

tham de Whigtham de comitatu Berk' debere Petro de Hanney abbati ecclesie B. Marie de Abyndon et ejusdem loci conventui et eorum successoribus centum libras argenti, solvendas eisdem Petro et conventui et eorum successoribus et assignatis aut suis certis attornatis hanc litteram ostendentibus in festo sancti Michaelis proximo futuro post datam confectionis presentium. Et nisi fecero, concedo quod currat super me heredes et executores meos districtio et pena provisa in statuto domini regis pro mercatoribus edito. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum meum una cum sigillo domini regis de consignationibus debitorum Oxonie presentibus est appensum. Dat' apud Oxoniam coram Iohanne Hertwelle maiore ville Oxonie et Hugone le Forester clerico ad recogniciones debitorum predicatorum ibidem accipiendas deputato 22° die Ianuarii anno regni regis Edwardi tercii post conquestum Anglie 46.

Ibidem particula sexta. Ricardus dei gracia rex Anglie & Francie et dominus Hibernie vicecomiti Berk' salutem. Cum nuper per quandam inquisitionem apud castrum nostrum Oxonie coram Iohanne, priore sancte Frideswide Oxonie et Iohanne Dautry clerico ad omnia maneria, hameletta, honores, dominia, villas, terras, tementa, feoda, parcos, boscos, chaceas, warrennas, piscarias, libertates et quascumque alias possessiones nostras in comitatu tuo supervidendum et de novo extendi faciendum assignatis captam, in Scaccarium nostrum retornatam, compertum fuisset quod nos habuimus dare officium cuiusdam valecti custodientis sylvam abbatis de Abbendon apud Radle, &c. Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium 30 die Iunii anno regni xi°. Ipsa inquisitio facta erat undecimo Aprilis anno regni Ric. II. decimo.

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## Roman Relics at Shiplake.

*By Emily J. Climençon.*

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**B**UILT into the south wall of the Church are many Roman bricks, also in the tower which formerly stood separate from the body of the Church, the present south aisle being the original Church. In the floor of the tower in November, 1910, many Roman bricks were discovered on breaking open a door for the ringers to enter without having to pass through the Church—with

these a most curious ærolite stone in the floor. These were given to me by the Vicar, the Rev. R. Wynter.

In January, 1907, a gardener employed in digging a kitchen garden at a new house called "The Bungalow," opposite Shiplake House Lower Lodge, on the hill looking towards Wargrave, found pieces of brick constantly in turning up the earth. Some of these were brought to me, when I recognised them as Roman. I bade him be careful to bring me anything else he found, and soon afterwards a black unpolished jug lip of Samian ware was discovered, and two other fragments of pottery. Through that summer, at intervals, more bricks, and rims of vessels, and pieces of pottery were found, and on October 5th, 1909, I took the fragments to show Mr. Colyer, at Reading Museum, and he pronounced them to be undoubtedly Roman. From time to time other pottery was found, but on November 9th, 1909, in felling a small tree, the same gardener broke accidentally a large Roman amphora, of which 30 pieces, including the base, were recovered, together with five pieces of black Samian, two rims of vessels, four teeth, a jaw bone, and other bones of a wild pig, all in the same spot.

My theory of this find is that there must have been either a small villa or sentinel's look-out towards the Wargrave Roman road encampment. The situation commands that view, and would point to that chain of forts and camps some of the old historians have asserted crossed the counties here. The next being the circumvalled camp at Harpsden Court with the newly-discovered Roman villa on Mr. Maberley Smith's ground in upper Harpsden wood found in 1911 in perfect condition. This villa probably was the home of the commanding officer of either the lower Harpsden camp or of Ancastle, or Aen Castra, at the top of Badgemore Hill, where Roman coins have been found. Mr. Maberley Smith found many coins at his most interesting and perfect remains of a Roman villa at Harpsden Wood House, described by Mr. Tashby in the *Archæological Journal*, Vol. xviii., 269, 2nd series, Vol. xviii., No. 1, pp. 43, 48.

