrall Church."

The very curious *clock* in this transept was originally the work of Peter Lightfoot, a monk of Glas-tonbury, about 1325, somewhat earlier than that in the cathedral of Exeter. The faces of both show the hour of the day, the age of the moon, and the position of the planets. Above the dial-plate of the clock at Wells is a platform, on which are four mounted figures, which formerly, as the clock proclaimed the hour, started into action and hurried rapidly round. Their movements are now exhibited only for the gratification of visitors, but the quarters are still struck by a sitting figure in the N.W. angle, which uses its heels for the purpose. The works of this clock are entirely new, but the older machinery, made of iron and brass, may still be seen in the crypt of the chapter-house.

The *inverted arches*, supporting the central tower, may be examined before entering the choir. The effect of their inverted lines, as seen from the nave-aisles and from the angles of the transepts, is most singular and unusual; but the contrast with the surrounding forms is too sharp to be altogether agreeable. The enormous support and strength afforded by them is, however, evident. The tower itself is of E. Eng. date as far as the roofs. In 1318 the canons voluntarily taxed themselves to the extent of a fifth part of their income in order to raise this tower, which was accordingly carried up three more stages, and completed in 1321. In 1337 and 1338 convocations were called in great dismay on account of a settlement in the work of the tower, which had caused ex-

tensive fractures or cracks. In order to remedy this, the double arches were inserted; the original arches were patched and filled in with large blocks of stone; and the adjoining arches of the triforium were blocked up to transmit part of the weight in a lateral direction. After the completion of these works, it does not appear that any further mischief took place. The fan-tracery of the vault is Perp., and probably the work of Bishop Beckington.

The *choir-screen*, Dec., has been enlarged in order to support the organ. The entrances to the *choir-aisles*, very beautiful late Dec., should especially be noticed. The *organ*, originally built in 1664, under the direction of Dean, afterwards Bp., Creyghton, himself a musician of no common order, whose services and anthems are still in use, was entirely rebuilt, enlarged, and improved by Willis in 1848.

The first impression on entering the *choir* (G) will not readily be forgotten. Owing to the peculiar and most beautiful arrangements of the Lady-chapel and the retro-choir, the manner in which the various groups of arches and pilasters are seen beyond the low altar-screen, the rich splendour of the stained glass, the beautiful architectural details of the choir itself, and the grace and finish of the late restorations, it may be safely said that the choir of no English cathedral affords a view more impressive or more picturesque.

The choir was restored under the direction of Mr. Salvin. It was commenced in 1848, and was reopened for divine service March 14, 1854, at the funeral of Dean Jenkins, who had been a munificent contributor toward the work. The stone stalls, pulpit, and the arrangements about the altar, are entirely new; the vaulting has been decorated in polychrome; and there are 2 new windows of stained glass.

The first 3 piers and arches of the choir are E. E., of the same character as those of the nave and transepts, and are probably the work of Bishop Joceline. In all probability these 3 bays formed a presbytery, the ritual choir occupying the space under the tower, and 3 bays of the nave. The eastern portion, including the whole of the vaulting, as well as the face of the triforium and clerestory above the first 3 bays, is an addition in rich early Dec. (geometrical), and deserves the most careful study. An entry among the chapter muniments—from which it appears that in 1325 the canons commenced the erection of new stalls, each canon agreeing to pay for his own stall out of his own resources—seems to establish a date for this portion of the choir, which was probably nearly completed in that year.

The tabernacle-work, masking the E. E. triforium which remains behind, and the window-tracery of the first 3 bays, although of the same date, are less rich than those of the eastern half of the choir. In this latter portion remark the triple-banded shafts of Purbeck, carried quite to the roof as vaulting-shafts, and the tabernacle-work occupying the place of the triforium, deeper and wider than in the lower bays. Under each arch is a short triple shaft, supporting a bracket richly carved in foliage. The sculpture of the capitals and of these brackets should be noticed. The foliage has evidently been studied from nature.

The E. end of the choir is formed by 3 arches, supported by slender piers, above which is some very rich tabernacle work, surmounted by an E. window of unusual design. At the back of the altar, and between the piers, is a low diapered screen, beyond which are seen the arches and stained windows of the retro-choir and Lady-chapel. This screen is part of the new work, and the ex-

cellent effect obtained by it—at once revealing and concealing the portions beyond it—should be compared with the coldness of Salisbury, where the whole E. part of the cathedral is laid open at a glance. The modern encaustic tiles and the brass altar-rail should also be noticed.

The *choir-stalls* are entirely modern, and are arranged in groups of 5 within each arch. Their canopies, of Douling stone, are of early Dec. character, and are supported on polished Purbeck shafts. The position of this stall-work, placed in portions between the piers, and not, as in the ancient arrangements, in front of them unbrokenly, is peculiar; but though greater width is thus gained for the choir, the novelty is hardly to be commended.

The old *misereres* are replaced in the lower seats. They are early Dec., and exhibit the usual grotesques and foliage.

The *pulpit*, carved from a solid block of freestone, was the gift of Dean Jenkyns and his wife in 1853. The heads at the base are worth examination. The *bishop's throne*, surmounted by a canopy in three compartments, is said to have been erected by Bishop Beckington about 1450, but is probably earlier.

The *lierne vaulting* of the choir has been decorated in polychrome. The larger bosses are gilt, as are the capitals of the vaulting-shafts, and touches of bright blue, green, and red, contrast admirably with the grey tints of the stonework.

Of the *stained glass* in the choir, that in the E. and 2 adjoining windows is ancient. The 2 next windows of the clerestory have been filled with modern glass by Bell, and Willement. The ancient glass dates from the early part of the 14th. centy. (about 1330), and is therefore the original glazing; the choir itself, it has already been seen, was approaching completion in 1325. The E. window is of singular design.

“The lower lights are filled with a stem of Jesse, terminating, as at Bristol, with our Saviour on the Cross, and the tracery lights with a representation of the Day of Judgment. Magnificent as is its colouring, the general effect of the window, owing to the too crowded character of the composition, is inferior to that of the east window of Bristol. It is impossible to distinguish the small figures in the Judgment clearly from the floor of the choir; and the insertion of canopies over the figures in the Jesse tends to confuse the design.”

—*C. Winston*. The central figure in the lower line is that of Jesse, the others are not easily distinguished. The first figure in the upper line is unknown. The remaining six are—Abraham, David—in the centre the Virgin and Child—Solomon, Daniel, and Uzziah.

The clerestory windows had originally a figure and canopy in each of their lower lights. “One of the figures, in the north window next the east, represents St. George, clad in a surcoat which reaches to the knee. He wears a helmet, avant and rerebras, shin-pieces and sollerets of plate, or rather cuir-bouilli; the rest of his person is defended with mail; on his shoulders are aiglettes. The costume of this figure appears to harmonise with the date assigned to the glass. In the tracery lights of this window is a continuation of the Judgment in the east window.”—*Winston*.

The modern window on the S. side of the choir is by Willement. It contains the figures of St. Patrick, the first abbot of Glastonbury, and St. Dunstan, also abbot of Glastonbury and archbishop of Canterbury, A.D. 960; and St. Benignus, second abbot of Glastonbury and archbishop of Armagh (?), A.D. 460. The opposite window is by Bell, and displays St. Augustine, St. Ambrose, and St. Athanasius.

The *S. choir-aisle*, which we now enter from the transept, is of the

same architectural character as the choir, the first three bays being E. E., and the rest Dec. The tracery of the windows, however, is throughout late Dec. (curvilinear). All the windows contain fragments of stained glass, of various dates, but of no very especial interest.

Against the wall of the choir, near the W. end of the aisle, is a low coffin-shaped slab of Purbeck, with an incised episcopal effigy. This is the monument of Bishop *Button II.* (9), d. 1274, whose life was one of great sanctity, and whose reputation, after death, as a curer of the toothache, rivalled that of St. Apollonia. His tomb was resorted to from all parts of the diocese. This (with the exception perhaps of two figures of abbots at St. Denys, which may date about 1260) is the most ancient example of an incised slab which has been noticed either in England or on the continent.

Above is the effigy of Bishop *Beckington* (10), d. 1464, the great benefactor of Wells. The canopy under which it formerly lay is now unwarrantably removed to the chapel of St. Calixtus. The chantry which the bishop had constructed for himself projected into the choir, and was removed during the late restorations. It is much to be regretted that it should have been found necessary to interfere at all with the last resting-place of so distinguished a prelate. The monument consists of two stages. On the upper is the effigy of the bishop; on the lower an emaciated figure in a winding-sheet, the *memento mori* so much in favour at this period. The whole shows remains of colour. The ironwork enclosing the monument is decorated with small heads, and should be noticed. It was to this chantry that the mayor and corporation of Wells used to repair in solemn procession annually, in order to pray for the repose of the bishop, who had done so much for them and for their city.

Beyond this tomb is the effigy of Bishop *Harewell* (11), d. 1386, sufficiently identified by the 2 hares at the feet.

In the *Chapel of St. John the Evangelist* (1), forming the short E. transept opening from this aisle, is a modern stained-glass window, the gift of the students of the Theological College, and of its late warden, Canon Pinder (d. 1868). It contains figures of St. Peter, St. Andrew, St. James, and St. John. Below this window is the plain altar-tomb of Dean *Gunthorpe* (12), d. 1475, who built the more ancient portions of the existing deanery.

In the centre of the transept is a very beautiful coped monument, by Forsyth, of Dean *Jenkyns* (d. 1854) and his wife.

The Dec. piscina, with its canopy, at the E. end of this transept, should be noticed. At the angle between the transept and the retro-choir is a monument with effigy, possibly that of Bishop *Button I.* (16), d. 1269. It retains traces of colour.

Against the S. wall of *St. Catherine's Chapel* (3), eastward of the transept, are 2 effigies of early bishops, both of E. E. character (as is evident from the foliage and details), and assigned to the mythical Bishop *Burhwold* (13), c. 1000, and Bishop *Duduc* (14), 1059. In the N. choir-aisle are 3 other effigies of very similar character, and to all appearance of the same date. In the crypt of the chapter-house are 2 more. It is not impossible that under Bishop *Joceline* and his successors, by whom the E. E. portions of the cathedral were built, a series of monuments were erected for the earlier bishops.

At the end of this chapel is a sitting figure by *Chantrey* of John *Phelips, Esq.*, of *Montacute*. The glass in the window above it is fragmentary, but very rich in colour.

Near the early bishops is the tomb, with a lofty, shrine-like ca-

nopy, of Bishop *Drokensford* (15), d. 1329, during whose episcopate, in all probability, the choir and Lady-chapel were completed. The grace and beauty of the canopy are especially noticeable, as well as the delicate carving of all its details. The E. portion has been recently decorated in colour.

The beauty of the *retro-choir*, or "procession aisle," the arrangement of its piers and clustered columns, and the admirable manner in which it unites the Lady-chapel with the choir, should here be remarked. It is throughout early Dec. The foliage of the capitals and the bosses of the vaulting will repay careful examination. Many of the vaulting-ribs appear to spring from 2 grotesque heads—one on either side of the low-choir screen—which hold them between their teeth. The 4 supporting pillars and shafts are placed *within* the line of the choir-piers, thus producing the unusual intricacy and variety of the eastward view from the choir. At *Salisbury*, and in all other English cathedrals, the piers of the procession-aisles are placed in a line with those of the choir.

The *Lady-chapel* (1), a building of the very best age, and of extreme beauty, forms a pentagonal apse, in each side of which is a large window filled with early Dec. (geometrical) tracery. The Lady-chapel is nearly of the same date as the choir, and was certainly already completed in 1326, when Bishop *Drokensford* assigns a portion of his own garden to one of the canons, and describes it as "about 200 feet from the E. end of *St. Mary's Chapel*, lately constructed." The rich vaulted roof, springing from triple shafts at the angles, and the reredos, of the same character as the tabernacle-work in the choir, should be noticed. An arcade runs below the windows. The Lady-chapel, like the nave and transepts, was restored by *Mr. Ferrey*.

Gilding and colour have been introduced with great judgment on the roof and on the capitals of the shafts. The pavement is of encaustic tiles, and contains the brass of Dean Goodenough, d. 1845.

The *stained glass* with which the windows are filled is of the same date as the ancient glass in the choir. Except the E. window, it is a confused mass of fragments, the colouring of which, however, is superb. The E. window has been restored by Willement, and "as there can be no doubt that the old design has been adhered to in the restoration, the window in its present state shows at a glance, what the side windows show only on careful examination, that the lower lights of these windows were filled with two tiers of figures and canopies. The tracery-lights of the east window are filled with angels bearing the instruments of the Passion."—*C. Winston.*

At the extreme end of the *N. choir-aisle*, in *St. Stephen's Chapel* (M), are two effigies, assigned to Bishop *Living* (17), d. 1012, and Bishop *Ethelwyn* (18), c. 1023.

In the small *N.E. transept* (N) are the tombs of Dean *Forrest* (19) with effigy (d. 1446); of Chancellor *Milton*, c. 1337; and of Bishops *Berkeley*, d. 1584, and *Creyghton* (20), d. 1672. Some fragments of the original tiles remain, and a sculpture of the Ascension has been removed here from the cloister.

Against the wall of the choir is an effigy, with E. E. foliage and details, assigned to Bishop *Giso* (21), d. 1088. It belongs to the same period as those in the opposite aisle. Below it is the fine effigy of Bishop *Ralph of Shrewsbury* (22), d. 1363. Remark the *infula*, or fillet twisted round the staff of the crozier, and the large jewelled ornaments at the back of the gloves.

A low door on the N. side of this aisle opens to a vaulted passage leading to the *crypt* of the *Chapter-house*,

of much earlier date than the superstructure. The passage is lighted by 3 small windows. A stone lanthorn in the wall, on the rt. near the door of the crypt itself, should be noticed. This door, which opens inward, is covered with fine old ironwork.

Like the chapter-house itself, the crypt is octangular; and an octangular pier surrounded by circular shafts rises in the centre. The vaulting-ribs which spring from these shafts rest again on 8 round pillars, about 6 ft. high, and placed at no great distance from the central pier. A second series of arched vaultings is carried from the pillars to brackets between the narrow windows, 12 in number. Close within the door is a curious piscina, in the hollow of which is sculptured a dog gnawing a bone.

Here are preserved 2 effigies of early bishops, both of E. E. character, and resembling those already noticed. Here are also an ancient cope chest; a wooden lanthorn, said to have been brought from Glastonbury; and the old works of the Glastonbury clock, and other antiquities.

From the E. aisle of the N. transept a door opens to the fine staircase which ascends to the *Chapter-house*. It is lighted by 2 geometrical windows, W. The corbels supporting the first vaulting-shafts on either side, representing a monk and a nun trampling on serpents, should be noticed. The staircase is not unworthy of the magnificent chapter-house to which it leads, the finest example of its date in England. It is generally assigned to the episcopate of William de la March (1293–1302), and is, at all events, nearly of this date, being throughout early Dec. (geometrical).

Like the crypt below, the chapter-house is octagonal, and has a central pier with 16 shafts, from which the ribs of the vaulting radiate. Other radiating ribs spring from grouped

shafts at the angles between the windows. These are 8 in number, filled with very fine geometrical tracery, and surrounded by hollow mouldings enriched with the ball-flower, or "hawk's-bell," a characteristic ornament of early Dec. Some fragments of stained glass remain, among which are the arms of Mortimer, and of France and England, quarterly. Below the windows an arcade runs round the walls, with Purbeck shafts and enriched canopies. At the springs of the arches are sculptured heads full of expression, kings, bishops, monks, ladies, jesters; and at the angles, grotesques of various kinds.

The double arches at the entrance show traces of a door on the exterior. The inner arch was apparently always open. Remark the curious boss in the vaulting, composed of 4 bearded faces. The diameter of the chapter-house is 50 ft., its height 41 ft. Its unusual, and indeed unique, features are—its separation from the cloisters, from which the chapter-house generally opens; and its crypt or lower story, which rendered necessary the staircase by which it is approached.

A most striking view of the chapter-house is obtained from the further angle of the staircase, close to the doorway of the Vicars' College. The effect of the double door arches with their tracery, of the central pier, the branched ribs of the vaulting, and the fine windows, is magnificent; and when the latter were filled with stained glass, must have been quite unrivalled. The chapter-house is by no means the least important of the many architectural masterpieces which combine to place Wells so high in the rank of English cathedrals.

Beyond the chapter-house the staircase ascends, through a Perp. doorway, to the gallery over the Chain-gate, built 1459 by Bishop Beckington, which connects the *Vicars' College* with the cathedral.

Through the gallery the vicars could pass from their own close into the cathedral. The *common hall* of their college opens from it.

Returning to the cathedral, the visitor may ascend the *central tower*, by a staircase opening from the S.E. angle of the S. transept. He will cross the vault of the transept, and will then ascend the tower, the height of which, from the pavement, is 182 ft. The character of the pinnacles, it will be here observed, is not Dec., and they are probably later additions. A magnificent view is commanded from the roof. The position of the cathedral, rising from the centre of the valley, is perhaps better understood from here than from any other point.

A doorway in the same transept leads to the *chapter library*, built over the E. walk of the cloister by the executors of Bishop *Bubwith*, c. 1425, and said to have been largely furnished with books by Bishop *Lake* (1616-1626). It now contains about 3000 volumes, among which are many that belonged to Bishop Ken, and were left by him to his former cathedral. His own copy of Bishop Andrewes' 'Devotions' is here, as well as a large and important collection of pamphlets relating to the public events of his time. Other treasures of the library are—the Aldine edition of Aristotle, with the autograph and manuscript notes of Erasmus; the *Etymologica* of Isidorus, a manuscript of the 14th centy.; and a later manuscript relating to ecclesiastical law. A great number of iron chains, by which the volumes were formerly attached to the desks, are preserved here, and should be noticed.

From the S.W. angle of the transept we pass into the *cloisters*, which here occupy a larger area than in other cathedrals, and, as at Chichester, have only 3 sides or walks, instead of 4. The difference between a true monastic cloister and this of Wells should be remarked. The

canons of Wells were not monks, and did not require a cloister in the ordinary sense. This is merely an ornamental walk round the cemetery. It did not lead to either dormitory, refectory, or chapter-house. It served as a passage to the bishop's palace; and the wall of the E. walk is E. E. of the same date as the palace itself. From this walk a chapel opened, now destroyed, traces of which are seen in the interruption of the stone bench, and the rich panelling of the arch on the outside. The rest of the E. walk was built by the executors of Bishop Bubbwith; the W. by Bishop Beckington, who also commenced the S. side, which was completed soon after his death by Treasurer Henry. The lavatory in the E. walk should be remarked, as well as the grotesque bosses of the roof in the portion built by Bishop Beckington. Over the W. cloister is the Chapter Grammar-school. The central space is known as the "Palm Churchyard," from the yew-tree in its centre, the branches of which were formerly carried in procession as palms.

The mural tablets and monuments removed from the cathedral have been arranged on the walls of the cloisters. None of them, however, are of much interest.

From the S.E. angle of the cloisters the visitor may proceed to the *Bishop's Palace*, surrounded by a moat fed from St. Andrew's or the "bottomless well," and defended by walls and bastions capable of sustaining a long siege by a mediæval enemy. Both walls and moat were the work of Bp. Ralph of Shrewsbury (1329-1365).

The *Bishop's Palace* was originally built by Bishop Joceline, 1205-1244, in the form of a quadrangle, the present house forming the E. side. On the N. were the kitchen and offices, which have been much altered and partly rebuilt; on the S. the chapel, rebuilt by Bishop Bur-

nell, 1274-1292; on the W. was a curtain wall and gatehouse now destroyed. The present *Gatehouse* through which the visitor enters the palace is plain 14th-cent. work, with square flanking turrets, a groined entrance, the chains of a drawbridge, and the grooves of a portcullis, built by Bishop Ralph of Shrewsbury, 1337-1340, who also built the wall of enclosure and formed the moat. There is a tradition that the palace was fortified as a precaution against the monks of Bath, who had threatened the bishop's life. On passing under the vaulted archway the visitor has in front the ruins of the *Great Hall*, and the restored chapel, and the habitable part of the palace to the l. The main building of the palace is the work of Bishop Joceline, and remains to a great extent as originally built, though with many minor alterations and adaptations, including the upper story with gabled dormers, added to the W. front by Bishop Bagot, 1840. It consists of a long parallelogram divided lengthwise at about one-half of its width by a solid wall; the narrower portion forming the entrance vestibule below, and a gallery above. The whole of the basement story is vaulted throughout with a good E. E. ribbed vault. This is supported in the wider half by a row of small pillars down the centre; the space of which was probably divided by wooden partitions into store rooms and cellars. At the N.E. corner a square building projects which forms the bishop's study above, with a modern oriel window.

The fireplace in the entrance vestibule is of the time of Henry VIII., Bishop Oliver King; a rich Jacobean staircase gives access to the upper floor, which has always contained the principal apartments. The whole length of the W. front is occupied by the *Gallery*, a fine room 84 ft. long, lighted by the original E. E. windows, of 2 3-foiled lights

with a quatrefoil over, all contained under a flat 3-foiled escocinon arch supported on shafts with rich capitals. The walls are hung with portraits of the bishops, including Wolsey in his cardinal's robes, the martial Mews, the saintly Ken, the intruding Kidder, crushed to death within these walls by the fall of a chimney in the great storm, down to the present occupant of the see, Lord Auckland. To the E. of the gallery are the chief rooms: the *Library*, looking S.; the *Drawing Room*, with a rich but heavy ceiling; and the *Dining Room*, communicating with the bishop's study, which has an access by a modern newel staircase with the garden. The whole of the windows of these rooms are of the same E. E. type as those of the gallery, but somewhat later; those in the N. and S. gables are remarkably fine. They are original, but restored by Mr. Ferrey.

The *Kitchens* and offices occupy the N. wing, overhanging the moat. This wing was enlarged, and oriel windows added, by Bishop Clerk, 1523-1540. The bosses of the windows bear his rebus. The corner tower at the N.E. is also Bishop Clerk's work.

The *Chapel* (52 ft. by 26 ft. within) occupies the site of the S. wing of Joceline's building, which probably included a chapel on the upper floor; and the practised eye will see traces of the earlier prelate's work in the staircase turrets at the angles, and in the wall of the hall adjacent to the chapel. The existing chapel was built by Bishop Burnell, 1274-1292, and is a beautiful example of Dec. work. It is of 3 bays, with a 3-light window in each, a rich 6-light window to the E., and a plainer one of 5 lights to the W. of later date. The window arches within and vault are supported on shafts of shell marble. The whole is covered by a very rich groined vault. There are good se-

dilia and a piscina. The W. door is E. E. There is a low side window in the S. side wall towards the W. end, perhaps for the devotions of lepers or persons suffering under infectious diseases. This chapel, which had been allowed to fall into decay, was restored by Bishops Law and Bagot, and is now appropriately fitted up.

The *Great Hall* (115 ft. by 60 ft.) joins the chapel at the S.W. angle, and is also the work of Bishop Burnell, but somewhat later. It was dismantled by Sir John Gates, who had purchased the palace for the sake of the materials, 1552, after the execution of the Duke of Somerset, to whom Bishop Barlow had alienated it in 1550, and only the N. and W. walls and the angular turrets, of which that to the N.E. may be ascended for the view, remain. It is some consolation to the antiquary to know that Gates himself was beheaded in 1553 for complicity in Lady Jane Grey's attempt on the throne. The ruin was completed by the Puritan, Dr. Cornelius Burgess, to whom the palace, deanery, and chapter-house, together with other church property in Wells, had been sold for a nominal price by the Parliament. Burgess had been appointed to "preach God's word in the late cathedral ch. of St. Andrew's, Wells." His sermons were not palatable to the citizens, who showed their distaste for them by walking up and down the cloister all sermon time. At the Restoration he had to give up his church spoils, and he died in jail, where he had been immured by the Corporation. This hall, Nov. 14, 1539, was the scene of the mock trial of Whiting, the last abbot of Glastonbury (see *ante*). This hall, of 5 bays, was divided into a centre and side aisles. It was a structure of unusual size and magnificence. At the W. end were the offices, with the withdrawing room, or solar, above, the windows of which are very elegant

and highly finished. From the S.W. corner of this apartment access is afforded to a wardrobe closet in the turret at that angle. The 2-light windows of the hall are excellent examples of Early Decorated.

The S. side of the palace enclosure forms a lovely garden rich with flowers of bright and varied hues, in pleasing contrast with the grey ruins of the hall, and the ancient walls of the house. The whole scene in summer is one of singular loveliness. The embattled wall affords a terrace walk above the garden, and commands exquisite views of the cathedral, and the hills surrounding the city. The *Well House*, built by Bishop Beckington in the 15th cent. to supply the city with water, still stands in the bishop's gardens; a square buttressed building, with mullioned windows.

A short distance to the S.W. stands the *Bishop's Barn*, a fine and perfect specimen of the early part of the 15th cent., probably built by Bishop Bubwith.

On leaving the palace, we return to the Cathedral Green, and cross it to the N. side to the *Deanery*, with its octagonal turrets, buttresses, and embattled parapet, the work chiefly of Dean Gunthorpe, 1472-98. He was chaplain to Edw. IV., Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, and holder of several other high offices, of the profits of which we have a substantial memorial in the present noble building.

"Though a good deal spoilt by sash windows and other alterations, it is still nearly a perfect specimen of a nobleman and gentleman's house of the 15th cent. It has its own gatehouse and wall of enclosure, and originally had a small court in the centre, now covered in. The principal apartments are on the first floor, on the N. or garden front. This front is very rich and picturesque, and bears the badges of

Dean Gunthorpe (a gun) and of Edw. IV. (the rose upon a sun) on the bay windows and oriels. The chief rooms are the hall, with two beautiful bay windows with fan-vaults, the domestic chapel at the upper end of the hall, and the guest chambers over. The hall is a good example of the transition from the mediæval hall to the modern dining-room. At the lower end is a stone arch of wide span, carrying a small chamber curiously squeezed in, probably for the musicians. Under the arch is the lavatory for washing the hands before dinner."—*J. H. P.* Henry VII., when on his march into the W. against Perkyn Warbeck, was entertained at the deanery, Sept. 30, 1497, the palace having been for several years unoccupied. An ancient pastoral staff, found some years ago in the precinct of the cathedral, is preserved in one of the rooms. It is a beautiful specimen of mediæval art. The head, of Limoges enamel, represents St. Michael vanquishing the dragon; it is most delicately worked, and studded with small turquoises and other precious stones.

Beyond the deanery to the E. is the *Archdeaconry*, a house of Edw. I.'s time (c. 1280), but much modernised, originally of at least equal importance with the deanery. The hall, which occupied the whole height of the building, retains a very fine open timber roof of the early part of the 15th cent., probably the work of Bishop Bubwith. There is a curious circular window in the E. gable. Polydore Vergil, the confidant and early tool of Wolsey, is said to have written his history here. In 1550 he obtained royal license to reside abroad, after having held the archdeaconry more than 40 years; and at that time he alienated the house, which has ever since continued severed from the church. The hall was subsequently used as an assembly room and a place for electioneering

gatherings, and in local phraseology was known as "the Salt Box."

The house now occupied by the subdean, at the N.E. corner of the cathedral, is a small one of the 15th centy. (c. 1480), tolerably perfect, with the roof and upper part of the hall windows remaining among modern alterations. The porch and room over it are unaltered, and are very picturesque.

To the N.E. of the cathedral, just beyond the Chain-gate, which was intended to afford access for the vicars to the church under cover, stands the very remarkable and picturesque *Vicars' Close*. It is a long narrow court, with a chapel and library over at the N. end, and the entrance gate with the common hall above at the S. extremity, and 21 dwellings ranged along the 2 sides. The 40 vicars choral were incorporated by Bishop Joceline at the beginning of the 13th cent., but they had no houses assigned to them till the episcopate of Bishop Ralph of Shrewsbury, by whom the more ancient portions of the close were erected, A.D. 1348. The character of the doorways, and the few original windows that remain, show that the existing houses, though much modernised, are substantially his work, as are also the chapel and the *Hall*, with its W. and side windows. The E. end of the hall over the gateway, with its bay windows, was added by Richard Pomeroy (temp. Henry VIII.), for whom an inscription on the mantelpiece asks the prayers of the faithful.

The houses of Bishop Ralph were all on one plan, and consisted of 2 rooms, one over the other, with a staircase and closet at the back. It will be remembered that the vicars were unmarried, and dined together in the common hall. The close was in fact a college, in which each member had a separate small house, instead of rooms on a common staircase, on the same arrange-

ment as a Carthusian priory. The houses were extensively repaired and altered by Swan, Sugar, and Talbot, Bishop Beckington's executors, whose arms, with those of the bishop, appear on the very picturesque tall chimney shafts which break the uniformity of the outline of the front. One of these dwellings has been restored to its original state by Mr. J. H. Parker, of Oxford, to whom we also owe the complete repair and appropriate decoration of one of the houses of the two principals, attached to the S.W. end of the hall, which had for a long time been used as a brewhouse, and had fallen into a state of miserable dilapidation. The whole has been decorated and furnished in the style of the period from designs by Mr. W. Burges, and is well worth inspection. An exquisite oriel projects from the W. gable of this house. The dining hall contains a reading pulpit, and a curious picture of Bishop Ralph granting the vicars' petition. The kitchen was also added by Pomeroy. The other principal's house is attached to the W. end of the chapel. The spandrels of the chapel windows contain fragments of 13th-cent. sculpture, the work of Bishop Joceline, probably brought from the cathedral during the reconstruction of the E. end. The library over the chapel was probably added by Bishop Beckington's executors.

Most of the *Canons' Houses* have been rebuilt or spoiled by modern alterations. One to the N.E. of the cath. has a good porch and panelled battlement of the 15th centy. Another good 14th-cent. house further to the E., with a fine timber roof, has been recently pulled down.

The *Singing School* is over part of the W. wall of cloister, joining the S.W. corner of the cathedral, originally communicating with the organist's house of 15th centy., probably built by Bp. Ralph de Salopia, and altered by Bp. Harewell, and now deformed by vile addi-

tions externally, and mean partitions within.

Some of the houses in the liberty outside the close were in the bp.'s special gift for non-resident canons, and were called "the bishop's ribs."

Two of the 3 *gates* of entrance to the Cathedral Green were certainly the work of Bp. Beckington, and bear his punning rebus, a flaming *beacon* and a *tun*. That at the N.W. corner, near the deanery of the 15th centy., known as *Broune's Gate*, or the *Dean's Eye*, is the poorest and most neglected of all, but not without interest. On the opposite, or S. side, near the organist's house, is the *Bishop's Eye*, commonly called "Pennylesse Porch," probably from the distribution of the church alms being made there. On the W. side are the arms of Bp. Beckington, below those of Henry VI., with the bp.'s rebus on each side. The *Chain-gate* and *Bridge* at the N.E. corner of the green connecting the cathedral with the vicars' close is a very beautiful building, erected by Bp. Beckington, c. 1460. There is a fourth gateway, the statelyst of the whole, the work of the same munificent prelate, leading from the market-place to the palace.

The *Market-place* was also designed by Bp. Beckington, c. 1443. The houses on the N. side, opposite the town-hall, are distinctly mediæval, though much modernised. A buttress may be seen cropping out every here and there among later alterations.

In the centre of the market-place is a modern conduit of nondescript style, supplied by St. Andrew's well.

The ugly *Town-hall*, out of harmony with all its surroundings, was built in 1779, in place of one that stood on pillars in the middle of the square, the work of Bp. Knight (1541-1554) and Dean Woolman. The summer assizes are held here. The Council Chamber contains portraits of James I. and Charles II., attributed to Sir Peter Lely, Bps.

Mews, "the fighting bishop," Creighton, Hooper, and Law, together with some MSS. of historic interest, framed and hung on the walls, including a letter of Charles I. asking for a loan of 500*l.*, an original writ for ship money, &c.

The *Market-house* to the E. of the town-hall was built in 1836, in which a large Saturday cattle and cheese market is held once a month.

The *Crown Inn*, on the S. side of the market-place, is a curious framed timber-house, with windows supported on brackets. The most curious part overlooks the yard. Wm. Penn once preached from a window of this Inn.

St. Cuthbert's Church is after the cathedral and its adjuncts the object of the greatest attraction in Wells. The *Tower* is one of the very finest of the far-famed Somersetshire steeples, of the same type as that at Wrington (to which alone it yields the palm), without horizontal divisions, the belfry stage formed by two enormous and nobly proportioned windows, with equal pinnacled turrets at the angles. It seems to have been originally an E. E. cross ch., c. 1240, with a central tower, which is recorded to have fallen c. 1560. The whole ch. was transformed in Perpendicular times after the erection of the W. tower, when the E. E. pillars were heightened, and the whole character changed. The ch., as it now stands, consists of W. tower, nave, and aisles, with chantry chapels on both sides, transeptal chapels, N. and S. porches, each with a parvis over, a chancel with aisles, and an original sacristy to the N. The S. transeptal chapel, which has a Dec. E. window, was the site of a chantry founded by Thomas Tanner, of Wells, in 1402. Against the E. wall was an altar, now defaced, the reredos representing the *radix Jesse*, erected in 1470. At the Reformation the statues were torn down or built up in the niches, and

the whole hidden under a coat of plaster, but were brought to light again in 1848. The reredos of the N. or St. Mary's Chapel was discovered at the same time; the design was magnificent, the groining of the niches of peculiar richness, and the whole work very delicate and beautiful. The whole had been coloured and gilded. A fresco of our B. Lord in the act of benediction was also discovered. The ch. has been well restored; a carved reredos, with a bas-relief of the Last Supper, by Forsyth, erected at the cost of the local freemasons; the E. and other windows filled with painted glass by Wailes; the chancel laid with encaustic tiles, and open seats substituted for pews. A Norman pillar piscina formerly built up in one of the transept walls deserves notice.

St. Thomas' Ch. (Teulon, arch.) was built 1856-7 by Mrs. Jenkyns, the widow of Dean Jenkyns, in memory of her husband. It is a very pleasing building, with a tower and spire and apsidal chancel, in the Dec. style. The stained-glass windows of the chancel were given by the Fellows of Balliol College, of which Dr. Jenkyns had been formerly master.

Not far from St. Cuthbert's Ch. is *Bp. Bubwith's Almshouse*, founded after the bp.'s death, 1424. The original plan was that usual in mediæval times—a large Hall, with cells on each side for the almsmen, open to the timber roof, and a chapel at the E. end, open to the Hall, so that the inmates could join in the daily service in their cells. This suffered from ill-judged alterations in 1850, but the original design may be traced. At the W. end is the old *Guildhall*, also erected by the executors of Bp. Bubwith. A large addition to the almshouses was made by a bequest from Bp. Still, d. 1607; to this date some very quaint cinquecento sedilia on the S. front must be assigned.

[One of the most interesting ob-

jects that may be visited from Wells is the cavern known as *Wookey Hole* (2 m. W., at the foot of the Mendip range), the legendary haunt of the "Witch of Wookey," where,

"Deep in the dreamy dismall cell,
Which seem'd and was clyped hell,
This blear-eyed hag did hide;"

whose exploits form the subject of a ballad in Percy's 'Reliques.' A road over *Milton Hill* (with a fine view), or by the foot of the hill, will lead to a pretty dell deeply scooped in the limestone. Along this runs the stream of the *Aze* to turn the wheels of several paper-mills. By a path through a wood we soon reach its source, the foot of a lofty precipice which closes in the valley. Here the river issues from an unseen aperture, and above it, some 50 ft., appears the entrance to the cavern. This is a little hole, where the guide will light his torch, and bid you follow in a stooping posture. "Its entrance," says William of Worcester, "is narrow, and the ymage of a man stands beside it, called the Porter, of whom leave to enter the hall of Woky is to be obtained." The passage leads at once by a sharp ascent and as abrupt a descent, called *Hell's Ladder*, to the sanctum of the witch, her *kitchen*, where the walls expand so considerably as to be lost to view in the feeble light of the torch. It falls, however, with sudden effect on a mysterious figure, shaped like a sphinx, its head directed towards an abyess, from which comes the sudden sound of water. This is the "*witch of Wookey*," thus transformed by the "lerner wight of Glaston:"—

"He chantede out his godlie booke,
He crost the water, blest the brooke,
Then, pater noster done,
The ghaistle hag he sprinkled o'er,
When lo! where stood a hag before,
Now stood a ghaistle stone."

The hair and profile of the face are distinctly defined. In the same chamber are the *dog*, the *witch brew-*

ing, the *pillar of salt*, and the *boiling furnace*, whimsical creations formed by the dripping water. From the kitchen the guide will conduct you to the *parlour*, and point out the *witch's hand-basin*, the *organ*, and the *fitch of bacon*; and from the parlour to the *drawing-room*, where the river prevents any farther progress. The rock in which this hole has been excavated is the magnesian limestone, which is found in several places on the flanks of the Mendips; but the mountain limestone of these hills is chiefly remarkable for its caverns and subterranean streams. In this latter formation are the caves of Banwell, Cheddar, East Harptree, and Green Ore farm. Large discoveries of animal remains have been made in Wookey Hole, including an enormous quantity of bones of hyæna, 3 species of bear, 2 lions, 1 wolf, and of the creatures on whom they fed. As much as 2 cwt. of rhinoceros-teeth was sold as old bones. There have been also found traces of human occupation; flint implements, splinters, and a bone arrow-head. According to Leland and Camden, in the reign of Henry VIII., a pig of lead bearing an inscription recording the British triumphs of Claudius was turned up by the plough near Wookey Hole. *Wookey*, more properly *Okey*, is said to be derived from the British word *ogo*, a cavern. A plan was once proposed to drive an adit for the drainage of the mines from Wookey Hole, to East Harptree, a distance of 6 m., passing entirely through the chain of the Mendips. In the belief of the country people a passage already exists to the Cheddar cliffs.

The *Etber Rocks* are on the hill above Wookey Hole. You will pursue the Cheddar road, and turn in at the first gate on the rt., where a path leads up a wooded bottom to a ravine with rocky sides and slopes covered with débris. The cliffs rise picturesquely above it.

Wookey Ch. is Perp., with a good tower with a corner turret and spirelet, and a good table tomb to Thomas Clarke and his wife Anthony, 1555. Alexander Barclay, author of 'The Ship of Fools,' was incumbent of Wookey.

The *Court*, now a farmhouse, was formerly a manorial residence of the Bps. of Bath and Wells, from which many of Beckington's letters are dated. It still contains an E. E. doorway, and some Perp. remains. *Mellifont Abbey*, built on the site of the old rectory by Col. Piers, c. 1730, is a modern antique, preserving some ancient architectural fragments. On the other side of the Axe, which divides the parishes of Wells and Wookey, and was the frontier of Wessex A.D. 577, is *Somerleaze* (E. A. Freeman, Esq.); behind which is the hill of *Ben Knoll*, where there are traces of a small fortified settlement with hut circles, from which charcoal has been dug. The view from the summit is extensive. The Cheddar cliffs are 8 m. W. of Wells (Rte. 20).]

Proceeding on our route from Glastonbury to Highbridge, the line is nearly level, laid mainly on great peat bogs, now covered with rich pasture, and abounding in treasures for the botanist. The traveller will remark the hollow humming of the train as it rolls over the deep beds of elastic peat, and will notice the piles of rich brown blocks, cut and stacked for fuel.

The first stat. after leaving Glastonbury is

51 m. *Ashcott Stat.* The village is 2 m. S.W., on the lower slopes of Polden Hill. 1½ m. N. of the stat. is

Meare, 3 m. N.W. of Glastonbury, formerly islanded in a large lake or *mere*, whence the name, and now surrounded by marshes, where was a residence of the abbot of Glastonbury. The house, now used as a

farmhouse, was built by Adam de Sodbury in the middle of the 14th cent., and bears undoubted marks of its former grandeur, particularly in the ancient kitchen and hall, which are finely preserved. "Two sides of a quadrangle remain. The eastern wing has been destroyed. The western, containing the hall, is nearly perfect. The hall, 60 ft. by 22 ft., is on the first floor, with rooms below. It has good Dec. windows, and a fireplace, a good example of its period. There is a good entrance porch of 2 stories, with the figure of an abbot on the point of the gable. The kitchen, in which there is a good plain fireplace, is entered directly from the porch."—*J. H. Parker.* To this place the abbots came by water; and a field, called *Pool-reed*, marks the spot where their boats were moored. But 50 years since, the village could be approached only by a horse-path. 200 yds. E. of the manor-house is a most interesting architectural curiosity—a *cottage* of the time of Edw. III., traditionally known as the *Fish-house*, and probably the residence of the abbey fisherman. It has a roof of open timber-work, and is kept in repair by its proprietor, Sir Charles Taylor. The abbey fishponds (N. of Meare and adjoining the Brue) once covered over 500 acres of water. The *Ch.* is a fine structure. The chancel is of the time of Edw. III., and the nave was rebuilt by Abbot Selwood, in the 16th centy., in rather poor Perp., but has remarkably good iron-work. The stone pulpit, also, is richly sculptured, and to the wall by the side of it is still affixed the iron stand for the hour-glass. Meare was the living of the *Rev. W. Phelps*, author of a 'History of Somersetshire,' which he left unfinished at his death.

52½ m. *Shapwick* Stat., 2 m. N. of the village, where was a grange and court-house of Glastonbury. Judge Rolle built a mansion here in 1630 with a fine gabled front, *Shapwick House* (G. Warry, Esq.)

[1 m. N. in the marsh is *Honeygore*, where an ancient road formed of trunks of trees laid side by side 6 ft. below the surface has been discovered. It appears to lead from Meare to Bustle, 2 m. across the turf, and is called the *Abbot's Road*, but it is probably of a much earlier date than this name would indicate.

4 m. N. is *Wedmore*, which was the site of Alfred's royal palace, where, after the battle of Ethandun, the famous "peace of Wedmore" was settled, and the christening festival of Guthrum kept after his baptism at Aller. It has a large and striking *Church*, singular in its appearance, especially in the S. view, from its irregularity. The tall and somewhat bare tower rises from a confused mass of buildings. A curious group of additional buildings is attached to the S. aisle, and some singular chapels and sacristies group round the chancel. It is cruciform in plan, with central tower, aisles to both chancel and nave, a large S. porch, and chapel between the latter and the S. transept. The larger portion of the ch. is Perp., and almost wholly so externally; the S. side is, as usual, more ornate than the N. The arches under the tower are E. E., as also the S. doorway; the tower arches are very plain, but there is fine stone groining of late character in the tower. The arcades of the nave have rather depressed arches, and there is no clerestory. The N. transept and the N. chapel of the chancel have good panelled ceilings. The window at the E. of the S. aisle is early Dec.; under its cill is a vestry like those at Ilminster, Crewkerne, &c. The ascent to the altar is by unusually steep steps; on the S. is a sedile and piscina, and there is a hagioscope from the S. transept to the S. aisle of the chancel. It contains mural brasses to Captain Thomas Hodges, slain at the siege of Antwerp, 1583, and Capt. George Hodges, c. 1630 (very curious as

showing the military costume of the time), and several curious memorials to the Boulting and other families.

3 m. W. of Wedmore, 4 m. from Highbridge Stat., is *Mark*, where the *ch.* has a very fine oak roof.]

55 m. *Edington*, Stat. $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of the village. Edington Moor is much frequented by botanists for its marsh flora. In this vicinity, where the rly. reaches the alluvium, heaps of Romano-British pottery have been found, proving the existence of manufactories of coarse ware during the Roman occupation.

$\frac{3}{4}$ m. W. is the little village of *Chilton*. Above it, on the crest of Polden Hill, stands Chilton Priory, a modern erection built for a museum by Mr. Stradling; but its curious and interesting contents have been dispersed by auction. The views rt. and l. are exceedingly beautiful. The steep sides of the ridge slant directly from the road, exposing on the rt. the flats of Sedgemoor and the heights of the Quantock and Blackdown hills; on the l. the entire range of the Mendips, Brent Knoll, and the sea.

The chapels of *Chilton*, *Catcot*, *Edington*, *Greinton*, *Sutton*, *Stawell*, and their mother church, *Moorlinch*, were the property of the abbots of Glastonbury, and were the only parishes in the neighbourhood which the monks personally supplied. This entitles them to the ancient appellation of "*the seven sisters*." At

$58\frac{1}{2}$ m. is *Bason Bridge* Stat., and at $60\frac{1}{2}$ m. the line reaches Highbridge Stat. on the Bristol and Exeter Rly. (Rte. 19).

ROUTE 19.

BATH TO WELLINGTON, BY BRISTOL [CLIFTON, KINGSWESTON LEIGH COURT, PORTISHEAD], YATTON, CLEVEDON [BROCKLEY COMBE], BANWELL [WESTON-SUPER-MARE], HIGHBRIDGE [BURNHAM], BRIDGWATER [SEDGEMOOR, ISLE OF ATHELNEY], DURSTON, AND TAUNTON [QUANTOCK HILLS].

(Great Western Railway.)

(Bristol and Exeter Railway.)

The Great Western enters Somersetshire $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the Box Tunnel (Rte. 1) through a deep valley, in which the clays of the inferior oolite and lias are in places exposed. The scenery is striking. On emerging from the tunnel, the traveller beholds around him the great oolite hills rising steeply to elevations of about 700 ft., and on the l., between *Monkton Farleigh Down* and *Hampton Down*, the Avon flowing from the beautiful *Vale of Claverton*. The river is crossed by the railway, the bridge being a simple but elegant structure of one arch. As the train leaves the cutting, a glimpse is obtained of

1. *Bathford*, and its church, and immediately afterwards of the ivied tower of

1. *Bathampton* Church, close to the line. This building is chiefly of Perp. date, and has a fine W. door. It has also, within the porch, effigies of a knight and his lady, temp. Edw. III., and in a niche on the exterior wall of the E. side the figure of a priest of the 11th centy. In the churchyard is the tomb of the *Vicomte du Barré*, killed by Count Rice in a duel on Claverton Down, 1778. There is also an ancient barn.

rt. *Batheaston* and its Perp. ch.

The line enters Bath by a cutting through the *Sydney Gardens*, and, sweeping round in a curve on a viaduct 40 ft. above the level of the river, commands on the rt. an excellent view of the abbey church and city, and on the l. of the suburb of *Widcombe* and the height of *Beechen Cliff*.

BATH.—[*Hotels*: York House; New Pump Room Hotel (a large and splendid establishment, especially adapted for invalids, with mineral-water baths in the hotel); Castle; Greyhound; Royal (the last adjacent to the rly. stat.).]

[*Railways*.—Bath is a chief station on the Great Western Rly., by which it communicates in one direction with London and the East, and in the other with Bristol and the West of England. By the Wilts and Somerset line it has communication by Bradford, Trowbridge, and Westbury, with Salisbury, and Southampton, as well as with Yeovil, Dorchester, and Weymouth.]

Bath (Pop. in 1861, of city and borough parishes, 52,533; of electoral area, 68,386; "The queen of all the spas in the world. There are certainly very few that can compare with it for beauty of situation and none for magnificence of buildings"—*Waagen*) is situated in the bottom and on the steep sides of the valley of the Avon, which, sweeping round the ancient town, traverses the heart of the city in a winding course from E. to W. The abbey and the busiest streets lie below; and above, on the northern slope, rise terraces and crescents, tier upon tier, to a height of nearly 800 ft., the Royal Crescent about half-way up the hill, and Lansdowne Crescent, that towers above all, being the most conspicuous. The whole city is built of the white oolite called *Bath Stone*, the excellence of which enhances the impression of grandeur and solidity, and in a style of architecture worthy

of the material. Some of the streets and groups of houses are indeed models of excellence, and their effect is enhanced by the beauty of the site, and the absence of the smoke and dirt attendant upon trade and manufacture. Walter Savage Landor, who made Bath his home for many years, and who was familiar with the finest cities of Italy, gave the palm to Bath for beauty and purity of architecture over all of them. Bath bears the stamp of opulence in its aspect; and although its "season" no longer commands the *élite* of fashion, it enjoys its share of gaiety, and as a residence is a favourite retirement from more busy scenes. It combines many of the advantages of the metropolis with those of a watering-place; and education, amusement, and society may be obtained here at a moderate expense.

Bath, as we see it, is a city of comparatively modern growth, but its traditions go back to a very early period, indeed long before the Christian era.

Bath has two genuine myths, an older and a younger. The latter, that of Bladud and the swine, is the most commonly known, but the earlier tale, related by Geoffrey of Monmouth, deserves the precedence. According to this, Bladud, the son of the British king Lud Hudibras, was skilled in the black art, and created "the Bath" by his magic art, placing a cunning stone in the spring that made the water hot and healed the sick people. Unfortunately he attempted to fly with wings of his own devising, and though he managed his aerial voyage from Bath to London with success, when above that city, the strings snapped, and he fell on the roof of the temple of Apollo, and was dashed to pieces. He reigned 20 years, and was succeeded by his son, our old friend, "King Lear."

According to the later and more popular legend, Bladud was a leper, and for that reason had been expelled

his father's palace, wandered disconsolately to Keynsham, and was there reduced to the ignoble condition of a swineherd. His pigs, runs the story, were infected by him with the same disease, but, wandering in this valley, they rolled in the warm mud where the mineral waters stagnated, and were healed. Bladud, perceiving this cure, tried the same remedy with equal success, and when, after completing his education at the university of Athens, he became king, he built a city on the spot. So, say its inhabitants, Bath was founded, B.C. 863, and the statue of King Bladud, erected in the Pump Room about the year 1700, bore an inscription to that effect. The Romans, however, were more probably the first to discover the virtues of these waters, and to use them for medicinal purposes, about A.D. 44.

Bath may be certainly identified with the *Ἰβαρα θερμὰ* of Ptolemy, placed by him among the Belgæ, but more accurately lying just outside the Belgic border. By the Romans it was denominated *Aquæ Solis* (or *Sulis*), and was one of the most important of their stations, where they built a temple to the goddess Minerva, here identified with the local deity *Sul* (who, it is conjectured, gives its name to the adjacent hill of *Solsbury*, and was worshipped under the appellation of *Sul-Minerva*), and where there existed a College of Armourers for the manufacture of weapons for the legions. The walls which surrounded this station were nearly on a line with the streets called the *Lower Boroughwalls*, *Westgate Buildings*, *Sawclose*, and *Upper Boroughwalls*, and their foundations have been frequently laid open. They enclosed a pentagonal area. The principal buildings stood round the abbey churchyard. The temple, which had a portico of Corinthian columns, of which and the pediment considerable fragments are to be seen at the Royal Institution, stood near the site of the

Pump Room. The fragments were disinterred in 1790. A platform on which another temple stood was discovered in excavations at the White Hart in 1867. The baths were of a magnificent description, decorated with columns and tessellated floors, and furnished with sudatories and other appliances. When discovered, in 1755, the flues were found charged with soot, and the bricks marked with fire. In the interval which had elapsed, the ground, by a gradual accumulation, had risen 16 ft., for at such a height above the old surface was the level of the surrounding streets. The large central bath was 90 ft.] by 60 ft., flanked by oblong rooms, with semicircular recesses, 65 ft. by 34 ft. The walls, when disinterred, were 6 or 7 ft. high, lined with red cement.'

Among other Roman remains discovered here have been a colossal female head with the hair elaborately dressed; altars to *Sul-Minerva*, and a monument to her priest, inscriptions, carved fragments, together with millstones, flue-tiles, Samian ware, and a beautiful bronze head, identified by Warner with *Apollo*, by others with *Minerva*, dug up in Stall-street in 1727.

In the stormy period which followed the departure of this people, c. 410, the beautiful buildings and monuments which they had raised around the "Waters of the Sun" were destroyed, and an era of rude barbarism followed. This is the period that gave to the world the famous story of Arthur and the Round Table. The seat of Arthur's famous victory over the Saxons at *Mons Badonicus* (A.D. 520) has been identified with Bath, but according to Dr. Guest, erroneously, the place of the battle being far more probably *Badbury* in Dorsetshire. The British dominion in these parts was broken up in 577 by the Saxon chiefs *Cuthwine* and *Ceawlin*, who conquered the Britons at *Deorham*, and

took Gloucester, Cirencester, and Bath, or, as it was then called, Akemanceaster.

This name has been absurdly derived from *aches* and pains, for which people went for cure to Bath; but it is really a British compound, embodying the Roman element *Aquæ*, and the syllable *man*, the British word for *place*; and signifies the *place* known by the name of *Aquæ*.

The great Roman road from London which passed through Oxfordshire, and by Marlborough to Bath, was also known as the *Akeman Street*. Two other Roman roads converged at Bath: the *Via Julia*, from S. Wales by the Aust Passage to Cunetio; and the Foss Way, from Lincoln by Ilchester to Axminster.

After its capture by the Saxons, Bath became a chief city of the district of Hwiccia, and gradually losing its original appellation, became known as *Bathan-ceaster*, the city of the Bath; or *æt Bathum*, or more fully *æt hatum Bathum*, the city at the bath, or hot baths.

In 676 a monastery for nuns was founded at Bath by Osric, King of Hwiccia, the patronage of which was acquired in 781 by Offa, King of Mercia, by which time the sex of the inhabitants had been changed, and it continued to the Dissolution a monastery for monks only. This foundation was dedicated to St. Peter.

The Saxon period may be considered the making of Bath as a town. From Offa's time it was a royal demesne, and in later times was held by the Confessor's wife Edith. A mint was established here, and coins were struck by most of the Anglo-Saxon and Danish monarchs after Athelstan. At Pentecost 973, a royal pageant of unprecedented magnificence took place in Bath on the occasion of the coronation of Edgar in the 16th year of his reign, by the Abps. Dunstan and Oswald, at which, according to the Anglo-Saxon

rhyme—"There was a heap of priests, of monks a mighty throng of wise men assembled." Leland tells us that in grateful memory of Edgar's munificence on this occasion, "They pray in all the ceremonies for his soule, and a king is elected every yere in the joyful remembrance of King Edgar and the privileges given to the toune by him. This king is fested and his adherents by the richest man of the toune." In allusion to this ancient practice of choosing a king, Beau Nash was styled *the King of Bath*. When Sweyn Canute's father overran England in 1015, he made Bath his head-quarters, where he received the submission of the western Thanes.

The subsequent history of Bath is uneventful. Edith, Edward the Confessor's queen, held it at the Conquest, and in Domesday it appears as a royal manor. In the reign of William Rufus, 1087, it was burnt by Bp. Geoffrey of Coutances and Rob. de Mowbray, in the attempt to place Duke Robert on the throne, but was restored by John de Villula, Bp. of Wells, who in 1090 bought the city of the king, and transferred to it his episcopal seat, becoming the first Bp. of Bath and Wells. Henry I. visited Bath in 1107. The prosperity which the transfer of the see caused to the city received a rude shock in the disturbed reign of Stephen, when the kingdom was torn asunder by the struggle for the crown. During this contest Bath was at one time held by the party of Matilda, at another by that of Stephen. Geoffrey de Talebot, one of the chiefs of Matilda's party, was found disguised in Bath, and was thrown into prison. In retaliation a party of Matilda's adherents left Bristol, and, reaching Bath at midnight, seized Bp. Robert, and carried him off, and immured him in the castle until an exchange was effected.

The lordship of the city was parted with by Bp. Savaric (d. 1205) to

Richard Cœur-de-Lion, in return for the rich Abbey of Glastonbury. His successor, Bp. Joceline, removed to Wells; and as Bp. de Villula had taken the place of the abbot when he removed the see, the abbacy, with a proportionate amount of dignity, was for ever lost to Bath. There remained only a priory and prior with shorn revenues. The city was bestowed by Edw. I. as dower on his Queen Eleanor, a grant which was rescinded in 1274 in favour of Bp. Burnell. In 1297, we have the first record of Members of Parliament at Bath. In 1341, the borough obtained from Edw. III. a confirmation of former charters, with new liberties. At the same time a bridge was thrown over the Avon to Lyncombe, which was a great accommodation to the traders of Bath, who had been previously accustomed to wade over with their goods to the annual fair at Lyncombe, granted to the monks of St. Peter's in 1304.

In 1591, Queen Elizabeth, on her way to visit her godson, Sir J. Harington, at Kelston, slept at Bath, as the guest of the mayor, at Barton House.

In the Great Rebellion, Bath was of little consequence to either party, for being surrounded by hills it was untenable against artillery; but on the adjoining height one of the great battles of the time was fought—that of Lansdown, July 13, 1643, in which the gallant Sir Bevil Grenville ended his career. July 29, 1645, it was selected by Sir W. Waller as his headquarters. The inhabitants closed their gates against Monmouth, June 26, 1685, obliging him to commence that retrograde movement which terminated fatally at Sedgemoor. Some of the inhabitants, however, fought under Monmouth's standard, and six condemned by Jeffreys, were executed at Bath with all the savage accessories of the sentence fully carried out.

Bath has had its full share of royal

patronage. It was visited by Charles II., with James, Duke of York, his Duchess, and Prince Rupert, in the autumn of 1663. Queen Anne, when Princess, visited Bath, 1692. She was out of favour at court, and her royal sister vented her petty spite by forbidding the mayor and corporation to wait upon her to church, as was the custom.* At their request she repeated her visit 10 years later as Queen; when she was received by 200 damsels dressed as Amazons, and 100 young men uniformly clad and armed. Anne and her consort, Prince George of Denmark, also honoured Bath with their presence on several occasions for the benefit of the waters. Some years later, 1728, the Princess Amelia was welcomed with much pomp and pageantry, and escorted by 100 young men fancifully dressed. Frederick Prince of Wales was here in 1734. In 1795 the Duke and Duchess of York visited Bath, and the next year H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

Bath was never the seat of any very important trade and manufacture. A manufactory of cloth perhaps once existed within its walls; and fabrics of superior excellence and beauty are still produced at the celebrated mills at Twerton, 2 miles distant. In former times, indeed as early as the reign of Richard Cœur-de-Lion, it appears that there was an active trade with Bristol in wine, salt, wool, silks, cloth, and wax. The woollen trade flourished here principally in the 14th and 15th cents., and even from the reign of Henry VIII. to the 17th centy. its looms were noted for this product of industry.* About the time of Charles II. it began to decline, and

* "Bath Beaver," a kind of woollen cloth, was famous as early as 16th centy.; but before that, we learn from Chaucer's 'Wife of Bath,' the city was well known for its trade in cloth—

"Of clothmaking she hadde such an haunt,
She passed hem of Ypris and of Gaunt,"

Bath now exhibits no traces of it except in a donation made every twenty-fourth year from a sum left by Sir Thomas White, 1566, as a loan to young men of good character going into business, specially bequeathed to the places then noted for woollen manufactories, and managed by the corporation of Bristol. The annual fairs of Bath, which were suppressed in 1852, were remnants of the commercial habits of a past age. Its clothmaking celebrity may be traced to the patronage of the prior and monks of the day. A shuttle was added to the arms of the monastery in the 14th cent., and was to be seen on the front of the abbey house in the last cent.

The architectural attractions of Bath, which are now so conspicuous, are entirely of modern growth. It was hemmed in with its ancient walls and kept strictly to the old Roman limits till the early part of the last century. The description given by Leland in the middle of the 16th centy. is very graphic.

"Bath," he writes, "is sette booth yn a fruteful and pleasant botom, the which is invironid on every side with great hills, out of the which cum many springes of pure water that be conveyid by dyverse ways to serve the cyte. There be 4 gates yn the town by the names of Est, &c. The waulle within the toun is of no great heighth to the eyes, but without it is a *fundamentis* of a reasonable heighth: and it standith all-most alle, lakking but a peace about 'Gascoyns tower.' This took its name from one Gascoyne, who 'in hominum memoria' built a peace of walle as amends for a fault committed in the city."

Chapman, in the 17th centy., says, "The streets are of the narrowest size, especially that nearest the centre, called Cheap St. It is walled round with time-defying stone. The city stands on a *batch*, as we call it, in a

bottom from 15 to 20 ft. higher than surface without. The whole is one entire rampart, a coffin filled with earth."

The old city was intersected by *High St.* leading from the Northgate to the abbey, where *Cheap St.* started at right angles to it, and continued under the name of *Westgate St.* to the West Gate. Some distance up this street *Stall St.* went off at right angles to the South Gate. The course of the N. and S. walls may be traced by the streets bearing the name of the *Borough Walls.* In the "Upper Borough Walls," opposite the Bluecoat School, a fragment of the rampart still exists, capped by a modern battlement, erected to mark the spot by J. H. Markland, Esq. Another fragment incorporating the pointed arch of the *East Gate* (a mere postern towards the river) is to be seen in Boatstall Lane, at the back of the market, and is worth attention.

Pepys visited the city in 1668, and leaves us the following account of it in his Diary:—"Having dined very well, 10s., we came before night to the Bath; when I presently stepped out with my landlord, and saw the Baths with people in them. They are not so large as I expected, but yet pleasant; and the town most of stone, and clean, though the streets generally narrow. I home, and being weary, went to bed without supper; the rest supping." Pepys, however, only saw the fair outside of things. Wood, the famous architect, takes us behind the scenes, and shows us domestic Bath up to the beginning of the 18th centy. "The boards of the dining-rooms," he tells us, "and most other floors, in the houses of Bath, were made of a brown colour with *soot and small beer*, to hide the dirt as well as their own imperfections; and if the walls of any of the rooms were covered with wainscot, it was such as was mean, and never painted. The chimney-pieces, hearths, and slabs, were all of freestone; and

these were daily cleaned with a particular kind of whitewash, which, by paying tribute to everything that touched it, soon rendered the brown floors like the starry firmament. . . . With Kidderminster stuff, or at best with chene, the woollen furniture of the principal rooms was made; and such as were of linen consisted only of corded dimity or coarse fustian; the matrons of the city, their daughters, and their maids, flowering the latter with worsted during the intervals between the seasons, to give the beds a gaudy look. Add to this, also, the houses of the richest inhabitants of the city were, for the most part, of the meanest architecture, and only two of them could show the modern comforts of sash-windows." The city seems to have stood still at this point for a century at least; for between the years 1592 and 1692, it had only increased by seventeen houses!

The "Beggars of Bath" were proverbial, "for whither," says Fuller, "should fowl flock in a hard frost but to the barn-door? here all the two seasons being the general confluence of the gentry."

From this abject condition Bath was raised to the highest pitch of architectural magnificence and popularity as a fashionable resort by the genius of two men, Wood the builder, and Nash the Master of the Ceremonies.

The elder Wood, a man of true architectural genius, began his building speculations in 1728, when Queen Square was erected in what had been a common field. In 1740 the N. and S. parades rose out of a flat marsh. Gay St. and the Circus, which was not completed till after his decease, followed in 1754. The Royal Crescent, the most splendid and symmetrical example of classical architecture in Bath, was designed by the younger Wood in 1769, together with Camden Place and Pulteney Street. From this time nearly to

the reign of Geo. III. it was deemed the source of health, and was the focus of fashion. To "the Bath" Fielding and Smollett bring their heroes. Lord Chesterfield was often here, and here the great Chatham nursed his gout. Anstey (1760), in his well-known 'Bath Guide,' ridiculed the follies of the place, and Beau Nash regulated its fashions.

"To Nash, Bath must mainly attribute the rapidity with which it sprang from an insignificant place into the focus of fashionable life, and the most 'pleasurable' city in the kingdom. His genius for trifles, his taste, and his shrewdness, serving him better than more profound abilities would have done in erecting a kingdom of his own, and in governing it in so absolute a manner as he did. Nash commenced life in the army; but speedily becoming tired of the profession, he turned to the law, and spent his time as a man about town. When he had reached the age of 30, he had run through his property, and was without visible resources. But a fortunate visit to Bath at a critical moment discovered to him the means of attaining wealth, fame, and power.

"When he arrived at Bath in 1703, it was almost entirely devoid of elegant or attractive amusements. The only promenade was a grove of sycamores, and the only ball-room was the bowling-green, with a haut-boy and fiddle for band. Mob-law prevailed, and no respectable female could pass along the streets unprotected after dark.

"The pump-house was without a director; 'and,' says Goldsmith, in his 'Life of Nash,' 'to add to all this, one of the greatest physicians of his age (we believe it was Dr. Radcliffe) conceived a design of ruining the city, by writing against the efficacy of its waters. It was from a resentment of some affront he had received there that he took this resolution; and accordingly published a

pamphlet, by which, he said, *he would cast a toad into the spring.*”

“Nash, at this moment, arrived at Bath, and made a hit at once by assuring the people that he would charm away the poison by the power of music. He only asked for a band, to make the Doctor’s toad perfectly harmless. His proposition was at once agreed to, and the Pump Room speedily attracted a large and fashionable company. Nash triumphed, and was speedily voted Master of the Ceremonies—or King of Bath.”

The company, which had hitherto been obliged to assemble in a booth to drink tea and chocolate, or to game, were, under his direction, accommodated with a handsome assembly room—the first ever erected in the city.

Nash reached the zenith of his greatness between the years 1730 and 1740. Within that time Bath was honoured by two royal visitors, the Prince of Orange in 1734, and Frederick Prince of Wales in 1738. Nash turned both to good account. An obelisk in *Orange Grove*—an open space to the E. of the abbey—commemorates the restoration to health of the Dutch Prince, “to the extreme joy of Britain,” one of whose daughters, the Princess Anne, daughter of Geo. II., he had come to marry. A similar erection in Queen Square, with a mediocre inscription which Nash worried Pope into writing, perpetuates the visit of his royal brother-in-law.

The evening of Nash’s life was gloomy. Poverty was embittered by the desertion of his gay and titled friends; the Corporation found it necessary to grant him ten guineas a month, and when he died in 1761, at the age of 87, defrayed the cost of his funeral, which took place publicly in the abbey.

After Nash’s death, Bath continued to grow and spread into the parish of Bathwick, on the other side of the river, the plans being due to Baldwin,

on whom Wood’s mantle had fallen. About 1770 a bridge was thrown over the Avon, at the cost of Hon. Wm. Pulteney, and the meadows were soon covered with streets.

The pen of the novelist has invested Bath with a vivid, though fictitious, interest. The readers of Miss Burney’s ‘*Evelina*’ will remember the scenes laid in the Pump Room and its vicinity, while Miss Austen has peopled the city with interesting remains for the lovers of her exquisite fictions. It was in Pulteney Street that Catherine Morland lodged with her friends, the Allens; General Tilney and his son and daughter occupying apartments in Milsom Street. It was at the Lower Rooms her first introduction to Henry Tilney took place. The pompous Sir Walter Elliot and his daughter had a house in Camden Place—their grand friends, “the Dowager Viscountess Dalrymple and the Honble. Miss Carteret” in Lance Place; “none of your Queen Square houses for us.” On the walk by Belmont from Union Street to Camden Place the eclairsissement between Anne Elliot and Captain Wentworth took place; her humble friend Mrs. Smith lived in “Westgate Buildings,” to which “Lady Russell’s carriage took her as near as it could.”

Among the natives of Bath were the ever memorable *John Hales*, of Eton (b. 1584), author of the ‘*Golden Remains*’; *Palmer*, the inventor of the mail-coach system (b. 1742); *Richard Lovel Edgeworth* (b. 1744); *Abp. Lawrence* of Cashel; *Cole*, C.B. (Felix Summerly), of South Kensington notoriety; *Terry*, the comedian; and *Hone*, the author of the ‘*Every-day Book*.’ *William Prynce* (born at Swainswick, 1660), the 2 *Lysons*es, and *Sir Sydney Smith*, were educated at the Grammar-school, a foundation of Edw. VI.

Among the residents may be noticed *Joseph Glanville*, author of

'Sadduceismus triumphatus,' who, like *Carte*, the historian, was incumbent of the Abbey Church; *Quin*, the actor (d. 1766); *Browne*, the friend of Pope (d. 1745); *Anstey*, author of the 'Bath Guide'; *Governor Pownall* (d. 1805); *Dr. Hauweis*, chaplain to the Countess of Huntingdon, and preacher of the London Missionary Society (d. 1820); *Mrs. Piozzi* (d. 1821); and the Dissenting preacher *Jay* (d. 1853).

Bath is traversed by two great parallel avenues, which, under different names, and not in an uninterrupted straight line, run northwards from the Avon.

First, that which runs from the old bridge over the Avon on the Bristol and Wells Road, through *Southgate Street*, *Stall Street*, *Union Street*, *Old Bond Street*, and *Milsom Street*, the Regent Street of Bath, containing the finest shops. At the termination of this, deviating a little to the right, the parallel continues by *Belmont* to *Belvedere* and *Camden Place*, one of the best pieces of architecture in Bath, and commanding a splendid view, on the right. A second parallel of streets commences on the N. side of the Abbey Church, curving with the bend of the river for a great length, under the names of *High Street*, *Northgate Street*, *Walcot Street*, *Lady Mead*, *London Street*, *Walcot Terrace* and *Buildings*. From these two parallels the other streets branch off for the most part right and left, or rather E. and W.

On the opposite side of the Avon the principal street is *Gt. Pulteney St.* (1788), communicating W. by *Laura Place* and *Argyle Street* with the *Pulteney Bridge*, and E. by *Sydney Place* with the pleasant promenade known as *Sydney Gardens*.

The Avon is crossed by 4 bridges—*St. Lawrence's* or the *Old Bridge*, built 1304, rebuilt 1754; *Pulteney Bridge*, with a row of houses and shops on either side shutting out all

view of the river, 1769; *Bathwick* or *Cleveland Bridge*, 1827; *North Parade Bridge*, 1836. To these we may add the 2 railway bridges, *St. James* and the *Skew Bridge*, crossing the river at a very acute angle, 3 suspension bridges, and a small wooden bow-and-string bridge near the station for foot passengers.

The chief things to be seen in Bath are the *Abbey*, and the *Pump Room* and *Baths* close to it, both not $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the station. Then hire a fly, or walk up to *Camden Place* and *Lansdown Crescent*, whence you have good views of the town. Descend through the *Royal Crescent*, *Circus*, and *Queen Square*, the 3 finest architectural bits in Bath, and so back to the station. By all means visit the antiquities in the *Institution*, and the geological collection of Mr. C. Moore. The finest view of Bath is from *Beechen Cliff*, the steep eminence overhanging the railway on the S., 400 ft. above the Avon. It may be reached in 10 minutes from the station, walking up *Holloway* (the Roman Fosse Way), and taking the path to the l. At night the view is curious and beautiful.

The *Abbey Church*, dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul, stands a short distance to the W. of the station. Founded as a nunnery by Osric, 676, it was destroyed by the Danes, and re-founded as a college of secular canons by Offa, c. 775. Edgar, c. 970, exchanged the seculars for Benedictine regulars, of whom Alphege, the martyred Abp. of Canterbury, was abbot. John de Villula removed hither the seat of the bishopric of Wells, 1090, which was restored to Wells by Joceline Trotman, 1206. From the time of John of Tours it was governed by a prior till the Dissolution, when it was surrendered to the crown by Prior Holway, 1539. The offer of the fabric of the ch. to the city for 500 marks having been refused, the glass, iron, and lead were sold to

certain merchants, and the bare carcase purchased by Humphrey Colles, 1542, who sold it to Mat. Colthurst, whose son Edmund made a present of it to the citizens of Bath, of which it has since remained the mother church. It is one of the latest specimens of Perp. Gothic in the kingdom, commenced 1499 by Prior Birde and Bishop Oliver King, arrested in its progress 1539 by the dissolution of the abbey, when the glass, iron bells, and lead were sold, and the church left incomplete, in which state it remained, becoming more and more ragged and dilapidated, till 1572, when some repairs were begun at the E. end by one Mr. Peter Chapman. The repairs were carried on by subscription through Elizabeth's reign, till the choir was sufficiently finished to be consecrated. The aisles and transept were continued by various benefactors, Bishop Montague completing the nave c. 1609. According to a tradition, the Bp. being overtaken by a sudden shower when walking with Sir J. Harington of Kelston, in the Grove, was artfully conducted by him into the roofless church, under pretence of taking shelter, and was thus excited to complete the unfinished work.

The plan of the church is a simple cross, with a tower at the intersection, which is singular from not being square in the plan, the transepts being much narrower than the nave and choir. There are no additional buildings, save a small late vestry added to the E. of the S. transept. The bases of two huge Norm. piers on the outside of the E. end are relics of Bishop de Villula's building; and during the recent restoration the Norman piers of the nave have been laid bare. The present church is uniform in design throughout. "The whole work shows a singular mixture of plainness and ornament, some of the mouldings and details being extravagantly large,

[*Wills, Dorset, &c.*]

and others uncommonly small. It nevertheless contains some parts of great beauty."—*Rickman*. The exterior was repaired in 1833, when the flying buttresses were completed, and, most unwarrantably, spirelets added to the eastern and western turrets, as well as to those of the tower, completely altering the outline of the building. The whole has been again restored by Mr. Scott, at great cost, and with strict attention to the original design. Bishop Montague's lath-and-plaster coved ceiling over the nave has happily given place to a fan-vault, corresponding to that covering the rest of the church. This restoration has been set on foot and zealously promoted by the munificent rector of Bath, the Rev. C. Kemble.

The W. front has a magnificent window of 7 lights, flanked by turrets, on which are carved angels, ascending and descending by ladders, to commemorate a vision of Bishop King in 1499, who was instigated to the work by a revelation of the Holy Trinity with angels on a ladder, and an olive tree supporting a crown, which he interpreted of his own name, Oliver King. The winged figures are now headless and mutilated. The space above the window is also filled with angels on corbels; the figures are well designed, but much defaced. The battlements of this front are varied and very rich. Over the W. door, erected by Sir H. Montague, brother of the bishop, 1617, are the arms of the bishopric, impaling Montague; on the sides of it statues of Prior Birde and Bishop King; over the N. door a figure of King Edgar, and over the S. door one of King Osric, founder of the monastery. The tower, 162 ft. high, is of good composition, flanked by octagonal turrets.

The E. front is very plain and heavy. The great E. window, also of 7 lights, has 3 transoms, and is enclosed within a square head. The

turrets are square. The N. and S. transept windows are very fine. The aisle windows are low and inelegant; those of the clerestory well proportioned.

The length of the church is 210 ft. from E. to W.; of the transepts, 126 ft. from N. to S. The body and aisles are 72 ft. in breadth, and the vaulting is 78 ft. from the ground. The nave consists of 5 bays, the choir of 3. The mouldings of the piers and arches are somewhat large and coarse. There is no triforium, the cills of the clerestory windows being brought down to the string above the arches. The fan-tracery roof is peculiarly rich. The easternmost arch on the S. side of the choir is filled with the chapel of Prior Bird, 1515, unfinished and mutilated, but rich in detail. The prior's rebus, a bird, and the letter W. will be noticed. The choir was till recently shut off from the nave by a close modern screen, and filled with pews and galleries. The whole is now thrown open, and refitted in a more appropriate style. It well deserves old Fuller's commendation as "both spacious and specious," while the number and size of the windows have justly earned for it the title of "the Lantern of England." It is sadly crowded with tasteless monuments, though less conspicuous than they once were. They are, indeed, so numerous that one might suppose truth, as well as wit, had been expressed by the following smart epigram:—

"These walls, so full of monument and bust,
Shew how Bath-waters serve to lay the dust."

Or by this:—

"Messieurs, vous voyez très bien ici,
Que ces eaux ne sont pas d'eaux de vie."

The chief are—between the pillars on the N. side of the nave, the altar-tomb of Bishop Montague, with his effigy, under a Corinthian canopy, d. 1618; in the S. aisle of the nave those of Beau Nash (the last to the

E.), a plain marble tablet, with epitaph by Dr. Harington; of the Hon. William Bingham, by *Flaxman*, flanked by figures of 2 angels; of William Clements; in the 3rd bay from the W., of James Quin, d. 1766, with medallion portrait, and inscription by Garrick:—

"That tongue, which set the table on a roar,
And charm'd the public ear, is heard no more;
Close'd are those eyes, the harbingers of wit,
Which spake, before the tongue, what Shakspeare writ;
Cold is that hand which, living, was stretch'd forth,
At friendship's call, to succour modest worth.
Here lies JAMES QUIN!—Deign, reader, to be taught,
Whate'er thy strength of body, force of thought,
In Nature's happiest mould however cast,
To this complexion thou must come at last."

By the W. door those of Herman Katencamp, d. 1807, by the younger *Bacon*, to the S.; and of Colonel Champion, by *Nollekens*, to the N.;—in the N. aisle of the nave, the 2nd bay from the W., of Malthus, author of the 'Essay on Population,' d. 1834, who is buried in the aisle; and of Sarah Fielding, d. 1768, with inscription by Dr. John Hoadley—"For the honour of the dead, and the emulation of the living."

One of the most interesting is that against the S. wall of the S. transept, to Lady Waller, with her husband—who fought at Lansdown and Roundway—mourning over her, and a little child quaintly dressed, seated in a chair at the side.

"To the deare memory of the right vertuous and worthy lady, Jane Lady Waller, sole daughter and heir to Sir Richard Reynell, wife to Sir William Waller, Knight.

Sole issue of a matchless paire,
Both of their state and vertues heyre;
In graces great, in stature small,
As full of spirit as voyd of gall;
Cheerfully brave, bounteously close,
Holy without vain-glorious shows;
Happy, and yet from envy free,

Learn'd without pride, witty, yet wise—
Reader, this riddle read with mee,
Here the good Lady Waller lyes."

[Scandalous gossip asserts that James II., passing through the abbey

in company with Friar Huddleston, vented his spleen by hacking off the nose of the warrior. Pepys, however, in his Diary, 1668, some years before James came to the throne, exonerates him from the outrage. He says:—"Looked over the monuments, where, among others, Dr. Venner, and Pelling, and a lady of Sir W. Waller's, he lying with his face broken."]

In the *N. transept*, those of Fletcher Partis, founder of the college named after him; of Sir R. H. Bickerton, by *Chantry*; of Dr. Sibthorp, the botanist, a pleasing work by *Flaxman*; of James Tamesz Grieve, Physician to the Empress Elizabeth of Russia, an interesting sculpture of the wife eagerly attempting to arrest the dart of Death; and, on the *N. wall* of the *N. transept*, of Mary Frampton, 1676, with an epitaph by Dryden, which will repay perusal. In the *N. aisle* of the choir is that of Dr. Postlethwaite, Master of Trinity, 1798; and in the *S. aisle* those of Hoare, the artist, by *Chantry*, and Colonel Alexander Champion, d. 1793, by *Nollekens*; in the *chancel*, *N. of the altar*, of Lady Miller, a pretty specimen of the elder *Bacon's* sculpture. On the *S. side* is that of Bartholomew Barnes, 1607.

Sir William Draper, whose name survives in connection with the castigation he received from Junius, has a long turgid Latin epitaph in the *S. aisle*.

The other churches of Bath may be soon dismissed. They are all modern. Two stand on the sites of ancient churches—*St. James* at the *S. Gate*, rebuilt in a plain, classical style by Palmer, of Bath, 1768, and the tower 150 ft. high, completed in 1848; and *St. Michael*, outside the *N. Gate* (the fourth on the same site), with a lofty and elegant spire 182 ft. high, rebuilt in *E.E. Gothic* in 1836, and remarkably good for the date. *Stall Church* has entirely disappeared.

Walcot Church, standing at the angle of the Roman Fosse Way, and the vicinal way to Weston, was rebuilt in the Italian style in 1780. The elevated position of *St. Stephen's*, at the top of Lansdown Hill, renders its pinnacled tower a very conspicuous object in the views of the city, but it is utterly undeserving of notice. There are several new churches in and about Bath more or less commendable, but not calling for any special remark.

The best and handsomest modern ecclesiastical building is the *Roman Catholic Church of St. John the Evangelist*, on the *S. Parade*. It is a rich flamboyant building, with a lofty spire, very conspicuous from the rly.

On leaving the abbey, a few steps bring us to the *Pump Room* and the *Baths*.

The *Pump Room* first demands notice. This is a classical structure by Baldwin, rebuilt, with an attached Corinthian portico, 1796, and bearing on its front a Pindaric motto—*ΑΡΙΣΤΟΝ ΜΕΝ ΤΑΝΟ*—Water best of elements. The interior is a spacious saloon, 60 ft. in length by 34 ft. in height, with coved recesses at each end, and in one a statue, by Prince Hoare, of *Beau Nash*, so long the arbiter of fashion here. The water tumbles continually into a marble vase, and fills the room with its pleasant murmurs. It comes from a point quite distinct from the baths, so that "ladies may drink it out of the pump" without any fear of the ablutions detailed by Anstey. From 2 to 4 a band plays here during the season. No payment is expected for merely tasting the water. The charge for drinking it, either in the Grand Pump Room or the Hetling Pump Room, is *1s. 6d.* per week, *5s.* per month, *10s. 6d.* three months, *15s.* six months, and *1l.* per annum. The hours of drinking are later than on the Continent, and the water is said to be less effi-

acious in consequence. Adjoining the Pump Room are the

King's and Queen's Baths, separated from each other by a screen. The King's or principal bath measures 66 ft. by 41 ft., and is open to the sky, with a covered colonnade on one side. In the centre of the bath stands a copper statue of Prince Bladud, "eighth king of the Britons from Brute, a great philosopher and mathematician, bred at Athens," set up 1699. The bath is filled daily to a height of 4 ft. 7 in., and contains about 364 tons of water. Dressing and retiring rooms communicate with it, and the bathers properly attired walk about in the water. A brass rail round the centre marks where the temperature is hottest, and bathers may select for themselves a degree of heat varying from 100° to 112°. The spring issues from its source at 116 Fahr., and yields 2 hogsheads per minute. Different hours of the day are allotted for ladies and gentlemen, but in the great days of Bath they used to meet together in the water (as is still the practice in many watering-places abroad), the ladies coiffées in the extreme of fashion, the gentlemen with powdered hair and bag wigs.

"T was a glorious sight to behold the fair

^{sex}
All wading with gentlemen up to their
necks. *Anstey.*

The Queen's bath (so named from Anne, the consort of James I.) is 25 ft. square. It is supplied from the same source as the King's, but, as the water flows into it through a passage, the temperature is rather lower. Connected with the King's bath is a reservoir, containing 32,000 gallons.

Private Baths, in the upper story of the building, in Stall Street, are supplied at suitable temperatures. This establishment is excellently arranged and conducted. Douche baths, by which a stream of hot water is applied to any limb or part of the

body, without immersing the whole, are provided: the process is here called dry pumping.

The *Cross Bath*, so called from a cross which, from ancient times, stood in the midst, and was renewed in honour of a visit from the Queen of James II. in 1687, by Lord Melfort, Sec. of State, is resorted to by the less affluent classes, who pay only 3d. for admission. The temperature is 98°.

The *Tepid Swimming Bath*, a neat building, erected in 1829, from a design of Decimus Burton (entrance piazza in Bath Street), measures 65 ft. by 25 ft., and is supplied from the King's source. The temperature is 88°. Admission, 1s.

The *Hot Bath* (end of Bath Street), built by the younger Wood, is a very elegant structure, remarkable for the great beauty of the sculptured foliage and fruit. It is supplied with the hottest of the Bath waters, the spring gushing from its source at a temp. of 120° Fahr.

Adjoining are—

The *Royal Private Baths*, which are not surpassed in cleanliness, comfort, and convenience by any in Europe. There are 7 baths, of large dimensions, lined with Dutch tiles, having steps descending into them. One is provided with a crane to facilitate the immersion of feeble patients.

The *Hetting*, or *Hot Bath Pump Room*, is opposite the Hot Bath, at the corner of Hetting Court.

The *Kingston Baths*, in Church Street, occupy the site of the Roman Baths, and are the property of Earl Manvers. All the other baths belong to the borough, and are under the superintendence of the Town Council. The baths are open from 6 A.M. till 10 P.M.; on Sundays from 7 to 9:30 A.M. and 1 to 3 P.M. The time usually chosen for bathing is between 2 and 5 P.M.

The Bath waters rise in 4 distinct springs, and are the hottest of any

known in England, having a temperature at one of the sources of 120° Fahr. They act as a stimulant, and are considered efficacious in gout and paralysis, and the numerous diseases depending on a relaxed state of the fibres, but may be injurious where there are inflammatory symptoms. They are supplied to the hospitals, and in particular to the *Bath Mineral Water Hospital*, a noble institution, which was founded in 1737 for their special administration to the poor. A new wing on the site of the old parsonage was opened in 1861, and a Chapel added, the fittings of which deserve special examination from the combination of richness and refined taste they display. The cost was defrayed by a gift from James S. Brymer, Esq., whose brother had been archdeacon of Bath. A Roman tessellated pavement remains *in situ*.

After the Abbey Ch., Pump Room, and Baths, the visitor will do well to turn his steps to

The *Royal Literary and Scientific Institution* (a little E. of the Abbey), on the North Parade. It occupies the site of the Old Assembly Rooms, of which the Doric portico, erected by Wilkins in 1810, is a remnant. It possesses a reading-room, well-stored library of 5000 volumes, and museum, with a laboratory furnished with all appliances necessary for chemical and philosophical experiments. The *Museum* contains Roman antiquities discovered in and near the city; votive altars to the goddess Sul; remains of the pediment, cornice, frieze, and Corinthian pillars of the temples of Sul-Minerva and Luna, sepulchral cippi, &c., all so well ticketed that description is needless. The Great Hall contains a fine Geological Collection including Saurians and other organic remains deposited by C. Moore, Esq., F.G.S., with collections to illustrate the geology of the neighbourhood, and of England generally, carefully arranged by the late curator, Mr. Lonsdale. There are also

a cabinet of coins, a collection of birds, amounting to 1500 specimens, bequeathed to the city by Mrs. Godfrey, and some shells. The Museum is free to the public between 11 and 4, except on Tuesdays and Fridays, when a small charge is made. In the garden, which is situated on the bank of the river, a band plays occasionally.

The *Athenæum*, in the Orange Grove, adjoining the Abbey, originally a Mechanics' Institution, has an excellent reading-room, and a library of more than 5000 volumes. Its museum is chiefly devoted to geology and ornithology.

The *Old Assembly Rooms*, the scene of Beau Nash's glory, erected in the first half of the last century, were destroyed by fire in 1820, excepting the portico and exterior walls, which now form a part of the Literary Institution. Nash was master of the ceremonies nearly 50 years, from 1710 to 1760. The office of *master of the ceremonies* is now done away with. The existing or *Upper Assembly Rooms*, built by the younger Wood, 1771, at a cost of 20,000*l.*, and close to the Circus, are noble rooms, handsomely furnished and decorated. The ball-room is 107 ft. by 42 ft., the card-room 70 ft. by 27 ft., the octagon room 48 ft. in diameter, and the tearoom 66 ft. by 41 ft. The octagon contains full-length portraits of Beau Nash and Colonel Wade, the latter by *Gainsborough*, who resided for some time at Bath, in the Circus. Balls are given during the season on Monday or Thursday.

In the *Guildhall*, built 1768–75, by Baldwin, on the site of one by Inigo Jones, are portraits of Frederick P. of Wales and his consort, Geo. III. and Q. Charlotte, Pitt Earl of Chatham, and Earl Camden, who both represented Bath in Parliament, by Prince Hoare, and busts of Beau Nash and Allen. Behind the Guildhall are the *Markets*. In Boatstall Lane may be seen an E. E. gateway and a part of the embattled wall

which encircled the town of early times.

Helling House, in Hetling Court, near the Pump Room, is one of the oldest mansions in Bath. Its great room, of which the chimney-piece is a fine specimen of decoration, is now used as a chapel by a congregation of Mormons.

Bp. Butler, author of the 'Analogy,' died in the old family mansion of the Rosewells, in *Kingsmead Sq.*

The excellent *Robert Nelson*, author of the 'Fasts and Festivals,' founded the *Bluecoat School* in 1711. It was rebuilt in the Elizabethan style in 1859. A tessellated pavement discovered on the site has been relaid in the lobby.

A house in Trim Street was the residence of *General Wolfe* and his family, and No. 13, New King Street, of the astronomer *Herschel*, who was organist of the Octagon Chapel, 1766, and here made the observations which led to the discovery of the planet Uranus. *Beau Nash* lived on the Sawclose, where his house may be recognised by its handsome doorway.

Walter Savage Landor, the author of the 'Imaginary Conversations,' was a resident at 3, Rivers Street.

Partis College, on Newbridge Hill, between Bath and Kelston, is an institution for the reception of 30 reduced gentlewomen (10 of them must be widows or daughters of clergymen of the Church of England), who are each furnished with a separate house of 4 rooms and an allowance. It was founded by Mrs. Partis, in conformity with the intention of her deceased husband, Fletcher Partis, and was completed in 1827. It is a Gothic building, with a chapel in the centre.

The *Wesleyan* or *New Kingswood College*, a Tudor structure, erected 1850, from the designs of Mr. James Wilson, F.S.A., occupies a commanding site on the ascent of Lansdown.

It has a tower in the centre 90 ft. in height.

The *Lansdown Proprietary College*, now the *Royal School for Daughters of Officers in the Army*, lower down on the hill, was completed 1858, by the same architect, and has also a lofty central tower. The architecture is Gothic of the Geometric period, with traceried windows.

The *Victoria Park* is a very pretty enclosure of about 10 acres, immediately W. of the Royal Crescent and Circus, and approached through the *Royal Avenue*, which is laid out with plantations, shrubberies, and walks. At the entrance of the park is an obelisk, erected 1837, in honour of her present Majesty, in whose presence in 1830 (while Princess) this agreeable public garden, created at the expense of some zealous citizens and inhabitants of Bath, who contributed 4000*l.* to this object, was thrown open. Higher on the hill is a colossal bust of Jupiter by Osborne, a self-taught artist, who died in poverty. It is made of a single block of Bath stone, weighing more than 6 tons, and is 7 ft. high.

The *Royal Victoria Horticultural and Botanical Gardens* occupy a portion of the park.

The *Sydney Gardens*, at the end of Pulteney Street, were formerly the "Vauxhall" of Bath. They occupy 16 acres, and were laid out in 1795. The Kennet and Avon Canal and Gt. Western Rly. both pass through them. They afford a delightful recreation ground with retired walks shaded by fine trees. A band plays here several times a week in the summer.

In Lansdown Crescent lived *William Beckford*, of Fonthill, the talented but eccentric author of 'Vathek;' and on the summit of Lansdown, which is 813 ft. above the sea-level, and now covered with houses to within a short distance of the top, stands *Beckford's Tower*. Mr. Beckford

had a passion for towers, and built one at both of his previous residences of Cintra and Fonthill. This one is 130 ft. high. In Beckford's lifetime it was a store-house of treasures of art in the form of pictures, gems, statues, &c. It commands an extensive view, and was erected within a walled garden, which, partly through the munificence of the Duchess of Hamilton, Mr. Beckford's daughter, has been converted into a public cemetery for Walcot parish, with a handsome modern gateway of Byzantine style. After Mr. Beckford's death in 1844 the property was in danger of being turned into public tea-gardens, but was happily rescued from such desecration by the dutiful feelings of the Duchess, who purchased and presented the ground to the Rector of Walcot. Beckford's monument, which formerly stood in the cemetery of Widcombe Vale, has been removed here. It is a sarcophagus of red granite, which was prepared for him in his lifetime. The inscriptions are singular. On one side—

"Eternal Power!

Grant me, through obvious clouds, one transient gleam
Of thy bright essence in my dying hour!"

On the other—

"Enjoying humbly the most precious gift of
Heaven to man—hope."

[The walks and rides around Bath may be almost infinitely varied, and derive a peculiar charm from the wood and rock in the vales, the height of the hills—each with a distinct and extensive view—the numerous old camps, the curious churches, and the farmhouses of Elizabethan or an earlier date, which abound in the district.

Walks and Excursions:—(a.) To *Sham Castle*, an artificial ruin built 1760, on Bathwick Hill, by Ralph Allen, to improve the view from his town residence, now buried among houses at the end of the N. Parade.

It is a fine point of view. You may extend your walk to the summit of *Hampton Down*, on which are remains of the *Wansdyke*, and a *British camp* of 30 acres. On the E. side of the hill are the *Hampton Rocks*, a land-slip of the great oolite.

(b.) To *Prior Park* and *Combe Down*. On leaving Bath, the road passes *Widcombe Old Ch.*, built by Prior Birde (now quite insufficient for the population, for whom the Ch. of St. Mark, under Beechen Cliff, and that of St. Matthew, at the base of Widcombe Hill, have been built), and then commences the ascent of the fertile dell of Widcombe. Here is the *Abbey Cemetery*, a pretty spot, the grounds tastefully planted by the late Mr. Loudon in 1843, commanding one of the finest views of the city. *Prior Park* (so called as having belonged to the Priors of Bath), is situated at the head of the vale, on a brow commanding a beautiful view. The mansion, a handsome Palladian structure, connected by arcades with its wings, is 400 ft. above the river and 100 ft. below the top of Combe Down. It was built 1743 by Wood for *Ralph Allen* (d. 1764) the Allworthy of Fielding's 'Tom Jones,' originally a clerk in the Bath post-office, then postmaster and mayor, and lessee of the cross-posts which he had established, the net profits of which amounted to 12,000*l.* a year. He was the friend of Fielding, Pope, and of Bp. Warburton, who married his niece and occupied Prior Park after Allen's death. Pope, who corresponded with him, used to visit him at Prior Park, where he finished the 'Dunciad,' 1741. Pope disliked Bath, its rocks, and dirt, and brimstone, and fogs, and declares in his letters that health itself should not draw him thither, though friendship had once or twice. "I live," he says, "out of the sulphurous pit, at the edge of the pit, at Mr. Allen's, for a month or so." The error of supposing the

existence of sulphur in the Bath water is common even now, but no sulphur occurs in it. The mansion at Prior Park was occupied from 1829, as a Rom. Cath. College; but in 1836 the central part of it, which was Allen's residence, was gutted by fire. The house is now again occupied as a private residence. Behind are remains of the *Wansdyke*, which traversed the breezy upland of

Combe Down, 2 m., 550 ft. above the sea. On the S. side of this hill, which commands an extensive prospect, several villas have been lately built, and there is now quite a town with church and inn. A path across two fields leads to *Mount Pleasant*, where a beautiful landscape opens on the view. You look down upon the meeting of the Claverton, Freshford, and Midford valleys, and upon a hill-side covered with wood. The canal winds below, and in the centre a long viaduct spans the valley. To the rt., by a clump of firs, is an artificial ruin built by Bp. Warburton (another fine point of view), and the sloping park of Midford Castle. In the far distance rises Alfred's Tower at Stourhead.

The quarries on Combe Down furnish the well-known *Bath freestone*, a variety of *oolite*, of which not only the abbey and houses of Bath are built, but many other public and private edifices in distant parts of the kingdom. The down, fields, and roads, are undermined by caverns and passages.

(c.) To *Beckford's Tower*, *Stoke Brow*, and *Kelston Round Hill*, returning by *Weston*.

About 2½ m. beyond Mr. Beckford's Tower, at the end of the unenclosed ground, is the *battlefield of Lansdown*, fought July 13, 1643, between the forces of King Charles, led by the Marquis of Hertford, and those of the Parliament under Sir William Waller. Fuller says "it was disputed rather by parcels and piecemeals, and seemed not so much one

entire battle as a heap of skirmishes huddled together." The spot is marked by a monument to the memory of Sir Bevil Grenville and his Cornish friends, who fell here, erected by his grandson, George Grenville, Baron Lansdowne, 1720. Lansdown Hill is now much enclosed, and the view from it, notwithstanding its elevation, is greatly impeded by the stone walls which hem in the road; but a walk of 2 m. from Beckford's Tower, or of 4 from Bath, will bring you to a spot on Upper Lansdown, called *Prospect Stile*, from which may be seen at the same time both Bath and Bristol, the Avon and Severn, the Welsh mountains and the Mendip hills. It is on *Stoke Brow*, ½ m. to the S.W. of the pretty village of *North Stoke*.

On the road to the monument, and 1 m. beyond Beckford's Tower, we pass on the rt. *Chapel Farm*, which takes its name from the ancient chapel of St. Lawrence, founded as a hospital for the reception of pilgrims on their road to Glastonbury. It is now converted into a farmhouse, but some Decorated windows remain.

Below *Kelston Round Hill*, which is 730 ft. above the sea, lies

Kelston Park, 3 m. from Bath, looking down on the Avon winding through its green meadows, the property, late of Joseph Neeld, Esq., and now of Lieut.-Col. Inigo Jones. Near Kelston ch. once stood a house built 1587 by Barozzi, an Italian architect, for *Sir John Harrington*, the wit, poet, and court favourite, who had here the honour of entertaining his royal godmother, Q. Eliz., in 1591. It was pulled down 1760, with the exception of some out-buildings, which still remain. The present house was built by Sir Caesar Hawkins. The village church is an interesting building, in part E. E. A fragment of a Saxon cross was found here some years back.

In the churchyard of *Weston*, ly,

ing in a nook under Lansdown, the birthplace of St. Alphege, who gives his name to a spring of singular purity, an altar-tomb marks the burial-place of Mrs. Jane Falconer, relict of William Falconer, author of 'The Shipwreck.' The tower of the ch. is good. The Bath Archery Society has its place of meeting in Weston Park.

(d.) To *Grenville's Monument* on Lansdown, returning by the pretty road from *Chapel Farm* to *Langridge*, and by *Swainswick*.

Langridge (3 m. from Bath) has an ancient manorhouse, and a diminutive Ch., one of the many said to be the smallest in England. It measures only 50 ft. in length by 18 in breadth. It is most picturesquely situated, and is also remarkable for a beautiful Norman doorway and chancel arch, an early sculpture of the Virgin and Child, and an effigy of a lady—probably of the Walshe family—in the costume of Henry III., and 2 brasses of the same family.

Swainswick (2½ m. from Bath), also has its manor-house, the birthplace of *William Prynne*, b. 1600, educated at the Bath Grammar-school. The Ch. has a Norm. S. door; the tower and font are E. E. In the ch. is a fine brass to Edmond Ford, 1439, and there are monuments to Prynne's parents. Above the village rises the British camp of *Solsbury*, 600 ft. above the sea, according to Mr. Earle "the venerable site of a well-inhabited and populous British city," or at least "the *arx* or burgh of the Avon valley and the city of Sul below;" and beyond it *Charmy Down*, where remains of a *Druidic circle* may be seen in a field near the farmhouse.

Charlcombe, 2 m. from Bath, has a Ch. with a Norm. S. door and font, and stone pulpit.

(e.) Over Lansdown to the *Wick Rocks* (3 m. from the monument), a romantic wooded valley between limestone cliffs, which rise to a

height of 200 ft., and are crowned on the N. side by an ancient camp. The geology and botany, and scenery, suddenly differ here from all the country round. We have an island of mountain limestone, with a precipitous rift characteristic of that rock, and the vegetation peculiar to the soil.

(f.) To *Batheaston* (2 m.) and *St. Catherine* (4½ m.). *Batheaston Ch.*, a Perp. building, contains a tablet to the Rev. J. T. Conybeare, the Anglo-Saxon scholar, for several years vicar of this parish. Near the village are the Water Works that partly supply the city with water. *Batheaston villa* is memorable as being once the residence of Sir John and Lady Miller (d. 1781), renowned in the fashionable annals of Bath for an antique vase, within which were deposited every other Thursday the poetical effusions of the sons and daughters of fashion. The verses so deposited were then drawn by a lady of the company, selected by chance, and presented to a gentleman to read aloud. A committee was appointed to decide on their merits, and adjudge the prizes for the four best productions. The fortunate parties were each presented with a wreath of myrtle by Mrs., afterwards Lady, Miller, and a cold collation terminated the pleasantry of the day. This custom was continued for some years, until a wicked beau polluted the chaste vase with a satirical or licentious poem, after which it remained closed. There is a ferry to Bathampton. 2 m. distant N.E. (Rte. 1) is *Shockerwick* (Major Allen). The Box Tunnel is 3 m. N.E. 2½ m. the three counties of Wilts, Gloucester and Somerset meet on *Bannerdown*, by the side of the high road. For upwards of a century the spot has been marked by 3 small stones, but these have been superseded by a cromlech, which was set up in 1858. L. of *Batheaston*, on the declivity of *Holt Down*, lies the village of

St. Catherine, 4 m., formerly a manor of the priors of Bath, whose *grange*, built by Prior Cantlow about 1499, is still standing in its terraced garden. Its porch, of the time of Charles I., and its beautiful hall-screen, are much admired. The *Church*—also partly built by Cantlow—contains a finely carved pulpit, a Norman font, and, in the chancel, an altar-tomb, with effigies, to Wm. Blanchard and his lady, 1631. The return to Bath may be varied by a route over Charmy Down and Solsbury.

(g.) To *Claverton*, a very pretty spot, and an agreeable drive of about 3 m. from Bath, passing the *Hampton Rocks*, a landslip of great oolite on the face of Hampton Down (Rte. 4). On the bold projecting point of the Down above, is the British entrenchment of *Caer Badon*, enclosing 30 acres.

(h.) To the *Farleigh Beeches*, *Monkton Farleigh*, 4½ m., and *S. Wrazhall Manorhouse*, 6 m. (Rte. 4).

Another commanding point of view is *King's Down*, E. of Bathford, where the panorama embraces the Cotswold Hills, the Wiltshire chalk downs from Swindon to Alfred's Tower, the range of the Mendips, and immediately below the beautiful valley of Claverton.

(i.) To the ruins of *Hinton Abbey* and *Farleigh Castle*. The quickest route is by rail to Freshford, from which the abbey is 1 m., and the castle 2 m. distant (Rte. 4).

(j.) To *Midford*, *Wellow* (5 m.), and *Combehay*.

The road leaves Bath by the *Fosseway*, up *Holloway Hill* on which stands *St. Mary Magdalen's Hospital* and *Chapel*, rebuilt by Prior Cantlow, 1495, crosses over *Odd Down*, and passes on its summit some of the stone-quarries and at the *Cross Keys Inn* a very good section of the *Wandyke*. The church of *South Stoke*, rt., has a Perp. tower and a Norman doorway. 3 m. l., *Midford Castle*

(C. T. Conolly, Esq.), on the terraced slope of the hill above the pretty valley of Midford. Through this valley runs a canal, by which the coal from the mines about Radstoke finds its way to Bath and the towns of N. Wiltshire.

3½ m. *Midford*. Rt. 2 m., *Combehay Park*, and the village of *Combehay*, where the churchyard contains the grave of the poet *Carrington*, the author of 'Dartmoor,' and a native of Plymouth, d. 1830. In the *Ch.* lies buried the fiery cavalier, Sir Lewis Dyves, the gallant defender of Sherborne Castle (Rte. 11). Evelyn says of him, "he was indeed a valiant gentleman, but not a little given to romance when he spake of himself." Combehay is in the neighbourhood of 3 farms, which rejoice in the names of *Fortnight*, *Week*, and *Three Days*. The road to it accompanies the canal, which descends a declivity by means of 21 locks. A hill of about 2 m., climbed by the *Wandyke*, leads from the hamlet of *Midford* to *Charterhouse-Hinton* (Rte. 3).

2 m. rt. of *Charterhouse-Hinton*, by the British *Ridge Way*, crossing the highest tableland in Somersetshire, commanding wide and varied views, is

Wellow, 5 m. from Bath, a village remarkable for the Roman pavements which have been found in its vicinity, and for an ancient burial-place or cist-vaen (at *Stoney Littleton*, 1 m. S.W.), 107 ft. in length, 54 in breadth, and 13 high, and formed into chambers by large flag-stones. Its *Church* is a very beautiful specimen of the time of Edw. III., partly, perhaps, built by the Hungerford family, and restored in 1845. The richly carved wooden roof, chancel-screen, and E. E. font, are particularly worth notice. There is a good effigy of an ecclesiastic. A manor-house of the Hungerfords is still standing near the churchyard. In a cottage garden is the holy well of *St. Julian*.

1½ m. Norton St. Philip (7 m. S.E. of Bath), a place of antique appearance, formerly noted for its large Cloth Fair. The cloth merchants held their markets in the upper room of the *George Inn*, a very interesting half-timbered, 15th-cent. house, anciently the Grange of the Prior of Hinton. It has bay windows, and a porch, an octagonal stair-turret and good chimneys. At the entrance of the village stands an enormous elm, of which the trunk forms a summer-house. In this place occurred a skirmish between the army of the Duke of Monmouth and the king's troops under Feversham, June 26, 1685. The latter having been repulsed, Monmouth marched upon Frome, where, hearing of the defeat of Argyll and the advance of a strong force from London, he determined to return to Bridgwater—to lose his cause on the fatal field of Sedgemoor. The *Ch.* is a fine building of Perp. date, munificently restored, with a rich tower of the local type, containing a canopied tomb with an effigy of a merchant; an altar-tomb with an anonymous female effigy; and those of "the twin ladies of Foxcote," the legend of which may be learned from the sexton.

(k.) To *Barrow Hill* and *Englishcombe* (3 m.)—"English as against the Welsh on the other side of Wansdyke," (*Guest*)—a retired and pretty village, once the residence, according to Hoare ('Hist. of Ancient Wilts'), of our Saxon kings. At a later period it was the site of a castle of the De Gournays, of which the mound and the fosse are still to be seen in the dell to the E. of it; and, in Tudor times, of a manorhouse, now used as an alehouse. It has also, adjoining the *ch.*, a mossy but-tressed *barn*, built from the ruins of the Castle; and 2 whimsical yew-trees, which have grown into one during a long embrace. The *Ch.* has a Norm. door and a fine Norm. arcade within. In the orchard by

the *ch.* the *Wansdyke* may be traced, but in the 2nd field beyond the orchard it is in good preservation, running W.N.W., with the ditch on the N. side.

Barrow Hill, or the *Round Hill*, as it is commonly called an (outlier of the oolite), crowns a very elevated ridge of land, and is a conspicuous object in almost every view from Bath. It is 100 ft. in height. Englishcombe lies to the W. of it, on a cluster of knolls, and much reminds one of Devonshire. The Duke of Monmouth bivouacked here on his way to Philip's Norton.

(l.) To *Stantonbury Hill* (about 6 m. W.), a conspicuous outlier of the inferior oolite, capped by a very perfect British camp, on the line of the *Wansdyke*. The entrenchment is of 30 acres, and commands a fine distant view of Bath. E. is *Newton Park*, seat of W. H. Gore Langton, Esq., M.P., and *W. Houndstreet Park*, the residence of F. L. Popham of Littlecot. The panorama is complete, and includes the Welsh mountains. W.N.W. is *Dundry Hill*, W. by S. the *Mendips*, in the distant S.S.W. the town at *Stourhead*. Under the S. side of the hill lies the village of *Stanton Prior*.

(m.) To *Stanton Drew* (11 m.), about 5 m. from the *Keynsham Stat.* (Rte. 24.)

(n.) To *Ditteridge*, or to *Chapel Plaster* and the manorhouse of *S. Wraxhall*, from *Box Stat.* (Rte. 1.)]

Resuming our route :—On leaving Bath Stat. the line crosses the *Avon* upon a timber bridge, remarkable for its obliquity, its 2 arches being each as wide as the river. Close on rt. is the old town bridge; on l. high above, *Holloway Hill* and *Beechen Cliff*.

108½ m. *Twerton Stat.*, "possibly a condensation of *æt war-tune*, 'the tower at the weir,' or *æt ofer-tune*, 'the town on the bank,' of the *Avon*" (*Rev. J. Earle*). On rt., on the

Avon, are large cloth-mills, the representatives of those established by the monks of Bath in the 14th cent. There is also a carpet manufactory. The *Church*, rebuilt, with the exception of the tower, 1839, has a Norman doorway and font. *Fielding's Terrace* perpetuates the name of the author of 'Tom Jones,' part of which was written during his residence here.

Beyond this stat. the train enters the *Twerton tunnel*, driven in the new red sandstone, and then dashes through the *Newton cutting*, in excavating which was discovered the Roman pavement once preserved at the Keynsham Station, but now removed to the Bristol Institution, but not yet laid down. It represents Orpheus charming the brutes.

110 m. l. are *Newton St. Loe*, with a Perp. church, and remains of an ancient cross, and modern mansion.

Newton Park, seat of W. H. Gore Langton, Esq. The post Southey was at school at *Corston*. To the rt. is a pretty view, with the Avon winding through green meadows below, and *Kelston Round Hill* rising above, 730 ft. from the sea-level, commanding one of the finest prospects in the county.

111 m. *Saltford Stat.* A neat village, where is the ancient mansion of the Rodneys, with park-like meadows stretching to the Avon. A deep cutting in the lias leads to the *Saltford tunnel*, 499 ft. long; on emerging from which, and crossing the River Chew, near its junction with the Avon, the line reaches

113½ m. *Keynsham Stat.* (*Inns*: Lamb and Lark, Crown; Pop. 2190).

The *Church*, large and handsome, contains monuments of the 16th centy. to the Brydges, ancestors of the Dukes of Chandos, who had formerly a mansion here. The chancel is E. E.; the tower, of grand proportions, built 1632. E. of the ch. are the remains of an abbey barn, gutted by fire a few years ago.

This town, according to tradition, was once the residence of St. Keyna, a British virgin, daughter of Braganus, Prince of Brecknockshire, who lived in a solitary wood infested with venomous serpents, which her prayers converted into stone; and the number of ammonites found in the neighbouring quarries serve, in the eyes of the vulgar, who believe them to be the actual serpents, to confirm the fable. Here also, as the legend reports, the leprous king Bladud was hired as a swineherd, and hence he drove his pigs to the spring of Bath. At a later period Keynsham was celebrated for its abbey of black canons founded by Wm. of Gloucester, 1170; here the founder and many of his family were buried. There still remain some relics of this abbey and its dependencies in the curious *hostelry for pilgrims*, in the principal street, the *barn* by the ch., and the Norman gateway of the Abbots' court-house at Queen Charlton, 2 m. l. Some curious incised slabs and fragments of sculpture have been recently discovered on the site of the abbey. The stone circles of *Stanton Drew* are about 5 m. to the l. of Keynsham.

Bitton, W. of N. Stoke, is a pretty village, on a small lake or reservoir, which supplies water to several paper-mills. Its church is chiefly Perp., with some Norman and Dec. work, and a side chapel possessing a fine 13th-cent. sedilia and piscina. In the tower are the effigies of Sir Thomas de Bitton (a work of the 13th cent.), and others deserving notice. There is some pretty scenery in the neighbourhood, particularly at *Hanhams*, where the Avon flows between rocks for some distance. Here is a fine old Grange House, formerly belonging to the Abbot of Keynsham, now the residence of H. White, Esq.

Beyond this stat. commences a remarkable series of tunnels and excavations, the latter in places vertical,

and supported by massive buttresses of masonry. E. of Brislington, where the *Ch.* has a Norman font, is a cutting through the freestone, with vertical sides. *Brislington tunnel*, 3148 ft. long, is carried through the shale and sandstone of the coal-measures, and ventilated by 4 shafts. 2 other tunnels, ivy-mantled, 475 ft. Another, 990 ft.

Emerging from the last tunnel is the new red sandstone, which here covers up the coal; the line crosses the Avon by a handsome Gothic bridge of stone, and amidst dust and smoke enters the suburb of Bristol.

118½ m. BRISTOL Stat., common also to the railways to Exeter and Gloucester. (*Inns*: Royal Hotel, College Green; White Lion, Broad Street. At Clifton, the Down Hotel; St. Vincent Rocks Hotel; Queen's Hotel; York Hotel, Dowry Square. Pop. of the Parliamentary borough, 154,093.) [Bristol is a great centre of land and sea communication. Railways branch out from it N.E. to Gloucester, S.W. to Exeter, E. to Bath; placing it in connection with the whole of the Midland, Gt. Western, and S.-Western systems of railways. Shorter lines run to the New Passage, and by crossing the Severn to S. Wales: to Avon Mouth; and to Portishead for the Cardiff and Newport steamers. Steamers afford direct communication with S. Wales, N. Devon, and Ireland; and also run to Liverpool, Glasgow, London, Bordeaux, and Rotterdam.]

BRISTOL, a city and county in itself, locally situated in the counties of Somerset and Gloucester, but chiefly in the latter, the capital of the west, and long the second city of Great Britain, stands in the valley of Avon, and on the slopes of the hills rising from the river just where it begins to be tidal. It was the centre of extensive commerce when Liverpool was unheard of, and was long the exclusive seat of the West India trade,

and is still one of the chief resorts of our mercantile navy.

The early prosperity of the city was chiefly owing to the natural port afforded by the deep oozy beds of the Avon and the Frome, which here joins it, and the ready communication afforded to the Bristol Channel, and thence to the open sea. In later times these natural advantages were increased by the proximity of extensive coalfields.

Tradition identified Bristol with *Caer-Oder*, "the City of the Chasm," mentioned in the *Triads*. But this story is pronounced by Dr. Guest to be fabulous. The foundation of the city has been assigned on better grounds to the British king Dyfnwal Moelmyd, famous in Welsh legendary lore, c. 570, and his sons Bran and Beli, better known by their Latinised names Brennus and Belinus, whose statues are still posted on St. John's Gate to attest the truth of the story. We know little of its history in Saxon times, but it evidently grew in wealth and prosperity. At the time of the Domesday Survey it was rated higher than any town, save London, York, and Winchester. In 1088 Bristol was held by Godfrey, Bp. of Coutances, in favour of Duke Robert against Wm. Rufus, on whose defeat it was conferred by the Red King on Robert Fitz Haymo, his companion on his fatal hunting in the New Forest, whose daughter Matilda, by marriage, carried the Lordship to Robert, Earl of Gloucester, bastard son of Henry I. He erected the *Castle* c. 1126, on the isthmus between the rivers Avon and Frome to the E., commanding the entrance to the town, and overawing the burghers. The castle was built with stone imported from Caen, the title of it being devoted by "the Red Earl" to the Priory of St. James, which he had recently founded. One of the first occupants of the castle was Duke Robert, who was entrusted by Henry I. to

his son's keeping. From Bristol he was transferred to Cardiff, where he died. The fortress was hardly completed before it was invested by the forces of Stephen. The Earl of Gloucester was the chief champion of the Empress Maud in her claim to the English throne, and Bristol consequently became the head-quarters of her party, whence they spread rapine, devastation, and acts of cruelty and license all round. On the capture of Stephen at the battle of Lincoln, 1141, he was marched across England to Bristol, and imprisoned in the castle, where he was, it is said, loaded with chains in consequence of his attempts to escape. After 9 months' captivity he was exchanged for the Earl of Gloucester, who had been captured at Stockbridge, after raising the siege of Winchester, the queen and her son being detained as hostages at Bristol, till the completion of the exchange. Maud placed her young son, afterwards Henry II., in Bristol Castle, where he resided 4 years, 1142-1146, under the care of his uncle, the Earl of Gloucester, "whose instruction," says Lord Lyttleton, "laid the foundation of all that was afterwards most excellent in him."

In 1247 the first bridge was erected over the Avon. It was mentioned in a charter of Henry III. The building of this bridge, by the union of the city with the suburb of Redcliffe, greatly increased its prosperity, which was also advanced by the erection of the Priory of St. James, in 1130, and the Monastery of St. Augustine, now the Cathedral, by Rob. Fitzhardinge, in 1142, and the gathering of inhabitants round them. King John having married Isabella, the d. of the Earl of Gloucester, the "lady of Bristowe," his visits became frequent, and to him is due the charter which laid the foundation of the franchises of the city. The castle was the place of the long dreary imprisonment of his niece Eleanor,

"the Damsell of Brittainne," Prince Arthur's sister, from 1202 to 1240. She was annually brought out and shown to the people to do away with the only too natural suspicions of foul play. This perhaps was also the scene of the compulsory tooth-drawing, of which unlucky Jews, some brought hither from Southampton, were the subjects. One, it is said, was sentenced to lose a tooth every day until he paid John 10,000 marks, and gave in after the loss of 7. In 1216, the boy-king Henry III. kept his Christmas in the castle, as did his son, Edward I., in 1285, who, when Prince of Wales, had besieged and taken it after the battle of Evesham, 1265. It was the scene of a royal marriage in 1293, when his daughter Eleanor espoused the Earl of Bar.

In the next reign Bristol played a conspicuous part in the disgraceful events of which the king's love of favourites was the cause. Hardly was Edw. II. seated on the throne than he accompanied Gaveston here, 1308, when he was about to set sail for Ireland, of which he had been appointed governor. In 1312 "the Great Insurrection" took place, and Bristol was held by Lord Badlesmere, the custos of the castle, and the burgesses, for 3 years against the king, and was finally taken in 1316. In 1320 the castle and town was granted to the reigning favourite, the younger Despenser; and in 1326 received the fugitive monarch, who had fled hither pursued by the execrations of the whole kingdom, and here took shipping with his favourite for Lundy, on his way to Ireland. The castle was held by the elder Despenser, and was besieged and taken by Isabella; Despenser, in spite of his venerable age of 90 years, suffered the savage death of a traitor, and was gibbeted in complete armour for 4 days, when his body was given to the dogs. The council of the nation sat in the castle, and after summoning the

king to his post, proclaimed Prince Edward guardian of the realm left without a ruler. The next year, 1327, saw the unhappy king once more at Bristol, on his way from his prison at Corfe to the place of assassination at Berkeley, to which he was removed under cover of night, April 5, in consequence of a plan of some of the burgesses, moved with pity for their dethroned monarch, to aid him in escaping beyond sea. In 1348, Bristol was visited by the Black Death. Richard II. visited Bristol in 1399 on his way to Ireland, when a trial of battle between 2 Scots took place, in which the appellant was defeated and hanged. The year 1400 saw another political tragedy, when Despenser, E. of Gloucester, and Lord Lumley, who, on the explosion of the conspiracy for the restoration of Richard II., had ridden as far as Bristol, were seized by the populace and beheaded at the High Cross. In 1446, Henry VI. visited the city, on which he conferred a new charter. He was lodged at the Hospital of St. John Baptist, near Redcliff Church. Edward IV. was at Bristol in 1461, and glutted his vengeance by witnessing from the E. window of St. Ewen's Church, hard by the High Cross, the Lancastrian partisan Sir Baldwin Fulford and his two companions, led to execution. As one of the chief cities of his realm, Bristol was visited by Henry VII., not long after his accession, 1487. He was met by the mayor and corporation at Redfield, entered the city at St. John's Gate, and passing the High Cross, where the clergy in their robes were waiting for him, was conducted with great state to St. Augustine's. Three years later the king paid another visit, when, not content with a present of 500*l.*, he fined every inhabitant worth 20*l.*, "because their wives went too fine." Elizabeth was at Bristol in 1573, and was welcomed at the Cross by Fame, "very orderly

set forth by an excellent boy." On the way to her lodgings, "at Mr. John Young's, on St. Augustine's Back," "Salutation, Gratulation, and Obedient Goodwill," were awaiting her at the gate. On the Sunday she went to the Cathedral, "to hear a Sarmond, and an imme was sung by a very fine boy." In 1612 Anne of Denmark paid Bristol a visit, and occupied the same lodgings. Her reception gratified her so much that she said "she never knew she was queen till she came to Bristol."

During the Civil Wars of the 16th cent., Bristol played a prominent part. It was alternately in the power of either party, but ultimately became the chief Royalist stronghold in the West; and its surrender by Prince Rupert, 1643, was one of the greatest blows Charles's cause received in those parts. In 1642, in preparation for the struggle, the walls and gates were restored, and forts built on Brandon Hill and St. Michael's Hill. The feeling of the citizens was divided, and on Essex marching to take possession of the city, Dec. 5, 1642, the gates were shut against him, but were opened to him on the importunity of the women; but his riotous conduct proved so offensive that in Feb. 1643, Col. Nat. Fiennes marched in and replaced him as governor. The following month, a plot was formed to open the gates to Prince Rupert and his brother Maurice; but it was discovered and frustrated the night of its intended accomplishment, Mar. 7. The 2 heads of the plot, Yeomans and Bouchier, suffered the death of traitors at the Nag's Head in Wine St. This execution so exasperated the citizens that they invited the king to lay siege to the city; and accordingly Prince Rupert, with 20,000 men, appeared before it July 22, and commenced the assault the next day. Three days later it capitulated, for which the king, who was at Oxford, ordered public thanks-

givings, and started with his sons Charles and James to Bristol, where he arrived Aug. 3, and was lodged at Colston's House in Small St. Two years later, Sept. 11, 1645, Bristol was stormed by Fairfax, to the grievous discomfiture of the royal cause in the West. "Prince Rupert rode out of Bristol amid seas of angry human faces, glooming unutterable things on him; growling audibly, in spite of his escort, 'Why not hang him!' For indeed the poor Prince had been necessitated to much plunder."—*Carlyle*. His reception by his royal uncle was not more cheering, for he spoke of its surrender as "the greatest trial of inconstancy that has yet befallen me," and ordered the Prince to "seek subsistence beyond sea." Their new masters did not gain the goodwill of the citizens. The licentiousness of the soldiery under General Skippon was intolerable, especially when in 1647 they seized on one of the aldermen, and refused to release him until they had received a month's pay and indemnity for their act. Cromwell himself visited Bristol in 1649 on his way to Ireland, returning after his bloody campaign in 1650. The next year, after the battle of Worcester, Charles II. rode through the city in disguise on his way to the south coast; the same year Ireton's body was brought from Ireland and received by the authorities of the city in state. The castle was "sighted" by order of Cromwell in 1655. In 1658, Richard Cromwell visited the city from Bath, and was received with great pomp, as was Charles II., who, in 1663, came over from the same place with his queen, James Duke of York, and Prince Rupert; the last-named not over willing, one should think, to see a place connected with so much disgrace to his character as a commander. In 1685, the year of Monmouth's rebellion, Bristol contained

many of his partisans, who were with difficulty restrained from an insurrection by Beaufort, when Monmouth was known to be at hand with designs upon the city, which he was unwillingly forced to relinquish. In Jeffreys' "Bloody Assize," 3 rebels were executed here. The next year James II. was here with his son-in-law George of Denmark, and touched for the king's evil, leaving it for Sedgemoor to view the scene of the battle. William and Mary visited the city in 1687, and William alone on his return from Ireland in 1690, and Queen Anne in 1702.

The most noteworthy event in modern times was the disgraceful riot which broke out on October 31, 1831, during the violent excitement that accompanied the progress of the first Reform Bill; when, chiefly in consequence of a want of ordinary firmness in the civil and military authorities, the whole city was at the mercy of a furious rabble for nearly 2 days, and 2 sides of Queen's Square, including the Mansion House and Custom House, as well as the Bishop's Palace, Jail, and Bridewell, were burnt down, and property to an immense amount destroyed.

The commercial importance of Bristol dates from a very early period. William of Malmesbury describes it as "full of ships from Ireland, Norway, and every part of Europe, which brought hither great commerce and much foreign wealth." In the 'Gesta Stephani,' it is spoken of as "almost the richest of all the cities of the country, receiving merchandize from neighbouring and foreign places in ships under sail." This brings before us one of the chief local advantages of Bristol as a port, that, owing to the tidal river and its soft oozy bottom, vessels were able to come into the heart of the city, and unload their cargoes at the quays under the merchants' windows. From a very early period

Bristol was the market of the English slave-trade, as, many centuries later, it was one of the chief centres of that from Africa. From this shameful traffic the prosperity of the town began. The slaves were captured in Wales or bought in England, and exported to Ireland, which is described as being full of English slaves. This infamous commerce was at last checked by the earnest preaching of Wulstan, the Bp. of Worcester, to which diocese Bristol then belonged. The connection with Ireland continued. Dermot, king of Leinster, being expelled by his subjects, took refuge here c. 1170. A charter of Hen. II., 1172, assigned the city of Dublin, then almost drained of its inhabitants, to the men of Bristol, and an English colony was transplanted thither. Bristol was also the centre of mediæval mercantile maritime adventure. In 1494 a fleet was fitted out by its merchants, under the command of John Cabot, by which Newfoundland was discovered. In 1497, another fleet sailed under Seb. Cabot, which explored the N. American coast from Newfoundland to Florida, of which John Guy was the first colonist, and Rob. Thorne, both Bristol men, the first to form a commercial settlement in the newly discovered continent. Bristol has also been no less famous for its manufactures. The woollen manufacture was introduced in 1340, its chief seat being in Temple and Tucker Streets. Among the manufacturers Thomas Blanket is conspicuous, who is said to have given his name to that comfortable article of domestic economy. In 1523 the soap manufactory was established, and in 1581 those of pins and stockings. The first brass made in England was in 1705, at the Baptist Mills, by workmen brought from Holland, the copper being smelted by Sir Simon Clark. The production of zinc commenced in 1743, at Han-

ham-on-Avon, 2 m. from Bristol. From its being the chief seat of the West India trade, the manufacture of sugar was early established, and still continues to flourish. There were also early manufactories of glass and shot. Bristol was, as early as the time of Richard I., the only seat of the manufacture of soap; "Yea," says Fuller, "after London meddled with the making thereof, Bristol soap was found much cheaper." At the present time its manufactories, which are much assisted by the abundant supply of coal close at hand, are very extensive, including glass works, potteries, soaperies, tanneries, chemical works, copper, lead, and shot works, iron works and foundries, manufactories of anchors, chain cables, and edge tools, machine works, and cotton mills. The sugar refineries are some of the largest in England, the eminent firm of Finzel alone employing near 2000 hands. It is also a great seat of the wool trade, and the Irish provision trade. Its connection with the West Indies and West Africa, though not of such importance as it once was, still causes a large import trade of sugar, rum, molasses, hemp, fruits, &c. There are few places of greater attraction to a traveller who takes an interest in the manufactures and trade of the country, or where, if provided with proper introductions, he can spend a few days more agreeably and profitably. In former times, according to Locke, who frequently visited in this neighbourhood, it possessed many delicacies to gratify the palate. The following were the directions of the philosopher to some foreigner—"At Bristol see the Hot-well, St. George's Cave, where the Bristol diamonds are found, Ratcliff Church, and at Kingwood the coal-pits. Taste there *Milford oysters, marrow puddings, cockale, metheglin, white and red muggets, elvers, sherry sack* (which with sugar is called *Bristol milk*), and some

other wines, which perhaps you will not drink so good in London."

"Bristol, more truly Brightstow," says Fuller, "is *bright* in the situation thereof, conspicuous on the rising of a hill; *bright* in the buildings, fair and firm; *bright* in the streets, so cleanly kept as if scoured, where no carts but sledges are used; but chiefly *bright* for the inhabitants thereof, having bred so many eminent persons."

The following sketch from the brilliant pen of Macaulay portrays Bristol as it was at the latter part of the 17th century:—"Large as Bristol might then appear, it occupied but a very small portion of the area on which it now stands. A few churches of eminent beauty rose out of a labyrinth of narrow lanes built upon vaults of no great solidity. If a coach or a cart entered these alleys, there was danger that it would be wedged between the houses, and danger also that it would break in the cellars. Goods were therefore conveyed about the town almost exclusively in trucks drawn by dogs; and the richest inhabitants exhibited their wealth, not by riding in gilded carriages, but by walking the streets with trains of servants in rich liveries, and by keeping tables loaded with good cheer. The pomp of the christenings and burials far exceeded what was seen at any other place in England. The hospitality of the city was widely renowned, and especially the collations with which the sugar refiners regaled their visitors. The repast was dressed in the furnace, and was accompanied by a rich brewage made of the best Spanish wine, and celebrated over the whole kingdom as Bristol milk. This luxury was supported by a thriving trade with the North American plantations and with the West Indies. The passion for colonial traffic was so strong that there was scarce a small shopkeeper in Bristol who had not a venture on board of

some ship bound for Virginia or the Antilles. Some of these ventures indeed were not of the most honourable kind. There was, in the Transatlantic possessions of the crown, a great demand for labour; and this demand was partly supplied by a system of crimping and kidnapping at the principal English seaports. Nowhere was this system found in such active and extensive operation as at Bristol. Even the first magistrates of that city were not ashamed to enrich themselves by so odious a commerce. The number of houses appears, from the returns of the hearth money, to have been, in the year 1685, just five thousand three hundred. We can hardly suppose the number of persons in a house to have been greater than in the city of London: and in the city of London we learn from the best authority that there were then fifty-five persons to ten houses. The population of Bristol must therefore have been about twenty-nine thousand souls."—*Macaulay's 'History of England,'* vol. i.

The City was originally built on a peninsula of rising ground nearly surrounded by the rivers Avon and Frome, and occupied an oval walled area, the form of which may still be traced by the curved line of the lanes which mark the contour of the walls and ditch. The castle, "slighted" by Cromwell, occupied the neck of ground between the 2 rivers to the E., filling a space nearly as large as the old town itself, and commanding all the approaches to it from that quarter. The neighbourhood of the Castle was far from being agreeable to the quiet burghers, who were continually complaining to the king of the levying of unjust tolls, the capture of their goods, and other acts of oppression perpetrated by the occupiers of the fortress. The river Frome, at that time, after washing the N. wall, took a bend to the S., and flowed along the line of Baldwin St.,

and joined the Avon some distance E. of its present mouth, close to St. Nicholas' Church. The wall was pierced by 4 principal gates, a ch. standing at each, and traversed by 2 main streets. At their intersection stood the High Cross (now at Stour-head) with 3 more churches at the angles of the central area, and the Guildhall hard by. The 4 streets thus formed were, and are still, known as *High St.*, from the S.; *Broad St.*, from St. John's Gate, N.; *Corn St.*, from St. Leonard's Bridge or Blind Gate, W.; and *Wine* (or *Winch St.*, from Newgate (where was the city prison), E. Corn St., now the most busy and imposing thoroughfare in Bristol, and the seat of its chief commercial buildings, was almost closed at its W. end, by a small low gate, beneath St. Leonard's Ch. This was demolished in 1772, and the street was continued to the quay, under the name of *Clare St.* (in honour of Robt. Nugent, Earl of Clare, then member for the city). This was followed in 1775, by the formation of *Park St.* in what was known as "the Bullocks' Park," mounting the steep hill from College Green, which opened a free communication between the city and its western suburbs.

The Castle, so long one of the chief strongholds of the west, was dismantled, and its fortifications demolished by order of Parliament, in 1655. *Castle Gate*, leading from the city, was taken down, 1766. The exterior walls and bastions still remain in the midst of modern structures, to the N. and E., where the names *Broad Weir*, and *Castle Mill St.* tell of the time when the Frome, now running underground, expanded into a broad mill head. Some remains may be hunted up by the determined antiquary, at the farther end of the *Castle Green*, down a turning to the l. The 13th-cent. vaulted porch to the King's Hall still remains, degraded to an old-iron store.

The *Bridge* over the Avon was built in 1247; the same year in which the Frome was diverted to its present channel. The present bridge was erected in 1768. The more ancient streets were built on arched drains, or "gowts" (Fr. *égouts*); and for a long time the apprehension of disturbing the masonry of these sewers kept all wheeled vehicles out of the city. As late as 1820, Cooke writes in his 'Itinerary,' "heavy carts are not admitted into this city for fear of damaging the arches of the vaults that are made underground for carrying off the soil into the rivers, so that the constant draught is by sledges, which renders the pavement in the highway exceeding slippery."

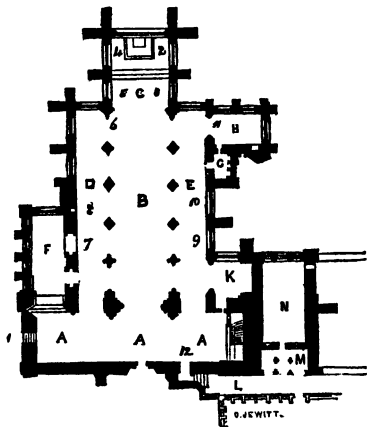
Nearly all the older streets of Bristol are full of picturesque gabled houses, affording studies for the sketcher, which will repay the researches of any one who is careless of the smells, sights, and sounds he may encounter. The best route for any one anxious to see old Bristol is to go a short distance down *Wine St.*, and turn l. into the *Pithay*, a narrow steep street of picturesque houses, which diverges into *Tower Lane*, and preserves the curved contour of the city walls, smoke-blackened fragments of which peep out continually among the quaint dilapidated houses. A postern arch will be passed rt., and *St John's Ch.* reached, standing actually on the wall, with its tower pierced by the city gate. Passing under this we enter *Christmas St.*, once one of the chief thoroughfares of the city, through which Q. Elizabeth and Anne of Denmark passed with all the pomp of royalty. Here the gateway of St. Bartholomew's Priory rt. is conspicuous in its graceful beauty amongst the squalor around. It is a porch with external and internal archways of Dec. and E. E. work, and a statue at the W. corner, and deserves careful notice. Some small fragments of the priory remain in the warehouse behind. *Christmas Steps*

should now be ascended; a steep climb from the lower part of the city towards *St. Michael's Ch.*, whose tower rises conspicuously above. At the top of the steps 2 rows of stone niches form seats for the weary. Overhanging the steps to the l. are *Foster's Almshouses*, founded, temp.

Hen. VII., by a merchant of Bristol. The chapel is original, but modernised when the Almshouses were rebuilt, 1702. From this point *Steep St.*, with its overhanging houses, descends towards *St. Augustine's Parade*.

REFERENCES.

- B A A Tower and Transept.
- A Choir.
- C Chancel or Sacrarium.
- D North Choir-aisle.
- E South Choir-aisle.
- F Elder Lady-chapel.
- G Ante-chamber to Berkeley Chapel.
- H Berkeley Chapel.
- K Newton Chapel.
- L Cloister.
- M Vestibule of Chapter-house.
- N Chapter-house.



- 1 North Entrance.
- 2 Sedilia.
- 3 Monument of Abbot Newland.
- 4 Monument of Abbot Knowle.
- 5 Monument of Abbot Newberry.
- 6 Monument of Bishop Bush.
- 7 Monument of Maurice Lord Berkeley, and Wife.
- 8 Staircase to Triforium and Tower.
- 9 Monument of Thomas Lord Berkeley.
- 10 Monument of second Maurice Lord Berkeley.
- 11 Monument of second Thomas Lord Berkeley.
- 12 Doorway to Cloister.

Ground Plan, Bristol Cathedral. Scale 100 ft. to 1 in.

The *Cathedral* is the first object to which the visitor will be inclined to direct his steps. This stands locally in Gloucestershire, but civilly in the county of the city of Bristol, on elevated ground rising from the rivers Frome and Avon.

The monastery, the church of which afterwards became the cathedral of Bristol, was founded, for Augustine canons, c. 1142, by Robert Fitzhardinge, who subsequently became Lord of Berkeley. Its site, on the right bank of the Avon, and on the highest ground close outside the walls of Bristol, was traditionally that of Augustine's oak, the great tree under which it was said the founder of the English Church met the Bri-

tish Christians in solemn conference. Fitzhardinge became a canon of his own monastery, and died here in 1170. His descendants, the powerful barons of Berkeley, who were liberal benefactors to all the religious houses in the neighbourhood of their castle, continued the especial patrons of this monastery, and many of them were interred in its church. *St. Augustine's* was raised to the dignity of a mitred abbey, under the rule of John Snow (1332-1341). It was surrendered, among the greater abbeys, in 1538; and in 1542, when Bristol was included among the five new sees created by Henry VIII., its church became the cathedral of the new diocese, and

the monastic buildings were assigned as residences to the bishop, the dean, and the chapter of canons. Bristol had hitherto been in the far-reaching diocese of Worcester. The liberty of the city, which embraced a considerable district, and the whole of Dorsetshire (up to this time in the diocese of Salisbury), were assigned to the new see. The diocese was united to that of Gloucester in 1836, the bishop being elected by the chapters alternately.

The first bishop of Bristol was Paul Bush, Master of the College of Bonhommes at Edingdon, deprived by Queen Mary, as a married man, 1554. Among the bishops of this see, which was one of the poorest in England, giving rise to frequent translations to richer sees, may be noticed *Fletcher* (tr. 1593), afterwards Bishop of Worcester and London, father of the dramatist, who, as Dean of Peterborough, troubled the last hours of Mary Q. of Scots, by his exhortations to change her faith; d. 1596. *Lake*, the Nonjuror (tr. 1685), one of "the Seven Bishops," as was his successor, *Trelawny* (tr. 1689), the subject of the Cornish rhyme:—

"And shall Trelawny die?
There's 20,000 Cornish men
Will know the reason why."

Butler (tr. 1750), the author of 'The Analogy of Religion,' one of the most deservedly honoured names in the English Church. *Newton* (d. 1782), the author of a well-known work on the Prophecies, and the learned *Kaye* (tr. to Lincoln, 1827).

The church, as finished by Fitzhardinge, consisted of a nave with N. and S. aisles, a central tower with N. and S. transepts, a presbytery with N. and S. aisles, and a procession path at the E. end. To this original church, of which the only remains are in the walls of the transepts, and the piers of the crossing, the chapter-house, and vestibule, some additions were made during

the E. E. period, including the Elder Lady-chapel and portions of the N. transept; and during the abbacy of *Edmund Knowle* (1306-1332), the Norm. choir was replaced by that which now exists. "After the completion of the choir, it is evident that it was contemplated—probably by the same architect—to rebuild the nave. It is perfectly clear, however, that the work was only commenced—never completed. The proofs of the first of these statements are to be seen in the foundations for the whole of the N. wall with buttresses (exactly corresponding with those of the choir) still remaining in their place, and of a portion of the S.W. angle of the S. aisle (in one of the canons' houses) where the work was carried up to the window jamb and triforium gallery, in a mode exactly imitated from the corresponding portion of the work in the choir; whilst the evidence of the fact that the work was never completed is furnished not only by the absence of wrought stones belonging to any portion of it, but also by the foundations and fragments of the Norman S. wall—never removed; as they must have been had the plan been completed—and also by the position of the 15th-cent. cloister, which shows that when it was built the wall of the Norm. nave was still standing, for if the line of Knowle's new nave had been carried on from the fragment commenced in the S.W. angle, its wall and buttresses would have made such a cloister impossible."—*Mr. Street's 'Report, 1867.'* The chapels on the S. side of the choir were probably added in the time of Knowle's successor, Abbot *Snow* (1332-1341); to whom must also perhaps be attributed the Dec. work of the transepts. The central tower, as it now appears, was the work of Abbot *Newland* (1481-1515); who also added the groined roof to the N. trans. The vaulting of the S. trans. was completed by Abbot *Elliot*

(1515–1526). For some centuries the nave has been wanting.

Notwithstanding its mutilation, Bristol Cathedral deserves the most careful study. The Norm. and Dec. portions are of unusual value and interest. The peculiar vaulting of the choir-aisles and the richly decorated monumental recesses in the work of Abbot Knowle may be regarded as the specialities of this cathedral, to which "justice has never been done either in an æsthetic or historical point of view."—*E. A. F.*

In the years 1861–1864 an extensive series of restorations was carried on within the cathedral, under the superintendence of Messrs. Pope and Bindon, local architects. The first stone of a new nave was laid in April 1868, and the work is being vigorously carried on by a lay committee in conjunction with the Dean and Chapter, from the designs of Mr. Street. The plan is in the main Abbot Knowle's, but includes 2 W. towers, and a lofty N. porch. The Dean and Chapter have also undertaken the restoration of the tower piers and the N. transept at their own charges.

The exterior of the cathedral is comparatively uninteresting; although its smoke-stained walls contrast well with the trees of St. Augustine's Green. The only general views to be obtained are from St. Augustine's (or the Upper College) Green. From the Lower Green there is a good view of the tower, with the whole of the transept.

The existing tower and transept occupy the exact site of the Norm. ones, and great part of the original walls was retained in the later structure. "The Norm. work of the N. transept is confined to the coursed masonry below the E. E. jambs of the great N. window, and possibly the core of the buttresses." In the S. transept, the Norm. work is more extensive, but is chiefly visible on the exterior. Inside the

transept a "Norm. cushion-shaped corbel may be seen, at the S.W. angle, supporting the later capital of the Perp. vaulting."—*E. W. G.*

Some part of the S. transept was rebuilt during the E. E. period, after the construction of the Elder Lady-chapel. The traces of E. E. work are now confined to the N. wall of the transept, "a great part of the buttresses and their base moulding, the cill and stringcourse on the exterior, as well as the internal jamb, moulding, and shafts of the great N. window, being decidedly E. E., but of a more delicate and advanced character than that of the Elder Lady-chapel." This work may be assigned to Abbot Long (1237–1264).

Both transepts were altered during the Dec. period, probably by Abbot Snow (1332–1341). The arch opening to the S. choir-aisle is of this time, but that to the N. aisle of the choir is of much later character, and formed part of Abbot Newland's work (1481–1515); who also constructed the groined roof of the N. transept, and the arches, now closed, which were intended to open to the nave-aisles. Upon the bosses of the rich lierne vaulting are carved, among other subjects, the instruments of the Passion, and a heart pierced with two swords. The vaulting of the S. transept, which springs at a higher level than any of the rest, is assigned to Abbot Elliot (1515–1526).

The lower part of the tower-piers, "although transformed to something like the character of Perp. work, are Norm. in plan. The object of this alteration was to widen the tower, so that its inner face might be brought more into line with Knowle's new and wider choir, and the contemplated nave."—*E. W. G.*

The tracery of the great N. window was inserted in 1704. The whole transept is disfigured by a collection of monuments, the greater part of

which are of the worst style and period; some, however, may be noticed. In the N. transept are—a monument for several members of the *Porter* family, including Jane and Anna Maria, the well-known novelists; a monument by *Bacon* for *Mrs. Draper* (the “*Eliza*” of *Sterne’s* letters), d. 1778. The figures on each side of the urn represent “Genius and Benevolence;” a medallion for the *Rev. John Eagles* (author of ‘*The Sketcher*,’ and translator of *Homer’s Hymns*), “Scholar, Painter, and Poet, b. at Bristol 1784, d. 1855;” and one for the father and mother of *Macready* the tragedian. In the S. transept are—a very pretty small tablet by *Tyley*, of Bristol, for 3 children of *R. Wahoyne, Esq.*; a monument by *Bacon* for *Catherine Vernon*, d. 1794, —“formed by nature to attract observation and invite respect;” a monument for *Cowper’s Lady Hesketh*, who d. at Clifton in 1807; a memorial for *William Phillips*, subsacrist, who prevented the mob of rioters from profaning the cathedral in 1831; a monument by *Chantrey* for *Mrs. Craufurd*, with some fine medallion heads on the upper part; a tablet for *Mary Anne Schimmelpenninck*; and against the E. wall, a monument for *Bishop Butler*, d. 1752, designed by *Fripp*, of Bristol. The inscription, by *Southey*, runs partly as follows:—“Others had established the historical and prophetic grounds of the Christian religion, and the sure testimony of its truth, which is found in its perfect adaptation to the heart of man. It was reserved for him to develope its analogy to the constitution and course of nature; and laying his strong foundations in the depth of that great argument, there to construct another and irrefragable proof; thus rendering philosophy subservient to faith, and finding in outward and visible things the type and evidence of those within the veil.”

Before the recent restorations, a choir-screen (dating shortly before 1547, the year of *Edward VI.’s* accession) passed across the church 2 bays E. of the tower; thereby converting a portion of the actual choir into a small nave or ante-chapel. This arrangement seems to have been made when the church first became a cathedral. A modern screen, with a double arcade of pointed arches, now extends between the E. piers of the tower; and the whole of the choir is thus rendered available for the congregation. The view on passing this screen is striking. The rich glass of the E. windows (among the best in England) combines with the graceful lines of the Dec. piers and arches to produce a pleasing impression, though the recent arrangements of the choir are in violation of all precedent, and cannot be considered good.

The existing choir consists of 5 bays, from the tower to the E. end of the aisles; beyond again is a chancel, or sacrarium, of 2 bays.

The work of the choir, with its aisles, was commenced and nearly completed during the long abbacy of *Edmund Knowle* (1306–1332), and belongs to the first or Geometrical division of the Dec. period. The Norman choir seems to have terminated square, at the 3rd bay from the E. tower-piers—the actual choir consisting of the tower and 2 bays of the presbytery, leaving the E. bay for a *via processionum*. *Abbot Knowle* added 2 bays to the choir and its aisles, besides the Lady-chapel, projecting beyond them.

The Norman walls of the original church were probably retained by *Abbot Knowle*; and in the staircase opening from the N. aisle are some Norman corbels.

From the clustered piers of the choir spring the groined vaulting of both the choir and aisles. The capitals, of graceful leafage, have been touched with gold and colour.

The lofty pointed arches between the piers are very pure and fine; the archivolts spring from the ground, and run round the arches continuously, without any capitals. The lierne vaulting of the roof has its compartments foliated, with the exception of those in the last bay of the choir, and of the 2 bays of the sacrarium. These are plain; and it has been conclusively proved by Mr. Godwin, from a comparison of the measurements in the Itinerary of William of Wyrcestre, that the high altar originally stood at the last of the richer bays, and that a screen ran across behind it, separating the 3 plainer ones. This was a more usual position for the high altar than the extreme E. end of the building. Such an arrangement also admitted of the usual processional passage at the back of the altar; and the easternmost bay formed the Lady-chapel.

Between the piers in the lower bays of the choir lofty candelabra of brass have been placed, on pedestals of white stone, carved in panels, with leafage. The *stalls*, which were originally Dec., of the same date as the choir, have been restored, added to, and placed in the 2 easternmost bays, contrary to all ritual traditions, below the sacrarium, and the dean has a throne opposite the bishop. The modern carving of the episcopal throne, and that of the sides of the principal seats, is especially good. Some of the ancient misereres deserve notice. On one is a fox preaching to geese; and on another a tilting with brooms between a man and a woman—one mounted on a pig, the other on what seems intended for a turkey-cock, although the turkey is usually said to have been introduced at a much later date (Henry VIII.) than that of the miserere.

The organ is on the N. side of the choir, immediately below the stalls.

The *chancel*, or *sacrarium*, is of the same date and general character as the choir. It is of 2 bays, the

easternmost of which is raised by a single step. The window in each bay corresponds to that opposite; the two W. windows being of unusual and beautiful design. All the windows have transoms, and the heads of the lower compartments are filled with rich and peculiar tracery. An open parapet (new, and part of the recent work), with triangular headings, runs at the foot of the windows. Under the parapet is a stringcourse with the ball-flower, on which the ancient colouring, blue, red, and gold, has been restored. The vault itself resembles that of the choir, without the cusps.

The *E. window*, which fills the whole of the end above the reredos, is pure Dec., and of singular beauty in tracery and design. The manner in which the stained glass which fills the minute divisions of the tracery is adapted to its position, and adds to, instead of interfering with, the beautiful effect of the tracery itself, is an example worthy of all imitation. The glass, according to Mr. Winston, dates from about the year 1320. In 1847 the window was completely restored, and "has lost nothing of its interest by the process." A good deal of modern glass, however, was necessarily used. The general effect is admirable. There is much white silvery glass, from which the brilliant colours shine out like jewels.

"The window represents a stem of Jesse. The lower lights contain figures of the Virgin and Infant Jesus, as well as prophets and kings. Each figure is enclosed in an oval panel, formed by the ramifications of a vine-branch. Some of the foliated scrolls in the heads of the lower lights (which are principally original) are remarkably graceful in design. In the three upright lights above are the crucified Saviour, the Blessed Virgin, and St. John the Evangelist. Original parts of all these figures remain.

"In the upper tracery lights is a

display of heraldry, of singular excellence, by the aid of which we may perhaps venture to refer the date of the glass to the latter part of the reign of Edward II."

The four side windows of the chancel are filled with very rich and interesting ancient glass, of the same date and character as that in the E. window, re-arranged during the late restorations. The first window from the E., on the N. side, contains merchants' marks, and was therefore in all probability the gift of a Bristol trader.

The *reredos* below the E. window, which has been elaborately gilt and coloured, has been restored since 1839, when a Corinthian structure of wood was removed. Of the 3 arched recesses the 2 at the sides are ancient. Above these recesses are corbel-heads and shields of arms, probably those of the first and second Edward, Berkeley, and De Clare.

A row of panels, with shields of benefactors (of Perp. date, and probably placed there by Abbot *Burton* (1530-1536), whose crest and initials occur among them), ran along above the *reredos* until the late (1861) restorations; when they were removed, against the advice of the architect. They are now placed in the passage under the E. window. The *reredos* here was originally that of Abbot *Knowle's* Lady-chapel; but during the alterations in the tower and transept, the high altar was removed, probably by Abbot *Elliot*, to the extreme E. end of the church, and Abbot *Burton* endeavoured to render the *reredos* more worthy of its increased importance.

In the first bay on the S. side are the *sedilia* (2), modern (but copied from the ancient), and of very great beauty. They are in 4 divisions, with rich canopies of leafage, supported by shafts of red serpentine. In the next bay on this side (3) is the mitred effigy, with pastoral staff, of Abbot *Newland*, or *Nailheart*

[*Wills, Dorset, &c.*]

(d. 1515), the constructor of a portion of the transept, called the "good Abbot" from his charitable deeds. Two angels sustain a shield at his feet, with his bearings, a bleeding heart pierced by three nails, and the initials I. N. The effigy is placed in one of the remarkable recesses which are almost peculiar to this cathedral, and which formed part of the Dec. work commenced by Abbot *Knowle*. There are eight recesses in the walls of the chancel and aisles. The form of the arch, and the rich foliated decoration, with the five projecting finials, which surround it, are altogether unusual. The arch occurs also at *Redcliffe Ch.*, and in *Berkeley Castle*, where a doorway in one of the inner courts has a somewhat similar heading. (The monastery at Bristol was, it should be remembered, the burial-place of the *Berkeleys*, and under their especial patronage.) (A tomb, with a similar canopy, exists in the S. aisle of the nave in the cathedral of *St. David's*, and is assigned to Bishop *Gower* (1328-1347); whose work, in another part of his cathedral, has also its counterpart at Bristol. With these exceptions, this remarkable design is confined to Bristol Cathedral.)

A brass plate let into the wall below Abbot *Newland's* tomb records the place of interment of Bishop *Buller*:—"Qualis, quantusque vir erat, sua libentissime agnovit ætas. Et si quid Præsuli aut Scriptori ad famam valent Mens altissima, Ingenii perspicacis et subactis vis, Animusque pius, simplex, candidus, liberalis, Mortui haud facile evanescent memoria."

On the N. side of the chancel are two of Abbot *Knowle's* decorated recesses. Within that nearest the altar (4) is the effigy of this abbot himself, the rebuilder of the greater part of his church. It was Abbot *Knowle* who refused to receive the murdered body of Edward II.—which was afterwards interred in the

abbey church of Gloucester (see that cathedral), to the infinite advantage of the Benedictines there. In one of the lower recesses (5) is the effigy of Abbot *Newberry*, a great benefactor to the church, who died in 1463.

In passing into the *N. choir-aisle* (D), the eye is at once attracted by the vaulting of the roof, which is altogether unusual. The choir and its aisles are of the same height; and "to carry out this arrangement the following ingenious construction has been adopted. A transom, as we must call it, has been thrown across the aisles from the outer walls to the capitals of the choir-pillars. These are supported on arches springing from attached shafts on each side of the aisle, and in the spandrils formed by these are lesser arches, so that the transom is supported by the points of three arches. From the centre of the transom springs a vaulting-shaft which carries the groining of the roof. A horizontal buttress is thus obtained, which receives the thrust of the groining of the choir, and carries it across the aisle to the external buttress. We cannot but perceive that the principles of carpentry are here employed, and it is an arrangement we should find in wooden construction, though we are surprised to see it carried out in stone." The windows, which have transoms, are especially to be noticed for the beauty of their Dec. tracery. A stringcourse, with the ball-flower, runs immediately under them in each aisle.

The E. windows of the choir-aisles are filled with glass coloured with enamels. They date from the reign of Charles II.; and although it is traditionally said that they were presented by Nell Gwynne, it is more probable that they were the offerings of *Henry Glemham*, Dean of Bristol from 1661 to 1667, and afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph, whose arms (Or, a chevron gules between 3 torteaux) are repeated 3 times in the win-

dow of the S. aisle, and once in that of the N. The subjects (arranged as type and antitype) in the *N. aisle* are—in the centre, the Resurrection; below, Jonah delivered from the whale. On the rt., above, the Ascension; below, Elijah taken up to heaven. On the l., above, the Agony in the garden; below, Abraham about to offer up his son. Much of the original enamelled glass has been lately replaced by "pot glass."

Under this window is an elaborate Jacobean monument for *Robert Codrington*, of Codrington (d. 1618); restored by Sir Bethel Codrington in 1840, when it was happily removed from the chancel. The figures kneel under a kind of tent, the curtains of which are held back by dumpy cherubs. In front is a marble figure, by *Bailey*, of *Harriet Isabella*, wife of *John Middleton*, of Clifton, d. 1826. The figure, which kneels, with the hands clasped on the breast, is graceful, and far more appropriate than most others of its class. At the side, and under the first bay of the choir (6), is the tomb of *Paul Bush*, d. 1558, the first bishop of Bristol. A cadaver rests under a canopy supported on shafts. Under the window, in this first bay, is *Bailey's* very fine bust of *Robert Southey*, "born at Bristol, October, 1774;" behind it is one of Abbot Knowle's recesses.

The 2nd bay contains a similar recess. In the 3rd is a monument for *William Powell*, the tragedian, d. 1769. The window above is half blocked by the wall of the Lady-chapel. The lower part is disfigured by hideous monuments.

The 4th and 5th bays open into the Lady-chapel, of earlier date than the existing choir, which was connected with it, as at present, by Abbot Knowle. In the 4th bay, between the choir and the Lady-chapel, is a high altar-tomb with effigies (7), under a groined canopy. The effigies are no doubt those of *Maurice*, *Lord Berkeley* (d. 1368),

and Elizabeth his wife. Over the armour of the male figure is a surcoat with the Berkeley arms. The helmeted head rests on an abbatial mitre (the crest of the Berkeleys—assumed in reference to their extensive Church patronage). The lady wears the veiled head-dress.

The groined canopy above this monument, and a similar one in the next bay, should be noticed. The panelling of the vault is carried on 3 small brackets, springing from the wall.

In the 3rd bay of this aisle a door opens to a staircase leading through the triforium passage between the Lady-chapel and the choir, to the tower. The corbels in this staircase are Norman, and show it to have been part of Fitzhardinge's church.

The *Lady-chapel* (generally called the *Elder Lady-chapel* (F), because the altar of the Virgin was removed to the E. end of the church after Abbot Knowle had rebuilt the choir) is entered from the N.E. corner of the transept, and from the College Green through a Perp. doorway in the westernmost bay, made by Abbot *Somerset*, 1526-1530. On the spandrels are the arms of Berkeley, and those of the monastery (Sable, 3 ducal crowns in pale or—this coat is still used for the see), impaled with those of Somerset. The chapel is E. E., and dates, according to Mr. Godwin, from the time of Abbot *John*, 1196-1215. "The mouldings are of the very boldest and earliest form of section, consisting of alternate rounds and hollows, with few intermediate fillets . . . In fact, the whole character of the N. wall, a great part of the casing on the S. side . . . and the arch opening to the N. transept, indicate a very early period of Gothic architecture." The chapel is of 4 bays, the windows in which are triplets with inner arches, of which those at the sides are gracefully foliated. The detached vaulting-shafts are of Purbeck marble.

The sculpture of the capitals and stringcourses is unusually good; and the spandrels of the wall-arcade are filled with grotesque designs which are full of spirit and character, greatly resembling the sculpture in Wells Cathedral, much of which is of the same date. Remark especially—a goat blowing a horn, and carrying a hare slung over his back; a ram and an ape playing on musical instruments; and St. Michael with the dragon (?); below is a fox carrying off a goose. The foliage introduced in these is of pure E. E. character.

The arches of the triforium, on the S. side of the chapel, resemble those of the windows opposite, but "on looking carefully at the S. side, we see that the whole of the first E. E. work has been reconstructed. In order to bring in two arches of communication to the choir-aisle, there has been a wholesale shifting of the last bay of the lower arcade eastward; the upper arcade, corresponding to the windows on the opposite side, has been cut short, and a stringcourse of the same character as the vaulting-ribs has been built in."—*E. W. G.* This was either the work of Abbot Knowle, or of *Hugh de Dodington*, 1287-1294; in which latter case it would appear that the design of rebuilding the choir had been formed some time before Knowle actually commenced it. The E. wall and window of the Elder Lady-chapel, and the groined roof, are of E. Dec. (Geometrical) character, and are fairly assigned to Abbot Hugh.

In this chapel is a tablet with *Mason's* lines in memory of his wife, d. 1767, which deserve to be read.

The *S. choir-aisle* (E) (part of Abbot Knowle's work) precisely resembles the N. aisle in its vaulting and general character, with the exception of the W. bay, which Mr. Godwin assigns to Knowle's successor, Abbot *Snow*, 1332-1341. "The vaulting-shaft is not detached,

as are the others, nor is the string continued; the vaulting is different from the rest, being nothing more than a plain pointed barrel-vault running across the aisle, upon which the ribs are placed, being merely imitative, to match the other bays, where they really serve a practical object, and strengthen the longitudinal intersections which give such lightness to these aisles. The mouldings, too, of these ribs are more clumsy than in the other compartments, and the whole bay looks bungled." Three of the windows in this aisle have been filled with stained glass by *Bell* of Bristol, which can hardly be commended. The enamelled glass in the E. window is of the same date as that in the corresponding window in the N. aisle. The subjects are—in the centre, above, Our Lord driving the Money-changers from the Temple; below, Jacob's Dream; on the right above, the Tribute Money; below, Melchisedeck and Abraham; the subject on the left above is uncertain; below, the Sacrifice of Gideon. Under this window is a bad modern monument.

In the 3rd and 4th bays from the E., within 2 of Abbot Knowle's recesses, are effigies of 2 of the Berkeleys. The most W. (9) of these is that of *Thomas, Lord Berkeley* (d. 1243). He wears the long surcoat, over a hawberk of mail, under which appears the haketon, which is not often seen. His poleyns, or kneecaps, should also be noticed. On his left arm is a shield with the Berkeley bearings. He is cross-legged, possibly from his having been a Knight Templar, which order he was compelled to enter by the King, Henry III. The effigy in the next recess (10) is that of the 2nd *Maurice, Lord Berkeley* (d. 1281). Some ancient colouring was discovered on these effigies. On the label and on the inner moulding of one of these recesses the mistletoe is represented, perhaps a solitary instance of the use

of this plant, always regarded as mystical, in ecclesiastical decoration.

In this arch, in the 2nd bay from the E., a door opens to a small ante-chamber (g), through which a chapel called the Berkeley Chapel (h), and now serving as a vestry, is approached. The *ante-chamber* is curious and unusual. On the S. side are 3 ogee arches, with niches between them. The finials of these arches, and the ornaments in the spandrels, are unusually large and elaborate. Other niches or recesses, the use of which is uncertain, occur over the door, and in the N.E. corner. The roof, "with its detached curved ribs, reminds us again of the principles of carpentry applied to stone," and may be compared with the "skeleton" vaulting under the roodloft in St. David's Cathedral, the work of Bishop *Gower*, 1328–1347. Round the label of the doorway entering the chapel is a remarkable moulding, in which the ammonite is represented. This fossil, which is sometimes represented in the churches of the chalk districts (as in St. Mary's Church, Guildford), occurs in profusion in the oolite quarries at Keynsham on the Severn, between Bath and Bristol (see *ante*).

The *chapel* itself is, to all appearance, of later date than Abbot Knowle's work, and Mr. Godwin suggests that it may have been erected by Thomas de Berkeley after the death of his wife Margaret in 1337. There are 2 windows toward the E., the soffits of which are ornamented with a gigantic ball-flower; and the peculiar foliage on some of the capitals should be remarked. Under each of the windows was an altar, the steps and piscinæ of which remain. The altars were separated by a screen, the marks of which were visible in the old pavement. The fire-place, with chimney, used for baking the hosts should not be overlooked. Between the chapel and the aisle the wall is pierced by the

peculiar arch of Abbot Knowle; and under it, in the thickness of the wall, is an altar-tomb (11), much ornamented, and containing 5 shields, charged with coats of the Berkeley, Ferrers, and De Quincey families. The tomb in its present state is no doubt that of *Thomas, Lord Berkeley*, d. 1321, whose wives were of those families; but the lower part, with its very fine foliage, is of E. E. date, and may possibly have been removed from another part of the church. The Berkeley arms occur also in the spandrels of the door of the ante-chamber.

Opening from the westernmost bay of this aisle is a chapel (κ) known as the *Newton Chapel* (from members of that family who are buried there), which is also assigned by Mr. Godwin to the time of Abbot *Snow*, 1332-1341. The S. wall divides it from the chapter-house, with which it is parallel. It has, however, been much altered, and the arches, half cut off, in the S. and W. walls show that it was interfered with when the transept was completed. In this chapel are monuments for *Sir Richard Cradock*, Justice of the Common Pleas, d. 1444, and 17th-cent. monuments for members of the *Newton* family; ugly structures, but good examples of their time. Here is also a monument by *Westmacott* for *Elizabeth Stanhope*, d. 1816; and one by *Bailey* for Bishop *Gray*, d. 1834; a medallion supported by angels.

A door in the W. wall of the S. transept (12) leads to the small remains of the cloisters, very late Perp. (L), from which the vestibule of the chapter-house (M) is entered. Both vestibule and chapter-house are Transition Norman, and belong to the original building of Fitzhardinge; but to its second, or richer, period. In the *vestibule* the arches from N. to S. are round, whilst those from E. to W. are pointed. The nail-head moulding runs round

the arches, and the capitals are cushioned.

The *Chapter-house* itself (N), greatly enriched with zigzag and cable mouldings, is at present of 2 bays, but was originally of 3. It is a parallelogram (like the early chapter-houses of Oxford, Gloucester, Exeter, and Chester), the dimensions of which are now 42 ft. by 25 ft., but originally were 71 ft. by 25 ft. In the E. wall (which is recent) are 3 windows. In the W. wall, below, are 3 circular arches, that in the centre being the doorway. The arch on either side includes 2 lesser ones, which serve as windows. Above are 2 tiers of intersecting arches, the upper of which is made to fit the wall-space very ingeniously. The walls are arcaded, and the whole interior, including the shafts of the wall-arcades, and the groining, which is quadripartite, are much enriched. On the restoration of the flooring in 1831, 12 stone coffins were discovered, which probably contained the remains of as many abbots.

Forming the covering-slab of one of these coffins was a remarkable piece of ancient sculpture (of Norm. character, and perhaps coeval with the chapter-house; the sculptures preserved in Chichester Cathedral should be compared), which is now in the canons' vestry, a small room within the chapter-house. It represents the "Harrowing of Hell," as it was called in mediæval times, or the descent of our Lord into Hades, and the delivery thence of the "spirits in prison." The cross in the hand of the Saviour is especially mentioned in the pseudo-Gospel of Nicodemus, which was probably the authority here followed. The prostrate body on which our Lord treads is perhaps that of Satan, who, according to the same Gospel, attempted to prevent His entrance.

In the chapter-house are the scanty remnants of the chapter library, the greater part of which was burnt in

the riots of 1831, when the bp.'s palace was destroyed, and the whole cathedral narrowly escaped conflagration.

Although the abbey of St. Augustine was small ("the number on the foundation was only 6, including officers, and at no time does it appear to have been more than 17"—*Godwin*), its arrangements were in every respect "as complete as those of the most noble monasteries." The great gateway, portions of the cloisters, and the gatehouse of the abbot's lodgings, are the chief existing remains.

The lower part of the great gateway belongs to the second, or richer, period of Fitzhardinge's work, and is of Transitional character, like the chapter-house. The four receding orders of the archway are greatly enriched with zigzag and other mouldings, and an interlacing arcade lines the sides of the passage. "It may be regarded as a typical specimen of the style, sober and constructive, yet rich; without a vestige of animal life, but with such forms as an ivory or wood carver might easily invent, or would certainly adopt."—*Ferguson*. The upper part of the gateway is Perp., the work of Abbot Elliot; Mr. Godwin suggests, with some probability, that the Norman work of the gateway was rebuilt by Abbot Elliot before the upper portion was added. The statues of Abbots Newland and Elliot occur in the upper part of the front.

Two walks of the great, or upper, cloister remain. They are of Perp. character, with debased windows, and are undergoing restoration. The N. walk was erected on the foundations of the old Norm. cloister, and in accordance with the Norm. S. aisle, the foundations of which were discovered in excavating for the new nave. Some fragments of a lower cloister of similar character may be traced in the lower yard S. of the refectory.

At the S.W. corner of the upper

cloister is a beautiful, but much decayed, E. E. doorway, which was apparently the entrance to the refectory. What remains of the refectory, much modernised, is used as the collegiate school.

The gateway to the abbot's lodgings, in Lower College Green, is plain Norm., of Fitzhardinge's earlier period, and far less elaborate than the great gateway. It formed the approach to the bishop's palace, another approach being from the S.E. corner of the cloister. The palace stood on the site of the abbot's lodgings. The traveller will see with interest the Dec. remains of the bishop's private chapel, famous for the cross erected in it by Bp. Butler, who spent 5000*l.*, ten times the income of the see, on the repairs of the palace in 1744. A dungeon, in which were some bones and iron instruments, was discovered in 1744 by the falling in of the floor under one of the apartments in the palace. The only means of entrance was by an arched passage, just large enough to admit one person.

In the Lower College Green (called in early documents the "viridis placea") stood a chapel in which St. Jordan, traditionally one of the companions of St. Augustine of Canterbury, was interred. This chapel probably existed before the foundation of the monastery. All trace of it has now disappeared.

The *Deanery*, adjoining the abbey gateway on the W., and formerly known as the 'Dove House,' was enlarged by a N. wing by the famous Warburton, 1758. This wing has been recently removed, to make room for a new street.

College Green, to the N. of the cathedral, was the burial-ground of the abbey. It was in the last century the favourite promenade ground for the beaux and belles of Bristol. In the centre stood the *High Cross*, brought thither from its original site and removed in 1768 because it

interfered with the convenience of the promenaders. Its stones were piled up within the cathedral till Dean Barton, whose brother was incumbent of Stourton, presented them to Mr. Hoare of Stourhead, by whom it was re-erected in his park. A modern copy of the building, without its surmounting cross, in deference to the Protestant feelings of the citizens of Bristol, was erected at the S.E. of the green in 1850.

On the E. side of College Green stands *St. Mark's* or the *Mayor's Chapel*, which the visitor may take the opportunity of inspecting before he leaves this part of the city. It is one of the most curious and interesting architectural remains in Bristol, and contains some remarkable monuments. It was the chapel of the Hospital or Priory of *Gaunts*, founded by Sir Maurice de Gaunt, c. 1229, in the suburb of Billeswyck (*Bellus Vicus*), for the support of a chaplain and the relief of 100 poor daily. It was placed by the founder under the management of St. Augustine's; his nephew and heir, Rob. de Gournay, made it a distinct house. It was granted at the Dissolution to the mayor and burgesses, and was converted into a chapel for the mayor and corporation 1722; before this, it was used by the French Protestants. The infamous Bedloe, Oates' coadjutor, was buried by charity near the door from College Green, 1680. *Orchard Street* stands on the site of the orchard of the hospital.

The plan consists of a long narrow nave and choir, chiefly E. E.; the windows and arches having mouldings of singular intricacy and richness; a Perp. tower attached to the centre of the S. aisle, which has chapels appended.

The whole has suffered from costly and well intentioned, but not well designed, fittings and decorations, especially the heavy organ loft and canopied seats for the

mayor and aldermen, by which the interior is crushed. The *S. aisle* is Dec., and its W. window a singularly rich example of the style, profusely covered with ball-flower. The windows contain a great deal of old glass, of different dates and various countries, chiefly German, the greater part of which came from Fonthill. Much of it will repay attentive examination. In the E. window are cinque-cento figures of St. Barbara and St. Catherine. The *reredos* is a rich piece of Perp. tabernacle work, restored in 1830, after the ancient model. The *chancel* contains to the S. some fine sedilia, and a stately monument to Thomas James, mayor and member of Parliament of the city; and one with two kneeling figures to Thos. (d. 1598) and John Aldworth (d. 1615), famous in the history of the commercial connection of Bristol and Newfoundland; and to the N., in arched sepulchral recesses, the effigies of Sir Thos. Berkeley (d. 1361), in plate armour, and Katharine his wife; and of Miles Salley, Abbot of Eynsham and Bp. of Llandaff (d. 1516), a very fine figure, in the full episcopal costume, with mitre and pastoral staff, and official ring worn over the jewelled gloves.

To the S. of the chancel is the *Poyntz Chapel*, now used as a vestry, "in composition and detail one of the most elegant models of the Perp. style remaining. It has a fan-tracery roof, niches, and other embellishments, rich, but not overloaded with ornament."—*Rickman*. Observe the altar part, the pavement of Moorish azuleias, brought from Spain, worked in transparent enamel, and the interpenetrating mouldings of the side recesses.

The *S. aisle* is very good Dec. The blocking of the side windows by houses built up against it renders it dark, but the effect is fine. The E. window is occupied by a wonderful Thomas à Becket from Beckford's

collection. Notice the beautiful effigy to Sir Henry de Gaunt (d. 1268), under an ogee canopy; on the W. wall the monument of Ald. Bengough, by *Chantrey*, and a singular portrait effigy of Hen. Cookin, a boy of 11 (d. 1627), represented on one knee, with a book in his hand.

To the E. of the S. aisle is the *Lady Chapel*, of late Perp., with a flat panelled ceiling. On an altar-tomb in the centre are the noble effigies of Sir Maurice de Gaunt (d. 1229), the founder of the priory, drawing his sword, and his nephew Robert Gournay. Both effigies are in chain armour, with surcoats girdled round the waist, and their heads "en coiffé de maille." The whole E. wall is taken up with a wondrous structure in honour of Dame Baynton (d. 1667); the lady is kneeling, and smiling over her shoulder at one of her sons, who, with his brother, is drawing the curtain of the alcove. The chapel contains busts and monuments to many civic worthies, which need not be particularised. The visitor must not omit to observe the very remarkable *squint* in the N.E. corner.

The visitor should now cross the Floating Harbour, either by boat or by the swing bridge, and make his way by Queen Square to the Back Ferry, cross the Avon to Redcliff St., and visit the church of

St. Mary Redcliff, "the pride of Bristowe, and the western londe," not unjustly designated by Leland "by far the fairest of all churches," and by Camden as "the most elegant of all the parish churches I have ever seen." In stateliness, harmony of proportion, and general effect, it much exceeds the cathedral, but it wants the interest derived from the architectural history of the latter. (The authorities of Redcliff Church set an excellent example to other churches, by allowing its doors to be always open to all comers. The

visitor will leave his offering with much more satisfaction in the collecting box for the restoration fund than in the hands of a verger.)

The best approach is by the long narrow defile of Redcliffe St. The ch., high above the street, stands on a natural terrace of living rock, the colour of which gives its name to the locality, and is approached by broad flights of stone steps, which add dignity to the noble building. The view from this point is singularly attractive; the richly decorated tower, W. front, the unique N. porch, and transept, with an unusual array of flying buttresses, pinnacles, and pierced parapets, form a *tout-ensemble* of extreme architectural magnificence. The view from the S.E. is also very fine. The ch. being built on shelving ground, from S. to N., its height on the W., N., and E. sides is imposing. The Lady Chapel at the E. end is carried on a wide arch, beneath which is a thoroughfare.

The plan of the ch. is cruciform, with an attached tower at the W. end of the N. aisle, N. and S. porches, a projecting Lady Chapel, and sacristies to the N. The transepts have double aisles, a very unusual feature in parish churches, and by no means common even in cathedrals. The whole church is covered by P. vaults of very remarkable richness and elaboration of detail, with skilfully carved bosses.

The present ch. stands on the site of one of high antiquity. The dates of the existing edifice are as follows:—

c. 1207, or a little earlier. The lower part of the tower, the inner N. porch, and one vaulting shaft in the nave against the tower wall.

c. 1287–1292. The middle of the tower, and outer N. porch. This was the work of Sir Simon de Burton, 5 times mayor of Bristol.

1376. The work was carried on by Wm. Canynges, the elder, who "completed the body of the ch.

from the cross aisle" (transept) "westward." Of his work the remains are the upper part of the tower and the base of the spire.

1445, and subsequently. The greater part of the ch. was rebuilt by Wm. Canynges, the younger, grandson of the elder Canynges, who, "with the help of others of the worshipful town of Bristol, kept masons and workmen to repair and edifye, cover, and glaze the ch. which his grandfather had founded in the days of Edw. III." The ch. being greatly injured by lightning, c. 1474, when probably the spire was mutilated, Canynges gave 500 marks for its re-edification.

The visitor is advised to walk round the ch. and take a general survey of the exterior before he proceeds within. The *tower* is a very striking feature, from its mass and the richness of its decorations. It is of 3 stories, the first and second divided by a band of elegant niches. The third contains triple belfry windows, of beautiful proportions, under rich ogee canopies. The buttresses, of fine projection and richly decorated, are crowned with elaborate pinnacles; the whole is covered with a profusion of the ball-flower. The tower is crowned with a truncated spire.

The *N. Porch*, immediately to the E. of the tower, is, perhaps, the most noteworthy feature in the ch. In plan and execution it is unique in England; but the very singular and elaborately carved door has a counterpart in the monastery of Batalha, in Portugal. In plan, it is a hexagon, with bold hexagonal buttresses at the external angles, excavated into magnificent niches, which are continued along the 3 sides, covering the lower part of the beautiful Dec. windows. It is crowned by a dwarf upper story, with quadrangular openings, lighting a chamber above (see *post*), and a pierced parapet.

The S. porch (the usual entrance) is a fine specimen of rich Perp. The front is decorated with crocketed and pedimented niches; but the proportions are not good, and the door looks dwarfed by the heavy wall above.

The practised eye will discover many points of difference in the architecture of the exterior, but the general appearance is uniform. The lofty clerestory is supported by flying buttresses, springing from massy pinnacles. Each bay contains a large and well-proportioned Perp. window, with elaborate tracery, and is richly panelled. The transepts have the same elevation as the nave and choir, and are narrow for their height, and need accentuation at the angles. The windows of the S. transept are of singular beauty.

On entering by the S. porch, the visitor cannot fail to be struck by the richness of the decorations and harmony of the proportions. The general impression is one of singular lightness and loftiness. The nave is of 7 bays; the choir of 5; and the transepts of 4; the arches lofty and well-proportioned. The rich vault is carried on shafts springing without any break from the floor, which adds much to the general effect of height. There is no triforium either in nave or chancel, the space between the clerestory and the arcade being filled with panelling. The want of a horizontal stringcourse is much felt. In the transept a horizontal band of niches produces a better effect. The windows of the *S. Transept* deserve especial attention. The end windows are of unusual height and narrowness, and are of flamboyant type. Those of the clerestory are set in a band of open quatrefoils, an almost unique design.

The *Choir*, of 5 bays, is of the same general design as the nave. It is divided from the aisles by a low screen of open stonework. The E. arch on each side is occupied by a

lofty close screen. The *Lady Chapel*, of 2 bays, which was formerly desecrated for the purposes of a school, is now restored and thrown open to the ch., from which it is separated by a stone screen. The windows are filled with gorgeous picture glass of a memorial character.

The *N. porch* is one of the most interesting portions of the church. It is divided from the church by a highly decorated screen of 2 stories. The interior porch is good plain E. E., with an arcade, supported on Purbeck marble shafts, the capitals of which, and of the doors, deserve notice. It is covered by a quadripartite vault, and has a room over it. It communicates by a very fine shafted E. E. doorway with the external porch. This is covered with a very richly ramified vault, and is surrounded with canopies above a stone seat. The carved cornice, and indeed all the sculptures, will repay close examination. A newel staircase from the outer porch gives access to the treasury, in which the precocious and misguided genius, *Thomas Chatterton* (son of a sub-chanter in the cathedral, and nephew to the sexton of this church), pretended that he had discovered in an old chest,—fragments of which are still preserved here—known as “*Canynge’s Cofre*,” the MS. poems of Rowley, a priest of Bristol of the 15th century, and other ancient documents. (Chatterton was born on Redcliff Hill, Nov. 20, 1752, and was educated at Colston’s School, in the dress of which he is represented on a monumental cross erected to his memory in the churchyard. His ambitious hopes of speedily attaining a high place among the poets of his day having been disappointed, he committed suicide by poison, when in a state of almost literal starvation, Aug. 24, 1770, at the age of only 17 years and 9 months.

The *Monuments* to be noticed are those to Canynge and his wife Joan,

formerly occupying a high canopied tomb, partially obscuring the great window of the S. transept, but now replaced in the original arched monumental recesses discovered behind modern wainscoting in the S. aisle; and one representing Canynge, as a priest, in the S. transept, said to have been brought hither from the college at Westbury of which he was dean, when that was burnt by Prince Rupert to prevent its being occupied by the Parliamentary forces; and those to the brothers Sir Thos. and William Mede, c. 1475, with the wife of the former, a rich altar-tomb, under elaborate canopies, forming one design, at the E. end of the N. aisle. Everard Le French, 1350, in his robes as a magistrate, in the transept. John Lamynton, Vicar, c. 1393, a figure in demi-relief, on a stone coffin, at W. end of S. aisle. Under the N. window of N. transept, a knight in mail on an altar-tomb, perhaps Sir R. de Berkeley; and Admiral Sir William Penn (d. 1670), father of the founder of Pennsylvania, and a native of Bristol. His body was brought from London, where he died, and lay in state in the city, and was buried with great pomp. In the chancel are some good brasses. The poets Southey and Coleridge were married in this ch. to the 2 Misses Fricker; the former leaving his wife at the ch. door, and starting immediately for Portugal. Beneath Redcliffe Hill a considerable number of subterranean chambers and passages leading to the river have been discovered. They were probably connected with contraband traffic.

Before the Reformation Bristol could boast of no less than 19 parish churches. Of these 15 still exist, and the majority deserve a visit.

St. Stephen’s, to the rt. in going down Clare St., is remarkable for its fine Perp. tower, one of the most elaborate in the W. of England, 133 ft.

high, crowned with very light-pierced parapet and cage-like turrets, conspicuous in every view of Bristol; restored and the turrets rebuilt 1862. The ch. is of rather late, but good, Perp., built by John Shipward, a merchant, and Mayor of Bristol, 1470. The *S. Porch* is very rich, with fan-tracery, but the style of ornamentation is flat and inexpressive. The interior is plain, but stately. The arcades are of 7 bays, without any constructional chancel, remarkably fine and tall. The windows are broad and ill-proportioned. The mahogany fittings are rich, but in a bad style. In the N. aisle is an altar-tomb with male and female effigies under a beautiful ogee canopy, probably the monument of the founder and his wife. At the E. end of the S. aisle is a cinque-cento monument to *Sir Geo. Snygge* (d. 1617), Recorder of the City, with an effigy in full costume. Beneath the tower is an effigy of a civilian on an altar-tomb.

All Saints, on the S. side of Corn St., is almost embedded in houses and public offices: the Norwich Union Fire Office actually projecting into the ch. above the N. aisle, the old Rectory being equally intrusive on the other side, cutting off the arches of the 2 W. bays, which retain their low Norm. pillars; the rest of the ch. is Dec., with late Perp. windows. At the E. end of the S. aisle is a monument to *Edward Colston* (d. 1721), the princely benefactor to Bristol by his educational and other charities, with a statue by Rysbrück, in a full-bot-tomed wig, under an Ionic pediment, with a long list of his numerous benefactions. The tower was rebuilt in 1716. This ch. was the seat of a guild of *Calendars*, transferred hither from Christ Church by Robt. Fitzhardinge and Rob. E. of Gloucester, c. 1146. They had a library over the N. aisle, burnt 1466, when many of the records and archives of the city perished. These *Calendars* were a body of clerks and laymen of

very remote antiquity, who formed a kind of "Propaganda fide," pledged to do their utmost to convert Jews and infidels and educate youth, in addition to which they undertook the guardianship of the archives of the city and other literary treasures. They were under the government of a Prior or Dean, and weekly lectures were read by them in the 15th centy. [Compare with this foundation that of the Rolls in Chancery Lane, established with the same objects.]

St. Werburgh's stands nearly opposite, at the corner of Small St. This is a late Perp. ch., nearly rebuilt 1761, with the exception of the rich pin-nacled tower, built 1385; but the original character was so closely copied that many would take it for an ancient work. It contains brasses to *Nich. Thorne* (d. 1546) and *Wm. Gyltyns* (d. 1586), and a recumbent figure in his magisterial robes of *John Barker*, Mayor. In this ch. John Wesley preached his first sermon in Bristol, 1777.

Christ Church, formerly known as Holy Trinity, and the first seat of the *Calendars*, at the corner of Wine St. and Broad St., is an Italian building, 1787, with a lofty and well-proportioned spire in the style of Wren's steeples, and a pleasing interior. The ch. is almost completely hidden by houses.

St. Nicholas, at the bridge, was erected 1762-8 at the cost of 6000*l.* on the site of an ancient ch., of which the finely groined *crypt*, c. 1503, is still preserved, and is well worth examining. The chancel of the former ch. was over the S. gate of the city, and was ascended by 12 steps. The present *Ch.* has a Batty Langley Gothic exterior, with a very well-proportioned taper spire. The interior is characteristically described in a former Guidebook as "one of the finest modern rooms that can be seen, 100 ft. by 50, and without a pillar!" The churchwardens' ac-

counts are preserved, and are very curious.

St. Mary-le-Port, in the street of the same name, derived its title from being adjacent to the spot where, before the erection of Bridge St., ships unloaded their cargoes. It is a small Perp. building of no special interest, but contains the fine brass eagle desk from the cathedral sold as old metal by the Dean and Chapter, 1802, rescued from the melting-pot and presented to the ch. "on condition of its remaining here for ever."

St. Peter's, a little further to the E. in the street of the same name, is not of any special architectural interest. In the S. aisle is a Gothic canopied tomb, with a female effigy of the Newton family. *Sir J. Cadaman*, who was beheaded in the castle while Prince Rupert held the city, for killing an officer of the garrison, lies buried in the ch.; and in the churchyard the unfortunate *Richard Savage*, the poet, who died in 1743 in the Newgate prison hard by, and was buried at the cost of his gaoler. No stone marks his grave.

St. James, on rising ground, to the N. of the Horse Fair, is the nave of the ch. of the Priory, founded 1130 by Rob. E. of Gloucester, as a cell to Tewkesbury. Its founder devoted every tenth stone of those he imported from Normandy for the building of the great keep tower of the castle to this priory. The founder d. 1147, and was buried in the choir, whence his effigy was removed at the Dissolution and placed in the nave, which, having always been parochial, was preserved when the rest of the ch. was destroyed. The effigy is now against the S. wall. The ch. is a good specimen of late Norm., the W. front, which has an intersecting arcade and a circular window above, being the most interesting part. The clerestory has externally a continuous pointed arcade. There is a fine plain Norm. arcade within of 5 bays. At the end of the N.

aisle is a bust by Bailey to the Rev. T. T. Biddulph (d. 1838). To the S. of the altar are the kneeling effigies of Sir Charles Somerset (d. 1598), son of Hen. E. of Worcester, with his wife and daughter. Princess Eleanor, "the demoiselle of Bretagne," was born in the priory. In the old *Parsonage*, to the N.W. of the ch., is a good room with ceiling panelled in stucco, and the arms of Ald. Whitson, founder of the Redmaids' School, on the chimney-piece.

St. John the Baptist, at the end of Broad St., stands on the line of the city wall, and St. John's Gate is carried under the tower which carries a low spire. On the front of the gate are the statues of Brennus and Belinus, the fabled founders of Bristol. The ch. was built by Walter Frampton, merchant (d. 1357), whose effigy in alderman's robes is within the ch. Beneath the ch. is a finely groined crypt worth inspection.

Temple Ch., in the street of the same name, near the rly. station, is a large but dilapidated Perp. ch., 1460, with a fine nave, and poorer chancel, celebrated on account of its *leaning tower*; this must have been once as fine as that of St. Stephen's, but its carved work is greatly decayed, and it has been robbed of its turrets and pinnacles. The singularity of this tower is mentioned as early as 1576 by Braun in his 'Theatrum Urbium.' The 16th-cent. geographer Abraham Ortelius asserts that he put a stone as large as a goose-egg into the chink that opened between the tower and the ch. wall when the bells were rung, and saw it crushed. In 1772 it was plumbed, and found to lean 3 ft. 9 in. from the perpendicular.

St. Philip and St. Jacob (Jacobus = James) is a large ch. of various dates, the tower at the E. end of S. aisle. Part of the tower, and some portion of the ch., are good E. E. The font is plain Norm., lined with lead. An armed demi-figure in the Kemys

aisle is, without any authority, popularly identified with Duke Robert, eldest son of the Conqueror, imprisoned in Bristol Castle, and deprived of sight by his brother Hen. I.

St. Augustine, to the S.E. of the cathedral, is a large plain Perp. edifice with good tower, erected 1480 on the site of an earlier building founded by the abbots of St. Augustine for the use of the dwellers outside the Abbey precincts. The bosses of the chancel-roof bear the initials and device of Abbot John Nailheart and Abbot Elliot. *Sir W. Draper*, known as one of the objects of the withering invectives of Junius, was buried in the churchyard.

St. Michael was rebuilt 1774, but the 15th-cent. tower was preserved. Near it is an ancient *Alms-house*, founded by John Foster, merchant, "in honour of God and the 3 kings of Coleyn," in Hen. VII.'s reign. (See *ante*.)

St. Thomas also has a modern body to an ancient tower.

Rich as Bristol was formerly in specimens of mediæval domestic architecture, few examples now survive. The chief remains are the groined crypts or undercrofts on which as a rule our forefathers erected their houses, and which are so often erroneously considered as marking the site of some religious building. Of these, according to Mr. Godwin, 20 existed on one side of High St., and 15 on the other side. A fine example exists under the shop of Mr. Leonard, Ironmonger, 22, High St., and another under the "Old Bank," at the corner of High St. and Wine St.

Colston's House, in Small St., was the most remarkable example of mediæval domestic architecture in Bristol. This was an important mansion, the official residence of the mayors of Bristol, from Henry II. to the Commonwealth, in which they entertained many royal and noble guests. It contained the remains of

a hall of 3 bays, 46 ft. by 37 ft., of the middle of the 12th centy., originally divided by semi-Norm. arcades into a centre and side-aisles. Communicating with this was the withdrawing room (once used as a place of meeting by the followers of Joanna Southcot), a splendid specimen of Jacobean work, with a gorgeous stone mantelpiece reaching to the ceiling, and a lovely little oriel or gallery window in one corner. Behind the hall was "a grand range of Perp. buildings in 3 stories, each having a rich fireplace, that in the lowest room being of extraordinary size and magnificence. The windows are very large, sq.-headed, with rear arches and panelled jamba."

—*J. H. P.* Much of this interesting house has been now swept away, and what remains, is incorporated in the modern Assize Courts.

Canynges' House, in Redcliff St., now a bookseller's shop, retains a 15th-cent. hall with a high-pitched roof, with a louvre in the centre. In a small room behind is a very fine pavement of encaustic tiles, covered by a modern floor.

St. Peter's Hospital, behind the ch. of the same name, originally the mansion of Thos. Norton, the Bristol alchemist, c. 1400, but much altered in 1612, is a rich specimen of half-timbered work, with carved gables, and projecting windows, deserving notice. The watergate, decorated with quaint carving, bears the date 1612. In 1695 it was used as a mint, and in 1697 it was converted into a hospital or poorhouse for the city. The *Court Room* is of unusual magnificence. The walls are panelled, the ceiling stuccoed with pendants; a large bay window to S. is filled with stained glass. The mantelpiece, Gothic below, Jacobean above, is very rich. On the same floor is the *Chapel*.

The house at the corner of High St. and Wine St., formerly the banking house of Messrs. Stuckey and Co., now a shop, is a very curious wooden house, with overhanging stories, said

to have been framed in Holland, and brought over here.

In the Welsh Back, near St. Nicholas Ch., is a panelled Dec. doorway of singular richness, belonging to the Spicers' Hall. The *Old Swan Inn*, in Guardhouse Passage, is worth a visit.

Red Lodge, Park Row, long the residence of the learned *Dr. Prichard*, is a curious old mansion, with carved staircase and internal porch, and handsome chimney-pieces and ceilings.

The older streets abound in picturesque gabled houses with projecting stories, but mostly of the 17th century. The most remarkable are to be seen in Redcliffe St., Temple St., St. Mary-le-Port St., and the Pithay. The *Lamb Inn* in West St. retains its mediæval character.

The chief public buildings are grouped together in Broad Street and Corn Street.

The *Guildhall*, in Broad Street, is a modern Gothic building, Perp., by *Pope*, of Bristol. The six niches between the windows are filled with statues of Edward III. (who granted the corporation charter), Q. Victoria, Dunning and Sir Michael Foster, Records of Bristol; and of Colston and Whitson, its benefactors, by *Thomas*, a Bristol sculptor. The building includes Assize-courts, bankruptcy court, and the grand jury room; its merits are by no means considerable.

The *Council-House*, at the corner of Corn Street, on the site of St. Ewen's Ch., is a correct but cold classical building with Ionic pillars, by Professor Cockerell, opened in 1827. A statue of Justice with her scales surmounts the front. Within are the Mayor's Court, and offices for the various civic functionaries. The *Council Chamber* contains portraits of aldermen and benefactors to the city.

On the opposite side of Corn Street is

The *Exchange*, a building of the Corinthian order, by *John Wood*, of Bath, 1743. It is but little used by the merchants, who meet at the Commercial Rooms. The interior, which has an elegant colonnade, is used as a corn-market. On the pavement in front of the Exchange are 4 bronze tables on pedestals, removed from the old Tolsey, formerly used by the merchants for making their payments and signing their bonds, when they were accustomed to meet in the open street. Opposite is the

W. of England and S. Wales Bank, a beautiful structure, completed 1858, W. B. Gingell and T. R. Lysaght, architects. The façade is a composition based on a study of the Library of St. Mark at Venice. The lower story is Doric, with an arcade of 5 arches, columns, and decorations emblematical of the city, the county, and S. Wales. The upper is Ionic; in the 10 spandrils of the arches are life-size female figures emblematical of the elements and sources of wealth. A little lower,

The *Commercial Rooms* serve as an exchange, and contain reading-rooms. It was built 1811, and is surmounted by statues, which represent the city of Bristol, Commerce, and Navigation. It has a recessed Ionic portico, beneath which is a bas-relief by Bubb, representing Britannia supported by Minerva and Neptune receiving tribute from all parts of the world.

Below the Commercial Rooms is the *Royal Insurance Office*, with polished red granite columns, and on the other side of the street the very ornate front of the *Globe Insurance Office*, and the buildings of *Stuckey's Bank*.

In Small Street is the *Post Office*, with a good plain Italian front.

To the S. of Corn Street is *King-Street*, containing the *Merchant Venturers' Hall*, new fronted 1709, where

George IV. was received when Prince of Wales, 1807; *Coopers' Hall*, with a good Corinthian front; some picturesque *Almshouses* worth inspection, and

The *City Library*, in King St., especially rich in Hutchinsonian Divinity. It contains the books of its founder, Dr. Tobie Matthews, Bp. of Durham, a native of Bristol, who left them 1614 for the free use of the citizens. Catcott's minerals and fossils, bequeathed 1779, are preserved here.

To the S. of King Street is Queen Square, a quiet spot, bordered with elms, in the centre of which stands a bronze equestrian statue of William III., by *Rysbräck*, for which the artist received 1800*l.* Here is the *Custom-house*, on the site of that destroyed by the mob, together with the *Mansion-house* and 2 sides of the sq., in the disgraceful riots of 1831.

S. of Queen Square and the Floating Harbour, and by the side of Bathurst Basin, is the *Bristol General Hospital*, one of the noblest buildings of the kind in the country. In 1845 Mr. Joseph Eaton, of the Society of Friends, offered 5000*l.* towards the erection of a new structure, on condition that another 10,000*l.* were raised, and in 1850 this sum had been subscribed. The hospital was then commenced, and in 1857 completed at a cost of about 15,000*l.*; W. B. Gingell, architect. The basement consists of warehouses, which produce a revenue for the institution. Returning northwards and crossing the Swing Bridge, and remarking the handsome Corinthian portico of *St. Mary's Chapel*, on the Quay, built originally for the Irvingites, at a cost of 13,000*l.*, and now occupied by the Roman Catholics, the visitor will pass St. Augustine's Church and College Green, and commence the steep ascent of *Park Street*, built 1775 (at No. 10, Hannah More's sisters kept a young ladies' school), to

The *Bristol Institution*, established 1823, which contains a reading-room, a theatre for the delivery of lectures, a library, and an excellent museum. Here Sir Humphrey Davy commenced his chemical researches. The building, occupying an angle in the street, was designed by Cockerell, and cost 11,000*l.* He presented to it a collection of casts of the *Ægina* marbles, of which he was one of the discoverers. The geological collection is particularly rich in the fossils of the mountain limestone and the lias, and in shells and productions of the W. Indian seas. It owes its origin and admirable classification to the late Dr. Riley, and its first curators, Mr. Miller and Mr. Stutchbury. Here also are preserved the will and other papers connected with the memory of Chatterton. *Baily's Eve* (a duplicate) is one of the treasures of the institution.

At the upper end of Park Street, the steep hill leading to Clifton, are the *Blind Asylum*, erected from designs by Rickman (the public singing of the pupils on Mondays at 3 is worth hearing), and *Bristol Library*, formerly the *Bishops' College*, containing an excellent collection of books. Close to this a handsome new building is in course of erection, which will combine the Bristol Institution and Library. A little farther on, in the angle of the roads, stand the *Victoria Rooms*, a handsome building with Corinthian portico, intended for public meetings, assemblies, concerts, &c. The great hall measures 117 ft. by 35 ft., and is 47 ft. high.

On the opposite side of the rd. are the *Queen's Hotel*, and the *Bristol Fine Arts Academy*, a richly decorated and beautiful modern structure, with marble statues of Flaxman and Reynolds on the front. Here are 3 pictures by *Hogarth*, formerly in Redcliff Ch.

Adjacent to this a very ornate *Wesleyan Chapel*, built 1863, and not far distant, at the end of Park

Place, the Roman Catholic Church of the *Holy Apostles*, begun by Bp. Baines on a stately classical plan, and temporarily completed and made available for service in the Gothic style. Attached to this is the *Convent of the Sisters of St. Catherine*.

The visitor should not omit to visit *Brandon Hill*, so called from the hermitage of St. Brendan, a cell of St. James's Priory, tenanted in the middle ages by a recluse, sometimes male, sometimes female. There was also a Calvary. Irish mariners resorted to this chapel to offer their prayers, and return thanks for a safe voyage; the Spanish sailors doing the same at St. Vincent's Chapel, and those who sailed in the Bristol Channel, at that of St. Blaise. The Hill rises to a height of 250 ft., and is a bit of open green or common, surrounded by houses, but commanding a fine view of Bristol, and of the country to the S., particularly of the *Tump* at Ashton Court, and of *Dundry Hill*. A foot-way to Clifton lies across it. It is a good example of "millstone grit," and bears the traces of a fort thrown up in the Civil wars. It is laid out as a park, and in an enclosure on the summit are two guns from Sebastopol. At the foot of the W. slope stands

Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, a large castellated building in the Tudor style, erected 1847. The charity was founded 1586, by John Carr, for the education of poor boys of this city and the manor of Congresbury. More than 180 boys are here educated and maintained.

Bristol is rich in charitable institutions of this nature. We may notice the *Redmaids* in Denmark St., founded by Ald. Whitson in 1627; *Colston's School*, opened 1508, in St. Augustine's Place, and removed 1861 to the Bp.'s former palace at Stapleton, for boarding, educating, and clothing 100 sons of freemen; the *Blue Coat*, for girls, on Redcliff Hill; and *Müller's Orphan*

Houses, on Ashley Down, about 1 m. (which should by all means be viewed on Tuesday or Wednesday), in which more than 1000 orphans are clothed, maintained, and educated without any endowment, simply by the gifts of Christian people (see *Handbook for Gloucestershire*, p. 69.) Mr. Müller's pamphlet giving the history of the rise and progress of his institution is a singular and interesting production, and deserves reading.

In the *Baptist College*, Stoke's Croft (N. part of Bristol), is preserved an original miniature portrait of Oliver Cromwell, said to be the best portrait of him known. It is by *Cooper*, and was bequeathed to the College, 1784, by the Rev. Andrew Gifford, a Baptist minister. Here also is a curious collection of Hindoo idols, and the only perfect copy known to exist of Tyndal's New Testament, which has been reproduced in facsimile by *Mr. Francis Fry*, of Cotham, the owner of a remarkable collection of early printed Bibles and Testaments.

Bristol can boast of many eminent children, either native or resident—*Ralph of Bristol*, Bp. of Kildare, 1223; *John Milverton*, Bp. elect of St. David's, imprisoned in the Castle of St. Angelo, Rome, for his liberal views; the two *Canynge*s; *William Botoner*, called of Wyrester, the son of a glover on St. James's Back, 1415; *William Grocyn*, the friend of Erasmus, Greek Professor at Oxford, 1442; *Sebastian Cabot*, b. 1477 (son of John Cabot, a Venetian pilot), the discoverer of Newfoundland and Florida; *Dr. William Child*, the church musician, b. 1607; *Archbishop Tobie Matthew*, of York, born on Bristol Bridge, 1546; *Alderman Whitson*, founder of the *Redmaids' School*; *Admiral Sir William Penn*, 1621; *Edward Colston*, founder of the Free School which bears his name, b. 1636; *Dr. J. Lewis*, historian of Thanet, 1675; *Chatterton*, born on Redcliff Hill, 1752; *Han-*

nah More, whose sisters kept a school in 10, Park Street, and who d. at 4, Windsor Terrace, Clifton; the poet *Southey*, b. 1774; *Sir Francis Freeling*, b. 1764, so long the Secretary of the General Post Office; *Dr. W. B. Carpenter*, the physiologist; *Baily* the sculptor; and *Müller, Ripingille*, and many eminent artists, such as *Danby, Poole, Pyne, Branwhite, West, the Fripps, Jackson, &c.*; *Lord Chancellor Westbury* and *Dr. Vaughan*, the late eminent Dissenting Minister and historical writer, were educated here. At Bristol also *Sir Humphrey Davy* made his first appearance in the scientific world, under Beddoes, at the Pneumatic Institute for the Medical Inhalation of Gases, at the N.E. corner of Dowry Square. To the scientific men who have rendered Bristol illustrious may be added *Herapath* the chemist, and *Pritchard* the ethnologist. *Robert Hall*, the famous preacher, was minister of Broadmead Baptist Chapel. On one occasion in his congregation were seen an Irish bishop, a dean, and 13 clergymen. Bristol is full of memories of *Southey* and *Coleridge*. *Southey's* father kept a linendraper's shop in Wine Street. At 48, College Street the 2 poets and the other pantisocratical dreamers, *Lovell* and *Burnett*, lodged when preparing for their voyage to America. *Coleridge's* first anti-Pittite lectures were delivered at the Corn Market in Wine Street, and he went over from Bristol to Bath to preach in the Unitarian chapel, "in the morning on the Corn Laws, in the afternoon on the Hair-powder Tax." On leaving Clevedon in 1795, he removed to "pent-up rooms" on Redcliff Hill, and, after a short sojourn at Stowey, returned to Bristol, 1796.

Edmund Burke sat for Bristol, and here made some of his most brilliant speeches. Here, after one of them, his colleague, *Mr. Cruger*, a Bristol

merchant, when his turn came to make an address, simply added, "I say ditto to *Mr. Burke*."

Between the years 1804-9 the Avon was dammed back as far as Cumberland Basin at the Hotwells, and, together with the Frome, converted into a magnificent floating harbour at an expense exceeding 600,000*l.* A new channel was cut for the Avon, commencing above the city and terminating at Rownham Ferry. *Bathurst Basin* affords accommodation for the smaller steamers and coasting vessels, while *Cumberland Basin*, near the Hotwells, opens immediately on the tidal Avon, and receives the larger vessels and steamers. The *Welsh Back*, as the rt. bank of the upper portion of the Float is called, is principally occupied by Severn fishing smacks, and Irish provision brigs. The size of the vessels increases as we descend, and at the *Grove*, S. of Queen's Square, we have West or East Indiamen, and American ships ranged side by side, forming a very forest of masts. Farther down the *Sea Banks* accommodates timber ships.

The Great Western steam-ship, the first steamer which crossed the Atlantic, in 1838, was built in Bristol, as was the still larger iron ship, the Great Britain.

Bristol gives the title of marquis to the family of *Hervey*. It was first bestowed on the *Digbys* by *James I.*

CLIFTON. *Inns:* Clifton Down Hotel; Queen's; St. Vincent's Rocks; York (in Dowry Sq.).

The long and steep ascent of Park Street leads from College Green to Clifton, once a distinct village, now a suburb of Bristol. It is the "west end" of the city, where its merchants dwell, far removed from the smoke and din. It is also much frequented as a watering-place and summer residence, and is remarkable

for the beauty of its villas, and the breadth of its elm-shaded roads. Among a labyrinth of streets, squares, and crescents, ranged one over the other along the slopes, the most elevated and handsomest of all is York Crescent, above which, at the top of the hill, are the open downs, and the heights of St. Vincent, upon the verge of the

Gorge of the Avon, where "the river runs between rocks and a hanging wood; a scene truly magnificent, and wanting nothing but clearer water; the stream consists of liquid mud, and the gutter-like bed is hideous except when the tide is full, for it rises here not less than 30 ft."—*Southey*.

The Avon is here navigable for large vessels and steamers approaching the port of Bristol. It is indeed a most striking view to look across this chasm of about 600 ft. span, which separates Somersetshire from Gloucestershire, upon the river winding at a depth of nearly 250 ft. below, upon the sails of ships and the funnels of steamers.

St. Vincent's Rocks are composed of the mountain limestone which abounds in fossil remains, and in its upper beds, where it mingles with the millstone grit, includes also crystals of quartz, which are sold under the name of *Bristol Diamonds*. Quarries have been formed in these cliffs, so as to diminish their beauty, and cause Southey to accuse the Bristolians of "selling the sublime and beautiful by the boatload." High up on the bold precipice (220 ft. above high-water mark) is a cavern called the *Giant Ghyst's Hole*, described by W. of Wyreestre under the name of "Fox Hole," "valde periculosus locus." The chapel and hermitage of St. Vincent stood about the middle of the high rock. It may be visited from the *Observatory*, by a flight of steps cut through the solid rock. The observatory contains some good

telescopes, and other optical instruments, and a very large camera obscura. It stands 285 ft. above high-water mark, in the centre of a British camp occupying the projecting headland, protected by two ditches and ramparts (and including a square Roman camp). There are 2 other camps on the other side of the Avon, which was here crossed at low water by a ford, on a natural bed of rock—*Bower Walls* (Burgh Walls, recently destroyed), of 7 acres, with 3 ramparts and ditches, and originally a wall of loose stones; and *Stoke Leigh Camp*, of 8 acres, each cutting off a jutting crag; divided by the lovely wooded ravine known as *Nightingale Valley* in *Leigh Woods*.

Very near the observatory the gorge of the Avon is spanned by the graceful curve of the *Suspension Bridge*, affording a much needed and convenient communication between the Gloucestershire and Somersetshire banks, without the necessity of descending to Rownham Ferry and climbing again.

The plan of a bridge was devised by Alderman Vick, of Bristol, who died in 1753. He left 1000*l.* with directions that it should be put out at interest until it reached 10,000*l.*, which he conceived would be sufficient for the purpose. The money had reached 8000*l.* in 1830, when an Act of Parliament was obtained, additional capital raised, and at last Mr. Brunel commenced the bridge. The funds, however, proved wholly inadequate, and the works remained incomplete for a period of 30 years. At length they were resumed in 1861, and the bridge, which is mainly constructed from the chains of Hungerford Bridge, was formally opened in Sept. 1864, on occasion of the visit of the British Association. The chains are carried over a tower of 80 ft. high, on each bank, and support a carriage way of 20 ft., and 2 footways of 5 ft., 6 in. each.

The distance between the piers is 702 ft., the height from the water 245 ft., and the weight of the whole structure is 1500 tons. The view from the bridge is singularly beautiful.

Clifton and Durdham Downs stretch for about 1 m. westward. The broad flat expanse of turf, surrounded with villas, and intersected with elm-shadowed roads, is charmingly broken towards the Avon with rocky dells, clothed with ferns and gorse, and aged weather-beaten thorns. There is a pretty *Zoological Garden* on Durdham Down, with usually a good collection of animals, especially of lions and tigers, a few minutes' walk from the Mall.

Clifton *Ch.* was re-built in 1819, in what was then thought to be Gothic. The lofty pinnacles of its tower were taken down about 30 years since. The E. window contains a copy of Raphael's Transfiguration in stained glass.

Clifton possesses several more modern churches, of various degrees of excellence. *Christ Church* has a lofty and graceful spire. *St. Paul's*, which was rebuilt in 1868, after being burnt down, is a beautiful building. The bas-relief over the entrance door of "St. Paul preaching" is well worthy of notice. The chapels of the various religious denominations are mostly of some architectural pretensions.

Clifton College, a first-rate educational establishment on the plan of our public schools, comprises a picturesque group of Gothic buildings, with a chapel added in 1862 by the munificence of the widow of Canon Guthrie.

An easy zigzag road and winding paths lead from the heights of Clifton Down to the water-side and the

Hotwells, where formerly stood a Grecian building, erected over the medicinal spring, but demolished for the widening of the river; the spring was known to William of Wyrcestre in

1480, and was used for the cure of cutaneous eruptions as far back as 1632. It suddenly sprang into notoriety in 1670, through the marvellous cure of a certain Mr. Gagg, baker, of Castle Street, who was led to make trial of the water by a dream. Until 1695 the well was only accessible at low water, but then it was protected by a wall, and pumps to raise the water were erected.

At the extremity of the hill, some way down the Avon, and high above its waters, is a picturesque tower, erected 1693, and ungraciously known as "*Cook's Folly*." It has been so called from a tradition that a person of the name of Cook was here shut up to escape the fulfilment of a dream which indicated death from a serpent. A viper entered with faggots for the fire, and so inflicted the destined death-wound. The ivied tower rises prettily from the woods, and is improved in effect by a castellated mansion which has been added to it. A good view of the scenery is obtained at the brink of the precipice. The *Pitch and Pay Gate* long preserved the memory of the plague year, when the country folks brought their goods to this spot and pitched them on a large stone, when the money was afterwards placed by the purchaser in a basin of vinegar.

(a.) Across Durdham Down is *Stoke Bishop*, so called from having belonged to the Bps. of Coutances, where is a *Ch.* with a highly decorated interior (Norton, arch.), and Elizabethan manor house (*J. B. Harford, Esq.*), built by Sir Rob. Cann in 1669. Up the hill among the trees to l. is a fallen cromlech. A pleasant walk along Stoke Lane leads by *Stoke Abbey Farm*, a gabled Jacobean house, across fields to Westbury, 1 m.

Westbury Ch. deserves notice. It is an E. E. building, with later additions. The N. aisle retains a W. triplet and a piscina and sedilia of

the original work. The N. arcade is earlier than the S. The chancel terminates in a broad Perp. apse, and there is a large N. chapel, with a very light and lofty Perp. arcade. The reredos is very elaborate, and has been richly coloured and ornamented with a bas-relief of the Last Supper. On the N. of the sacarium is the effigy of Carpenter, Bp. of Worcester, 1477, admirably restored at the expense of Oriel College, of which he had been provost.

Below the ch. an ivy-clad square tower marks the site of the college, of which Canynges, the builder of St. Mary Redcliff, was dean, and Wycliffe prebendary. In the Civil Wars the college was set on fire by Prince Rupert, lest it should become a Parliamentary garrison, and annoy Bristol.

Southey, in 1798, settled for 12 months at Westbury, where he wrote his 'Madoc,' and cultivated his acquaintance with Davy and his bag of nitrous oxide. "We hesitated," he writes, "between the appropriate names of Rat Hall, Mouse Mansion, Vermin Villa, Cockroach Castle, Cobweb Cottage, and Spider Lodge; but as we routed out the spiders, brushed away the cobwebs, stopped the rat holes, and found no cockroaches, we bethought us of the animals without, and dubbed it Marten Hall." It had been an alehouse; "so we have had application to sell beer, and buy a stock of tobacco pipes."

A short distance W. of Westbury, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Bristol, is *Blaise Castle*, the seat of Mrs. Harford, widow of the late J. S. Harford, Esq., the biographer of M. Angelo and Bp. Burgess, and friend of Wilberforce. The house stands above the gorge of the Trym, a wooded limestone ravine of singular beauty. The house is not shown; the grounds on Thursdays only, by previous application in writing. A singular group of limestone rocks is known as *Giant Goram's*

Chair, where, according to the tradition, he was surprised by a nap, while his rival St. Vincent settled the dispute as to the course of the Avon by cleaving the present ravine through which the river flows. The modern triangular castellated prospect house, on the summit of Blaise Hill (which takes its name from a hermitage of St. Blaise, once existing there), was built in 1768 by the then owner of the estate, Mr. Thomas Farr. The hill is occupied by a British camp, defended by 3 ramparts and 2 ditches, now turned into pleasure grounds, and covered with shrubs and trees.

Mr. Harford's cottages, built by Nash, "the beau-ideal of a village, consist of a group of houses of different forms, styles, and materials, stone, brick, wood, &c., roofed with thatch, tiles, or slate, each surrounded with different trees, and enwreathed with clematis, rose, honeysuckle, or vine. The dwellings have separate gardens, and a common fountain, in the centre of the green, shadowed by old trees. The inhabitants are all poor families, settled here by the bounty of the proprietor."—*Prince Pückler*. The cottages are 10 in number. They were b. 1810, and are irregularly placed around a sloping lawn on the N.W. side of Henbury. They may be seen any weekday between 12 and 5.

Henbury Ch., E. E., but much modernised, contains monuments to members of the Southwell family, of Kingsweston, from Sir Robert Southwell (d. 1702), envoy extraordinary to many foreign courts, and Secretary of State for Ireland; also to Edw. Capel, merchant of Bristol (d. 1681), and a beautiful piece of modern sculpture in memory of Mrs. Harford Battersby, of Stoke Park.

Blaise Castle contains a fine collection of pictures, principally of the time of Michael Angelo and Raphael, arranged with great taste in a gallery

opening to a conservatory. Among them are the following works :—*Seb. del Piombo*, the Pietà, a circular picture, painted on black marble. From the Barberini Palace. 2. The Holy Family, “the largest and most admirable example I have seen.”—*Waagen*. *M. Venusti*, a copy of the Christ bound, by Seb. del Piombo;—*D. da Volterra*, the Entombment, “a fine and rich composition.” *Correggio*, excellent copies by his scholars of the Christ on the Mount of Olives, and the Virgin and Child;—*Parmigiano*, the marriage of St. Catherine, “worthy of his great model, Correggio.”—*Waagen*. 2. The Virgin and Child adored by SS. Margaret, Augustin, and Jerome, a repetition of the altar-picture in the gallery of Bologna;—*Paul Veronese*, the Dead Christ on the lap of the Virgin;—*L. Carracci*, a copy of Correggio’s St. Jerome, in the Gallery at Parma;—*Ann. Carracci*, a Riposo;—*Guido Reni*, the Assumption, of the same period as the Murder of the Innocents in the Gallery at Bologna—“an admirable picture.” 2. The Crucifixion. 3. An Ecce Homo. *Guercino*, a Youth holding up a bunch of Grapes. 2. Diana. *Lanfranco*, Belisarius;—*Carlo Dolce*, Christ and the Woman of Samaria—“livelier in expression and action than usual.” *G. Poussin*, a Landscape;—*Salvator Rosa*, 2 large poetical Landscapes; and 3 smaller Landscapes, one a Sea-shore Scene, of great transparency;—*Vandyck*, a half-length Portrait of a Lady armed as Minerva;—*Hobbima*, a large Landscape;—*J. Vernet*, View of a Sea-coast; 2. a Sea-piece, of his later time;—*Raphael*, the Spasimo, of which the original is in the Madrid Gallery; “no copy, but an independent work, in which, I cannot doubt, Raphael had a hand.”—*W.*

Drawing-room.—*Guido Reni*, St. Veronica, “of great power of colouring;”—*Tiarini*, the Assumption;—*Schidone*, St. John the Evangelist;—

N. Poussin, a Landscape, highly poetic and of fresh colour;—*Il Cavaliere d’Arpino*, Christ on the Mount of Olives;—*C. Procaccini*, the Tribute-money;—*G. Poussin*, a Storm; 2. a Landscape;—*Salvator Rosa*, a Sea-piece, in the style of the large sea-pieces by this master in the Pitti Palace;—*Carlo Dolce*, an Ecce Homo. 2. The Virgin, in profile.

In the entrance hall are casts of the Apollo Belvidere and Versailles Diana, and, in the conservatory, of some of the finest heads of the Antinous.

Dining-room.—*Lawrence*, Portrait of Mrs. Harford.

The park of Blaise is remarkable for the beautiful undulations of the ground, which are thickly covered by the arbutus and other evergreens, and diversified by rocks. A charming walk leads from the grounds to *Kingsweston* and *Penpold Point*, along Kingsweston Hill, a narrow ridge about 1 m. in length, defended by an earthwork, consisting of a bank and ditch, towards its Blaise Castle extremity. The views on both sides are delightful. If you prefer it, you may make a separate excursion to *Kingsweston* and *Penpold Point*, a pleasant walk of 4 m. Or you may go down the river bank and turn inland where the path ends.

Kingsweston, once the seat of Lord de Clifford, and now of P. S. Miles, Esq., is a plain but large house, 3 stories high, by Vanbrugh, beautifully situated on the Avon, 3 m. above its junction with the Severn. Of both rivers the grounds command delightful views, as well as of the Bristol Channel and the hills of Glamorgan-shire. *Penpold Point*, almost within the park, commands a magnificent view of the Severn and its banks for 20 or 30 miles, bounded by the highlands of Monmouthshire and Wales, and the King Road immediately below, where the Avon joins the Severn. Below Kingsweston (is the pretty retired village of *Shirehampton*. A

rly. from the Hotwells, Clifton, runs along the rt. bank of the Avon past the stations of *Sea Mills*, the supposed site of the Roman station *Abona*, where was once a large floating dock, and Shirehampton, to the pier at *Avon Mouth*, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m., where a large hotel has been built, surrounded with ornamental pleasure grounds.

(b.) To the *Tump* at Ashton Court, an eminence commanding a fine view of Bristol, and of the vale in which it lies. You should go E. along the ridge for a pretty glimpse of the sea between the valley sides, and of Worle Hill and the Steep Holme in the opening. There is another path from Rowham Ferry by Ashton Court, seat of Sir J. H. Greville Smyth, Bart., to the conspicuous ch. tower on *Dundry Hill*.

(c.) To *Leigh Court*, seat of Sir Wm. Miles, Bart., M.P., well known for its gallery of pictures. It is about 3 m. from Bristol, on the l. bank of the Avon, and is shown to the public on Thursdays. Application for tickets of admission must be made at the Bristol Bank. Charles II. was concealed in the old court-house, personating a servant keeping his room under plea of illness. The former house was once occupied by Gordon, the translator of Tacitus. The present stately mansion was erected from designs by Hopper, c. 1814.

"Passing through an extensive park, you come to the beautiful grounds, which are kept in the finest order, and to the splendid mansion, built with great taste in the Italian style. Though my expectations of this collection had been raised very high, they were far exceeded. I found in these apartments a series of capital works of the most eminent Italian, Flemish, Spanish, and French masters, which would grace the palace of any monarch."—*Waagen*.

"Dining-room. — *Ann. Carracci*,

John the Baptist in the Wilderness; half the size of life. A noble and graceful figure and warmly coloured; — *Velasquez*, a female saint in ecstasy, called a *Velasquez*; but I am inclined to attribute it to some excellent Spanish painter unknown to me; — *And. del Sarto*, the Virgin with the Child, and St. John. Of extraordinary effect, from the figures being above the size of life, and of very powerful colouring, though it cannot be classed among the graceful and attractive works of the master; — *Murillo*, the Martyrdom of St. Andrew; figures about quarter the size of life. The whole composition is very discreetly treated, the expression of the saint noble, the colouring singularly tender and clear, and the execution uncommonly careful; — *Gaspar Poussin*, a very large Landscape, almost square, from the Colonna Palace. In the most elevated taste of the master, and in admirable harmony with the fine figure, by Nicholas Poussin, of Elijah, to whom an Angel is pointing out Jehovah passing over in the clouds. This picture is a *chef-d'œuvre* of this great master, nay, a *chef-d'œuvre* of landscape painting; — *Murillo*, the Holy Family, with Angels, in a Landscape; figures almost the size of life. Of the decidedly naturalistic epoch of the master; at the same time the expression is nobler than in most of his pictures of this period; — *Claude*, the effect of the morning sun upon the sea; in the foreground fishermen drawing their net; — *Ann. Carracci*, Diana and Actæon; figures about half the size of life; in a fine landscape, with an open view of the sea. The horns of Actæon, who is escaping, are beginning to shoot; — *Guido Cagnacci*, Susanna and the Elders; half-length figures, the size of life. A very choice picture, with great power of colouring, and particularly careful; — *Nic. Poussin*, the Plague at Athens, according to the description of Thucydides. A large,

very rich masterpiece of Poussin, in which we are reconciled by his skill to the horrors of the subject. Very few pictures of Poussin are of such masterly completion in all their parts, and so well understood in the very difficult foreshortening: the heads, at the same time, are much more varied and more true to nature than usual.—On the wall between the windows I remarked a graceful female figure by *Romanelli*; a small Landscape with *Banditti*, by *Salvator Rosa*; and Youths looking at a sleeping Nymph, by *Domenichino*."

"Saloon.—*Claude*, 1. A mountainous, richly wooded Landscape, with rich melting middle distances; in every respect one of the finest pictures that ever came from the hand of this great master. It is of that time when *Claude* had attained the highest perfection in general keeping, without sacrificing to it, as he afterwards did, the vigorous execution, the local colours, and the individuality of the details. 2. The companion: also an exquisite composition, though much paler, and more monotonous in the colour. The harmony of the effect also is disturbed by the stiff, lengthy figure of *Æneas*, who, with his companions, is landing in Italy. Painted 1675, in his 75th year. From the *Altieri* palace, Rome. Mr. Beckford gave 10,000*l.* for the pair, with 4 other cabinet pictures;—*Rubens*, the Woman taken in Adultery. A composition of five principal and seven subordinate figures; rather above the size of life. Entirely painted by *Rubens*' own hand, perhaps of a not much later date than the celebrated *Descent from the Cross* at Antwerp. The flesh is of a very full tone; the careful execution admirably melting. This celebrated picture, which is in an extraordinary state of preservation, is said to have been painted for the family of *Van Knyf* at Antwerp. At the sale of Mr. Henry

Hope's collection, in the year 1816, it was sold for 2000*l.*;—*Domenichino*, St. John the Evangelist in a vision, supported by two angels; full-length figures, the size of life. Formerly in the *Giustiniani* Gallery: one of the most beautiful works of this master. It is in an excellent state of preservation;—*Titian*, Venus and Adonis, a good school copy of the celebrated picture in the Museum at Madrid;—*Rubens*, the Virgin supporting the infant Christ standing on her lap, to whom St. John stretches out his arms. St. Francis of Assisi worshipping, *Elizabeth* and *Joseph*. Very pleasing in the expression; warm, but sober in the colouring, and carefully finished;—*L. da Vinci*, Christ giving the Benediction. Of a grave, dignified character, but deficient in expression, though it has much merit. It is of a later period than *Leonardo*."

"Drawing-room.—*Raphael*, 1. Christ bearing his Cross. A long narrow picture, formerly the centre-piece of the *Predella* to the altarpiece which *Raphael* painted for the nuns of St. Antonio at Perugia (painted in 1505). The group of the mourning women is peculiarly beautiful in the motives, and striking in the expressions. 2. The Virgin lifting the veil from the Child, which has just awaked, and with much animation stretches out its arms to her. Half-length figures, the size of life. The Child is of the greatest beauty, and has all the peculiarities of *Raphael*—the greatest vivacity, the delicately felt drawing, and the reddish extremities. The Virgin has, more than any other of *Raphael*'s, the appearance of a portrait; yet the features are very delicate. On panel.—*Claude*, a Landscape, with a temple on rt. and hills in the foreground. The morning light is very harmoniously carried out in a delicate silvery tone. From the old *Hope* collection:—The Virgin and Child, called a *Fra Bartolomeo*,

is not delicate enough for him, but is by the hand of one of his imitators;—*Guido Reni*, Cleopatra; the original of innumerable repetitions. Extremely pleasing in beauty of feature, expression, clearness of colouring, and melting execution;—*Velasquez*, Philip IV., King of Spain, on horseback; a small, very excellent picture, in the bright, clear, and yet full tone peculiar to him; soft and freely executed with a flowing brush;—*Marcello Venusti*. To this scholar of Mich. Angelo I am inclined to attribute the well-known composition of the Crucifixion, with the Virgin and St. John at the sides. The expression is intense, the execution well understood, and of admirable body;—*Gerard Dow*, the Doctor; a medical man looking at a bottle, a woman watching him. The head very expressive; the details rich, and approaching his master, Rembrandt, in warmth of colour;—*Paul Potter*, three Cows in a Meadow. Admirable in composition, in warm and luminous colouring, and in the spirited treatment;—*Murillo*, the Virgin with the sleeping Child and Joseph. Realistic in the characters, and carefully executed. St. Francis in an ecstasy, supported by an angel, here called a *Correggio*; but I believe it to be a beautiful and careful picture in the manner of Correggio, by *Ann Carracci*, to whom an early repetition of the same is here erroneously ascribed;—*Raphael*, Pope Julius II. I would not mention this picture, of which there are such numerous repetitions, were it not different from all that I have seen, and extremely excellent. The treatment is masterly; on panel;—*Carlo Dolce*, the Virgin, with the blue mantle over her head, so often met with, here taken in profile, and of great clearness and delicacy.”

“Library.—*Murillo*, St. John the Evangelist in ecstasy, which is admirably expressed in the realistic head. The execution masterly, in a silvery tone. A John the Baptist,

whole-length figure, the size of life, which is here given to *Correggio*, I believe to be a picture by *Parmigiano*.”

“Music-room.—*G. Poussin*, two views of Tivoli, large upright pictures, which are among his finest works, for the happily chosen points of view, the clearness and completion of all the parts. A smaller, also very beautiful landscape;—*Holbein*, a half-length undraped figure, called, in defiance of all probability, William Tell; most carefully modelled from Nature, in a true, warm, and powerful tone, and in very decided forms; the hand particularly admirable;—*Parmigiano*, a small version of the larger picture in the National Gallery; careful and in a warm tone;—*Scarsellino da Ferrara*. This master, in my opinion, painted the Entry of Christ into Jerusalem, which here bears the name of *Paul Veronese*;—*Raphael Mengs*, the Virgin and Child enthroned, surrounded by Angels; feeble in character, but of a delicate harmony;—*G. Bellini*, the Adoration of the Kings, a predella of very pure conception, and peculiar composition. Joseph, who is seated near the Virgin, appears of more importance than usual. The kings, remaining at a little distance, respectfully offer their gifts. Delicately executed, with clear yellowish flesh tones;—*Stothard*, the Pilgrimage to Canterbury; the original picture and finest example by him of this often-repeated subject. The colouring warm and transparent, the execution careful;—*G. Poussin*, a Landscape, with figures in the foreground, and water in the middle distance. Nobly conceived, and of admirable keeping in the silvery tones;—*G. Mazzuola*. To this master I am inclined to attribute an allegorical representation, with the Virgin borne by angels above, and below Vice bound; here called a *Parmigiano*;—*Hogarth*, a Female Portrait; animatedly conceived, and coloured

in a light clear tone;—*Claude*, a Harbour; of great delicacy and transparency in keeping and colour;—*J. Vernet*, a Sea-piece, with the morning mist; of great truth.”

“Little Dining-room.—*Rubens*, the Conversion of St. Paul, in figures as large as life. The spirited, long-maned horse of the saint has fallen on its knee, and Paul, thrown over its head, lies on the ground with his eyes closed. Terror is most strikingly expressed in his noble, pale features. In the dazzling beam of light which falls on him from heaven our Lord appears. Rubens appears here not only with his wonted animation, but with an unusual sobriety of form and colour, which latter is, however, of surprising depth, force, and clearness, and with a sustained and careful execution. In 1806 this picture was sold for 4000 guineas;—*Lairesse*, Jupiter and Antiope; a good picture, in which he has endeavoured to imitate Titian;—*C. Maratti*, a Holy Family; a pretty picture, warmly coloured for him;—*Hogarth*, the Shrimp Girl; animatedly conceived, and sketched with the utmost freedom. A picture of the Three Graces, here attributed to *Titian*, appears to me rather the work of *Niccolo dell' Abbate*.”—*Waagen*.

[Such are the most interesting places in the immediate neighbourhood of Bristol. At greater distances, but, in point of time, as near by railway, are—to the N., *Thornbury*, 11 m., with a beautiful ch., and ruins of a castle commenced, but never finished, by Edw. Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, in the reign of Hen. VIII.; *Berkeley Castle*, and the Berkeley monuments in the ch., 19 m.; *Badminton*, the seat of the Duke of Beaufort, 16 m.—to the E., the city of *Bath*—to the S.W., *Clevedon*, *Brockley Combe*, &c. *Chepstow*, *Tintern Abbey*, the *Wynd Cliff*, and all the beautiful scenery of the *Wye*, are readily accessible either by steamer or by the S. Wales Rly.]

[*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*]

[*Portishead*, a pretty watering-place and harbour in the Bristol Channel, is distant from Bristol by Rly. 11½ m. Leaving the general station by the Bristol and Exeter Rly., the Portishead line branches off to the N., with a station at Clifton Bridge (3¼ m.), thence under Leigh Woods, following the windings of the River Avon by Pill (7¼ m.), a quaint, crowded, and not over-clean pilot-village, and Portbury (9¼ m.), an old Roman station, where the church, remains of priory, &c., should be seen.

Portishead is growing in favour with visitors seeking health or pleasure; the site is eminently picturesque, the temperature equable, the air pure and invigorating. There is a good hotel near the pier; baths, lodging-houses, &c. Delightful excursions may be made in the neighbourhood. The harbour is sheltered by a densely-wooded hill, rising abruptly out of the sea, commanding views of the Channel from the N. Devon Foreland, the mountain-coast of Wales, King Road, and the River Severn to and beyond Wynd Cliff and Aust. In the deep-water entrance to the estuary on the S.E. a pier, of timber and artificial granite, has been constructed, used by Irish, Welsh, and other steamers, to avoid the tidal delays of the River Avon. Steamers also ply constantly between the pier and Ilfracombe, Cardiff, Newport, &c. On the N.W. point of this hill-promontory is a small fort, commanding the Channel. The Parliamentary army took it from the Royalists in 1645. Early in the present century it was dismantled and sold; but has recently been repurchased by the Crown, repaired, and armed with a battery of four guns. Opposite is a small island shaped curiously like a sailor's hat, and beyond are the great sand-banks called *Welsh Grounds*.

Modern villas stud the hill-slopes overlooking the sea. The old vil-

lage occupies the long sheltered valley on the S.; the *Ch.* is small, style Perp., except some Dec. arches and windows; the tower lofty and good. A Norm. font, one of the few still well preserved, and the old stone-cross near the S. porch, deserve notice. The *Court House* shows interesting specimens of 16th-cent. domestic architecture.

2½ m. S. of Portishead, at the foot of Naish Hill, is the little village of *Clapton-in-Gordano*. "Its pleasing situation, the small ch. on a high bank amongst luxuriant foliage, its distance from all modern associations, and the picturesque seclusion of the spot, with the remains of the manor house close by, give a singular charm to the place." The *Court House* is (or was) very curious; the chief external feature was a square tower, added c. 1440; the walls of house, c. 1310; the hall was destroyed, but a double oak door, communicating with the buttery, &c., remained till lately, and was a most interesting fragment of an earlier house, c. 1210—"probably the most remarkable piece of early wooden domestic screenwork in existence."—*J. H. P.* See Mr. E. W. Godwin's memoir, *Archæol. Journ.*, vol. xvii. (It now stands in the garden.) The *Ch.* deserves notice for its singular and irregular outline, and its architectural peculiarities. It has work of all dates, Norm., E.E., Dec., and Perp. The plain square tower, with a pierced battlement, is of the 13th cent. The bench ends are, perhaps, some of the earliest wooden seats in England. The reredos is ornamented with two E.E. shafts, supporting candlesticks of an early date.]

We will now proceed from Bristol on our main route westwards by the Bristol and Exeter Rly. The line traverses the *Bedminster coalfield*, commanding a fine view rt. of Clifton, and the gorge of the Avon with the

elegant curve of the Suspension Bridge. Further on we have on our l. the high ridge of *Dundry Hill*, crowned with its lofty tower, and rt. *Ashton Court* and *Leigh Down*.

Ashton Court (Sir J. H. Greville Smyth, Bart.) was brought prominently before the public some years ago by an impudent attempt to gain possession of it on the part of an impostor, in 1853, calling himself "Sir Richard Smyth," who ended his days in prison. The Court, situated on a gentle eminence, and backed by a well-wooded park, enclosed and planted by Thomas de Lyons, 1391, presents an extensive front, 150 ft. in length, erected by Inigo Jones in 1634; but at the back of the mansion still remain the ancient gateway and the windows, battlements, and buttresses of the old Court.

In the 15th centy. it was the residence of Sir Richard Choke, Lord Chief Justice of England, who died 1486, and is buried in Ashton Church.

The old gallery in the Court is full of interesting family portraits, some of them of great merit—one particularly, of Helena, a Swedish lady, Marchioness Dowager of Northampton, Maid of Honour to Queen Elizabeth, and mother of Elizabeth, wife of Sir Hugh Smyth, who, with her 2nd husband, Sir Thomas Gorges, lies buried under a splendid monument in Salisbury Cathedral. (See *ante*.)

Long Ashton Church, founded by Thomas de Lyons, c. 1390, contains many fine monuments to the Smyths of Ashton Court, the slab of its founder's destroyed altar-tomb, and an oak screen of good workmanship.

124½ m. l., *Flax Bourton Ch.* has a Norman door and chancel arch, and a sancte bell cot. 1 m. S., 5 m. from Bristol, is *Barrow Gurney*. The churchyard cross has been restored as a memorial of her son, by Mrs. Frankland Hood. *Barrow Court*, a very fine Elizabethan house, was

built on the site of a nunnery, and has been for many generations the seat of the Gore family—now T. H. Blagrave, Esq.

Beyond it is *Dial Quarry*, in the inferior oolite. The road to Axbridge here ascends *Broadfield Down*, and enters a hilly country, rich in beauty. 1. are *Hartcliff Rocks*; rt. the *Goblin Combe* and *Hill Scars*; and, at a distance of 2 m., the romantic valley of *Brockley Combe*. On the N.W. shoulder of Broadfield Down is one of the 3 igneous vents mentioned by Dr. Buckland as occurring in this county. The 2nd is at the Uphill cutting, on the Mendips; the 3rd at Hestercombe, on the Quantocks.

126½ m. *Nailsea Stat.*, where *Cadbury Camp* is about 2 m. to the rt. The ch. of Nailsea has a *stone pulpit*, with steps in a recess in the wall. A little further down the line are remains of the manor-house of *Chelvey Court*, now a farmhouse, but still retaining many of the old panelled chambers, one of which has a hiding-room at the back of the fireplace. On the porch are the arms of Tynte, the family who became owners of the house and manor about 1600.

At *Nailsea Court*, 1¼ m. down the line, a fine old manor-house, once the seat of the Bythemores, and afterwards of the Percevals, the ancestors of the Earl of Egmont, was born, in 1551, Richard Perceval, who first discovered the designs of Spain against England previous to the sailing of the Spanish Armada. At the extremity of Nailsea parish are extensive glassworks, belonging to Mr. S. Bowen.

Chelvey Ch. has a Norm. door, and 13th-cent. windows, and contains memorials of the families of Aish and Tynte, including an incised slab of the 13th centy.

1½ m. S.E. of Nailsea Station is *Backwell Ch.*, standing on a picturesque site, among rocky heights and deep glens. The tower is fine

and tall, of two dates, the upper part of which was, according to local tradition, rebuilt after a storm, in 1603. It contains good canopied sedilia, and a rich tomb to one of the Rodney family, with an effigy in armour.

2 m. S.W. of the Nailsea Station, about 4 m. from that at Yatton, 9 m. from Bristol, is

Brockley Combe, a wooded and rocky hollow among the spurs of the Mendips. This tract abounds in picturesque beauty; its chief characteristics are rocky eminences, richly clothed with wood and intersected with precipitous ravines. Brockley Combe is more than a mile long, and the rocks are in some places 300 ft. high. The *Ch.* stands very prettily. It contains a richly carved reredos and pulpit. Adjoining it is *Brockley Hall*, a seat of the family of Pigott. Towards the close of day the valley forms a vista to the setting sun, which in its descent illuminates the distant sea. Brockley was a favourite spot with the poet Coleridge, who in one of his rambles from Clevedon composed the following lines:—

"With many a pause and oft reverted eye
I climb the Coomb's ascent: sweet songsters near
Warble in shade their wild-wood melody:
Far off the unvarying cuckoo soothes my ear:
Up scour the startling stragglers of the flock
That on green plots or precipices browse:
From the deep fissures of the naked rock
The yew-tree bursts! Beneath its dark green boughs
(Mid which the May-thorn blends its blossoms white),
Where broad smooth stones jut out in mossy seats,
I rest:—and now have gain'd the topmost site.
Ah! what a luxury of landscape meets
My gaze! Proud towers, and cots more dear to me,
Elm-shadow'd fields, and prospect-bounding sea:
Deep sighs my lonely heart: I drop a tear:
Enchanting spot! O were my Sara here!"

Cleve Combe is another rugged valley of a character similar to that

of Brockley. It is nearer the Yatton Stat., being 3 m. to the E. of it.

At the lower end of thecombe rises *Cleve Toot*, a curious pile of limestone rocks, the summits of which, as seen from the road, look like a huge chair, whence a fine view can be obtained. Below it is *Cleve Court* (Mrs. Castle), and *Cleve House* (E. J. Daubeny, Esq.).

130½ m. Yatton Stat., where branches diverge rt. to Clevedon, and l. (now in process of construction) by Axbridge and Cheddar to Wells (Rte 20).

The village of *Yatton* (½ m. S. of the stat.), or Gate-town, takes its name from the flood-gate of the estuary, now dry, and converted into Kenn and Nailsea Moors. *Yatton Ch.* deserves careful attention. Though unequal, it is one of the finest of the Somersetshire churches. It is cruciform, with central tower and truncated spire. The chancel, transept, and base of the tower, contain portions of earlier date, E. E., Dec., and early Perp. The nave and N. chapel are Perp. of noble proportions and rich ornamentation. The W. front has a fine window, with a peculiar solid mullion running up its centre, set between hexagonal corner turrets with pyramidal caps; similar smaller turrets flank the aisles. The W. door is rich, with statues in the jambs. The S. porch is lofty and elaborately carved. The N. door is a lovely composition under an ogee arch. The N. chapel, being loftier than the chancel, and having a lean-to roof, has a singularly awkward effect outside. At the N.E. angle is a staircase turret, with a spirelet of remarkable beauty. The nave arcade is very stately, and the details good. The roofs throughout are coved, with lateral featherings in the aisles. The crossing is low. The N. chapel is full of elaborate work—rich niches flanking the E. window, a lovely pillar piscina under a canopy, and a magnificent altar-tomb with a

very lofty and elaborate canopy, with effigies of a knight in armour, and his lady. In the N. transept is the rich altar-tomb of Judge Newton, d. 1449, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, clothed in his robes with a collar of SS round his neck, and his lady by his side. Under the N. window are 2 ogee canopied recesses, containing a male and female effigy, apparently removed thither from another place. The *Rectory*, adjoining the churchyard, is an ancient house worth notice.

[A branch of 4½ m. leads to the favourite watering-place of Clevedon. It passes on l. *Kingston-Seymour*, The *Ch.*, of the 14th and 15th cents., has a good tower and spire. There is a peculiar squint in the S.W. angle of the chancel. A tablet inside commemorates the destructive inundations of 1606 and 1703. On a tombstone is the following strange epitaph:—

“ J. H.

He was universally beloved in the circle of His acquaintance; but united In his death the esteem of all, Namely, by bequeathing his remains.”

Further on rt. is *Kenn*, supposed to be the original seat of Bp. Ken's family, to whom there are tablets in the little church, now rebuilt.

CLEVEDON (*Inns*: Pier Hotel: Royal; Bristol). This watering-place is a creation of the last 30 years, being the off-shoot of a village which has been seated here from a remote time, 1 m. from the sea, under a rocky height called Dial Hill. It is a collection of villas, sheltered by high land on the N.E., and extending over undulating ground above the cliffs of a small bay. It is an increasing place, and a pier has been erected, opened Easter, 1869. W. of it, the country is very flat for some miles, but S. and E. it is hilly and beautiful.

The places to be seen in the im-

mediate vicinity are *Dial Hill*, *Walton Church*, *Walton Castle*, and *Clevedon Court*; and at various distances, *Cadbury Camp*, the view from *Cadbury Hill*, *Brockley Combe*, *Clevedon Combe*, and the *Cheddar Cliffs*. At the end of the old village is

Myrtle Cottage, for some time the residence of *S. T. Coleridge*, the poet, who sings its praises in his 'Sibylline Leaves,'—

"Low was our pretty cot; our tallest rose
Peeped at the chamber window. We could
hear

At silent noon, and eve, and early morn,
The sea's faint murmur. In the open air
Our myrtle blossom'd; and across the porch
Thick jasmins twined: the little landscape
round

Was green and woody, and refresh'd the eye.
It was a spot which you might aptly call
The Valley of Seclusion!"

The *Old Church*, St. Andrew, on Clevedon Point, was in early times attached to the Abbey of St. Augustine in Bristol. It is cruciform in plan. Its principal feature is the Transition chancel arch. The lower part of the tower and the arch into the N. transept are Norman. The S. transept, externally supported by Dec. buttresses, has a fine Perp. window to the S. This church contains the effigy of a knight in a recumbent position, resting his feet upon a bull. In the S. transept are the remains of Henry Hallam, the historian, and of his wife, daughter, and two sons. Mrs. Hallam was the daughter of Sir Abraham Elton of Clevedon Court. The name of their elder son, Arthur Hallam, is indissolubly associated with Tennyson's poem 'In Memoriam.' Mr. Hallam selected this as a burial place, as he says in the memoir of his elder son, "not only from the connection of kindred, but on account of its still and sequestered situation on a lone hill that overhangs the Bristol Channel." It is to this hill, and to this channel, and to this grave, to which the remains of the old, heartbroken father have since been added, that

Tennyson refers in his pathetic lines—

"And the stately ships go on
To their haven under the hill!
But, O for the touch of a vanished hand
And the sound of a voice that is still!

Break, break, break,
At the foot of thy crags, O sea!
But the tender grace of a day that is dead
Will never come back to me."

Christ Church is a modern building, of which the style may be guessed from its date, 1838.

All Saints, East Clevedon, is a beautiful and highly ornate edifice, consecrated 1860, with a central tower and low broach spire. The windows contain rich modern stained glass.

Dial Hill, which rises immediately above the town, commands a wide and attractive view, embracing the mountains of Glamorganshire, the Steep and Flat Holms, the Mendips with their pyramidal height of Crook's Peak, the lofty hills beyond Yatton, and those stretching towards Bristol, with their intervening valleys. Pathways conduct to different points, called, in local parlance, respectively the Bonnie View, the Mountain Pass, and Strawberry or Bella Vista Hill.

Continuing our walk from this hill along the coast, we descend upon a valley, which, once quiet and solitary, contained only the ruins of old *Walton Church*, with its grey walls and mutilated cross overgrown with ivy, but which is now likely to become a large suburb of Clevedon. New houses and villas are rapidly rising, and the ruined church has been restored for the use of the vicinity. On the lofty hill beyond it are the remains of

Walton Castle, once probably a hunting seat of the Paulett family. The ruins occupy the summit of a furzy height between the sea and the woods of Walton Court, and consist of an octagonal wall with a tower at each angle, and, in the area

thus formed, of an octagonal keep with a tower at one angle. There is little, however, ancient in the appearance of the castle, which was probably erected in the reign of James I. in the mediæval style. The walls are but slightly built, and they are pierced for large windows, which must have commanded the rarest prospects. At the farther end of the hill is a tower which forms an ornament to the grounds of *Walton Rectory*. Beyond it we can descend to a road which has come from *Portishead*, and turns abruptly to the village of

Walton-in-Gordano, which, according to the tradition, stood formerly near the ruin of its parish church. It is in a pretty dell among hills affording many beautiful scenes. Here the road from *Clevedon* to *Portishead* divides, and at the point of divergence there is an elm, which, rising many feet with the straightness of an arrow, launches forth at once its huge limbs horizontally. The higher road to *Portishead* passes *Weston-in-Gordano*, of which the ch. has some interesting features, and is well worthy of inspection. It is of Perp. date, with excellent E. window, screen, and chancel stalls, a curious recess apparently intended for a pulpit, and the remnant of a small platform over the S. door and inside the porch, to which access was gained by narrow stone stairs. The same may be observed at *Wraxall Church*. Against the N. wall of the nave may be noticed the monument of *Richard Perceval*, who d. 1482, which has been well restored.

A portion of the old court-house still remains on the S. side of the church.

From *Walton* we can return towards *Clevedon*, and visit

Clevedon Court (*Sir Arthur Hallam Elton, Bart.*), about 1 m. E. of the *Elton*. It was built in the reign of *Edw. II.*, remodelled in that of *Eliz.*, and much altered at various subse-

quent periods. It has a fine front, chiefly of the 14th centy., with a porch and room over it, and a square-headed window with reticulated tracery. The kitchen and parts of the hall are the most ancient, but the fine oak roof is hidden by a modern ceiling. The library has a rich chimney-piece, erected by the *Walle* family in 1570. The hill above commands a splendid view, which, together with the house and grounds, is open to the public every Thursday between the hours of 12 and 3. The hall contains a number of family portraits, including one (a copy) of *Hallam*, the historian.

3¼ m. E. of *Clevedon Stat.*, 2½ m. N. of *Nailsea*, in the valley, is

Tickenham, a village remarkable for the remains of a *manor-house*, of the early part of the 15th centy. The hall is nearly perfect, but has a plain modern roof. The domestic offices are in 2 stories, the upper approached by a newel staircase. The withdrawing room, and some of the upper rooms, have remains of rich flat oaken ceilings. The *Ch.* which is a very interesting study, has a rude Norm. chancel arch, an E. E. S. porch, and a Dec. window studded with armorial shields. In the N. aisle under the wall are 2 cross-legged effigies in chain mail, temp. *Hen. III.* or *Edw. I.*, and one of a female, and in the churchyard the broken shaft of a cross overshadowed by ancient yew-trees.

1½ m. beyond is *Wraxall*, beautifully situated in a hollow under the hill. In the church remark the font and the altar-tomb of *Sir E. and Lady Ann Gorges*, 1512, the singular gallery in the porch, and the fine cross in the churchyard. The *manor-house* was a very fine building, but has been all modernised except the porch, which bears the characters *S. G. 1658*. In the vicinity are—*Wraxall Lodge*, *J. Ford, Esq.*; *Wraxall House*, *T. L. Jenkins, Esq.*;

Tyntesfield, the magnificent new house of Will. Gibbs, Esq.; *Belmont*, Mrs. Jos. Gibbs.

On the hill above Tickenham is *Cadbury Camp*, a Belgic entrenchment of 7 acres, 190 yds. in diameter, with 2 ditches and 3 ramparts, on the same ridge of hills as Clevedon Court. It is on a commanding point, overlooking the vale of Nailsea on the one side, and of Portbury on the other, and is formed by 2 ramparts made of loose stones. If you pursue the Walton road for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, you will find a path on the rt. which will lead you direct to it. A lane just beyond this path goes to the same destination.]

Proceeding again on our route by railway:—we cross the Yeo to

133 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Banwell* Stat. The town (*Inns*: Ship; Bull) lies 3 m. to the l., in a pretty situation under Banwell Hill. This limestone height has been long known for its *bone-caves*, in which have been found the remains of the bear, with those of the buffalo, deer, wolf, fox, and other animals. The bones of these creatures were embedded in a floor of hardened mud, and are supposed to have been collected by beasts of prey, which made the cavern their den. There are 2 chambers, of which the larger is about 60 ft. in breadth and 40 ft. in height, the floor sloping downward 150 ft., when it terminates in a petrification called the *Bishop's Chair*. Other bone-caves may be found at *Hutton*, 3 m. W.; at *Uphill*, 5 m. W., almost under the church; at *Sandford*, 2 m. N.E.; and at *Loxton* and *Compton Bishop*, both 3 m. S., under the heights of Crook's Peak. A fine collection of these bones, formed by a local geologist, Mr. Beard, has been purchased by subscription, and removed to the Museum at Taunton. The greater part of Banwell Hill, including the bone-caves, is the property of Capt. Law, who has a cot-

tage here, built in 1827. The *obelisk* was erected by his grandfather, the late Bishop of Bath and Wells. To the S. are seen the loftier heights of *Wavering Down* and *Crook's Peak*, which with Banwell Hill and Brean Down form the western points of the Mendips. Immediately E. is *Park Hill*, with remains of a small camp on its summit.

According to Leland an abbey existed here in the time of Alfred, of which his biographer Asser was abbot. It was given by Edward the Confessor to the see of Wells. It was sold by Bp. Barlow to Protector Somerset, but restored by Mary. A manor-house was built by Bp. Beckington, of which some remains exist in *Banwell Court*. The chapel is turned into a cider cellar. *Tower Head House* was built by Bp. Godwyn in 1584 as a summer residence. The front bears the Bp.'s arms and a canting motto, "Godwyn. Wyn God, wyn all."

Banwell Church is, for its nave and aisles, one of the most thoroughly beautiful of its class to be seen. "The proportions of the aisles and clerestory are absolutely perfect. The turrets at the E. end of the nave are very noble."—*E. A. F.* The belfry is richly groined. The chancel screen has fan-tracery vaulting. There are a fine stone pulpit and carved oak seats. The chancel is inferior. The E. window is decorated with ancient stained glass, and there are several modern painted windows. The font is E. E. The tower is a very fine one, with rich pinnacles and parapets.

Continuing our route across the marshy flats, and observing how grandly the great outlying islands of limestone rise out of the sea of green pasture, the rly. reaches

136 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Weston-super-Mare Junction*, from which the favourite watering-place of Weston-super-Mare is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant N.W.

[WESTON-SUPER-MARE. (Inns: Rogers' Hotel; Bath Hotel; Fenner's Pier Hotel, near the new pier. Pop. 8038.) This fashionable watering-place is situated at the corner of a capacious bay under a rocky fir-covered hill. It sweeps along the shore in a crescent of handsome houses and a parade of great width, and commands a charming view of the mountains of Wales, of the 2 islets of Steep Holm and Flat Holm, and of its own rocky heights—Worle Hill above the town, and Brean Down at the S. horn of the bay. The sea, however, here is of a tawny colour, and its retreating waves expose such an extent of ooze that the town has been nicknamed from it *Weston-super-mud*. But there is a smooth beach of sand. An alluvial level, once a marsh, extends inland to the foot of high hills. On the opposite point of the bay a rugged rock stands islanded in the sea. There is a very long and good esplanade, with reading-rooms, bazaars, and the usual agréments of watering-places. The *Prince Consort's Promenade Gardens* are just above Anchor Head.

Excursions may be made to *Woodspring Priory*, to *Brockley Combe* (by rail to Nailsea), to *Clevedon*, to *Banwell*, 6 m.; to *Cheddar*, 12 m.; to *Crook's Peak*, 8 m.; to *Brent Knoll*, passing by *Lympsham*, well known for its beautiful church tower, and its rectory opposite (Rev. J. H. Stephenson), and *East Brent*, under the knoll, with a fine well restored ch.

In the town there are several *intermittent springs* which are influenced by the sea. One at Clarence Lodge ceases to flow when the tide reaches the rocks, and others in the vicinity of *Knightstone* are variously affected.

The parish *Ch.*, *St. John the Baptist*, was erected, 1824, on the site of the old fabric, and is a plain and ugly building. A new chancel was added to it in 1837, by the then

rector, *Dean Law* of Gloucester, and has a handsome E. window full of richly stained glass, some of it ancient. In the ch.-yard is the stump of a cross. *Emmanuel Ch.* was erected in 1847, and two other churches have since been built, of which *Trinity Ch.* deserves some commendation for its originality.

Worle Hill rises 306 ft. above the sea. To ascend this hill, we proceed to *Anchor Head*, the extreme E. point of the town and bay, passing, on a rock called *Knightstone*, a group of lodging-houses and the *baths*, with an open reservoir in which the sediment is deposited from the muddy water, and turn up the hill by a path among the firs. It commands a view of the town below, of the *Quantocks*, the *Mendips*, the heights about *Clifton*, and the coast of Wales. But the most delightful walk is along the sea-front of the hill, where a prospect greets us which is certainly among the finest in the W. of England, including, seen through a foreground of firs and dark rocks of limestone, a near view of the Welsh mountains, and many distinct ranges in Somerset and the adjoining counties. Hence, too, we can see well the features characteristic of this part of Somerset, viz. the extensive marshy flats, each bounded by hills, and the numerous detached and outlying knolls.

Worle Hill, or *Worlebury*, is about 3 m. in length, but little more than a furlong in breadth. On its summit are remains of a *camp* of about 20 acres, formed on the E. side by 2 ramparts of stone, and further protected by no less than 7 outlying ditches; a flight of about 200 rude stairs, called *Kew Steps*, descends to the village of *Kewstoke*, and what was once the shore, before the sea receded. Along the top of the pass run the foundations of a building which was probably a military work, but is popularly supposed to have been the hermitage of *St. Kew*. Within the area of the camp, which

contains several of those *hut-circles* so common on the moors of Devonshire, have been found arrow and spear heads; remains of the *bos longifrons*, a species of ox known in Britain at an early period; and human bones and skulls much battered and notched, as if a desperate struggle had here occurred. The Rev. Mr. Warre thinks that this camp was destroyed by Ostorius in the reign of Claudius, and that the Britons were subsequently defeated here in the Saxon irruption under Ceawlin, year 577. Nothing Roman, save coins, has been discovered.

Along the flank of this hill a carriage-road has been cut through the wood of fir and oak to *Kewstoke*, 2 m., commanding at every part the most delightful views over the channel and Welsh mountains. It is a public drive, but private property.

Kewstoke Ch. is an interesting little building, with a Norm. door and stone pulpit. A mural reliquary found here, containing a cup in which was some dried human blood, supposed to have been that of Becket, brought from Woodspring Priory, is now in the Museum at Taunton.]

Woodspring Priory, now a farmhouse, is about 4 m. N. of Weston, at the farther end of Sand Bay, under a rocky headland called the *Middle Hope*, in a lonely position, in the marshes near the mouth of the Yeo. It was founded for Augustine canons, in honour of St. Thomas of Canterbury, c. 1210, by William de Courtenay, descendant of Wm. de Tracy, and nearly allied to the 3 other murderers of the sainted Abp. The pleasantest way to it is by the road as far as *Kewstoke*, and then by the shore to the *Middle Hope*. It is an interesting old building, entered by a fine double gateway with segmental arches. Passing through this, we find ourselves in a small courtyard, with the domestic buildings on the N. and the wall of the cloister to the W.; the front of the ch. facing us. The

W. window (blocked) is flanked by octagonal turrets. The *Ch.* has a central tower, which remains, but no transepts. The chancel is destroyed. The nave and aisles have become a farmhouse. The refectory, a noble hall, 45 ft. by 19 ft., to the S., is used as a waggon-house.

Below the E. end of *Worle Hill* stands the little village of *Worle*, with a rudish *Ch.*, possessing a low tower and stumpy spire, and a stone pulpit. Near the ch. is a large ancient barn, converted into a school.

Wick St. Laurence, 1 m. S.E. of *Woodspring*, lies in the rich alluvial flat at the mouth of the Yeo. The small *Ch.* has a very rich stone pulpit.

In the sea below *Worle Hill* lies the rugged islet of *Bearn Rock* or *Bearn Back*, which from the middle of October to Christmas is the scene of a busy *sprat fishery*. The capture is effected by nets stretched on poles from the shore to the island, and the finny shoals thus secured are removed at low water when the channel is dry. The operation is worth seeing, especially at night, when the little fish glitter in the beams of the moon. The fishery is pursued along this coast on a considerable scale. More than 10,000*l.* has been made by it in a season; and a ton of sprats has been sold in Taunton market on a single day.

An iron pier, connecting *Bearn Back* with the mainland, was opened in 1867, and forms a most agreeable promenade. A landing stage at the foot of the island has also been constructed, allowing steamers to disembark passengers at all times of the tide.

Uphill Old Ch., S., deserted and ruinous, is an object for another short ramble. You will pursue the level road which skirts the shore of the bay, and in 2 m. reach the ruin which crowns a rocky hill. Consisting of a nave, a chancel, and a central tower, it exhibits the architecture of

almost every style from Norman to late Perpendicular. The Norman porch is one of its chief features. It is a notable landmark, and commands an extensive view, particularly towards the S.W., in which direction the eye ranges to the Quantocks across the great *Burnham Level*, resting midway on *Brent Knoll*, which rises from this plain with singular abruptness. Below the hill the river *Axe* sluggishly creeps to the sea, and at its mouth rises *Brean Down*, where the white cistus did grow, and may, perhaps, still be found; this bold and conspicuous promontory of *Brean Down*, with precipitous cliffs, is in a direct line with the *Steep Holm*, another outlier of the Mendip limestone. The sandy beach extends without a break to the embouchure of the *Brue*, some 7 m. distant.

Brean Ch. is a quaint group of buildings, with the gabled stump of a tower. The northerly dip of the mountain limestone may be observed in the fractured end of *Brean Down*.

At the other extremity the Government has built a battery to defend this part of the channel, in connection with another battery erected on the *Flat Holm*, and one on *Laverock Point*. A company has also been formed to build a pier and harbour near the same spot, to be connected by a line of rail with the *Bristol and Exeter Railway*.

A delightful ramble may be had on *Brean Down*, which can be reached from *Weston*, along the sands or by boat, when the tide serves, or by road through *Uphill* and *Bleadon*, crossing the river *Axe* at *Hobb's Boat Bridge*, or by a new road along the rly. Observe the ancient earthworks across the down, the beacon on the summit, and the sites of several British hut-circles.

Uphill is supposed to have been the Roman *Axium*, from which the mining produce of the Mendips was shipped. (A Roman road has been

traced over the Mendips, and the Wiltshire Downs to Old *Sarum*.—See *Introduction*.) In the hill on which the ch. stands is

Uphill Cavern, one of those bone-caves so numerous in the mountain limestone. It was discovered in 1826, and was then filled with the remains of sheep, oxen, pigs, and horses, and of animals long since extinct in this country, such as the elephant, rhinoceros, bear, and hyæna. Many of these bones were indented with the marks of teeth, so that the cavern was, doubtless, at one time a den of wild beasts. At *Hutton*, towards *Banwell*, there is a similar cave.

Hutton Ch., 2 m. S. of *Weston Junction Stat.*, is a small but handsome building, on a slight eminence, possessing a stone pulpit and groined belfry, with some mural brasses to the *Payne* family. *Hutton Manor-house*, an ancient building, modernised, contains a 15th-cent. hall, with arched roof and panelled chimney-piece. Above *Hutton, S.*, rises the long lofty ridge of *Bleadon Hill*, the scene, according to *Hearne*, of a bloody contest with the *Danes*. On the W. side are some British earthworks. *Bleadon* was the manor of *Earl Godwin's* wife, *Githa*, who gave it to the support of the refectory of *Winchester*. The *Ch.* on the S. side of the hill has a good pinnacled tower. There is a very pretty cross in the churchyard.

The *Steep Holm* and *Flat Holm* (*Holm*, Scandinavian for island), rocky islets off this coast, are objects well known to all who navigate the *Bristol Channel*, as they stand directly in the course of vessels, and the latter shows a light for their guidance. They are both outlying masses of the mountain limestone of the Mendip range, on the axis of the chain prolonged under the sea, the one being connected with *Crook's Peak* by the links of *Brean Down*, *Uphill*, and *Bleadon Hill*; the other with

Banwell Hill by those of Bearn Back and Worle Hill.

The Steep Holm rises 400 ft. from the sea. It is known to botanists as the habitat of the *single pæony*. It is a rock about 1½ m. round, very difficult of access. Gildas took refuge here, and wrote his treatise "De Excidio Britanniae," and it afforded an asylum to the Danes after the defeat at Watchet, and to Harold's mother after the battle of Hastings.

The Flat Holm, 1½ m. round, with good bathing, forms a favourite resort in summer to the Bristolians.]

Starting again, we dash through a projecting tongue of the Mendips by the deep *Uphill cutting*, which displays an excellent section of the strata, including some igneous rocks. We then enter the alluvial flats, or *levels*, of N. Somerset, a district of about 200 sq. m., watered by Drayton's

"battening, marshy Brent,"

remarkable for fertility, extending from Wells to Bridgwater, and well known for affording some of the most valuable grazing land in England. The Pawlet Hams on the Parrett, between Bridgwater and the sea, are the richest grazing grounds in the county; let sometimes for as much as 5*l.* or 6*l.* an acre. All these levels are banked from the sea, the coast being higher than the marsh, so that the drainage is inland, and are intersected in every direction by dykes, or *rhines*, for the drainage, and in many places contain extensive beds of peat, often 30 ft. deep, enclosing the horns of the red deer, and the blackened trunks and branches of oak trees (locally "underground oak"). Around this great plain of 200 sq. m. are seen the ancient coast lines with hills projecting as promontories, or standing detached like islands. These break the monotony of the level surface; but intrinsically the district has a certain claim to attention. To a

farmer the mere ground that will fatten a bullock on every acre will be probably as attractive as any hill-side hung with wood or scarred by unprofitable rocks; but the botanist may also revel among its rare and dainty flowers—such as the *andromeda*, the *bog myrtle*, the *asphodel*, and the *sun-dew*; the entomologist will find many uncommon insects, and the antiquary be rewarded for seeking out its churches and manor-houses. In Tudor and Stuart times the marsh had its "aristocracy," wealthy graziers, whose acres were as numerous as their broad pieces, who farmed their own estates, and lived in the fine old English style in the midst of their herds. Those were the genial days when

"Muster Guy was a gentleman
O' Huntspill, well known
As a grazier, a hirsch un
Wi' lands o' his awn ;"

"but mangold-wurzel and the swede turnip," says Mr. Acland, "have introduced great changes, and the race no longer exists in its glory." The cone of *Brent Knoll* is seen on the l. rising 457 ft. above the marshes. It is composed of lias, with a cap of inferior oolite; the cap being pretty well defined by the earthworks of an ancient camp, in which Roman coins and other relics have been found. There is a tradition that King Alfred here defended himself against the Danes, and the name of *Battleborough*, at the foot of the hill, is evidence of some fight having occurred here. The Romans took possession of the country between the Avon and the Parrett in the reign of the Emperor Claudius.

3 m. from Weston Junction l. is *Lympsham*, with its fine ch. tower of the ordinary type of Somersetshire steeples. The N. aisle has a rich panelled roof. The beautiful *Rectory* stands close by. Further on, we pass on the same side of the rly.,

East Brent to the N. and *South Brent* to the W. of Brent Knoll, both

with interesting churches. That of *East Brent* is wholly Perp., with a tower decorated with fine niches containing regal statues, surmounted by a wooden spire. The windows contain some ancient stained glass. The *Ch.* of *South Brent* is superior to that of its neighbour, and, like it, is wholly Perp., with the exception of a semi-Norman doorway, and a S. transept, which is Dec. It has only an aisle to the N., but the nave is long, and has a good arcade. There is a remarkable number of fine bench ends, with grotesque carvings and poppy heads. The tower is good, and has pinnacles and a pierced parapet. Both the Brents belonged formerly to the abbots of Glastonbury, who had here a mansion-house at E. Brent (taken down in 1708), in which it was their custom to pass the festive season of Christmas. 12 houses were held by the service of drawing wine for the monks at that time.

Hooked Lane leads straight from this village to the lighthouse near Burnham.

145½ m. *Highbridge* Stat., the junction for the *Somerset and Dorset Rly.* (Rte. 18); where also a branch diverges to the watering-place of Burnham, 1½ m. rt. Close to the *stat.* l. is a church, conspicuous for its spire and roof, banded with red and black tile.

[*Burnham* (Bruen Ham, from the river Brue, which here runs into the sea) (*Inns*: Clarence Hotel; Reed's Arms, good new hotel, close to the station. Pop. 2252.) is much frequented by the inhabitants of Bridgwater and Bristol. It has a fine sandy beach; but the sea retires from it 4 m. at low water. ½ m. to the N. is the *lighthouse* to shew the entrance of the River Parrett; and close to the beach are 2 *mineral springs*, welling up near each other, but differing in their qualities, the one being saline, the other sulphurous. Burnham *Ch.* is chiefly remarkable for a very stately

white marble altarpiece, designed by Inigo Jones for Whitehall Chapel, erected by Sir Chr. Wren at Westminster Abbey, removed for the coronation of George IV., and given by Bishop King, of Rochester, who was then canon of Westminster, to this parish, of which he was vicar. It is many sizes too large for the *ch.*, of which it obliterates the E. window. There is a long nave and chancel, with panelled waggon-roof.

Continuing our route, we keep in view the Mendips, and passing *Huntspill*, probably named from "Hun," the leader of the men of Somerset, killed in the battle of Ellandun, A.D. 823, where the *Ch.* is worth a visit, containing monuments with quaint epitaphs to the Rodneys and Fanes, and the isolated knoll of *Pawlet*, rt., and the ridge of Poldon Hill, l., and traversing *Horsay Slime*, a pastureland remarkable for its richness, enter the station of

151½ m. BRIDGWATER, on the outskirts of the town. (*Inns*: Royal Clarence Hotel; Railway Hotel; Globe, by the bridge. Pop. 12,120.) Bridgwater is seated on the banks of the Parrett, 6 m. in a direct line from the sea, and 12 m. by the course of the river, on the border of a marshy plain which stretches from the Mendip to the Quantock hills. It is an ancient town. It derives its name—a corruption of Brugie of Walter—from Walter de Douai, a Norman baron, on whom the manor, then called Brugie, was bestowed by the Conqueror. It is a town chiefly of red brick houses, connected by an iron bridge with a suburb called *Eastover*, burnt by Fairfax in 1645. The castle was built in John's time, 1201, by Walter de Briwere, who also commenced the bridge of 3 arches, and formed the haven which were finished temp. Edw. I. by Sir Thomas Trivet, one of the king's justices. The earliest charter, confirming those of Walter

de Briwere, is one of Edward I. In the reign of Edward IV. the town had lost much of its trade from neglect of the needful repairs of the port.

At the time of the Great Rebellion, the castle, which mounted 40 guns, and the town were held for the king by Col. Wyndham, but were taken July 23, 1645, by Fairfax. Fairfax, with his army, of which he was the nominal general, but Cromwell the real head, sat down before the town after the battle of Langport, July 11, 1645. The storming commenced Monday, July 21st, after sermons by Hugh Peters on the day before, who did his work "tam Marte quam Mercurio" (*Sprigge*), and the suburb of Eastover was taken, and, being fired by red-hot shot from the garrison, was burnt to the ground. The old town was surrendered on the 23rd, about 1000 officers and soldiers, besides gentlemen and malignant clergy, marched out as prisoners. There were also taken jewels, plate, and goods of great value, which had been sent to the castle, supposed to be impregnable, from all parts of the neighbourhood. These were sold in London, giving 5s. to each soldier. After the surrender the town was fired, and great part of it burnt. This exploit crowned Fairfax's successes in the West, giving the Parliament a chain of garrisons from the Bristol to the English Channel, and cutting off all communication between the royalist forces in the West and the rest of England.

Monmouth was proclaimed king by the mayor and corporation in their robes of office at the High Cross, June 21, 1685. He returned thither, July 2, "in circumstances far less cheering than those in which he had marched thence 10 days before. At one moment he thought of fortifying the town, and hundreds of labourers were summoned to dig trenches and throw up mounds." — *Macaulay*. Monmouth had his quarters at the

castle, which he left for the fatal field of Sedgemoor by what is still called *War Lane*, Sunday, July 6.

The *Church of St. Mary Magdalene*, a large structure of red stone, is principally remarkable for its slender spire, which rises to a height of 174 ft. from the ground. The greater part of the ch. appears to have been altered or rebuilt about 1420; the N. porch, and some of the windows of the nave being older, and dating probably between 1327-77. The N. porch is a fine specimen of the Geometrical style, where the squints commanding a view of the high altar should be noticed. The interior, which has been restored, has a roof and screens of black oak, and two rows of clustered columns. The altarpiece, a Descent from the Cross, was taken in a prize during the French war, and presented to the ch. by the Hon. Anne Pawlet (so called from his godmother, Queen Anne), M.P. for the borough. It is a good picture of the Italian school, but its painter is uncertain. The chancel contains an Elizabethan monument to Sir Francis Kingsmill, 1620; the exterior wall of the N. transept an arched recess with effigies, which is very uncommon; and the churchyard the tomb of *Oldmixon*, one of the heroes of the 'Dunciad,' d. 1742, whose dull, unlearned historical works are chiefly remarkable for their strong spirit of Whig partisanship, for which he was rewarded by being made collector-of-customs at the port of this town. His criticism was chiefly conspicuous for unscrupulous abuse of Pope and other eminent men of his day. The spire has been once struck by lightning.

The beautiful modern *Church of St. John* is in the suburb of Eastover, and was built in 1846 by the Rev. J. M. Capes, at a cost of 10,000*l.* In the churchyard a stone marks the burial-place of 88 persons who died of cholera in 1849. This ch. occupies the site of a *Hospital of St. John*,

founded for the support of a community of Augustine monks, and for the entertainment of pilgrims, by the early patrons of Bridgwater, the family of Briwere.

At the *Town Hall* is a reservoir of water for the supply of the inhabitants. In the Grand Jury Room, 3 pieces of tapestry which were formerly at Enmore Castle, and were purchased at the sale of Lord Egmont's property. Behind stands a large Music Hall, erected as a memorial of the Prince Consort.

King Square, once the Castle Baily, behind the Clarence Hotel, was the site of *Bridgwater Castle*, built by William de Briwere, 1202, but long since destroyed, with the exception of the Water Gate and some other fragments forming the wall of a stable in Castle Street, and the bonded cellars at the custom-house. *Castle Field* is memorable as the spot on which Monmouth encamped before the fatal fight of Sedgemoor.

An Elizabethan house in Mill Street was the birthplace of the gallant *Admiral Blake*, the Republican commander, and successful opponent of Van Tromp. His father was a merchant, and his mother the co-heiress of a knightly family. He was born in 1599, but was 50 years of age before he commenced his naval career.

An arched doorway in Silver Street, rt., is supposed to have belonged to a *Monastery of Grey Friars*, founded 1230 by the 2nd William de Briwere. The *Market-house Inn* is another relic of ancient days.

The *Bath-brick Works* are by the river-side, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. above and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. below the bridge; this town being the only place in the world where these articles are made. They are formed of a peculiar mixture of clay and sand which the flood and ebb tides deposit in turn at the above named points. The sediment having been removed from the river is consolidated by drying, and cut into ob-

long masses, which are as well known as Bath bricks, in China as in England, in Damascus as in London—but why so called it is difficult to say. The story is that they were called *Bath bricks*, because, when first brought into notice, at a date which was contemporaneous with *Bath buns*, the manufacturers thought they could thus secure a better sale than if they were named after such an obscure place as Bridgwater. The business gives employment to a great number of persons, 8,000,000 bricks, valued from 12,000*l.* to 13,000*l.*, being made every year.

Farther down the river is a *Pottery* for coarse ware, formerly the Glass-house, in which French prisoners were confined; and above the bridge an *Iron Foundry*, belonging to the Bristol and Exeter Rly. All the coke consumed on this line is made at Bridgwater.

The *Bore*, or *Eager*, the tidal wave which rushes up the Parrett on the flood of spring tides, is a phenomenon common to the Severn and other rivers, where the rise and fall is very considerable, and the channel contracted. These causes produce an immediate rise of a large body of water, which hurries onward as an upright wave, its velocity allowing no time for the gradual elevation of the surface by transmitted pressure. After a gale from the W., the Bore is often 9 ft. in height, but it is usually 5 or 6 ft., the entire flow of the spring tide being 36 ft. Fairfax very narrowly escaped being carried away by this tidal wave, July 14, 1645.

[*Chilton Priory*, a small building, formerly furnished as a museum, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. on the road to Glastonbury, stands on *Cock Hill*, a narrow ridge along which the road runs, commanding on each side the most extensive and interesting views; 1. of the entire range of the Mendips, which,

together with Brent Knoll, are seen across the intervening fen, called the Marsh; rt. of the scarp'd heights about Langport, the Blackdown and Quantock Hills, the Bridgwater Levels, and Bridgwater itself with its needle-like spire.

A pleasant walk of $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. through the meadows leads to *Wembdon*, where there is a Holy Well, dedicated to St. John, arched over with stone and surmounted by a cross, at the expense of the owner, in 1857. This well is mentioned as a miraculous spring in a mandate from the Bp. of Bath and Wells, 1464. *Bower Farm*, in the parish of *Durleigh*, 3 m., standing in the midst of fields, is an interesting old manor-house on a small scale, with 2 towers and a fine old window, and the remains of a moat. It was once the residence of the Dukes of Somerset.

A beautiful drive may be taken through *Spaxton* and up *Cockercombe*, a romantic and well-wooded ravine, to the top of the Quantocks, whence the traveller can descend to *Crowcombe*, or return to Bridgwater through *Nether Stovey*.]

[*Sedgemoor*, the scene of the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth by the King's forces under the Earl of Feversham, Monday, July 6, 1685, "the last fight deserving the name of a battle that has been fought on English ground" (*Macaulay*), is a long narrow tract of land S. of Pol-den Hill, and bounded by the hills of Somerton and High Ham, and divided from the valley of the Parrett by the rising ground of Aller, Middlezoy, and Othery. The battle was fought on the extreme W. edge of the morass, between Bridgwater and Weston Zoyland. It is intersected by dykes, especially the *Bussex Rhine*, which cut off Monmouth from the army he hoped to surprise, and contributed not a little to the discomfiture of Monmouth's untrained troops, whose guide missed his way in the fog

and gloom. The scene of the battle was between Weston Zoyland, Chedzoy, and Bridgwater. A mound S. Chedzoy, near Brentfield Bridge, marks the place of the interment of the slain. Feversham had his headquarters at Weston Zoyland, where the royal cavalry lay. The Wilts militia were quartered at Middlezoy, under the command of Pembroke. On the open moor, not far from Chedzoy, several battalions of regular infantry were encamped. "Monmouth looked gloomily on them. 'I know those men,' said he; 'if I had but them, all would go well.'" The royal troops, when apprised of the advance of the rebels, fired such a volley as sent the horse flying in all directions. The infantry, though deserted by their leader, who had mounted and rode from the field, made a gallant stand, till their ammunition was exhausted, and the royal artillery (horsed in part by the coach horses of Bp. Mews, of Winchester) then came up, and the rout was in a few minutes complete; 3000 of the rebels lying dead upon the moor. Before evening 500 prisoners had been crowded into the ch. of Weston Zoyland, whose fine Perp. tower, 105 ft. in altitude, is a conspicuous object from all sides. On the fatal field Feversham commenced those cruel executions which were afterwards so ably carried on by the bloody Jeffreys and Kirke. About 20 were executed after the battle, and the moor between Weston and Bridgwater was marked by a long range of gibbets. A prisoner being pointed out to him as a remarkably swift runner, the Earl induced him, by a promise of his life, to show him an instance of his agility. A halter was fastened round his neck, and attached at the other end to a horse, when the rider starting away on the gallop, the runner kept even with him for the distance of half a mile along the stream called *Bussex Rhine* to *Brentsfield Bridge*. This feat hav

ing been performed, the general, in defiance of his compact, gave an order that the poor man should be hung with his fellows. But another prisoner, if we are to believe the story, was more fortunate. He leaped for his life; and at the third bound escaped into an adjoining wood. His name was Swayne, and *Swayne's Jumps*, marked by 3 stones, are to this day pointed out on the Shapwick estate.

At *Chedzoy Ch.*, 3 m. E., a pre-Reformation altar-cloth is preserved, discovered a few years since beneath the pulpit, where it had been thrust away some 3 centuries since. There is also a brass to an unknown knight, generally called "the old soldier," the inscription of which is destroyed. There is a sandstone in one of the buttresses, on which, it is said, the axes were sharpened for the battle of Sedgemoor. The land has lately been bought for the University of Oxford.

Middlezoy, 6 m. S.E., on the Parrett, has a *Ch.* with a rich tower and Dec. chancel with good windows. Fairfax and Cromwell with their forces were at Middlezoy, July 10–12, 1645, after the battle of Langport, and before the storming of Bridgwater.

3 m. S.W. is *North Petherton*, which has a fine Perp. ch. of true Somersetshire type, and remarkable for one of the most ornate towers of the same class as Huish, Dundry, &c. There is a clerestory, and it has transeptal chapels and large porches; the whole very well finished. The windows are large, and the chancel-roof very good. Under the cill of the E. window is an original vestry.]

[*Halswell House* (Col. Tynte), rebuilt 1689, by Sir Halswell Tynte, 4 m. W. of Bridgwater, commands a splendid prospect of wooded hill and vale, with views over the sea and to blue ranges in the distance. A stream runs through the valley, here rippling over stones, there tumbling

in a cascade; and charming rides traverse the woods and climb the hills to commanding points of view, occupied by grottoes and temples; one called the *Rotunda*, with Ionic portico, another *Robin Hood's Temple*, and a third the *Druid's Temple*, where the view is gloomy and confined, the water winding silently along. Adjoining the estate is the hamlet of *Goathurst*, with an ancient church containing the burial-place of the Tyntes. "Of the surname of this family, tradition," says Burke, "has handed down the following derivation. In 1192, at the celebrated battle of Ascalon, a young knight of the noble house of Arundel, clad all in white, with his horse's housings of the same colour, so gallantly distinguished himself, that Richard Cœur-de-Lion remarked publicly, after the victory, that the maiden knight had borne himself as a lion, and done deeds equal to those of 6 crusaders; whereupon he conferred on him, for arms, a lion arg. on a field gules, between 6 crosslets of the first, and for motto, '*Tinctus cruore Saraceno.*'"

Enmore Castle, rt. of the Milverton road, and opposite to Halswell, built by John 2nd Earl of Egmont, c. 1750, now the residence of T. Palfrey Broadmead, Esq., a curiously constructed and very ugly house, with a semicircular bastion on one front and colonnades on the other. It was formerly surrounded by a dry moat, of which a part still remains. Adjoining it is the *Ch.*, with an Anglo-Norman doorway, and in the churchyard old yew-trees and the shaft and steps of an ancient cross. The estate is situated at the foot of the Quantock Hills. On the S.W. slope of the hill stands *Cothelstone*, 9 m. on the Milverton road, once the manor-house of the Stawels, but now a farmhouse.

5 m. of deeply sunken lanes from Bridgwater bring us to the village of *Charlinch*, the seat of the once

notorious *Agapémone*, "the abode of love," founded by "Brother Prince," and the seat of his rapidly diminishing followers, who at one time numbered nearly 200, of whom 5 were clergymen. Most were possessed of property which they made over to Prince, and lived in the *Agapémone*, having all things in common. The estate belonging to the body is cultivated by trustworthy brethren, and is said to be managed better than any other farm in Somersetshire. Walls, from 12 to 15 ft. high, enclose about 5 acres, occupying one of the loveliest spots in the S. of England, looking in one direction across a narrow valley to the Bristol Channel, and in the other to the Quantocks. Over the gateway is a tower on which waves a flag bearing a holy lamb when Brother Prince is at home. The establishment consists of a chapel with 2 groups of rose-clad cottages standing in a beautiful flower-garden exquisitely tended, with hothouses filled with orchids and other rare flowers, and a conservatory where cages of singing birds hang from orange-trees, under which stand a piano and couches. The chapel, 70 ft. by 30 ft., is devoid of any religious furniture. The chancel is covered with a blue Turkey carpet, and contains blue velvet arm-chairs and sofas and other drawing-room furniture. The place of the altar is occupied by a billiard-table, and musical instruments are scattered about. "Everything that can charm the senses is sedulously cared for, and games—hockey, cricket, and football—are engaged in, especially on Sundays, with much zeal. In the flourishing state of his fortunes, Brother Prince appeared to the Gentiles in almost royal state, driving out in a carriage-and-four, with postilions and outriders, attended by bloodhounds; but defections and lawsuits have diminished their resources, and they have been reduced to a pair, and the bloodhounds and

outriders have disappeared. The only distinctive dress of the male Princites is a brown cap with a peak. Close shaving is also rigorously enforced."—(*Macmillan's Mag.*, Oct. 1867; see also H. Dixon's *Spiritual Wives*.)

Spaxton Ch., 5 m., contains some very interesting well carved benches, and an ancient and curious alms chest. An old *Court House* adjoins the ch.; and at *Gothelney*, in the parish of Charlinch, is a mediæval manor-house, with tower, &c., once the residence of the Bourne family.]

Continuing our route, the rly. pursues its course along the skirts of a hilly country, in company with the river Tone and the Great Western Canal, to

157½ m. *Durston Stat.*, from which a line branches off on the l. to *Yeovil*, 17 m. It was first opened to Yeovil Oct. 1853 (Rte. 27).

163 m. **TAUNTON Stat.**, on the N. side of the town (*Inns*: London Hotel, Castle Hotel, Clarke's Hotel, Railway Hotel, George; Pop. of parishes of St. Mary-Magdalene and St. James, 13,720). Taunton is seated on a rising ground above the river Tone, from which it derives its name, and in a rich and picturesque country—its famous vale of *Taunton Dean* being bounded by the wild ranges of the Quantock and Blackdown hills. It is the county town of W. Somerset, and has long been celebrated for its healthy position, sunny aspect, broad streets, respectable houses, and beautiful parish church. The coins which have been found in it sanction a belief that it was a Roman station, but there is no doubt that in Saxon times it was a place of importance in which Ina (A.D. 702) built a castle, doubtless a mere earthwork and stockade of wood, and drew up his code of laws. At the present day its chief points of interest are its churches and the remains of the Castle, and its museum,

Taunton is a town of high antiquity. Tradition records that the devout Queen Fritheswitha prevailed on Ethelward to bestow Taunton on the ch. of Winchester, to which see it belonged for many centuries. The castle was built by Bp. Giffard, temp. Hen. I. Perkin Warbeck seized the town and castle in 1497, but he quickly evacuated them on the approach of the troops of Hen. VII. It was taken and retaken by the contending parties in the Civil Wars, and in 1645 the castle was twice defended with heroic valour by Blake, afterwards the renowned Admiral of the Commonwealth. Blake's defence of Taunton was one of the most spirited actions which occurred during the Rebellion. Pressed by an army of 10,000 men, who spared no effort to gain the place, he scouted all idea of surrender, even after his ammunition was spent, and his provisions so diminished that, according to the local tradition, told also at Nunney Castle, and other besieged strongholds in the county, there was but one hog left in the town, which half-starved animal was whipped round the walls, and made to cry in different places, to deceive the besiegers into a belief that fresh supplies had been thrown in. Blake declared that he would eat his boots before he yielded, and continued to resist after a breach had been made, and the enemy had actually gained possession of a part of the town. "Whole streets were burnt down by the mortars and grenades of the cavaliers. Food became so scarce that the resolute governor announced his intention of putting the garrison on rations of horseflesh. But the spirit of the town had never been subdued either by fire or hunger."—*Macaulay*. The first siege was raised May 11, simply on the intelligence of the approach of Fairfax. In June 1685, the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth was here welcomed with transports of joy and affection. Damsels of the best families wove colours for the insur-

gents. A flag, embroidered with emblems of royalty, was offered him by a train of young girls. The lady who headed the procession presented him with a sword and small Bible. On the morning of June 20 he was proclaimed king in the market-place. At Taunton he put forth his proclamations, setting a price on the head of James II., and commanding the House of Commons to disperse as an illegal assembly. After Monmouth's defeat at Sedgemoor, Col. Kirke and his "lamb" were let loose on Taunton. His memory is still preserved by the name Tangier, of which place he had been governor, borne by a district of the town which had been the chief quarters of his soldiers. Executions, without the form of a trial, commenced. The sign-post of the White Hart served as a gallows. (The White Hart Inn was a few years ago kept by the Mannings, the notorious murderers). It was believed in London that Kirke put 100 prisoners to death in the week that followed the battle. This irregular massacre was soon followed by no less cruel, but more judicial, acts of barbarity. Jeffreys' "Bloody Assize" began. (The judge's lodgings were till recently pointed out in an old framed house at the corner of High Street and Fore Street, now demolished.) On the judge's arrival, he declared in his charge that it would not be his fault if he did not depopulate the place—a threat which he did his best to carry out. In vain did Bp. Ken write to the King to implore mercy for his misguided diocese, complaining that it was impossible to walk along the highways without seeing some ghastly spectacle, and that the whole air of Somersetshire was tainted with death. The judicial massacre went on unabated. Even the poor children, who had presented the colours to Monmouth, had to purchase their pardon by bribes to the Queen's maids of honour, who employed as

their agent, not the famous Wm. Penn, as Lord Macaulay has erroneously maintained, but one George Penne, a leading dealer in this infamous traffic. At length, to the relief of the inhabitants, the chief justice proposed "to jog homewards," having transported 385 persons and hung 97.

The *Ch. of St. Mary Magdalene* is celebrated as one of the largest and finest Perp. churches in England, and for its magnificent tower, which for beauty of proportions, excellence of workmanship, and elaborate richness of decoration, combined with lightness of effect, holds, if not the very first place, a very high rank among the splendid Perp. towers for which Somersetshire is so deservedly famous. It rises to a height of 153 ft. in 4 stories, the lowest containing a rich doorway, with a holy water stoup on each side, and a large 5-light window; each of the 3 upper stories lighted with 2 windows, the belfry story elaborately panelled, and crowned by a very light pierced battlement, with openwork turrets rising into crocketed spires at the angles. It is hardly possible to exaggerate the union of grace and dignity in this glorious tower. The whole having shown evidence of dangerous insecurity, was taken down to the ground in 1857, and rebuilt as nearly as possible in facsimile at a cost of 8000*l.*, the work being completed in 1862. All the niches are filled with statues. The *ch.* is entirely Perp. without, with large windows. On the S. porch is the date 1508.

On entering the *ch.*, under the fan-traceried vault of the tower, the visitor will be much struck by the magnificence and harmoniousness, both in design and colouring, of the interior, which underwent a very munificent restoration, under the auspices of its former vicar, Dr. Cottle, in 1845. The roof is of black oak, richly decorated with

polychrome; the clerestory windows are divided by elaborately carved niches; and the whole nave is occupied with well-designed oak seats, accommodating 1400 worshippers. The plan is unusual in having double aisles on each side of the nave (other examples of this arrangement are Manchester Cathedral, St. Michael's, Coventry, and Kendal *Ch.*, Westmorland). The oldest part of the building is seen on the piers of the chancel arch, which show traces of early Norm. work. The next *ch.* erected was of E. E. character, for which Bp. Branscombe issued letters authorising collections, A.D. 1277. Of this building remain the row of columns dividing the two N. aisles, and the 3 easternmost arches supported by them; the easternmost arch of the N. nave arcade; and the piers of both transepts. Late in the 15th cent. the nave was lengthened by the 3 W. arches; the chancel was erected; the roofs were framed; the tower built; and the church assumed its present form. The visitor will notice the reredos, richly coloured and gilt; the new stone pulpit, decorated with coloured marbles; a splendid niche on a pier of the N. arcade, probably once containing the statue of the patron saint; the angels which occupy the place of capitals in the Perp. work; and the number and size of the windows, and their stained glass. In the N. aisle of the nave is the coloured effigy, in the dress of his time, of Robert Gray, the founder of almshouses for "ten poore aged syngle women," in 1635, with the lines,—

"What he gave and how he gave it,
Ask the poor, and you shall have it."

St. James's Ch. has a tower (recently restored), which would be considered a very fine one were it not for the superiority of its neighbour. The *ch.* is long and low, and has no chancel arch. It contains a good font, with sculptures of the Cruci-

fixion and the 12 Apostles, and a tablet to the late Col. Yea, killed at the head of his troops in the attack on the Redan, June 18, 1855, in the Crimean war.

St. John's, in Park Street, of which the architect was G. Gilbert Scott, Esq., of London, is a very beautiful church, and is well worthy of a visit. It was built at the expense of Rev. F. J. Smith, the present patron and incumbent.

At the N. side of St. James's Street stands a part of the domestic buildings of the *Priory*, now used as a barn and stables on the Priory Farm. It is of E. Dec. date, and upon one solitary boss, on the outer wall, and probably of Perp. date, are carved the 3 swords, conjoined in point, that have so long been the insignia of the house of Pawlet. This building is the only remnant of the Augustine Priory, founded 1127 by Wm. Giffard, and augmented by his successor in the see of Winchester, Henry of Blois, brother to King Stephen.

Commodious and beautiful *schools* for boys, girls, and infants, were opened in the summer of 1868, in Church Square, adjoining St. Mary's Church, and intended for the children of the poorer classes in St. Mary's parish. Near the national schools have also been built a very pretty and convenient set of *almshouses* for 13 old men, founded by Richard Huish in 1615.

The historic memories of Taunton *Castle* have not availed to preserve its buildings from dilapidation, decay, and neglect. The *Castle Green* is entered by a fine archway, now incorporated with Clarke's Hotel. On the N. side of the green is a fine embattled gateway, built by Bp. Langton, of Winchester, giving entrance to the inner ward, containing the *Hall*, and other buildings. King Ina's stronghold doubtless had more than one successor before the reign of Henry I., when Bp. Giffard is recorded to have erected a castle here.

In 1496 the whole was repaired, and the gateway of the inner ward erected by Bp. Langton. This is commemorated by an escutcheon of Henry VII., supported by a griffin and wivern over the archway, and that of the bishop, with the date 1495, and the inscription, "Laus tibi Christe T. Langton Winton." The hall was built by Bp. Horne, 1577. It was formerly used for the assizes, and is a fine room, 150 ft. by 30 ft., but modernised and spoilt. The castle was dismantled at the Restoration, and the moat filled up. The whole underwent a well-intentioned but disastrous repair at the end of the last centy. by the munificence of Sir Benj. Hammet, many years M.P. for Taunton.

The *Town Hall* and *Market House*, built 1772, occupy a central position in a large open triangular market-place called the *Parade*. From this point the main streets diverge, the High Street terminating at an iron fence which encloses the grounds of *Wilton House*, the seat of the Kinglates.

The *Taunton Literary Institution* occupies an Ionic building on the W. side of the Parade. In the large room is arranged the *Museum of the Som. Archæol. and Nat. Hist. Soc.* It includes the Williams geological collection, containing a store of palæozoic fossils from W. Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall; the fossils of other formations; saurians from the lias quarries at Street; and the bones of animals from the limestone caverns, including those collected by Mr. W. Beard, at Banwell. Here also are preserved a tessellated pavement found at East Coker; the reliquary from Kewstoke ch., supposed to contain Becket's blood (see *ante*); a collection of rubbings from brasses; various mining implements of the Romans, found in old shafts on the Quantock Hills; and the drawings, presented to the county by the late Mr. Pigott, of the English abbatial and collegiate

seals by *Howlett*, and of the Somersetshire churches, monastic and castellated ruins, ancient and modern mansions, crosses, town-halls, &c., by the Messrs. *Buckler*, 1827-47. The *Corn Market* occupies a Grecian-Doric building, N. of the Literary Institution.

The *County Shire Hall*, in Upper High Street, is a handsome edifice, from the design of Mr. Moffat, architect, of London. It was opened for the transaction of business in 1858. The entrance-hall displays a series of fine marble busts of Somersetshire worthies, including the celebrated *Admiral Blake*; *Locke*, the philosopher; *Capt. Speke*, the African discoverer; *Pym*; *Bp. Ken*; *Dr. Thomas Young*, the investigator of the laws of light, and decipherer of hieroglyphics; and *Dr. Henry Byam*, the Somersetshire loyalist,—erected chiefly through the exertions of R. A. Kinglake, Esq.

The *High Cross* was restored 1868, at the expense of Dr. Kinglake.

Taunton was once famous for its manufacture of serges, which were largely exported to Spain. Fuller describes them as “ eminent in their kind, being a fashionable wearing, as lighter than cloth, but thicker than many other stuffs.”

It still has a small manufacture of silk, but it is principally agricultural, being seated in a district remarkable for fertility. “ The Vale of Taunton,” says old Fuller, “ is so fruitful, to use their own phrase, with the *sun* and *soil* alone, that it needs no manuring. The peasantry therein are as rude as rich, and so highly conceited of their own country that they conceive it a disparagement to be born in any other place.” Hence the Somersetshire proverb — “ Ich was bore at Taunton Dean; where should I be bore else?”

“ What ear so empty is that hath not heard the sound

Of Taunton's fruitful Dean, not matched by any ground?” *Drayton.*

The vale is particularly famous for its apples and cider.

Taunton was the native place of *Samuel Daniel*, b. 1562, a poet and historian; *Henry Grove*, b. 1683, a Nonconforming divine, tutor of the Dissenting Academy at this town, and a contributor to the ‘Spectator;’ *Allein*, author of the ‘Alarm to the Unconverted,’ was minister of St. M. Magdalene; he died 1668, at the early age of 35, after his liberation from a long confinement in Ilchester gaol. His epitaph simply records:—

“ Here Mr. Joseph Allein lies,
To God and you a sacrifice.”

A. W. Kinglake, Esq., author of ‘Eothen,’ and the historian of the Crimean War, was also born at Taunton.

[The principal seats in the neighbourhood of Taunton are *Hatch Court*, W. H. Gore Langton, Esq.; *Pyrland*, formerly the seat of the Yeas, now of Arthur Malet, Esq.; *Norton Manor*, C. Noel Welman, Esq.; *Hestercombe*, Miss Warre (a very pretty place, nestling in a picturesque dell on the S. flank of the Quantocks); the igneous rock protrudes here; and *Heatherton Park*, Mrs. Adair; *Walford*, R. K. Meade King, Esq.

At *Norton Fitz-Warren*, 2½ m., on the road to Milverton, is a curious earthwork on the hill above the church. It is of 13 acres, and formed by a ditch with an external and internal rampart. According to the local legend it was once the haunt of an enormous serpent, which for a long time devastated the surrounding country, and whose ravages are supposed to be portrayed in the carving of the rood-screen of the adjoining church. The Rev. Mr. Warre (*Proceedings of the Som. Archæol. Soc.* 1849) thinks that it was a British town, and that the old local rhyme may apply to it:—

“ When Taunton was a furzy down,
Norton was a walled town.”

At *N. Curry*, 6 m. E. of Taunton, a curious Christmas feast has been held from the time of King John, by whom the manor was sold to the Dean and Chapter of Wells to raise funds for the ransom of Richard I., to whose "immortal memory" the first toast is drunk. An account of the customs observed on the occasion is inscribed on a marble tablet in the vestry-room of the church. The dinner takes place at the Reeve's house, and among the dishes is a large mince-pie ornamented with an effigy of King John. Two candles, weighing a pound each, are lighted, and until they are burned out the company have a right to sit drinking ale. The *Ch.* is a very fine structure, cruciform, with a low octagonal tower, and a very good chancel. The rides and drives in this vicinity are most attractive.]

[A pleasant walk or drive of about 3 m. N. of Taunton leads to the beautiful ch. of

Kingston. It has a groined S. porch, a tower with handsome W. door and windows, numerous carved niches in the walls, buttresses adorned with pinnacles, and a light parapet of open work. Altogether both ch. and chancel form a good example of the best class of Perp. parish ch. in Somerset. In the S. aisle is a curious altar-tomb of the existing family of Warre, covered with a magnificent slab of Devon fossil marble. The carved ends of the free seats, though dated 1622, are in excellent taste, in the flamboyant style. Beyond the village a walk of 2 to 3 m. leads up the wooded head of the valley to a summit overlooking the Bristol Channel. The valley of Kingston is celebrated, even in W. Somerset, for its cider.

The *Quantock Hills* form a heathy range extending from Taunton northward to the sea, at an elevation of from 1000 to 1100 ft., rising to 1270 ft. in *Will's Neck*, the highest point.

They are steep on the W. side, but on the E. the declivities are more gradual, descending into winding, romantic valleys—such as those of the *Seven Wells* and the *Hunter's Combe*, favourite scenes of Wordsworth and Coleridge, when they resided in their younger days at Stowey and Alfoxden (Rte. 29). The chain is mainly composed of the Devonian or gruwacke slate, which is islanded, as it were, in the new red sandstone forming the vales which surround it.

An excursion may be made to *Crowcombe* (pictures) and to the summit of *Will's Neck*, or to the *Wellington Column* on the *Blackdown Hills*.]

Starting again by the rly., we proceed up the course of the Tone towards the *Blackdown Hills*.

166½ m. rt. *Hill-Farrance Ch.* has a low tower, c. 1420, a good piscina, credence, and sedilia, temp. Edward I., and fine oak benches. The little ch. of *Oak*, 1 m. further to W., is not unworthy of a visit.

167½ m. l. *Bradford Ch.*, prettily placed on a wooded bank overlooking the Tone, which is here crossed by a good mediæval bridge of 2 arches, deserves notice. It has W. Norm. piers, an E. E. chancel arch, a font on a Norman base, and an effigy of a hip-belted knight, temp. Richard II. *West Buckland*, 2 m. further S., has a *Ch.* with Norman features. The nave is Perp. The chancel arch is curiously corbelled into the massy piers. The font is Norman.

168 m. l. we pass *Heatherton Park* (Mrs. Adair), and directly afterwards, on the rt., *Nynehead* (E. A. Sanford, Esq.), where we gain a distant view of an isolated knoll crowned by *Willet Tower*, a conspicuous landmark, 8 m. N.

170 m. *Wellington Stat.*, near *Nynehead*, and ½ m. N. of

WELLINGTON (Inns: Squirrel, King's Arms; Pop. 6006). This

market-town is seated on a gentle elevation in a country of hill and dale, at the foot of the Blackdowns, which are here crowned by the Wellington Monument. It is built chiefly of red brick, and boasts of a handsome town-hall and church.

The *Ch.* is Perp., with the exception of the chancel, which is E. E., with an E. window of 3 lancets, with quatrefoils above. The tower is a fine one, of the local type, with a stair turret running up the centre of the S. side, dividing the belfry windows. The nave is lofty, with light arcades, and a high clerestory. There is an elegant canopied piscina in the chancel, and a piece of sculpture on the N. side, which may have been connected with an Easter sepulchre. There is a fine tomb to Sir John Popham, Lord Chief Justice in the reign of Elizabeth, and a benefactor to this town. He is represented by the side of his lady in the judge's dress of the period (1607).

Seats. — *Tremlett House*, T. E. Clarke, Esq.; *Bathealton Court*, H.orges Moyses, Esq.

Wellington had the honour of giving title to the conqueror of the Peninsula and Waterloo, the victory of Talavera raising Arthur Wellesley to the peerage as Viscount Wellington, of Wellington, in the county of Somerset. There is reason for believing that the family derives its name from a manor in this county—that of Wellesleigh, near Wells—and the Duke is said to have chosen Wellington for his title because this town is near *Wensley*, which bears resemblance in its name to *Wesley*, afterwards altered to Wellesley. In the Rebellion the inhabitants of this town exhibited such activity on the side of the Parliament that *Wellington Roundheads* were long afterwards proverbial.

The town has a manufacture of woollens, the mills being worked by the neighbouring river and the water of the canal.

[*Cothay Manor-house*, in a secluded situation, 4 m. from Wellington Stat., in the parish of Kitesford, is a very interesting building, with its mediæval hall, ruined gateway, and out-buildings.

Greenham Manor Farm, 2 m. beyond, has a handsome porch of the date of Edward III., and other remains of the domestic architecture of that period.

The *Wellington Monument* is 2½ m. S., on the lofty height (900 ft. above the sea) which rises from the town, and where annually a busy fair is held on the 15th of June. The monument is a stone obelisk, erected by a county subscription, to commemorate the victories of the Great Duke. The original intention was, however, to crown it with a bronze statue of Wellington. The site necessarily commands an extensive prospect. A roadway descends the S. side of the hill to the village of *Hemyock*, 2½ m., seated on a trout-stream, in a true Devonshire valley, and containing some remains of a Norman castle.]

[The hilly road, or rather lane, from hence to Milverton (5 m.) is one of the prettiest in Somersetshire. It gradually ascends towards Exmoor, between tangled hedges through a thickly wooded country. In 1 m. from Wellington it passes on rt. *Nynehead Court* (E. A. Sanford, Esq.), an old-fashioned house, built at many different times, but with little of the old work remaining.

Nynehead Ch. is of early Perp. date, but much rebuilt, containing a fine screen, and good monuments to the Clerkes of Chipley. A former rector adorned the walls with specimens of Robbia and other Italian ware.

2½ m. *Chipley Park*, the site of an old hall, in which Locke wrote a part of his 'Essay on the Human Understanding,' first sketched out at Oxford, and finished in Holland. His

manuscript, written in a very neat hand, and a large number of his unpublished letters, are now preserved at Nynhead by Mr. Sanford, the owner of Chipley.

Scythe-stones are procured from quarries on the Blackdown hills. They are concretions of the green-sand, which are found in layers associated with organic remains. *Robin Hood's Butts* is the name by which some huge heaps of flints, evidently funereal, on Blackdown, are known.

Leaving Wellington by the rly., we look our last at the pleasant face of Somerset, as in little more than 3 m., we rush through a tunnel through *Whiteball Hill* into the adjoining county. (*Hdbk. for Devon.*)

ROUTE 20.

YATTON BY AXBRIDGE AND CHEDDAR TO WELLS AND GLASTONBURY.

(*Branch Railway.*)

This line, in process of construction, will leave the Bristol and Exeter Rly. at Yatton Junct., and join the Somerset and Dorset Rly. at Wells, a distance of $17\frac{3}{4}$ m. The rly., leaving Yatton, crosses the Yeo near

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Congresbury* Stat. (pronounced Coombesbury), where the ch. and ancient vicarage-house call for attention. The *Ch.* has a fine stone spire, perhaps the best in the

county, forming a very pleasing object in the surrounding country. The arcades are E. E., but not alike, those on the S. being the later, verging to Dec. There is a fine wood roof and good rood-screen. The font is E. E. The peal of bells is remarkably fine. The parsonage was built by the executors of Bp. Beckington, c. 1465. The porch displays a curious imitation of E. E. toothed work, with the arms of the prelate. There is a good cross in the centre of the village, and the remains of another in the churchyard.

Congresbury, according to ancient tradition, derives its name from a certain St. Congar, the son of an emperor of the East, who, it is said, to avoid a marriage which his father sought to force on him, fled to Britain, and, finding in the dreary marshes of the Yeo the perfect solitude he desired, founded a hermitage and oratory here, A.D. 711. The land round his cell was given him by King Ina, and he established a college here with 12 canons, where, according to Capgrave, he taught "Angligeniset Wallensibus," and was called "Drewin, a docendo. St. Congar went a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, where he died, but his body was brought back and buried at Congresbury.

[Wrighton, 2 m. E., 4 m. S.E. of Yatton Stat., is famous for the tower of its *Ch.*, perhaps the finest of all the towers for which Somersetshire is so famous. The lofty nave (too short for its height) with its clustered pillars and foliated capitals; the shafts, carried up and supporting angels with shields; the fine Perp. windows and clerestory, present a whole rarely equalled in parish churches. The Dec. chancel is small and inferior, with a 5-light E. window of unusual design. At the end of the nave is a curious bell-cot. The tower is one of grand simplicity, with beautiful details and fine masonry, having a

stone groined roof, and a remarkably noble W. window. It is 140 ft. high, and is crowned with 16 pinnacles. It contains a tablet to Hannah More, who, with her sister, lies buried in the churchyard. She lived at *Barley Wood*, a very pretty cottage, built by her in 1800 (now occupied by W. H. Harford, Esq.). *Wrington* is distinguished as the birthplace of *John Locke*, the philosopher, author of the 'Essay on Human Understanding,' born 1632, in a house still standing near the ch. His birth here was accidental, his mother having been taken in labour while worshipping in the ch. His father had a small landed property at Pensford and Belluton, in Stanton Drew parish. He became a captain in the Parliamentary army, and was killed at Bristol, 1645. The entry of Locke's baptism is in the parish register. The little town is beautifully situated under the hill of *Cleve Combe*.

1 m. l. *Aldwick Court* (J. Rodbard, Esq.), in the vale of the Yeo; and *Cowslip Green*, where Hannah More resided before she removed to *Barley Wood*.]

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Sandford Stat.*, at the foot of *Sandford Hill*, on the N. side of which lies the village of *Churchill*, the seat of a family of the same name, from a cadet of which the famous Duke of Marlborough sprang. The *Ch.* is a good one, of the usual local type, with a fine tower and groined belfry. The monuments are interesting, including one to the lady of Sir John Latch, d. 1644, who is represented in a buff coat, boots, and spurs, gazing on his wife in a shroud. The quaint inscription closes thus:—

"The risen Christ doth us assurance give,
He'll raise this grave, and we with Him
shall live:
He rich in grace, though poor in stable
cratch,
So have ye here her laid up, Sarah Latch."

There is a good brass to Ralph Jenyns and his wife, 1572, and the
[*Wills, Dorset, &c.*]

recumbent effigy of one of the Churchills and his lady.

[From Churchill the old high road from Bristol to Bridgwater runs along the northern flank of the Mendips. This remarkable range of hills consists of mountain limestone, raised by volcanic action from the bed of an ancient sea, dipping N. and S. on each side of 3 or 4 parallel axes of elevation, composed of old red sandstone, the limestone beds being placed like sheets of lead on the boarded roof of a ch. Mines of lead and zinc were worked here by the Romans, and are so still, but scantily. The range of hills is 20 m. long, and from 3 to 6 m. wide, and from 200 to more than 800 ft. high. The fractures and dislocations attending this violent upheaval are to be seen at Cheddar, Brockley, Goblin-Combe, and the gorge of Avon. A few vents discharging igneous rock are to be seen at Hestercombe, on the N.W. shoulder of Broadfield Down, above Brockley Combe, and near Uphill, in the rly. cutting.

Immediately above Churchill is the remarkable encampment of *Dolbury*, crowning a spur of the hill, overhanging a ravine which divides it from Sandford Hill. It is a British camp, 540 yds. long by 220 yds. broad, enclosing an irregular area of 20 acres, protected by a stone rampart and a fosse. A square camp, probably of Roman construction, lies within the area. Its construction is attributed by the common people to "the Redshanks." A local rhyme, as old as Leland's days, makes it the depository of hid treasure—

"If Dolbury digged were,
Of gold should be the share."

1 m. rt. *Langford Court*, originally a hunting seat of the Capels, Earls of Essex. It was modernised by Dr. Whalley, who sold it, 1804, to the Rt. Hon. J. Hiley Addington, brother of Lord Sidmouth. Beyond it, on

the slope of the Mendips, is *Mendip Lodge*, T. Somers, Esq., built by Dr. Whalley, the friend and correspondent of Hannah More. This is a beautiful place, deeply bosomed in wood. The grounds contain 52 grottoes, one for every week in the year, and the terrace walks command enchanting views. Mrs. Siddons was a frequent visitor here.

2½ m. E. from Churchill is *Burrington*, the *Ch.* of which has a low tower with spirelet, and good windows and arches in the nave. It contains monuments to the Rt. Hon. Hiley Addington, and to Mrs. Jackson, shipwrecked off Dunkirk, with an epitaph by Hannah More. From the village a romantic ravine, *Burrington Combe*, leads to *Black Down* and *Beacon Batch*, 1067 ft. above the sea. The little road in this valley is margined by fine turf, and ¼ m. above the village is the mouth of a cavern, with a sanded floor slanting steeply downward. This is *Burrington Cavern*, which, when first discovered, exhibited a scene which filled the beholder with astonishment. The vaulted chamber glittered with fantastic pendants, and on the floor were arranged in a long grim line about 50 human skeletons, resting among the weapons which they had used when living. Subsequent searchers also found in the hardened mud the bones of horses and of sheep, and the jaw of a fox, showing that this cavern had been the resort of wild animals. If you stand opposite the arched entrance, and speak even in a whisper, your voice will be distinctly repeated. On either side of the hollow are great ribs of mountain limestone, well displaying the inclination of the strata; and above, on the hill, a quadrangular camp with a rampart of loose stones, apparently of Roman date, called *Burrington Ham*. In *Burrington Combe* a bone cavern, known as *Whitcombe's Hole*, was examined in 1863, and found to contain the remains of the ox, red deer, wolf,

fox, goat, badger, &c., and fragments of a rude urn. *Plumbley's Den*, in the same combe, has 2 large chambers, united by a low passage, filled with bones, among which the most remarkable was the skull of the *Bos longifrons*.

¼ m. *Blagdon*, between which and *Burrington* is *Rickford Combe*, a romantic dell, dressed with hanging woods, and traversed by a clear streamlet. *Blagdon Ch.* was rebuilt, all but the tower, in 1822. Meric Casaubon, and Langhorne, the translator of 'Plutarch's Lives,' were incumbents here. A pig of lead, bearing the name of Britannicus, A.D. 44-48, the earliest example of Roman metallurgy discovered in Britain, was found near *Blagdon*, 1853.

6 m. is *Ubley*, and 7 m. *Compton Martin*. The *Ch.* has curious Norm. work, but the tower, which is of fine ornate character, and several windows are Perp. The arcades are Norm., except one pointed arch on the S., and the Norm. clerestory is preserved on the N. The chancel has fine Norm. groining, the ribs enriched with chevron moulding, and some trefoil-headed lancet windows. ½ m. E. is *West Harptree* (Rte. 24).]

Returning to the rly., the line ascends by easy gradients to

5½ m. *Woodborough* Stat. On the hill to the l. is *Sidcot*, where is a large Quakers' School, and among the trees on the rt. the beautiful tower of *Winscombe Ch.*, rebuilt from its foundations by Bp. Ralph de Salopia. In a window in the ch. there are some figures of fine ancient white glass.

Shutshelve; on the right, *Winscombe Hill*, Rev. J. Yatman.

[1 m. l. the villages of *Shipham* and *Rouberrow*, on the slopes of *Black Down*, are inhabited chiefly by miners, or *groovers*, as they are here termed, conspicuous for their yellow-brown clothes. The greater number of the lead and calamine mines are

situated in these parishes, but the amount of ore now raised is very inconsiderable. Rowberrow lies in a secluded hollow between the folds of the Mendips, commanding a fine view of the Channel, with a rivulet running through a deep winding dell. It is the centre of the Mendip mining district. The *Ch.*, perched on the brink of the deep dell, and the manor-house, hard by, form a picturesque group from the valley below.]

The line here encounters *Shutshelve Hill*, which it pierces by a tunnel driven through hard shale and mountain limestone, on emerging from which it descends to

8 m. *Axbridge Stat.*, on the hillside above the town.

AXBRIDGE (*Inn*: Lamb; Pop. 799) is a very ancient little town, still possessing a corporation, and holding charters renewed by different kings from Edward the Confessor to James I. (now lost). The *Ch.*, which greatly needs refitting, is a large handsome cruciform building, with good tower and pierced parapets. A curious wooden roof, adorned with huge pendants, bears the date 1636. There are several monuments to the Prowse family, and an altar cloth, the work, for 7 years, of Abigail Prowse. In the town are some good examples of 14th and 15th century houses.

Early peas and potatoes are raised in large quantities in this sheltered vicinity for the Bristol and London markets. It is the central depot of the agricultural produce of the Cheddar Valley.

Shutshelve Hill is continued W. in the ridge called *Wavering Down*, ending in the pyramidal eminence of *Crook's Peak*, commanding a very fine view. Below lies *Compton Bishop*. The *Ch.* has a Trans. Norm. trefoiled doorway, a stone pulpit and an E. E. double piscina, and a costly monu-

ment to J. Prowse, 1688. The sides of the hill are pierced with caverns.

Christon, in the valley to the N.W. of *Crook Peak*, has a Norm. *Ch.*, with a low tower between the nave and chancel, and a good Norm. doorway.

The line gradually descends to *Cheddar Moor*, across which it is carried on an embankment, and reaches

9½ m. *Cheddar Stat.* (*Inns*: Bath Arms; King's Arms, kept by Mr. Cox), famous for the neighbouring *Cheddar Cliffs* and *Caverns*: at a distance of 2 m. is the summit of *Black Down*, the highest hill on the Mendips.

Other objects very interesting to a hungry man are the *Cheddar cheeses*, for which the rich grass-farms of this neighbourhood have been famous from an early period. Camden bears witness to their excellence in his time, and speaks of their "prodigious size, requiring more than one man's strength to set them on the table." In 1841 a monster cheese was manufactured at W. Pennard as a present to the Queen, every farmer in the neighbourhood contributing to it a day's milk. During the ripening it was publicly exhibited in London. A show of a similar kind may be often seen in this neighbourhood, where, says Mr. Acland, "a full cheese-room, exhibited by a Marsh yeoman after his rent has been paid, and all made straight, is a pleasant sight, as it is one which the farmers have always great pleasure in showing to a visitor." "The worst fault," says old Fuller, "of Cheddar cheese is that they are so few and so dear: hardly to be met with, save at some rich man's table."

St. Dunstan was famous in these parts. The whole neighbourhood abounds in stories with regard to him. One of the most remarkable is of his having saved King Edward, when hunting in the Mendips, from being carried over Cheddar Cliff by his horse, which led to the King's

reconciliation to the Abp. (*Arch. Journal*, vol. xxiii.).

The *Ch.* is a good example of the usual Somersetshire type, rather coarsely worked, with a stately tower and groined belfry, and a statue of its patron saint, St. Andrew, in a niche on the W. front. In the interior are a sculptured stone pulpit, rich screens and ceiling of oak, and 2 brasses to the memory of Sir Thomas de Cheddar and his lady Isabel, 1443. The De Cheddars were a wealthy family, who represented Somersetshire in Parliament for many years. Their manor-house stood by the roadside at the entrance to Ax-bridge, and a part of it still remains in a farmhouse.

The hexagonal *Market-cross* was restored in 1834 by the late Marquis of Bath.

The village extends to the entrance of the ravine, where the rocks hang grandly over the pass. Below them is a pretty sheet of water, once reflecting the rugged scene on its limpid surface, but now rendered turbid and poisonous by the lead-mines. On its bank is Mr. Cox's *Hotel*, and opposite the

Cheddar Cavern, accidentally discovered by Mr. Cox in 1837. Is. a head is the charge for showing its wonders. The cave is narrow and of small size, but quite a fairy world. In every part it is crowded by fantastic figures, the insensible growth of ages, still nourished by the dripping water. When seen by the uncertain torchlight, they whimsically resemble the various forms which the guide will point out.

Several caverns of larger size are shown by the women who offer their services to visitors as guides, but they are mere gloomy vaults in the hill-side. One may be explored for about 300 ft. Another, situated $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the entrance of the cliffs, l. of the road, and some 200 ft. above it, has excited much interest by the discovery in the mud breccia of its

floor of human skulls and bones, together with those of wild animals. A description of this cave and its contents was communicated to the meeting of the British Association in 1838, when Professor Lyell remarked that "the circumstance of human bones being found in connection with those of animals was no proof that they were coeval, but only that they were of high antiquity, though not referable to a geological era." The mouth of the cavern is a vertical fissure, so that these bones might have been the remains of persons thrown into this hole by some barbarous tribe of ancient times.

A carriage-road, made in 1801, leads through the pass of the *Cheddar Cliffs*. The entrance is more grand than might be expected from the character of the hills, the mountain limestone rising abruptly in towering precipices, whilst from a cavern at their foot the Cheddar water rushes in a torrent. Within the portal of the pass its stony jaws appear to close upon the little road, which, margined by turf, winds from side to side, and opens at every turn a fresh picture of huge and wildly grouped rocks. The finest portion of the scenery is included in the first $\frac{1}{2}$ m., in which a cliff rises vertically on the rt., and directly from the path of the spectator, to an elevation of 429 ft. This grand and beautiful wall is decked by festoons of ivy, and scored on the surface by a network of fissures, from which spring the mountain ash, the yew-tree, and various shrubs and grasses. Here and there projecting buttresses throw their dark shadows, and aloft are airy towers and slender pinnacles. As the road proceeds, its barriers gradually open out, and the dark blue precipices are succeeded by slopes of turf. The chasm is about a mile in length, and presents numerous fine studies of rocks and caverns. As the scenery becomes

less wild as you ascend, it is advisable to reverse the usual mode of seeing the cliffs by scaling the hill, and entering the ravine at its upper part, descending upon the grander and more romantic portions of the defile. This is a habitat of *Poly-podium Robertianum*, and in July the cliffs are coloured by the pretty *Dianthus Cæsius* or *Cheddar pink*.

[*Mines of lead and calamine* (carbonate of zinc) have been worked on the Mendip Hills from the time of the Belgæ, principally in the parishes of Rowberrow, Shipham, and East Harptree. The visitor to Cheddar is within reach of one of them, called the *Mendip Lead Mine*, a walk of about 2 m. Let him turn l. through the first gate in the Cheddar Cliffs, and pursue his way up the rocky bottom to a wood, where he will observe a stile on the rt. A path leads from this stile along another wild hollow to the mine. Just beyond the stile a stream, red from the mining operations, plunges into a *swallet-hole*, a well-like chasm, to emerge again to the daylight at Cheddar. The mountain limestone abounds in vertical cracks or fissures, and by these its numerous subterranean waters are fed. The summit of *Black Down* rises at a short distance to the N. It is a heathy eminence, crowned by a mark of the Sappers and Miners, and commands a most extensive and beautiful view. It is elevated 1100 ft. above the sea, and is said to be the part of Somersetshire seen from Windsor Castle.

The *Mendip Hills* extend in a N.W. and S.E. direction about 12 m., the width of the chain varying from 3 to 6 m. On the S.E. its beds of mountain limestone dip below the oolite, in which position they are seen in the many romantic dales between Shepton and Frome. The nucleus of the range consists of old red sandstone, the flanks of mountain limestone. Hence the resemblance

of this district to the highlands of Derbyshire, a similar rock presenting similar phenomena in both counties, such as veins of lead, caverns, and subterranean streams. In early times the moors of Mendip were attached to the crown as a royal forest, in which Saxon and Norman kings diverted themselves by hunting, and here, as mentioned above, Edward the Martyr had a narrow escape of his life. For many years past a considerable portion of the range has been under cultivation, the latest enclosure having occurred in 1801. The summit, along which ran a Roman road from Old Sarum to the Bristol Channel, has a comparatively level surface, attaining its greatest elevation, about 1100 ft., in Black Down, N. of Cheddar, but here and there the traveller will find an unexpected chasm, and the declivities are on all sides abrupt, and scored by rocky hollows. The heights of Mendip are covered with barrows, among which are many of the bowl-shape. The inhabitants of this district are rather primitive in their manners, and many old customs and forms of expression linger among them. The obscure village of *Priddy* lies high and bleak in a small hollow of the downs. Round Priddy pool lie immense heaps of slag, the refuse of the ancient mineral works of the former inhabitants of the district, which was unsuccessfully attempted to be reworked by a company a few years back. The *Ch.* is of some size and dignity of character. 2 m. N.E. the Roman road, running from Uphill to Old Sarum, may be traced with great distinctness to the little solitary inn on Harptree Hill, known as the *Castle of Comfort*, near which, on the summit of the hills, towards Priddy, are 4 large British circles, and 2 groups of barrows, one of 9, the other of 8 mounds.

At *Charter House* on Mendip (Rte. 21), about 2 m. W. of Priddy, is a Roman station with a perfect amphitheatre.

theatre; and about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the S. towards the Cheddar Cliffs another, partly filled up. (For an account of these remains see Mr. Scarth's Memoir, *Arch. Journal*, vol. xvi.)]

Our route from Cheddar to Wells proceeds along the foot of the Mendips, commanding a wide prospect over the level country to the rt. The numerous outlying knolls are pretty features in the scenery. The line gradually ascends to *Draycott Stat.*, 12 m., a little to the S. of which is

Rodney Stoke, a very pretty spot, the hills rising from it with great boldness and beauty, particularly a peak called *Stoke Knoll*. Here is a beautiful little ch., containing many monuments of the Rodney family, one of the oldest of the Somersetshire families, though now extinct in the direct line.

14 m. *Westbury Stat.* Here, at the intersection of the roads, stands an ancient *cross*, raised aloft on a pile of steps. The *Ch.* has a Norm. tower. The S. aisle is of the time of Edward IV. The Rodney chapel contains a monument to George Rodney, 1586. From Westbury the line ascends to *Easton*, where there is a long cutting through conglomerate, and thence to 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Wells* (Rte. 18).

ROUTE 21.

FROM TO YEOVIL BY BRUTON
AND CASTLE CARY.

(*Weymouth Branch of Great Western Railway.*)

FROME (*Inn*: Crown; George; Pop. 11,200). Frome is a large and populous market-town and Parliamentary borough, with several

flourishing manufactories, employing a very large number of hands. The staple manufacture is that of woollen cloth, which is carried on most extensively, and there are some card-mills, fulling-mills, and dye-works. In the vicinity there are large manufactories of edge-tools, and extensive iron foundries. Frome is a town of considerable antiquity. It owes its origin to a monastery built before 705 by St. Aldhelm. The inmates were probably dispersed by the wars with the Danes, but the church continued till the time of William of Malmesbury. The church was afterwards appropriated to the abbey of Cirencester. In former days it was surrounded by *Selwood Forest* (which in the last century afforded shelter to a body of marauders and coiners, who were a terror to the neighbouring parishes), of which the woods of Longleat are a remnant. The country in the neighbourhood is still rich in trees, and extremely pretty. It is principally laid out in dairy-farms, which produce excellent butter.

The town is built on a steep declivity, and the streets are laid out to suit the conformation of the ground, with very little attention to regularity. The main thoroughfares branch into paved lanes, which again divide and contract as they mount the hill, like the tributaries of a stream. The town is built of stone, and its general aspect is picturesque. It contains many Jacobean houses. The tourist will find much to interest him here in the fine and magnificently restored *Parish Church*, the various *manufactories*, and the pretty ravine of *Vallis*. It is also a good centre for excursions. *Longleat* is 4 m. S.E. (Rte. 10), *Nunney Castle*, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W., and the neighbourhood abounds with pretty villages and old churches.

No one interested in modern ecclesiology should omit a visit to the *Parish Church* of St. John Baptist, which has been restored, and in part

rebuilt, at large cost, and in excellent taste. The tower, crowned by a spire, stands at the E. end of the S. aisle. The Lady Chapel, on the other side, forms a quasi N. transept. The nave is of 8 bays, of 2 dates, the piers standing on large blocks as high as the pews. All the windows have been filled from time to time with stained glass of various degrees of excellence, and afford a good opportunity for studying the progress which has been made in this art during the last few years. The Church was re-opened on St. John Baptist's Day, 1866; but as a full account of the church and parish, of the subjects of the windows, of the sculptures (by Forsyth), and of the whole work of restoration has been published by the present vicar, the Rev. W. J. E. Bennett, it will be enough here briefly to direct the visitor to some among the objects most worthy of his attention.

In approaching from the N., he will be struck with the vigour and effectiveness of the *Calvary Steps*, or *Stations of the Cross*, a series of carvings, consisting of scenes from our Lord's Passion, which occupy the steep ascent from the entrance of the churchyard to the N. porch. Passing on his way to the E., without entering the church, let him turn left, towards the E. wall of the chancel (noticing as he passes a beautiful figure of St. Catherine on the N. wall of the church), and stay a little while at the tomb of Bp. Ken (see *post*)—

A basket-work where bars are bent—
Iron in place of oster;
And shapes above that represent
A mitre and a crosier."

R. Monckton Milnes.

Passing on round the church, let him notice also the sculpture over the S. door, representing Peter and John going up to the Temple at the hour of prayer, and the W. front, with the fine figures of the 4 Evangelists. On entering, he will not fail

to be impressed with the general effect of richness and solemnity. On each side of the W. door are life-size statues of St. Alban, St. Aldhelm, St. Andrew, and St. George; if he then turn to the left, up the N. aisle, he will come to the baptistery, the chapel of St. Nicholas, late Perp. The windows represent the Commission to the Apostles, and incidents in the life of St. Nicholas. The font is a portion of the old font restored. On the pavement are the 7 chief virtues and the 7 deadly sins. Immediately adjoining is the very beautiful Lady Chapel, Dec., rebuilt 1337, with a rich blaze of windows, representing scenes in the life of the Virgin Mary.

The pulpit, with its sculptures of 8 famous preachers, Noah, Moses, Elijah, St. John the Baptist, St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Chrysostom, and St. Ambrose, is worth notice. The rich and beautiful chancel, the Ken memorial window, the ringing-floor under the tower on the S., the roof of the nave, and the many windows in the aisle—most of them memorial windows—will engage his attention; and he may perhaps find time to look at some of the monumental tablets of another class which remain here and there in the church, among them one to the daughters of Lord Cork, 2 graceful figures by Westmacott. The chancel-floor should be noticed for its variety of marbles. The reredos is of Carrara marble, by Forsyth. There is a peal of 8 musical bells, and a clock which chimes 4 times.

On the outside, under the E. wall of the chancel, is the singular and interesting monument of the brave and holy Bishop Ken—

"That dared with royal power to cope,
In peaceful faith persisting:
A braver Becket—who could hope
To conquer unresisting."

Ken, who was one of the 7 bishops committed to the Tower by James II., 1688, for refusing to read the

Declaration of Indulgence, was deprived in 1689 for refusing to take the oath of allegiance to William III., and passed his time in retirement at Longleat, under the protection of Lord Weymouth, in 1703 resigning his see of Bath and Wells to his friend Bishop Hooper. Ken d. at Longleat in 1711, in his 74th year, and, according to his desire, was buried "in the churchyard of the nearest parish within his diocese, under the E. window of the chancel, just at sunrise." It is presumed that Lord Weymouth gave directions for the somewhat singular monument beneath which he is interred, which is a grating of iron bars bent into the form of a coffin, across which are laid a mitre and pastoral staff. The whole is now protected by a small open-worked stone shrine.

Joseph Glanvil, "the first English writer who had thrown scepticism into a definite form," the author of 'The Vanity of Dogmatising,' as well as of the once famous 'Sadducæism triumphatus,' or assertion of the reality of witchcraft, was *Vicar of Frome*, afterwards of *Bath*.

John Foster, the Baptist minister, author of 'Essays on Decision of Character,' &c., had the charge of the congregation in Sheppard's Barton, 1804-1808. He did not love the place, which he calls "a large and surpassingly ugly town. . . . I should nauseate the place if I had been habituated to it for a century."

The *cloth-mills* are scattered about the neighbourhood of the town. Mr. Sheppard's, called *Spring Gardens*, is the largest, and may be visited in a walk to Vallis Bottom. Leaving your inn, you will turn l. at the bridge down the course of the river, which is stained of a dark blue colour by the dyers. A path across small grassy fields, well provided with hedgerow timber, and commanding a good general view of Frome and its background, *Cley Hill*, leads in 1 m. to Spring Gardens. It

is a picturesque group of many-windowed mills, with tall chimneys and appurtenant buildings, all surrounded by trees, and reflected on the smooth surface of the confined river.

Mr. Gregory's *card factory* is well worth a visit, the machinery being highly curious. The cards are for teasing or "carding" the wool.

[*Vallis* lies 1 m. W. of Spring Gardens, and the same distance N.W. of Frome, l. of the road to Radstoke. It is a romantic little glen, with richly wooded sides, where the geologist will notice the oolite beds on the flat top of the mountain limestone, with beds of much earlier conglomerate between the two. Here quiet reigns undisturbed, for even the streamlets cease their prattle, and creep in silence, forming pictures in glassy pools. Among other rare plants the botanist will find the *Dipsacus pilosus*. The rock is in some places quarried, and exhibits its strata of various colours, dipping at a high angle. *Vallis*, now a farm-house, was the seat of the Leversedges, the ancient lords of the manor, and now belongs to the Earl of Cork. A very charming walk may be taken up the course of this little stream. It divides at *Elm*, one branch running N.W. from *Mells*, another S.W. from the woods of *Asham* and *Nunney*. Either route will afford much pleasure to the lover of the picturesque. At *Elm* the rocks of the ravine, overhung with ivy and brushwood, rise to a height of 150 ft. The *Ch.* has a tower, with a saddle-back roof, and will repay inspection. *Mells*, 3½ m. W. from Frome Stat., is celebrated for its manufactory of scythes, which are supposed to owe their excellent temper in part to the water, which is impregnated with lime from the mountain limestone. At *Nunney* another edge-tool mill is worked by Mr. Fussell. *Mells* belonged to *Glastonbury*, and at the Dissolution was

purchased by John Horner, to whose family the estate still belongs; a cottage of the 15th cent. may still be seen near the ch. *Mells Park* (Rev. J. Horner) is delightfully situated in a finely wooded demesne. Of the Horners of Mells was that favourite of the nursery, *Little Jack Horner*, who

“ Sat in a corner,
Eating a Christmas pie.”

The plum which the good boy found is said to have been 10,000*l.* Leland records that the *Ch.* was built “yn tyme of mynde by the hole parochē. One Garlande, a draper of London, gave freely to the buylding of the vestiariē, a fine and curious peece of work. A gentleman of the parochē made a fair chapel to the N. of the church.” It has a fine Perp. tower, and contains a plain Norm. font. The ravine here is known as *Wadbury Vale*. On either side are remains of earthworks, *Wadbury Camp*, N., and *Tedbury*, S. On the N. flank of *Newbury Hill*, overlooking another affluent of the stream, is *Newbury*, another entrenchment. The stream has its source in *Emborrow Pond*, or *Lechmere Water*, on the N.E. slope of *Mendip*.

From *Vallis* an equally pretty walk may be taken up another branch of the stream, which has its rise at *E. Cranmore*, by *Whatley*, 2 m., where there is a good *Ch.*, with tower and spire; Norm. doors to S. porch, and chapels beyond it, containing monuments (at *Whatley House* (J. H. Shore, Esq.), a Roman villa, with a very perfect pavement, of a design more than usually good, and remains of the bath, have been discovered); to *Nunney*, where there is another very pretty dell running up in the direction of *Bruton*. *Nunney Castle* is a very picturesque ruin, in a romantic position. It was founded, temp. *Edw. III.*, A.D. 1373, by Sir John Delamere, and finished by

his nephews in the following reign. The walls are nearly perfect, and present an excellent example of a fortified house of the period of transition from Dec. to Perp., surrounded by a moat. The plan is oblong, with a cylindrical tower of very bold projection at each corner. The central part of the house was divided into 4 stories by wooden floors. The hall was on the first floor. The tower at the S.E. corner contains a very perfect example of a domestic chapel. In the Great Rebellion, this castle was taken in *Fairfax's* campaign, Sept. 8, 1645, about the same time as *Basing House*, which belonged to the same owner, *Pawlet*, Marquis of *Winchester*. The marks of the siege are still to be seen on the walls. *Nunney Ch.* is cruciform, with an E. E. chancel, containing a Norm. font and some good effigies of the *Delameres*. *Nunney* is 3 m. from the *Witham Stat.*]

[*Radstoke*, 8 m. N.W., to which there is a branch rly., but for coals only, is the centre of an extensive coalfield. Some of the pits are of considerable depth, employing horses underground.

Marston Ch., 3 m. S.W., is modern. The house was built by Lord *Cork*, who died 1798. It is a stately Italian structure, containing many good paintings, including portraits of the *Boyles*: *Rich.*, 1st Earl of *Cork*, Lord High Treasurer of Ireland, and *Robt. Boyle*, the natural philosopher; and the first orrery ever constructed, about 30 inches in diameter, named from its inventor, *Charles*, 4th Earl of *Orrery*, 1676–1731.

Lullington, a secluded village, 2½ m. N., deserves notice for its small church, which has good transition work, between Norm. and E. E. The most curious part of it is the N. doorway, richly decorated with twisted columns and with bird's beak and other mouldings. Within the crown of the arch is a rude

sculpture of 2 animals fighting for a cross, and above it a figure of our Lord as Judge. Between the aisleless nave and the chancel stands the tower, Perp., of the Somersetshire type above, supported on Trans. Norm. arches, with very curious capitals. There is a singular tub-shaped Norm. font, with an inscription, "Hoc fontis sacro pereunt delicta lavacro." The chancel is of Dec. date, about 1320.

The church of *Beckington*, 2½ m. N.E., contains a monument to the poet *Daniel*, d. 1619, who succeeded Spenser as poet-laureate, placed there by the Countess of Dorset, and some good brasses. The tower is Norm. There are fine effigies of John Seymour, in plate armour, and his lady, 1485, and of another female. In the parish is said to have been born *Bp. Beckington*, whose name is so closely connected with the architecture of Wells. 1 m. from Beckington is the village of *Road*, where is Road Hill House, the scene of the Constance Kent tragedy in 1861.]

[The principal seats in the neighbourhood of Frome are *Longleat*, Marquis of Bath; *Witham Park*, an estate belonging to *Bradley Park*, Duke of Somerset; *Marston House*, Earl of Cork and Orrery; *Mells Park*, Rev. John Horner; *Babington House*, W. F. Knatchbull, Esq. *Ammerdown*, 7 m. N.W., in Kilmersdon parish, Rev. T. R. Jolliffe—a modern mansion, designed by J. Wyatt, in a park 4 m. in circumference. In the park is a column, 150 ft. high, with a central staircase; from the summit a splendid view is obtained. Inscriptions on the plinth in Latin, French, and English, explain that it was erected in memory of Col. T. S. Jolliffe. It is open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays. *Hardington Park*, of which the house is in ruins. *Orchardleigh*, 2 m. N., Wm. Duckworth, Esq., who

has built a new house, and laid out the grounds—the old mansion, formerly seat of the Champneys, remains in the hollow. The small *Ch.*, which has a font and some windows of interest, stands in the park. On Murtry Hill in the park of Orchardleigh are some so-called Druidical stones forming a cromlech. *Standerwick Court*, Adm. Edgell; and *Berkley House*, belonging to Sir Charles Mordaunt, E. H. Dickinson, Esq.

Farleigh Castle, 6 m. N., and Norton St. Philip's, 5 m. N., and Charter House Hinton, may all be visited from Frome.]

Proceeding on our route, the rly. leaves the woods of *Longleat* to the l., and runs parallel with the escarpment of the great Wiltshire chalk range, crowned near Bruton by *Alfred's Tower*, on the estate of *Stourhead*. The section from Frome to Yeovil was first opened Sept. 1856.

120½ m. *Witham* Stat., the Junction of the E. Somerset line, which runs rt. to Shepton Malet and Wells, 14 m. (Rte. 22).

Witham was the site of the first Carthusian establishment in England, founded about 1175 by Henry II. The 3rd prior, and virtual founder, was the celebrated Saint Hugh, one of the "Black Letter" saints, afterwards Bishop of Lincoln, who erected the buildings, and presided over the house for eleven years, till reluctantly removed to Lincoln. His life, lately published under the direction of the Master of the Rolls, was written by one of his chaplains, who was a monk of Witham. At the Dissolution, the property was bestowed on the Hopton family, who lived here. Lord Hopton, the distinguished cavalier general, was of this family.

The *Ch.*, which was probably the "Minor Ecclesia" of the priory, has been disfigured by so-called improvements. It is vaulted with

stone, and has an apsidal E. end, in advanced transition Norm.—“just the small plain ch. we should expect at a Carthusian monastery, where the inmates were few, and grandeur and ornament was sternly forbidden.”—*J. F. Dimock*. There are only a very few traces of the monastic buildings remaining.

A cell, belonging to the friary, with lands adjoining, stood on the top of the Mendips, between Cheddar and Blagdon. It is still called *Charter-House on Mendip* (see Rte. 20), and is considered as belonging to the parish of Witham, though many miles distant.

The line runs through rich woods to

126 m. BRUTON Stat. (*Inns*: Blue Bell; Wellington). This little town (Pop. 2232) is prettily placed in a valley among a cluster of hills, about 4 m. from the wooded heights of Stourhead and Alfred's Tower. It derives its name from the Brue, which, rising in the neighbourhood, flows through it in a shallow stream, turning the wheels of a horsehair factory. It is a place of some antiquity, and was formerly the seat of a brotherhood of Black Canons, whose abbey was built by William de Mohun, 1142, on the ruins of a Benedictine monastery, said to have been founded here in very early times by Ethelmar, an Earl of Cornwall. The abbey was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Maurice Berkeley, his standard-bearer, in 1546, and he made it his residence. The Great Hall was burnt 1763, and the remainder pulled down, 1786, the family having died out.

The *Ch.* has considerable merit; its tower at the W. end is a good example of a plainish Somersetshire type, with triple belfry windows, and a quatrefoiled battlement, and groined within. The church is singular from having a second tower surmounting the N. porch. The

chancel is debased. The walls of the nave are surmounted by an open-worked parapet. The clerestory windows have rich niches between them within, and the roofs are handsomely panelled in oak. There are some monuments, particularly one to Sir Maurice Berkeley and his 2 wives. An ancient tomb in the churchyard is attributed to William Gilbert, the last abbot of Bruton, whose arms, with the initials W. G., may be seen over the N. door.

The *vicarage*, adjoining the church, was formed 1822 by Sir Richard Colt Hoare out of the ruins of the abbey. On a grassy hill above it, once the park of that abbey, stands a roofless tower, commanding an excellent view of Bruton and its neighbourhood. *Creech Hill*, crowned by a small camp, is seen to the N.W.

In Leland's time Bruton was “much occupied with the making of cloth.” Charles I. was here in 1641, and heard a sermon from Bp. Lake, and visited it again with Prince Charles in 1644. General Goring made it his head-quarters in 1645, but evacuated it on Cromwell's approach.

In Bruton register is the following poetic effusion of thankfulness for deliverance from the clubmen in 1642:—

“All praise and thanks to God still give,
For our deliverance Matthias eve;
By his great power we put to flight
Our raging foes, the Batcombites;
Who came to plunder, burn, and slay,
And quite consume our town this day.”

A pig of lead bearing a triumphal inscription of Antoninus and Verus was found at Bruton early in the last centy.

The *Free Grammar-School*, founded by FitzJames, Bishop of London, 1520, and his brother, Sir J. Fitz-James, Lord Chief Justice, suppressed by Henry VIII., and refounded by Edw. VI., derives its revenue from the Abbey lands. It possesses an excellent library of modern literature and a chemical laboratory.

The *Hospital*, founded by Hugh Sexey in 1617 (who rose from a stable-boy to be auditor to Queen Elizabeth) for 12 old people (since enlarged), is a quaint building forming a small quadrangle, including hall and chapel, and presenting a good example of the late Gothic of Somersetshire (compare, post, *Wyke Champflower*, *Low Ham*). Above the hospital is an ancient one-arched bridge.

The road to *Wincanton*, 4 m., is a pretty drive, passing on rt. *Redlynch Park*, a seat of the Earl of Ilchester; and rt., 1 m. from Bruton, *Discove*, a romantic hamlet, where a Roman pavement was found in 1711. This road runs out of Bruton through a stone archway, embowered in elms, whose branches embrace across the road.

Redlynch was the seat of the ancient families of Draycot and Fitz-James. One of the latter, John F., was father of John, Lord Chief Justice, and Richard, Bp. of London, 1506-22, and Lord Almoner to H. VII., "who with their mutual support much strengthened one another in Church and State."—*Fuller*. In 1670 Sir Stephen Fox possessed the property (b. at Farley near Salisbury, 1627); a faithful servant of Charles I. and II. He lived in the reigns of 6 Sovereigns, and his character was that of "the greatest favourite of the prince, the chiefest minister of state, and the wealthiest subject of the realm." He was the projector of the great military Hospital at Chelsea, and contributed largely to that undertaking. He died 1716. The present mansion was built by him 1672. George III. was a frequent visitor here.

The pictures at *Stourhead*, the seat of Sir Henry Ainslie Hoare, Bart., and the *gardens* may be seen (Rte. 11). *Alfred's Tower*, commanding a view over an immense extent of country, is accessible at all times, the key being kept at the adjoining lodge. It is $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. from

Bruton to Alfred's Tower, $7\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the house, but $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile may be saved by crossing the meadows called *Bruton Park*. S. of Alfred's Tower is the earthwork of *Jack's Castle*, on the summit of a hill, and at the foot of this height the remains, in a farmhouse and its buildings, of the Augustine priory of *Stavordale*, founded by one of the Lovells in the reign of Henry III.

Batcombe, 3 m. N., boasts of one of the best churches in the county. The tower is very fine, and richly decorated. The S. aisle was built in 1629 by James Bisse, a member of the family, to whom the manor passed at the Dissolution, from Glastonbury Abbey, to whom there are several quaint and interesting monuments. A small external crucifix at the E. end of the nave deserves notice.

1 m. W. of Bruton, *Wyke Champflower* has a chapel built by H. Southworth, 1624, worth notice as an example of Jacobean Gothic. The manor-house stands hard by, and both are overshadowed with fine elms. Here the rly. to Yeovil crosses the Somerset and Dorset line between Wimborne and Highbridge (Rte. 18).

On the road to Castle Cary the bold eminence of *Creech Hill* will be observed on the rt.

129 m. CASTLECARY Stat., $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N. of the town. (*Inns*: Almsford Inn; George; Britannia; Pop. 2060). This is another small town deriving interest from the beauty of the surrounding country, but in itself possessing little to delay the traveller. It is situated on the escarpment of the inferior oolite, partly in the valley, partly on the slope, its principal street running up a hollow between 2 hills. It is a place of little trade, its manufacture being confined to flax spinning and weaving hair for the seats of chairs.

Of the *Castle*, (which once stood above the source of the *Cary*, the

name alone remains, with some grassy heaps, even its site being uncertain. The last mention of it occurs in the reign of Stephen, when it played a part in the civil contests of that period.

Castle Cary was in early times the seat of the Luvells, descendants of Robert Lord of Breherval, one of the companions of the Conqueror, whose son Ascelin, d. 1120, was surnamed *Lupus*, from the fierceness of his disposition. His son, William de Percheval, was called *Lupellus*, as of a less savage nature, and in after-times this sobriquet was softened into Lupel or Lovell, and lastly Lovel.

William de Percheval, styled Lupellus, joined the Empress Maud, and strengthened his castle at Cary. In 1181 he ravaged all the adjacent country, sweeping it of the provisions needed by Stephen's army at Bristol, who on raising the siege of Bristol attacked Castle Cary so fiercely that the garrison surrendered in 1138. It was held again by W. de Percheval in 1153 against Stephen's adherent Henry de Tracy.

The cruciform Perp. *Ch.*, perched upon a hillock, forms a pretty picture. In 1855 it received a new tower and spire, and was in great part rebuilt by Mr. Ferrey. It contains a font dating from Henry VI., and a richly carved pulpit. Opposite this church is

Castle Cary Park, a prettily broken hill-side. From its summit, which is called *Lodge Hill*, both seas are said to be visible, but, at any rate, the longest sight may be satisfied with the view. It embraces the vales of Bridgwater and Taunton, the Quantock and Blackdown hills, the last extending to Exmoor; towards the N.W. Brent Knoll and Glastonbury Tor; N.E. the conical top of Creech Hill; and E. the far-seen town of Stourton. The hill was probably the chase or park of the barons who once dwelt here.

The *Market-house*, a very ornamental structure, was built in 1855.

Mr. Penrose was the architect. The upper story contains an assembly room upwards of 50 ft. in length.

Charles II., on his escape after the defeat at Worcester, arrived at Castle Cary, Sep. 16, 1651, disguised as Mrs. Jane Lane's groom, under the name of Wm. Jackson. He slept in the manor-house, and went on next day to Trent. Within the village are the springs of the river *Cary*, which forms a pond at its fountain-head, and in its course gives its name to Babcary, Lytes Cary, Cary Fitzpaine, &c.

[The road from this town to Wincanton, 6 m., is one of the prettiest in the county. Winding over the hills, it gives the traveller delicious peeps at distant vales and heights, and at certain points a variety of distances in connection with a rich foreground. At 1½ m. it passes on l. *Hadspen House*, Henry Hobhouse, Esq., a grey old mansion beneath a wood, through which a walk is seen to climb. The entrenched height of *Cadbury* is a striking object from this road.

Alford, 2½ m. W., has a very beautiful and well-restored *Ch.*; an admirable specimen of the Perp. of Henry VI. The roof and screens have rich and delicate carvings, and the windows good stained glass, some ancient. In the churchyard is a cross. S. of the village is *Alford Well*, a mineral spring.

At *Yarlington*, S. of Hadspen, and about 3 m. from Castle Cary, are some remains of a manor-house of the Montacutes, and in the church an ancient and curiously sculptured font. Adjoining the village is *Yarlington Lodge*, the seat of the Rogers, and on the hill-top to the W. the earthworks of a British camp.]

The rly. passes rt. *North Barrow*, where the small *Ch.* retains some Norm. portions, and *South Barrow*, and reaches

134 m. *Sparkford* Stat. *Sparkford Ch.* was rebuilt 1824, but the good Norm. chancel and tower arches were preserved. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. is the entrenched height of

Cadbury, or the hill-fort. It is a conical summit on the escarpment of the oolite, abutting on the plain which extends to Ilchester, and encircled at the top by 4 deep ditches in concentric rings, and by as many bulky ramparts of earth and stone. The S. side is terraced with "lynchets." These formidable defences enclose an area of about 20 acres, in the centre of which is a moated mound or prætorium called *King Arthur's Palace*. *Cadbury* is mentioned in old records under the title of *Camelot*, a name still perpetuated in the adjoining villages of *Queen's Camel* and *W. Camel*, and also to be found in *Cornwall*, in the river *Camel* and town of *Camelford*, near *King Arthur's Castle of Tintagel*.

"Like *Camelot* what place was ever yet renowned,

Where as at *Carlton* he kept the table round?"—*Drayton*.

Many interesting relics have been found in this camp: round stones for slings, a silver horseshoe, and numerous coins, chiefly of *Antoninus* and *Faustina*, proving that this fortress was occupied by the Romans, whatever might have been its origin. This by common tradition is assigned to *King Arthur*, who, in the opinion of *Camden*, fought a battle with the Saxons near the spot. In the fourth ditch on the N. side is a spring called *King Arthur's Well*, said to possess many marvellous virtues, and sharing with the lonely "palace" on the top the reverence of the country people, who, indeed, imagine the whole hill to be haunted ground, and to be gradually sinking.

The village of *South Cadbury* lies in a narrow valley, under the N.E. side of the camp. The *Ch.* stands very picturesquely immediately under the rampart.

North Cadbury, crowning a neighbouring height, was formerly a possession of the *Hungerfords*, and its church was built by a *Lady Botreaux*, c. 1427, in the reign of *Hen. VI.* It is a fine structure, dedicated to *St. Michael*, with a noble E. window, and an oaken roof. In the stalled chancel are 2 altar-tombs; one bearing the effigies of *Sir Wm.* and *Lady Eliz. Botreaux*; the other those of *Sir Francis Hastings* and his wife, *Lady Magdalene*, 1596, in whose honour is an epitaph of 15 stanzas, in a plate against the wall. The oak seats bear the date 1438. *Whichcot*, Provost of *King's*, was rector here 1643-50, and was succeeded by *Ralph Cudworth*, the learned divine. Adjoining it is an Elizabethan gabled mansion, built by the 3rd *Earl of Huntingdon* about 1581. The hall is a fine room, 48 ft. by 22 ft., with a large bay window, filled with armorial bearings. The S. front is modern. It contains some good Italian paintings, including a copy of *Guido's Aurora*, by *Raffaële Mengs*. *Cadbury House* is now the seat of *James Bennett, Esq.*

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of *Sparkford* is *Compton-Pauncefoot*. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.E. of the village is *Compton Castle* (— *Cox, Esq.*), a modern castellated mansion, with a fine sheet of water in front. Within, the octagonal hall and staircase have a fine effect.

Hazelgrove House, rt., seat of *Hervey St. John Mildmay, Esq.*, built 1730. Its park is remarkable for its enormous oaks. One, mentioned by *Loudon*, is 80 ft. in height, and has a trunk 30 ft. in circumference, at 4 ft. from the ground. S.W., 1 m., the village of

Queen's Camel, noted for a sulphurous spring, which rises 1 m. to the W. of it. *Queen's Camel Ch.* is quite worth a visit for its stately tower and fine interior, decorated with a richly carved oak screen, piscina, and sedilia. The font is one of very curious design, with statues

at the angles. There are monuments to the Mildmays, including one to Sir Humphrey, d. 1690, who was wounded at Newbury fight. The line now enters a broad marshy vale, which sweeps past Ilchester to Langport, along the banks of the Yeo. It is bounded by an amphitheatre of hills. 1 m. W. is *West Camel*. During a recent restoration of the ch. a fragment of the shaft of a stone cross carved with interlacing serpents, of the type common in Ireland, was discovered.

136½ m. *Marston Stat.* The church is ancient, and contains a Norman font.

The rly. passes left *Trent* (see *post*) and *Over Compton* (*Compton House*, John Goodden, Esq.), and, running under *Babylon Hill*, reaches 140½ m. *Penn Mill Station* for YEOVIL, where there is a good modern hotel.

[The joint station of S.-W. and Bristol and Exeter Rlys. is ½ m. off, on the Sherborne road, at the foot of Summer Tree Hill. Yeovil is a centre of railway communication. The main line of the S.-W. Rly. from London to Exeter passes near it, as does the Weymouth branch of the G.W. Rly., by Maiden Newton and Dorchester. There is also a branch joining the Bristol and Exeter Railway at Durston, near Taunton.]

YEOVIL (*Inns*: Three Choughs; Mermaid; Pop. 8486) is a busy, handsome town, built of red brick and yellow Hamhill stone, and situated on a hill-side sloping to the Yeo, from which it derives its name. It is in a pretty country, and on the old coach-road from London to the West. Its chief manufacture is that of kid gloves, which is extensively carried on here, about 80,000*l.* being annually paid to the workpeople. The largest factories are those of Mr. Boyd and Mr. Fooks. Gloves are made both in the town and the

neighbourhood, and sailcloth at the 3 villages of *Chinnoek*.

In July 1645 Yeovil was held by the King's forces, who were expelled by Fairfax and his men before the decisive victory of Langport.

The *Ch.* is a very noble edifice, cruciform in plan, with stately square tower, 90 ft. high at the W. end. The height of the side aisles and large size of the windows give it grace and lightness, and hence it has been called "the Lantern of the West." "It is," says Mr. Freeman, "one grand and harmonious whole, as truly the work of real artistic genius as Cologne, or Winchester, or St. Ouen's."

The nave is very lofty and of stately proportions, with wide side aisles, and a noble tower arch, and good dark cradle-roof. Under the chancel is a crypt, groined from a central pillar, used as a vestry, entered by a canopied doorway richly groined in the head. The windows contain rich modern stained glass—that in the tower to the memory of the Prince Consort. There is an ancient brass *Lectern*, the gift of one Martin Forester, bearing an inscription, violating all laws of grammar and prosody—

"Precibus nunc precor cernuis hinc eja
rogate,
Frater Martinus Forester vita vigiletque
beate."

In the chancel is a bust of the Rev. Rob. Phelps, Vicar (d. 1855), by Westmacott. The S. porch is a fine composition. The *new schools* to the W. group well with the church.

Trinity Ch., Peter Street, was built 1843-6, after a design by B. Ferrey. It is in the E. E. style.

The *Town Hall*, above the Corn Exchange and Market, is an Ionic building, with a clock turret, erected 1849.

Some old houses deserve notice.

The *George Inn*, in Middle Street, is a good specimen of an old hostelry. It was formerly called the Three

Cups. The *Castle Inn* is another ancient building.

A view of Yeovil from *Summerhouse Hill* will well repay a walk of 10 min. Proceed down Middle St., as far as South St., where the foot-bridge over the rly. will lead you to the foot of the hill. From its summit you may study the town in detail, and follow the valley of the Yeo to the hills about Sherborne, and in an opposite direction to the wooded knoll of Montacute. At the foot of the eminence runs the Bristol and Exeter Railway, and between it and the river, in rich park-like grounds, is *Newton House*, an Eliz. building, seat of the old family of Harbin.

Hendford (Fred. Greenham, Esq.) is a large modern mansion, surrounded with fine pleasure-grounds; *Pen House* (Miss Neal), is seated on an eminence in a beautiful garden. Other residences are—*Hendford Manor*, E. Newman, Esq.; *Aldon*, J. Batten, Esq.; *Hollands*, H. B. Batten, Esq.; *Kingston Manor*, J. Lyon, Esq.; *Kingston House*, Mrs. Side.

Another view of the town, with a more extended landscape, may be obtained from the slope of *Babylon Hill*, about 1 m. on the road to Sherborne.

Coker Court, 3 m. S., is the residence of the Helyars.

[A very charming excursion may be made (preferably on foot) to Preston, Brympton, Odcombe, Montacute, and Stoke-sub-Hamdon.

Leaving Yeovil at the N.W. angle, we reach in 1 m.

Preston Abbey, as it is called, a monastic grange, connected with Bermondsey Abbey, still retaining in many of its buildings much to interest an antiquary, especially the remains of its Perp. hall, and groined porch.

Brympton d'Evercy, 3 m. W. of Yeovil, on the road to Montacute, is well worth a visit. From the parsonage a striking architectural group is

seen lying in the hollow below, consisting of a large stately mansion, a smaller house, and the ch., all worthy of attentive study. The *Ch.*, originally a small cruciform aisleless Dec. building, has gone through many alterations. The Geometrical window of the S. transept, the foliated arch connecting it with nave, and the S. door, the piscina in the N. trans., and stone chancel screen, all deserve notice. The Sydenhams have made this their burial-place since Edw. IV. In the churchyard are some interesting effigies, removed from the ch., probably of the D'Evercys. There is a handsome modern monument to Jane Countess of Westmorland, d. 1857. To the N. of the churchyard a house for 3 priests was built temp. Hen. VII., which has a fine octagon turret, and good ceilings within. The *Mansion House* (Lady Georgiana Lang) has a fine W. front, 130 ft. long; the N.W. portion is untouched, and has a splendid display of oriels, turrets, chimneys, and open battlements. The hall was modernised temp. Eliz. The S. or garden front was added by Inigo Jones. The rooms are large and lofty, and contain some good tapestry, and excellent portraits by *Lely* and other eminent masters. 2 m. S.W. of Yeovil, 1. of the road to W. Coker, are some remains, in a farmhouse, of *Nash Priory*.

A pretty upland walk, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Brympton, leads to *Odcombe*, from the churchyard of which village a most extensive view can be obtained of the surrounding country. *Tom Coryate*, who called himself "the Odcombian Legstretcher," born 1577, was the son of a rector of Odcombe. In 1608 he took a pedestrian tour through Europe, and walked 900 m. in one pair of shoes, and on his return hung them up as curious relics in Odcombe Ch. He published his travels under the title, 'Cruities hastily gobbled up in 5 months travel.' In 1612 he

went a tour to the East, living, he says, on 2*d.* a day, and had an interview with the Mogul emperor. He died at Surat, 1617. He is said to have introduced into England the use of *table-forks*. Odcombe was also the birthplace of Humphrey Hody, Reg. Prof. of Greek at Oxford, b. 1659. The tower of the ch. stands between the nave and chancel.

1½ m. beyond Odcombe brings us by a pretty walk to Montacute.

Montacute House, seat of William Phelps, Esq. (4 m. on the road to S. Petherton). It is a very imposing and beautiful old structure, built between the years 1580 and 1601, by Sir Edward Phelps, Queen's Serjeant, afterwards Master of the Rolls, and Speaker of the House of Commons, whose father and ancestors had resided at Barrington Court, near Ilminster. It is in the form of an H, of Hamhill stone, and pierced on its E. front, 170 ft. long, by no less than 41 Tudor windows. The spaces between these windows on the second story are occupied by statues. The W. front is equally handsome, and has the addition of a gorgeous screen, which was brought from Clifton Maubank. The arms over the doorway also came from Clifton, those of Phelps excepted. The principal entrance bears the hospitable motto—

“Through this wide opening gate
None come too early, none return too late;”

the front door, “And yours, my friends.” The *hall* is a stately apartment with singing gallery and screen, and a decoration of bas-reliefs which represent the ancient punishment of “riding the Skimmington.” The upper story of the house is almost entirely occupied by a single room, 185 ft. in length, and 21 ft. in breadth, now unfurnished. The drawing-room in the W. wing, reached by a winding stone staircase, has a rich panelled and fretted ceiling, and elaborate woodwork, especially a splendid door-case, with the motto *Hoc*

Age. The *gardens* are in the Italian style, with terraces and fountains, and domed alcoves, and derive a peculiar beauty from the flower-beds, which are very skilfully arranged with a reference to complementary colours. In the Civil War, 1645, Montacute was sacked by the Parliamentary forces, and, for a short time, occupied by Cromwell.

The *Ch.*, dedicated to St. Catherine, belongs principally to the transition period between E. E. and Dec. The chancel arch is Norman; those of the S. transept E. E.; of the N. Dec.; the font and tower are Perp. The font has a solid stone cover, which is raised by means of a pulley and chain. Here are the monuments of the Phelpses, one, with effigies, to David Phelps and Anne his wife, dated 1484. The churchyard contains the shaft of a canopied cross. Adjoining are the remains of

Montacute Priory, supposed to have been founded for Cluniac monks by Wm. Earl of Moreton, temp. Henry I. They consist of some domestic buildings, and a very fine Perp. gateway, with an oriel and bold staircase turret, reminding one more of several gateways in the Oxford colleges than of other conventual entrances. On one battlement are the arms of England, and on the other the letters T.C., probably the initials of Thomas Chard, the last prior. The architecture is Perp., and the same style may be recognised in the village of *Montacute*, where “every cottage preserves its mullioned window, arched doorway, and chimney-shaft.”

Above Montacute rise two pyramidal hills (whence *mons acutus*), clothed with wood to their summits. The E. is *St. Michael's*, where in the days of Tofig the Proud,—a great Danish thane, “stallere” to Canute at whose wedding feast with Gytha, Hardicanute fell dead,—“the Holy Cross of Waltham” was discovered, after a search made in obedience to

a thrice-repeated vision to a smith, who was also the sexton of the village, then known as Lutegarsbury. On digging, a large crucifix was discovered, which Toffig sent to his manor of Waltham, together with a smaller crucifix, and bell, and book. The summit of the hill commands a splendid view: W. to the hills below Minehead and Blackdown; N.E. over Taunton, the Quantocks, the Channel, Welsh coast; N. Brent Knoll, Mendip, Glastonbury Tor; E. Creech and Knoll, Alfred's Tower; S. over Dorset hills to Lambert's Tower, near Lyme. Beyond these, again, are *Hamhill* and *Stoke Down*, forming a promontory on the escarpment of the oolite, which strikes S. from this point towards Crewkerne. On the side of the hill towards Montacute are some entrenchments which seem to confirm the statement that this eminence was fortified after the Conquest. Perhaps the want of water prevented its being continued as a stronghold.

The road to Hamhill passes the ch. of E. Stoke, or

Stoke-sub-Hamdon, than which "few churches, great or small, are more interesting."—*E. A. F.* It is a cruciform aisleless building, with a tower over the N. transept, of which the belfry stage is a beautiful specimen of E. E. masonry. The style is Norman, with insertions; but some of the original windows, the doorways, and chancel arch remain unaltered. On each side of the chancel is a low side window; on the tympanum of the arch over the N. door is a rude carving, discovered by the incumbent, the Rev. W. Greenslade, in 1856, the symbolical meaning of which is not quite easy to interpret. In the centre is a tree with three birds in its branches, perhaps representing the church as described in the parable of St. Mark iv. 32; on the rt. of this is the Lamb with the cross. Outside these two central subjects are two others; on the l. an

archer with his bow bent, on the rt. some animal, which is shown by the inscription underneath to be intended for a lion. This inscription, which is partly defaced, reads—

Sagittarius . . . v . . . leo

The font is Norman, with the chain and lozenge moulding; and the W. window is an excellent example of flowing Dec. The N. porch has a good groined roof; the room over it, which is used as a vestry, has also a good stone roof. Observe on the exterior a curious canopy in the angle between the W. wall of this porch and the N. wall of the nave. Note also the fine Norman corbel table on the outer walls of the chancel. On each side of the chancel is a low window, or lychroscope, and of the chancel arch a squint or hagio-scope. Among the monuments is one to Matthew de Gournay, a gallant soldier, who was born at Stoke, and died 1406, aged 96. He fought at Cressy and Poitiers. Beyond Stoke Ch. we can turn up a road to the l., and visit

Hamdon or *Hamhill*, and its *Quarries*, for centuries celebrated for their building stone, an oolite, which, though coloured by iron, and containing more siliceous sand than the oolite of Bath, is little inferior to it in durability, and an equally beautiful material, as may be seen by the houses of Montacute and Sherborne Castle. The pits are scattered over the hill, which they pierce to a depth of about 100 ft., exhibiting a fawn-coloured rock, sometimes grained like wood. On the summit of Hamdon is a well-known British camp, which has been occupied and altered by the Romans. It is of about 210 acres, and about 3 m. in circumference. The remains of chariot-wheels have been found in it. At the N. angle is a hollow called "the Frying-pan," probably an amphitheatre, and near it a series of low perforated stones, supposed by some to have

been used for tethering the horses or securing the tents. From this camp the visitor may enjoy a panorama of distant hills, complete but at one point, where the eye meets with a check in St. Michael's Hill. The great landmarks of the county are, however, in view, and from Rana Hill, in the S., you may range round the horizon by the Blackdowns, the Brendons, the Quantocks, the sea at Bridgwater, the Mendips, the hills from Bath to Sherborne, and Bubb Down, over Melbury. At the foot of Hamdon is the village of

W. Stoke, inhabited by quarrymen, where was a collegiate chapel, founded by John de Beauchamp in 1304. It contains the small remains of the once noble mansion of the Beauchamps and Gournays. The chapel is now a cider cellar. It is in the style of Montacute, with an ivied arch at the entrance to the courtyard.

A mile walk across the fields, under the western slopes of *Ham Hill*, leads to *Norton-sub-Hamdon*, beautifully situated under wooded heights. The *Ch.* is a handsome Perp. building, and great taste and skill have been shown in its restoration by the rector, Rev. G. J. Blomfield.]

[At *Trent*, N. of Babylon Hill, and 4 m. from Yeovil, Charles II. lay concealed for more than a fortnight after the battle of Worcester, and it was from this place that he made his unsuccessful attempt to escape at Lyme, under the guidance of his host, Colonel Wyndham. *Trent Manor House* is now converted into a farmhouse, but a portion of the old building, containing Lady Wyndham's parlour and the King's hiding-place, &c., is carefully preserved. The place of Charles II.'s concealment is a hole about 9 ft. deep, under the floor of the closet, where, tradition says, the King slept. The boards are movable, and a man can

easily let himself down between the joists.

The *Church* is a very interesting building, which has received some splendid and unique decorations from the taste and munificence of the rector, the Rev. W. H. Turner. It has a tower and stone spire (Dec.) to the S. of the nave—the latter a very unusual feature in this district—and a polygonal baptistery, recently added, at the W. end. Nearly all the windows are filled with stained glass, principally modern. The rood loft and screen remain, and are remarkably rich. A magnificent carved oak pulpit, brought from Belgium, has been added by the rector. The bas-reliefs represent various scenes from our Lord's infancy and childhood. The N. chapel (Dec.) is entered through an arch painted with laurel branches and leaves, among which are 40 shields, representing the alliances of the families of Coker and Gerard. At the N. end are two stone effigies, one in armour, cross-legged; the other a very singular one, partly in military, partly in civil costume. There is also a monument to Sir Francis Wyndham, who, as Col. Wyndham, concealed Charles II. in his mansion of Trent.

The *Rectory* has some ancient portions, and contains a good collection of pictures by Guido, Carlo Dolce, Salvator, Rubens, &c., collected by the Rev. W. H. Turner.]

ROUTE 22.

WITHAM TO SHEPTON MALET AND WELLS.

(Branch of the Great Western Railway.)

Leaving *Witham* Junction, the line runs W.N.W. to

2½ m. *Wanstrow* Stat. The nave of *Cloford Ch.*, 2 m. N.W., was rebuilt 1856. The chancel, long disused, has been restored by Mr. Horner. In the N. chapel are monuments to the Horners, including a quaint one to Sir Geo. Horner, d. 1676, and his lady. Thence to

5½ m. *Cranmore* Stat. at *West Cranmore*, where the *Ch.* has a good tower of the Taunton type, and contains monuments of the Strodes. *South Hill House* is the seat of Edw. C. C. Strobe, Esq. The ch. of *East Cranmore*, 1 m. E., was rebuilt by T. H. Wyatt, 1846. *Cranmore Hall* is the residence of R. H. Paget, Esq., M.P. 1½ m. S. of the stat. is *Ches-terblade* (Rte. 18).

Doulting, N. of the rly., 1½ m. W. of *Cranmore* Stat., 2 m. E. of *Shepton Malet*, should be visited for the sake of its fine *ch.*, *barn*, and quarries of excellent building stone in the inferior oolite, which supplied the materials of the Cathedral and St. Cuthbert's Ch. at *Wells*, *Glastonbury Abbey*, &c. The *Ch.* (well restored) is cruciform, with, in the centre, an octagonal tower (a good plain example of the 13th centy.), crowned with a later spire. The *nave* is Transitional; the *chancel* Dec.; the *S. porch* (rebuilt; the stones of the old porch may be seen in the Rectory garden) is very rich Perp., with a pendant. A short distance from the *ch.* stands a very fine old

barn, formerly belonging to the abbots of *Glastonbury*, built in the early part of 15th centy., with ornaments over one of the porches. In the *ch.-yd.* is a *Cross*, with the instruments of the Passion carved on its base.

Near the *ch.* is St. Aldhelm's Well, the source of the little river *Sheppy*, the motive power of the weavers of *Shepton*. St. Aldhelm died here, A.D. 709. "When he felt himself stricken for death, he desired his attendants to carry him into the little wooden *ch.*, where, having commended his soul to God, he calmly breathed his last." Continuing down the valley, watered by the *Sheppy*, with the southern slopes of *Mendip* rising rt., we reach

9 m. *SHEPTON MALET* Stat. (*Inns*: *George, Hare and Hounds*; Pop. 5347), commonly known as *Shepun*, a busy, flourishing town, with a considerable manufacture of silk, velvet, crape, and knitted stockings. It is chiefly situated on a hill-side sloping to a valley, and in a country of stone, as is obvious from the numerous ugly fences which partition the fields.

Shepton derives its distinguishing name from the *Malets*, its Norman lords, the site of whose ancient mansion is now occupied by the *Swan*, in *Kilver Street*. It was the birth-place of *Simon Browne*, a learned Protestant dissenter, an opponent of *Woolston* and *Tindal*, b. 1680; also of *Hugh Inge*, Abp. of *Dublin*, and Chancellor of *Ireland*, d. 1528; and Dr. *Walter Charleton*, author of '*Chorea Gigantum*,' an account of *Stonehenge*, b. 1619.

Shepton was a very early possession of the monastery of *Glastonbury*. The manor was subsequently in the hands of *Roger de Curcelle*, a Norman noble, from whom it passed to the *Malets*. Sir *William Malet* joined the confederate barons against King *John*, and holding his strong castle of *Curry Malet* against him, his

estates were confiscated; but afterwards restored on the payment of a fine. It then passed by purchase to the Gournays, one of whom, Sir Thos. Gournay, was one of the murderers of Edward II.; another was the celebrated Matthew de Gournay, buried at Stoke-sub-Hamdon (Rte. 21). The manor again devolved to the crown in 1536, and was subsequently granted to the Prince of Wales as Duke of Cornwall, to which duchy a considerable part of the parish belongs. In 1685 the Duke of Monmouth, with his irregular forces, paid two visits to Shepton, sleeping himself at Longbridge House. Twelve men, who had joined his cause, were executed in the marketplace by Judge Jeffreys. The *Ch.* is cruciform, with a fair W. tower of the Taunton type, crowned with an incomplete spire, like those of St. Mary Redcliffe and Yatton. The aisles were rebuilt 1827, and the chancel 1851. The wooden roof is one of the very finest in the country. It contains 350 panels, no two being alike. There is a stone pulpit together with some ancient crosses and two knightly recumbent effigies in chain armour hoisted to the window sills. The whole has been restored, and re-seated and arranged.

The *Market Cross*, erected 1500 by Walter and Agnes Buckland, is hexagonal, surmounted by niches, surrounding a pinnacled shaft 51 ft. high. The town contains many curious old houses. *Strode's Almshouse*, founded 1699, is a singular old building.

As early as the 14th centy. Shepton was a place of commercial importance. In 1790 more than 4000 hands were employed in the cloth trade. The manufacture of knitted stockings added to the industrial activity of the place. In addition to the large manufactures of silk, velvet, crape, &c., now carried on, there are very extensive breweries, especially that of Messrs. Morris, Cox,

and Co., for the production of pale ale for export to the E. and W. Indies. Ropes are made in the parish, and there are large yards for brick and tile making. There is a large bacon curing establishment at *Darshill*. Many hands are employed in the manufacture of boots and shoes. Shepton is a very busy place, and affords much to engage the attention of tourists who feel an interest in the commercial activity of the country. A kiln for baking *Roman pottery* was discovered when building Messrs. Morris and Cox's brewery, which has been carefully preserved by Mr. W. Clarke, of Paul Street. There is a small good collection of local *fossils* at the Post office. The *Fosse Way* passes to the E. of Shepton on its way to Ilchester.

Croscombe, "the valley of the Cross," 3 m. towards Wells, lies situated on the pretty stream which flows past Shepton, in a pleasing valley, once richly wooded. The village has a *cross*, and a very interesting *Ch.*, which has a stone spire, an unusual feature in this county. The arcades and S. door are Dec.; but the mass of the fabric is Perp. of the usual type, with rich battlements. It contains an extraordinary amount of fine woodwork, seats, bench-ends, &c., among which the truly magnificent cinque-cento pulpit, bearing Bp. Lake's arms and the date 1616, and chancel screen, rising nearly to the roof of the ch., deserve special notice. The roof of the chancel is of the same date; that of the nave is carved in dark oak. The belfry has a fan-vault. Some monumental slabs and an incised cross are set up on either side of the reredos.

Croscombe is full of old houses, among which the village *Inn* of the 15th centy. deserves especial notice. It has a remarkably good bay window, with a carved stone ceiling, good fireplaces, good panelled ceilings to the chief rooms, and an octagon chimney on the gable. The

hall of the *Manor House* of the 15th centy., N. of ch.-yd., is used as a Baptist chapel.

1 m. W. on the road to Wells is *Dinder*, the manor-house of the Somervilles (the small *ch.* has a slender tower with an effective turret); and *Pilton* with its good *ch.* and fine abbatial *barn* is 3 m. S.W. (Rte. 18).

Passing rt. *Dulcot Hill*, commanding a fine view of Wells and its cathedral, the rly. arrives at

14 m. WELLS (Rte. 18).

ROUTE 23.

BATH TO SHEPTON MALET AND WELLS.

Bath. The road, to within 3 m. of Shepton Malet, was the Roman *Fosse Way*, which ran from Barton-on-the-Humber to Totnes, in Devonshire, by Lincoln, Cirencester, Bath, &c. It proceeds nearly in a straight line. Ascending Holloway, it passes the site of the British camp of *Bere-wyke*, and reaches

$\frac{2}{4}$ m. the summit of *Odd Down*, where remains of the *Wansdyke*, the Belgic boundary, may be seen on l. by the turnpike. 2 m. rt. is *Englishcombe*.

4 m. rt. *Dunkerton*, in its valley. Here the road enters the coal-field of which Radstoke is the centre. The pits are sunk through no less than 3 formations before they reach the coal measures, namely, the lower oolite, the lias, and the new red

sandstone. These strata would in some places make a total thickness of 2000 ft., but they are here reduced to less than 500, by the thinning out of many of the beds.

Priston Ch., 2 m. N. of Dunkerton, has "on the S. side of the nave a Norman corbel table and a good doorway with depressed arch; and on the S. of the chancel a priests' door, with a canopied weather moulding. The windows of the chancel are Dec., and in the interior have round their splay some very elegant cusped and foliated work. In one of the windows on the N. side this is a restoration, but in the other windows the original work remains. N.B.—The Norman arches under the tower and the Norman arcading are entirely new, and not restored from any remains previously existing."—*E. P. E.*

6 m. rt. *Camerton Park*, Mrs. Jarrett; and *Camerton*, where remains of Roman villas have been found. The *ch.* is Norman, and contains several fine tombs of the Carews. The situation of the manor-house is picturesque. Roman remains and an inscription have been found here. 1. *Woodbarrow House*, W. S. Wait, Esq.

$\frac{9}{4}$ m. *Radstoke*,* said to be so called from the red sandstone which lies below it. Coal abounds here, and affords employment to the chief portion of the surrounding inhabitants. A railway, forming a junction at Frome, has been constructed solely for the conveyance of coal. Frances Countess of Waldegrave is lady of the manor, and chief landowner. *Midsomer Norton* lies in a valley watered by branches of the Somer rivulet, and derives its name from lying between them. Three of the *ch.* bells were given by Charles II., a fact commemorated by his statue in full-bottomed wig.

$\frac{11}{4}$ m. *Stratton-on-the-Fosse*, an

* More probably from the A.-S. "rad," a road, and "stoc," a village.

ancient village, as is shown by the name, which occurs in many parts of England on the lines of the Roman roads. 2 m. S.W. is the valley of *Gurney Slade*, a romantic sequestered dell, watered by a rivulet which turns an ancient mill in the parish of *Binegar*, the *Ch.* of which, standing high and bleak on the summit of Mendip, has a good tower with panelled battlements, and a niche containing the representation of the Trinity. The village was once celebrated for a large fair, transferred here from Wells on account of the plague in the 16th centy., and removed back again 1837.

13 m. the road here ascends an offshoot from the chain of the Mendips, passing on rt. *Ashwick Grove*, seat of R. Strachey, Esq. On the summit *Beacon Hill*, 1020 ft. above the sea, crowned with a clump of firs, lies to the l. This is the highest point of East Mendip, across which the Fosse Way ran to Shepton, regardless of all natural obstacles. On the rt.,

Maesbury Castle, a British camp, with double ramparts—"a very excellent type of Belgic works"—containing 6 acres, on the line of the Roman road along the crest of the hill from the Bristol Channel to Old Sarum. A fine view is obtained on the descent to

17 m. SHEPTON MALET (Rte. 22).

Returning to *Stratton-on-the-Fosse*, the road to Wells turns rt. towards the Mendips.

15 m. *Old Down Inn*.

rt. 1½ m. *Stone Easton Park*, seat of John Hippisley, Esq.; l. *Blacker's Hill Camp*, above the *Valley of Gurney Slade*.

¾ m. l. *Lechmere Water*, a pool ½ m. in length.

14½ m. l., on the summit of the hills, *Maesbury*; rt. *Pen Hill*, 930 ft. in height.

18 m. WELLS.

ROUTE 24.

BRISTOL TO YEOVIL, BY WELLS, SOMERTON, AND ILCHESTER.

Bristol. The road passes the E. end of *Dundry Hill*, an outlying ridge of inferior oolite, nearly 4 m. long, and 700 ft. above the sea. *Maes Knoll*, on its E. point, is probably a natural mound, scooped out for interments. It is an immense tumulus, 390 ft. by 84 ft. and 60 ft. high at the most elevated point. It forms part of a very extensive British station, occupying the summit of Dundry Hill above *Whitchurch*, on the line of the *Wansdyke*, and corresponding with the entrenched height of *Stantonbury*, 5 m. to the E. of it. The oolite is quarried on the hill.

Dundry Ch. (St. Michael's) is celebrated for its fine tower, of the date of Edward IV., probably intended as a landmark. From the summit may be obtained a most extensive view of the country many miles round Bristol. The church has been recently rebuilt. In the churchyard is a handsome cross with a tall shaft. It commands, on a clear day, one of the most enchanting views in the W. of England. Bristol and Bath, to the N. and E., are both in view; the hills about Calne and Devizes, above the former, bound the prospect. To the rt. of Bristol are seen the hills near Berkeley and Stroud, in Gloucestershire, and the view extends to Malvern Hills. From N. to W. the Severn, with the Welsh coast and mountains for nearly 40 m., and the Quantock Hills, near Bridgwater, appear to view. To the S. the eye ranges over a rich and beautifully varied country, embracing Stourhead, Knoll Hill,

and Cley Hill, near Warminster, bounded by the highlands in the vicinity of Shaftesbury.

5 m. rt. traces of the *Wansdyke*, which formed the N. sides of the camps of Maes Knoll and Stantonbury.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Belluton*, D. C. Wait, Esq., which belonged to the father of Locke, the philosopher.

$6\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Pensford*, called by Leland "a market townlet," and in his time busied in the manufacture of cloth. The scenery is pretty, orchards hanging on the hills. *Norton House* is the seat of J. W. Daubeny, Esq.

Stanton Drew, rt. (1 m. through the fields), in the fertile and well-wooded valley of the river Chew

— "Stanton Drew,
A mile from Pensford—another from
Chew—

like Littleton Drew, co. Wilts, derived its name from the family of Drew, owners of the manor, temp. Ed. III. Here once stood a vast work, of similar character to the remains at Abury, in Wiltshire. Considerable portions of it are still preserved. They include the ruins of 3 circles, or ovals, and 4 outlying stones—huge, shapeless blocks, of which 3 form a group S.W. of the ch., called the *Cove*, and the 4th stands on the high-road. This is popularly known as *Hautville's Quoit*, under the idea that it was thrown from the height of Maes Knoll by Sir John Hautville, a redoubtable member of a family who once dwelt here, and whose effigy, in Irish oak, was found many years ago in the ch. of Norton Hautville, and is now in that of Chew Magna. He lived in the reign of Hen. III., and according to the tradition was of such amazing strength that on one occasion, for a wager, he carried no less than 3 men to the top of Norton ch. tower—one under each arm, and the third between his teeth! Of the circles the largest is 345 ft. by 378 ft., S. of the river Chew, and

its circumference, originally of 24 stones, is still marked by 14 stones, of which 3 only stand upright, while in the centre remains a so-called altar-stone, and on the E. side 5 stones of an avenue. The 2nd circle formed a ring 96 ft. in diam. about 50 yds. further N.E., and now consists of 8 stones, of which 4 are upright; and connected with them are 7 stones of an avenue. The 3rd and smallest circle, 129 ft. in diam., is now partly concealed by an orchard S. of the ch. It originally consisted of 12 stones, of which 10 still remain. These stones are called by the country people the "fiddlers" and the "maids," and the whole "the wedding." These designations are explained by, unless indeed they have given rise to, the tale told by Stukeley, to the effect that "a couple were married on Sunday, and the friends and guests were so profane as to dance upon the green together, and by a divine judgment were turned into stones." The parsonage-house of Stanton Drew is a fine old building, with the arms of Bp. Beckington over one of the windows. The *Ch.* has a beautiful doorway.

Chew Magna, 1 m. rt. of Stanton Drew, is a very pretty village, once a market town. It has a fine *Ch.*, built or thoroughly repaired by Bp. Beckington, whose arms are to be seen in several places, with a lofty tower, well restored, containing several interesting monuments of families connected with the manor, among them a gigantic effigy of Sir John St. Loe, and an elaborate monument of Edward Baber and his wife, 1578. On the sill of a window is a figure, of the 13th centy., carved out of solid oak, of Sir John Hautville, originally in Norton Hautville ch., near Chew. It has been re-painted in good mediæval taste.

Near the ch. is an old building, supposed to have been built by one of the St. Loes, now used as a parochial school, but in good preserva-

tion. The *Manor-house* J. Colthurst, Esq., is also an ancient house, with a gateway, and 2 small octagon towers of unusual character. *Bow Ditch* is a circular entrenchment, with a triple rampart above the valleys.

1 m. S. of Chew Magna is *Chew Stoke*. The parsonage, of the 15th centy., has numerous heraldic devices in panels over the entrance and between the windows, bearing date 1529.

Sutton Court, Sir Edward Strachey, Bart.; partly built by the famous "Bess of Hardwicke," who took, as her 3rd husband, Sir J. St. Loe. Leland, the antiquary, spent some days here in 1534, when he was compiling his 'Itinerary of Somerset.' Here Bp. Hooper found a temporary asylum, and John Locke frequently resided here with his friend, Mr. Strachey. The earliest part of the Court is the tower, with a turret staircase, built on the plan of the Peel towers, with 3 rooms one over the other. The house was added to the tower by one of the St. Loes. It has been well restored by its present owner, "a clever, intelligent antiquary."

7 m. l. *Houndstreet Park*, E. W. L. Popham, Esq., also of Littlecot, Wiltshire.]

10 m. *Cutton*.

12 m. *Farrington Gournay*. 1. lie the coal-fields of Camerton and Radstoke.

1 m. l. *Stone Easton Park*, the seat of John Hippisley, Esq.

15 m. *Chewton Mendip*, among the combes and projecting spurs of the Mendips. It gives the title of Viscount to the family of Waldegrave, and has one of the finest Church-towers (late Perp.) in the county. The N. wall of the *Ch.* is Norman, and it has a doorway and some internal remains in that style. The chancel has an E. E. arcade, separating it from the S. aisle, in which is an altar-tomb to Sir Hugh Fitz-roger, 1388. Many of the carved

[*Wills, Dorset, &c.*]

oak benches remain. The church has been well restored. In the ch.-yard is the shaft of a cross.

[5] m. rt. lies the village of *Compton Martin*, the road to which, under the Mendips, among the picturesque slopes and spurs of the hills, is full of beauty. It passes the villages of *East* and *West Harptree*. The former is seated in a rich and fertile valley. Black oxide of manganese has been dug here in large quantities. The soil abounds in masses of breccia, or pudding-stone, formed of siliceous pebbles firmly cemented together. The *Ch.*, which has a Norm. door, contains an altar-tomb, with an effigy in armour to Sir J. Newton, d. 1568, with figures of his 8 sons and 12 daughters. *Richmont Castle*, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of the ch., was the stronghold of the Gournay branch of the Harptrees, and was garrisoned in 1138 by Sir W. de Harptree in support of the Empress Maude. Stephen erected a fort against it, which he manned with the garrison from Bath, and ultimately took it by surprise. The building is entirely destroyed, but the site is very picturesque, overhanging a narrow-wooded ravine. *Harptree Court*, is a classical building, of the Adams school, situated in a richly wooded and watered park.

W. of East Harptree is the *Lamb Cavern* in the mountain limestone.

West Harptree was one of the manors belonging to Sir Thos. Gournay, one of the Barons accessory to the murder of Edw. II. His estates were confiscated by Edw. III., and now form part of the Duchy of Cornwall. The yew-trees in the churchyard, some of them of great age and size, are cut into curious shapes. The *Ch.* was almost rebuilt in 1864-5.

Compton Martin. For the ch., deserving careful attention, see Rte. 20.

In the direction of W. Harptree a wooded hollow in the hill-side, called

Haydon's Gully, derives its name from a romantic incident. According to the tradition, a Colonel Haydon, one of Monmouth's adherents, fled for refuge to this neighbourhood, and lay concealed during the night, at his brother's house; but every morning he rode forth to this sequestered spot, and backing his horse into a hole in the bank, spent the day in tolerable comfort.]

The road here begins to climb the steep slope of the Mendip range, passing rt. *Cheyton Priory*, Countess of Waldegrave.

17 m. rt. *Green Ore Farm*, on which there is another of the Mendip caverns. Beyond it our route crosses at right angles the Roman road from Uphill, on the Bristol Channel, to Old Sarum.

17½ m. l. *Penhill House*, on the heights of *Pen Hill*, 930 ft. above the sea. The descent to Wells commands a view of uncommon beauty, with the towers of the cathedral rising from the vale. l. is *Stoberry House*.

20½ m. WELLS (Rte. 18). Wells to Glastonbury across the levels and peat bogs (Rte. 18).

26½ m. *Glastonbury* (Rte. 18).

27½ m. *Street*. From this village the road runs towards *Polden Hill*, a ridge of lias far projecting into the marshes of Sedgemoor. At the summit it passes

29½ m. *Marshal's Elm Inn*, from which it descends on the other side. l. is the escarpment of the high country of which Polden is an offshoot. It is beautifully wooded. On a commanding point l. stands *Sir Samuel Hood's monument* on the estate of *Bulleigh* (Rte. 18).

31½ m. rt. *Dundon Beacon*, an entrenched height 360 ft. above the sea; and at its foot the pretty and picturesque village of *Compton Dundon* and its manor-house, now partitioned into cottages. An outbuilding contains (unless removed) a circular

window, richly ornamented with flowing tracery. The *Ch.* has a Perp. nave and tower, and Dec. chancel with a fine E. window, piscina and sedilia, as well as the basement of a stone rood-screen. The road now runs on the flank of *Copley and Hurcot Hill*, l., both thickly clothed with woods. Further to the l. is *Kingweston* (a corruption of Kenwardston), where is the modern house of F. H. Dickinson, Esq.; close to which is the modern *Ch.* rebuilt by Mr. Dickinson (Giles, architect), with a fine lofty spire rising from an octagonal lantern modelled after *Lostwithiel*. The Norman door, piscina, and font are relics of the former church. The rebels of Devonshire were signally defeated here by Sir Hugh Powlet, 1549. rt. is the river *Cary*, and beyond it *Bradleigh Hill*. Crossing the river, we ascend to

33½ m. SOMERTON (*Inns*: Red Lion, White Hart; Pop. 2206), a small unfrequented market-town, in a charming country of wild hill and fruitful dale. It was, anciently, however, as its name indicates, the capital of the Sumer-saetas, from whom Somersetshire received its designation, in which Ina and other W. Saxon kings resided. In 733 it was captured by Ethelbald, king of Mercia. In Norman times there was a castle here, the foundation of which may still be traced in the buildings of the White Hart. The town stands on a hill, but you ascend from it still higher on the road to Langport. Some of the houses are ancient, with good projecting bow windows. The most striking object in the principal street is the sign of the head inn, a red lion of ferocious aspect mounted on a pillar. Turning the corner of this street, we find the

Market-cross, a modern structure on the old stone basement, with open arcade and central column supporting a pyramidal roof. The town-hall, and 2 old houses adjoining form

with it a group characteristic of an old English town.

The *Ch.* is a fine building, with wide nave and aisles, a small N. transept, and a tower forming a quasi transept on the S. side, which is square E. Eng. below and octagonal Perp. above. The church is chiefly Dec., but the chancel very late Perp. The roof of the nave is remarkably fine, having a large amount of rich panelling, varied figures, and foliage. The pulpit has the date 1615; and the altar, which is finely carved, painted, and gilt, bears the date 1626. Some of the prisoners after the battle of Sedgemoor were confined in this ch., and amused themselves with playing at ball. When the roof was repaired, a large number of balls were found, of which specimens are preserved at the Taunton Museum.

The best view of the town is from *Kingsdon Hill*, 1 m. S.; the best view of the country from the top of *Somerton Hill*, 1½ m. towards Langport. The prospect embraces the entire breadth of Somersetshire—from Alfred's Tower in Wiltshire to the Wellington Monument on the border of Devonshire. A person acquainted with the county may recognise from this point the Montacute Hills; Bubb Down, at Melbury; Rana Hill, near Chard; the Blackdowns, the Brendons, the Quantocks and the Mendips.

[It is a pretty walk to *Hurcot Hill*, 2 m. N.E., where there are quarries of alabaster; and rather a longer one over *Kingsdon Hill*, 4 m. E., to *Lytes Cary House*, ancient seat of the family of Lyte, one of which, Henry Lyte, in 1578, produced one of the earliest works on scientific botany published in England, and established a botanic garden at Lytes Cary. The house, a charming small late-Perpendicular building, consists of a hall, drawing-room, and other apartments, all apparently of one date, except the chapel, which is Dec. The *Hall* has an open roof with a rich cornice, and

is entered by a porch with an oriel over the door. The S. front has a fine bay window with a pierced parapet, and a shield bearing the Lyte and Husey arms, and the date 1533.

The seats in the neighbourhood are *Kingweston*, F. H. Dickinson, Esq.; *Somerton House*, W. Pinney, Esq.; *Kingsdon*, W. Neal, Esq.

The nearest railway stat. is Langport, 5 m.]

Proceeding on our route—

34½ m. l. *Somerton House*, on the banks of the Cary.

35½ m. The road crosses *Kingsdon Hill*, commanding a glorious view.

½ m. l. *Kingsdon*. The *Ch.* has a good square tower, and on the opposite bank of the Cary, 1½ m., *Lytes Cary House*.

38½ m. **ILCHESTER** (*Inns*: Dolphin, Bull; Pop. 781), a mean, decayed town, but remarkable for its antiquity and early importance, and as the birthplace of "the wonderful doctor," *Roger Bacon*, b. 1214, and of Mrs. Eliz. Rowe, the poetess (b. 1674), (see *ante*, Marlborough), whose father was a Dissenting minister here. The Romans made this their principal station in this part of England and surrounded it by a strong wall and ditch, both of which can be traced to this day. It was the *Ischalis* of Antoninus, the *Pont-ivel-coit* of Nennius. Five ancient roads meet at Ilchester.—(1) eastwards over Camel Hill and by Alfred's Tower to Old Sarum; (2) northwards by Somerton and Street to Glastonbury; (3) southwards to Dorchester, passing to rt. of Yeovil; and (4, 5) the Fosse Way, running S.W. to Ilminster and Taunton. This still forms the principal street, and the highway to Shepton Mallet. In the Norman age it contained 107 burgesses. It was vainly besieged by Geoffrey, Bp. of Coutances, and his nephew, Robt. de Mowbray, when they were holding Bristol against William Rufus,

in 1088. The town is seated in a broad marshy vale, on the banks of the Yeo or Ivel; a bridge connecting it with a suburb called *Northover*.

There is little to be noticed here besides the slight vestiges of the Roman works. *Yard Lane* marks the line of the ditch; and the adjoining gardens contain the foundations of the Roman wall, which have been from time to time exposed by digging.

The *Ch.* is an ancient structure, with an octagonal tower, built partly with Roman materials.

The *Cross* is similar to that at Mar- tock, a pillar crowned by a sun-dial, gilt ball and vane. A Wednesday market has been held here since the Conquest.

Ilchester had a prominent place in the annals of electioneering, the seat having been often contested with singular obstinacy. At one time party-spirit here ran so high that electors are said to have desired on their death-beds that they should be buried in *true blue* coffins. The town was once represented by Richard Brinsley Sheridan.

[The church of *Limington*, 1 m. E., has an ancient chantry, with cross-legged effigy of Sir Rich. de Gyverney, its founder, and at his feet a woman veiled. Under the arch, dividing the chantry from the ch. is a tomb to another of the same family, probably Sir Gilbert and his lady. Limington was the first preferment of *Card. Wolsey*. He was presented to the living by the Marquis of Dorset, to whose sons he had acted as tutor at Oxford. "Having his presentation," writes Cavendish, "he made speed without further delay to the said benefice to take thereof possession. And being there for that intent, one Sir Amyas Paulet, Knt., dwelling in the country thereabout, took occasion to displeasure against him, on what grounds I know not—tradition reports from being overcome with the strong cider of the place—but, Sir,

by your leave he was so bold as to set the schoolmaster by the feet during his pleasure, which after was neither forgotten nor forgiven."

On leaving Ilchester, we traverse the flat vale of the Yeo, a low line of hills being seen on all sides, and in the direction of Yeovil the wooded height of *St. Michael's* at Montacute.

Chilthorne Domer Ch., rt., 3 m. N. of Yeovil, is Dec., and contains a recumbent effigy of a knight in armour.

43½ m. *Yeovil* (Rte. 21).

ROUTE 25.

YEOVIL TO AXMINSTER BY CREW-
KERNE, [FORD ABBEY.]

(*South-Western Railway*.)

Leaving the Yeovil Station, the line passes close to the remains of the old manor-house of Clifton Maubank l., and reaches

124½ m. (from Waterloo Stat.)
Sutton Bingham Stat. 1 m. rt. are *East and West Coker*, where is *Coker Court* (W. H. Helyar, Esq.), and *North Coker House* (Geo. Bullock, Esq.). The line runs under the richly wooded heights l. of *Abbot's Hill* and *Birt Hill*, elevations of the lower oolite, and enters on the broad green valley of the Parret. On the l. are seen the marked summits of *Ashlands* and *Crook Hill*, and passes 130 m. *North Perrott* rt., with its

cruciform Perp. ch., and l. South Perrott (in Dorsetshire).

South Perrott Ch. is Perp., with a central tower supported on Norm. piers. At the manor-house, now pulled down, Charles I. lodged, Sept. 30, 1644, on his march from the West.

1½ m. S.E., on the abrupt slope of the down, is *Cheddington*. The *Ch.* was rebuilt in 1841. Both the Parrett and the Axe have their sources in this parish, the former in Cheddington cove, 1 m. S., on the estate of W. Trevelyan Cox, Esq.

On the other side of the down, 2½ m. rt., is *Corscombe*, a large parish in Dorsetshire, given by Cuthred, K. of the W. Saxons, to the Abbey of Sherborne. The *Ch.* has a pinnacled tower, and a N. porch with 3 canopied niches over the inner doorway. Thomas Hollis, F.S.A., a once famous freethinker, virtuoso, patriot, and man of letters, now forgotten, owned the chief estate here, where he died suddenly, 1774. He was a liberal benefactor to foreign libraries, especially Bern, Zurich, and Harvard College, New England. Geneva, Venice, Leyden, Sweden, Russia, &c. shared his liberality.

131½ m., at the village of *Misterton*, is the station for the town of

CREWKERNE (*Inns*: George, Red Lion; Pop. 4705; from Crewkerne there is daily communication with Beaminster, 6¼ m., and Bridport, 12½ m.), a market-town of some size, in the valley of the Parrett, surrounded by a wide amphitheatre of hills. It has a manufacture of sailcloth, webbing, and girths, and is a busy place, where every gaping cottage door reveals a loom at work. Several houses, as the George, are constructed of Hamhill stone.

The *Ch.*, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, is one of the 2 finest cruciform churches in the county, the other being at Ilminster. It is a beautiful specimen of the Perp. of

the 15th centy., of remarkable richness, the windows of the N. transept being especially worthy of notice. The harmonious simplicity of the W. front, with its octagonal turrets, the W. door and its ornamentation, deserve particular attention. This ch. was given by the Conqueror to Caen Abbey. In 1402 a certain monk of Ford, one Robert Chard, obtained permission to immure himself as an anchorite in a "solitary house" beneath it.

The *Free Grammar School*, on the N. side of the ch., was founded 1499 by John Combe, a native of Crewkerne, and for many years precentor of Exeter Cathedral. It is one of the most ancient in England. Mr. Justice Best, afterwards Lord Wynford, was educated at this school.

The father of *Tom Paine*, author of 'The Rights of Man,' was a native of Crewkerne. He was a staymaker, and carried on business at Thetford in Norfolk, where his son was born.

[*Hinton St. George*, seat of Earl Poulett, is 3 m. N.W. It is occasionally shown. Fuller says it may be called "a charitable curiosity, if true what is traditioned—that about the reign of King Hen. VII. the owner built it in a dear year, on purpose to employ more people thereupon." The garden front is attributed to Inigo Jones. The gateway, erected by the same architect at Clifton Maubank, was purchased by Lord Poulett for 120 guineas, and re-erected in Hinton Park. The family pictures were given, it is said, to the great Lord Clarendon, and now form part of the collections at the Grove in Hertfordshire and Bothwell Castle in Scotland. It was in *Hinton* parish that a woman, who was a martyr to the King's Evil, made a rush at the Duke of Monmouth and touched his hand, after which, in the course of 2 days, her wounds were healed. A certificate to this effect was circulated in London, signed by

the minister of Crewkerne and several other persons. The mansion is now occupied by *Lord Westbury*. The Poulett monuments are in the neighbouring *Church*, including those of Sir Amyas in complete armour, d. 1537, by whom Wolsey was put in the stocks; the "dainty Amias" of Queen Elizabeth, and gaoler of Mary Queen of Scots, d. 1588, with an epitaph in French, one of the latest instances of its employment. Sir Anthony and Lady Catherine Poulett and 10 children, under a canopy, 1641; the 1st and 2nd Lords Poulett, &c.

Haselbury, 2 m. W., was rendered famous in the 12th centy. by the residence of the sainted hermit Wulfric, "where vexed by fevers and macerations, the gaunt solitary waged his battle against the enemy of souls. Originally a clerical sportsman, he had all at once flung aside his hounds and his vicarage, and without waiting for episcopal sanction or priestly benediction, had immured himself in his jealously closed cell. He was soon known as England's one miracle-worker and prophet." Wulfric hailed Stephen as king as he rode past his hermitage, in his uncle's lifetime, replying to his remonstrances, "It is no error—it is you, Stephen, that I mean—for the Lord hath delivered the realm into your hand—protect the church, defend the poor."—*J. R. Green*. He died 1154. His tomb in the N. chapel of the *Ch.* was visited by pilgrims for ages.

Higher up the valley of the Parrett, 3 m. N.E. of Crewkerne Stat., is West Chinnoek, where there is a large manufactory of sailcloth. Along the hill further E. are the villages of *Middle* and *East Chinnoek*, all with churches of some interest. At *Chiselborough* 1 m. N.W., many of the inhabitants, are affected by goitre and cretinism, maladies attributed to a defective ventilation at a mild temperature, the village being situated in a narrow valley closed on 3 sides by lofty hills.

These unhappy beings are described by Dr. Guggenbühl in a letter to Lord Ashley (in 1851) as "3 German ft. high—corpulent and bloated, with misshapen heads, turgid lips, and noses flattened like the negro's."

Mosterton, 3 m. S., was the birth-place of Sir Alexander Hood. The *Ch.* is modern.

The road from Crewkerne to Chard affords a good view of Crewkerne, together with its background, *Pendomer Down*, and the conical knoll of *Crook Hill*.

A steep ascent leads to the heights of *Rana Hill*, popularly known as *Strayn Hill*, a narrow ridge, so named from St. Ranus, to whom there was once a chapel on the hill. The road runs along the summit of this ridge to within 2 m. of Chard. Rt. are the fir plantations of Hinton St. George.

1 m. further brings you to the highest point, from which we obtain a bird's-eye view over Somerset and Dorset, each bounded by the sea: in the foreground a clump of beech-trees, and a sandy road descending the hill, complete the picture.

Further still is *Windwhistle Inn*, the favourite point of view. It is a solitary house of entertainment, 4 m. on this road, fully exposed, as its name imports, to the rushing winds. On each side the road is wooded, and on the rt. the trees in summer shut out the view, but when bare of leaves, the English Channel is seen, together with the cliffs of Beer Head. On the l. stretch long undulating lines of hills, innumerable vales and glistening streams, the chequered surface of the fair county of Somerset, edged on the far horizon by the purple sea. A mile nearer Crewkerne the view is open on both sides.]

Proceeding on our route, the line runs through a deep cutting, and, passing under *Shavelane Hill*, l., enters on the rich well-watered meadows of the Axe, with the heights of *St. Rana Hill* and *Windwhistle* rt. At 137 m. rt. is

Winsham, pleasantly situated on the *Axe* river. The *Ch.* is an interesting building, but sadly spoilt by the tasteless patchings and unskilful repairs of modern times. It has the remains of a handsome wood screen, and old oak seats, carved with the linen pattern.

[2 m. N. is *Cricket Lodge* (Lord Bridport). Through the trees S.E. are seen the twin hills of *Lewesdon* and *Pillesdon*. The mansion is situated far below the road, in a romantic dell, which opens into the valley of the *Axe*. It was rebuilt about 60 years ago. Adjoining it is the little *ch.* of *Cricket St. Thomas*, in which the first Lord Bridport was buried. There is a monument to his memory, and another to the Rev. William, Earl Nelson, Duke of Bronte, father of the dowager Lady Bridport, whose remains were deposited in *St. Paul's* cathedral. *Cricket* was the ancient seat of the *Prestons*, to which belonged the gallant sea-captain Sir *Amyas Preston*, who seized the *Admiral* of the *Galassess* of the *Spanish Armada*, and in 1595 made a successful foray in the *W. Indies*, "entering *Jamaica*," says *Fuller*, "with little loss, some profit, and more honour."]

138 m. l., close to the line, is the group of old grey stone buildings of *Ford Abbey*, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. of *Chard Road Junction Stat.*, 4 m. from the town of *Chard*.

Ford Abbey (Knap Inn), *Herbert Evans, Esq.*, a very beautiful monastic structure, mixed with much heterogeneous modern work. It is seated in its park, in a retired valley on the river *Axe*, which there forms the boundary of *Dorset* and *Somerset*. It was built in the reign of *Stephen* (1148) for a community of *Cistercian* monks from *Waverley*, in *Surrey*, which had been first established in 1183 at *Brightley*, near *Okehampton*, *Devon*, by *Richard de Brioniis*, a de-

scendant of the *Dukes of Normandy*. The monks resided 5 years at *Brightley*, but driven out "by reason of great want and barrenness," they determined to return to *Waverley*. On their journey they passed *Thorncombe*, the manor of the sister of the founder, *Adeliza*, *Viscountess of Devon*, who, touched by a feeling of wounded honour, bestowed on them *Ford* in exchange for *Brightley*. In the reign of *Henry II.*, by the marriage of the heiress of this family, the abbey passed to the *Courtenays*, who continued its patrons for many generations. Its last abbot was *Thos. Chard*, and he restored and beautified it, and reconstructed the cloister and refectory, which remain perfect to this day. At the *Dissolution* it was granted to *Richard Pollard*, who was subsequently knighted, and from his family it passed in succession through those of *Poulett*, *Roswell*, *Prideaux*, and *Gwyn*. It escaped destruction in the *Rebellion*, as the property of the *Attorney-General* of the *Commonwealth*, *Edmund Prideaux*, who afterwards employed *Inigo Jones* to make extensive alterations, which were, however, not completed at the death of the architect in 1654. In 1680 the son of the attorney-general received a visit from the *Duke of Monmouth*, who was making a pleasure tour through the western counties. He had afterwards, however, to regret the honour, for he was arrested as accessory to *Monmouth's rebellion*, and kept a prisoner in the *Tower* until he had paid a ransom of 15,000*l.* to *Judge Jeffreys*. His heiress carried the property to the *Gwyns* of *Glamorganshire*. In the reign of *Queen Anne* *Francis Gwyn* was the proprietor of *Ford*. He was *Secretary at War*, and was presented by the queen with the tapestry which, until lately, ornamented the saloon. In 1815 one of his descendants let the abbey for a term of 3 years to *Jeremy Bentham*, who here wrote some of his works.

In 1847, after the death of John Fraunceis Gwyn, it was in the hands of trustees to sell, and after it had been stripped of its pictures and tapestry, it became the property of G. F. W. Miles, Esq., who sold it to its present owner.

The approach to the abbey is by a broad straight road, which leads to the eastern ivy-covered side, but affords no view of the S. or principal front. This front faces the lawn and terrace, and presents a long range of sculptured wall, richly coloured by mosses and lichens. Standing facing this front we have before us the existing cloister, which was the N. walk of the original quadrangle, 82 ft. long, of which the other 3 sides have perished. In a line with the cloister further W., to our l. are the entrance tower and abbot's lodgings, beyond which are the apartments added by Inigo Jones. Behind us, on the S. of the square, stood the ch., of which there are no remains. To our rt., on the E. side was the chapter house, now the *chapel*, and further to the N. there is a groined basement, with a very perfect *dormitory* above, now divided into chambers. Approached by a central door from the N. side of the cloister are the *refectory* and *kitchen*. The cloister, tower, and refectory remain as they were built by Thomas Chard, the last abbot, who was also suffragan bishop, and bears his initials, with the inscription "Anno Dni Millesimo quingesimo vigesimo octavo (1528). A Dno est factum Thoma Chard. Abb." and the arms of Courtenay, Poulett, and Prideaux. The square windows in the W. wing are part of the alterations by Inigo Jones. The *chapel*, originally the *Chapterhouse* is the oldest portion, and probably coeval with the foundation of the abbey, in the reign of Stephen. It is a good example of Transition, with a vaulted roof hung with modern pendants, a finely carved screen and pulpit, and obtusely pointed arches set with zigzag

mouldings. The E. window is Tudor, and was probably the work of Thomas Chard. The *cloister* still retains all the beauty of its vaulting and delicate tracery, but is a little injured in effect by the square-headed doors added by Inigo Jones. It is 82 ft. in length, and is now used as a conservatory. The hall or *refectory*, also built by Chard, is 28 ft. in height and 55 ft. in length, lighted by 4 large Tudor windows. Its carved ceiling is gilded and painted, and its walls are partly wainscoted. W. of it are the *state apartments*, designed by Inigo Jones. The most remarkable of these are the *dining-room* and *drawing-room*, both with elaborate and beautiful ceilings, and formerly furnished in the old English fashion with high-backed, tapestried chairs, &c. Above them are several bedrooms, one called *Queen Anne's room*, because prepared for that sovereign by Francis Gwyn, when Secretary at War. The *grand staircase*, designed by Inigo Jones, but completed after his death, in 1658, is much admired, particularly the balustrade. It leads to the *saloon*, also by Inigo Jones, a noble room, 50 ft. in length and 28 ft. in height, and for more than 130 years hung with the famous Raphael tapestries presented to Francis Gwyn by Queen Anne. According to the family tradition, they were worked at Arras for the king of Spain, and taken in a Spanish galleon by one of our cruisers. In the park is a lake well stored with fish, and several old trees, particularly a cedar of Lebanon of remarkable size.

Among the abbots of Ford were Baldwin, Abp. of Canterbury, 1185-1189; the learned and devout Roger the Cistercian, c. 1180; and John of Devon, chaplain and confessor to King John, d. 1210, who, according to Fuller, "travelled in foreign parts, not, as too many, to weed, but gather the flowers, returning stored with good manners, and stocked with good learning, and endeavoured that

all his convent should be like him. Ford Abbey, in his time, had more learning than 9 convents of the same bigness."

[*Leigh House* (Henley Cornish, Esq.), on the hill-side opposite Ford, is a fine old Elizabethan mansion, and a perfect example of the period. It forms 2 courtyards, with the hall between them. It was originally one of the granges of Ford Abbey.

Thorncombe, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E., was the birthplace of *Admiral Hood*, Viscount Bridport, 1728. His father was the vicar. The *Ch.* contains a brass to Sir Thomas and Lady Brook, 1437. S. of Thorncombe is *Sadborough House*, Colonel Bragge; and W. the ruins of *Olditch Court*, long a residence of the Brook family, afterwards Lords Cobham, who forfeited it by the attainder of Henry Lord C. in the reign of James I. They are probably of the time of Edw. III., and now partly incorporated with a farmhouse. The *Ch.* of

Hawkchurch, S.W. of Thorncombe, and 4 m. from Axminster, belonged to Cerne Abbey. It has Norm. and E. E. work, and a Norm. corbel-table, of grotesque figures, running round the wall of nave and chancel. The arcades of the nave are Norm. The S. doorway and chancel are E. E.; the clerestory modern; the tower very good Perp., bearing the arms of Cerne Abbey. *Wylde Court* is delightfully situated, 500 yds. N. of the *Ch.*, on ground sloping down to the *Axe*, commanding beautiful views. The house is large, but long and low, built originally in the form of an E, but the W. wing has been pulled down. It contained some portraits, and a curious painting of the E. side of St. James's Park before the conflagration of Whitehall. It is now occupied by a farmer. It was built by Rob. Moore, 1593, it having passed to the Moores from the Leighs, to whom the manor was given at the Dissolution.]

$139\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Chard Road Stat.*, 3 m. from the town of that name (see Rte. 26).

$141\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Tytherleigh Arms*, on the highest point of the old road to Axminster. Near it, in a farmhouse, are some remains of the mansion of the Tytherleighs, a family who became extinct 1741, but were long lords of the manor here.

[$\frac{1}{2}$ m. to rt. is *Chardstock*, on a narrow peninsula of Dorsetshire, where the Bp. of Salisbury had a manor-house, crenellated by Bp. Erghum, in 1377, some remains of which are to be seen in the *Court House Farm* to the S. of the ch. A stable between the farmhouse and the ch. has a good open timber roof. Joanna Crippen, of this place, coming home from Chard market, Jan. 24, 1708, was buried in the snow from Monday till the following Sunday, and was taken out alive. The *Ch.* was rebuilt with the exception of the S. wall and tower, 1863, adhering as far as possible to the style and proportions of the original edifice. It is a very ornate building. There is a monument with kneeling effigies to Rich. Symonds, of Coaxdon, and his wife, d. 1610, the grand-parents of Sir Symonds D'Ewes, puritan and antiquary, the compiler of the 'Journal of Queen Elizabeth's Parliament.'

St. Andrew's College, a school for the sons of poor gentlemen and of the clergy, was founded here, 1834. There is also an industrial school.]

146 m. is Coaxdon, the birthplace of *Sir Symonds D'Ewes*. *Coaxdon Mill* on the river is picturesque.

Here the line passes into Devonshire, and reaches at

144 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. AXMINSTER (*Handbook to Devonshire*). From Axminster there is daily communication by coach with Lyme.

ROUTE 26.

CHARD ROAD STATION TO TAUNTON,
BY CHARD AND ILMINSTER.

The rly. ascends the valley of a little affluent of the Axe from Chard Road Stat. to

3 m. CHARD Stat. (*Inns*: Chard Arms, George, Crown; Pop. 5,310), a rather handsome town, principally of one broad street, running up a hill from E. to W. It is situated within a mile of the border of Devonshire, on a watershed, from which the streams flow in opposite directions to the Bristol and English Channels. It has a manufacture of lace and an excellent market, well known for potatoes, which are principally brought from the neighbourhood of Crewkerne. In 1644, on his return from Cornwall, Charles I. was here for a week, passing a night at Hinton St. George. In 1685 Monmouth marched through Chard, and a little later in the year the inhabitants had to witness the execution of 12 unfortunate victims to the blood-thirsty Jeffreys; according to the tradition, they were hung on an oak recently standing near the lower end of the town, and called the *Hangcross Tree*.

The things to be noticed in Chard are the *Church*, the *lace factories*, the *Grammar School*, and some other old houses, probably of the 16th centy.—one, for instance, above the George, and another, the *Chough Inn*, beyond the intersection of the 4 streets. In the neighbourhood, *Ford Abbey*, and the views from *Snowdon* and *Rana Hill*.

The *Ch.*, in the street towards Axminster, is a long low cruciform

building of the Perp. of the 15th centy., quasi transepts being formed by lofty porches. The E. window is fine. It contains a strange old monument to the memory of William Brewer, a physician of Chard, and his wife, d. 1614, who are represented in black dresses and ruffs, kneeling face to face at an altar, the one with his 6 sons, the other with her 6 daughters, in pairs, size after size, all in similar dresses and attitudes. The ch. was restored in 1828.

Two lace factories, huge buildings of red brick with innumerable windows, are conspicuous from the High Street, and respectively employ about 200 and 300 hands, exclusive of menders. The lace, however, is not quite completed here: it is sent away to be bleached and to receive sundry finishing touches, but much of it returns to be sold in this town. The *Grammar School* is a quaint old building, deserving notice.

Penruddock and his insurgents met with a severe defeat at Chard (see *ante*, Rte. 7, Salisbury).

Snowdon, one of the summits on the highland from the Blackdowns, rises immediately above Chard, and on a clear day will give the traveller fine prospects over Devonshire and Somerset. 1½ m. will bring him to the highest point.

Windushille Inn, on the narrow ridge of Rana Hill, 4 m. W., also commands a wide and fascinating view (Rte 25).

Within a circle of a few miles are many beautiful seats: *Ford Abbey*, *Leigh House*, *Sadborough House*, *Parrocks Lodge*, *Cricket Lodge*, *Whitstanton House*, and *Avishays House* (Edw. Clarke, Esq.).

7 m. ILMINSTER Stat. (*Inns*: George, Grapes; Pop. 3,241), a town seated on the river Ile, which flows to the N.E. through a low flat country. To the N.W. is the highland of *Neroche Forest*, and its camp, *Neroche Castle*, 6 m. distant. Ilmin-

ster has a manufacture of web for carpets. It is an ancient place, its Saturday market dating from Saxon times.

The *Church*, which formerly belonged to the abbey of Muchelney, is one of the 2 finest cruciform churches in this county, the other being at Crewkerne. It has a rich central tower, having crocketed pinnacles and panelling, but of a different class from Huish Episcopi, N. Petherton, &c.—“one of the very noblest of parochial towers, a Perp. version of the central tower of Wells.”—*E. A. F.* It has a good stone groined roof open to the interior. The tower, transepts, and porch were built by Sir William Wadham, temp. Henry VII. The whole ch. is Perp., but the nave has been rebuilt, not quite successfully, but as well as could be expected for 1824. The N. transept is much enriched. The chancel is rather plainer, and there is an eastern vestry as at Landport, &c. There is a good brass to some of the Wadham family in the N. transept, A.D. 1410; and in the same transept the tomb of Nicholas and Dorothy Wadham, d. 1609 and 1618; the founders of Wadham College, Oxford,—“whose hospitable house,” writes Fuller, “was an inn at all times; a court at Christmas”—and a tomb of variegated marble to another member of this family, who is represented in armour, standing with his lady under a canopy.

The *Free Grammar School*, which owns the manor of Swanage, in Dorsetshire, is a picturesque building of the reign of Edw. VI., 1550, formed out of one of the chantry houses of the town by the beneficence of Humphrey Walrond. Dean Alford, of Canterbury, was educated here.

[Adjoining the town is *Dillington House*, a seat of the Lees; and between it and S. Petherton a district very remarkable for fertility. In 1844 a crop of wheat, grown by Mr.

Parsons, of S. Petherton, yielded 30 qrs. on 3 acres, and over the entire farm an average of 7 qrs. the acre. The land is on the oolite. The upper and middle lias is also developed here, and among the beds of the former are found abundant remains of fossil saurians, fish, crustaceans, and insects. These fossils are remarkable for their fine preservation, and occur chiefly in a layer of yellow limestone, of which an excellent section may be seen at *Shepton Beauchamp*, near South Petherton.

Barrington Court, 3 m. N.E. of this town, is a very beautiful mansion of the time of James I., the exterior well preserved, and the style and taste superior to what is usual at that period, and with more of Gothic detail. Much picturesque effect arises from the numerous gables and pinnacles, the latter being an unusual feature at that period. It was a seat of the families of Phelps and Strode, and, when in possession of the latter, was visited by the Duke of Monmouth a few years before his attempt on the Crown.

Barrington has a curious cruciform *Ch.* without aisles, having a central tower of octagonal form. The transepts and part of the tower are E. E., verging to Dec., some of the windows having internally the foliated arch, which occurs at Ditcheat, Butleigh, and elsewhere in Somersetshire. The upper part of the tower is Dec., and there are fine niches of that character in the transepts. There are some old open seats.

2 m. S.W. of Ilminster, across the fields, is *Donyatt*, with quarries that deserve a visit. The *Ch.* has a fine lofty tower, and good oak benches. It has been well restored. The *Manor-House* was built by the 2nd E. of Salisbury, 1345, and portions of the original house remain, used as a barn, that will repay inspection. The main building is of the date of Elizabeth. In 1552 the manor was given by Ed. VI. to W. Herbert, E.

of Pembroke. In 1625 it belonged to Sir Edw. Coke, Lord Chief Justice, who made considerable alterations in the house.

White Lackington House, 1 m. E., was in 1681 the seat of G. Speke, Esq. In the park stood the famous chestnut-tree under which the Duke of Monmouth took refreshment in his progress to the West, when 20,000 people were assembled together.

3 m. S.E. is *Cudworth*. The *Ch.* has a rich Norm. tower and font, with lancet and Dec. windows.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. W. is *Jordans* (W. Speke, Esq.), the birthplace of Captain J. H. Speke, the explorer of the sources of the Nile. Here is a fine collection of the many objects of interest brought to England by Capt. Speke, and the gold vases presented to him by the county of Somerset.

2 m. S. is *Dowliswake*, where the *Ch.* contains a tomb of serpentine inlaid with brass in memory of Capt. Speke, to whom the N. chapel contains a memorial window. The *ch.* was rebuilt by the Spekes, 1621–25, in the revived Gothic of the day. The tower is singularly strange and ungainly.

Close to *Jordans*, W., is *Broadway*, deriving its name from an ancient road, cut through the adjoining forest of *Neroche*.

Castle Neroche, 6 m. W., popularly called *Castle Bitch*, is an ancient British entrenchment, occupied subsequently by the Romans, by whom it was strengthened by ramparts of strongly cemented masonry. It stands on a bold projecting point of Black Down, overlooking the Vale of Taunton. The neck of land is strongly fortified with a double mound and ditch. It must have been a place of great strength. It is approached by several British trackways. This camp is in the parish of *Buckland St. Mary*, where a very handsome church has been erected at the cost of the rector, Rev. J. E.

Lance, which, standing on an eminence, may be seen at a great distance.

Ashill, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W., has a good old *Ch.* with Norman doorways, near which is an ebbing-and-flowing spring.]

The river *Ile*, from which *Ilminster* takes its name, flows N.E., and joins the *Parrett* above *Langford*, giving its name also to *Ilton*, *Ile Abbots*, and *Ile Brewers*.

Ilton, 2 m. N.E., has a beautiful Dec. *Ch.* of picturesque outline, with S. transept, and a tower adjoining it on the S. side; the whole well restored.

Ile Abbots, 5 m. N.E. (so called as having belonged to the Abbot of Muchelney), has a good *Ch.*, with Dec. nave and chancel, and Perp. tower and N. aisle. The tower is a very beautiful one, of the same class as those of N. Petherton and Huish Episcopi, &c., and has fine canopied niches, with statues of the Virgin Mary and St. Michael. The S. porch has fine fan groining with pendants. The S. side of the nave has Dec. windows; the aisle is Perp., and the arcade is of late character. The chancel arch is Perp. and panelled. The chancel is Dec., of rather early character, with some singularities. The E. window is poor, of 5 unfoliated lights; those on the N. side are of 3 lights trefoiled, with quatrefoiled circles on the heads. On the S. are 3 shallow sedilia, without canopies, or at least left unfinished, and eastward of them rather a remarkable arrangement, consisting of a singular piscina and of 2 canopied niches, one over the other—all of excellent work, but a very uncommon arrangement. There are some good open seats, the bench ends of which have fine carving. The font is Norman, with a square bowl, on cylindrical stem, surrounded by 4 shafts. On the bowl are rude arches, with some foliage and grotesque sculpture.

Further down the stream, among

the marshes, is Ile Brewers, formerly the incumbency of the eccentric Dr. Joseph Wolff, the converted Jew, by whom the *Ch.* was rebuilt in 1861. Ile Brewers is 6 m. from the Langport Stat. (Rte. 24.)]

12 m. *Hatch Beauchamp* Stat., adjoining which is *Hatch Court* (George Raban, Esq.), and *Hatch Park* (W. H. P. Gore Langton, Esq., M.P.). The hill-sides are here prettily covered with hanging woods. Proceeding along the line, we have l. a pretty view along a vale to the Blackdowns, which are seen in dark masses by a setting sun. On the rt. is the escarpment of highland extending to Langport, and here hung with plantations. The country is well covered with hedgerow elms and orchards. We pass 14½ m. *Thorn Falcon* rt., cross the Tone below *Ruishton*, join the Bristol and Exeter line, and reach

16 m. TAUNTON Stat. (Rte. 19).

ROUTE 27.

DURSTON TO YEOVIL, BY LANGPORT [MUCHELNEY] AND MARTOCK.

(Branch Line of Bristol and Exeter Railway.)

This line, opened Oct. 1853, diverging at the Durstun Stat. of the Bristol and Exeter Rly., ascends the valley of the Parrett to the watershed at Montacute, whence it descends to the valley of the Yeo at Yeovil.

Hard by Durstun Stat. is

Mynchin Buckland, or *Buckland Sororum*, the site of a priory and preceptory. The latter was a normal example of a commandery, the former the sole instance of its class in the kingdom. It was a community of women, and the only one the order possessed. A few late fragments of the buildings, with some monumental slabs, one bearing an incised cross to "Sister Aleanore of Actune," were discovered by Mr. Hugo in 1860.

Leaving Durstun, the line runs E., skirting *North Moor*, leaving East Lyng close to the rly. l., to

2½ m. *Athelney* Stat. 2½ m. N. is *North Moor Green*.

The *Isle of Athelney* (A.-S. *Æthelinga*, "the Isle of Nobles,"), formed and fortified by the stagnant waters of the Parrett and Tone near their confluence, is a spot of rising ground surrounded by marshes, now drained and cultivated, and known as Athelney Farm, close to the village of East Lyng, and is celebrated in history as the place where King Alfred established himself after the Danes had overrun the country. From this fastness he made frequent incursions against the enemy, and with such success that he was soon enabled to take the field, when he totally defeated them at Ethandun, in Wiltshire, and captured their king, Guthrum. Having subjected the Danes, he founded a Benedictine abbey at Athelney, of which there are now no remains; but several rude coffins, encaustic tiles and bosses, and other relics, have been found on the site. A stone pillar bears the following inscription:—"King Alfred the Great, in the year of our Lord 879, having been defeated by the Danes, fled for refuge to the forest of Athelney, where he lay concealed from his enemies for the space of a whole year. He soon after regained possession of his throne; and in grateful remembrance

of the protection he had received, under the favour of Heaven, he erected a monastery on this spot, and endowed it with all the lands contained in the Isle of Athelney. To perpetuate the memory of so remarkable an incident in the life of that illustrious prince, this edifice was founded by John Slade, Esq., of Maunsell, the proprietor of Athelney, and lord of the manor of N. Pether-ton, A.D. 1801." Whilst Alfred was sheltered here in the hut of the cow-herd—baking and burning the cakes of the angry housewife—he is said to have lost an ornament of gold and enamel, which had been fastened to a necklace. This was found at Newton Park, N., in perfect condition in the 17th centy., and is now in the Ashmolean Museum. Inscribed on it are the words "Ælfred mec heht gevrcan"—"Alfred caused me to be made." At the neighbouring village of *Boroughbridge*, 1½ m. N., conspicuous on the top of a hill, are the remains of the cruciform chapel of St. Michael. It was much injured in the Civil Wars, when Goring garrisoned it with 120 men, who surrendered to Col. Okey, July 13, 1645, after the battle of Langport and the rout of Aller Moor.

3 m. l. N.E., overlooking Aller Moor, is *Othey*. The *Ch.* is a very remarkable cruciform structure with a central octagonal Perp. tower. The fabric is of the 13th centy., but it received considerable alterations in the 14th and 15th centuries. The building was restored at great cost by the late rector. The windows are filled with coloured glass, and there is a unique specimen of a low side window, or lychroscope, with a perforation in an external buttress to command the opening. There is a Norm. gable cross, a great architectural rarity.

5 m. l., on a knoll, commanding a wide and lovely view over the rich pasturage of the marshes, is *Aller*, 2½ m. N.W. of Langport Stat., of interest

in history, as the place where, A.D. 878, after his defeat at Edington, Guthrum the Dane was baptised, Alfred standing sponsor to his vanquished enemy (see *Wedmore*, Rte. 18). A large ancient font was some years ago dug out of a pond in the vicarage garden, and has been replaced in the ch. It is asserted that this is the identical font in which King Guthrum was baptised. The *Ch.*, though small, is interesting, and has 2 remarkable turrets. It contains a stone effigy to Sir W. Botreaux, 1420. Aller was the birth-place of Dr. Cudworth, 1617, whose father was rector. The marshes below were the scene of the final rout of the Royalist forces by Fairfax and his army, after the battle of Langport, July 10, 1645. The Royal forces, in the flight from Langport, made a stand at *Aller Drove*, but soon "faced about," says Sprigge, "and never stood after." The horses got lost in the ditches, and the men entangled in the meadows, and were taken prisoners to the number of 14,000. Fairfax's forces pursued them within 2 m. of Bridgewater, doing execution on them all the way, losing hardly 40 men themselves of killed and wounded.

7 m. LANGPORT Stat. The town of Langport (*Inn*: Langport Arms; Pop., with Huish, 1812) stands on the rt. bank of the Parrett, just below its confluence with the Ile and Yeo, where a break in the line of hills gives passage to the united streams, overlooking very extensive marshes. "A glance at the map shows the strategical importance of Langport. It climbs the hill from the river in one long narrow street, and presents nothing to detain the tourist except its two churches, with their noble towers. It occupies a neck of land not more than a few hundred yards wide. The bridge unites the Belgic bank with that occupied by the *Dan-nonii*, the River Parrett being the

boundary between the tribes. The E. point of this neck was defended by earthworks. The lines of defence may be still traced on both sides of the Taunton road." "Langport," says Collinson, "was anciently more celebrated than now." It was here that Henry I. first proposed to erect the large Benedictine abbey, afterwards founded at Reading.

Charles I.'s forces, under Lord Goring, were defeated by those of the Parliament, July 10, 1645, near Langport. "It was rather," says Fuller, "a flight than a fight, and henceforward the sun of the king's cause declined, verging more and more westward till at last it set in Cornwall." Fairfax, who had dispersed the "clubmen," and by the very rumour of his approach raised the siege of Taunton, marched hence to Bridgwater, which surrendered July 23.

Langport Ch., at the upper end of the town, a large Perp. building, has a good tower of the date of Henry VII., numerous windows and light arcades, and a chancel with good wood ceiling. There is a curious piece of sculpture over the inner door of the porch, representing the Holy Lamb inside a ring, the ring being held by 2 angels, and a bishop standing on either side. The E. window contains some excellent ancient stained glass, well restored. In the vestry, which is below the E. window, as at Ilminster and Crewkerne, is a magnificent monumental slab of Purbeck marble.

Immediately beyond the ch. the road is crossed by an archway, above which is a Perp. chapel, known as the *Hanging Chapel*, formerly used as a grammar school, but now as the Quekett Museum, containing a small miscellaneous collection of curiosities. A little further l. rises the exquisite tower of *Huish Episcopi*, one of the most perfectly lovely of the many fine towers which are the glory of Somersetshire. It is of the Glastonbury

type, with projecting pinnacles. The proportions are perfect, and the workmanship excellent. The *Ch.*, which is unworthy of the tower, is of several dates; the doorway reddened by fire, of the time of Henry II.; the walls and most of the windows of the 14th centy., with ugly flat ogee arches.

At *Pitney*, 2 m. N.E., a Roman villa, with good tessellated pavements, has been excavated.

[A walk of 1 m. S. from Huish Ch. across the marshes leads to the little village of *Muchelney*, rising out of the surrounding morass, its remoteness, according to Wm. of Malmesbury, being the cause of its selection (the "muckle eye or great island"), with its abbey remains, ch., village cross, and ancient houses embowered in orchards. It is a place of no ordinary beauty and interest, and should by no means be missed. The first house rt. on entering the village, known as the *Almonry*, preserves a fragment of Norman sculpture over its pointed doorway; a nimbed saint under a semicircular arch. To the l. is the *Vicarage House*, an unaltered example of a small ancient house of the 15th centy., with a small hall and parlour beyond, and bed-chamber over. The handle, knocker, lock, and other fittings of the door should be carefully remarked. The *Village Cross* has been well restored. The *Ch.* has also undergone an excellent renovation. It is wholly Perp., with a good plain tower and groined belfry, and fine canopied stoup at the W. door, and a S. chapel with an enriched panelled ceiling opening into the ch. by a fine panelled arch. There is a handsome founder's tomb, of the 14th centy., in the churchyard. Of the *Abbey*, founded by Athelstan, A.D. 939, the remains are scanty, but highly interesting. The chief portion is the *Abbot's House*. "This is nearly perfect, and presents

a fine example of a nobleman's house of the period."—*J. H. P.* One of the chambers, approached by a stone staircase, retains the wainscot and settle and wooden panels of the time of Henry VIII. The S. front is nearly unaltered, and is a very excellent composition. To the E. of the house are the panelled walls of the domestic chapel, with traces of the screen, and the usual two-storied arrangement at the W. end. Of the Perp. cloister 6 bays remain, now used as a cellar. The springing of the rich vault is still to be seen. The whole group is charming, and full of unusual interest. The vegetation all round is rank and abundant. The botanist will find the *Ceterach* and other exquisite ferns, and the Cheddar pink, growing on the old walls.]

[2 m. to N.E. of Langport is *Low Ham Ch.*, formerly a domestic chapel annexed to a mansion now destroyed. It was built by Sir Rich. Hext, d. 1624, but in mediæval style. It stands in a large field, and has no ch.-yd. around it. It has a clerestoried nave, groined in plaster. The chancel roof is painted with stars. There are hardly any signs of debasement except the E. window. Over the chancel screen are the Royal arms, and under them the following text: "My son, fear thou the Lord and the king, and meddle not with them that are given to change." The pulpit cloth was rich, the date 1670. There is a fine tomb with the effigies of Sir Edward and Lady Hext, whose only daughter married Sir J. Stawell, the cavalier leader of Cothelstone, and in this family the property long remained. Lord Stawell began a sumptuous mansion here, "declaring," it is said, "that as he had the most beautiful wife and horse in the world, he would also have the most beautiful house." But it was never finished; a fine old coach-house, a few outbuildings, and grassy terraces,

once intended for gardens, alone remain. It is altogether a singular spot.

High Ham Ch., built 1476 by Abbot Selwood, of Glastonbury, aided by Lord Powlet, and the rector, John Dyer, d. 1499, whose monumental slab records the fact, has a superb rood-screen, a richly carved roof, and a singularly perfect rood-loft and staircase. *Long Sutton*, 4 m. E., was the quarters of Goring and the Royalist forces before the battle of Langport, and after their defeat of Fairfax and his victorious army. The *Ch.* is a good Perp. one of the local type, with a fine tower. The nave has a clerestory and light arcades, and an excellent wood roof. There is also a highly enriched screen and rood-loft, stretching across the whole breadth of the ch., and an elaborate stone pulpit.]

[On the other side of the valley of the Parrett, W., a long stretch of high ground rises. On an escarpment of these heights stands the *Parkfield Monument*, commonly known as the *Burton Steeple*, a column 140 ft. high, crowned by a funeral urn, erected by the Earl of Chatham to the memory of Sir William Pynsent. It commands a prospect N. and S. through an avenue of fine trees, particularly beautiful towards the N., where the marshy levels of Bridgewater, extending to the sea-coast, contrast with innumerable hills and woods. To the l. stood the mansion of *Burton House*, now destroyed. For many years this estate was the seat of the Pynsents, but in 1765 Sir William Pynsent, the last of that ancient family, having no issue, bequeathed it to William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, "in his veneration of a great character of exemplary virtue and unrivalled ability," and also on account of Pitt's opposition to the cider tax. The story goes that Sir William on more than one occasion attempted to make his way into

Pitt's house, to let him know his intention, but was turned back by the servants on account of his disreputable appearance. In the same year Pitt came into Somersetshire to take possession of the property, and, on his arrival, found another, but more humble, present awaiting him. It was a fine salmon, accompanied with this note from the donor, an inhabitant of Wareham: "I am an Englishman, and therefore love liberty and you. Sir, be pleased to accept of this fish, as a mark of my esteem; were every scale a diamond (alluding to the Pitt diamond), it should have been at your service." When Earl of Chatham, Pitt occasionally resided here, and the grounds once contained a funeral urn, dedicated to his memory by his Countess, 1781, who made it her permanent home after her widowhood, and died here April 3, 1803. This urn was removed to Stowe, 1831. On the dispersion of the objects collected there, the urn fell into the hands of strangers, but was recovered by Mr. Banks Stanhope, and now stands in his gardens at Revesby Abbey, Lincolnshire.

Curry Rivell, 2 m. S.W. The *Ch.* is worth a visit. It has a lofty tower, recently rebuilt, a groined porch, and both sides of the nave equally well finished externally. The nave is good Perp., but the chancel has some Dec. work, and the E. window of the N. chapel has ball-flower in its arch moulding and shafts, with nail-heads in the capitals. There are also some sepulchral arches of the same date and very excellent character, and in one is a remarkably small monumental effigy. Some of the windows have good ancient coloured glass, and there is an elegant rood-screen. 1. of the altar a curious monument preserves the memory of Marmaduke and Robert Jennings, whose effigies appear in the costume of troopers, with jack-boots and jer-

kins. Around the tomb are quaint figures of attendant mourners.]

Returning to the rly., and continuing our route, we pass,

10½ m. rt., *Kingsbury Episcopi*, (2½ m. N.W. of *Martock Stat.*), which has another fine Perp. *Ch.*, with a very rich and beautiful tower, having pierced battlements and pinnacles of the Glastonbury type, and double windows, with stone lattice-work. There is a N. transeptal chapel, which has large windows, containing some good stained glass. The fine double panelled tower arch and canopied niches adjacent deserve notice. There is a good open roof, and a rich rood-screen and loft. As at Langport, there is a vestry under the E. window. The *Vicarage* has a good Perp. window, and the whole village abounds in ancient houses.

12 m. *MARTOCK Stat.* (*Inns*: White Hart, George; Pop. 3155). *Martock* is a small picturesque town, containing several ancient houses, originally a manor of the Fienes, chiefly remarkable for its noble and beautifully restored *Ch.*, one of the largest and finest in the county. The nave and tower are wholly Perp.; the latter not rich in proportion to the nave, which is of very grand proportions, with fine arcades, having panelled spandrils, a lofty clerestory, with niches between the windows, and a magnificent open roof. The N. aisle is plainer, and has smaller windows than the S. aisle. The chancel is lower than the nave, and its E. window consists of 5 lancets.

Opposite the ch., and approached by a ruined gateway, is a small house of the 14th centy., in good preservation. It is an excellent example of the period. The hall has a fine timber roof, and is lighted with graceful windows. The minstrel gallery is boarded off, but the kitchen and other offices remain much as they

were in mediæval times. The *Market Cross* is a fluted column, bearing a sun-dial, ball, and vane, rising from the original base.

Cromwell and Fairfax, with their troops, were at Martock, Sunday, July 27, 1645, and gave thanks in the ch. for the taking of Bridgwater.

Thomas Farnaby, a grammarian, and editor of the classics, d. 1647, kept school at Martock.

[*South Petherton*, 3 m. S. by W. of Martock Stat., is a small market-town, boasting of a stately cruciform church, with octagonal tower, and chancel windows of early 14th centy. date. It contains some ancient tombs. The house popularly and absurdly known as *King Ina's Palace* was built by the Daubeny family early in the 16th centy. It has, or had, a fine hall, with open timber roof, a noble bay window, of 2 stories, lighting the parlour, and chief bedroom, and other architectural features of interest.

Tintinhull, 3 m. E., has a small Ch., without aisles, having early and curious features, and a tower on the N. side of the nave. The prevailing features are E. E., but some windows are Perp. In the chancel are some windows of 2 lights, verging on Dec. The porch has a plain stone-arched roof, with strong ribs. There are 2 brasses to ecclesiastics of the 15th centy.]

The rly. crosses the Fosse Way at 13½ m., and passing rt. under the fine camp-crowned hill of *Hamdon*, and the conspicuous wooded summits of *Montacute*, and the long, stately front of *Montacute House* (Rte. 21), we catch glimpses of the churches and villages of *Lufton* and *Preston* l. and *Odcombe* and *Brymp-ton* rt., and reach

18½ m. **YEOVIL** Stat. (Rte. 21).

ROUTE 28.

TAUNTON TO WATCHET. BISHOP'S LYDEARD, CLEVE ABBEY.

(*Branch of Bristol and Exeter
Railway.*)

On leaving Taunton, we travel along the Bristol and Exeter line as far as 165 m. *Norton Fitzwarren* (*Norton Manor*, C. N. Welman, Esq.), where it begins to diverge N.W. along the valley of an affluent of the Tone to

5 m. *Bishop's Lydeard* Stat., a village coloured blood-red by the soil. It is remarkable for its *Church-tower*, a very beautiful specimen of the Perp. of Hen. VII., consisting of 4 stories, which are surmounted by a pierced parapet. In the church-yard are 2 sculptured *crosses*. King Alfred had the lands of Lydeard, which he gave to Asser. They afterwards passed to the Bp. of Bath and Wells. Bp. Barlow exchanged them away with Edw. VI. for other lands. Here is an almshouse founded and endowed for poor people by Sir Richard Grobham, a native of the parish, in the 17th century. Sir J. Popham, "memorable as for the antiquity of his noble descent, so for his strict justice and unwearied diligence," built a mansion here, held in the Civil Wars as a garrison against the King by Sir R. Grenville, and reduced to a heap of ruins. 2 m. towards Bridgwater, at the foot of the richly-wooded *Quantock Hills*, are the interesting remains of the ancient manor-house of *Cothelstone*, the seat of the Lord Stawel, and the modern mansion of that name, seat of E. J. Esdaile, Esq. (Rte. 19).

There is a splendid view from the hill on which Cothelstone Manor stood, and where the lodge remains. It embraces the vale of Taunton, bounded by the Brendon Hills, great part of Dorsetshire, and part of Wilts, the Channel for 50 m., and the Brecon mountains. In the *Ch.* are Norman pillars and arches, and tombs with effigies of the Stawels.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Watts House*, Mrs. Winter; 1. *Sandhill Park*, Sir John H. Lethbridge, Bart., now occupied by Lord Kensington.

$6\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Combe Flory*, in a richly wooded park, from 1828 the living of the celebrated wit *Sydney Smith*, who made the parsonage one of the most delightful of residences. "He carried his system of furnishing for gaiety," writes his daughter, Lady Holland, "even to the dress of his books, which were not brown, dark, dull-looking volumes, but all in the brightest bindings." The open windows admitted "a blaze of sunshine and flowers," and commanded a view of a pretty valley and a wood which was traversed by paths. Here the ingenious Sydney would entertain his London friends with many a pleasant device. On one occasion he called in art to aid nature, hanging oranges on the shrubs in the drive and garden. "The stratagem succeeded admirably, and great was his exultation when an unlucky urchin from the village was detected in the act of sucking one through a quill. It was as good, he said, as the birds pecking at *Zeuxis'* grapes. At another time, on a lady happening to hint that the pretty paddock would be improved by deer, he fitted his 2 donkeys with antlers, and placed them immediately in front of the windows." He died 1845.

In the *Ch.* are the effigies of a cross-legged mailed warrior, and 2 females, members of the Meriet family, to whom the manor belonged from the time of Edward II.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. is *Lydeard St. Lawrence*,

in a beautiful position, commanding a fine view of the dark Quantock Hills, and in particular of *Will's Neck*, the highest point of the range, 1270 ft. above the level of the sea. 1. are the Brendon Hills, great offshoots of Exmoor. This village was the birthplace of *Thomas Manton*, a learned writer and Nonconformist divine, whose works fill 5 vols. fol., b. 1620.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. further W. is *Tolland* and S. of it *Gaulden Farm*, a curious old manor-house.

9 m. *Crowcombe Heathfield Stat.*, a most lonely desolate spot, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of the romantic little village of Crowcombe (Rte. 29). On the other side of the line we see the flank of a fir-covered knoll, an outlier of Brendon Hill, crowned by *Willet Tower*, a conspicuous object from many distant parts of the county. On the W. point of *Brendon Hill* is a British camp called *Ellworthy Barrows*. This range attains a height of 1210 ft. above the sea, and has acquired importance by the discovery in it of a valuable vein of carbonate of iron. The lode is now worked by the Ebbw Vale Company.

The cross-roads here are characteristic of this part of the county. Very narrow, deep, precipitous, and overhung with hedges.

On the l. *Ellworthy*, a woody romantic spot. *Willet House*, John Blommart, Esq.

$11\frac{1}{2}$ m., *Stogumber Stat.* $\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. is *Stogumber*, anciently *Stoke Gomer*, famous for its tonic ale, made from a spring possessed of medicinal virtues, near the village. The *Ch.*, St. Mary, is large and handsome, with N. and S. aisles, and 2 chapels. It has a stone pulpit and some fine monuments—one especially of Sir G. Sydenham, a major in the Cavalier army, d. 1664 (whose ghost is still believed to ride his spectral horse down Sydenham Combe), and his 2 wives. A fine cross stands in the churchyard; 2 miles on the left is

situated in a narrow deep valley, the ancient manor-house of *Combe Sydenham*, worthy of a visit. It has a tower, the remains of a noble kitchen, and other indications of having been a mansion of great importance. Over the entrance porch is a Latin inscription.

3 m. W., in a deep valley or combe, is *Monksilver*. The Perp. Ch. has been well restored, and a churchyard cross erected. In the ch.-yd. is a monument to Mrs. Conybeare and her 2 daughters, who were murdered in their house, 1773. To the l. 1 m., are the park and gardens of *Nettlecombe*, seat of Sir W. C. Trevelyan, Bart. This is a fine ancestral place, and contains many curiosities, such as an original grant of Nettlecombe in the reign of Hen. II., and a miniature portrait of Charles I. worked with his own hair. An oak in the park measures 17 ft. in circumference near the ground. At Nettlecombe, several bushels of human bones were discovered, supposed to be the remains of the Danes who landed at Watchet, and were defeated there. *Leighland Chapel*, farther W., in a romantic dell, by Treborough, was formerly attached to the abbey of Old Cleve.

13 m. rt. on the hill is the village of *Bicknoller* (Rte. 29).

14 m. l. is *Sampford Brett*, with a Ch. nicely seated with oak benches; at the foot of the hills, *Weacombe House*, Mrs. St. Albin; away in the distance, l., the ranges beyond Dunster, and the huge Dunkery Beacon.

15 m. WILLITON Stat. (Inn: Egremont Arms, Pursey's Railway Hotel; Pop. 1030); a coach runs daily from Williton to Dunster and Minehead, and during the summer to Lynton), a village of 2 long streets, in a sheltered valley under the Quantock Hills, about 2 m. from the sea. The cottages are embowered in myrtles and creepers; but there is little here to delay the traveller, the

remains of 2 old crosses by the inn being the only objects of any curiosity. To the S. are seen the fire-crowned hills of *Nettlecombe Court*; and nearer Williton is *Orchard Wyndham*, seat of the late Earl of Egremont, now belonging to his widow. Orchard Wyndham is a beautiful old manor-house; for the last 3 centuries the seat of the Wyndhams. It was here that 2 king's messengers came, on Sept. 21, 1715, to arrest Sir W. Wyndham, M.P. for Somerset, who was suspected of being mixed up in the Pretender's plot. Sir Will. was not up, but came in his dressing gown to the disturbers of his slumbers, who thereupon told him "he was their prisoner." He requested leave to return and dress himself, saying, "that his coach and six would be ready at 7 to convey the party," but he slipped out of a back door, and though a reward of 1000*l.* was offered by the Privy Council, he, by assuming the habit of a clergyman, managed to elude detection, till at last he surrendered himself, and remained a prisoner in the Tower, till June, 1716, when he was admitted to bail, and returned home. In Blackdown Wood, near Orchard Wyndham, is a stone 7 ft. high, sculptured with a star and female head, and several Roman letters and numerals, popularly called "*Old Mother Shipton's Tomb*." It was, probably, brought from Cumberland, where the Wyndhams had property. Camden, in 1637, describes just such a stone in that county. In the reign of Henry II. Williton was the residence of Sir Reginald Fitz-Urse, one of the murderers of Thomas à Becket. It is a walk of 2 m., or 1½ m. over stile and by green pathway (*over the ground*, in Somersetshire dialect), to the small but ancient seaport of *Watchet*, passing the *Parish Ch.* of

St. Decumans, so called from a saint who, according to the legend, crossed the sea from Wales on a hur-

dle (some accounts say his cloak), and was nourished by a cow which attached herself to him and followed him as his companion, and here pitched his cell. It occupies a commanding point of view, and contains the monuments of the Wyndhams. Among them are John Wyndham and his lady Florence, habited in the dress of the period, 1572, 1596; effigies of Henry and George Wyndham, 2 kneeling figures the size of life, 1613, 1624; the monument of Sir William Wyndham, 1683; and the tomb of the late Earl of Egremont, a slab of blue marble emblazoned with shields. There is also a female monumental brass. The roof, pulpit, screen, and pews are of carved oak; and the churchyard contains an ancient *cross*.

The rly. reaches in

16 m. WATCHET (*Inn*: a comfortable little Hotel was opened in 1866 by Mr. Mossman; Pop. 916), situated at the end of a pretty valley, which runs obliquely to the sea; it is a mean, dirty place, with a pier built by Sir W. Wyndham, Secretary-at-War under Queen Anne, ironfoundry and paper-mill, its principal business being the transportation of iron ore to Wales, and the importation of coal for the limekilns. On either side of it are cliffs of blood-red conglomerate, streaked by light-green bands of limestone, and, towards Blue Anchor, abounding in alabaster, which is collected and ground for cement in a mill at Williton.

The shore here is low, and affords a convenient landing; of which the piratical Danes more than once took advantage, disembarking their marauding hosts here. In 987, or 988, the A.-S. Chronicle tells us, "the port of Watchet was plundered." This attack however was not successful in effecting a lodgment; several of the English Thanes were killed, but the Danes were at last

beaten off. Beyond Watchet, breezy heathy hills look down on the sea at their foot. On the way to *Blue Anchor*, 2 m. W., picturesque cliffs overhang the shore, the walk along which is much to be recommended.

Blue Anchor, a quiet cosy little watering place, with a large and comfortable inn, and a few lodging houses for visitors who prize rest and retirement, is seated on rising ground by the side of the salt marsh which extends to Minehead. It commands one of the most beautiful prospects in the county, and for this reason should be visited by travellers who find their way to Dunster or Minehead. Around the alluvial plain to the W. of it the hilly ranges circle in amphitheatrical order, wild and heath-covered, sweeping in undulating outline from Minehead to the Quantocks. In advance of them rises the tower-crowned cone of Dunster, and through the vista of the valley of Avill looms the giant Dunkery.

The shore here is interesting. To the E. is a remarkable headland of rock of a dull green colour, intersected in every direction by ramifying lines of alabaster. Both in form and colour it bears some resemblance to a berg of Polar ice. The strata are curved and contorted, and, dipping to the sea, have become caverned in a singular manner. They overlie the new red sandstone, which appears again within $\frac{1}{2}$ m. of Watchet. The alabaster occurs in irregular veins, either white or of a cornelian red. It is largely collected and ground for cement. The sea here retires for a long distance, and at low water spring-tides exposes the fossil remains of a submerged forest. Compressed ammonites, having the iridescent nacre, may be found on the beach.

A road runs direct from Blue Anchor to Dunster, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m.

The traveller should follow a pretty little stream, 2 m. inland from

Watchet to *Washford*, close to which are the little known but singularly beautiful and interesting ruins of

Cleve Abbey, founded for Cistercian monks, 1188, by William de Romare, son of the Earl of Lincoln, to the honour of the Virgin Mary. There were here 17 monks shortly before the Reformation. The ruins present far more that is interesting, both to the archæologist and artist, than can be found on the sites of most monastic establishments.

The abbey buildings were surrounded by a moat. The gatehouse is a beautiful structure of the 13th centy., with additions made to it by Will. Dovell, the last abbot. Over the aisle is an inscription,

Porta patens esto
Nulli claudaris honesto.

Above this is a square-headed window, of late Perp., surmounted by 3 niches, the centre containing a sculptured crucifix.

Entering by a door near the farmhouse, we find ourselves in the W. walk of a cloister of the 15th centy., now divided into cattle sheds, over which were probably the monks' library, singing school, &c.

The chapel is entirely destroyed; it stood to our l. on the N. side of the quadrangle.

Facing us on the E. side is the dormitory of E. E. date, lighted by a row of lancets, and communicating with the chapel to the N., raised on a vaulted substructure. The small arched room under the N. end of the dormitory was the sacristy; it is surrounded by aumbries, the door into the original chapel being converted into a fire-place. The large circular aperture at the E. of this room was used, it is conjectured, for the purpose of removing a corpse into the conventual burying ground. Beyond this, S., is the entrance into the destroyed chapter-house, a beautiful E. E. doorway, between 2 double windows, with chamfered mouldings and blue lia shafts.

Further S. was the locutorium or day room, nearly 60 ft. long, with 2 double E. E. windows, now blocked up, and 3 doors, very similar to the hall in the Bishop's Palace at Wells. The dormitory in the upper story still remains perfect, and is reached by a fine E. E. doorway and a flight of steps.

On the S. side of the quadrangle, to the rt., stands the refectory of the 15th centy.; a beautiful building, with 5 large Perp. windows. It stands on an E. E. substructure, and is approached by a handsome staircase, to the l. of which is the monks' lavatory. The hall is 51 ft. long and 22 ft. broad, and still retains its beautiful carved roof, with angel corbels. On the E. wall may still be traced an ancient fresco painting of the crucifixion, and on the S. side the place of the reading pulpit. Further W. are the ancient bell-cot and the windows of the buttery.

The ruins, which are very picturesque, are situated in a valley, called in old records *Vallis Florida*, the Flowery Vale, which is watered by a stream flowing into the Channel at Watchet.

A shady lane leads N.W. to Old Cleve, and thence to the *Chapel of our Lady of Cleve*, much frequented by worshippers in mediæval times. The remains of a wayside cross will be passed midway between Washford and the ch. of

Old Cleve, an ancient building, bearing every mark of antiquity, the floor slanting upward from the tower to the chancel. In the churchyard stands another old cross in a fair state of preservation. The site of the chapel, of which some fragments still exist (as well as portions of a house of the 14th cent.), is nearer Blue Anchor.

ROUTE 29.

BRIDGWATER TO LYNTON. THE QUANTOCKS, NETHER STOWEY, DUNSTER, MINEHEAD, PORLOCK.

Bridgwater (Rte. 19). On this route there are 2 roads as far as Williton: one, 17½ m., passing the Quantocks by the sea; the other, 20 m., crossing these hills near their southern termination, and skirting their western slopes to Williton. They are both beautiful roads, but perhaps the latter is the more picturesque of the two. First for the former, the direct road by Nether Stowey.

4 m. *Cannington*. Beyond this village, on the rt., are *Brymore House* (Hon. P. Pleydell Bouverie), the ancient seat of the Pym family, from whom was descended John Pym, the famous member of the Long Parliament: and *Cannington Park*, now occupied as a grazing-farm, where there is a remarkable outcrop of limestone. At *Cannington* a priory of Benedictine nuns was founded, adjacent to the present ch., in 1138, by Robert de Courcy, sewer or chief butler to the Empress Maud. "Fair Rosamond," it is said, was born in this parish, and educated at this nunnery. The manor and lands were granted by the crown in 1672 to Thos. Lord Clifford, and still belong to the Clifford family. In 1807 a sisterhood of Benedictines was established here, but have since been removed to Rugeley in Staffordshire. The *Ch.* is a cruciform Perp. building, very short and lofty, with a single roof embracing nave, aisles, and chancel. It should be seen from the E., when the effect of height is magnificent. There is an ancient

Manor House near the ch. belonging to Lord Cavan, now occupied as a farmhouse, in which there is a domestic chapel, now used as a china closet.

On the l., ¼ m., *Blackmoor Farm*, an interesting specimen of a mediæval manor-house, in good preservation.

The views of the Channel and the Welsh Coast, under a green arch of twisted larch boughs, are very beautiful as you approach,

8½ m., *Nether Stowey* the birth-place of Parsons the Jesuit, 1546, and for some time the residence of *Samuel Taylor Coleridge*. Among the woods of the neighbouring hills are the valleys of the *Seven Wells*, and *Hunter's Combe*, beautiful scenes, rendered classic ground by the genius of this chance visitor, and that of his companion *Wordsworth*, who occupied at the same period a house at *Alfoxden* (we preserve *Wordsworth's* spelling: the name is really *Alfoxton*). Many of *Wordsworth's* Lyrical Ballads, and most of *Coleridge's* poems, were written at *Alfoxden* and *Stowey*: among these were 'Peter Bell' and the 'Ancient Mariner,' the latter of which was composed during a walking tour of *Coleridge* and *Wordsworth* along the Quantocks by Watchet to Minehead, Porlock, and Lynton in Nov. 1797.

"Upon smooth Quantocks' airy ridge we roved,
Unchecked we loitered mid her sylvan courts,
Thou in bewitching words, with happy heart,
Didst chaunt the vision of that Ancient Man,
The bright-eyed Mariner, and rueful woes
Didst utter of the Lady Christabel."

WORDSWORTH, *Prelude*.

Coleridge took up his residence at *Nether Stowey* in 1796 ("sanctum et venerabile nomen," rich by so many associations and recollections), "in order to enjoy the society of his dear and honoured friend T. Poole, and to have leisure for the study of ethics and psychology, and the foundations of religion and morals." He was in the habit of preaching for Dr. Toulmin at the Unitarian Chapel at Taunton. He provided for his

scanty maintenance by writing verses for a London morning paper. This was the period of the true manhood of his poetical life, during which he wrote his 'Remorse.' In June, 1797, Wordsworth and his sister removed to Alfoxden, and here, in conjunction with Coleridge, he produced the 'Lyrical Ballads.' Among the pieces written here were, 'We are Seven,' 'The Idiot Boy,' 'Goody Blake,' &c. He speaks of it as "a very pleasant and productive time of his life." "Wherever we turn," writes Miss Wordsworth, "we have woods, smooth downs, and valleys with small brooks running down them through green meadows hardly ever intersected with hedge-rows, but scattered over with trees. The hills that cradle these valleys are either covered with fern or bilberries, or oak woods—walks extend for miles over the hill-tops, the great beauty of which is their wild simplicity." Alfoxden was the scene of the famous picnic party of the 2 Wordsworths, Coleridge, and Cottle, when their provisions consisting of bread, cheese, brandy, and lettuces, the cheese was stolen by a beggar, the brandy bottle was broken by Coleridge's awkwardness, and they were reduced to the lettuces and bread without salt. They had to leave Alfoxden from suspicion of being hatchers of sedition. A government spy with a long nose who was sent down to watch them, thought they were talking of him as "Spinoza." "C. was believed to have little harm in him, for he was a crackbrained, talking fellow; but that Wordsworth, they said, is either a smuggler or a traitor, and means mischief. He never speaks to any one, haunts lonely places, walks by moonlight, and is always *boeing* about by himself." The agent refused to let the Alfoxden house to them, and they started for Germany Sept., 1798. Above Nether Stovey are some remarkable entrenchments of the *Castle*, now entirely destroyed.

In the *Ch. of Spaxton*, 3 m. S.E., is an altar-tomb of the De la Hulle, and some very good bench-ends; one is known as "the fuller's panel," representing a fuller engaged in his work. The alms chest is very curious. Near the village is *Holwell Cavern*, 127 ft. in length, partly excavated in the grauwacke slate, and encrusted with crystals of white aragonite, here and there tinged with a delicate hue of purple. A *coppermine* was formerly worked at *Doddington*. At *Over Stovey* is *Quantoek Lodge*, the seat of Lord Taunton, commanding a fine view of the Channel, which contains, among other curiosities, a fine collection of miscellaneous china.

Over Stovey is the best headquarters for exploring the Quantoek range, to which 2 or 3 days may be very agreeably devoted. The high ground is a heathy moorland, the flanks seamed with romantic woody combes.

2 m. l., on a hill-top 1022 ft. above the sea, the British camp of *Danesborough* (called *Dowsebury*), where, it is said, the Belgæ were defeated by the Romans. It is of a circular form, with double ramparts.

11 m. *Holford*. l., in a commanding and most beautiful position, *Alfoxden House*, Wordsworth's home in 1797, seat of L. St. Albyn, Esq. About 2 m. rt. is *Fairfield*, Sir P. Palmer Acland, Bart. (also of New House, Devon), a mansion of the 16th centy., surrounded by an extensive park and grounds; and beyond it *Stokecourcy* (locally known as *Stogursey*), a village so named from its former lords, the De Courcys, the remains of whose moated castle may still be seen. Fulk de Breaute, the 2nd husband of Alice de Redvers, daughter of Wm. de Courcy, fortified and garrisoned the manor-house, and made it a stronghold of robbers. It was dismantled by the express order of the sheriff. A redoubtable member of this family, John de Courcy,

was the first to subdue the province of Ulster, of which he was created Earl. He was afterwards, says Fuller, imprisoned by King John in the Tower, and, whilst there, selected to decide, by combat with a Frenchman, the right of the English monarch to a certain castle in France. But the question was decided in another manner. Enfeebled by long durance, he ate so much as fairly to frighten the Frenchman, who declined to fight, declaring that his antagonist was a cannibal, who would devour him as the last course. In this neighbourhood a sanguinary conflict occurred in 845 between the Danes and Saxons, when the latter, led by the bishop of Sherborne, succeeded in driving the pirates to their ships. Stokecourcy *Ch.* is a very large and fine building which has been well restored, containing Norm. and Transition work. The S. aisle is the burial-place of the Verneys of Fairfield. The tower is central. Stokecourcy belonged to an alien Benedictine priory, or cell to the Abbey of Lonlay in Normandy, to which it was given temp. Hen. II. Near Alfoxden, on the sea-shore, is the little village of *Kilve*—Southey's "Kilve by the green sea"—Wordsworth's "Kilve's delightful shore"—where the *West Somerset foxhounds* are kennelled.

12½ m. *Putsham.* Beyond this village the road ascends the slope of the Quantock Hills, when the traveller, by a backward glance, may behold, spread over a vast distance, the hazy levels of Bridgwater, the range of the Mendips, the cone of Brent Knoll, the glistening sea with its rocky islets of the Holms, and the magnificent coast of Wales.

14 m. Here, on a spur of the hills, is *St. Audries* (Sir Alexander A. Hood, Bart.). On right is the home-park sloping to the shore, and the house, which, seated on the eastern point of Minehead Bay, commands the mountainous distance of Exmoor
[*Wills, Dorset, &c.*]

in connection with the sea, a view most charming. 1. is the deer-park, with its ferny brakes and wooded heights. The road now descends the western side of the Quantocks, unfolding the landscape in the direction of Exmoor.

17½ m. *Williton* (see below).

The longer road from Bridgwater to Williton runs for above 5 m. through an undulating country, passing on the l.

3½ m. *Halswell House*, seat of Col. Tynte, and rt.

5 m. *Enmore Castle*, formerly the property of the Earls of Egmont, and now of the family of Trevelyan; when it ascends the Quantock Hills, rising to a view of the greater part of eastern Somersetshire. Having gained the summit, about 1000 ft. above the sea, it proceeds for 1½ m. on a level, running amid wild plantations of fir which sweep to the valley, and passing, on the l., *Broomfield House*, the seat of the Crosses; a place of interest in scientific history as the scene of the supposed creation of the "Acarus Crossii" by "Philosopher Crosse." It then begins a very beautiful descent on the western side, where the traveller is deeply embowered in a tall beech wood, through which he sees by glimpses a dark romantic dell, and the mansion of *Cothelstone Park* (E. J. Esdaile, Esq.).

10 m. At the foot of the hill the road passes under an ivied archway, which was formerly the entrance of the manor-house of Cothelstone, now a farmhouse, situated to the rt. Cothelstone House was the residence of Sir John Stawell, the daring Royalist leader. It was destroyed by Blake on his march from Taunton to Dunster. Tradition says that the arms of the forces of Sir J. Stawell were kept in the towers of Bishop Lydeard church, and his levies made in a field which still bears the name of "Standards." Two gentlemen, who were concerned in the Mon-

mouth rebellion, were by the order of Judge Jeffreys, hung on the arch before old Cothelstone House. Passing through an embattled gatehouse, we have before us a gabled building, thickly mantled with ivy, and of a singular style of architecture, the large oblong windows being formed by a series of pillars, which also on a larger scale decorate the front and entrance. Over the doorway appear the arms of Stawel. At the rear of the garden is the little parish Church, in which lie the remains and monuments of the former lords of Cothelstone. The visitor will notice the fine elm by the churchyard, and the walnut-tree in the adjoining field. Further to the rt. is *Bagborough House*, a seat of the Pophams (now F. M. Bisset, Esq.).

13½ m. The road crosses a small stream which descends from *Will's Neck*, the summit of the Quantock hills, 1270 ft. above the level of the sea. The scenery on either side is delightful, particularly on the l., where there are fir-woods, and *Willet Tower* rising beyond them.

15 m. *Crowcombe (Inn: Carew Arms)*, a romantic little village under the escarpment of the Quantocks, commanding the hilly country to the W., and in the distance *Willet Tower*, and a straight avenue-drive to it through a wood. The place owes its neat appearance in great measure to the Carews, whose mansion of *Crowcombe Court*, and its hanging groves, appear on the rt. At the entrance from Williton the pretty creeper-clad cottages of the village are seen in combination with the dark height of Will's Neck.

The objects of interest here are a sculptured *cross* in the churchyard, another by the roadside, and the pictures and curiosities in the seat of the Carews.

At the gate of *Crowcombe Court* (G. H. Warrington Carew, Esq.) you have the *Church*, with its cross, on the rt., and before you the park

with its 2 old cedars and hanging woods on the hill-side. A network of walks and drives penetrates these woods, and leads to the ferny heights of the hill by a ravine or glen, darkly shadowed by oak and beech, and by silver firs 12 ft. in circumference. Beneath their spreading branches enormous laurels extend their arms in every direction. Altogether there is something very mountain-like and wild in this great wood. In its deepest recesses leaps a cascade, among ruins of an arch and convent, artificial, but happily placed. The mansion is of red brick, with portico and wings, built in a semicircular form. Among the pictures and other works of art the following will be pointed out:—In the *Front Hall*: Mr. Palmer, by *Corn. Jansen*; full-lengths of Charles I. and his Queen, *Vandyck*; Sir George Carew, *Zucchero*.—The *Staircase*: the family of Erasmus, *Holbein*. The carved balustrade and the Carew arms on the ceiling will be noticed.—The *Library*: Charles II. as a child; the Duke of Richmond, *Vandyck*.—*Drawing-room*: Vesuvius, *G. Poussin*; Offering of the Wise Men, *Rubens*; Falls of Tivoli, *Rosa di Tivoli*; Narcissus, *N.* and *G. Poussin*; Rachel at the Well, *Carlo Maratti*; St. Agnes, *Carlo Dolce*; the Circumcision, *Leonardo da Vinci*.—*Dining-room*: a Polish general, *Rembrandt*; Sir Francis Drake, *C. Jansen*; Rembrandt, by himself; Duke of Norfolk, Nelson, author of the 'Fasts and Festivals,' *Sir Godfrey Kneller*; General Monk, *Vandyck*; Rembrandt's mother, and Miss Carew, who founded the charity for the Crowcombe boys.—*School-room*: Sir T. Carew, who built Crowcombe; his 2 wives; Sir John and Lady Wyndham, and other family portraits.—The *Oak Passage*, fitted as a museum, with stuffed birds, &c.; family portraits; cabinets and doors of carved black oak.—The *Oak Room*, entirely of carved black oak, excepting the floor and ceiling. It contains

a miscellaneous collection of curiosities, and some pictures; among them 3 of Charles II.'s beauties; a Miss Carew; and Bamfylde Carew, called the King of the Gipsies. 2 pieces of tapestry. Old chairs, one decorated with the head of Henry II.

A road runs directly across the Quantocks from Crowcombe to Bridgwater, meeting the high road at Nether Stowey. The distance is about 12 m. You should ascend this road a little way for the sake of a superb prospect over the entire hill country on the border of Exmoor. The 2 twin towered hills are seen rt. and l., Dunster and Willet. The road is steep and romantic.

Will's Neck, about 2 m. S.E., is the highest summit on these hills, being 1270 ft. above the sea. Its ascent is a favourite excursion with the inhabitants of Bridgwater and Taunton.

Proceeding on our route —

16 m. *Lower Halsway*. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the rt. is a curious *manor-house*, the hunting-lodge of Cardinal Beaufort, now inhabited by a farmer. *Hurley Beacon* here raises its dark head; the slopes are finely wooded with beech and fir.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Bicknoller*, between 2 gullies in the Quantock Hills. If on foot climb aloft for a view; there is a small encampment on the slope, but go, if possible, to the barrow on the summit, *Thorncombe Barrow*, from which you may see on the one side the Bay of Bridgwater, on the other that of Minehead, the Welsh coast, the entire scarp of Exmoor, and the moor itself, the whole range of the Blackdowns with the Wellington Monument, and far into Devonshire. Opposite are the woods of Nettlecombe, and S. of them Willet Tower.

1 m. rt. at the foot of the hills, *Weacombe House*, Mrs. St. Albyn; l. the village of *Sampford Brett*; and, away in the distance, the ranges

beyond Dunster, and the huge Dunkery Beacon.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Williton* (Rte. 28).

$20\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Washford*, a village standing at the junction of 2 roads from Taunton. A few hundred yards l. are the ruins of *Cleve Abbey* (Rte. 28).

Proceeding from Washford, we pass through a rich and wooded country.

On the l. 1 m., up a glen lies the village of *Withycombe*, beyond which is a pretty combe running up into the hills. On one side of the hills above the village is the supposed site of a British village; and in a lane leading to it, the conjunction of the red sandstone with the Devonian series may be observed.

22 m. *Sandhill*, built in 1588, formerly the residence of a branch of the Escott family, but now a farmhouse.

23 m. *Carhampton*. The church here has been rebuilt. This village gives the title to the hundred. There is a curious entry in the parish register. "Bury'ed Grace Blackwell, obiit felis morsu rabiosæ," (died from the bite of a mad cat.) In this parish, 1 m. N.W. from Dunster, on the level toward the channel, lies *Marsh Farm*, where there still exists a very curious small Dec. oratory with a carved wooden roof, over the porch.

Marshwood Farm, 1 m. N.E., and the same distance from Blue Anchor, is an old house mentioned by Leland. The porch contains some curious bas-reliefs in plaster, removed from the interior. *Aller*, the manor-house of the Everards, also mentioned by Leland, 1 m. further inland, has some ancient portions.

The churchyard contains some ancient tombs, and remains of a cross. Beyond this village the traveller will view with delight the glens and wild hills on the l. A steep ascent by the side of Dunster Tor brings him to

26 m. DUNSTER (*Inn*) Luttrell

Arms ; Pop. 1112), a characteristic specimen of an old English town, with its quaint steep streets, its picturesque market-cross, and ivied castle closing the vista. It is an extremely ancient place, called *Torre* in Domesday. The West Saxon kings had a fortress here, which was denominated the *torre* or tower ; to this name the word *dune* was afterwards prefixed, so as to signify the tower or castle on the hill, and hence, by a slight alteration, came the present name Dunster. It has passed through only 2 families since the Conquest.

Dunster is seated on an eminence in the midst of the most beautiful scenery in Somersetshire, so that a stranger may well amuse himself here for some days by exploring the neighbourhood. The chief points of interest are the castle and its park, the view from Grabhurst Hill, the ruins of Cleve Abbey, Blue Anchor, Minehead, Porlock, Culbone, and Dunkery Beacon. The fisherman will find in the little river *Hone* trout and eels, and near the sea salmon and mullet.

The *Ch.* is one of some size and dignity, 168 ft. in length from E. to W., cruciform, with a central tower, and with some points of special ecclesiastical interest. The Minster type it displays is explained by its having been connected with a cell of Bath Abbey, founded here by Sir William de Mohun, in the reign of the Conqueror, of which some fragments still exist among the buildings of the adjacent farm, N. of the choir, including the prior's lodgings, with square-headed windows, and the conventual dovecot. There is documentary evidence of the tower having been built in 1499, and this date would probably suit the larger part of the edifice, though it contains earlier fragments within. That which makes this *ch.* specially remarkable is the peculiarity of its internal arrangements. On entering, it will be seen that the tran-

sept and the whole space E. of the tower is cut off and disused, the altar being under the western tower-arch. Nor is this a modern arrangement, as is proved by the existence of a noble rood-screen *in situ*, and the rood turret, some distance to the W. of the tower. Dunster Church, like many conventual churches, contains two churches under one roof. This has been so at least since 1499, when, in consequence of a dispute between the vicar of the parish and the prior of the cell, such as was continually arising in mediæval times, when the same building was shared by two parties (see Sherborne *ante*), it was decided by the Abbot of Glastonbury that the monastic choir should be resigned to the sole use of the monks, and that the parishioners should make themselves a new choir in the nave. Accordingly the nave is still used for the parish services, while the choir, having at the Dissolution passed into the possession of the owners of Dunster Castle, has (as at Arundel) been allowed to fall into a lamentable state of neglect. The effect of the nave within is gloomy and heavy, owing to its extreme width and lowness. It has a coved roof, with ribs and bosses and no clerestory. One of the original Norman arches of the lantern spans the nave on the W. side of the tower, though a later arch, corresponding to the date of the tower, has been constructed under it. The visitor should notice the very whimsical trefoil arch opening from the S. transept to the S. aisle of the choir. It seems unique in form, and it is difficult to assign a date to it. The choir contains sepulchral memorials to the Mohuns and Luttrells, among which may be noticed a female effigy under an ogee canopy in the S. wall, and the alabaster effigies of a knight and his lady in a pretty but mutilated little chantry on the N. side. In the S. aisle of the nave is a brass dated 1495, with an English inscrip-

tion ending in Latin. The font is a fair Perp. one, and there is a little wood screen-work, and some ancient tiles.

After the ch. the *Luttrell Arms Inn* claims attention, not only as a good house, but as an exceedingly old one. There is a carved ceiling in the commercial-room, an emblazoned escutcheon of the Luttrells in an upper chamber, and in one of the bedrooms a chimneypiece richly ornamented with sculptures, representing 2 full-length female figures dressed in the style of Elizabeth, the fable of Actæon, coats of arms, and other devices. At the back of the house are remains of a chapel, and in the kitchen a huge fireplace. On the hill beyond the garden are the earthworks thrown up by the Parliamentary army during the siege of the castle.

The *Yarn Market*, an ancient picturesque structure of wood, "its effect about as perfect as may be," *E. A. F.*, recalls the time when Dunster was of importance for the manufacture of kerseymeres, which are mentioned in an Act of Parliament of James I., under the name of "Dunsters." One of the timbers of the building has been pierced by a cannon-shot from the castle.

Dunster Castle may be seen during the absence of the family; the grounds on any week day. This ancient seat of the Mohuns, and of the Luttrells from the reign of Henry IV., crowns the Tor, where it slopes to the valley of Avill, in full view of the wild height of Grabhurst, of the seacoast, and of the beautiful Castle park. Dunster Castle was erected by William de Mohun in the 12th century, and held by him in opposition to King Stephen, as a centre from which he devastated the whole country round, Stephen appeared against

Dunster, but despaired of taking by assault a place of such extraordinary strength; he erected a fort to keep Mohun in check, and retired, delegating his authority to Henry de Tracy of Barnstaple. The present edifice is of various dates, but chiefly belongs to the reign of Elizabeth. The great gateway is probably the "fair tourre by north cummying into the castle," mentioned by Leland as having been built by Sir Hugh Luttrell in the reign of Henry VII. The iron-studded door on the rt., after passing through the gatehouse, was probably the entrance to the castle court till blocked up to form the present carriage-drive. George Luttrell, who owned the property in 1580, added considerably to the buildings of the castle. The keep seems to have been pulled down in 1650, four years after its surrender to Blake. The chief events which have passed here are the capture of the castle by the Marquis of Hertford in 1643; the visit of Charles II., when Colonel Wyndham was the governor; the subsequent successful siege by Blake; and the confinement here of William Prynne, member of the Long Parliament, by Cromwell, 1648.

Passing through the gatehouse, the visitor—noting on the way the Norman door and flanking tower on the rt.—will be conducted to the terrace at the back of the castle, where his attention will be drawn to a remarkable lemon-tree trained against the wall, and bearing fruit in great plenty; and to the yew hedge, some 50 ft. high, through a gap of which is seen a little bridge, crossing the sparkling stream. He will then be led by a circling walk to the summit of the wooded knoll on which the keep stood, now a bowling-green. Here, through openings in the trees, are a series of enchanting views: through one the town of Minehead and its hills; through another Blue Anchor, the rocky islets of the

Holms, and a distance of Welsh mountain; a third will show you the glens and straggling oaks of the park; and a fourth, the valley of Avill in long perspective to the brown sides of Dunkery. Around the wooded hill are numerous shady walks, which here and there give a peep through a gap of a glittering eddy in the stream, or the wheel of a water-mill. In the castle itself the chief things to be seen are the *hall*, with a portrait of Cromwell by *Vandyck*, and a picture of Sir John Luttrell (temp. Henry VIII.) saving the lady of his love from drowning; the *great staircase*, with its curious carving and polished steps; Charles II.'s room; and the ancient pictures on leather, painted in imitation of tapestry—the subject Antony and Cleopatra. Among some stuffed specimens of birds in the castle are a white rook, and a blackbird spotted grey as by age. On the lawn there is an excellent echo, which will 3 times repeat the blast of a bugle horn.

The *park* affords scope for an extensive ramble. It occupies one of the rough hills here descending in numberless knolls to the lower country. This, with good taste, has been allowed to remain as nature formed it, innocent of hedges. Its sides are seamed by dingles and glens, and in these grow irregular woods of oak, which scatter as they ascend the heights. Nearer the castle screens of timber are hung as it were upon the lower eminences. A walk to the old Roman camp on *Gallows Hill*, or further to *Batt's Castle*, on *Croydon Hill*, should be an object with every one. The way lies through the *deer-park*, which is several miles in circumference, up a rugged hollow by the side of a brook. The view embraces the great offshoots of Exmoor, the Quantock Hills, and the coast both of Somerset and Wales. Grabhurst lies to the W. and S., the woods about Luxborough, and the dark ridge of Brendon, 1210 ft. above

the sea. On Croydon are several *hut circles* or remains of ancient British habitations.

Grabhurst Hill is a loftier but more accessible height for the study of this glorious landscape. It rises immediately from Dunster, to an elevation of 906 ft., the Tor and Conygar being the steps which lead up to it. From the turnpike on the Timberscombe road there is a path to the summit, where, seated on the heather, you may feast your eyes on the grand mass of Dunkery, the azure sea, and distant coast, or on the beautiful undulating lines of the park and adjoining hills. On the southern slope are remains of the terraces, on which stood the racks for drying the cloth, or "Dunsters," formerly made in this neighbourhood. The name Grabhurst signifies the entrenched wood. Deep on the S.W. side of this hill, about 3 m. from Dunster, is *Wootton Courtenay*, a village so named from the noble family who possessed it of old, and of interest for the beauty of its position and the carving of the capitals of the ch. The pillars separating nave and aisle are ornamented with sculptured figures of St. Christopher, St. Lawrence, &c.; the font also is very ancient, and the churchyard has its cross and venerable yew-tree. S. of Grabhurst lies *Timberscombe* (pronounced Immercombe) and its manorhouse of *Bickham*.

Conygar Hill, the far-seen landmark of Dunster, is another point of view for the consideration of the traveller. In itself it is a beautiful object—a pyramid of foliage, jutting into the marshes, and crowned by the picturesque shell of a tower. This was erected as a prospect-house by one of the Luttrells, and, occupying so prominent a position, is a well-known sea-mark. Conygar is supposed by Mr. Savage (in his 'History of Carhampton') to be derived from *cyning garas*, the king's house; but it is not an uncommon

name, and probably means no more than a rabbit-warren, the usual appendage of a country mansion in the olden time.

There is a pretty lane between Grabhurst and Conygar, leading from Dunster to Alcombe, where it joins the main road. At a cross road, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Dunster, is a fine roadside cross.

A beautiful drive can be taken from Dunster through Timberscombe, ascending the long hill behind the church to Couple Cross, and then passing by the lonely village and church of *Luxborough* (rt. *Chargot Lodge*, C. Lethbridge, Esq.), descend through a wooded valley of great beauty for some miles to Cleve Abbey and Washford, and so returning to Dunster, through Carhampton.

From Dunster to Dulverton, 14 m., is one of the most romantic drives in the country. The road passes through deep wooded valleys, and for some distance along the banks of the Exe; having reached the watershed at Wheddon Cross.

Leaving Dunster on our route, we descend the flank of Conygar, and, resuming the high road, soon open to view the ancient port of

28 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. **MINEHEAD**, commonly pronounced *Minyard* (*Inns*: Duke of Wellington; Feathers; Pop. 1582), seated under a bold promontory called *Greenaleigh*, 690 ft. high, the E. point of a wild range of hills extending along the coast to Porlock, one of the grandest features of the coast of the Bristol Channel. This town, which returned 2 Members of Parliament till it was disfranchised by the Reform Bill, consists of 3 detached parts, the *Upper Town* on the hill, the *Lower Town*, and the *Quay Town*, the last $\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant from the inn by an elm-shaded road along the shore. Minehead in times past had a considerable trade, particularly in the export of woollen goods and of herrings to the Mediterranean, of

which as many as 4000 barrels were shipped annually before the herrings left this part of the coast. From the former it derived its arms, a ship under sail and a woolpack. The Quay was built by Geo. Luttrell, 1616. Minehead was a favourite landing-place from Ireland 200 years ago. At the present day it is of no mercantile consequence, but a pleasant and cheap little watering-place, the neighbourhood being beautiful beyond measure, and the climate mild, in proof of which the tender myrtle, geranium, and fuchsia live here unsheltered through the winter months, and flourish in great luxuriance. There are good sands and a shingle beach, and small bathing-machines for ladies.

The "sight-seeing" of the traveller is here chiefly confined to a visit to the quay, and to a point of view on the brow of Greenaleigh.

The *Ch.*, in the Upper Town, possesses some remarkable features, and derives a certain amount of attractiveness from its striking position. It is dedicated to St. Michael, whose image appears in a niche on the E. side of the tower. Another niche on the S. side enshrines a representation of the 2 first Persons of the Trinity. Within it is very wide, and has no chancel arch. It contains a monument, said to be of Bracton, the famous lawyer, but of much later date, and evidently that of a priest. It has been much mutilated, and the chalice in the hands of the figure is broken. It must have been a very handsome tomb. Some years ago it was opened, and a skeleton found in it, the skull of which had 2 rows of upper teeth, one within the other. The Communion Table is richly carved. The font is old and curious, and in the churchyard is an ancient stone *cross* on steps. The magnificent rood-loft still remains, and is used as a seat for men and boys, the ascent to it being by the original stone staircase, which is well

designed. There is a *Statue* of Queen Anne, in alabaster, presented to Minehead by Sir Jacob Banks, 1719, M.P. for this borough for 16 years.

The *Feathers Inn* is an old house, with an antique fireplace.

There are many old houses at Minehead, several of which have round chimneys, like those in the neighbourhood of Tenby, and it is somewhat curious that both at Tenby and at Minehead there is a street bearing the singular name of Frog Street. The ancient houses and cottages at Minehead and the adjacent villages are remarkable for the massiveness of the woodwork in which the outer doors are fixed, and especially of the top piece, the lower edge of which is usually hewn out into an obtuse angle.

Minehead contains a row of 11 small almshouses erected by Robert Quirck in 1630, as is testified by a curious inscription on a brass plate placed upon the front of the centre house. Near to these almshouses is the shaft of an ancient cross.

There is a beautiful view from the churchyard hill, called North Hill. The easiest path is by the E. of the church. Advancing from the top of the hill over the turf and through a gate, you come suddenly on the edge of a precipice, with the sea 300 ft. below. The quay, pier, bay, and warren spread out like a map. The path descending on the l. joins the Greenaleigh Road.

If the level top of the hill is pursued, at $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. a pretty combe runs down on the l. to the hamlet of Woodcombe, whence you may return to Minehead along the valley. But if you follow the road on the hill, you come to East Myne Farm, where a rough descending path on the rt. branches off to *Grixy*, a most romantic gorge leading down to the sea. A good scramble is here necessary, but the trouble is well repaid, and, if care is taken, you can follow one of the sheep-tracks on the precipitous

side of the hill, and so return to Greenaleigh Farm, passing in a pretty glen, called *Bergundy* (see *post*). Greenaleigh Farm is deprived of the sun's rays 3 months in the year by the shadow of the hill. Here is a room for visitors and picnic parties. It is a pleasant walk of 1 m. back to the quay.

Excursions may be made to Porlock, Culbone, Dunster, Blue Anchor, and the ruins of Cleve Abbey. In Watchet Bay, E. of Minehead, abundant remains of a fossil forest are exposed in low spring-tides.

Proceeding again on his route, the traveller will find the drive from Minehead to Porlock one of the most beautiful in all Somersetshire. On each side of the road rise hills of varied outline, wildly decked with heaths and ferns, and other plants peculiar to such highlands; whilst the rugged valley charms by its abundant woods, delightfully grouped over broken ground, and mingled with cornfields. Cottages and homesteads here and there peep through the trees with a gabled roof or latticed window, and the hedgerows glitter with the scarlet berries of the holly, which abounds throughout the district.

30 m. rt. under *North Hill* lies *Bratton Court*, the birthplace of *Henry de Bracton*, a judge in the reign of Henry III., but chiefly distinguished by his treatise on the Common Law of England. The house is an old timbered quadrangular mansion, now ruthlessly modernised; but the "Judge's chamber," traditionally said to have been Bracton's study, is still pointed out over the gateway. In a small and secluded glen on the coast, at or about the point nearest to Bratton Court, may be seen the foundations of what was probably an ancient hermitage, and which now bear the local name of "*Bergundy Chapel*." Access to these ruins may be had through Greenaleigh Farm,

which is a favourite walk from the town of Minehead. 1. *Heyden Down*, a continuation of *Grabhurst*, from which a view may be obtained of Minehead on the one side, and of Porlock on the other.

32½ m. *Holnicote*, a hamlet of pretty creeper-bound cottages, deriving its name from *holegn* or *holen*, Anglo-Saxon for the holly. 1. the park of *Holnicote* (Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart.), of which the mansion was burnt in 1799. Its timbered slopes are seen in combination with the huge side of *Dunkery*, and a middle distance of hollow, wooded glens. rt. ½ m. at the entrance of a deep nook among the hills lies the little village of *Selworthy*, a fitting subject for the pencil. A stream flows through it on a rocky bed; and above it, on the western hill, are the remains of an ancient camp called *Bury Castle*. *Selworthy* churchyard, in which stands a fine cross, commands an unrivalled view of *Dunkery* and the valley between. The *Ch.* has good clustered pillars, a singularly ornamented roof, and a curious manor pew over the S. door. An ancient building with mediæval windows may be noticed on the way up the hill to the church. In the hamlet of *Tivington* or *Blacksford* in this parish is an ancient chapel, and priest's-house annexed, used as a dame's school. The view of *Porlock Bay* from the door of the chapel is fine.

On the l. is the pretty village of *Lucombe*, through which flows a stream which rises at *Dunkery*. The *Ch.* is a handsome building, and contains an ancient stone altar in the belfry, and several interesting monuments of the *Byam* family, including one of the Rev. H. Byam, D.D., who was born in this parish, and was afterwards rector of it. He was an ardent follower and faithful friend of Charles I., and assisted in raising troops in his favour, in which 4 of his sons were captains. He suffered

not only the loss of all he possessed, but his wife and daughter, attempting to escape from their persecutors, were drowned in their passage to Wales. He himself attended Prince Charles as chaplain to the Island of Scilly, and thence to Jersey, and lived to see the restoration of the Royal family. Opposite the ch. is a cottage with a curious ancient window, which should be examined from the inside.

From *Holnicote*, passing *Brandy Street*, another hamlet, embowered by the rose and woodbine, the traveller descends into the vale of *Porlock*, and soon crosses a mountain stream, the *Horner*, which flows from *Dunkery* by a romantic valley. A ramble up this beautiful valley should by all means be taken. It is full of romantic scenery. A whole day may be well spent amidst its streams and woods. A pathway to the rt. beyond the meeting of the 2 streams at the end of the valley winds up to *Stoke Pero*, with its curious little ch. and few scattered cottages.

34 m. *Porlock (Inn: Ship)*. Here we have reached a charming little village, where we may well be content to hide a time at the inn, a humble but hospitable house, its entrance garnished with the antlers of the red deer. It has entertained among its guests the poet Southey, who here,

"By the unwelcome summer rain confined,"
composed a sonnet by the alehouse fire.

"Porlock! thy verdant vale, so fair to sight,
Thy lofty hills which fern and furze
brown,
Thy waters that roll musically down
Thy woody glens, the traveller with
delight
Recalls to memory."

Porlock, the "enclosed port," its Anglo-Saxon signification, stands in a fertile vale about 1 m. from the sea, in an amphitheatre of hills, formed by the dark masses of Er

moor. It is a picturesque village ; its thatched cottages clothed with roses and myrtles, and washed by the rapid waters of a stream which issues from a gorge in Dunkery. In Saxon times it had a chase, and was considered a town of some importance, and on more than one occasion it was selected by the Danes for their piratical inroads. It was the scene of a more serious attack, when Harold and his brother Leofwine, on their return from their banishment in Ireland, landed here with nine ships and formed a camp. Though they came as deliverers, their enterprise was looked on with suspicion by the men of Devon and Somerset, who met them in arms. After a severe conflict, in which "more than 30 good thanes and much other folks were slain, the exiles had the victory. Harold carried off goods, cattle, and men, and sailed off round the Land's End to meet Earl Godwin, his father." The remains of their camp are shown S. of the ch.

Porlock gives name to a breed of small sheep, whose pretty horned heads would charm the eye of a Cooper, as they are seen amongst the heather on the hills. Their mutton is delicious, but they are hard to keep, as they leap over every barrier.

The *Church* of St. Dubritius, an old weather-worn building, with mutilated slate spire, possesses a grand monument of a knight and his lady, the knight represented "in complete armour, with a military belt and sword, and wearing a curious cap over his helmet, and a richly sculptured garland, composed of grapes and vine-leaves ; the lady in a close bodice, with a loose robe over it, and a kind of mitred head-dress, very richly ornamented in imitation of lace." Another monument, apparently of a crusader, is supposed to represent Sir Simon Fitz Roger, Knt., lord of the manor of Porlock in the

reign of Richard I. The churchyard contains the broken shaft of a cross, and a venerable yew-tree surrounded by a seat. A common country epitaph illustrates a peculiarity of the Somersetshire dialect:—

"As us am, so must you be,
Therefore prepare to follow we."

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant is the port or *Quay*, usually called Porlock Weir, where there is a small Inn (the *Anchor*) with excellent accommodation. The port is formed by a pier built across a considerable tract of land overflowed by tide between huge bank of pebbles and the base of the hill. The shore makes a deep curve, and is fringed by a barrier of pebbles between Porlock and Bossington, otherwise Orestone Point, 2 m.

[The *excursions* to be made from Porlock are to the summits of Dunkery Beacon and Bossington Hill; and to the romantic hamlet of Culbone by Ashley Combe. A person remaining here any time should also explore the glens under Exmoor, the courses of the Horner and other wild streams.

Dunkery Beacon, the most elevated point of Exmoor and of Somersetshire, rises at once from the vale of Porlock to a height of 1668 ft. above the sea, commanding a view which should be an object with every visitor to this neighbourhood. It is a dark brown moorland hill, "whose Celtic name has an appropriate sound among the remains of primæval times with which it is crowned."—*E. A. F.* Its heathery slopes, free of rocks, offer little impediment to its ascent, which may be accomplished riding, or even driving almost to the Beacon, in about $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Porlock, by the hamlet of *Horner*, or by the remote little village of *Stoke Pero*. On the summit are remains of the hearths in which beacon-fires were formerly kindled, and which might have spread an alarm from the heights of Ply-

mouth to those of the Malvern Hills in Worcestershire, for both these points, although nearly 150 m. apart, are visible from Dunkery on a clear day. The horizon of this noble prospect has been calculated as 500 m., and as including in its panorama no less than 15 counties. Its leading features are the highlands hence to Lynton, distant Dartmoor, the Quantock and Mendip hills, the Bristol Channel, and the long mountain ranges of Wales. By a walk across the moor you may descend from this airy perch upon Culbone or Ashley Combe, and so return to Porlock.

Bossington Beacon is the W. end of North Hill; the ridge, extending from Minehead, bounding Porlock Bay on the E. It is 801 ft. above the sea, and owes its exceeding beauty in great measure to the good taste of its worthy proprietor Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, who has planted it with irregular woods of fir, not marshalled into line by fences, but scattered over the hill with the genuine feeling of an artist. If pressed for time, the traveller may give the preference to Bossington over Dunkery, for the view from it is perhaps the more beautiful of the two. He should walk to it through *Bossington*, 1 m. distant. In this little hamlet are rare scenes for the painter—a swift stream, rude old cottages, an ancient walnut-tree, and as a background the hill-side with its patches of fern, purple gullies of stones, dark-green furze-patches and waving woods. Along the summit of the Beacon are numerous paths, here and there provided with seats, of which some are cut from the living rock, from which the visitor may enjoy at his leisure the marvellous beauty of the prospect. The entire sea-front of Exmoor lies in view to its termination at the Lynmouth Foreland—at one time of a dark blue, at another partially veiled by the light mists from the

ocean. Nearer at hand are the wooded glens below Dunkery, with a stream glittering in one of them; and above all the huge Beacon with its dark-brown sides. At the end of the hill, called *Orestone Point*, a craggy pathway descends to the beach, where the rocks are on a grand scale, and the strata curiously contorted. At the spot where you reach the shore there is a singularly-shaped cavern formed in a curved cliff of slate.

At *Lynch*, a little hamlet adjoining Bossington, is an old chapel with a good roof, used as a barn.

To *Culbone*, 3 m., a hamlet placed like a nest in a nook of the coast, the habitat of *Asplenium septentrionale*. From Porlock Quay the road to it is equally romantic—a horse path, now passable for carriages as far as Culbone, running midway along the steep slopes which descend to the sea, and throughout its course densely enveloped with coppice-wood. In 2 m. it reaches *Ashley Combe*, a summer residence of the Earl of Lovelace, perched as it were upon a narrow shelf, in full view of Porlock Bay and the Welsh coast. An opening, now closed to the public, used to admit you to a glen which is terminated by a most imposing amphitheatre chiselled in the moor-side by 5 streams which rattle down its heathery slopes. Another m. from Ashley Combe brings the traveller to Culbone, where a rivulet has scooped a hollow in the hill. Deep in this recess nestles the coy little hamlet, 3 rustic cottages, and a tiny Gothic church, "situated," says Warner, "in an extraordinary spot as man, in his whimsicality, ever fixed on for a place of worship." The little plain on which it stands is not above $\frac{1}{2}$ acre in extent: it is 400 ft. above the beach, and on either side hemmed in by dark wooded hills, which tower to a height of 1200 ft. A road ascends from it to the moor, by which, if willing to

prolong the excursion, you can return to Porlock.

From Porlock to Lynton the traveller has the choice of 2 roads, the high road over the moor, or the romantic horse-path which runs midway along the slopes of the coast from Porlock Quay to Countesbury, a village 2 m. short of Lynton. The latter passes by Culbone and Glenthorne, and in and out of many a pretty dingle, threading for the greater part of the distance a dense oak coppice. It is called a horse-path, but a rider must have good nerves for the journey.

From the quay we ascend *Porlock Hill* into the moor by a magnificent modern road, executed at private expense, by well engineered zigzags, after the fashion of an Alpine pass (the old road is as steep in places as a house-roof), and commanding a view which many travellers have considered the finest in the West of England. Having gained the summit we must bid adieu to cultivation, and prepare to face the winds of an unsheltered waste, on which for many a mile runs the road at an elevation of some 1100 ft. above the sea, commanding the breadth and length of the Bristol Channel, and the Welsh mountains beyond.

41 m. Here, on the dark moor, we reach the boundary of Devon and Somerset, a fence and a gate intended to keep the half-wild sheep and ponies in their respective counties. Rt., on the summit of a hill, is seen the camp of *Oldbarrow*, one of the most perfect in Devonshire, and far below it in a deep dell by the sea,

Glenthorne, the romantic residence of the Rev. Walter Halliday. By many a complicated zigzag a road descends to this charming retreat, where, some 50 ft. above the shore, we find a house and gardens embosomed in woods, which rise above them on the slopes to a height of 1100 ft. E. of the house a path and stream descend by a shadowy dingle

to the beach, and a labyrinth of walks track the hill-side among rocks and old oaks, many of the trees twisted in fanciful shapes, and one in particular forming an archway over the path. The house, which is occasionally shown to strangers, contains many curiosities—antiquities from Greece and Italy, a collection of armour, rare cabinets, and among some pictures the *Spectre Ship*, by *Severn*, in illustration of Coleridge's 'Ancient Mariner.' In the servants'-hall there is a fireplace which belonged to Cardinal Wolsey, and on *Palermo Point*, above the house, a group of marbles from Athens and Corinth.

44 m. *Countesbury*. 1. beyond this wild hamlet are the ramparts of an ancient camp commanding the ravine of *Waters' Meet*. The road now rapidly descends towards the gorge of *Lyndale*.

45½ m. *Lynmouth* (*Inn*: *Lyndale Hotel*), above which lies its sister town,

Lynton (*Inns*: *Castle Hotel*; *Valley of Rocks Hotel*; *Globe Inn*), far celebrated watering-places, which are fully described in the *Handbook for Devon and Cornwall*. It will be sufficient here to repeat the chief points of interest in this delightful neighbourhood, viz. :—

- 1 *Lyndale, Valley of Rocks, Lee Abbey, Lee Bay.*
- 2 *Valley of the W. Lyn.*
- 3 *Heddon's Mouth.*
- 4 *Simonsbath.*
- 5 *Brendon Valley.*
- 6 *Glenthorne; path along the Exmoor coast.*
- 7 *Porlock, Bossington Hill, Dunkery Beacon, Culbone.*

[Of these *Simonsbath* is the only one in Somersetshire which has not yet been described, and this may be included in a brief account of

Exmoor, which our route has now traversed from Porlock to Lynton. This highland district is still to a great extent uncultivated—a waste of dark hills and valleys, tracked

by lonely streams. It attains its greatest elevation on the E., where *Dunkery Beacon* rises 1668 ft. above the sea; but on the W. its hills are of little inferior height, *Chapman Barrows* being 1540 ft., and *Span Head* 1610 ft. On its borders it is pierced by deep wooded ravines, of which the traveller has a magnificent example in *Lyndale*. The central part of this region, about 20,000 acres, formed the ancient *Forest of Exmoor*, for which an Act of enclosure was obtained in 1815, when it was purchased by the late John Knight, Esq., of *Wolverley Hall*, *Worcestershire*, who proposed converting it to a less interesting but more profitable land of pasturage. With this object he encircled the whole forest with a ring-fence, and commenced building a castellated mansion at *Simonsbath*, but this he soon found reason to abandon, together with many of his projected improvements, for the speculation proved anything but a golden adventure. A considerable acreage has, however, been brought under cultivation, and this is now leased in separate farms by the proprietor of the forest, the principal drawbacks to success being the strong winds and chilly mists which prevail in so elevated a district. The soil is in general of a fair quality, although the hard sandstones below the surface, being little liable to decompose, are somewhat unfavourable to fertility. Extensive tracts, however, still remain both in the forest and surrounding highlands in a state of nature, delighting the eye by the grandeur of their unbroken outline, and the rich beauty of their colour; and here, over slopes of heather, interspersed with the dwarf-juniper, cranberry, and whortleberry, roams the "Exmoor pony," a breed of the native English horse, and the red forest-deer, which still makes its lair in the extensive covers on the moor-side. Since the year 1841 the farms were chiefly

under the management of Mr. Robert Smith, formerly the resident agent, and now the tenant of Mr. F. Knight, and under his superintendence upwards of 4000 acres have been let on lease, in addition to the land previously occupied. The water-meadows made by this gentleman are particularly worth the attention of those interested in agriculture. The farmer seemed at one time likely to be driven by the miner from his settlement on Exmoor. In 1851 a specimen of the white carbonate of iron was sent by Mr. R. Smith to the Great Exhibition. Its value suggested the expediency of a further search, and this led to the discovery of abundant iron-lodes, including the hæmatites and other ores hitherto supposed peculiar to Staffordshire and Wales. Large districts of the moor were in the hands of 3 of the principal iron companies in the kingdom, viz., the *Ulverstone* of Lancashire, and the *Dowlais* and *S. Wales*. But the speculation failed, and the mining operations have ceased. A new district ch., erected principally through the exertions of Mr. Knight, was consecrated 1856.

Simonsbath, the seat of F. Knight, Esq., may be visited from *Lynton*, or in a walk or drive across the moor from *Dulverton* to *Lynton*, the inducement to the trip being the romantic wildness of the scenery. The house is situated in the centre of the forest, on the *Barle*, a tributary to the *Exe*, 9 m. from *Lynton*. The traveller leaves that town by the grand defile of *Lyndale*, ascending into the moor from *Ilford Bridges*. Arrived in the upper region he will observe to the rt. the hills in which the *Exe* and *Barle* have their fountains, and in whose vicinity are the morasses called the *Black Pits* and *Mole's Chamber* (now cultivated), the last so named from an unfortunate farmer who was lost in it with his horse when hunting. He will proceed along a good and easy

road to the entrance of the forest at the *double gates*, across the road, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. beyond it, in a most desolate part of the moor, cross the headwaters of the Exe, here draining from a bog called the *Chains*. In another $\frac{1}{2}$ m. he will open to view the valley of the Barle, and begin the long descent upon Simonsbath, the ruinous wall and flanking towers commenced by Mr. Knight skirting the road on the l. Simonsbath he will find a most romantic spot—a solitary settlement in a moorland valley, encircled by some fine old trees, originally planted as shelter to a rough house of entertainment which formerly stood here. The place consists of Mr. Knight's unfinished mansion, now a picturesque ruin, a small house adjoining it, occupied occasionally as a residence by the present lord of Exmoor, a humble *inn*, and various outbuildings, including the shop of a blacksmith, the yard of a carpenter, and the store of a general dealer. In front the ground slopes to the Barle, whose foaming waters may be traced for some distance, glittering in a vista formed by wild heathy hills; and in the bed of this stream lies the original *Simon's Bath*, a deep pool, in which, according to the legend, a noted outlaw, once the terror of these moors, was accustomed to disport himself. From this central point Mr. Knight, at great expense, cut roads across the forest, E. to Red Deer, 2 m., and Exford 5 m., S. to South Molton 11 m., W. to Challacombe 6 m., and to Lynton 9 m. By ascending for a short distance the hill towards Red Deer, you may gain a fine view of the dark walls of the ruin, which are seen from it to advantage rising among the trees.

The pedestrian—who will find his reward in longer excursions over the wild country of Exmoor—may be advised of the following walk, which is recommended in Mrs. Chantler's charming little volume 'Ferry

Combes' (1856). To *Simonsbath*, and thence down the Barle to Landacre Bridge and *Withypool Inn*: Royal Oak); and further down the stream (about 5 m.), between hills wild and bare on the one side, beautifully wooded on the other, to *Torr Steps*, an ancient British bridge formed of huge blocks of stone, fixed as piers and pathway, where the view up the stream is very beautiful. Then across the hill to *Winsford* (a very good *inn*); and by a lane, just wide enough for a carriage, to *Exford*, where there is a small *inn* much frequented by fly-fishers: whence there is a road over *Lucott Hill* to the top of Porlock Hill.

ROUTE 30.

TAUNTON TO DULVERTON, BY MILVERTON, WIVELISCOMBE, AND BAMPTON.

Taunton (Rte. 19). For the first 5 m. this road runs in the vicinity of the river Tone and its tributaries. It passes through a superb country between Milverton and the border of Devonshire, and again between Bampton and Dulverton.

$8\frac{1}{2}$ m. MILVERTON (*Inn*: *White Hart*; Pop. 1895), a small but ancient market town in a deep combe or dell; the *Ch.*, dedicated to St. Michael, on an eminence overlooking it. W. are high and steep hills, mostly cultivated to their summits. Milverton is a place of little note now, except for

beauty of position, but it had once a considerable business in the woollen trade. It was the birthplace of *Jahn de Milverton*, a vehement opponent of the doctrines of Wickliff, died 1480, and of *Dr. Thomas Young*, born 1773, who first established the undulatory theory of light, and penetrated the obscurity of the Egyptian Hieroglyphics.

Milverton Ch. is a very fine one, and has been admirably restored. It is Perp., but of a less ornate character than usual in the large churches of Somersetshire. The interior has a character of severe grandeur. The nave is very wide, and without clerestory; the arcades have large pointed arches upon octagonal pillars. The seats are all open and some of the original carved bench-ends retained, but others appear to be of cinquecento work. On one of the benches are carved the arms of Henry VIII., and amongst other rude devices is an "aspersorium" for sprinkling holy water, commonly taken for a pestle and mortar. The chancel is stalled, the sacarium laid with encaustic tiles and many of the windows filled with modern coloured glass. The font is Norm. The porch is unusually placed at the W. end of the S. aisle.

The old *market-cross* is a picturesque object; and the *churchyard* a fine point of view, commanding the Quantock Hills and the outliers of Exmoor. You will observe in it the rudely-sculptured base of a cross.

The archidiaconal residence near the church was built in the reign of Henry VIII. It has a door and door-case of solid oak, with iron work, worth notice.

Wellington Road, 4 m., is the nearest railway stat., and the lane to it one of the prettiest in the county, particularly where it passes through a rocky cutting by *Chipley Park*, 1½ m. from *Milverton*.

Proceeding towards *Wiveliscombe* we dive into a valley encompassed

by huge hills of various forms, one covered by a dense wood of firs.

2 m. rt. *Castle Hill*, the site of a Roman camp, the traces of which are now concealed by trees.

12¼ m. *WIVELISCOMBE*, commonly pronounced *Wilscombe* (*Inns*: Lion; Bell; Pop. 2735). This is a market town of some size in a remote situation among swelling hills, on one of which it hangs, with its feet in a valley. It derives its name from the Saxons, who, according to the tradition, built it when driven from the *Castle Hill* by the Danes, a hill once occupied by the Romans, whose coins have been found on it in great number. The manor afterwards became a royal domain, and was granted by Edward the Confessor to the cathedral of Wells, whose bishops had a palace here. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1829, still gives name to a prebend of Wells. There are remains of an ancient *cross* in the churchyard.

There are extensive slate quarries in the neighbourhood. Mr. Hancock's brewery is the largest in the W. of England. W. of the town rise the lofty heights of *Main Down* and *Heydon Down*, links in a chain of hills prolonged eastward from the great mass of Exmoor called *Molland Down*. To penetrate these hills and the deep valleys which intersect them, or to angle in their trout streams, are the attractions held out by *Wiveliscombe*. A view of the place may be obtained from the road to *Bampton*, and every visitor should see the first valley on that road, 3 m. distant.

The town stands on the junction line of the new red sandstone and Devonian, or old red, rocks, the latter comprising the district of *Exmoor*.

Proceeding on our route we climb a hill 1½ m. in length, and look down upon *Wiveliscombe* and the surrounding country, but they may be seen to yet greater perfection from the summit to the rt., together with

the Quantock and Blackdown ranges, Willet Tower on its distant mount, the vales and hills beyond Taunton, and directly to the N. the huge side of Main Down clothed with sombre fir woods.

From this height a long descent leads to the hamlet of

15½ m. *Waterwood*, situated deep in a combe by the rocky bed of the *Tone*, here closely shut in by soaring hills prettily broken by wooded spurs and hollows. An old bridge spanning the stream, a cottage full of timbers and angles, and a scarred slate rock on the hill-side, form a scene for a painter. Firs and others trees are thickly grouped over the dell, and adjacent is a noble valley down which the river flows from its source on Brendon.

On the left, in the parish of *Bathealton* (the *Ch.* of which was rebuilt in 1854), is a well defined British camp, called the "Castles." A very few years since the circular foss or ditch was unploughed and full of furze or trees, but now improved agricultural skill is destroying this interesting feature; from the camp are beautiful and extensive views, stretching from the Quantocks on the N. to the hills near Honiton to S., Hamdon Hill near Yeovil, as well as Mendip to the E., and over the vale of Taunton, &c. *Bathealton Court* is the seat of H. G. Moysey, Esq.

16½ m. The traveller here reaches the border of the county on a watershed, from which he gains a view forward of the hills about Bampton, rt. and l. are narrow lanes; the one leading to *Chipstable* in Somerset, the other to *Clayanger* in Devon. His onward course is somewhat lonely, by an open valley with pleasant heights to the rt.

20¼ m. *Shillingford*, and a bridge over the *Bathern*. Rt. a distant view of *Lower Timewell House*, Rev. R. Bere. From this bridge by a kind of defile we enter

21¼ m. *BAMPTON*, in Devonshire (*Inn*: White Horse. Pop. 1971), another hill-embedded town, pleasant quarters for the angler or artist. Here we come at one of the headwaters of the Exe, the *Bathern* or *Batham*. It has a place in the Saxon Chronicle as the scene of a furious fight between the Britons and West Saxons, under Cynegils and Cwichelm, A.D. 614: with this exception, it has few memories connected with it, save those of its 4 great fairs, which have been held in it annually from a distant time. These are for the sale of sheep and cattle, and Exmoor ponies; and take place in March, June, October, and November; that of October, the last Thursday of the month, being the largest.

Bampton had at one time a *castle*, the chief residence of the Norman Walter de Douai, from whom Bridgewater derives a part of its name. It stood on the fir-crowned knoll by the Wiveliscombe road, at the E. end of Castle Street.

The *Church* is a Dec. and Perp. building with carved roof and screen, and fragments of stained glass.

The things to be seen here are the views from the churchyard and quarries, the latter S. of the town, and the first mile of the Wiveliscombe road.

At a little distance are the most beautiful scenes—*Pixton Park*, *Dulverton*, the *ravines of Exmoor*, and *Haddon Down*, 1140 ft. high, often visited in the summer time by picnic parties.

The sportsman may have trout-fishing on the Exe and Barle, and stag and fox hunting on Exmoor, the hounds being kept either at Dulverton, or Lynton.

The nearest *railway stat.* is Tiverton, distant 7 m.

From this town our route strikes to the N. to re-enter Somersetshire. A long hill brings us in view of it, when we look upon a grassy basin,

and the vista of two rivers which enter it, the Barle and the Exe, which flow united in a swift and turbulent current by

22 m. *Exbridge (Inn: Blue Anchor)*, a hamlet much frequented by anglers, the Exe and the Barle being notable trout streams. You should bestow a glance upon the view from the bridge.

Our road next enters a very beautiful course—the valley of the Barle, one mass of foliage, through which run the road and river in company, the glittering surface of the water being seen between the trunks of the trees. These are the woods of *Pixton Park* (Earl of Carnarvon). On the opposite hill is a heronry.

24½ m. **DULVERTON** (*Inns: Red Lion; Lamb; White Hart; Pop. 1552*). Here we have reached the bourne of our journey, and may rest a while to contemplate the *cul de sac* into which we have penetrated. The town is seated in an amphitheatre of hills, wooded with large covers for the red deer. An impetuous torrent, the Barle, dashes past it under a bridge of 5 arches, and springing over rocky ledges is lost to view among the trees. To the N. stretches the lonely district of Exmoor, closing the approaches very completely on that side, and limiting the little trade and traffic of the place. To an artist or sportsman, Dulverton has many attractions. The scenery is beautiful; the trout fishing free to the public as far as the border of the forest; the stag and fox-hunting on Exmoor of a very exciting description. The deer are hunted every season, the hounds being kept either at Dulverton or Lynton; but they are by no means so numerous as they were some years ago, when they abounded in the covers near this town, and were frequently to be seen from the churchyard. Their antlers and skins will be observed in the inn.

The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1855, with the exception of the tower,

At Dulverton you should notice the views from the churchyard and bridge. You should walk down the path below the bridge, and explore the upward course of the river; and, above all, you should ascend to an open spot, called *Mount Sydenham*, in the wood above the *ch.* The prospect it commands is truly most magnificent. Towards the N. you will look up the valley of the Barle, a wild and solitary valley, where no road has yet penetrated beyond a certain point. Its sides are the wooded covers of the red deer; the heights above them naked heaths. You will command the windings of the river in long perspective for many miles. A short but delightful excursion is to *Higher Combe*, a hunting-box of Sir Thomas Acland's, and return by the Barle. This will give you some idea of the indescribable beauty of the moorland glens. You will gain views over the greater part of Devon and of Somerset, and descry the mountainous mass of Dartmoor on the distant horizon.

Those who are bound to Lynton may post to it from Dulverton over the forest, but they will find the road hilly, and in some parts bad. For a pedestrian or equestrian it is an interesting route; for a carriage the preferable one would be by the Dunster road, as far as *Timberscombe*, a drive of great beauty, passing the site of *Barlinch Abbey*, now an entire ruin, and then winding along upward through the wooded valley of the Exe. 6 m. on the rt. is the white tower of *Exton Ch.*, visible from the valley; and 1 m. on l. is Winsford, a pretty and secluded village, where there is an excellent inn, much patronized by anglers. Before reaching *Cutcombe*, the road ascends the ridge of hills, of which Dunkerry is the highest point. At Cutcombe is a small "public," called "Rest and be Thankful." From this spot Dunkerry can be reached with ease. From Timberscombe a cross road leads to

Porlock. The distance by the forest from Dulverton to Lynton is 23 m. (charged 26 post), an easy walk in a summer's day. *Red Deer* is the half-way house, and a good road runs from Red Deer to *Simonsbath* and Lynton. *Simonsbath* is a wild romantic spot, 2 m. from Red Deer and 9 m. from Lynton.

From the centre of Dulverton the huge fir-clad hill on the W. is a prominent object, rising high above the roofs. It is called *Part of Dobbs's*, in accordance with a whimsical nomenclature common in the town. Thus one house is called *Part of Kennaway's*, another the *Huntsman's House*.

Near Dulverton are *Combe*, an old mansion 1 m. S., *John Sydenham, Esq.*, and *Hollam House*, *Miss Brague*, just above the town. Dulverton is 17 m. from Dunster, a beautiful

drive: 15 m. from S. Molton, post; and rather more by an ancient track-way, which passes, 5 m. N.W., *Torr Steps*, a very wild but most charming spot, where a series of rude stones cross the *Barle*. There are iron-mines on Exmoor, and lead-mines near *Molland*, in the adjoining county. The principal landowners are the Earl of Carnarvon, and Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart., whose seat in Somerset is *Holnicote*, near *Minehead*; in Devon, *Killerton*, near *Exeter*. The hill above *Hollam* commands one of the finest views in the neighbourhood.

The *Church* of Dulverton has been recently restored. The town, says Fuller, was the birthplace of *Humphrey Sidenham* — “Silver-tongued Sidenham” — an eloquent preacher, who died 1650.

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MURRAY'S HANDBOOK ADVERTISER.

1869.

The best Advertising Medium for all who are desirous of attracting the attention of English and American Tourists in all parts of the world.

Annual Circulation, 15,000.

Advertisements must be received by the 20th April, and are inserted at the rate of £5 for a page and 50s. for half a page.

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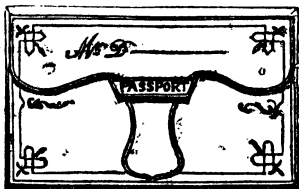
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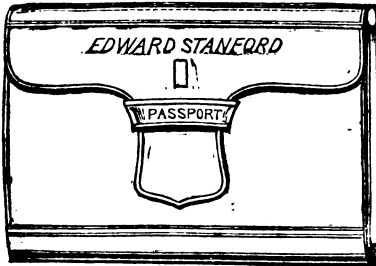
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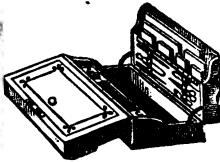
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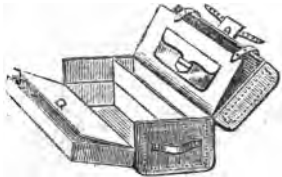
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LUCERNE.

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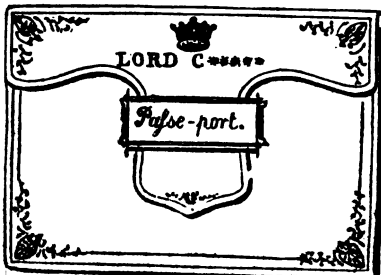
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