



## “Notes and Queries”

RELATING TO BERKSHIRE.

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### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the County. All Literary Communications should be sent to the EDITOR, Barkham Rectory, near Wokingham, written on one side only of the Paper.*

*It is requested that all MSS intended for printing should be written on foolscap paper, in an orderly manner, with REPLIES, QUERIES, and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name or initials of the writer appended to each communication.*

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### Notes.

**BERKSHIRE.**—A discussion has been started in the *Berkshire Notes and Queries* with regard to the origin of the name of our county—a subject which has often been debated. Whatever may be the signification of the word “Berks,” I contend that the name of my village “Barkham” is derived from the same source. If we adopt the “Bare oak” theory, then probably this village was the *ham*, or village, of the bare oak, under which the ancient Saxon Shire-mote assembled in council. Recent theories have assigned the Berroc word to the district east of the Loddon, which would include Barkham, and the word would then mean the village of the Berroc wood; but I am inclined to connect the name of both county and village to the “Barkings,” an old Saxon tribe.—EDITOR.

**FLINTS.**—Mr. Sale, of Wokingham, has recently discovered a fine specimen of flint implements in his garden near the Market Place.

**NOTES ON WALL PAINTINGS AT PADWORTH CHURCH, BERKS, 1890.**—During the restoration which has just been completed, some interesting discoveries were made of mural paintings which have been hidden from view for several centuries. On removing the plaster six of the Consecration Crosses were found, on some of which the colour still remains, a red Maltese Cross on buff ground in

plain circle. Of these two are on the north and south walls almost behind the great tower posts; two on the north and south walls a few feet from the Chancel Arch; the two last in the apse, one almost in the centre in front of the inner sill of the original east window, now re-opened, which seems to have been blocked up with flints at an early date, the other a few feet to the north on the same level.

Above the central cross in the apse was found a painting of the Crucifixion, with S. Mary and S. John, on the first plaster close to the flints. This painting had been most seriously damaged by the erection of a large monument on the wall early in the last century, and also by a large crack, caused possibly by vaults, within and without, close to the foundations.

Distinct remains of the original window having been found it was decided after careful consideration and with the consent of the architect, to remove the remains of the painting and re-open the windows, the splays of which—the brick arch, part of the sill and stepped inner slope in the flints—were found, and the exact places whence the stone jambs had been removed.

The remains of the painting have been carefully preserved, and, though being so near the flint it is much broken, it is still hoped to put parts of them together, to shew its nature and any suggestions on this point will be most welcome.

It is supposed to date from the 13th century, the colours being Indian red and shades of buff. The extreme width of the cross is about 5 feet. The ends of the arms are shewn in perspective.

The Virgin's robe is remarkable for a border representing fur. S. John in cloak with hood holds apparently a roll. These figures are about 3 feet 6 inches high and their base about 7 feet from the ground.

Traces of colour were also found between the central cross and the almary which was discovered bricked up on the north east of the apse, also on stone work of the inner arch.

On the south wall of the Chancel Arch facing west were found two paintings. Above, under a canopy, the top of which is about level with the capitals of the arch, is a Bishop, in low mitre and vestments, with crosier. The figure is about 4 feet high.

Below, under a canopy, a Bishop, with low mitre and crosier, apparently in the act of blessing; facing him, three heads and beyond another figure, whose hand seems to be lifting some folds of drapery, which hang over a beam under the canopy. The lower part of the subject is lost, much of which is on the stone itself.

Some suppose this to refer to the story of St. Nicholas, which other authorities however think unlikely. It is thought that the date of this was the last half of the 12th century.

Close by on the south wall, the site of what seems to have been a Piscina was found, though the stone work had been removed.

On the same wall many traces of painting were found in detached fragments, most of it seems to have been of some decorative pattern, one piece which may have been part of a figure subject could alone be preserved.

Nothing was found in the vault of the apse, which is mainly of old brick, not stone as was supposed, or on the Chancel Arch, where the wall had been replastered some years ago.—W. O. CLINTON.

### Replies.

**PURLEY.**—The old altar covering, which now hangs in the vestry here, is a very curious and well-preserved piece of tapestry, evidently I should say, hand stitched. It is in two lengths, which have been joined in the middle lengthwise, and that one half is upside down. The lower half, as it hangs, on the left hand side represents a very gaily dressed gallant presenting the point of his spear to a rampant wild boar, while an animal something like a monkey is comfortably seated on the branch of a tree above watching the encounter; on the right hand side, the same gay cavalier is lying dead, his head supported on the lap of a fair lady while two or three other dames are bitterly weeping, all wearing the scarf round the neck which is usually considered as belonging to the age of Queen Elizabeth, indeed one of the figures seems as if it was intended for the Maiden Queen. Still nearer to the right hand of the piece, there is seen the figure of a woman in a chariot drawn by swans in the clouds. I have always supposed it be intended for the story of Venus and Adonis, probably with some application to some event of the day. As to the other half of the tapestry, there are about four different scenes, and the characters are not in the same dress as in the one I have described; they have more of an Eastern look about them, but I am quite at a loss as to the subjects.—**MATTHEW POWLEY.**

**KITCAT CLUB.**—The following is the list of the members of the Kitcat Club :—

1. Sir Godfrey Kneller.
2. Charles Seymour, Duke of Somerset.
3. Charles Lennox, Duke of Richmond.
4. Charles Fitzroy, Duke of Grafton.
5. William Cavendish, Duke of Devonshire.
6. John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough.
7. John Montague, Duke of Montague.
8. Evelyn Pierpoint, Duke of Kingston.
9. Thomas Holles Pelham, Duke of Newcastle.
10. Henry Clinton, Earl of Lincoln.
11. Charles Montague, Duke of Manchester.
12. Lionel Cranfeild Sackville, Duke of Dorset.
13. Thomas Wharton, Marquis of Wharton.
14. Theophilus Hastings, Earl of Huntingdon.
15. Charles Sackville, Earl of Dorset.
16. Alfred Capil, Earl of Essex.
17. Charles Howard, Earl of Carlisle.
18. Richard Boyle, Earl of Burlington.
19. James Berkeley, Earl of Berkeley.
20. Richard Lumley, Earl of Scarborough.
21. Francis Godolphin, Earl of Godolphin.
22. Charles Montague, Earl of Halifax.
23. James Stanhope, Earl of Stanhope.
24. Spencer Compton, Earl of Wilmington.
25. Richard Temple, Viscount Cobham.
26. Charles, Lord Mohun.

27. Charles Cornwallis, Lord Cornwallis.
28. John Vaughan, Earl of Carberry.
29. John Somers, Baron of Evesham.
30. Richard Boyle, Viscount Shannon.
31. Robert Walpole, Earl of Oxford.
32. Sir John Vanbrugh.
33. Sir Samuel Garth.
34. Sir Richard Steele.
35. John Tidcombe.
36. William Pulteney, Earl of Bath.
37. Joseph Addison, Esquire.
38. George Stepney.
39. Abraham Stanyan.
40. John Dormer.
41. Edmund Dunch.
42. William Walsh.
43. William Congreve.
44. Charles Dartiquenave.
45. Thomas Hopkins.
46. Edward Hopkins.
47. Arthur Maynwaring.
48. Jacob Tonson, the Bookseller.

CONSTANCE RUSSELL, Swallowfield.

MAYOTT FAMILY.—I. Elizabeth Mayott *vidua* Nupta Richardo Mayott Arm: de Fawler in Com. Oxon: Filia Natu Major et Coheres Gulielmi Cliffe Gen: de Ham in Agro Wilton: Obiit. 18. die mensis Januarii Ann. Dom. 1705. Matri bene merenti Elizabetha filia unica et hoeres M.P.

II. Elizabetha filia Richardi Mayott-de Fawler, in Agro Oxconiensi, Armigeri. *Hæres Innupta* quæ 6th die August Ann. Dom. 1722 ætatis 31. Fato concessit. A long list of her virtues follows. She is evidently daughter to the other.—H. C. EVANS, Shalbourne.

HUNDRED OF THEALE.—Although the name does not occur in Domesday, it does not follow that the Hundred is not of Saxon origin. The word is Saxon, and I think means a "valley." Probably the name Theale applied to a district, and not to a place, and ultimately was assigned to the village now called Theale, which sprang up in the Parish of Tylehurst. This would account for its being in the Hundred of Reading.—P.H.D.

IN answer to E.E.T.'s query with reference to parts of Wilts being separated from the rest of the county, I may say that this is a relic of the time when the shires were inhabited by separate clans of Saxon settlers who either by conquest, or arrangement, possessed themselves of part of their neighbours' lands. There are portions of Parishes formed in the same way in the midst of other parishes. A colony of settlers (having no forest) pastured their hogs in some wood apart from the rest of their settlement, the intervening land being taken up by another colony; hence these islands arose.—P.H.D.

STONES IN GRAVEYARDS.—In village churchyards it was not customary to have stone memorials before the xviii. Century; in towns I have seen a few of an earlier date.

### Queries.

HEDGES.—1. When did the old open field system of England first merge into the present system of fields enclosed by hedgerows, generally, though not universally, prevalent now? Seebohm mentions the numerous enclosure acts beginning in 1760; but were there no fields enclosed by hedges before? 2.—Why did the quick-set hedge become the usual means of enclosing a field in most parts of the country, but not in all? 3.—Why do tall hedgerows characterise some parts of the country, *e.g.*, Devon, Surrey and Kent; while short hedges are the usual type in other parts, *e.g.*, the Fen country.—J. E. TARBAT.

FINCHAMPSTEAD.—Can any of your readers refer me to some book or other source of information from which I could gather some particulars respecting the Church and Parish of Finchampstead?—W. LYON.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, NEWBURY.—Is a print of this Church rare?—E.E.T.

CALYBEATE SPRINGS.—Lysons mentions a strong calybeate spring called Gorrick Well, near Luckley House, Wokingham, now Mr. Arnold's school. Also at Finchampstead there was, I believe, a hot sulphur spring. What is known about them?—F.K.

