

breeches, stockings, and a ruff. The boys wear the same dress, but have plain turned-down collars. The ladies wear peaked bodices with plain sleeves, ruffs, French bonnets, and skirts distended at the hips with farthingales.

The inscription is as follows :—" Here lyeth buried the bodye of Richard Geale and Eliz : his wife who had issue 4 sonnes & 5 daughters. The saide Richard deceased the 18 Sept. Anno Dni. 1608."

In the centre of the south aisle is a slab with armorial bearings purporting to cover the grave of William Chislett, who died in 1671. He was undoubtedly buried in the church, but the stone may possibly have been moved during the restoration. Some account of this person will be given in the following chapter.

(To be continued.)

Proceedings of Societies.

BERKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—On December 11th an extremely interesting lecture was given by Mr. Cator, F.S.A., illustrated by lantern slides, on "The Friars, with particular reference to the Austin Friars of London." Mr. Cator has promised to publish this lecture in one of this year's Journals, when our members will have the pleasure of reading it at length. Mr. Dawber, Fellow and Secretary of the Royal Institution of British Architects, on the 28th January took as his subject "Three Mountain Roads in Tyrol and Italy." This lecture was illustrated by slides from photographs which Mr. Dawber had taken when travelling in the district he so ably described in his lecture. At both these lectures, in the unavoidable absence of the President, the chair was taken by the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield.

"Three Mountain Roads in Tyrol, Austria and Italy." After dealing with the importance of these as means of communication from the earliest ages, Mr. Dawber spoke of them in detail. The first, the great Brenner route from Southern Austria to Italy, perhaps the most important, as being the oldest and lowest route over the Alps. The second, the Stelvio route, the highest carriage road in Europe, 9,055 feet above sea level, used by the Austrians as a great military road in 1820. The third, the great St. Bernard route, crowned at the summit by the Hospice of St. Bernard—leading from Switzerland to the Val d'Aosta in Northern Italy. Referring to the importance of these roads as arteries of traffic between the north and south of Europe, the special characteristics of the countries through which they passed, the varied and interesting types of houses, the wealth of detail and lavish decoration of the buildings in the towns and cities, the districts through which the great tide of Italian craftsmen passed in the Middle Ages, and which are still stamped with their influence and artistic genius, were all mentioned. The methods of irrigation in the valleys and

mountain slopes, by which the water rushing down from the melted icefields of the mountains is conducted over them, and the many scenes met with in the villages and hamlets were illustrated by a beautiful series of lantern slides. The methods of growing the vines and gathering and stacking the grapes in large baskets were all shown very clearly. The Hospice of St. Bernard, founded in 968 A.D., being the highest winter habitation in the Alps, was admirably illustrated, the intense cold and gloom of the surroundings being evident from the pictures which were exhibited. The pass is generally covered with snow for eight or nine months in every year, and an average of 15 years is all the monks can endure of the rigorous climate. All food and fuel have to be carried to the monastery from the valley below. A slide was shown of the interesting village of Bourg St. Pierre, where Napoleon breakfasted in the old inn on his journey across the St. Bernard in 1810. Mr. Dawber related the scenes of desolation and the enormous difficulties of the road construction of the Stelvio route, and then proceeded to describe the beautiful old-world Italian towns and villages met with on the southern slopes of the Alps, and showed some beautiful features of the old villages, now burnt and destroyed by the Austrians, as much of the district described in the lecture is the scene of the present fighting. Some pictures of Orta and Omegna brought the lecture to a conclusion.

A very cordial vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed by Mr. Theodore White, which was seconded by the Chairman, who gave a short history of the Tyrol, which in early times was occupied by the Rhaetians, who were akin to the Etruscans, and by other tribes. These were conquered by the Romans, and the people were Romanised. Along the valleys came invaders, the Alemanni and Teutons from the north, and the Lombards from the south. The district passed on the breaking up of the Roman Empire to the Frankish monarchy, and was held by dukes, and then divided into counties, each county being ruled by a count, who in course of time became an hereditary ruler. Tyrol was originally a small district near Meran, but the Counts of Tyrol were enterprising personages, and became lords of the whole country. Count Mainhard II. in the 13th century was very powerful, able, and unscrupulous, and acquired the whole district and consolidated it. His grand-daughter Margaret, called "Pocket-mouth," made over all Tyrol to the House of Hapsburg, and it became the hereditary dominion of the Archdukes of Austria. There had been several fightings in the district. In 1499 the Grisons of Switzerland invaded Tyrol and defeated the Tyrolese. In 1703 Max Emanuel, Elector of Bavaria, invaded it, but was driven back. During the wars of the French Revolutionary period the French and Austrians fought in these valleys and mountains. By the treaty of Presburg in 1805 it was transferred to Bavaria. In 1809 the people rose and expelled the Bavarians. Afterwards, under the patriot Andrew Hofer, an inn-keeper, the Tyrolese defeated the French, Bavarians, and Saxons, and Hofer was installed as commandant at Innsbruck, Austria being unable to come to the rescue of the oppressors. On the fall of Napoleon in 1815, Tyrol reverted to the House of Hapsburg. At the close of the present war the speaker hoped that it would be included in the kingdom of our Allies, the Italians, who were fighting so bravely amidst the difficult mountainous country.

The vote of thanks to the Lecturer was accorded with acclamation, and a similar vote was passed to the Rev. Morris and Mrs. Williams for kindly entertaining the members to tea. The Chairman alluded in sympathetic terms to the recent death of the Rev. J. E. Howe, who had for some years been a member of their Society. Mr. Howe took a great deal of interest in their work, and some members would recollect that he had lectured to them.