

ANCIENT ARMOUR.

In the old Mansion of E Thorpe, the seat of the Dormer Family, was a room called the Armory, which was hung round with specimens of ancient armour and weapons. When the house was pulled down in 1810, the contents of the armory were sold by auction, but probably were chiefly purchased by inhabitants of the County. The old Manor House at Chenies, long the residence of the Russell family, had also a room appropriated to the same purpose, but what has become of the specimens it contained is not known. Portions of armour are also often found in Churches. Thus at the present time, it is believed, there are two or three helmets in the Church at Clifton Keynes; a breast-plate of the 17th century in the Church at Drayton Beauchamp; and in the Church at Chalfont St. Peter's, "a copper helmet is deposited in a cupboard under the gallery staircase, which prior to the *beautifying* the Church in 1822, was suspended on an iron bracket with a bit of rag as it then looked."* The sword of Sir Marmaduke Darel is still preserved in the Church at Fulmer, which was built by him in 1610; and doubtless there are various specimens in many other Churches.

A complete List of such specimens of Armour, still existing in the County, would be a most useful document to many Members of our Society, and such a list might easily be prepared if each Member, who knows of the existence of any, would send a description of it to any of the Secretaries.

W. H. K.

* NOTES AND QUERIES, May 18th, 1850.