



Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

Notes.

BRASS OF SIR CHRISTOPHER LYTCOT IN WEST HANNEY CHURCH, 1599. —The following notes may be of interest in reference to the Query respecting Sir Christopher Lytcot in Vol. III. No. 3, p. 96 (October, 1897). But first, it should be noted that in the heading of the Query *East Hanney* is an error for *West Hanney*, and in the transcript of the inscription *Berkett House* is an error for *Beckett House* as it stands on the brass, and there are also some minor inaccuracies. *Bastledon* is the older form of *Basildon*.

Sir Christopher Lytcot was the youngest son of the Christopher Lytcot of Swallowfield who is mentioned by Canon Savory in his note on the Malthus family in the same volume, p. 122 (January, 1898). An account of the Lytcots is given by Lady Russell in her paper on *Swallowfield and its Owners* in the *Quarterly Journal of the Berks Archaeological and Architectural Society*, Vol. II., pp. 13, sq., 35, sq. (1891).

The inscription upon the brass of the Lytcots at Swallowfield is as follows: What I ame thou seist. What I have byn thou knowest. As I ame thou shalt be. What thou art remember thys. Crystofer Lytkott Esquyer Decessyd ye vjth day of December Ao dni. mccccliiij. On whose Soule Jesu have m'cy. Who maryed Katheryn ye daughter of Robert Cheyne of Chessam Boyes in the Cou'ty of Buk' Esquyer & had by hir iij sones & one dought'. John'. Len'ard. Christofer & Dorithe.

The shield upon the brass is *semée of escallops*; 2 bendlets; in chief 3 castles: quartering *ar. a chief sa.* 3 tilting spears palewise, heads in chief counterchanged. The same shield appears on the Hanney brass, and the quartering appears also on the brass of William Barker, Esq., 1575, at Sunning, quartered with the arms of Barker (*party per chevron engr. or & sa. a lion rampant counterchanged*). The colours of this are given from the Sunning brass where they have been restored. This quartering appears to be the shield of Burley.

Sir Christopher Lytcot's second wife, Catherine, widow of William Younge of Basildon, was daughter of this William Barker of Sunning. The shield on the brass of his parents at Swallowfield shows that there was some previous connection between the families. This is partly explained by Lady Russell's notes already referred to. "Christopher Lytcott, esquire, was Henry VIII.'s bailiff at Swallowfield, and held a lease of the place. . . . He was son of John Lytcott of Rushcombe, Berks, by his wife Julian, daughter of John Barker of Oakingham (Wokingham)."

There is also a second shield on the brass at Swallowfield, in which the arms of the former shield are impaled with those of Cheyne, viz., *checquè or & az. a fess gu. fretty of the first.*

Katherine, the wife of Christopher Lytcott the elder and mother of Sir Christopher, was the daughter of Robert Cheyne. Some notices of him are given in Mr. White's paper on the *Church and Parish of Chesham Bois*, published in the *Records of Buckinghamshire*, July, 1889, and subsequently as a separate pamphlet. Robert Cheyne was born in 1488, and a brass in the church of Chesham Bois commemorates his death in 1552. His father was John Cheyne of Drayton Beauchamp. They are of the family from which the parish of Isenhampstead obtained the name of Chenies in the time of Henry III.; but under the Will of Dame Agnes, widow of Sir John Cheyne, in 1494, that Manor passed to her cousin, Guy Sapcotes, from whose heiress it fell to the Russells; and it is still held by the Duke of Bedford.

Elizabeth, wife of Robert Cheyne, died in 1516, and is buried by his side at Chesham Bois. He subsequently married again. "The Bedfordshire branch of the family" (says Mr. White) "sprang from the second marriage of Robert Cheyne. The descendants of the first marriage inherited the Bucks and North-hants property" (namely, the Manors of Chesham Bois and Drayton Beauchamp in the former county, and that of Cogenhoe in the latter); but "the line came to an end on the death, without issue, in 1728, of William, second Viscount Newhaven, in the peerage of Scotland." Thomas Cheyne, Esq., of Drayton Beauchamp, had been shield-bearer to Edward III. and died in 1368.

Near to the brass of Sir Christopher Lytcot at Hanney is another commemorating Humfrey Cheynie, second son of John Cheynie of West Woodhay, who died without issue in 1557. He is represented in armour. At this date the young Christopher may have been 14 years of age, his eldest brother having been born in 1541; and we may, perhaps, infer that he was a kinsman of Humfrey Cheynie, and succeeded him in an estate at Hanney. From Mr. Napier's *Historical Notices of the Parishes of Swyncombe and Ewelme*, 1858, it appears (p. 346) that John Cheney of Woodhay, Berks, married Joan, one of the daughters of Sir William Norris by his first wife Isabel, Marchioness Dowager of Montague, daughter and heir of Edmund Ingaldesthorpe, the second wife of this Sir William Norris being Jane daughter of John Earl of Oxford, by whom he had a son Sir Edward Norris, ancestor of the Earls of Abingdon.

Was John Cheynie of West Woodhay another son of John Cheyne of Drayton Beauchamp and brother to Robert Cheyne of Swallowfield, and, therefore, uncle to Katherine Lytcott? She survived until 1567. Did she inherit from him the estate at Hanney when his son Humphrey died without issue in 1557? And did it pass at her death to her youngest son? Probably records exist from which these questions can be answered. John, the eldest son of Christopher

and Katherine Lytcott, held Swallowfield after his mother's death. Leonard, their second son, was of Checkendon, Oxon (*Berks Quarterly*, II. 36). Sir Christopher's interest in Hanney was sufficient to cause him to be buried there, although he died at his wife's home at Basildon.—J. E. F., Benson Vicarage.

PREHISTORIC BURYING GROUND.—A short time ago, in excavating some gravel in a field near the town of Newport Pagnell, the workmen dug up a lot of human remains, some of which were shewn to me. I could see that they were of very great age, and asked permission to unearth the next they came upon myself, as the bones I saw were very much broken and crumbled away. I had the satisfaction of unearthing two complete skeletons, which required great care to keep them intact. But as no trace of any metal or pottery could be found, I could not fix the period of the interments until a very careful search of the ground had been made, when I came across several flint implements, and I at once concluded they belonged to the Neo or Paleolithic period. I sent some of the bones, including a skull, and implements, to Professor Windle (Masons College, Birmingham, Queen's Faculty of Medicine), who very kindly gave me his opinion of them, and I enclose some extracts from his letter. I heard later that a piece of metal had been found, which was also lent to me. I also forwarded this to Professor Windle, and he obtained Sir John Evans' opinion upon it, who came to the conclusion that it was a fibula, or brooch, of Saxon date. I think it very curious and interesting, and yet somewhat puzzling, to find Paleolithic and Neolithic, and Saxon implements and remains in the same pit. But it is probable that the Paleolith and Neolith worked the pit for flints, and that the remains were of later date. I took some rough sketches of them, and shall be pleased to show the same to any person interested.—ALFRED BULLARD, Tickford Lodge, Newport Pagnell.

Professor Windle says :—1. Bones.—The femora (thigh bones) are those of an individual about 5 feet 4 inches or 5 feet 5 inches in height. These bones are distinctly pilastered—*i.e.*, they have an unusually well-marked ridge on the posterior surface, largely due to the strong muscles thereto attached. There are also two acetabula, the cups with which the thigh bones articulate—and the greater part of the skull. I have no reason to doubt that all these bones belong to one person. The skull is clearly dolichocephalic, though being imperfect I cannot measure it. That is, it is of the long narrow type, possessed by the so-called Iberician race of the Neolithic period. Stones.—That marked 1 is a natural product, and the bevelled side seems to be the result of fracture rather than a grinding. It is probably, I am told, a piece of Lincolnshire limestone. It may have been used as an implement. The fact that it is a stone foreign to the district and found with a body seems to indicate that it had been used for some purpose. The larger flint looks like a Paleolithic implement which has been re-worked at a later period, and such, I should think, is its history. The smaller flints are clearly Neolithic—one of them is a well-worked arrow-head triangular, tanged and double-barbed; the others are of the small chips of lava so common in that period. The interment thus appears clearly to be of the Neolithic period.

BICENTENARY OF A VESTRY ACCOUNT BOOK IN USE.—At the Easter Vestry Meeting at Hurley the book in which the Churchwardens for Church Expenses was presented to the meeting, was purchased on June 20th, 1698, and has been used ever since.—F. J. WETHERED.

HURLEY PRIORY SEALS. — *Errata* p. 115, line 29, for Niesman read Niweman. Under Seal No. CX. for February 3rd, 1300, read Wednesday before Annunciation (March 25th), and for This Deed which is made, &c., read This Deed, the Seal of which, &c.

Replies.

MALTHUS FAMILY (p. 122).—See "Collections for a History of the Family of Malthus," by J. O. Payne, London, 1890. Pedigrees will be found in Morant's "Essex," II., 543, and in Richard's Collection at the British Museum, Add. MS. 28,668, fo. 209. The following are stray notes:—

Wills of Berkshire Malthuses in the P.C.C.—

1646.	Malthus, Robert	5.	Twisse.
1655.	" Margery, widow.	291.	Aylett.
1658.	" John.	506.	Wotton.
1668.	" Wm.	128.	Hene.

There are probably others.

1654, June 3. Will of Gilbert Garrard, of Shinfield, gentleman. "To my son-in-law John Malthus ten shillings and to Anne his wife and to every of their children five shillings apiece." Proved 27th Sept., 1658 (P.C.C., 400 Wotton).

1603-25. Chancery proceedings, James I., Malthus v. Blaggrave. M. 9/36 refers to the water mills at Reading.

1580-81. Deed between John Malthus of Benefield, gent., and Richard Malthus in reference to land, mills, &c., next the land of John Thomsberie. Signature and seal of John Malthus. (Coleman's Catalogue No. 202, vol. 23, lot 135, 1891.)

1582. Deed between Richard of Bendfield, gent., and Roger Byddle in reference to land in Bendfield. Signature of Richard Malthus. (Coleman's Catalogue No. 202, vol. 23, lot 332, 1891.)

1580-81. Deed between John Malthus of Bendfield, gent., and Richard Malthus, son of the said John, in reference to the mansion house and land in Bendfield. Signature of Richard Malthus. Witnesses, John Treman, parson, William Monntague and others. (Coleman's Catalogue No. 204, vol. 23, lot 6, 1891.)

1721. Deed between the Mayor and Corporation of Reading and Reginald Fellows of Reading, Esq., in reference to Minster mill and lands late in possession of Robert Malthus and previously of Thomas Thorne. Signature of Richard Richards and Corporation seal. (Coleman's Catalogue No. 208, vol. 23, lot 177, 1892.)—G.F.T.S.