



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.

READING ABBEY.—Dr. Hurry has discovered a large number of tiles which came from Reading Abbey, and will be described in a later number of the Journal.

LONG WITTENHAM, BERKS.—*Extract from the Churwardens' Accounts.*—The Disbursements of Tho. Butler and Rob. Bateman, Churchwardens, for ye year 1727 :—

Pd. for Bread and Wine at Witsuntide	0	3	7
Pd. for Bread and Wine at Mickallmas	0	3	7
The Bell founders Bill is	14	13	11
Paid the carage of the bell	2	2	0
Spent at Alle house when the bell was hangd	0	1	8
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	16	17	7
the old brases waid 23 pounds at 6 pens the pound	0	11	6
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here is the whole charg	16	6	1

THE FIND OF POTTERY, &C., AT SULHAM.—There is a document among the Wilder papers (16th Century or early 17th) which gives as a property boundary "The road leading from Barrow House to Boxgrove." Boxgrove is well known; Barrow House is not. Perhaps this find was the contents of the very barrow which gave the name to the house. It is close to the road leading by Boxgrove.—F. H.

HOUSE AT CORNER OF BROAD AND MINSTER STREETS.—My name was used in connection with the above in the "Reading Standard." I have no remembrance of having discussed the matter with the late Dr. Cox, and certainly I never gave the matter sufficient thought to express an opinion for appearance in print. I may in course of chat have said "Why did Walsingham want a town house when Englefield was so near."—I think it was Norris, not Walsingham, who entertained Elizabeth at Englefield; I am not quite sure without referring to the calendar of State Papers.—F. H.

CHURCHYARD INSCRIPTIONS.—This is a work which members of County Societies can well perform, to copy out the inscriptions on the tomb-stones in our churchyards. These are valuable for purposes of family histories and genealogy, and being so perishable it is important that all should be copied, stored in the libraries of Societies, and printed in Parish Magazines. Rules have been drawn up by a Committee of the Congress of Archæological Societies, of which Lord Balcarras, M.P., F.S.A., is Chairman, and these will be supplied to anyone who will undertake to copy the inscriptions in our churchyards. We commend this scheme heartily to our readers.

THE MANORIAL SOCIETY.—This Society has been formed for the preservation, study, copying and printing of Manorial records, and has begun an excellent work. Much of our English local history has still to be written, and it depends greatly for its accuracy on the study of manor rolls, many of which have been "lost, stolen or strayed." To recover these, decipher them and print them and to develop the study of the whole history of manors, is the work of this admirable Society, of which Mr. Charles Greenwood is the registrar, and our correspondent Mr. N. J. Hone, archivist. The address is 1, Mitre Court Buildings, Temple, London, E.C. Antiquarian Associates pay one guinea a year, and Scriptors half-a-guinea. Perhaps some of our readers would like to join.

Queries.

AMONG your researches into the History of Berkshire have you ever come across any members of the Wickham Family in connection with Abingdon. There seems to have been a William Wickham there about 1580 with four sons, two of whom were at Trinity College, Oxford. I do not imagine they were of the Swalcliffe Family, but am not certain. I should like to meet with a thoroughly trustworthy Pedigree of the various branches of the Wykeham Family connected with Berks, Oxon and Hampshire, and also Gloucestershire. You may know of such, and I should be grateful for any information you can give me. I was deeply interested in your account of the Wilcotes of Wilcote and Great Tew, who were connected by marriage with the Wickhams, and also with the Family of Beaufoy or Beaufoy or de Belle Fago, at Bereford in Oxfordshire.—W. M. BIRCH, The Vicarage, Bampton Aston, Oxon.

FORBURY HILL, READING.—Has it ever occurred to you that this might have been the old Moot Hill or Toot Hill? On the other hand no early mention of it occurs, so it may equally be possible it is composed of rubbish from the ruins of the Abbey.—F. H.