# The Proceedings of the Bucks Architectural and Archæological Society,

## FOR THE YEAR 1900.

## ANNUAL EXCURSION.

The annual excursion in connection with this Society took place on the 21st August, 1900. The members and friends, numbering about sixty, from various parts of the county, proceeded by train to Bourne End, where they assembled in time to embark on board the steam launch, "Empress of India." The weather was delightful, and the journey up the river was very pleasant and much enjoyed by all present: thirty years since the Society made a similar trip. Among those who joined the party were the Ven. the Archdeacon of Buckingham, Mr. J. Parker (one of the hon, secs.), Mr. J. Williams (organising secretary), the Rev. R. Bruce Dickson, the Rev. Dr. Yule, the Rev. F. C. J. Long, Messrs, Lasenby Liberty, R. Bentley, J. Thomas, G. Weller, D. Clarke, J. Rutland, C. W. Raffety, T. Thurlow, J. T. Harrison, and a large number of ladies.

The first stopping place was Great Marlow. The party disembarked at the bottom of St. Peter's Street, and made their way round to the Parish Church. On arriving there they took their places upon the seats at the west end of the nave, and Mr. John Parker gave them some account of the church. He had hoped that Mr. Cocks would have been present; but in his absence he read a few portions of Mr. Cocks' paper upon the old church, which appeared in the "Records." ("The Parish Church of All Saints, Great Marlow," vol. VI., p. 326, et seq.)

Marlow," vol. V1., p. 325, et seq.) On concluding the reading of the extracts from the paper, Mr. Parker said he had received a letter from Mr. Cocks, in which he remarked: "The church (alluding to the present building) contains nothing old except a few monuments. Of these the most interesting is the first one sees on entering the W. door—that of Sir Miles Hobart. Then the Horsepoole monument, showing the arms of Washington on the N. side of the W. wall, and in the vestry the Willoughby monument. The Ogee window in the chancel, the westernmost one of the north side, is in the same position as a similar one in the old church. Of some of the lost brasses I hope Mr. Stephenson will write in the 'Records.' We collected from time to time sundry pieces of stone and marble showing mouldings, belonging to the old church, and on leaving Thames Bank last May I offered them to the present churchwardens on condition that they should be embedded in the interior wall of the Narthex at the W. end; but they declined them, and they are now at "The Glade," Marlow, for fernery purposes, which is a pity. The height of the spire is just forty yards. The floor of High Wycombe Church is said to be about on a level with the top of the spire. I have obtained some rather interesting photographs from the top, whence Bourne End railway station is visible. The pulpit is by the late Mr. Street; the alterations of the original building and the new work are by Mr. J. O. Scott, F.S.A. All the coloured windows are by Burlison and Grylls, except the one over the S.E. door, which is by Shrigley and Hunt, of Lancaster. The E. window is to the memory of Bishop Milman, of Calcutta, formerly vicar of Great Marlow. One point in connection with the bells may be of interest to some who take an interest in campanology. The bolts used in barging them are the certilast examples of a screw-thread and nut which I have net with. They were made in 1719-20. I am not prepared to say that this date marks the invention of the screw-thread, but I shall be obliged by authentic instances of older examples. The screw-thread and nut take the place of a lock examples. and key."

and key." Mr. Parker remarked that the most interesting monument was on the west wall of the Narthex, or "vestibule." It is of alabaster, surmounted by pediment and frieze. "Under the latter," wrote Mr. Cocks, "on the dexter side, is the figure of a clergyman, with moustache and pointed beard, and habited in skull-cap, ruff, Geneva gown, who is drawing back a curtain with his left hand. On the sinister side is the figure of a lady, with coif, ruff, and long dress, rosettes on sleeves, also holding back a curtain. Placed on the base, so as to fill the space between the two figures, is the life-sized bust of Sir Miles Hobart. He is represented as a good-looking man, with long hair, moustache, and pointed beard, wearing a voluminous ruff and slashed doublet, a cloak thrown over the left shoulder. Below, between two elongated corbels of clunch, is a slab of alabaster, inscribed: inscribed:

Write not a daye, this spectacle thee charmes. Death from thy byrth, doth claspe thee in her arms. Youthful as he, thou mayst be, yet he's gonne. And thou must followe, no man knowes how soone. And thou must followe, no man knows now soo Learne this of hym, prepared thou be to dye, Then shalt thou lyve though through mortality. Sir Miles Hobart Kt. Obiit Julii 4, 1632.

Mors mihi vita.

Underneath, in alabaster, a cherub, with drapery background, Below, detached, a bas-relief in clunch showing the manner of Sir Below, detached, a bas-relief in cluthen showing the manner of Sir Miles's death, his four-horse coach running away down Holborn Hill, from dexter to sinister. The off hind wheel is represented broken, and the coachman gone, the horses galloping under no control. There are several interesting details, among which may be noticed that the wheeler's traces are hitched to the axles of the front wheels. At centre of pediment and frieze is an achievement on which Sir Miles's arms were evidently intended to be emblazoned; supported by hende at the cides with a cretered by human face aboving supported by hands at the sides, with a grotesque human face showing above the top. At each end of the pediment is a small shelf or bracket, that on the dexter side supporting a skull, and that on the sinister side an urn emitting flames (or which, from its nearly circular form, may be intended for a live bomb shell), all in alabaster. Circular form, may be intended for a live bomb shell), all in alabaster. In the old church this monument was in the Lady Chapel. Sir Miles Hobart, of Harleyford, in this parish, Knight, was M.P. for this borough in the third Parliament of Charles I., 1628; and towards the end of that year, or, according to modern reckoning, early in the following one, 'A set of resolutions, including the religious grievances, was drawn up, but on March 2, before it was formally adopted, the Speaker signified that he had received the King's order to adjourn It was clear that Charles was about to discolve the adjourn. It was clear that Charles was about to dissolve the Parliament before any vote had been carried, which would have been fatal to the cause of reform, and Sir Miles Hobart..... locked the door of the House and put the key in his pocket, while the King's messenger was knocking for entrance. The Speaker was

held down in his chair, and a stormy discussion ensued, resulting in the passing of the resolutions amid great excitement. As soon as the House was dissolved, Sir John Eliot and Sir Miles Hobart were imprisoned in the Tower, where the former died three years later, Sir Miles having been previously released. The Long Parliament (1640) voted a sum of money to his family, and erected this monument, said to be the first erected at the national expense; the cost of it is stated in 'The Life of Sir John Eliot' to have been £500. The present representative of the Hobart family is the Earl of Buckinghamshire."

The visitors, after inspecting the various objects of interest in the church, proceeded to re-embark, but on their way to the boat they stayed a short time to examine, by the kind permission of Mr. Morgan, a mediæval house at the top of St. Peter's Street, known as The Old Rectory, which was, until recent years, surrounded by old tithe barns, but their removal has helped to increase the extent of the garden belonging to the house, and also to improve the approach to the town from the railway station. The most of the old Rectory by Mr. R. S. Downs) is the old hall now used as a kitchen. It is a lofty, spacious apartment, retaining a good deal of its semi-ecclesiastical character. The upper portions of two flat-headed windows with late Decorated tracery remain, and the lower portion of the one on the north side, the one on the south being no doubt built up for the sake of greater privacy. The ogee tracery, cusped, of a transitional character, fixes the date of the building late in the 14th century, at about the same period as that in which the Parish Church was re-built. The roof is supported by massive timbers, but has been a great deal altered from its original condition, timbers, but has been a great deal altered from its original condition, as the apartment has been divided into two portions by the erection of a chimney and a kitchen range, which, though marring to some extent its general effect, does not altogether destroy its ancient aspect. A gallery runs round two sides of the room, forming a communication between the front and the back part of the house. Over the mantelpiece are displayed specimens of various kinds of weapons, while just outside in the passage is a man-trap. At the east end of the house is a curious old doorway with pointed head, The doors were at one time no doubt hung on the reverse side, and was formerly the outer side, and still retains the hood moulding, although there is an old bolt-hole on the same side, upon which the door is now hung. Another arch corresponding to this now forms part of the adjoining house known as the Deanery. A considerable portion of the edifice has been altered and much of it rebuilt, but enough of its ancient features remain to render it a most interesting relic of bygone days. The western portion of the building is comparatively modern-perhaps constructed about 200 years ago, and more recently still another room has been added.

Leaving this interesting residence, the party wended their way down the street and re-joined the boat, and steamed across to Bisham Church, and, having assembled in the Hoby Chapel, Mr. R. S. Downs gave a brief history of the church and some account of the brasses and the Hoby monuments. The paper contained much carefullyprepared information relating to this church, the tower of which has been attributed to the Saxon period. Its erection at a later date, however, is generally accepted. It is said to have been built by the Knight Templars in the reign of King Stephen (1185—1154). A church at Bisham is mentioned in Domesday, hence the conjecture of the tower being of Saxon work. Though Bisham is on the Berkshire border of the Thames, an extract or two from Mr. Downs's paper will be of interest. The references will be confined to (1) The Hoby window; (2) The brasses in the church; and (3) The Hoby monuments.

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## THE HOBY WINDOW.

The chancel communicates with the Hoby Chapel by two pointed arches, supported by circular pillars. At the east end of this aisle is the famous Hobye window, which is considered one of the finest is the famous Hobye window, which is considered one of the finest specimens of the kind in England. It contains the shield of the Hoby family, one of 38 quarterings. The window is square-headed, and of six lights, and the shields bear the following inscriptions, indicating the different persons in whose memory the window was erected:---"(I.) Laus Deo P. Animab. (II.) Philippi et Thomæ. (III.) Hoby Militum. (IV.) Elizabethæ Matris et. (V.) Margaritæ Uxoris. (VI.) Edwardi Hoby Militis, 1609." (The numerals show how the inscription is divided in the different lights of the window.) This window exhibits the art of enamelling on glass, now lost.

### THE BRASSES IN THE CHURCH.

The Brasses in the Church. Near the pulpit there are two inscriptions in Old English characters on brass—one with an accompanying figure in the costume of the period. Inscription: "Pray for the soules of Thomas Trekett, sometyme fiysshemonger of london, and Annes his wyf, the whiche Thomas decessed the xxv. day of July the year of the diverse of the Fishmongers' Company, and under them the coat of arms of the Fishmongers' Company, and under them the figures of their daughters. On the same slab there is also this inscription: "Here lyeth the bod'e of Cristo'r Gray and Willmott hys wyffe, which Cristo'r decessyd the xith of June, in the year of o' lord god mcccccxxv. And the said Willmott decessid the vth day of Septembre, the yer o' lord god mvdxxv, on who' soules Ihu have mey A'." This is all that now remains, but formerly there were effigies in brass of the above-mentioned Christopher and Wilmot and their ten children. Out of the woman's mouth there came a scroll bearing the words—" Parce peccatis nostris Domine." Beneath the inscrip-tion the figures of sons, speaking thus—" Omnes electi Dei nostri," and the figures of sons, speaking thus—" Omnes electi Dei nostri," and the figures is this inscription: "Here lieth the Bodyes of phate affixed to a gravestone are the figures of a man and his two wives, habited in the costumes of the time of Queen Elizabeth Below the figures is this inscription: "Here lieth the Bodyes of phan Brinckhurst, sometime Citizen and Mercer of London and marchant Adventurar, wth Elizabeth Blundell and Jane Woodford his two wives. The said John deceased the \_\_\_\_\_\_ The said deceased the \_\_\_\_\_. " (The spaces left for the dates of the elizabeth deceased the 22th of June, Ao. 1581, and the said Jane deceased the \_\_\_\_\_." (The spaces left for the dates of the elizabeth deceased the \_\_\_\_\_." (The space left have never been filled in the set on the set on the said will be the set of the elizabeth deceased the \_\_\_\_." (The space left for the dates of the elizabeth deceased the \_\_\_\_." (The space lef houses for six poor widows at Great Marlow.

## THE HOBY MONUMENTS.

On a mural tablet affixed to the wall beneath the Hoby window is the following:—" Near this place lieth the body of Sr. Philip Hoby, Bart., late Dean of Ardfert and Rector of St. Werburgs, in the kingdom of Ireland, the last male heir of a family long since numerous, descended from a long Race of Ancestors, some of whom were eminently distinguished by their respective Sovereigns for their Services to the Public (as the Annals of their Country Testifie), and whose neutring marits are recorded upon the currending Manu Services to the Public (as the Annals of their Country Testihe), and whose particular merits are recorded upon the surrounding Monu-ments. He dedicated himself early in Life to a Profession which necessarily took him off from the Pursuit of such Fame as is generally the Subject of the Historian's Panegyrick. But the Virtues of Social and Private Life which he cultivated with assiduity and success, gained him the Reward of the Love and Esteem of all whom he conversed with; and filled him with the Assured Expectation of more Ample and Eternal Reward hereafter. This Monument was erected by John Hoby, Esq., second son of the late Sr. Richard Mill, of Woolbeding, in the County of Sussex, Bart., as a small but grateful Memorial of the Friendship he Honoured him with Living, and the Partiality he showed to him at his Death when he Bequeathed to him Bisham Abbey in this Parish and the Estate thereunto belonging. He died the 29th day of June, 1766. Aged 50 years."

Near this tablet, and ranged along the south wall of this aisle, are the Hoby monuments. The first is a curious structure erected at the beginning of the 17th century. It is of marble, and consists of a square pedestal about a yard high, from which rises a pyramidal tumulus. At the angles on the top of the tumulus are four white swans, with expanded wings. At the apex is a stone presentment of a flaming heart. On the south side there is an inscription in Latin to the memory of Margaret Hoby, a daughter of Mary, sister of Anne Boleyn, and wife of Edward Hoby, Knt. On the north side is an inscription in English to the same lady, who died in 1605. On the west side is the word "Silentium;" on the east, "Fuimus."

The next monument is an altar tomb, upon which lie the effigies in full length, in white marble, of two knights in complete armour, their heads resting upon their helmets. Beneath the upper ledge of the monument is a long inscription to the memory of Sir Philip Hoby, who died at London in 1558, and Sir Thomas Hoby, who died at Paris in 1566. On the front of the monument there are some lengthy verses in English, and within an arch against the wall some in Latin. All these epitaphs were composed by Elizabeth, widow of Sir Thomas Hoby. Within the same arch are some more Latin verses to the memory of Sir Philip Hoby.

Westward of the former monument is another stately erection against the south wall, which, previous to 1841, was inclosed with iron spikes; but in November of that year they were removed. There is, however, a low railing still round it. This large monument is to the memory of Lady Elizabeth, widow of Sir Thomas Hoby, who, in the concluding verses of the Latin inscription on her husband's tomb, prayed for another like unto the said Thomas, and who was subsequently married to John, Lord Russell, second son of Francis, Earl of Bedford. She is chiefly associated in the popular mind of this district with having killed one of her children by beating it unmercifully and starving another to death. The central part of her ladyship's monument consists of a lofty canopy supported upon four pillars, under which is kneeling an effigy of the said lady, having a coronet upon her head belonging to the rank of a Viscountess. Before her, on the cushion, whereon she kneels, is laid the figure of an infant, and behind kneel her three daughters. Westward, without the arch, kneel two men in armour, Sir Philip Hoby and Lord John Russell, her two husbands. Eastward, and without the arch also, is the effigy of a lady wearing a robe lined with ermine and a coronet belonging to the rank of a Viscountess on her head. On a black marble tablet near the foot of the monument are two lines in Latin, and on another tablet by the side of the former this inscription is repeated in Greek. Upon a gravestone lying before Sir Thomas and Sir Philip Hoby's monument there is an inscription in Latin by their mother, Elizabeth Hoby, on the death of her two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne (who died within a few days of each other, February, 1570).

When Mr. Downs had concluded his description of the church, the Rev. R. Bruce Dickson read the following letter from Dr. Layton to Lord Cromwell, dated Bisham, June 22 [1536], who, as one of the Commissioners, was engaged in the suppression of the Monastery at Bisham :--

"Hit may please your Lordeshipe to be advertisede that we have taken th' assurance for the King. The Abbot is a veray simple man, the monkes of small lernyng and muche lesse discretion; playte

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veray little, householde stuffe none; but the Abbottes bede and one mattresse for two of his servants. I causede a bede to be borrowede in the towne and brought into the Abbey for Doctor Carne and myself; in the lewe of hangyngs, bare walles throwe oute the house; cattell none, but bowght this day an to morowe to the larder, saveying a fewe mylche kyne not 12 in numbere. In the garners not one bushell of whete, malte, or other grayne; vestimenttes small store, and not one good, for the Abbot hath made money of all the beste, and sold them at London; and evyn so the Church playte, and is so good a husbande that doubtless within one yere I juge verely he wolde have solde the house landes and all for white wyne sugar burage leves and seke (sack ?), whereof he sippes nyghtly in his chamber tyll mydnyght. Money to dispache the householde and monkes we must make of the rotten ropes and bells; all other thynges as well ketchyng stuff as other we shall leiffe. If thes two thynges wilnot amounte to the dispache of the householde then we must sell the kyne and the plowe oxen and horse. The Church we styr not, nor no part thereof. The whole of the grownde, barley with all kyndes of grayne the fayreste that ever I se, and great plenty thereoff, much meadowse and wode land also. At our comyng ye shall know the number of all the acars, and the valewe of the grayne, the goodlyeste demaynes that I have sene. Bycause hay herviste is now, we must retayne still all the carters and plowemen and to sett all thynges in order, and with expedition repaire unto your Lordeshipe. This day we dispache the monkes for they be much desierouse to be gone; for yesterday when we were makyng salle of the old vestimenttes within the Chapitre House then the monkes cryede a new marte in cloyster everie man bryngyng his cowle caste upon his nec, to be solde, and solde them in dede. Thus Christe continew you in honoure and long lyffe.

# " By your servante,

## "RICHD. LAYTON, Preste.

# " From Bissham, 22nd Junii.

## "To the Right Honourable and my singular goode Lorde the Lord Privey Seall."

Having spent some time in looking round this very beautiful and interesting spot, the party returned to the launch, and partook of luncheon, after which

## THE ANNUAL MEETING

was held in the spacious cabin, at which the Archdeacon of Buckingham presided. The first business was the election of officers. The Bishop of Oxford was re-elected president, the vicepresidents were re-elected, with the addition of Lord Boston, Mr. Lasenby Liberty, and Mr. A. H. Cocks; the committee was also re-appointed, to which were added Mr. R. S. Downs and Mr. W. Bradbrook, of Bletchley. The hon. secs. (Mr. J. Parker and Mr. A. H. Cocks), and the treasurer (Mr. J. Williams), were all reelected, and Messrs. Horwood and Wilkins were appointed auditors.

Mr. Parker said they ought not to pass on to the next business without placing on record their appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the Society by the late Rev. R. H. Pigott, and the loss they had sustained by his death. He proposed that a message of condolence be sent to Mrs. Pigott and family.—This was agreed to unanimously, and Mr. Parker undertook to forward it. Mr. J. Williams then presented the Treasurer's report and financial statement, from which it appeared that the Society had a balance in hand at the beginning of the year of  $\pounds 23:4:9$ , and subscriptions had been received, with a sum for the sale of "The Records," to the amount of  $\pounds 85:16:6$ . The expenditure was  $\pounds 78:10:5$  for printing; caretaker,  $\pounds 4:11:6$ ; rent,  $\pounds 6$ ; subscriptions to Congress of Archæological Societies,  $\pounds 3:11:3$ ; sundries,  $\pounds 1:11:8$ ; Treasurer,  $\pounds 9:4$ ; leaving a balance in favour of the Society of  $\pounds 5:12:5$ ; against which there was a sum of  $\pounds 75$  owing for printing for the year 1899. There are 20 life members, 161 annual and compounding members, a slight increase on former years, and 8 honorary members, making the total number of

Mr. J. Parker, in giving his report, said that they had some correspondence with Dr. Mensor, who approved of the appointment of a committee to take measures for the preservation of Stoke Mandeville Church, and the Rev. C. O. Phipps, Mr. Williams, and Mr. De Fraine were empowered to select names to serve on the committee. The present condition of the church demands immediate attention. He thought the parishioners had made a great mistake in deserting their old church, which was only half-a-mile from the centre of the village, and required nothing beyond a decent footpath across the meadow leading to it to render it easily accessible. There required a stronger authority than at present, or greater powers should be given to those in authority, for the preservation of our ancient churches. The tenor bell of Wingrave Church, circa 1450-60, with a beautiful initial cross and very handsome crowned capitals, had become cracked, but he was glad to say that owing to the action taken by the Secretaries of the Society it would not be melted down, as at one time seemed probable. He attended the Archæological Congress, at which several interesting discussions took place, among them being one upon the vexed question of Treasure Trove, introduced by Sir John Evans. The law upon this matter was in a very unsatisfactory position; if treasure was found which had been hidden for the purpose of preservation it was considered Treasure Trove, but if it had been lost or otherwise disposed of and afterwards found it was not Treasure Trove. Another subject discussed at the Congress was on place names. He thought it would be well if there was a more systematic study of place names and field names, for often in the course of only thirty years old names became forgotten, especially when a change of owner or occupier occurred. The papers in the fortheoming "Records" would include the Norman porches in Bucks, by Mr. C. E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A., of Aldermaston; the Wycombe Parish Register, by Mr. Downs; the Giffards (Part IL.), by Mr. Park

The following new members were elected :--Mrs. Oughton Giles, Radnage Farm House, Stokenchurch; the Rev. Dr. Yule, rector of Waddesdon; the Rev. G. L. Powles, Great Hampden; Mr. C. E. Keyser, Aldermaston; Mr. Francis Butcher, The Warren, Chesham Bois; Mr. Francis Roberts, Haddenham; Mr. Henry Saville, Stewkley; Mr. Henry Arrowsmith, Littlewick Lodge, Maidenhead; Mrs. Beckett, Boyne Bank, Maidenhead; Miss Stracey, Boyne Bank, Maidenhead; Mr. Haden Tebb, Priory Ford, Bourne End; Mr. J. T. Armstrong, Walters Ash, Hughenden.

A vote of thanks to the Archdeacon for presiding brought the meeting to a close, and a more was then made a little further up the river, and a landing effected for the purpose of visiting Bisham Abbey. The rooms which the members were privileged to inspect included the Great Hall, Drawing Room, Library, Queen Elizabeth's Council Chamber, the Tapestry Room, the Tower, and Cloisters. This visit was the most interesting and enjoyable one of the

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day's proceedings, as the Abbey is rich in treasures of art and historic associations. It was arranged that a paper upon the history of the Abbey should be read by Mr. Parker, but time would not permit of the original intention being carried out. The following is a copy of the notes made as a foundation for the remarks Mr. Parker intended to make on Bisham Abbey.

The manor of Bisham was granted to William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, in 1335 by Edward III., who, two years afterwards, procured royal licence to found a monastery, dedicated to our Saviour and the Blessed Virgin, for Canons Eegular of the Order of St. Austin, and endowed it with lands of £300 per annum. Many noble persons were here buried, among them Richard Neville, the great Earl of Warwick. All the monuments to these illustrious men were destroyed after the dissolution of the Abbey.

The Abbey was surrendered to the King in 1536. The next year he restored the Abbey, increasing its possessions with the lands of the Abbey of Chertsey, and Ankerwyke, Little Marlow, and Medmenham, and changed its establishment to an Abbot and 13 monks of the Benedictine Order. The general dissolution happened soon after, when its revenues were estimated at £661:14:9 per annum. The last Abbot, William Barlow, was made Bishop of St. Asaph, and afterwards was translated to St. David's, Bath and Wells, and Chichester. He had five daughters, who all married Bishops.

Edward VI. granted the site of Bisham Abbey to Ann of Cleves. She surrendered it to the Crown in 1552, and it was then given to Sir Philip Hoby, a zealous Protestant and Privy Councillor to Henry VIII. The property continued in the Hoby family till 1766. George Vansittart, Esq., purchased the Manor and Abbey of the widow of Sir John Hoby Mill, Bart, in 1780. Lysons says: "There are no remains of the conventual buildings except an ancient doorway, now the entrance to the house. A chapel was built to Bisham Church for the burial of Sir Thomas Hoby by his widow, on the south side of the chancel."

The following is an extract from Gasquet's "English Monasteries": On the 18th December, 1537, Henry VIII. united several monasteries in one foundation at Bisham. William Barlow, Bp. of St. David's the prior, had surrendered that house to the King in July, 1536. A year later the Abbey of Chertsey passed into the royal power by the act of the Abbot and monks, and six months after the Abbot, in consideration of John Cowdrey, the late Abbot and convent of Chertsey, having granted their monastery, etc., to the King, received a charter incorporating that house with a monastery the King desired to found at Bisham. It was to consist of an Abbot and thirteen Benedictine monks, who were to pray for the King and Queen Jane, and was to be called "King Henry VIII.'s new monastery of the Holy Trinity, Bisham." The King also granted Cowdrey his royal permission "to wear a mitre like any other Abbot of that Order with large possessions in England." The royal foundation, however, although endowed with lands to the value of nearly £700 a year, was very short lived, for on the 17th June, 1538, or just six months after its establishment, it was again resigned into the King's hands.

The following notes were sent to Mr. Parker from the Rev. T. Williams, rector of Aston Clinton: —

#### BISHAM.

Buried there of 'Squires of Aston Clinton :-

- 1. Will. de Montacute, Founder 1327. E. Salisbury 10 years after.
- 2. Will. de M., 2nd Earl, d. 1397 at Christ Church, Twyneham; buried at Bisham; 24 persons each in black gown with red

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hood bearing torch of 8lbs. at funeral; left 800 m. for finishing Bustleham and erecting tomb for mother and another for self and son.

- 3. Will. his son, d. 1382, doubtless buried there; died s. p.
- 4. John de M. E. Salisbury, d. 1401; killed by mob at Cirencester; buried there, but afterwards removed to Bisham.
- 5. Thomas M. E. of Salisbury, d. 1428; killed at Orleans siege by ball; looking out of window; saw flash; tried to withdraw; iron window frame broken by ball so lacerated his face that he died in a week; buried at Orleans; removed to Bisham.
- 6. Ric. Neville E. Salisbury; beheaded 1460.
- 7. Richard Neville, E. Warwick, d. 1471. Killed at Barnet fight; after exposed in St. Paul's three days, body taken to Bisham.
- 8. John Neville his brother; killed in same battle; buried together.
- 9. Edward Plantaganet, d. 1499; beheaded on Tower Hill; buried at Bisham.

According to the official programme a visit had been arranged to Ladye Place and Hurley Church, but this had to be abandoned owing to want of time, the places already visited having proved so engrossing in their historic associations that more time was occupied in viewing them than was anticipated. Accordingly the course of the boat was changed, and the journey home commenced. Time, however, permitted a steam down as far as Cookham Church, before landing at Bourne End. The members and their friends expressed their sense of the enjoyable day they had spent. The weather, the scenery, and the intense interest attaching to the places visited all conspired to make this one of the most successful and pleasant excursion the Society has ever held, and the thanks of all are due to Mr. Williams, the organizing secretary, for the manner in which everything had been arranged and was carried out.