

for the purpose to Bisham Church. She wrote an epitaph on Sir Thomas ending :—"Tu Deus aut similem Thomas mihi redde maritum. Aut reddant Thomæ me mea fata viro. Give me O God a husband like unto Thomas, or else restore me to Thomas." She was careful about her own funeral. In a letter to the Garter King of Arms she asked what number of mourners were due to her calling, what number of waiting women, pages, gentlemen ushers, Lords and gentlemen, etc. She concludes : Good Mr. Garter, do it exactly, for I find fore warnings that lead me to provide a pick-axe. There is a splendid monument to her in Bisham Church, and a memorial window. So much has been written about the blotted copy book, on account of which Lady Russell is said to have flogged one of her sons to death, that you may like to hear the statement made by Mr. George Vansittart's mother—her memo. is undated, but Murray states the discovery was in 1840. The corner of the dining room wall having given way, owing to alterations in the windows, part of the floor was taken up to get at the foundations. Between the joists were found quantities of rubbish, old papers and copy books, sufficient to fill two clothes baskets. Mrs. Vansittart visited the house the day after the discovery and looked over the copy books, which were all signed by various members of the Hoby family and corrected by Lady Russell. In one, "of William Hoby, "I think, every leaf had some blot. I wanted to take two or three "away with me that day, but Mrs. East wished to keep them all till "Admiral Henry Vansittart had examined them. When I asked "for them, all were missing, they suddenly had disappeared, supposed "to be sold by the workmen."

In my opinion there is no proof that Lady Hoby illtreated her son, but time prevents my attempting her vindication.

*(To be continued.)*

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AN OLD RELIC IN WALLINGFORD.—In a room of the older part of the Red Lion Inn at Wallingford thirteen layers of paper were lately removed from the ceiling, and the plaster was found to be covered with a variety of figures in black, evidently traced with the smoke of a lamp or candle. They include a large number of pairs of initial letters, presumably of persons' names, with some rudely sketched devices, one being apparently an anchor, and the date 1662.—J.E.F.