

REPORTS OF PROCEEDINGS.

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, in accordance with Rule XIII., to receive and consider the Report of the Council on the state of the Society, and to elect the officers for the ensuing twelve months, was held in the Council-room, Danes Inn, Strand, on Thursday, the 27th of July, 1865,

The Rev. ARTHUR CAZENOVE in the Chair.

The Honorary Secretary read the following Report:—

“The Council, in presenting the Twelfth Annual Report to the members, feel the utmost confidence in its favourable reception. The balance-sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1864, now presented, together with the Auditors’ report, show that the Society’s affairs are prosperous; the liabilities being small, and nearly the same in amount as at the last audit. It must, however, be borne in mind that these liabilities do not include the expense consequent upon the issue of the present volume.

“The Annual Excursion to Sutton Place, Ockham, and Newark Abbey, which followed the Annual General Meeting last year, was in every way successful; several papers of interest having been read to the members; and the Council anticipate a no less interesting gathering at Godstone and Titsey in the ensuing month.

“The plan adopted in the two preceding years, of holding the business and excursion meetings on separate days, having been found advantageous, will be again followed.

“The most gratifying part of the Report is, that they have this year been enabled to publish an entire volume of ‘Collections,’ in lieu of a part as heretofore. And they trust the members will find the work equal to its predecessors, and creditable to the Society.

“Although the Society has sustained losses by death during the past year, yet the accession of new members has more than compensated the decrease, the numbers being now 414 against 406 at the date of the last report.

“The volume now published was intended to include a very interesting paper by our valued friend and coadjutor, J. R. D. Tyssen, Esq., F.S.A., comprising the whole of the returns made in the reign of Edward the Sixth of the church ornaments in each parish in the county of Surrey; but it was found necessary to postpone its publication until the next volume, which will be immediately commenced.

“The Council urge upon the members the necessity of their personal and individual efforts to increase the number of subscribers, thereby providing the means of publishing another volume.

“The illustrations in the present volume having proved a heavy expense to the Society, the Council have established an ‘Illustration Fund’ to defray the cost, and each member is respectfully invited to contribute to it. A list of the donations already received and promised is printed in the volume with the list of subscribers.

“In conclusion, the Council beg to call the special attention of the subscribers to the zeal evinced by their Honorary Secretary, Mr. E. V. Austin, in promoting the interests of the Society.”

“Report of the Auditors.”

“We, the undersigned Auditors of this Society, have carefully gone through the accounts of the year 1864 ; we have examined the vouchers with the books of account, and find the balance-sheet to be correct.

“We also beg to report that the accounts have been kept in a clear and satisfactory manner.

(Signed) “GEORGE RUSSELL FRENCH.
“CHAS HY. ELT.
“GEO. CURLING.”

The Report was adopted, and ordered to be printed and circulated.

The Patron, President, and Vice-Presidents were unanimously re-elected.

The following eight Members of Council retired by rotation and were re-elected :—

W. H. HART, Esq.
J. J. HOWARD, Esq.
C. JOHNSON, Esq.
E. B. JUPP, Esq.
H. L. LONG, Esq.
W. W. POCOCK, Esq.
The Rev. J. W. POWELL.
H. S. RICHARDSON, Esq.

The thanks of the meeting were given to the members of the Council.

The Auditors were re-elected, with thanks for their past services.

The Honorary Secretary was re-elected, with the thanks of the members for his attention to the affairs of the Society.

The following gentlemen were proposed and elected members :—

A. WITHERBY, Esq., Stonifers, Reigate.
J. N. KNIGHT, Esq., Farnham, Surrey.
H. S. COULSON, Esq., Croydon, Surrey.

With a vote of thanks to the Chairman the proceedings terminated.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Society was held on Wednesday, the 9th of August, 1865, under the Presidency of G. L. Gower, Esq., M.P. The members and their friends having assembled at the Red Hill Junction, proceeded by road to Godstone Church, in which Mr. W. W. Pocock made the following remarks :—

“Godstone Church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, as a structure had but little claim upon the attention of the antiquary, but was a specimen of a very pretty village church. With the exception of the roof, the western arch, the tower, and the wall on the east side of the tower, the whole edifice was modern.

“The tower, up to about the height of the church roof, was of the 12th century, and dated in all probability from the period when a moiety of the living was given to an abbey which was founded at Lesnes, in Kent, by Richard de Lucie, Chief Justice of England, circ. 1178. The priory of Tandridge became possessed of the other moiety, and for some time after the priory and the abbey presented the vicar alternately. It was probable that the church originally extended much farther to the east, and that the present tower was in the centre. They would observe, that there was a large arch over the window at the west end of the church, and there was no doubt that the roof was originally much higher, and that the large window had been filled up, the present smaller one of the 15th century being substituted.

“The tower, which carries a wooden spire covered with shingle, is on the south side of the church adjoining the chancel, and contains five bells.

“The objects of greatest interest are the monuments of the Evelyn and Boone families, especially the former, found in the mortuary chapels on the north side, and tablets to the memory of several of the vicars scattered about the church. The Evelyns, who brought the art of manufacturing gunpowder from Flanders, had large works in this parish in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and enjoyed a patent for supplying it to the government.

“The Evelyn Chapel contains a magnificent altar-tomb, on which recline full-length figures of Sir John and his lady. A long inscription occupies the south side, and at the feet of the figures are the family crests, the east end carrying their armorial bearings.

“The present vicar is the Rev. J. Hoare.”

Leaving Godstone, the company proceeded to Barrow-Green House, the property of Charles Hoskins Master, Esq., where Charles Spencer Perceval, Esq., LL.D., F.S.A., read the following notes :—

“Barrow Green is an ancient manor house, situate in the parish of Oxted, Hundred of Tandridge. It takes its name from a remarkable tumulus, to be found in a grove of trees close to the mansion.

“In the hall of the manor house is a very handsome chimney-piece in carved oak. It exhibits in the upper compartment a shield of the Royal arms (temp. Jac. I.) within the Garter, beneath which is another shield bearing the arms of Hoskins—viz., party per pale (gules and azure), a chevron engrailed (or) between three lions rampant (argent);

crest : on a wreath borne by an esquire's helmet, a cock's head erased (or) semée of roundels (pelletée) between two wings (of the first).

"On either side of this shield is a well-executed allegorical female figure ; one of them represents Charity accompanied by children, while the other figure, which has lost an arm, bears the cross ; whence it may be concluded that she symbolizes Faith.

"The mantel-shelf is supported by a male and a female Atlas in very fine bold relief. The whole piece is a good sample of Jacobean taste. It was, no doubt, erected by Sir Thomas Hoskins, Serjeant-at-law, who was heir to his father, Charles Hoskins,¹ who purchased the Barrow Green property, and died in 1597. From him it has devolved on the present owner, Charles Hoskins Master, Esq.

"A window in the staircase of the house contains some panes of armorial glass, illustrating the connection of the present with the former owner of Barrow Green. The following is the blazon of the different coats :—

- I. **HOSKINS** (see above), impaling **INGLER** :—Barry of six or and azure, on a canton argent, five billets sable. Commemorative of the match between Charles Hoskins, the purchaser of Barrow Green, and Anne, daughter of Thomas Ingler or Engler, of Lingfield.
- II. **MASTER** :—Azure, a fess embattled between three griffins' heads or.
- III. **HOSKINS** (by mistake for **MASTER**), impaling **LEGH** :—Gules, a cross engrailed argent charged with an inescutcheon bearing sable, semée of estoiles argent, a man's arm embowed or, vambraced in armour of the second, the hand proper, holding a bannerol silver. Commemorative of the marriage of Sir Streynsham Master, ancestor of the owner of Barrow Green, with Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Legh, of Lyme, in the county of Chester, esquire. See 'Burke's Armory,' under **LEGH**.
- IV. **HOSKINS**, impaling **ALDERSEY** :—Gules, on a bend argent, between two cinquefoils pierced or, three leopards' faces of the first. Commemorative of the marriage of Sir Thomas Hoskins, of Oxted, with Dorothy, daughter of John Aldersey, of London.
- V. **MASTER**, impaling **HOSKINS**. For the match in 1753, between Legh Master, of New Hall, co. Lancaster, and Codnor Castle, co. Derby, esquire, and Katherine, only daughter and heir of William Hoskins, of Barrow Green, esquire, great-grandfather and great-grandmother of Charles Hoskins Master, present owner of the estate.
- VI. **HOSKINS**, impaling **GRESHAM** :—Argent a chevron ermine between three mullets pierced sable. For the match between William, son of William Hoskins, of Barrow Green, and Martha, daughter of Sir Charles Gresham, of Titsey Place, baronet. They were the parents of Katherine Hoskins just named.

¹ See **HOSKINS** Pedigree, from the visitation of 1623, in vol. iii. of these *Collections*.

- VII. MASTER, impaling LLOYD :—Quarterly or and azure, four stags trippant counterchanged, all within a bordure gules. Commemorative of the marriage in 1778 of the Rev. Legh Hoskins Master, of Barrow Green, with Mary, daughter of the Rev. Pierson Lloyd, D.D., grandfather and grandmother of the present owner.
- VIII. An achievement of the arms of MASTER :—Quarterly of six.
 1. Master. 2. Streynsham—Or, a pale dancetté gules. 3. Wightman—Argent, on a bend gules between three choughs proper, as many leopards' heads or. 4. Launder—Azure, three mullets in bend pierced argent, between two cotises dancetté or. 5. Hoskins. 6. As the first. The quarterings 2, 3, and 4 are the arms of heiresses with whom the Masters intermarried before they became connected with this county. See 'Visitation of Kent, 1619,' in 'Archæologia Cantiana,' vol. v., article 'Master, of East Langdon,' and Burke's 'Landed Gentry,' article 'Master, of Barrow-Green House.'"

From Barrow Green the route was to Limpsfield Church, a paper on which was read by A. Heales, Esq., F.S.A., and which is printed with illustrations in this volume.

The company then proceeded to Titsey Park, the residence of G. Leveson Gower, Esq., M.P., the president of the day.

The new church at Titsey, erected by Mr. Leveson Gower, from the designs of J. L. Pearson, Esq., of Harley Street, was first visited by the members, and the chief features of interest pointed out by Mr. Leveson Gower, after which the company sat down to an excellent cold collation, at which Mr. Leveson Gower presided.

The chairman proposed the customary loyal toasts, followed by "Success to the Surrey Archæological Society," and the health of the hon. secretary. The Rev. A. Cazenove proposed the health of the chairman, and Mr. Taylor that of Mrs. Leveson Gower and the ladies.

These having been duly responded to, an adjournment was made to that part of the park in which the remains of a Roman villa were to be seen. Mr. W. W. Pocock gave a detailed account of the ruins, illustrating his remarks by ground plans.

A paper on the same subject, by Mr. Leveson Gower, will be found at page 214 of this volume, to which the reader is referred.

In the evening, Mr. Leveson Gower having assembled the company around him in a shady spot, gave the following history of the occupiers of Titsey :—

"I propose to give as short and succinct an account as I can of the history of the place, its possessors, the changes it has undergone, and of the few objects which yet remain to interest the antiquarian. Few places are without their local history. In many, however, it may be read at first sight—the old church with its monuments, the old abbey, or the old manor house, tell us more than any records can do. But here it is not so ; Titsey has a history, but its history is of the past ; it has no living monuments,—all must be gleaned from record and tradition.

Had we stood here just one hundred years ago we should have seen Titsey as it was, we should have gazed upon a venerable fabric below us, the ancient church; carrying our eye on, we should have seen the old manor house, built—so says tradition—by one John Uvedale (temp. Henry IV.), and the old Pilgrim's way running through the park close by the churchyard wall. I say one hundred years ago, because it was between 1760 and 1776 (that fatal era to art and architecture) that the work of destruction was done, that of the manor house being only the preface to that still more fatal deed, the destruction of the church in 1775. We can boast of what is very rare in Surrey, a Roman villa—which you have just visited.

“Titsey was in the middle age successively the residence of two knightly families, the Uvedales and Greshams, who, though not distinguished by any remarkable exploits, filled the offices of knights of the shire and sheriffs of their native county.

“The earliest mention I find of the name of Titsey is in the will of Beorthric, a Saxon, and Alfswyth, his wife, cir. 960. He devises, amongst other lands at Godstone, Bromley, Croydæne, &c., to Wulfsige his brother, Tydicesig, and the deeds there, on condition of giving 1,000 pence to the church of Rochester. In Domesday the name is written Ticesei; in the court rolls of 1391 Tycheseye; in Henry VIII.'s time Tyttese; now Titsey. The former part of the word I consider to be a patronymic, the latter to be derived from ‘ea,’ the Saxon for water; the derivation will be, therefore, Tydices Ig, or Tydice's (a Saxon name) water.

“The chief object of interest to us to-day is the Roman villa. Mr. Pocock has read a paper on the spot, and therefore I shall not enter into any details with regard to it. But let me say, in passing, that you will, I think, have seen traces at the Roman villa of an earlier habitation still. There are at the western angle of the building several very large blocks of stone, squared, and laid in the ground without mortar. They do not correspond at all with any other part of the building, which is composed chiefly of flints and small stones; and I think we may safely assert that they formed part of an earlier habitation than the Roman. The Romans found them there, and adapted them to their own dwelling.

“Passing on from Roman times, we have the mention of Titsey in the Saxon Charta, of cir. 960. In Domesday Survey it is thus described:—‘In Tenrige Hundred Haimo the Viscount holds Ticesei. Gottovi held it of King Edward (the Confessor), then it was rated for twenty hides (2,000 acres), now for two hides. There are eight carucates of arable land (800 acres). In demesne are four carucates and fourteen villains, and thirty-one bordars with five carucates. There is a church and nine villains in gross, and wood for the pasture of seven lean hogs of the villains. In the time of King Edward it was worth £10 (£600), after £6, now £11.’ There were in all the manor four knights' fees. Two knights' fees went with what was called properly the manor, the other went with the possessor of the lands, and was also called the manor;—so that in fact there was a manor within a manor. To begin with the manor. The manor of Titsey at the time of the Domesday Survey formed part of the possessions of Richard de Clare, Earl of Tonbridge, and he granted

two knights' fees in it to Haimo de Valoines. From Richard de Tonbridge the manor descended in a direct line to Gilbert de Clare, who was slain at the battle of Bannockburn in 7 Edward II., 1313. In an inquisition taken on his death, it was found that he died seised of the manor of Tichesey and of the advowson of the church. Maud, his widow, had assigned to her as her dower certain lands in Tichesey. After her death the estates of Gilbert were shared among his three sisters—Elizabeth, wife of John de Burgh; Eleanor, wife of Hugh Dispenser; and Margaret, wife of Piers de Gaveston, Earl of Cornwall, and secondly of Hugh de Audley, Earl of Gloucester. The Titsey estate was allotted to the latter. She had an only daughter, Margaret, married to Ralph, Earl of Stafford. From her the manor descended to her son Hugh; to his son Edmund, slain at the battle of Shrewsbury, in 1403; to his son Humphrey, created Duke of Buckingham by Henry VI., slain at the battle of Northampton, 1460; to his grandson Henry, beheaded 1483; and to Edward, Duke of Buckingham, attainted and beheaded in 1521. On his attainder, the manor reverted to the Crown; and King Henry VIII., by letters patent, dated 15th February, 1528, granted it to John Bouchier, Lord Berners. After this, in or before the year 1535, the manor was purchased by Sir John Gresham, knight, and has ever since that time been held with the property. Of the two knights' fees that were granted by Richard de Tonbridge to Haimo de Valoines, we find from the *Testa de Nevill*, that, in the time of King John, Thomas de Valoines held them of the honour of Gloucester, and that Hugh de Nevill had the custody. In 21 Henry III. Haimo de Valoines demised to John de Gatesden the manor (*i.e.* two knights' fees) of Titsey, with the advowson of the church, the knights' fees, &c., thereto belonging, from the feast of St. Michael in this year, for seven years, under a rent of 46 pounds of silver, payable on the octave of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, in the priory of Bermondsey. These knights' fees reverted to the Earls of Gloucester, for in 1296, Gilbert de Clare, as appears by an inquisition, died, seised of the manor of Tichesey. The other two knights' fees were the property of a family who took the name from the place—de Tichesey. Of this family we find mention of the following members:—

“The *Testa de Nevill* (temp. John or Henry III.) says that Geoffrey de Tychesey held one fourth of a knight's fee in Camberwell of the Honour of Gloucester, which William, Earl of Gloucester, gave to Alexander de Tychesey, ancestor of Geoffrey. This Geoffrey is mentioned in a fine of land at La Ware (probably at Brasted), in Kent, on the 13th of October, 1202. Geoffrey de Tichesey acknowledges all the land of La Ware to Sarah de la Ware, to be held of him and his heirs by the free service of 27s. per annum and one fourth of a knight's fee, except the tenement of Isabella FitzWateman, except also two acres of meadow in Brademedede, near the water, which remain to said Geoffrey and his heirs free from all claim of the said Sarah. This agreement was made by the grant and with the consent of Emma Christiana and Matilda, sisters of the said Sarah.—Dated at Westminster, fourteen days after Michaelmas, 4th John.

“I may here mention, with regard to these two acres at La Ware, that in the inquisition upon the death of Thomas de Tychesey, in

25 Edward I., he died seised, among other property, of two-and-half acres of meadow at La Ware, belonging to the manor of Titsey, and worth per annum 2d.

“The Testa de Nevill further says that the same Geoffrey de Tychesey held certain land in Tichesey of the king in chief by a service of two knights’ fees.

“John de Tichesey held two knights’ fees in Tichesey of the Honour of Gloucester.

“In the *Rotuli Chartarum*, A.D. 1204, in a charter of the Canons of Bradesole, near Dover, we find a gift to them from William de Tichesey, the son of Odo de Tichesey, of the site of a mill, with the water, and the land on each side of the water.

“In the close roll of 1215 there is a mandate to the Viscount of Kent to put Geoffrey de Fleming in possession of land which had belonged to William de Tichesey, in Iwde (probably Ide Hill), which the king had given him, unless it were upwards of 100s. in value.

“In the close roll of the same year is a letter to Raymond de Tychesye, charging him among others with the custody of certain prisoners.

“In 9 Henry III., 1225, William de Ticheseie accounts for ten marcs for having the king’s goodwill (*benevolentia*), and for having his lands, corn, and cattle restored to him which had been seized into the king’s hands on account of his being engaged in an insurrection with Fulk de Breauté.

“I cannot attempt with Manning to give a pedigree of the De Tichesey family. We may consider Alexander de Tichesey as the first of the family. We have William, the son of Odo, Geoffrey, Raymond, and John. The last male representative of the family was Thomas de Tycheseye, living temp. Edward I. In the 23rd year of that king he was knight of the shire for Surrey. He died in 25 Edward I. The inquisition upon his death, taken on Monday next after the feast of St. James the Apostle, states that he died seised of the manor of Tycheseye, held of the Lady Jane, Countess of Gloucester and Hereford, and others, by the service of the knights’ fees, and doing suit at her Court of Camberwell, from three weeks to three weeks. That there was then a capital messuage, worth per annum, with the gardens and other enclosures, 13s. 4d.; of arable land upon the hills and in the valleys 236 acres, worth per acre per annum 4d.; 50 acres of pasture, worth per acre per annum 6d.; of arable or pasture 100 acres, worth per acre per annum 6d.; 40 acres of high wood and underwood, the pasture thereof, worth per acre per annum 2d.; 12 acres of meadow, each acre worth 12d.; and at La Ware 2½ acres of meadow, belonging to the said manor, worth per annum 2d.; rents of assize £4. 1s. 8d.; pleas and perquisites of Court 2s.

“Further, he died seised of the manor of Camberwell, 161 acres of arable land, 8 of meadow, and 15 of wood; rents of assize £6. 19s. 8½d.; pleas and perquisites of Court 12d., held of Joan, Countess of Gloucester; and a messuage and 30 acres of arable land in Camberwell, held of Robert de Bekewell, by the service of 11s. 8d., leaving Margaret, wife of John de Malevyle, aged 30; Alice, wife of Gilbert Etton, aged 40; and Elizabeth, wife of John de Horne, his sisters and heirs.

“In the same year John de Malevyle, Gilbert de Etton, and Roger de Horne, did fealty for the lands of Thomas de Tycheseye, deceased. It seems that the issue of John de Malevyle failed. Etton had an only daughter, Isabel, who married John de Uvedale. Horne had a son, John, who, in 8 Edward II., was joint owner with John de Uvedale of this manor and that of Camberwell. The Uvedale family shortly afterwards became possessed of the whole.

“With the marriage of John de Uvedale with Isabel de Etton commenced the connection between the Uvedales and Titsey. I have, in the third volume of the ‘Surrey Archæological Society’s Collections,’ published an account of the Uvedale family. With Arthur Uvedale ended the property of the Uvedales at Titsey. They retained property in the neighboured at Tatsfield and Chelsham until the death of Sir William Uvedale in 1652, when the whole of the Surrey property was sold. Sir John Gresham, Knight, a descendant of an old Norfolk family, was the purchaser in 1535, and from him the property of Titsey descended to Katherine Maria, the only daughter and heiress of Sir John Gresham, sixth and last Baronet, who married, in 1804, William Leveson Gower, Esq., grandson of John, first Earl Gower, the grandfather of the present possessor.”

The THIRTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, in accordance with Rule XIII., to receive and consider the Report of the Council on the state of the Society, and to elect the officers for the ensuing twelve months, was held in the Council-room, Danes Inn, Strand, on Wednesday, the 18th of July, 1866,

SEYMOUR TEULON, Esq. in the Chair.

The Honorary Secretary read the following Report :—

“The Council, in presenting the Thirteenth Annual Report to the members, have much pleasure in stating that the Society is progressing favourably. For, although the liabilities exceed those of the last year, the increase is attributable to the cost of publishing a large volume of Collections, with expensive illustrations.

“The accounts of the Society have been duly audited and found satisfactory, as will be seen by the following report of the Auditors :—

“We, the undersigned, being Auditors of your Society for the year ending 31st December, 1865, do hereby certify that we have carefully examined the balance-sheet for the past year, and have compared it with the several vouchers.

“We find the same to be perfectly correct, and that the accounts of the Society have been kept in the most satisfactory manner.

(Signed)

‘GEORGE RUSSELL FRENCH,
‘C. H. ELT,
‘GEO. CURLING.’

“The accession of new members has more than compensated the losses

by death and resignation—the members being 421 against 414 at the date of the last Report.

“The appeal to the subscribers for donations in aid of a fund to illustrate the third volume produced £24. 2s., and it is hoped additions to the fund will be received towards the illustration of the next volume. The Council are happy to state that they have several papers of interest ready for publication when the funds of the Society will permit.

“The Excursion to Godstone and Limpsfield, and the reception of the members at Titsey Park by G. Leveson Gower, Esq., M.P., were highly appreciated, and it is anticipated the visit to Stoke D’Abernon and Cobham in the ensuing month will prove equally interesting.”

The Report was adopted, and ordered to be printed and circulated.

The Patron, President, and Vice-President were unanimously re-elected.

The following eight members of Council retired by rotation :—

ARTHUR POWELL, Esq.
 J. R. D.-TYSSEN, Esq.
 The Ven. ARCHDEACON UTTERTON.
 G. R. WRIGHT, Esq.
 W. W. KING, Esq.
 THOS. HART, Esq.
 The Rev. R. B. BYAM.
 The Hon. WM. BRODRICK.

Arthur Powell, Esq., and G. R. Wright, Esq., having signified their wish to retire, the other six gentlemen were re-elected.

Alfred Heales, Esq., F.S.A., was elected to supply one vacancy ; for the other, the names of H. G. Bohn, Esq., and Charles Baily, Esq., were submitted to the consideration of the Council. The latter gentleman was subsequently appointed.

The thanks of the Meeting were given to the late Auditors who were re-elected.

The thanks of the Meeting were given to the Council.

The Honorary Secretary was re-elected with a vote of thanks for his services during the past year.

A vote of thanks was given to, and acknowledged by, the Chairman.

A GENERAL MEETING of the members was held on Saturday, the 11th of August, 1866, at Fox Warren, by special invitation of Charles Buxton, Esq., M.P.

The company, having assembled at Leatherhead Station, proceeded by road to Slyfields, which was, by the kind permission of Mr. King, thrown open for their inspection, and about which Mr. Baily made the following remarks :—

“ The estate of Slyfields once belonged to a family of the same name, many of whom are buried in the church of Great Bookham, where there are still left several brass plates to their memories.

“ In A.D. 1614, the estate was sold by Henry Breton, who had purchased it of Edmund Slyfield, to George Shiers.

“ The present house, which was without doubt built by one of the Shiers family (their heraldic insignia appearing in many parts of the interior), is only a portion of the original building. It is constructed externally of red brickwork, cut and moulded into form in a remarkable manner. The garden front has a picturesque gable, which once formed the centre of the design, with inverted side trusses, architraves, cornices, and copings ; and extending from this centre is a long facade of pilasters of the Ionic order, all also constructed of moulded brickwork, which support a cornice with carved consoles in oak.

“ The interior has many features deserving notice, particularly the staircase with its massive newel posts and curiously perforated sides beneath the handrails ; and at the stairs' foot still remain the wicket gates, once usual in such situations but now rarely met with : the use of these gates was to prevent the favourite dogs and hounds, so many of which were allowed in the rooms on the ground floor, from entering the upper chambers. Another example is to be seen at Hatfield House, in Hertfordshire. Much of this staircase is executed in elm timber. On the upper floor is a room in its original state, the ‘ great chamber ’ of former times, which answered to the withdrawing-room of the present day ; it has a fine wagon-headed ceiling covered with arabesques, and the sides of the room are lined with wainscotings of good character. There is also a room on the ground floor still left in its original state ; the kitchens and the domestic offices still retain much of their old character ; and on the external door on this side is a good specimen of an old Jacobean knocker. The whole of the house is worthy of the most attentive study, it being one of the best examples now remaining in the county of Surrey of an English house of the first half of the 17th century.”

Leaving Slyfields the members proceeded to the church of Stoke D'Abernon, which being under restoration very little of the original structure could be seen, but the Rev. J. P. Phillips kindly read a paper on its history and design.

Cobham Church was next visited, and the Rev. E. H. Loring read a paper, of which the following is an abstract :—

“ The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, but no record exists of the

date of its foundation; Domesday Book makes no mention of it, but the simplicity and massiveness of its architecture point to a very early period. The grandly plain arch opening from the tower into the west end of the nave, the unornamented capitals of the piers, the broad flat label above, and the deeply splayed windows, corroborate this opinion. The outer doorway of the tower on the western side belongs, however, to a later period.

“The tower, which is built of rubble three feet six inches in thickness, and standing on the surface of the ground without foundation, has two floors, in the first of which is one window, and opposite to it a deep square recess, the use of which is unknown.

“The second chamber of the tower, in which the bells hung, is the more finished of the two, having stone corbels supporting the wall-plate on which the spire stands, and in each of the four walls a window, divided into two compartments by a central shaft and having a bold moulding round it.

“The next portion of the church in respect of age is the doorway in the south aisle. It is of later date, is more elaborate in design, and has more ornament, having both the zigzag and billet mouldings, with a detached pillar on each side of its outer face. There was, probably, no aisle at all in the original building; but although this door has been removed from its former site, it is at any rate adapted to its original use, as the entrance-door to the church.

“The oak tracery in the porch is a piece of the old chancel screen. It is 14th century work. The ironwork on the south door is not original, but reproduced from fragments found in various parts of the church.

“The N.E. chantry is next worthy of inspection. It, like the tower, has rubble walls built on the surface of the ground, but its pointed arches indicate a later date. By a bull of Pope Innocent, in 1292, all the tithes in Cobham Church were conferred on Chertsey Abbey, and this chantry was probably built by them for the chanting of masses for the souls of their departed.

“The windows in this part of the building were probably lancet-shaped, one of which may be seen on the outside of the north wall. The present handsome O. G. windows are of much later date, and the lancets were probably cut out to make room for them.

“The roof of the chantry is of oak, massive and strong, but, for some unaccountable reason, the ridge of it is out of the centre of the building.”

From Cobham Church the company adjourned to the school-rooms close by, where an excellent *déjeuner* was provided by Charles Buxton, Esq., M.P., at which he presided. The toasts of the Queen, Prosperity to the Surrey Archæological Society, and the healths of the Council, the Chairman, and the Honorary Secretary having been drunk and responded to, the excursion was continued to Mr. Buxton's residence at Fox Warren. Some time having been spent in wandering about the grounds attached to this delightful residence, the King's House at

Byfleet was gained by a walk across the fields. Here Mr. Buxton read a paper, of which the following is an abstract :—

Mr. Buxton said that, “ Byfleet being situated on the Wey, was originally ‘ By-the-fleet,’ or stream. A similar application of the word ‘ fleet,’ for a stream, was made to the Fleet Ditch, in London. The first notice of Byfleet that we find recorded is in the reign of Edward the Confessor, as among the territorial possessions of the Abbot of Chertsey. The manor of Biflet was then held by Erlwin the Saxon, and at that time was tailed for eight hides, supposed to have amounted to about 100 acres each, and valued at a hundred shillings, equivalent to about £300 at the present time. In Domesday Book, Biflet is mentioned, and especially Biflet water-mill, no doubt the predecessor of Mr. Holroy’s water-mill on the island close by. The first historical notice of the King’s House (the predecessor of the present one) is, that in the year 1267 Geffry de Lucy possessed lands in Biflet, holding them under the Abbot of Chertsey, by military service, as half a Knight’s fee; and in that year, 1267, there is a record of his having impleaded a certain John de Francys and others for entering by force his park and warren, at Byfleet, and taking away ‘ deer and horses, and other cattle.’ Twelve years later, in the reign of Edward I., this same Geffry de Lucy went to law again before the king’s Justices, at Guildford, claiming for himself the rights and privileges of the lord of the manor of Byfleet. The son and heir of this Geffry de Lucy sold this manor in 1294 to Henry de Leybourne, who went to the siege of Carlaverock, in Scotland, and was there knighted. We know not how this manor passed from this family to that of the king, but it is very certain that Edward II. rested here from time to time. His celebrated warrants for the arrest of the Knights Templars were dated from Byfleet, December, 1306. There is another document dated from Byfleet, Nov. 24, 1308, concerning a grant of money to certain Jewish converts. It must have been about this time that Byfleet Church was built. At one time Edward II. made a present of the manor of Biflet to Peter de Gaveston; but after his execution on the scaffold the manor reverted to the Crown.

“ In Edward the Third’s reign the manor was granted to John, Earl of Cornwall, who, dying without issue, it again reverted to the Crown, and was settled on Edward the Black Prince. We afterwards find it settled by his father on Prince Henry, afterwards Henry VIII.

“ Some historians have endeavoured to make out that Henry VIII. was not brought up at Byfleet; but Aubrey, the historian of Surrey, distinctly says it was at Byfleet, at a house near the wharf called Dorny House. This is corroborated by Sir Philip Draycott. In the reign of Edward VI. mention of Byfleet is made by Sir Antony Brown, Master of the Horse, who had a grant of some part of the estate, and built a mansion on it, in which he died in 1648. This Byfleet House, however, is not the one in which we are now assembled, because we find that King James I. settled the estate of Byfleet on his queen, Anne of Denmark, and Aubrey says she began to build a noble house

of brick, no doubt incorporating in it the materials of the same ancient king's house that had belonged to Edward the Black Prince and Prince Hal. This house in which we are standing is unquestionably a portion of that noble house of brick, built by Queen Anne of Denmark. A curious little room at the top of the house is covered with 'fleurs de lis' in panels."

A vote of thanks having been given to Mr. Buxton for his hospitable reception of the members, a general movement towards London followed, all having spent a most enjoyable day.

1868.

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