

To the east of the last is the figure of Sir Christopher Lytcot. (Fig. 10). The effigy is about 2 feet 11 inches in height. He is bareheaded, with sword at side, hands clasped on breast. There is a long inscription on a plate below, and a somewhat complicated coat of arms on a shield above his head. Sir Christopher Lytcot, as we are here informed, twice served the office of Sheriff of the County, and is on these occasions described as of Ruscombe, near Twyford. He also died at Bastledon (Basildon). Query, why was he buried at Hanney? The inscription runs as follows:—

UNDER THIS STONE LYETH INTERRED THE CORPS OF S^r. CHRIS
TOPHER LYTCOT KNIGHT TWYCE HIGHSHERIEF OF THE COUNTY
OF BERK (HUSBAND OF TWO WIVES BOTH IN THE SAYD COUN
TYE, THE FORMER JANE ESSEX WIDDOWE OF THOMAS ESSEX
OF BECKETT HOUSE ESQ, THE LATTER CATHERINE YOUNGE WID
DOWE OF WILLM YOUNGE OF BASTLEDON ESQ) KNIGHTED
IN THE CAMPE BEFORE ROANE THE XVTH OF NOVEMB 1591 BY
THE HANDS OF THE FRENCH KINGE HENRY THE FOURTH OF Y^e
NAME, AND KING OF NAVARRE WHO AFTER HIS TRAVAILES IN
GERMANY ITALYE AND FRAUNCE & THE EXECUTION OF JUS
TICE TO THE GLORY OF GOD & THE GOOD OF HIS COUNTRY END
ED THIS PILGRIMAGE AT BASTLEDON Y^e XXVTH OF APRYLL 1599.

(To be continued).

The Preservation of National Monuments in Foreign Countries.

ON page 57 of the July Journal it was stated that a "resume" of the Parliamentary Paper [Cd 6200] Misc. No. 7 [1912] would be given. This paper contains reports from the British Ambassadors and Ministers accredited to the Countries of Austria, Bavaria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, The Netherlands, Russia, Saxony, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the U.S.A., giving particulars of the means adopted in the above-mentioned countries for the preservation of ancient monuments. Within recent years a feeling has been gradually growing in Great Britain that steps should be taken to preserve the ancient monu-

ments in this country. Some few years ago a Royal Commission, with Lord Burghclere as chairman, was appointed to deal with this subject. This Commission is still sitting. In the House of Commons a desire has also arisen that it would be of great interest and service if information could, through the Foreign Office, be obtained, which would describe in what manner ancient monuments are preserved abroad. Towards the close of the year 1910 an address presented by the House of Commons instructed the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to obtain such information as was requisite. Hence the report to which we have already alluded.

To take these countries *seriatim*, in Austria there exists an Imperial and Royal Central Commission for the preservation of monuments. Last year (1910) this Commission was endowed with new statutes. It is composed of a chairman, the Board of Monuments, which is an advisory body, the office of State Monuments and a History of Art Institute. The head official of the Central Commission is the Chief Commissioner, who is appointed by the Austrian Emperor. The duty of this body is to preserve all memorials of artistic or historical importance (except written memorials) whose preservation is thought desirable on account of their bearing on the history of the Empire or the history of civilisation. The Minister for Public Worship and Education has the supervision of the work of the Commission.

"The Board of Monuments" is composed of fifty members, who have distinguished themselves in either the investigation or preservation of monuments, or in the preservation of scenery, for even this duty is thrown on the Board. The members of this Board are appointed by the Chief Commissioner for five years, at the end of which term they may be re-appointed, their services are honorary. The Board must meet at least once a year, when a report from the Central Commission is placed before it. To enable the Board to efficiently perform its duties, the chairman has the right to request any member or members to give their expert opinion on the preservation of any monument, and the members so called on to give their opinion are bound by statute to do so, and they must give the desired information "with all possible speed."

The office of State Monuments. The officials who compose this body are of two classes. (1) Those versed in the history of art, having been technically trained—in addition they must have a knowledge of law—they are counted as members of the Austrian Civil Service. (2) General conservators for the technical branches, this

latter class of officials are engaged at a salary, and have special districts assigned to them in which they have to settle all matters concerning the preservation of "monuments," and to prepare an official inventory of all such monuments, the senior local conservator is the official representative of the central commission, and conducts all correspondence both between that body and all corporations and private persons within his district regarding the preservation, etc., of monuments, but he cannot take the initiative in either the demolition or the alteration of monuments. The office for State Monuments can if they think fit, but subject to the Chief Commissioner's approval, appoint architects, engineers, artists, etc., as consulting experts, and can send them to report or superintend any important work which is being undertaken. For their services these consulting experts receive remuneration.

The History of Art Institute. This body is presided over by a professor from one of the Austrian Universities. Unlike the members of the Board of Monuments, he receives a fixed salary, and to assist him in his duties he is allowed a "staff of subordinates." The Institute is responsible for the issue of all publications connected with all important monuments, in addition to which, it has under it, the control of State Museums, or any museums subsidized by the Government. Another of its duties is to conduct courses of instruction on the preservation of monuments.

Turning to the German Empire, reports are furnished by three States. In Bavaria, the charge of national monuments, by which is meant not only relics of the Middle Ages and Renaissance, but also all earlier remains that may be regarded as part of the national history of the country, is entrusted to "The General Conservatory of Artistic Monuments and Antiquities of Bavaria" (a department of the Ministry of Public Worship), whose members are specialists in pre-historic archæology, the later history of art, and practical artists experienced in the work of archæology.

All national monuments are by law protected from destruction, and those who commit damage are liable to a fine of 150 marks or imprisonment. Furthermore, the law directs that no landowner, even on his own property, can carry out any excavations, unless the consent of the Government has been first obtained. Should the necessary permission be granted, the explorer is compelled by law to inform the local authorities of any antiquarian discoveries that have been made, and at the same time all work of exploration must cease and the "finds" left in their original position. Should the authori-

ties take no steps within a week the work can proceed. These regulations, arbitrary as they seem to English ideas, enable the State to obtain any object of interest brought to light by the excavations.

To preserve existing monuments, local district correspondents are appointed, whose commission lasts for five years, but can be renewed. These correspondents have to furnish periodical reports of the condition of all monuments within their district, i.e., if such are in danger of falling to ruin, or being "barbarously restored," if creepers or plants growing upon or around them are being wantonly removed, if new buildings are about to be erected, which would hide the old house or destroy the harmony of the landscape, if valuable ceilings or panellings in private houses are likely to be sold or are perishing, if mural paintings or inscriptions are found, if agricultural works, the making of roads or canals are likely to cause the destruction of tumuli or fortifications. Yet, aided as the State is by the information supplied to the Central Authority for the preservation of monuments, the Report furnished by the British Diplomatic Representative in Bavaria states that the law, in many cases, has not the power to prevent a certain amount of destruction from taking place. Moreover, the Bavarian Government has unfortunately no large amount of money with which it can purchase a building for the State, a yearly sum of 8,000 marks, provided in the estimates, which can be utilised (1) for making a grant to those who wish to excavate on their own land, (2) or for any other purpose connected with pre-historic archæology; but indirectly there is an influence exercised by the State, which is in all probability not known to most English people, that is, the respect felt for Government Departments in Germany is much greater than in England, so that the body entrusted with the case of the Bavarian national monuments can procure by its position and influence that which the same kind of body could not accomplish in England. There is another way in which the State has immense power in the protection of old ecclesiastical buildings. By the law of Bavaria, all property which belongs to the church is under the supervision of the Government, so that no priest can restore his church until he has informed the Government, who refer him to the "General Conservatory of Artistic Monuments," which includes amongst its members "experts in the work of restoration." Yet, in spite of such a stringent rule, the Director of the General Conservatory makes the confession "that a certain number of priests do manage to mutilate their churches." The influence of the State is also felt through the local districts and

towns being empowered to make rules either for the erection of new buildings or the restoration of old ones, even old castles are not exempt. At Würzburg, only tiles of a red colour can be used for roofing purposes, because those of "any other colour would interfere with the beauty of the landscape." Plans for new edifices must be laid before the local authorities. Should these corporations think that the proposed new building interfere in any way with any existing one, the case is sent to the General Conservatory for their decision, who, according to the report, deal with the matter by requiring that the new building should not be aggressively large, neither must its contour break the existing rhythm of line and mass.

As the Government have so much power both in the matter of preserving existing monuments and in the supervision of exploration, it is to a large extent able to say on what lines that exploration shall be carried out, consequently it is thought wise to preserve and catalogue such monuments as are in existence rather than to explore for new ones. In the opinion of the Director of the General Conservatory, the discovery of a "few sword blades" or "cinerary urns" is not the "end and aim of exploration," the peculiarities of the site and the position of the objects in their resting place are far more important to science than the antiquities themselves. Again, it is considered the wisest policy that explorations should be carried out on a large scale and systematically over a wide area. Thus, the money voted by Government should (so the Director states) be solely used for the exploration of the Roman "limes." When this enterprise is finished, then another and a different field of work should be performed. "Like at Silchester and other places in England, all foundations under the soil, after they have been discovered, should be photographed and measured, after which the soil should be replaced." As regards "the finds," in cases where the State assists by pecuniary grants for the discovery of antiquities, it can naturally insist that these shall be placed in the public museums, or in those of antiquarian societies whose rules allow that if such societies cease to exist, then the objects should become automatically State property. In the opinion of the Director, many of the discoveries are from burial places and are for this reason sacred, and so cannot be looked upon as the discoverers' own property.

J. HAUTENVILLE COPE.

(To be continued.)