

Aotes 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.

THE Editors express the earnest hope that a larger number of Correspondents will avail themselves of these pages, and thus help those responsible for the publication of this Journal to extend its usefulness. There are several Queries—inserted in the Journals for 1912—still remaining unanswered. It is hoped that some readers may solve them.

Aotes.

PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.—By an Order in Council dated November 22nd, and published in the London Gazette of November 25th, it is prescribed that section 14 of the Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act, 1913, shall apply to "the group of stones known as Stonehenge," Amesbury, Wiltshire, as well as to the following, among others:—The tumulus known as Wayland Smith's Forge, Ashbury, and Uffington Castle, in Berkshire.

WOKINGHAM CURFEW.—The curfew which had been rung at 8 o'clock nightly at the parish church, Wokingham, for more than 200 years, and which was recently stopped owing to the 40/- per annum, derived from a rent-charge on a piece of land on the Bear Wood Estate at Finchampstead, being disputed by the new owner, is again being rung. A gentleman, who wishes to be anonymous, has come forward with the necessary funds for the tolling of the evening bell, and has also made arrangements to have it tolled in perpetuity.

Queries.

EARLY MENTION OF BRICKS.—Page 91, Berks Archæological Journal, October, 1913. Will someone kindly give the sizes of bricks before 1800?—E.E.C.

MASON FAMILY.—In the History of Reading by the Rev. Charles Coates, 1802, p. 170, there is a copy of a monument in St. Laurence's Church to Margaret the wife of Anthony Mason, who died 6 March, 1630. Arms: a lion rampant, impaling pal of six, overall a bend dexter.

The Rev. Kerry in his History of the Municipal Church of St. Laurence, p. 139, also copies it.

In the Reading Records, Vol. 2, p, 440, under date 3 Dec., 1628: "At this Court it was agreed that Mr. Anthony Mason shall be sworn an Attorney of this Court."

Is anything further known of Anthony, who was his wife, had they children? In the Richards MSS. in the British Museum (Berks, add. MSS. 28660-677), p. 275, under Sandhurst: "The manor of Sandhurst which was sold by Anthony Mason, alias Weekes, father of said John Mason, Proceedings in Chancery, John Mason, alias Weekes, Esq. John Mason, and John Mason his son, they also were of Hartley Wintney." Again, p. 404: "Sutton Courtney was held by Sir John Mason and Elizabeth his wife, reversion came to Anthony Weekes, alias Mason, Esq., afterwards Elizabeth, widow of Anthony Mason."

The D.N.B., Vol. 36, p. 425, states that Sir John Mason's nephew, Anthony Weekes, assumed the name of Mason and had a considerable progeny. Was the Anthony of Reading a descendant?

In the Will of William Fynmore, dated 25 July, 1646 (126, F. Wisse), of St. Giles, Oxford, occurs this bequest: "To my two grand children by law, Anne and Jane Mason, daughters of Mr. Anthony Mason, deceased, each £30 when of age." W. F. was a native of Reading. I imagine that Anne and Jane would be his wife's grandchildren, she being a widow when married to Fynmore.

In the parish register of North Hinksey, Berks, is the following entry: "Christian ffynmore ye wirf of William ffynmore was buried, decimo die Novembris 1619." Her maiden name is not known.

The register of St. Mary Magdalen, Oxford, has the marriage 7 Aug., 1621, of "Mr. William Finmer of Hinkesey to Mrs. Linke of this Parish." And in the burials of St. Mary Magdalen; "20 April, 1622, Mrs. Finmer, in the Minister's Chapel." Apparently her former husband was buried there 27th January, 1617-18 (Mr. Robert Linke, M.A.). The solution would be that Anne and Jane Mason were daughters of a daughter of either of the wives of William Fynmore. Am desirous of proving the exact relationship.—R. J. Fynmore, Sandgate.

WHOSE is the stone coffin lid now in the "coal hole" under the tower of White Waltham Church?—A.F.P.

Proceedings of Societies.

BERKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—On Monday, July 21st, this Society made an expedition to Hanney, Lyford, Denchworth and Charney Bassett. All these places were described in a lecture by our President on April 4th 1913, which is published in this Journal of October of last year, so that there is no need to repeat what has already been so eloquently told.