

bilities. This stone, holed by nature, may yet have been set up centuries ago as an object of mystical regard, or even in more recent times, for are we really far removed from the days of magic and its curious beliefs?

A suggestion was made to the Ancient Monuments Board that this mystical stone should be moved and re-erected "in or near the Circle." On receipt of this suggestion the Board requested its County Representative to examine the stone and report on its character. It was his business to report on the lines of the foregoing remarks, and to add that although it is not unreasonable to imagine that this, as well as other large stones about the locality, may have once had some connection with the Monument, it would be assuming far too much to place the stone in any position of significance in relation to the circle.

There are other points to be noticed about the paper we refer to. The writer raises a question as to the probability of an avenue once existing as an approach to the Circle. It is not impossible, and the idea may stimulate search for suggestive earthworks in the neighbourhood. The writer also draws attention to certain lesser stones in the Circle, deeply sunk and standing with their cleavage lines vertical instead of horizontal as is the case with the greater monoliths. These, he suggests, are the remains of an older circle. This is worth consideration. Yet, on the other hand, these lesser stones may be the bases of larger ones broken off. If so, we are in face of another unsettled problem of first importance, i.e. the probable upright position of the great stones in the beginning.

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CUSTODY OF MANORIAL DOCUMENTS AND DOCUMENTS OF LOCAL HISTORICAL INTEREST.

By virtue of the recent Law of Property Acts the Master of the Rolls has been placed in general charge and

superintendence over all Manorial documents, and is empowered to make enquiries for the purpose of ascertaining that Manorial documents are in proper custody and being properly preserved. Rule 3 of the Manorial Documents Rules, 1926, provides that "the Lord of the Manor shall cause all manorial documents in his possession or under his control, when not in use, to be kept in receptacles suitable for their safe and proper preservation approved by or on behalf of the Master of the Rolls."

Since the passing of the Act the Master of the Rolls has approved certain institutions as suitable repositories for Manorial and Historical Documents, and among these is the Derby Public Library as repository for the county of Derby. The Libraries Committee of the County Borough is willing to accept the custody of documents entrusted to it, and has a fire-proof store-room where they can be preserved in safety. Documents placed here will be available for reference by their owners, or for consultation by students of local history. The library already possesses many hundreds of Derbyshire deeds, although none has yet been deposited under the terms of the 1926 Act. Communications should be addressed to the Director, Central Public Library, Derby.