

NOTES

DISCOVERY OF EARLY POTTERY AT
TYRINGHAM

Whilst some excavations were being made in November, 1927, 100 yards from Tyringham House and 300 yards from the river, a large cinerary urn, much broken, and a small food vessel in perfect condition were found about two feet below the surface of the ground. The broken urn is being pieced together, and is dated by the British Museum as c. 1000 B.C.

LANTERN LECTURE

The lantern slides have been shown at Chartridge and at Brill since the last issue of the RECORDS. Supplemented by a few more slides they were also used to illustrate a series of three lectures specially written for a "higher education" class at Weston Turville.

OBITUARY

The Society regrets to have lost by death two old members The Hon. CECIL FREMANTLE, of Radclive, and Major G. F. GREEN, of Chetwode.

Whilst this number of the RECORDS was in the Press a further loss was sustained in the person of Mr. WILLIAM CROUCH, who had held a position on the Council for many years, and was a regular attendant at meetings until prevented by failing health. Mr. Crouch was interested in all the Society's activities, but his knowledge was particularly useful in the case of the 17th century Trade Tokens of the County. On this subject he wrote a valuable paper (with illustrations) in the tenth volume of the RECORDS, and, by his will, has generously left to the Society his important collection of tokens, together with other objects; it is hoped to give a more full account of these in the next issue of the RECORDS. Mr. Crouch's long tenure of office as Clerk of the Peace and Clerk to the County Council brought him into contact with many records, and from them he compiled a list of Lord Lieutenants and Chairmen of Quarter Sessions, which is incomplete, but it is hoped to finish and publish it at a later date.

NOTICES OF BOOKS

VICTORIA HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM
VOL.IV

The St. Catherine Press, 3 guineas

This volume completes the topographical survey of the county, and comes twenty-two years after the appearance of the first volume. Like the third volume, it was completed in 1915, and is therefore not strictly up to date. This may be of small consequence in a history which stretches back into the twilight of fable, but it is curious to notice that the parish of Caversfield, which was transferred to Oxfordshire in 1844, is included, as well as the parish of Lillingstone Lovell, which was only transferred from Oxfordshire in that year.

Besides the parochial histories the most important part of this volume is the final chapter on " Political History," by our honoured member and contributor, the Rev. F. W. Ragg. This forms an admirable summary of the events which have acted or re-acted upon our county from the days when defence against the Danes caused Buckingham to be chosen (just as St. Albans was in the case of Hertfordshire) for the chief point of assembly in preference to Aylesbury, which was obviously more central. In dealing with the Civil War Mr. Ragg makes the point of showing how many of our Worthies played important parts in that unhappy event, citing Hampden, Bulstrode Whitelocke, Miles Hobart, Sir Edward Coke, Sir Peter Temple, Ralph Verney, and Sir John Fortescue. Whoever assimilates this chapter, and our President's splendid address at our Jubilee (printed in volume IX of the RECORDS), will gain a good grasp of the political history of our county.

BETWEEN THAMES AND CHILTERN

By E. S. ROSCOE. Faber and Gwyer, 5s.

This represents the third edition of essays which appeared first in 1891 as *Buckinghamshire Sketches*, and again in 1907 as *Penn's Country*, with certain essays

added or removed. To combine charm with accuracy is not always easy, but Mr. Roscoe knows the secret, and the result is as pleasant to read as his volume in the *Little Guides* series is useful to the explorer of our county. Placing the present volume by the side of the 1891 volume one misses the drawings which added much interest to the original book, the illustrations in the present one being quite unworthy of such a graceful text.

ENGLISH ARCHITECTURE IN A COUNTRY VILLAGE

By ARTHUR H. PLAISTED Longmans, 3/6

This dainty little book by one of our members, the Vicar of Medmenham, must be owned by all who have his well-executed *Manor and Parish of Medmenham*, which was reviewed in Vol. XI of the RECORDS. In this little volume the letter-press is merely a brief *resumé*, and the value of the book lies in the very delicate drawings by Lewis Thomson, which are illustrations of an extremely high order. Each plate has "flimsies" on which is a brief abstract of the essentials depicted in the drawing. Altogether it forms a model of the way in which such things should be done.

ON CHILTERN SLOPES: THE STORY OF HAMBLEDEN

By A. H. STANTON Blackwell: Oxford, 5s.

These unpretentious notes by a former rector of Hambleden form an addition to our parochial histories. Nearly one-third of the book is concerned with the rectors, particularly the two Ridleys, whose lives covered the greater part of the nineteenth century; but the D'Oyleys have a chapter to themselves, and the notable laymen of the parish are not omitted. Mr. Stanton would not claim to be an archaeologist, and we must not complain, therefore, if his treatment of the wonderful Roman villa discovered at Yewden is distinctly perfunctory. Apart from modern history of the parish there is indeed no evidence of original work in such records or documents as contain the actual story of any place.

ACQUISITIONS, 1927

Tokens.

17th CENTURY TRADE TOKENS—

Name.	Place.	Donor.
Thos. Cole	Stewkley	Mr. T. C. Foster
Rd. Butler	Aylesbury	Mr. W. J. North
Geo. Drury	Tingewick	Mr. C. N. White
Jos. Freer	Aylesbury	Mr. T. Niblett
John Bavin	Swanbourne	Miss Walter
Wm. Welch	Aylesbury	Mr. C. Daniels

(The last-named has not previously been recorded; it was found in a garden in Aylesbury, and was apparently issued by Wm. Welch, who married Jone Michael in 1654. It bears their initials, W. I. W., and declares that they were tallow-chandlers.)

Miscellaneous.

PERFORATED STONE AXE, Early Bronze Age,
found at Prestwood (Mr. C. O. Skilbeck).

POLISHED DITTO, neolithic, near Aylesbury (Mr. J. Millburn).

PICK, large, palæolithic, at Bourne End (Miss G. Crabbe).
IRON SPEAR-HEAD, ? early Iron Age; DITTO, Viking period; SCARAMAX, ditto bridge on Bicester Road, Aylesbury, near Haydon Hill (Bucks County Council).

DAGGER, late 16th century, Rawlings Farm, Seer Green (Mr. C. H. Watson).

PORTION OF RAPIER-BLADE, 16th century,
Wooburn and Loudwater (Boys of Wooburn Council
School)

EGYPTIAN BRONZE FIGURES OF ISIS AND HORUS,
A CAT, IBIS-HEAD. &c. (Lady Smyth).

PEWTER FEEDING-CUP AND, WOODEN TRENCHER,
Whitchurch (Miss E. Wilson).

FLOWER POTS, made at Brill, c. 1850 (Mr. J. Welford).

Birds.

PEREGRINE FALCON ♂, Haddenham (Mr. F. J. Palmer).
MANX SHEARWATER ♀, Bradenham (Mr. Stratfold
Read).

(This is the first recorded instance of the last-named
bird in Bucks.)

Fossil.

RARE FORM OF CRENDONITES COREI Buckingham
Road, Aylesbury (Miss H. Jackson).

Library.

MS. DIARY OF DANIEL BAKER OF PENN, 1690-1705
(Miss M. Grenfell).

A LARGE NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS RELATING TO
THE COUNTY, including Papist oath rolls, Estreat rolls,
Poll lists, etc. (Col. G. R. Crouch).

ANNUAL EXCURSION

The annual excursion took place on 5th July, 1927, in somewhat unpropitious weather, which had the effect of reducing the attendance in comparison with recent years, but more than 50 members were present. Amongst them were Major Disraeli, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Macdonald, Sir Charles Wilson, Dr. E. Corner, Mr. E. Bridges, Key, E. Bale, Col. Wyness, Mrs. Ross-Todd, and the Rev. Bruce Dickson.

The first place visited was the Manor House at Marsh Gibbon, and the history of that manor from the middle 15th century was briefly explained; in 1447 it was confirmed as part of the endowment of Ewelme Almshouses, founded by William De La Pole, Earl of Suffolk, this, since the time of Charles I., has been granted as augmentation of the stipend of the Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford. The manor has been leased to various people, and during the 18th century it passed through the Busbys and Barkers to Alexander Croke, whose hatchment is preserved in the hall. The existing house dates entirely from the late 16th century, though the two exterior gables of the four which form the east front are 17th century alterations; they retain moulded barge-boards and the remains of pendants in their apices. The second gable from the north shows the original wall and serves; as the exterior wall of one of the staircases; an original bay-window remains there. The next gable contains the porch, and the moulded door-frame, door, and its massive iron "furniture" all belong to c. 1560; so does the wide stone fireplace in the hall. The visitors admired this, and examined the two staircases; the main one is original as far as the first floor, and of early 17th century above; the other staircase, which has similar turned balusters and moulded handrail, differs only in the terminals of the newel-posts, which are bell-shaped, instead of being acorns; this second staircase is of the early 17th century. Time did not allow the visitors to go all over the house, but they saw sufficient workmanship of the 17th and 18th century, including some excellent panelling, to form a good idea of the great deal of interest which is contained in this fine house.

From Marsh Gibbon, the party went to Twyford Church, which they entered through the noble doorway of the 12th century, which was re-set when the south aisle was enlarged; re-used stones of the same date were noticed in the jambs of the chancel-arch. The south aisle and arcade date from 1260; the chancel was lengthened or re-built c. 1280, and the north aisle and arcade added at that time. The west tower is about 40 years later, and the aisles were lengthened to enclose it; windows were altered in the 14th century and the clearstorey added early in the 15th century, when the nave was re-roofed. This roof, with its wonderful mouldings, cusped struts and traceried spandrels in the braces, aroused much admiration. The 15th century benches are remarkably numerous; and, amongst the monuments are the effigy of a knight c. 1230, and a brass of the 14th century turned over and used as a palimpsest by the Giffards in the 16th century, and another brass to John Everdon, rector in 1413. The Vicar, the Rev. C. L. Ridgway, was present, and kindly spoke about the remarkable recess in the south aisle, which, in his opinion, marked the site of a heart-burial.

After leaving Twyford members went to Buckingham, lunching at the "White Hart," and after lunch they visited Maids-moreton Church, which is extraordinary as being the least "restored" Church in the county, and having been built at one time (mid-15th century) by the two maiden daughters of the last Thomas Pever (died 1429), it has all the impressiveness of uniform treatment. Details noticed were the embattled canopy over the west door, unfortunately in need of strengthening, and the re-markable recesses on each side of the tower, with elaborately pierced septfoil cusping, and divided into two parts by V-shaped buttresses. Inside the roofs of nave and chancel, with their carved bosses, the rood-screen and the communion table (dated 1623) were noticed. The Rector was unfortunately unable to be present, and therefore the very interesting registers could not be seen, with their notes by the Rev. Matthew Bate, an ardent Royalist, who had seen his father, the former rector, sink "heart-broken with the insolences of the rebels against the Church and King" in 1643.

From Maidsmoreton the party went to Hillesden Church, and the beauty of that perfectly proportioned building roused, as it always must, the highest admiration. Built by the Abbey of Notley in 1493, it was completed just prior to the Dissolution, and the detail in masonry, the carved angels which form the cornice in the chancel, the rood-screen, the famous St. Nicholas window, are all in the front rank of Perpendicular work. It was pointed out that the western walls of the two short transepts were thicker than the other walls, suggesting that they formed part of an early cruciform church, probably of the 12th or 13th century which existed on the site. The west tower alone is of c. 1450, all the rest is about 50 years later; though the churchyard cross is of the 14th century.

After leaving Hillesden the party returned to Buckingham and went to the Prebendal Manor House, which is on the north side of the old churchyard. Here they were hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Markham Temple, and Mr. Temple very kindly explained the admirable work he has done in removing plaster and revealing many details of the 15th and 16th century. Attention was first drawn to the famous twisted chimney of c. 1530, and the way in which it was added to the earlier house to provide a vent for a hearth in an upper room was explained. In the hall a doorway with foliated spandrels in the head was seen, and this led the way to the drawing room, where a wide stone fire-place made of clunch was discovered recently. This is decorated with elaborate mouldings of several orders, and bears shields on which are carved three gem-rings; these were the armorial bearings of Dr. Richard Lavender, who held the Prebend of Buckingham from 1481 to 1508; this very clearly dates the fireplace as of c. 1500, and, speaking generally, it appears that the house consisted of a large hall, with kitchen, butlery, etc., at the east end, and the solar at the west end. After examining many details of moulded ceiling beams, chamfered joists, and other interesting details of domestic architecture, the party adjourned to the upper terrace of the garden where tea was served, and, the weather having improved, it formed a delightful close to a pleasant day.

(From *Bucks Herald*, 9th July, 1927.)