



## 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.*

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#### Notes.

HURLEY PRIORY.—A review of "Berkshire" (Cambridge County Geographies) by H. W. Monckton, F.L.S., F.G.S. in the *Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archaeological Journal* for April, 1911, contains the following remark, viz.:—"Our contributor, the Vicar of Hurley, will quarrel with him [the author of 'Berkshire'] for not discovering the Saxon work at the Priory." But a mistake is involved in these words, inasmuch as there is no Saxon work at all in the Priory buildings; and, further, inasmuch as this Monastery was not founded until 1086 or 1087, there never was any Saxon work in it. Hurley Church, around which the Priory was built, was altogether Saxon when the Monastery was founded. The Church was added to during the Norman period, and thus it stands at the present day.—F. T. WETHERED.

MEMORIALS OF THE FIRST AND LAST ABBOTS OF READING.—Dr. Hurry has added to the debt which Reading owes him, by presenting these memorials to the town. They have been erected in the ruined Chapter House of the Abbey, and were unveiled by Sir William Osler, Bart., on July 10th, in the presence of the Mayor and Corporation and a large company. The Mayor heartily thanked Dr. Hurry for his munificent gift. An interesting booklet, "In honour of Hugh de Boves and Hugh Cook Faringdon, First and Last Abbots of Reading," was prepared for the occasion by Dr. Hurry, recording the story of the lives of the two Abbots. The two memorials are carved each out of a single slab of blue Forest of Dean stone, representing in bold relief scenes from the lives. Mr. W. Ravenscroft, F.S.A., designed the architectural portions, and Mr. W. S. Frith the sculpture. These works of art will be long treasured by the inhabitants of Reading.

BERKSHIRE NOTES AND THE HATFIELD M.SS.—Berkshire is mentioned in the lately issued Calendar of the Hatfield Manuscripts, Part XII. (1910), which may not fall into the hands of many of your readers, but may interest some of them. I.—In 1602 Judges Peter Warburton and Christopher Yelverton, "according to the Council's letters of June 24th with the Queen's command to have such reserved from execution, to be employed as rowers in the galleys, as are of able bodies, and have justly deserved death, and yet are not notorious nor dangerous offenders," reprieved among others in Berks, Anthony Wilson. The Judges add that they find the countries in their circuit very unwilling to bear the charge thereof, only two of the reprieved—not including Wilson—having friends that will contribute £3 a year towards their maintenance. II.—Sir John Norreys, Sheriff in 1602, is to attend the Queen in her passage through Berks, but one of

his house had the small pox a month past, and he knows not whether it be fit that he should do so. III.—1602. Francis, first Baron Norreys, granted to his uncle [name not given] an estate for life in Hamstead Norreys, Everington, Buckhold, lands in Cookham and in Reading. In consideration whereof he released Twyford and Wokingham ("Okingham"); his pretence to them being the mistaking of the counties wherein the fines were levied. Later Lord Norreys complained that he had not been put into the Commission of the Peace. IV.—1602. Elizabeth, Dowager Lady Russell, writes to Cecil that her neighbour Mr. Dolman sends her word that the Queen means to come to his house. "If it please you, to lie in Donnington Castle, the poor desolate widow will afford you and my Lord of Worcester and his lady and my Lord of Shrewsbury and his lady [Bess of Hardwick's daughter] your friends three bedchambers, with inner chambers, Castle fashion, the best I have. (But soft I do not say for yourself and your lady one.) Let me forthwith know your pleasure herein and the day of your coming, that the widow may send for provision to London for your supper and time of Her Majesty's abode here." V.—Postal endorsements on letters of 1602 are given. Bristol, 25th Jan., 9 p.m. Calne 3.45 a.m., 26th, Marlborough 7.30 a.m., Newbury 12 noon, Reading 4 p.m., Hounslow 9 p.m. Another reads "at Reading at paste 10 of the clocke in the morning, At Maydenhead past 1 of the klok in the afternone." But there were complaints. Cecil's "last letters (though signed for life) were in running from the Court to York from 8 in the morning of the 16th till 4 in the afternoon of the 18th. Packets signed with an ordinary pass are for the most part four days in running.—E. K. PURNELL, North Hill, Windlesham.

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### Queries.

ROSE HILL, CAVERSHAM.—Can any reader kindly give any information with regard to the date of the building of this house, and of its early inhabitants?—M.C.M.

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## Proceedings of Societies.

BERKS ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The annual meeting was held on May 4th, Mr. Keyser presiding. The Hon. Secretary's Report was read, which is published in this Journal, and Mr. Walker proposed and Mr. Wright seconded a proposition that it should be received, adopted, and printed and circulated, and that the best thanks of the Society be given to the Secretary. Mr. Ravenscroft presented his cash statement, for which he was thanked. The accounts showed £75 19s. 2½d. received; £69 18s. 6d. expended; leaving a balance of £6 os. 8½d. The Officers were then elected, and Mr. Gordon Hills gave a lecture entitled "Notes on the Customs and Constitutions of the Cathedrals of the Old Foundation, with special reference to Chichester." Tea was provided by the kind invitation of Mrs. F. E. Williams.

Owing to the Coronation festivities the usual excursion in June was abandoned. A two days' excursion has been arranged for July 26th and 27th, to Wells and Glastonbury.

NEWBURY DISTRICT FIELD CLUB.—We hope to publish in our next number the account of the annual meeting, and of the first excursion to Northern Berkshire.