

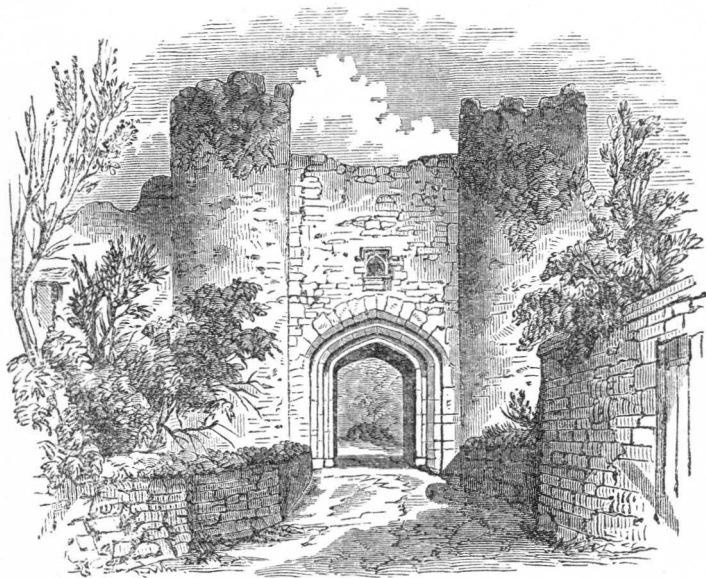
# NOTES ON AMBERLEY, ITS CASTLE, CHURCH,

ETC.,

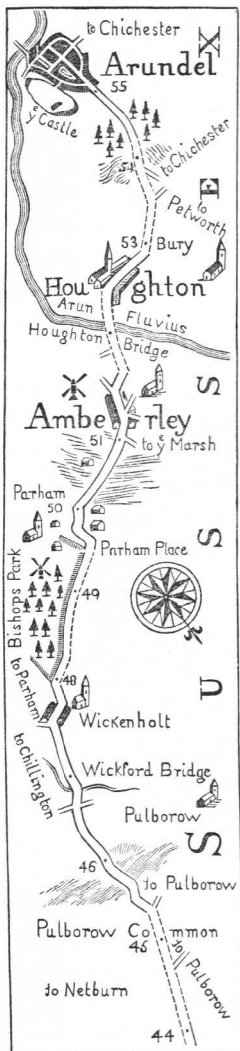
BY THE

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VICAR.



THE Castle of Amberley, an appendage to the See of Chichester, is situated in a parish and manor of the same name. The latter (having privileges of Courts Baron and Leet, with view of Frankpledge), comprises the Tithings of Amberley, Cold-Waltham, and Ashfold, and runs into the parishes of Houghton, Cold-Waltham, Fittleworth, Wisborough Green, and Rudgwick. The population of Amberley, including the Hamlet of Rackham, Recham, or Racomb, was according to the census of 1861, 650. Its estimated acreage is 2,900. The Benefice is ecclesiastically designated the Vicarage of Amberley, with Houghton Chapel; Houghton, however, being a parish *per se*, with a population put at 165.



Amberley,<sup>1</sup> otherwise Amberlegh, Aumberle, Ambrolega, lies about 5 miles N. of Arundel, its post town, and about 12 N.E. of Chichester. We read of it as a town;<sup>2</sup> as a pleasant country village, but lying very low; as a long scattered street of mean buildings; as a thoroughly secluded village, but one that should be visited by all who are in its neighbourhood; as a great thoroughfare from London to Arundel; as distant from the Standard in Cornhill, 43 computed and 51½ measured miles, at a time when Tooting was *Touting*, and Dorking was *Darking*; and in 1861, as one of those picturesque old-world villages, which may still be found, beyond the influence of the railway navvy. In August, 1863, it was brought more into communication with the outer world, by means of the railway, which runs through it, connecting the Mid-Sussex and the South-Coast lines of the Brighton Company. Amberley Station is about 55 m. from London, and about 1 m. from the Castle.

To the south of the parish lie the South Downs, of which the escarpments of white and grey chalk, (in lime from which a brisk trade for agricultural and building purposes is carried on,) with Amberley Mount, form noticeable features. It must have been along or

<sup>1</sup> The derivation does not appear clear. *Amber*, says Mr. M. A. Lower, is a very ancient Celtic word, and means a Druidical stone.—*Ambe*, amphora, a tub.—Could Amberley have acquired the name in anticipation of smuggling days, when illicit spirits were stowed away there! The names of Ambersham, Ambergate,

Amberstone, Ombersley, Amesbury, may afford some clue to the *unde derivatur*.

<sup>2</sup> Vide Mag. Brit.; Gent. Mag., 1793; Pen. Mag., 1844; Road from Lond. to Arund., by J. Ogilby, Esq., His M. Cosmographer, 1675; Warburton Coll<sup>ns</sup>, Brit. M. 836; Black's Suss.

in proximity to the Mount, that Arthur Young's course lay, when, on his way from Findon to Arundel, he very fortunately, as he narrates, lost his road on the Downs, and went round by Houghton Bridge—fortunately, from its leading him along the Down edge, with noble views over the wild. “The whole scene glorious!”

On the west of the parish,<sup>3</sup> reminding us of Isaac Walton's Amerly Trout,<sup>4</sup> runs the river Arun, or, as it has been designated, “the High Stream in Arundel Rape, to difference it from all rills, currents, and streams therein, and in the other Rapes;” otherwise, “the Alta Ripa,” and the “Hault Rey, half Norman and half Saxon.”

The Castle (“the crumbling towers of Episcopal Amberley,” to borrow Mr. Lower's words) and the nestling village stand upon a bed of sandstone, above the valley of the Arun, which disperses its tidal and upland waters on circumjacent meadows and pastures. In this district, provincialized as the *Brooks*<sup>5</sup> or *Wild Brook*, were the Weald Brooks of

<sup>3</sup> The Farmer's Tour through E. of Eng., Vol. 3., Lond., 1771.

<sup>4</sup> A few *entrées* from the Fish Tattle of the Water Bailiff, may add variety to the Trout served up above, and be of interest, with reference to the plan for *salmonizing* the Arun. The record tells of the Functionary himself, charged with the care of the lymitts of the stream and with the oversight of the Fishermen, in their several Bayliwicks; of the *Stelliones* or *Troute*, the red spotted, bred in the North water-fall, the black spotted, in the gravel of the W. water; of the *Mullet*, reputed as not coming up above Arundel, counted the best and fattest in England; of the *Carp* from the Pitts and Ponds, issuing from the river, where he had birth and breeding; of the *Pyke*, a ruffling, snarling Fish; of the sided *Bream*, the healing *Tench*, the narrow *Dace*, the *Gudgeon*, the scaleless *Minnow*; of *Foels*; of *swans*, their eggs, marks and cignettes; of meshes of nets, to be sized according to the ancient brass pin, sometime kept in Arundel Castle; of process from the Sheriff, Justices of Peace, and the High Court of Admiralty, to be made by the bailiff and his deputies; of Pallingham, the Parson of Stopham's, Greasy, Washingham, Ham, West, Burry, and Canterbury Weares, of Steeple Rye in Amberley;

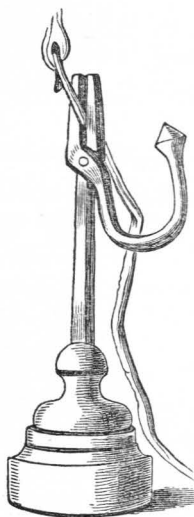
of draw-nett, seyne, and tremel, not to be used in the Fence month, either by the Earl of Arundel, (who may fish with a fore nett to it, in respect of the Castle and Honor of Arundel,) or the Bishop, in right of his Castle of Amberley, or the Prior of Hardham, whose interest Sir Wm. Goring hath.—A descrip. of the High Stream of Arund., transcribed from a Book commencing with the Bailiesship of Lawrence Eliot, Esq., A.D., 1712.

<sup>5</sup> The Amberley application of the word *Brooks* to the superficial area of grass, peat, &c., which is intersected by ditches, has a parallel elsewhere. “The Brooks are often only the marshy meadows themselves, which nourish and are watered by such streams, in which; they answer to the old high German buroch, *palus*.”—(Kemble.) Kemble inclines to some connexion between *Brook* and *brackish*, though he cannot trace it. See Mr. Lower's paper, Suss. Arch. Coll., vol. xv., p. 164.

An illustration of the term *Wild Brook* is given in a note to that discursive work, the Polyolbion, which relates,

“Thence the light Muse to th' Southward soares,  
The Surrian and Sussexian shores;  
The Forests and the Downes survaies,  
With Rilletts running to those seas.”

earlier days; the vast bog, north of Amberley Castle; the peat pits; the skirts of the great wood *Andredswald*. Here, in the memory of the Amberley native, the pig of Amberley had pannage, roamed, and multiplied; here, it is likely, were some of the cherished spots forbidden to the goose;<sup>6</sup> here grew the sedge hassocks (nature's type, it may be, of the primitive *Prie-Dieu*, the hassock of our churches); here grew the rush, which, peeled, greased, and grasped by the standard or pendent forceps, lighted the gude-woman at her spinning wheel, the farm-house dame and *homeling*. Here thrived the raspberry and the cranberry, the latter a fruitful source, about 50 years ago, of cottage incomings; as hovering here, the osprey is depicted;<sup>7</sup> here, wind and water rocked the reed-warbler's nest; and here, still linger the snipe and the wild duck.



Quaintly-worded, if not archaic,<sup>8</sup> lists of plants tell of the Weald Brooks or their vicinage, (the Amberley district, perhaps, might not appropriate the whole *Flora*,) as the *habitat* of Marsh St. Peter's Wort, Bugle with a red flower, Black-berried Heath, Crow, or Crake berries, Flea Grass, Hare's Tail Rush, Sweet Willow, Quicken Tree, Osmunda Regalis, Marsh Violet. Mullen, with a yellow flower, is assigned to the wall of the

"To this day, we call those woody lands, by *North* the Downes, the Weald: and the Channel of the River that *comes* out of those parts, and discōtinues the Downes about *Bramber* is yet known in Shorham Ferry, by the name of Weald-dick."

Amberley Bucolics would not enumerate, among the melodies of morn,

"The wild brook babbling down the mountain side."

BEATTIE'S SCOTTISH MINSTREL.

<sup>6</sup> Manorial articles provide that a custodian of animals and lands was to be chosen on the day of St. Mary Magdalene (July 22nd; Wheatly on the B. of Common Prayer;) at 1 p.m. Among other duties, he was to keep a dog to drive away the geese from the pastures, "quarum excrementa et plume intoxi-

cant animalia ad magnum tenecium incommodum." The morticine animal (carrion) was to be duly reported, under a penalty of four pence.—Chich. Episc. Reg., (P.) 100.

*Hassock*, a reed or rush; a tuft of rushes or coarse grass.—Halliwell's Dict.

For the process of medicating the *juncus conglomeratus*, or common soft rush, see White's Selborne, Letter xxvi. He estimated that 5½ hours of comfortable light, for a poor family, might be got for a farthing.—Arch: Journal, Vol. xiii., p. 193.

Cranberries sold from a shilling to half-a-crown a quart.

<sup>7</sup> Knox's Ornith. Rambles.

<sup>8</sup> Vide Rev. J. Coxe's Suss.; Gough's Camden.

Churchyard. The Rice plant, so called, we have known searched for in the Brooks.

### THE CASTLE.

Without endorsing the position laid down in "Excursions through Sussex," that the Castle is the only remarkable object in the village, it well deserves attention. Let the reader, however, be prepared for something akin to building castles in the air, inasmuch as a distinguished architectural writer, Mr. Matthew H. Bloxam, has obligingly furnished us with the following remarks upon the ruins called Amberley Castle:—

"The structure is not a Castle, though called so, in the proper sense of the term. It is one of those defensive mansions, of which we have a list of nearly 400, crenellated, embattled, and, to a certain degree, fortified under the Crown. Most of them are still existing in a habitable state, or in ruins. . . . Many of these embattled mansions were, in after times, popularly denominated Castles, but they want many of the characteristics of the old castles."

The principal epochs in the history of the Castle are connected with its *Origin*, *Crenellation*, *Decoration*, and *Decadence*.

*The Origin*.—The history of Amberley dates from an early period, and is associated with the struggles and the fortunes of Ceadwalla, the son of a sub-king of the West Saxons. Ceadwalla, after the strong and active measure of conquering Æthelwealh or Edelwach, King of Sussex, was seized, to use the mild and passive language of the law,<sup>9</sup> of this manor. He appears to have slain his antagonist, about A.D. 670. A disposition of 8 cassates at [Amberley snd] Houghton was made to Wilfrith, Bishop of Selsey. Whether the king, influenced by the vow of a fourth part of the spoil to God's use, which was attributed to him, after devastating the Isle of Wight, compounded or not, for the retention of more fertile spots, by the surrender of the *terra inculta*, the Ley of Amberley, the charter does not recite. The panegyric upon Amberley, as the garden of West Sussex, had not then been pronounced by the auctioneer; and probably the hay of the North Mead (a locality which was early an object of manorial solicitude,<sup>10</sup>) was not culminating towards £6 a ton.

<sup>9</sup> See Lappenberg's Hist. of Eng. under Saxons; Burrell MSS., 5687; Hayley's Ad. MSS., 6343; Kemble's Charters.

<sup>10</sup> Reg. Chich., (P.) 100.

From an Anglo-Saxon Charter<sup>11</sup> of Bishop Brihthelm, in the second year of the reign of Eadwig, ruling the whole island of Albion, it is to be gathered that Ælfsinus had infringed upon Ceadwalla's dispositions, contrary to the Decrees of the Nicene Council, and that recourse was had to the king, in order that restoration might be made. The appeal appears to have found favour, to have met with pleasant looks, and pleasant, not to say, poetic words. *The to have and to hold* was to be enjoyed, as long as the breath of life nourished the body of the Bishop.

Taking an archæological leap into Domesday, we learn that the Bishop held Ambrelie, having being assessed, in the reign of King Edward, and then at 24 hides; that there were, in *demesne*, 2 carucates, 20 Villeins, 13 Borderers, 12 ploughs, 30 acres of pasture, wood for pasture of 7 hogs; *holding of the manor*, William the Clerk, 2 hides; Eldred the Priest, 3; Baldwin, 2½; Radulphus, 2 hides, a virgate and a half; Theodoric, 3 hides; Hincale, 2; between them all, 5 carucates in demesne, 17 Villeins and 25 Borderers, having 5 carucates; that the whole manor, in the time of King Edward, was valued at £20, afterwards at £15; that what the Bishop held, was assessed at £10, and what others held of him, at £7.

The Bishop was said to have assize of bread and provisions in the village of Amberley.

Coming down to Henry I,<sup>12</sup> we find that Ralph, Bishop of Chichester, obtained a grant of free-warren in Amberley. The grant or restoration, which appears to have been made to him, of the ferry of Hotton or Houghton, must have been a concession of importance to a prelate desiring immunity from episcopal cares at the mother church, on his Amberley domain, or seeking its circumambient waters and the South Down ridge, interposed between himself and any opponent.

The episcopate of Ralph Neville, who held the great seal in the reign of John, and in that of Henry III, was simultaneously Chancellor of England and Chancellor of Ireland,<sup>13</sup> has place in our local annals. It is recorded that he constructed, *de novo*, the chancel. The prior existence, not only

<sup>11</sup> Kemble's *Chartæ Anglosaxonicae*, ccccxliv., Brigthelm, 957.

<sup>12</sup> Burrell MSS., 5687.

<sup>13</sup> Foss' *Judges*, ii., p. 423. He died 1244.

of a chancel, or a *quasi* chancel, but also the body of a church, follows, as a legitimate deduction from this documentary proof. Structural evidence points to the same conclusion. From the correspondence<sup>14</sup> of Simon de Seiniz, the steward of Ralph Neville, we get a glimpse at local agriculture, and at some of the mundane affairs of that high ecclesiastical and legal personage. The manor of Aldingbourne, nearer to Chichester, seems to have had the preference as the home farm, over Amberley, in its ultramontane and trans-Arundine severance; the latter, however, probably contributing towards the episcopal commissariat and exchequer. Bearing upon Amberley, are the operation of *marling*,<sup>15</sup> (a favourite one with the steward,) at Wateresfield, the windmill there, in working order, and a claim set up against the Bishop, (*propriæ avenæ communem habere*,) on the part of William de Altâ Ripâ and Dominus Hugh. A writ of *disseisin* as to a dyke, and, in behalf of the Bishop, the king's letters, were legal artillery, sought to be brought into action. William was probably a neighbour at Heringham, otherwise Hardham, or one of "that family of Knights, owners of much land in those parts, and of faire possessions, in the very bosom of the High Stream, from which," according to the water bailiff's account, "they took their name and were called De Hault Rey, which name remains to posterity to this day, being now called Dawtrey, and in Latin, de Alta Ripa."

It would have been of interest, to have been able to substantiate the right of piscary, in the waters of Amberley, on behalf of certain favourites of Ralph Neville, when Dean of Lichfield, no less than a ménage of otters. Under pecuniary pressure, the sale of some of them appears to have been contemplated by R., Chaplain of the Old Temple, who informs the Dean, that, if all were sold, they would fetch six marks, while he could get only three marks and a half, for eight otters.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Royal and other Hist. Letters illustrative of reign of Hen. III., edited by Rev. Walter Shirley.

<sup>15</sup> Ad terminum marlæ, *i.e.* for 15 years; Ducange.

<sup>16</sup> Hist. Letters, *ut supra*.

*A-propos* of otters, are foxes, which, we do not notice to have been obnoxious

at Amberley, at so early a date as at Aldingbourne. There, the destruction of them, called for a man and six dogs, and assumed an importance in the eyes of Bishop Neville's Steward, above the investigation of a case of duality of wives, alleged against William Dens, of Mundham, capellanus (a dispensation, how-



Illustrative of the art of the 13th century is the seal of Thomas de Clympinge, Sacerdos, found in 1864, in a garden at Amberley, belonging to the compiler of this paper. It is of bronze, and has a loop at one end—an arrangement, which might have enabled the priest to append it to his doublet, but not the most convenient for taking impressions. The Rev. Samuel Blois Turner, Rector of All Saints, Southelmham, who has a large collection of seals, writes—

“Of its class I do not know that I ever saw a more beautiful little seal; the design and execution are both very superior to the usual run of the seals of Ecclesiastics. The head is beautifully cut, and the filling up with little bits of tracery is admirable. When next you come into Suffolk, I can show you several specimens of tonsured heads, and you will see that yours surpasses them all.”

Mr. M. A. Lower has a seal, so much resembling that of which an impress is depicted in the woodcut, that Mr. Robert Ready of the British Museum, the apt electrotypist and seal *impressionist*, writes, that he has no doubt they were made by the same artist, and that he thought they were the same, till he found that one was the seal of *Walter*.<sup>17</sup>

Historical notices point to Episcopal quarters at Amberley, more or less residential, at the close of the 13th century. Among these, is the record that Bishop Gilbert de Sancto Leofardo resorted from Amberley to Houghton Chapel, on Christmas eve, 1292, in order to receive the Earl of Arundel, who came from East Dean, that he might be absolved<sup>18</sup>. This was the consequence of some poaching or hunting transactions of the Earl, in Houghton Forest, and of

ever, from the Pope, being reported). In some heterogeneous accounts at Amberley, of the last century, we find a payment for five foxes, 12s. 6d. Other items are—5 dozen sparrows, 1s. 3d.; the melisha; the Clark's wagers; the proef[h]lemation concerning the Distemper among y<sup>e</sup> Beest, 1s. 6d.; bred and wine for the year for the Sakerement, 10s. 4d.; a Silver Communion Patten. £3 1s; a Coffin for y<sup>e</sup> traveler man, 8s. 8d.

<sup>17</sup> The following particulars from Mr. Lower, who has a remarkable regard for the seal above referred to, impart additional interest to our Paper. His youngest son was baptized on a certain Sunday in 1854, by the name of

WALTER. On the following Thursday, calling on the late Rev. James Carnegie, the respected Vicar of Seaford, that gentleman made him a present of a curious old seal, which he had possessed for many years, and which he had long intended to give him. On reaching home, Mr. Lower made an impression of it in wax, and to his great delight and astonishment read its legend, SIT BENEDICTIO DOMINI SUPER CAPUT WALTERI: —“The blessing of the Lord be upon the head of WALTER!”—*Adsit omen*.

<sup>18</sup> Vide Royal Journeys, by W. H. Blaauw, Esq.: *Suss. Coll.*, vol. ii. See also ante, p. 121.



his conduct towards the Bishop, when remonstrated with. Some twelve years earlier, contentions had arisen between the Custos of Arundel and Bishop Stephen de Berkstead, in respect of the Chase of Houghton. It had been made the subject of litigation, and on a *Quo Warranto*, it was adjudged<sup>19</sup> at Chichester, (7th Edward I.) that the matter should stand over, the Earl of Arundel being a Minor. It seems probable that the young blood of this Earl brought about the conflict with Bishop Gilbert, to whom he succumbed, a penitence of three days and a pilgrimage to St. Richard being enjoined. The bold Bishop, thus manifesting the *fortiter in re*, was, if correctly portrayed, not wanting in the milder graces, which belonged to a father of the fatherless, a comforter of the widow, and a pious and humble visitor of the sick and bedridden in cottages.<sup>20</sup>

A roof-tree at Amberley would appear a probable accommodation for him. The presumption of house and home receives confirmation from a record of the institution at Amberley by him of Magister Thomas de Cobeham, to the church of *Rutherforda*, xvi Calends of June, 1300, on the presentation of the Bishop of Rochester.<sup>21</sup>

Of interest, as to the question of residence and otherwise, is Walter de Gedding's return (*comptus*) of Stock of the Bishopric, vacant by the death of Bishop de St. Leofardo, 1305, (33rd Edward I.)<sup>22</sup>

Re-arranging the account, it stands;

In the manor of Aumbrele and Reckham, 2 horses, 24 oxen, 20 cows ; of Aumbrele, 2 bulls.

Our annals, by this time, indicate not only the manor but the manor-house, while architectural diagnosis suggests the agency of hands even of the Norman period.

A prelate coming to the see of Chichester in 1305, John de Langton (the Ex-Chancellor of Edward 2nd),<sup>23</sup> is said to have had great skill in architecture, and to have displayed it in building an episcopal seat called Amberley.<sup>24</sup> It may be observed that the connexion between the Castle (as a part

<sup>19</sup> Burrell MSS., 5687, 545.

<sup>20</sup> Westminster in Cox's Sussex.

<sup>21</sup> Bishop Praty's Reg. Chich., A.D. 1433, or circa, quoting K. Henry's writ for inquiring how many inductions there had been into the Vicarage.

<sup>22</sup> Bishop's Temp: Roll 62.

<sup>23</sup> Ld. Campbell's Chanc., Vol. 1, chap. xii.

<sup>24</sup> Winkle's Arch. and Pictur. Illust. of Cathedrals, Vol. 2.

of the temporalities of the See), and the *Marble Chair* was renewed in the person of Bishop Stratford, Lord Chancellor of Edward the Third.

The trade of the district would be likely to receive an impetus, from the concession by the King (9th Edward II.), to the Bishop, of a Wednesday's market, and of a fair, on the Vigil, Day, and Morrow of St. Giles, Abbot, at Wateresfeld, which now forms a hamlet of Cold Waltham, one of the tithings of the manor, a reservation being made against injuring neighbouring markets and fairs. The act and deed of the king, when down at Lincoln, on behalf of his subjects, located in a kindred watery district of Sussex, is attested by the Bishops of Norwich, Wynton, and Sarum, Adomar de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, Humfrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, Edmond, Earl of Arundell, John de Grey, John de St. John, John de Crum, the Seneschal, and others.

In 1344, the Bishop complains of John Berry, Wm. Chapman and others, that they entered on his warren and chace at Amberley and other places, drove away the deer, and took and carried away his hares, rabbits, pheasants, and partridges. (Pat. 18th. Edward III.)

*The Crenellation.*—Given a manorial residence at Amberley, it is required to make my *house* my *castle*.

Such, it may be surmised, was the problem which William Rede, Fellow of Merton, reputed the best mathematician of his age, set himself, on coming to the bishopric.

The movent power may have been a dread of *ennui*, on being severed from the common room of his college, especially, if he had completed his short history, from the beginning of the world to his own time.<sup>25</sup> Add to this, the bishop may have desired to exercise that constructive faculty, which had developed itself in Merton Library, and to provide shelter from social aggression, as well as from the rain and the *Sou-wester*, driving across Bury and Priest Combes and the Amberley Water, to do battle against the manor house.

Common report assigns to the bishop an earlier step than crenellation. Thus Camden tells of him, in the reign of Edward III., building a castle for his successors. The

<sup>25</sup> Hayley, p. 94.

*Chronicle* of some of the bishops, from Stigand to Richard Mountague records:—

“William Rede, S. T. P. Hic dicitur castrum de Amburley â fundamentis erexisse; doctissimus erat iste pater in theologia and in liberalibus scientiis universis.”

Leland and Dugdale state that he built the Castle, which is described in Godwin, as “*operis egregii.*” Britton tells of his beginning in 1379, and being at work, ten years. Dalloway joins persons and places, whom, *a priori*, we should not expect to see associated; he speaks of bishop Rede and William of Wykeham, as having similar skill in architecture, and displaying it, a striking coincidence, in buildings of a military description at Windsor and Amberley. *Rebuilt* is the word made use of by the Water Bailiff, who gossips about the inhabitants of the stream and of its banks. A conclusion of the following kind appears not unreasonable, that, while other prelates were pioneers in the work, making their essays in domestic architecture, whether Norman, Transitional, or Early English, it was reserved for Bishop Rede, to throw around the fabric which he found, the ægis of his proven architectonic resources, and to apply them in a conservative or destructive direction, on works for purposes of defence or residence, in the way of extension or alteration, as necessity and taste might dictate, and circumstances allow. To his ability in the masonic craft, let the stones, which he piled up so stoutly and so skilfully, testify;

“Si monumentum quæris, circumspice.”<sup>4</sup>

A license to the Bishop, issues from the King at Westminster, by writ of Privy Seal, to strengthen and crenellate his manor (*manerium*) with a wall of stone and lime. (1 or 2 Richard II.)

If archæological canonization were an orthodox proceeding, it would be a graceful tribute from a grateful posterity, to elevate Bishop Rede to this honour, in consideration of his eminent services to the cause of *constructive*, as distinguished from *demonstrative* archæology, furnishing as he did, the *matériel*, the record, and the fabric, which the flux of time has rendered archaic.

His business-like habits, tending toward antiquarian re-

sults, are evinced in his scheme for recording the temporalities of his see; the record, taken from old copies and evidences, was to be handed down to his successors by executors or secretaries. Compliance with his injunctions was enforced by the prospect of happiness in this life and in the next, while a most unseemly imprecation escaped the Bishop, against those who should order differently, Ceadwalla's first charter of the foundation of the church of Selsey being quoted as a precedent for the hypothetic wrath.<sup>26</sup>

The Bishop's will dated 1382, about three years before his death, exhibits him under a milder aspect, and is of considerable interest, in its local, legal, and personal bearings.

Illustrative of Amberley proper or manorially, is the following extract:—

“Likewise, I leave, on behalf of works of stone and wood in the manors of Amberle and Aldyngborne, begun and arranged by me, fifty marks, on condition that my successor, the Bishop of Chichester, who for the time shall be doing this work, shall freely permit my executors to have my stones at Lyddesgate and Amberle, sand (*zabulum*) at Swalweclyfe, to dig chalk (*calcem*), and to burn it, with the Bishop's wood in the chace of Houghton and Scaffeld; also to have sufficient for the same work in the aforesaid chace, together with the bishop's barges of the Huche, (*bargijs Episcopi de la Huche*) for all the carriage of the foregoing, as often as there be need, and also sufficient timber (*meremium*) at Drugge Wyke, Pubhurst, and Pocokes wood, for every work of wood appointed in the aforesaid manors; and I wish that the aforesaid money should be expended about the works by my executors, or those whom they wish.

Although his will might be of sufficient diocesan interest for insertion *in extenso*, we content ourselves with reference to the provision for his interment before (*plane coram*) the high altar, in the chancel of the Blessed Trinity at Seleseye; to his kindly concern for collegiate bodies and college friends; for Nicholas Sandwich, the guide of his youth; for the fabric of the cathedral, evidenced by a bequest of 50 marks; for his patrons, Pope Urban and Archbishop Ister; for one hundred ministers in his diocese, of good character; for the Church of Amberle and the Chapel of Hoghton, giving one cup (*1 calic*) to each; for the tenants of Amberle, *cum membris suis*, x<sup>li</sup>; for the inmates of hospitals; for John Attewode his carectar', xx<sup>s</sup>; and for William “*camerario meo*,” c<sup>s</sup>.<sup>27</sup>

As we read of money bequeathed to colleges, in order that the books, also given, might be firmly chained in the

<sup>26</sup> Episc: Reg: (P.)

<sup>27</sup> Lambeth Lib. Courtenay, 213. This official, possibly, had been in charge of

the Camera, which, a late Librarian of Merton writes he erected in, he thinks, 1376.

libraries, a wish may come across us, that, by a less cumbersome clue, volumes, absent from our own shelves, might be tracked.

The will is curiously interspersed with testamentary dispositions, a profuse scattering of books, cups, money, and with narrative. It is begun on the first of August, the Bishop, it seems, dictating a number of bequests. Then, said the venerable father, "let us wait till to-morrow, and meet [om̄io] in this place, that we may go on with the will." The morrow comes, the will advances, and the Bishop halts again; "*tedet enim me istius laboris.*" The document attains completion on the 3rd of August.

The Register of Robert Read, translated from the See of Carlisle to that of Chichester, while illustrating our annals, throws light upon the office and work of a Bishop in those times, and upon matters of general historic interest. From 1396 to 1415, he appears, says Dallaway, to have been at least annually resident. His manor (*manerium*) of Aumberle or Amble, was a favourite dating point with the Bishop. In a letter "*pro obedientiâ præstanda*," dated there, Feb. 10, 1396, in the first year of his translation, adopting the style "by divine permission," he directs his chosen sons "to summon those with and without cure of souls, on the Thursday immediately following the Sunday, when the office "*Misericordias Domini*," &c., is used (*cantatur*), then to render him canonical obedience, to hear the apostolic letters read, &c. A disciplinary document, it may be, to meet the case of recalcitrant clerks, was a commission "*ad exigendam obedientiam.*"

On the 9th of April, 1398, in the chapel of the Lord of Aumb'le, Domina Alicia Seynte Johan d'na de Begeuct made a vow of chastity and profession, under this form of words:—

"Ego [A] promitto stabilitatem et conversationem morum atque castitatem servaturam Omnipotenti Deo, beatæ Mariæ, et omnibus Sanctis, ac tibi domino Ep̄o usque ad mortem."

This lady may have been domiciled at Hardham, with which the St. John family had been connected. One of the same name is enjoined by Bishop Story, on his Visitation of Rusper Priory in 1478, to make amends for breaking

the rule of silence, "by saying seven psalters of our Lady."<sup>28</sup>

A less exciting ceremonial than the vow of the novice, would probably be the admission of Thomas Squyer, chaplain to the parish church of Bignor (*Bygenenere*), which had become vacant by the resignation of William Combere, the last rector, owing to the weakness and old age of his body. The Bishop assigned him eight marks sterling, out of the fruits of the said church, that he might not be compelled to beg, on account of want of victuals and aliment, to the disgrace of the clergy, as he had nothing else to live upon.

In 1399, an alarm of invasion having reached the royal ear, its undulations were propagated in this neighbourhood. Henry IV being stirred at Westminster, by tidings of armed men congregating upon the sea, to invade the coast, to destroy himself, his realm and people, and to subvert the church of England, calls upon certain faithful men, to arm those who were defensible, according to their station and wealth. The bishop accordingly issues a commission from Amberley. William White, master of the college at Arundel, and William Allen, rector of Stoughton, are named, and the abbots and other ecclesiastical persons, within the deaneries of Arundel and Stoughton, are to be arrayed and armed. Time and place were to be appointed, and the force was to be counted off in thousands, hundreds, and twenties, so as to be ready to set out—to give a Sussex rendering—*any when*.

Other instruments dated at Amberley, are a commission for a metropolitan visitation, in obedience to Thomas, by divine grace, Archbishop of Canterbury and of all England, and legate of the apostolic see; a *commissio penitentiarii*, to friar Henry Halle, of the order of preachers at Chichester, to hear confessions of all "our subjects;" a mandate as to going to parliament; an admonition for making solemn processions, and a document concerning a visitation in the chapter house of Boxgrove Priory. In 1400, the Bishop addressed his beloved son, Master Robert Neale, his fellow brother in the church of Chichester. Confiding in his circumspect industry, he authorized him to proceed in certain

<sup>28</sup> Notices of the Benedictine Priory at Rusper, by Albert Way, Esq., M.A., Suss. Coll., Vol. v.

matters, also concerning the crimes and excesses of some of his subjects, lay as well as clerical, and to correct and punish them. Elsewhere, he alludes to the doctrine of the sacred canons, admonishing us to bring back "our" flock into the way of peace, and, by visitations, to look into their manners and acts, to apply remedies and to reform them, a visitation of the college of Arundel being referred to. The union of church and state is illustrated in the following:—

1410.

M<sup>d</sup> q d'ns vicesimo tercio die mensis Decembr' anno d'ni supra scripto in man'io de Aûmb'le scripsit dn'o Regi p 'capiõe corp'i [s] Joh'nis Petere de Nova Schorham exco'licati.

One Easter Eve, we find the Bishop, now designated by the grace of God, ordaining *in capellâ manerii sui*; *Subdeacon*, Thomas Wyttington, Acolyte, Lincoln dioc., with a title from the prior and convent of Calceto; *Deacons*, Walter Kade, Exeter dioc., Walter Lullam, with a title from P. and C. of Heryngham; *Priest*, Stephen Overton, Rector of Clayton, *ad tit. benef. sui*; *Brothers*, John Pedyth, Richard Smith, of the convent of Preachers of Arundel. Magister Stephen Overton gets a licence, "*De non residendo per annum.*"

By his will, dated Aug. 1414, proved July 1415, the Bishop leaves the Vicar, John Fowle, 40s., to pray for his soul, and bequeaths 20s. for the high altar at Amberley.<sup>29</sup>

In the 15th century, the Bishop had his prison "*infra manerium suum de Amberley*," a certain William Fretton, of Combe, clerk, convicted of felony, being committed there May 16, [1415], John Chyltyng being the *Custos*. By the escape of the prisoner, the Bishop incurred a penalty of 100 marks, which the King bestows upon John Upton, Walter Thorndon, and John Attibrigg.<sup>30</sup>

In 1447, (Chart. 25th-26th Henry VI.) additional defences for the Castle were authorised. Power was given to enclose 2000 acres of wood, &c., in Amberley and the neighbourhood, and to make a park of them; also to crenellate, turret, embattle, and machicolate Amberley and other manors of the Bishop.

<sup>29</sup> Lambeth Pal. Lib. Chicheley, fol. 267.

<sup>30</sup> Pat. 2, Hen. V., p. 1, m. 19.—Per Mr. Holdstock, transcriber.

The running up of the sea to Amberley is a matter of local interest. A return of John Woode, as to the temporalities, after the death of Bishop Arundel, in the reign of Edward IV., throws some light upon tidal phenomena. It appears that no part of the rent of £4 a year, for the farm of the Piscary of the water of Amberley, was forthcoming to the Receiver, from William Page, in consequence of the excessive overflowing of the sea, (*eo q<sup>a</sup> aqua maris excessiva nimis influens d'c'am sup' fluxit.*) This claim admitted, it is not matter of surprise that William and Thomas Pratte got off their rent for the fishery between *le Hoo* and the passage of Maleford. It is an ill wave that brings no one either flotzam or jetsam. So, perchance, thought John Pykford, the carpenter, with his two shillings, employed to repair the port of Houghton, shattered (*confract'*) by the heavy inundation. (Temporalities Ep. Cic ; extract from Carlton Ride.)

Amberley occurs in the will of Bishop Story, (dated 1502, proved 1503,) wherein he leaves to William Mylborne and Thomas Moyses, each described as his *famulus*, messuages there, bought of John Page and William Pays, respectively, the reversion, being left to his successors, on behalf of his grammar-school at Chichester, founded by him. An annuity of £1 6s. 8d., out of the rents and profits, is provided for the Bishops, "*ut sint faventes et benevoli schole mee.*" He bequeaths to the parish churches of Aldingborne, Amberley, and Houghton, three sacerdotal vestments, one to each, to be of the value of twenty shillings; to Roger Lewkenor, Esq., a standing cup of silver gilt, with a cover, and to Robert Wighting, 100s., when he shall marry one of the daughters of Roger Lewkenor. He leaves property at Amberley to John Story, "*servienti meo,*" the reversion, to the mayor and burgesses of Chichester for the repair of the new Cross.

*The Decoration.*—It is not, we hope, disparaging to preceding Prelates, to connect the decorative period of the Castle with the name of Robert Sherburne, Foundation Boy at Winchester College, (*puer incorporatus ac grammatice doctus.*) Oxonian, Secretary to the University, and to Henry VII., Archdeacon of Huntingdon, Prebendary and Dean of St. Paul's, Master of St. Cross, Ambassador

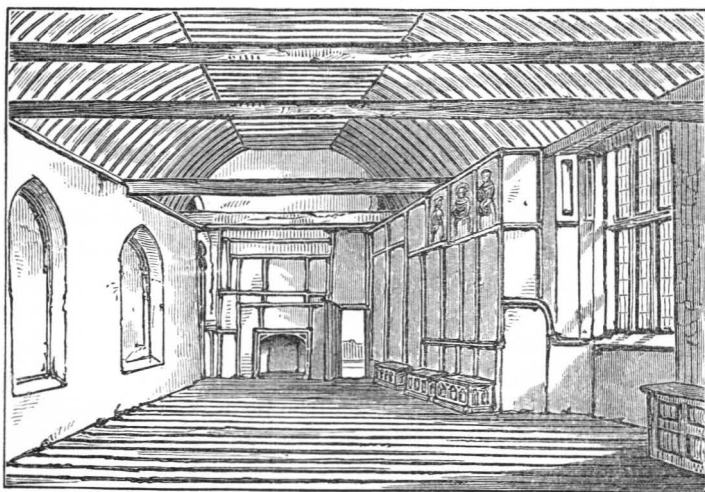


to the Roman Court, Bishop of St. David's; Bishop of Chichester from 1508, to his retirement, (shortly before his death, which took place in 1536,) on a pension of £400 a-year. From Epistles<sup>31</sup> of this "humble and unworthy minister of the Church of England," to his successors and to the reader, and from other *reliquice*, we get an insight into his intentions, deeds, and aspirations, into his procedure in freeing the Cathedral from its ancient squalor and from customs, most reprehensible, (*damnosissimis*) into his expenditure on Amberley and other manors, into his scholastic and ecclesiastical endowments, into his care for barns, windmills and watermills. We find him quoting Cicero and Ovid, making a catalogue of jewels and ornaments, given to the Cathedral, with reference to £ s. d., *le unc* and the *yerde*. We read of the golden mitre, with perles, (some "lakynges,") and precious stones; the goodly monster, curiously wrought and gilt; the palle for the herse, of black velvet, with 4 scochions of "my lords armys," and "*Operibus credite*;" the masse boke; 2 towelles for to wipe the priestis handes with, valued at 10d.; 2 copes of red sarcenet, with the orfres of crymson velvet, £5; 2 vestments of satin of briggis, the one redde and the other blewe, with orfrais of redde and grene; the book of regulations, to be deposited under the episcopal seat, for reference in cases of necessity; and the condiment of milk, saffron, and eggs, for the delectation, or otherwise, of the choristers, one of whom was to sound the "requiescant in pace," in behalf of the Lord Robert, their benefactor, and of the faithful departed.

Among the objects which bear the impress of the Bishop's taste, is the Queen's Room, in Amberley Castle. An amateur sketch, taken about 20 years ago, will convey some idea of the general contour of this once stately apartment, now shorn of its original proportions, by the conversion of its eastern extremity into a bedroom, with its rude timbers, its bare tiling, its shreds of paper-hangings, its obliterated decorations, its gloomy *ensemble*, as becomes a "chamber of horrors." For may it not claim this distinction as the abode of some Ladies, whose release in November, 1864, from a confinement of many years, caused considerable sensation in archæological

<sup>31</sup> Ordinationes Domini Roberti IV. Reg. Chieh.

circles in London? The kind acquiescence of their Episcopal Lord, in a proposal that they should visit the metropolis, on a guarantee from the compiler, as to their return in or before the following March, and the courtesies of Mr. Albert Way, in whose knowledge and judgment the Bishop had entire confidence, are entitled to special acknowledgment. Under such auspices, the favoured party, three in number, were welcomed to the saloons of the Archæological Institution of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the Society of Antiquaries of London. Their photographs were exhibited at a meeting of the British Archæological Association. Professional aid was accorded them, in their fragile and haggard condition; cosmetic appliances were suggested, and, in their behalf, destitute as they were of pecuniary resources, the Society of Antiquaries, considerately and handsomely came forward



THE QUEEN'S ROOM, AMBERLEY CASTLE

with a grant of £5. For his good offices, thanks are due to Mr. Scharf, F.S.A., Secretary of the National Portrait Commission; "the most skilful and perfectly trustworthy person, I know," writes a recognised authority. In short, the ladies might have been said to have fallen on their feet, if feet they had happened to have. If some disparaging and flippant remarks were heard, some allusion to the coroner's inquest and

the *experimentum in corpore vili*, what a sight for Bishop Sherborne, their patron of old, if he could have witnessed a distinguished Archæologist doing homage, upon the floor, in Burlington Gardens, that he might better unravel the mysteries which pertained to the heroine, who, by her trappings, brought to mind the lady, with rings on her fingers, and bells on her toes, to these Queens, Sibyls, Amazons, Worthies, what not! Could he have had prevision of the notices of the Press<sup>32</sup> and of the attention paid his protégées, would he not have been cheered with the hope, that they, in conjunction with one of his mottoes, previously quoted, "*Operibus credite*," were fulfilling a mission, to keep him and his deeds in remembrance!

It is time to disabuse the reader, as to these Ladies, and to introduce them, as the creation of the painter, in the shape of three female figures, painted on wooden panels, about 3 by 2½ feet. "The present tablets," writes Mr. Henry Merritt, of 24, Langham Street, November, 1864, to Mr. Scharf, "are comparatively modern. Beneath are inscriptions, in German text, (black letters on a white ground) which I could recover with sufficient distinctness, to enable them to be read. . . I believe that the pictures are painted in oil on a *tempera* ground. The ground is easily dissolved by water; the flesh colours not so easily." Mr. Merritt recommends "that the panels, which are parted at the joints, be merely braced together by plain frames of oak, without any attempt being made to glue the joints. Portions of the wood, which are most worm-eaten, might be hardened by being sized with thin glue. I would also recommend that the surfaces of the pictures be covered with clear thin parchment size. This would harden the colours and particularly harden the ground, which is now little better than a powder. With respect to other portions of the panels which are entirely denuded of colour, I would, if desired to do so, restore them without covering any portion of the original remains.'"

In addition to the London visitants, are five of a similar character, with the fragment of a sixth, not to say of a

<sup>32</sup> Vide Notes and Queries, Athenæum, Gentleman's Magazine, Builder, Journal of Brit. Arch. Assoc. for Dec. 1864, &c.

Photographs of 5 of the Heads, of Castle and Church, may be procured of Mr. E. Fox, Market Street, Brighton.

seventh. In the year 1840, there were, as far as we recollect, only three entire paintings of this series, the number indicated in the wood-cut, as upon the north wall of the Queen's Room. The *British Traveller*, 1819, mentions an apartment containing the portraits of ten kings and their queens, and the portraiture, in wood, of six warriors. *The Beauties of England* refers to the portraits of 10 ancient monarchs and their queens, with their coats properly blazoned, and gives the ceiling, as the site of the portraits of six warriors, carved in wood.

The discovery and restitution of some of the missing paintings, we associate with the archæological accidents of prandial things, pertaining to our Society's meeting at Arundel in 1849, with a *rencontre*, on that occasion, with the Rev. Leveson Vernon Harcourt and the Hon. Mrs. Vernon Harcourt, who found themselves the unconscious holders of some of the group. It required no service of *habeas corpus*, in order to rescue the panels from an ignominious resting place on the premises of West Dean House, near Chichester, and to procure their restoration to the Castle.

The archæological haze that has hung about these paintings has not prevented a halo of interest attaching to them. The following may assist in the determination of the pictorial and archæological Elements: the Subject, Painter, Date, Art.

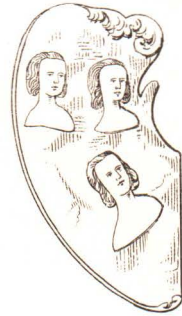
As regards the *Subject*, Mr. William Rhoades, of Chichester, some of whose family occupied the Castle, writes in January 1851, to Mrs. V. Harcourt, that he "recollects Mr. Dallaway, when on a visit for a few days at Amberley Castle, was much struck with these portraits, and in his county history he describes them as a series of female portraits, with escocheons, supposed to be descriptive of Flemish Provinces."

A learned correspondent, writing previously to the three paintings going to London, observes: "My impression is that the personages are in part Sibyls, who constantly figure among the decorations of the period, for instance, in the Sistine Chapel at Rome. . . It appeared probable, however, that some of the figures were impersonations of certain foreign cities, and this ought to be ascertained by the coats of arms."

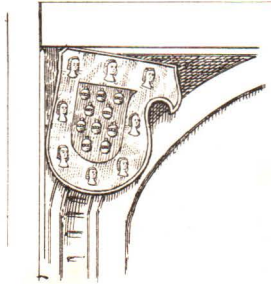
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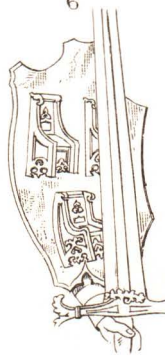
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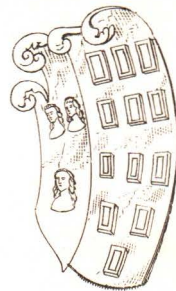
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Another theory has been ably elaborated by Mr. Planché.<sup>33</sup> His proposition is that the eight figures, with the fragmentary 9th, were intended by the artist to represent, not the Nine Worthies, as made up of *men*—three good Jews, three good Heathens, and three good Christians, but the nine worthy *women*.

Through the courtesy of the British Archæological Association, who allow our Society the use of the lithograph, the present paper is enriched by the heraldic illustrations accompanying Mr. Planché's essay.

We avail ourselves of extracts from that document, denoting each of the *heads* by the number assigned by Mr. Planché to the corresponding shield or heraldic device. (1), (3), and (4) are those which were sent to the Arch. Inst. in 1864.

1. *Cassandra* embellishes this paper, reproduced with the gorgeousness of chromo-lithography. "A lady in full armour, with a magnificent helmet, bears on her shield (fig. 1) *gules*, three female heads proper, within a bordure *Or*, *semée of human hearts*. Now Lampedo, queen of the Amazons, is said to have borne *Sable*, three queen's heads *Or* 'within a border of the same,' which would be bad heraldry, or at any rate incorrect blazon; and the painter might have improved on his authority."

The inscription,

CASSANDRA POST DATA VATICINIA  
APOLLINIS DERISIT ADULTERIA,

may explain the indignant, or derisive look of an *honest* woman. The letters *R. S.* on the panels, tell of Bishop Sherborne. Pertaining to the Queen's Room, the Rev. E. Stansfield describes, the head of a doorway in carved wood, with perpendicular foliage in the spandrils, and the initials *R. S.*, and a stone mantel-piece of the same period apparently, with carved foliage and a rose in each spandril. The *R. S.* are not *in situ*. On the panelling forming the side of the innovating bedchamber there are some large characters, perhaps a portion of the inscription:

SOLI HONOR DEO ET GL'IA

<sup>33</sup> The Nine Worthies of the World, in illustration of the Paintings in Amberley Castle. By J. R. Planché, Esq., Rouge Croix, Hon. Sec. Brit. Arch. Assoc.

upon the 2 fruntes of cloth of gold, which the Bishop described, with borders of purpul velvet with our arms, and "this writing, in golden letters," in the catalogue of ornaments, before referred to.

2. The *Babylon*.—"A lady crowned, and holding a sceptre, carries no shield; but in the spandrils in the upper angles of the frame are two escutcheons (fig. 2), displaying each ten hawks' bells (grelots) within a bordure of ladies' heads. Referring to Mr. Gordon Hills having made out the word *Babylon*, Mr. Planché observes: "It is, therefore, possible that this figure may be meant for the great Semiramis, queen of Babylon, whom the painter has included in his series, and to whom he has assigned, not the dove *Argent*, according to Ferne and Favine, but arms resembling those invented for Penthesilea." A conjectural reading of the last word in the 2nd line, is *Septentrion*.

3 The *Thomyris*, alias *Tomeris*.—"The third photographed figure has a shield (fig. 3), on which are the three queens' heads only; and we are told that Antiope bore those arms, that is, the full arms of the first part of *Lampedo*." These two ladies, as well as *Thomyris*, were included among a supplementary nine, whom the poets term women-warriors, by the name of Amazons.<sup>34</sup> The legend, if giving *Thomyris*, will override any antagonistic claim.

SIRUS THE NOBLE KYNGE [OF PERSY]  
SUBMITTE[D] HYMSEL[F] TO TH[AMORIS MERCY]

This supercilious lady, with downcast look, and two fingers extended on the border of the legend, appears portrayed in a phase of triumph, whether amatory or martial, over Cyrus, an aspect of sadness being commingled. The painting calls to mind the widowed queen of the *Massagetæ*, rejecting the traditional mercenary hand, which, offering not a heart, would grasp her kingdom; the mother, maddened by the slaughter of her son, wreaking, in intent or retrospect, a foul and sanguinary and let us hope a mythic vengeance on the lifeless body of Cyrus, her vanquished antagonist.

4. The *Sinope*, and 5 The *Helmet*.—The *Sinope* bears a sword and shield; she is said to have been beloved by Apollo.

<sup>34</sup> Vide Mr. Planché's Paper, and *Le Théâtre d'Honneur et de la Chevalerie*, par Andréé Favyn, Paris, 1620, p. 1688.



“The other two ladies (fig. 4 and 5), have on their shields lions rampant ; one bearing her lion in a field *Or*, between three human hearts.” The inscription of the *Sinope*, looking, at the first blush, especially defiant of Lindley Murray, heralds, probably, her praises ;

THE EXCELLENT QWENE SINOP IS TO MAGNIFY  
WHICH RULED THE HOLE COUNTRIE OF ENNAY.

Her shield is that without the hearts.

6. The *Three Arm Chairs*.—This figure is referred to as “bearing the remarkable coat of three arm chairs (fig. 6), which Favine gives as the arms of Minthia. . . . One is described in armour, but not crowned, holding three large quills or pens in her right hand, a sword erect in the left ; on her shield (fig 6) she bears, *Gules*, three arm chairs *Or*. : . Here (reading *Azure* for *Gules*) is the coat given to a lady Minthia in Favine.” Mr. Planché suspects *Minthia* may come from *Mirina*, an Amazon. May not the *pens* be *arrows*?

7. The *Blue Lion*.—“The next figure is not in armour, but is richly attired, and holds a bow and arrow in her left hand. On her shield are the identical arms given in Favine’s list to Hippolita, the famous queen of the Amazons, and wife of Theseus, viz., *Or*, a lion *Azure*, armed and langued *Gules*, holding in his fore paws a small shield *Gules*, charged with the three female heads so often mentioned as the arms of Lampedo and Antiope (fig. 7).” She holds what appears to be a mace or sceptre in her right hand, in which the arrow is perhaps also held.

8. The *Billets*.—This “is a figure in armour, crowned, holding a spear in one hand, and a sword in the other, point downwards. Her shield (fig. 8) is divided per pale ; the dexter half *Gules*, the three ladies’ heads as before ; the sinister *Azure*, twelve billets *Or*.”

9. The *Ermine Cuff*.—“The fragment of the ninth panel presents us only with a hand holding a sword erect. . . . It is satisfactory to know that there were *nine* of these paintings at any rate, let the illustrious personages they were intended to represent be whom they may. . . . It is possible that enough may yet be deciphered of the inscriptions beneath

these curious paintings to enable us to make out a fresh list of nine female worthies." Mr. Planché had previously remarked; "that these pictures, therefore, were intended to represent the nine Worthy Ladies, principally queens of the Amazons, according to the lists we find in Favine; but with some variations suggested by the fancy of the artist, or in compliance with the directions of his employer, there cannot be the least doubt."

One hypothesis connected the paintings with the daughters of Priam; Cassandra, however, being the only one identified.

We are reminded of Ate's mischief-making by the introduction of a hero, with the unclassical sobriquet of *an old butler*, with a foaming tankard of ale in his hand, supposed to have been represented among the old portraits in the Queen's Room. A brother of Mr. W. Rhoades recollected to have heard, that one of them was taken away, and that the poor old Butler was afterwards degraded, by his effigy being converted into a sign board at some public house.—Was his beverage the juice of the apple of discord, or *Samson*, a compound of the juice of apple and of pear, quaffed to the discomfiture of the Nine Worthy Women, and of all worthy Archæologists? Was the old butler a veritable Bacchus? A village tradition, to the effect that some drinking figure had his quarters in a room upon the ground floor, designated the hall, may help us out of the difficulty of the old Butler's presence up stairs, in the Queen's Room.

"In good and in safe hands, and I know only one competent person to do it," writes Mr. Albert Way, Oct. 1864, "these very curious works of art might be so far set to rights as to tell their story, and be preserved from further damage." Three of the inscriptions (1.) (3.) and (4.) are now sufficiently developed to throw light upon the heroines and to give additional interest to them. The successful treatment of the inscriptions (though some portion was legible, before going into Mr. Merritt's studio), enables me to adopt the words of Mr. Way (*experto credas*,) who bears testimony to his excellence for restoring panel pictures and to his trustworthiness. Mr. Way has suggested careful refreshment and

transference to a place of permanent security in the Bishop's Palace.

Mr. Way writes, Feb. 1865 :

It were very much to be desired that a proper conservative restoration could be effected, not only of the three, but of the whole of this curious series. All that I could desire to see done, or should feel justified in asking the Bishop to permit, would involve an expense of £50 for the nine. . . . There ought to be no difficulty in obtaining the amount requisite for the proper preservation of so remarkable a series of early specimens of art, associated as they are with Sussex, not merely from being found in the county, but from their connexion with the Bernardi, whoever he was, who certainly exercised considerable influence in regard to the Arts in Sussex. . . . I cannot undertake to advocate the matter, much as I feel interested in it; all I could undertake, were to take care that, if done, I would make some arrangement with Mr. Merritt what should be done, that is, a proper restoration, as I understand the expression in its conservative sense—not to make bright bran new pictures, but in the best manner to preserve what has escaped the injuries of time and neglect.

The restoration of the Queen's Room, is a suggestion from another quarter.

(B.) As regards the *Painter*, we read in Dallaway: "a very curious room is still preserved, with a carved ceiling of wainscot oak, and entirely painted by Theodore Bernardi, who is stated as having been patronised by Bishop Sherburn, in the south transept of Chichester Cathedral, about 1519."

He speaks of Bernardi as a Flemish artist, who came to England, accompanied by his sons, and from some extracts from the Register of All Saints, Chichester (which do not appear altogether accurate,) he inclines to the tradition reported in Lord Orford's Anecdotes of Painting, that Theodore, who painted the pictures in the Cathedral, established himself in Chichester and left several descendants.

Mr. Rhoades, before quoted, writes, Jan. 1851, to the Rev. L. Vernon Harcourt: "they are at all events genuine specimens (and perhaps scarce ones,) of Bernardi's pencil, those in the South Transept of the Cathedral being no longer genuine, having been, as Dallaway states and as is self-evident, repainted." Vertue, in "A Tour from London, June 1, 1747, at the request of his Grace the Duke of Richmond," says, he went to the Cathedral to view the old paintings in the Church lately repaired, of the Bishops and Kings, and the 2 *tables* representing the founder and benefactors with King Henry VII. and Henry VIII., Bishop Sherborne, &c., at whose expense, the work of painting was done. "All these paintings newly repaired by Tremaine, who dy'd and left it part unfinished [1747]." Vertue proposed to have some pictures

taken down, and put in the Chapter-house behind,—a good place with a good light. Amberley is not named in a memorandum, in which it is said “he visited Chichester Cathedral, Tortington Priory, Carne’s Head on the coast, and Boxgrove Church, in company with the Duke in his carriage, drawn by six little Manks horses, not above a yard high, and other spots of interest.”<sup>35</sup>

An account, appended to an engraving by King, of the painting in the Cathedral, of an interview between Henry VIII. and Bishop Sherborne, attributes to Theodore Bernardi that picture, the portraits of the Bishops, the painted ceiling with armorial bearings in Chichester House, (the Episcopal Palace,) and a large room in the Castle.

Mr. Clerk writes that<sup>36</sup> the historical painting is said to be the work of one Bernardi, an Italian, who came into England with Bishop Sherborne.

I am indebted to Mr. Durrant Cooper, not only for the editorial supervision which he gave to my paper in an earlier and less extended form, but also for the following and other information.

“Chichester, in Com. Sussex, July 3, ’52 [1752].

“The fine historical painting on the wall of y<sup>e</sup> S. Cross Isle, w<sup>ch</sup> none of our writers make mention of, was y<sup>e</sup> work of one Bernardi, an Italian, brought into Eng<sup>d</sup> by Bp. Sherbourn, temp. Henry VIII. It represents y<sup>e</sup> first conversion of y<sup>e</sup> S. Saxons by Wilfrid and his founding y<sup>e</sup> See of Selsey, in one compartment, and in y<sup>e</sup> other y<sup>e</sup> refounding the See of Chichester by Henry VIII. The perspective is good, the architecture excellent, and the figures in general well disposed in y<sup>e</sup> picture.”<sup>37</sup>

The writer of MS. notes on Coxe’s History of Sussex (Burrell Coll., 5708) appears to have borrowed from the preceding, or *vice versâ*; or both writers may have been to a common fount of archæologic lore.

The position in favour of Theodore Bernardi, is, to say the least, questionable. It is probable that the *baptism* of an artist, who was at his easel in 1520, would not find a place in a register commencing 1563, when, according to Dallaway, the register of All Saints, Chichester, begins, but neither Mr. Clarence Hopper, Palæographer to the Archæological Association, nor myself have been able to detect the name of Theodore Bernardi, or Barnard, in that register.

<sup>35</sup> Vertue’s Coll<sup>ns</sup>. Brit. Mus., 23,089. Plut. cxcix.

<sup>36</sup> Rouse’s Sussex.

<sup>37</sup> Lyttelton’s MS. Notes of Churches, Soc. Ant.

A compilation from Mr. Hopper's memoranda is subjoined.

BARNARD alias BARNARDE.

*Baptisms.*

May, 1565, Elizabeth, '73, Alice '76, Brigett '78, Joan '82, Doritha '85, d. of Anthony B.

Elizabeth 1618, Tho. '20, Anne '23, John '24, Edward '27, Lambert '27, Jeremy '30, Lambert, 61, s. and d. of Lambert B.

*Marriages.*

1578, Anthony Barnard and Agnes Norris.

1617, Lambert Barnarde and Ellenor Butseley, servant to Mr. Yeneton.

1624, Lambart Barnard and Aves Garlett.

*Burial.*

1619, Anno Dom.

Anthony Barnard the olde painter was buried the xxix<sup>th</sup> of December, 1619, being an hundred and five years old.

Query.—Was ANTHONY, (about 21, when Bishop Sherborne retired from the See,) the painter of the Amberley figures?

THEODORE is *hors de combat*, if by him is intended Barentzen, auch Bernard, Dirk, Maler, born at Amsterdam, 1534, died 1592,<sup>38</sup> as he would have been about 2 years old at the death of the Bishop, in 1536.

The brief I elect to hold, is in behalf of Lambert Bernarde, or he failing, of one Bernarde, hoping that my learned and obliging friends, Mr. W. Durrant Cooper and Mr. Mark Antony Lower, will follow me, and set the Court of Archæology right, by such corrective or additional evidence, as the case may require, and their research and acumen supply.

We do not find that Bishop Sherburne kept, as was said of Archbishop Parker, in his house, a painter, graver, and a primer, but that he took an interest in *Lambert Bernarde*, a painter, is deducible from a rental of property, acquired by him and assigned to the Dean and Chapter of Chichester for the execution of his last will.

SELSEY . . .

*Amberley.* Item de terris vocat' pay [ ] . . . in tenura Sibill Rose.

. . . Summa totalis ——— Rentalis ultra omnia casualia sicut annis singulis contingent cij<sup>ii</sup> iij<sup>s</sup> vi<sup>d</sup>.

Et sic de predictis £103 4s. 6d. dict decanus, et capitulu' recipient clare ad eorū usum an'ue in perpetuū £5 pro vino, inter eos annuatim distribuendo assignat — ac post mortem Johane Irelande vidue, 46s. 8d.; post mortem Johanne Saintione (St. John) 20s.; post mortem Johan busshope £3 6s. 8d. necnon post mortem lamberti bernarde pictoris, £3 6s. 8d. ad sūmam £15, ultra multa alia beneficia . . . tam ad honorem dei quam ipiūs ecclie ornatu data atque collata videlicet . . . <sup>39</sup>

I beg here to acknowledge the courtesy of the Capitular

<sup>38</sup> Nayler. Künster Lexicon.

<sup>39</sup> Book of Bp. Sherborne, Reg. Chich., fo. xxxv.

body, and the very friendly condition with which the Very Rev. the Dean, coupled their permission to me, to search their books.

Another rental of Bishop Sherborne bears upon the painter.<sup>40</sup>

Rentale d'ni Roberti quarti de perqui . . . assign d. et c. ad perimp sue ult volunt In fest Michaelis arch, Anno d<sup>i</sup> 1529 et an<sup>o</sup> regni regis henrici octavi xxi.

\* \* \* \* \*

Lathorn.

Item pro tenementis nup in tenura lamberti pictoris 16s. et.

Johanni Butler 10s. . . . de Johanna seyntione (St. John) 26s.

Dnus de Johis alen.

Amberley Inprimis de terris ibidem comparet de . . . cicestrizæ 10<sup>s</sup>."

(c.) As to the *Date*; assuming Lambert to be the painter, and his tenancy at Lathorn in Mundham to have been determined by his decease, not later than 1529, we may perhaps be safe in supposing the Amberley paintings to have been executed about the year 1520.

(d.) As to the *Art*; amid conflicting expressions of opinions, the situation of an *inexpert* is somewhat perplexing, though he should endeavour to simplify the solution, by eliminating those of the "know-nothing" school, who may be caught by the *ad captandum* style of the paintings. Evidence so decided as that of Mr. Scharf, writing, 21st Dec., 1864, is valuable.

"In themselves, as works of art, I cannot but think otherwise than meanly of them; they are mere antiquarian curiosities, but if the name of the artist or their actual date had been discovered, they would at once have been invested with a peculiar interest."

Again, to quote Mr. Scharf;

"The connection of the style of these designs with the figures, or ornaments, on bookbinding of the 16th century, has been justly remarked upon by Mr. Albert Way, and their connection also with the glass-painting of the period can hardly fail to strike those who have seen and remembered the magnificent windows of King's College Chapel, Cambridge, and some of the glass in the Eastern windows of Lichfield Cathedral."

To these examples, Mr. Durrant Cooper adds, the west window of St. George's, Windsor.

A departmental head at the British Museum acknowledges—

"The 5 photographs from the pictures at Amberley Castle, which are of a very interesting character. I am induced to think they are the work of a Fleming. They very much resemble what I have of the works of Van Orley. The pictures by Bernardi, at Chichester, I cannot call to mind, but he was of the same school and period with Van Orley."

<sup>40</sup> Bp. Sherborne's Liber donationum. Chich. Reg. Epis.

Mr. Merritt threw out a hint as to the pictures being, possibly, from designs by Lucas Cranachi. Besides the heads (1.) (3.) and (4.) he had charge of a panel, found in the Church, probably transferred thither from the Castle, having upon it the *fleur de lis* and the heraldic lion; the back has the appearance of faint graining, with a maroon or dark bordering. The following note, made in his studio, with the hypothetical and hyperbolical severance of his finger, if he could draw like it, are somewhat startling:—

“Consider that the drawing is strong and determined; the heraldry, in particular, drawn by a practised hand—back very fine—done, not by a mechanic, but an artist.”

I apprehend that the foregoing, *mutatis mutandis*, applies to the heads and to the heraldic panel, although Mr. Merritt looks upon them as very far removed from high art. If an unartistic résumé is admissible, it may have been, that the artist gave indication of the *pictor-nascitur-non-fit* element—of a capacity for better things—that he took a creditable position among the decorative painters of his day, and might compare favourably with similar artists of the present time, in spite of grotesque unnaturalism and flagrant anatomy, more happy in the vividness and durability of his pigments and in the freedom of his touch, than in truthful delineation of form. Thus limited, we perhaps need not scruple to sympathise with the encomium of a Wiltshire Baronet, who visiting the Queen’s Room, several years since, applied to the originals, or to picturesque reproductions; the remark, that they were “the work of no mean artist.”

Before dismissing these paintings, we have a bold theory to propound; viz. that the artist was one whose productions came under the admiring gaze of Robert Sherborne, when ambassador to the Roman Court from Henry VII., who, April 1, 1496,<sup>41</sup> writes to the Duke of Milan, to allow his secretary to travel through the Milanese territories without impediment. The re-contract of the Holy League ensued between Pope Alexander VII., Maximilian, king of the Romans, Ferdinand and Isabella, king and queen of Spain, Henry, king of England, the Signor of Venice and Ludovic Maria Sforza, Duke of Milan, with a view to the peace of Italy and the

<sup>41</sup> Calendar of State Papers, Venetian, by Rawdon Brown, vol. i., page 237.

welfare of the Christian commonwealth, July, 1496. The Pope issues a brief, granting plenary indulgence, on the day of the solemn publication of the League in St. Mark's Church, at Venice, and the proclamation was written above the portraits of the Allies.

This is the Pope Alexander who corrects  
The errors of the world by laws divine.—POPE.

Long life to Cæsarean Emperor August,  
King of the Romans, Maximilian the just.—MAXIMILIAN.

This is the great King of Spain and his Queen,  
Who of the infidels made havoc extreme.—SPAIN.

This great King who will yet cause consternation,  
To every foe of the firm confederation.—ENGLAND.

Potent in war, and the friend of peace,  
Venice ever loves the common weal.—VENICE.

This is he in whose hand is the sceptre of justice,  
Who rules the happy state of Milan.—MILAN

The preceding, probably, are translations of the original legends. Assuming that they do justice to the poetaster, and that the *calibre* of the artist was on a par, it may be inferred that the Painter at Venice was one whose art did not rise above that of the Amberley pictures. The versification and the pictorial art in the Queen's Room would be akin to what was developed at Venice, on that gala day in July, 1496. Giving reins to the imagination, we may suppose the painter returning to England with Master *Fulburn*,—a continental transmutation which the Ambassador's name appears, on one occasion, to have taken.

Taking up the mythic record, it was a dark day before Christmas, when the Bishop found himself at the Castle, discoursing with his limner Bernarde, in the state room, which, looking northward into the East Court, and southward against the outer wall and the contiguous buildings, was, even on bright days, none of the most cheerful of apartments. The commission to deck the walls with his pictorial works, was soon given; they should be painted in the sun, resplendent with gold and vermilion, akin to those that glittered in *le Piazze* on that sunniest of days, in that sunny clime. Phœbus Apollo, must be inveigled into that chamber, from which, he had been in part excluded. It was a joint labour of love between



the Patron-Prelate and the Painter, to develop the scheme for the ornamentation of the chamber. School-boy recollections and diplomatic associations, Winchester and Venice, Ovid and Herodotus, the Bishop's taste for embellishment, the Painter's professional ardour, the auburn-haired damsels, with broad facial development whom he had left behind, history and fable, Worthy and Unworthy, King and Queen, the Lempriere and Favine of the day, artistic conception and pirated heraldy were the class of elements which, it may be conjectured, were called into play for the embodiment of what may be designated—till other members of the group have been individualized by the research of the learned and the inductions of the ingenious—*Bishop Sherborne's Amberley Worthies*.

Bishop Sherborne, we are told by Dallaway, was certainly the last who lived here in splendour, his successor preferring Aldingbourne. From a bequest of £5, made Oct., 1556, by Bishop Christopherson to Houghton Bridge in Sussex, it may be conjectured, that he had personally become acquainted with it, and had thus become aware of its importance to the neighbourhood and to the Bishops, for the passing of themselves, and for the conveyance of live and dead stock, between the Palace and the Castle, and therefore *wrote* well of the Bridge, which had carried him and his predecessors safely across. It appears to have been rather essential for the Bishop to do something for Houghton Bridge.<sup>42</sup>

Bishop Christopherson appears in a kindly light, in his

<sup>42</sup> Our friend the Water Bailiff writes—“Lower to Arundel ward was there Passagiū, de Houghton, where, by the good help of Richard Praty, Bishop of Chichester, about the Middle of the Reign of Hen. 6<sup>th</sup>, King of England, was there a stone Bridge with divers arches made, wch are now decay'd, and a Bridg of Wood built there with Clappers, wch, when in Decay, ought to be repaired by Arundel Rape aforesd.”

On the reparation of the bridge in 1478, an indulgence of 40 days is said to have been granted to all who would contribute to it.

Bishop Story leaves by his Will, (1503), “xiiij<sup>s</sup> iiiij<sup>d</sup> ad usum reparacionis pontis vulgariter nuncupati 'Hughton brygge' annuatim expendendus.”

A not improbable mishap in this locality, is said to have been pourtrayed on the sign of the “Old Houghton Bridge,” Public House, representing the structure, the *Clappers*, and a female, with her hat blown off.

Bishop Day, 1556, gives “to Houghton bridge beside Amberley, and the repayrin thereof, tenne pounds.” We must chronicle, also: “Item to my lord Archbishop of York, a ring with a sapphire which King Henery the 8<sup>th</sup> gave me. Item to my lord of El [ie] two payre of spectacles in one case of silver.” He also gives to the poore people of Aldingborne and Amberley, and of the parishes where the parsonages be annexed to the Bishoprick of Chichester, 13<sup>li</sup> 6<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup>.—(Court of Probate, London.)

care of an old bridge and of bad highways. "Item,<sup>43</sup> I give to y<sup>e</sup> mending of y<sup>e</sup> Highways in Sussex £13 6s. 8d." The ways of Sussex were, of old, notorious. Had the Bishop lived in his Castle of Amberley, in the 19th century, our *quasi* Squire, he might have become experimentally sensible, that we were wanting in that indispensable branch of civilization, clean and tidy streets, and that, while we could provide a picturesque old porch for Collins, the painter, to admire, and for his son, to depict, with children *ad libitum*, there was room also for the operations of a Highway Board.

The translation of my Lords of Amberley, about the year 1600, resulting in the translation of certain fees into the pocket of the Water-Bailiff or his official, must have been matter of considerable gratification to the recipient. Among the duties of the Bailiff was one, which reads something like murder or abduction. "He is likewise to take off the Successor of the Bishop for the continuance of his predecessor's swan mark." It appears that there had been quietly paid him, from Lancelot Andrews, Lord Bishop of Chichester, 6s. 8d., for the continuance of the swan mark, after the removal of his predecessor; that the same sum had been paid, on account of Bishop Harsnett, after the translation of Doctor Andrews. Similar payments appear to have been made after the translations of Bishops Harsnett and George Carleton—the latter predecessor to Richard Montague—"who likewise paid the said 6s. 8d. at his first coming to the Bishoprick, is well known to their Lordships' servants."

The curious in Swan Marks may be gratified to learn that the Bishop's birds were "buted on the left winge, and three notches on the right side of the beake. The Earles of Arundel are butted on the right wing, and their heels both cut off." Sir William Goring had a variety of marks. One of the marks of Walter Barttelot, Esq., was, "buted on the left winge, a notch on the right side of the beake, near the eye, and slitt on the outer blade of the right foot, and a tongue on the inner blade of the same foot." Sir John Shelley of Michelgrove, and Sir Edward Bishop had their notches and slits. The Autocrat of the High Stream receives the stereotyped *six*

<sup>43</sup> Court of Probate, London, Chayne 8.

and eight pence of the latter, for a new swan-mark, and seizes swans to the Earl of Arundel's use, for non-payment of the fee for the continuance of the marks. (Antiq: of Arundel, 1766.) The rods of weare-wheels and fish-pots were to be of the old assize and distance, so as the bailiff might easily thrust his hand flatwise. The mode of procedure for viewing the assize, or scantling of the netts and fishing potts of any fisher, in the district of the Bailiff, or his Deputy is given. "He ought to go to the gate of the fisher, and blow his horn thrice, and if he then come not forth, and his netts and potts be not according to y<sup>e</sup> antient assize, they are to be cut and defaced."

*The Decadence.*—The word may be tame to credulous or imaginative spirits, who would revel in an archæological mirage, in which stand out Cromwell's forces, with their artillery planted on Amberley Mount, crippling the Castle battlements, and rushing down to the slaughter of the brave defenders and the demolition of the fabric. It is related, that, in the reign of Charles the First, the Castle was plundered and dismantled by Waller's soldiers, Frey Lewkenor then holding a lease of it; that no authentic account is extant of the exact time and manner, in which the destruction took place, but that it is more than probable that it was immediately after the surrender of Arundel Castle in 1643. The defect may very properly be accounted for, if no such destruction took place. We are inclined to surmise with the late Mr. J. B. Freeland, of Chichester, that our Castle was not of sufficient importance to win its scars in war's rough usage. Its desolation may possibly be due to gradual decay, to neglect, to still more cruel interferences, to works of a civil and domestic nature, to pullings-down and settings-up, to the utilitarian views of one, to the improving tendencies and pseudo-restorations of another. As the Castle attained its *maximum* by successive increments, so it is not improbable that it declined by successive decrements. The tenure, if not the fabric, was undoubtedly affected by the troublous times of the Commonwealth.

Old dynasties were passing away from Amberley: new ones arose. "Elizabeth, the Ladie Goreing, widdow, was buryed the 28th of december 1647."<sup>44</sup> James Butler, of London,

<sup>44</sup> Par : Reg.

merchant, in September 1648, purchased the castle,<sup>45</sup> manor, and appurtenances (a reservation being made as to advowsons, &c.) for £3341 14s. 2½d. By deed of indenture, containing, according to our estimate, about 80 folios, "Sir John Wollaston Knight, and certain Aldermen and Cittizens of London, (being all of them trusted by severall ordinances of the Lordes and Comons with the landes and possessions of Archbishops and Bishops, and with the sale thereof, for the use of the Comonwealth,) did grant, alien, bargaine and sell unto James Butler, all that the mannor of Amberley with all and singuler the rightes, members, and appurtenances thereof." The unlegal mind might think that this clause need not have expanded itself into some sixty other specialties. Let laymen beware of rushing in, where lawyers delight to tread, when they find particularised, as part of the bargain, not only "goodes and chatteles of fellons and fugitives," but "felons, themselves, outlawed persons, and of persons putt in exigend."

Some of the items are worth noting:—

All that capitall message or mancion house, &c., called the *Castle of Amberley*, 1½ acres, more or less; the *copefeildes*, divided into eight severalls, abutting upon the cowebrooke and the *parsonage* or *sheepe meade*; the *inclosed downes*, arrable and bushie grounds, &c., abutting upon *Houghton Brydges* and *Stocke feildes*, 110A.; *Denny land*; the *Crossgate farme*; the *crosheld*; the *Bradly field*; *Mannor or farme house of Rockham*, 2½A.; the *chappell croft* abutting upon *Hobses croft*, 4A.; the *lower lowsy bush*, abutting on Parham lands on East, 8A.; the *upper lowsy bush*, the *myddle lane*, 36A.; the *west lane*, abutting upon *Wicker's yard* land; the *Bottom trench*; the *ould field*, abutting upon a parcell of ground of one houldinges, 20A.; the *upper lid croft*, abutting upon the *light*; the *lower lid croft*; the *Risham meadow*, abutting upon *Hales meadow*; *Blackborough Warren*; the waters, piscary and fishing in the waters, within the manor aforesaid; all those swanns and Game of swanns; messuages now or late in the possession of the Lady Elizabeth Goringe, of Amberley (having been leased, 14 Chas. I., to Henry Goreing, Esq., and Henry Bartlett, gent., for 21 yeres), the farm erected for a fullinge mill, in Fittleworth; the parcel of ground, &c., contenyng in square compasse, every way, by estimation 4 perches, lying in Amberley Downe, above the lodge gate, and all that windmill upon it, with all profitts, suite, service, soaken, &c., due to it, having been leased (15 Charles I.) on lives to John Strood; *Pallingham Pleckes*; the acre and a half in the north field of Amberley, leased (1 James I.) to Thomas Hopkins of Boxgrave, Taylor; *Traverne*, the *middle Ball*; *Tippettes acre*.

Reverting to the surmised attack upon the castle, and to the name of Lewkenor, one of its archæological heirlooms, the silence of a member of the family, in the following document, as to any assault upon the Castle, or damage sustained by him, is not without significance.<sup>46</sup>

<sup>45</sup> Rot. Claus. 24 Car. I.; p. 20, M. 7.

<sup>46</sup> Roy<sup>t</sup>. Composition Papers,—<sup>2</sup>/<sub>30</sub>  
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["To the right honble the Com<sup>rs</sup> for Compositiions, sitting at Goldsmiths Hall.

"The humble petition of Thomas Lewkenor, of Amberley, in the countie of Sussex, gent.

"Shewing

"That your petitioner having for many years before the warr bene a meniall servant to Sir Edward Forde went with his master out of the Parliaments quarters into Arundell Castle, and waited upon him in divers other garrisons of the late kings.

"That he hath annexed a true particular of his estate.

"Your petitioner therefore humbly prayeth that hee may be admitted to his composition for his said delinquency.

"And yor petitioner shall pray, &c.,

"THO LEWKENOR."

Read 18th May, 1649, and  
referred to the sub-  
committee.

JO. LEECH.

An official *précis* is given:—

"Thomas Lewkenor of Amberley in the County of Sussex, gent.

"His delinquency that he adhered to y<sup>e</sup> forces raised ag<sup>t</sup> the parliam<sup>t</sup>.

"He petitioned here the 10th of May, 1649.

"He compounds upon a particular delivered in under his hand by which he submits to such fine, &c., and by which it appears—

"That he is seised of a revercion in fee after the death of Fray Lewkenor his father, of and in certaine lands and tenem<sup>ts</sup> called Barnet in Leigh, in the countie of Kent, of the yearly value of 56<sup>li</sup> before the warrs.

"But the said revercion is charged with an annuity of 30<sup>li</sup> per annum to Mary his wife, for her life after the death of his father.<sup>47</sup>

"fine at a fixt 84<sup>li</sup>."

"25 May 1649."

A gentleman so sagacious, or so well-advised, as to depose that his father and mother were alive and in very good health (a fact of some importance in estimating the value of the reversion), would, we imagine, not neglect to urge in mitigation of his fine, any material damage, if such had been done to his, or his father's property at Amberley, by the Parliamentary forces.

The presumption against the demolition of the Castle, prior to July 1651, is strengthened by the following, being some deposite<sup>'ons</sup> taken by Stephen Humfrey and Henry Stalman, on the behalfe of the Commonwealth. A letter addressed to their "honored friends the Com<sup>rs</sup> for advance of money sitting at Haberdasher's Hall," dated Arundell, 31st July, 1651, states that the prosecutor for the Commonwealth informs them that some of the witnesses, by reason of their absence from home and the inability of others, could not appear.<sup>48</sup>

<sup>47</sup> This document omits, 25<sup>li</sup>, due upon bond, in principall money, besides interest.

<sup>48</sup> p. 533 }  
555 } Sussex.  
563 }

"The examinaçon of William Short, of Amberley, victuler, taken at Arundell before the Commissioners for sequestrations within the said county, the one and thirtieth day of July, 1651.

"William Short of Amberley aforesaid examined upon oath the day aforesaid saith, that as the Insurreçion was in Sussex and Kent in the yeare one thousand six hundred forty and eight, Mr. John Goreing of Amberley aforesaid desired this examinant to ride a horse with armes to the Lord Goreing, then in armes and open rebellion against the Parliament of England, and the said John Goreing did then promise this Examinant great rewards if the kinges forces should then prevaile against the Parliaments, tellinge this Deponent that he should then bee made a Colonell in the Kinges armie. And further deposeeth that about half a year since the said John Goreing tooke a glasse of Beere and kneeling downe drunke a health to Prince Charles, and to the confusion of this present parliament, tellinge then this deponent that there were none in the parliament house but Rogues, knaves, and upstart gentlemen, and that he the said John Goreing was a better man than any man there now sittinge And further deposeeth that the said John Goreing told this Examinant that if ever Prince Charles should come into England, he the said John Goreing would sell his whole estate to maintain warres against the parliament, and deposeeth that the said John Goreing hath been a great obstructor of the payment of all Parliament taxes, saying that he would not pay any till he was distrayned for the same, and that if the tymes should turne he would sue all the rogues that collected itt and make them pay itt him againe (or words to that effect) and further deposeeth that when as the late kinges forces kept Arundell Castle the said John Goreing furnished one Captain Lashford with a brace of pistols and one carbine, the said Captaine being then in the said late kinges service

WILLIAM SHORT.

"Thomas Sletter of Amberley . . . . . saith . . . . .  
And further deposeeth that att the beginnings of the late troubles the said John Goreing would have had the inhabitants of the parish of Amberley aforesaid to bring their goods into Amberley Castle and that he would have secured itt, and that if the parish would but joyne with him there was never a round headed rogue should have his Castle.

"THOMAS SLETTER +  
"his marke."

The soldiers, aiding the civil power in the collection of taxes, as appears from another deposition, might have been a nine day's wonder for the villagers, which lost nothing in the narration, and settled down into the tradition of the storming of the castle.

"The examination of John Holland of Amberley, yeoman, taken as aforesaid.  
"John Holland of Amberley aforesaid examined upon oath the day aforesaid saith that Mr. John Goreinge of Amberley aforesaid hath been alwayes very backward in the payment of all parliament Taxes, and that he could never gett any assessment of him untill he had gotten the souldiers from Arundell castle to distrayne for the same.

"JOHN HOLLAND."

### Analyzing an abstract :

"In Hillary Term, 1651,<sup>49</sup> a cause was depending in the Exchequer, by English bill, between Henry Manners, clerke, plf. and John Goreing, gent, def<sup>t</sup>, the scope being that the former might be releaved for small tithes, as viccar of Amberley, and by reason of gardens, orchards, sheep, coves and poultry, &c., used or kept by the defendant, for 2 years to Sept. 29th A.D. 1649. Mr. Walker of Counsell with plaintiff, noe counsell appearing for the defendant. An affidavit of Walter Payne of Petworth, gent., read. Decree in favour of Vicar, £10 for 2 years small tithes, 40s.

<sup>49</sup> Decrees in the Exchequer, vol. v. p. 268.

damages, sustained by him, with costes by the defendant, unless cause shewn to the contrary.

“ By the Lord chefe Baron Wylde.

“ By Baron Thorpe

“ Smythe for the pl<sup>t</sup>”

The sum of the Lewkenors sets: that of the Butlers rises. Frey Lewknor, the elder, was buried Sept. 26, 1654.

“ Mrs. Butler was brought on bed with a Girle on Monday the 7th of Januarie 1654.”

“ Elizabeth the daughter of James Butler of Amberleie in the Countie of Sussex Esq. and Prudence his wife was baptized on Sunday the foureteenth of Januarie 1655 att Amberley afores<sup>d</sup>”<sup>50</sup>

In justice to the Squire's churchmanship, (questionable, if he had deferred the baptism of his child<sup>51</sup> for more than a year,) it should be remarked that 1654, in the first of these consecutive entries, should probably be 1655, and appears as if originally it might have been so written. Mr. Butler became a justice of the peace, swearing in and approving one John Coveney of North Stoke, who had been chosen by the parishioners of Amberley to be Registrar for the Parish, attesting the proceedings, in the parish book. His Worship also sets his sole and goodly signature to entries of marriages at Amberley, in 1653.<sup>52</sup>

A tourist<sup>53</sup> records a visit at the Castle, “ then leased out to the worthy family of the Butlers, who were the inhabitants at that time. We staid here for the space of a week, where we were generously entertained with great courtesy and civility, and there we had a full account given us of the nature of the country, which by a most particular survey we found afterward very true; for the soil is for the most part rich, and the ways deep; the Downs by the sea-side standing upon a fat chalk or marle, are abundantly fertile in corn; the middle tract garnished with meadows, pastures, corn-fields, groves, and iron mines; the north side shaded with wood, and here ran along part of that great wood which was called by the ancients *Andredsleage*..... But though the company was most obliging, and the place no less divertive, yet having

<sup>50</sup> Parish Reg.

<sup>51</sup> Vide B. of Com: Prayer, The Ministration of Private Baptism.

<sup>52</sup> In the case of Priest or Deacon, it had, in Queen Elizabeth's time, been thought very necessary, that he should not take to his wife any manner of woman, without the advice and allowance first had, upon good examination by the Bishop, and two Justices of the

Peace, nor without the good will of her parents, or some other. The bride was to make, before she contracted, a good proof to the minister or the congregation, assembled for that purpose, on some holyday. (Bishop Sparrow's Collections.)

<sup>53</sup> Mr. Brome's “ Three Years' Travel over England, Scotland, and Wales.”

not completed our designed journey, we took a solemn leave of our courteous friends, and returned towards the sea-coast to Arundel."

The connexion of the Butler family with the Castle is traceable in the following entry, prefaced with an *Imprimis*, though followed in the Register book by three others of earlier date:—

1683.—"Eliz: the daughter of James Butler, Esq., and of Grace, his wife, was baptized the 1 [3] day of October."

This James Butler,<sup>54</sup> the preceding year, (35th Chas. II.,) had a lease for 21 years granted to him, by Bishop Guy Carleton, a leasehold interest taking the place of the fee-simple, which appears to have been wrested from the Church, and to have been purchased by his father. Following our archæological game, we find it perched on the elevation of Worminghurst Park, about seven miles distant. A Latin record on the west wall of the neat and interesting church, informs us of its reparation (*sustentation*) and decoration at the cost of J. B. Arm., his mother and sisters, A.D. 171[3]. The conjunction of a favourite text of Bishop Sherburne, *Dilexi decorem domus Tuæ, Domine*, with the motto *Credite operibus*, imply a study of the Prelate, in the record of his life, or in some of his textual developments. The round-headed wood-work within the church suggests the idea that it is a modified reproduction of the Norman stone-work at Amberley. We learn from monuments at Worminghurst and Thakeham, from Berry and Burke, that James Butler the 2nd. was M.P. for Arundel, was buried at Thakeham, that James his son, residing at Michelgrove, and John his grandson, represented Sussex for some years; that Ann Jemima the elder, and Patty, co-heiresses, in the fourth generation after him, married the Rev. Roger Clough and Hugh Clough, Esq., sons of Hugh Clough, of Plâs-Clough, Co. Denbigh, Esq., Mrs. Roger Clough dying in 1812. One of the crests of the Clough family is given as a bent arm *Az*, holding a covered cup, *Or*, for Butler. The Castle soon changes hands, the interest in the lease passing to Sir John Briscoe, of Great Harrowden, Co. Northampton, K<sup>t</sup>., in 1683, for £4,800. In 1719 (5th George I.), he had a devise for 21

<sup>54</sup> Purrell MSS., 5687.



years from Bishop Manningham. In 1706, Diana, the daughter of himself and of Lady Anne, (only daughter of Nicholas Earl of Banbury, by the daughter of Mountjoy, Earl of Newport,) married Dr. Welbore Ellis, Bishop of Kildare, and Dean of Christ Church, who was translated to the Bishopric of Meath, and was a Privy-Councillor. Dying in 1739, a monument was erected to her memory by her only surviving son, the Right Hon. Welbore Ellis, Amberley Castle thus becoming commemorated in Dublin Cathedral. It does not appear to have been there noticed by *Jeames de la Plushe*, Esq., in attendance at the Vice-Regal Court, on the occasion of a visit from a noble Lord, deriving his title from another Amberley.<sup>55</sup> The story runs, that, enquiry being made respecting the visitor, the reply was—"They call him *Wicount* Amberley, but I never heard of such a place." Charles II. is supposed to have visited Sir John Briscoe. In the Queen's Room, at the upper part of the east end, is a landscape, with arms, probably intended for the King's, on the left, and those of Katherine of Braganza, on the right. A bed-chamber, not usually shewn to visitors, at the east side of the Castle, looking into the church-yard, is designated King Charles's Room. It contains an elaborate chimney-piece, (1721, it is said, scratched upon it,) decked out with imitative marble, and there is a fanciful fir panneling. A confirmation or otherwise of the royal visit would be of interest. We venture to sound an archæological hue and cry for the missing particulars. The Viscount Clifden, Baron of Gowran, Baron Mendip, Baron Dover, is descended from Sir John Briscoe.

The Register records :—

1723.—"Sir John Briscoe, Kt, was buried Feb. y<sup>e</sup> 16th. Rec<sup>d</sup>. a certificate y<sup>e</sup> 17."

In 1864, a vault was found within the chancel, which contained a coffin, covered, studded with nails, and having a corroded plate. The remains were deemed innocuous; the fresh appearance of the brick-work was remarkable. This may have been the vault of Sir John. He left a son and heir, the, Rev. Charles Briscoe, Rector of Boughton, Northamptonshire, who, 1728 (1st George 2nd), assigned the lease to

<sup>55</sup> P. of Marden, Amberley or Amburlege, Broxshe H., C. of Hereford, (Duncomb's Hereford, 1812; Carlisle's Top. Dict.)

George Parker, of Chichester, Esq. His representatives assigned the lease in 1750 (24th George II.), to James Peachey, of Fittleworth, Esq., in consideration of £5,250.<sup>56</sup> From this period, the Castle has continued to be connected with the family of Peachey. Sir James Peachey, Bart., had a lease granted to him by Sir William Ashburnham, Bishop of Chichester, in 1783.<sup>57</sup> One lease provided that the lessee was to deliver to the Bishop, at his palace, free of carriage and without anything being paid therefor, 4 quarters of fair wheat and 4 of fair malt, in respect of the maintenance of the farm house of Rackham.

The Barony of Selsey was conferred, in 1794, upon Sir James Peachey, the fourth Baronet, who had been M.P. for Seaford, and Master of the Robes to the King. More than one of the branches of the family from which he descended, had enjoyed the honour of the peerage. The title became extinct on the death, in 1838, of Henry John Peachey, 3rd Baron Selsey. His sister, the Hon. Caroline Mary, relict of the Rev. Leveson Venables Vernon Harcourt, (son of the late Edward, Archbishop of York,) has for many years had an interest in the Castle, beneficial, in the legal acceptation of the word,—beneficial in its results, to the poor, to her tenantry, and to the Church of England, from her practical recognition of the duties as well as of the rights of property.

Having reached the period of the lesseeship of the Castle, in this year of grace, 1865, let us mentally take an *Ichnographic Stroll* about the building. The stroller and reader are requested not to look for mathematical accuracy in the

<sup>56</sup> Burrell MSS.

<sup>57</sup> To hold the s<sup>d</sup> parsonage, &c., for 21 years from the Feast of the Annunciation, Sir James Peachey paying yearly to the Bishop - - £59 1 10½

Viz.: For the Parsonage of Amberley	£8	0	0
Rent acres of Meadow, - - - -	0	14	0
Piscary, - - - - -	3	0	0
Overplus of Common in ye Wild			
Brooks - - - - -	2	13	4
Amberley Farms [Four] - - - -	17	17	10½
Rackham House and Farm, - - -	13	6	8
Blackborough Warren, - - - -	0	10	0
Waltham Park and Warren, - - -	3	0	0
Also, paying to the Bishop the further sum of - - - - -	10	0	0

Sir J. P. to pay the Vicar of Amberley £20 per ann. free of taxes, to deliver

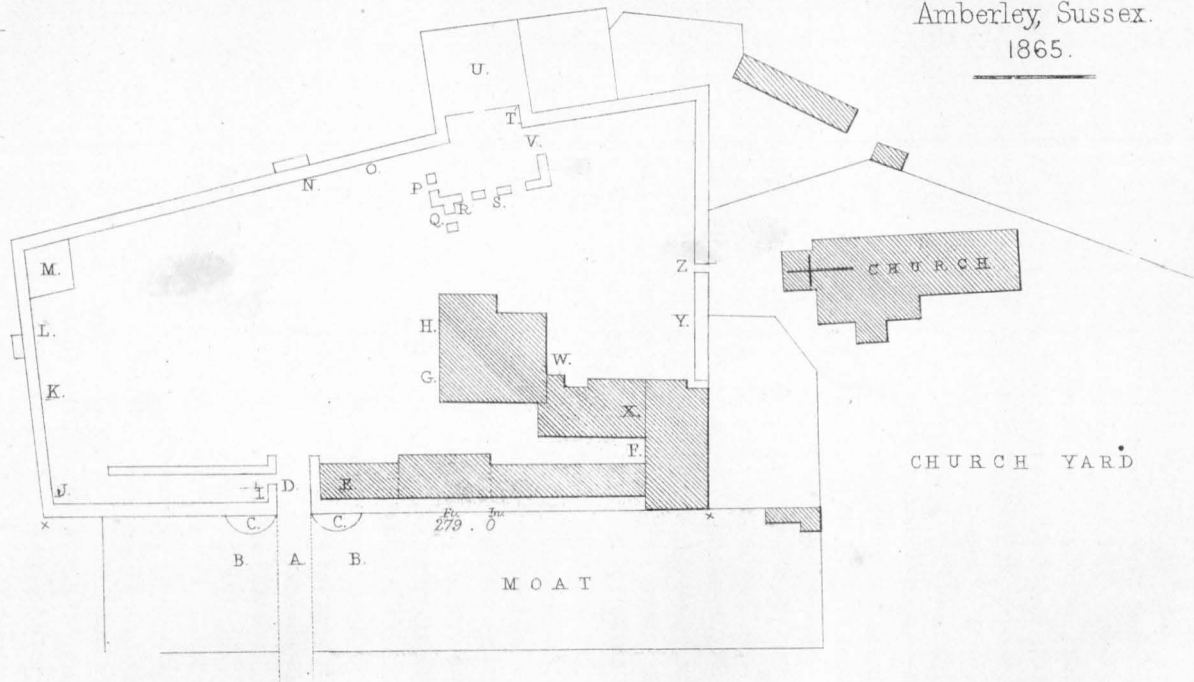
a terrier to the Bishop. (Burrell MSS., 5687.)

We may compare :—

1683	James Butler, Esq., to R <sup>d</sup> Badcock, Lease of Rackham Farm for 13 years, - - - - -	£136	0	0
	Thomas Carter, Crossate Farm, - - - - -	39	0	0
1675	Diana Slater, Groun[d] and Brick-kiln, - - - - -	2	5	0
1680	J <sup>n</sup> Scotcher, the fishery of the rivers, [12 yrs.] - - - - -	6	0	0
1681	Ths. Longley, the Downish Farm, - - - - -	48	0	0
		£231	5	0

—26 Hen. VIII., 1st fruits and tenths records; Ep. Cicest. Farm of 2 Fisheries in Amberley Water, demised to Sir W. Shelley and Sir W. Goring £3.

Ground Plan  
OF  
AMBERLEY CASTLE & CHURCH,  
Amberley, Sussex.  
1865.



plan, or architectural definitiveness in the letterpress.<sup>58</sup> The two may be of use in indicating what to observe; and in eliciting more precise information as to what shall be observed. The pitching of our Society's tent within the Castle ruins, on the occasion of the annual meeting, 17th August next, has been determined on (D.V.,) being consented to in a very friendly manner by Mr. Harwood, the sub-tenant of Mrs. Vernon Harcourt. To the Lord of Amberley, the Bishop of Chichester, we naturally looked for one to preside over us, and to give that mark of countenance to the cultivation of the *ingenuas artes*. The prestige of his Lordship's name and office contribute, by his acquiescence, a prospective interest to the gathering. *Saturnina*, our tutelary genius, of hyper-mythic origin, complacently makes answer to the inquiry: Where do you meet this year? At Amberley, where should I?

We meet our friends on the roadway (A), outside the principal entrance to the South, which is depicted at the head of our paper. It requires no very vivid imagination to picture to ourselves a draw-bridge over the fosse (B).

Exchanging sighs over the trim stable and its adjuncts, it is soothing if we are greeted by a rock pigeon, perched on the battlement of one of the segmental towers (C), or at the partially closed window over the arch (D). Welcome the dove (instead of the grim porter, or the weary prisoner), emblem of a Church more pure than that in which some of the Castle lords bare rule; of times more pacific than those in which the lot of some of its occupants was cast. The entrance bears some resemblance to that of Carisbrooke, though wanting the machicolations, and being less ornate. A doorway, on the east of the arch, indicates the thickness of the wall, in which are seen windows, few and far between. The portcullis groove, the iron hinges, and a socket, which may have received a bolt, are noticeable at (D). Here, a cutting on a stone,—*E. Rhoades*, 1816—reminds us of one who has a name among the "Worthies of Sussex," whose recent death evoked such a far-spread feeling of regret—Mr. Cobden. We have looked for a similar record of him-

<sup>58</sup> We fall back upon a great name, in extenuation of this deficiency. Dr. Whewell, in his "Architectural Notes on German Churches," refers to some plans as drawn by the eye, without any measure-

ment, and as having no pretensions to exactness of proportion in details. We erased from our *Proof*, scale, 80 feet to an inch.

self, near to that of his first cousin, or of a connexion, in a spot of which, and its pleasurable associations, we have heard him speak. Round the right-hand corner of the gateway is a labourer's cottage (E), where a glass of water may be procured; you may perhaps be allowed to grope your way to the pigeon's domicile over the arch. You may elect between this and the cellarage (E) for the old prison or dungeon. Outside the arch, looking to the far east, a double lancet window reminds one of Bishop William Rede, in 1369. (G) indicates the window of the Court Room, a locality suggestive of the swearing of, and presentments by, the Homage, of suit and service to the Lord, of fines, heriots, stewed eels, feasts, and other manorial mysteries. (H) indicates an arch, with an entrance to what was called the hall. Still standing at the entrance arch, on the west side, is a doorway, at which you may enter, observing the *backing* of tiles for a fireplace; do not be deluded into a belief that you are looking upon Roman work at this spot, or in the western wall. The interior (I) of a tower, flanking the arch is to be seen, sometimes a depôt for peat,<sup>59</sup> from the Wild-Brooks; high up in this locality may be seen a doorway, whence egress might be had to take a stroll along the wall, within the battlements. (J) indicates the S.W. angle of the court. In the west wall, at K, observe the conjectural water-gate, blocked up, of which and its accessories a graphic sketch is appended by Rickman:—

“Habitable apartments surround the courtyard (Ballium), out of shot of catapults, &c., and all other [curved lined] missiles. Imagine Bishop in his Castle; attack impends; cattle and all best goods of tenants and other dependents sheltered in court-yard. The owners form the garrison, their wives and children were protected from the violence of the enemy. The possessor of Arundel Castle (if the Bishop's friend) stops the watercourse at the bridge with paddles, and floods the Amberley wild-brooks, to the navigable depth of the [flat] boats. A water communication of garrison. Stores pour in, and hay, for the crowd of cattle in the courtyard, is landed at the water-gate, inaccessible to the besiegers.” An external projection occurs at L.

<sup>59</sup> A report on some peat sent from Amberley to Rotherhithe, states that the darker portion is the best, and yields about 5 per cent. of oil.

Note the north-west tower (M), with the comment:—

“In Dallaway’s Western Sussex, it is remarked, as peculiar, that the towers at the angles of this fortress are built in the base-court, and do not project from the interior face of the building.”<sup>60</sup>

Outside the north wall at (N), outlets for the sewerage, into the Brooks below, may be seen. (O) is an aperture for the discharge of missiles. (P) is an entrance, on the south of which is a pointed arch (Q), with crowned and mitred heads, as corbels: they may be those of Edward III. and Bishop William Rede. In the angle (R), a head appears to form a bracket or corbel. The last of the party from Oxford or Cambridge, may, before possible *pic-nic*, croquet, or shepherd’s chess, find a resource in interpreting Bishop W. Rede’s Latinity and measurements, and in assigning the position of the Chapel.

“The circuit (*Ambitus*) of the Castle of Amberlee from the eastern tower of the same, looking south to (*usque ad*) the vestibule of the chapel of the same, contains in length  $246\frac{1}{2}$  virgates. Thence (*unde*) the chapel of the same contains  $26\frac{1}{2}$  virgates. Likewise the *deambulatorium*, 32. The sum of the virgates of each  $58\frac{1}{2}$ ; and so, the residue of the said *ambitus* contains 104 score and 16 virgates.”

Passing through the central arch of the three (S) facing the South, whether buttery-hatch or not, on the right, is observable in the wall (T), what is suggestive of the under part of a staircase. With permission you may enter (U) a platform, denuded of pollard elms, commanding the Wild and other Brooks, Bury Church,<sup>61</sup> Bignor Park, Pulborough Mount, and Church, Parham Park, &c.

This is called the *kitchen*; the visitor may like to ask leave to unpack his basket and *improvise* a refectory. Tradition runs, that Sir Francis Burdett was reminded by his companion that it would be a good place to address a mob from; to a general officer, it suggested a bastion. We do not recollect any comment from a noble and learned Lord, who, ere he reached the woolsack, sometimes unbent at Amberley from “law’s grave studies.” Hard by is the *pound* for stray animals. Below the summer-house, is some shattered masonry, which has the appearance, from the pound, of a well. Emerging by the sycamore tree (V) into the more open area,

<sup>60</sup> Britton’s Dict: of Architecture and Archæology.

<sup>61</sup> Bolt in the west corner of Bury Parish Church is 5·00 feet above surface: 54·065

feet above mean level of sea at Liverpool.—Abst. of Levelling from Arundel to Staines. Ordnance Survey, p. 212, by Col. Sir Henry James, R.E., 1861.

designated by Grimm the Upper or East Court, application may be made, at (w) the *pointed* doorway, to see the Queen's Room. Within the entrance is a Norman arch, barbarously bisected *in situ*, or built in, for preservation. The Queen's room (x) is upon the first floor, with a window of *bayish* type looking to the north. On this *façade*, there are traces of an early-English-looking window, with badges or devices, one of a dolphin, suggestive of Bishop Montague. Along the east wall are three recesses with arched brickwork (y). On the external East wall, look for Norman work, referred to by Dallaway. It is time to quit these walls, traditionally blended with the supernatural, and the subterranean, with deeds of darkness, with somersaulting bell in a state of cataleptic inversion, with unaccountable ringings, with lady in rustling silk, with mysterious dog, and bevy of clerics, to lay the spirit. If not spell-bound, you may make your exit by the postern (z), opening upon, among the last, but not the least,

### THE CHURCH.

Among the finest remains of the Norman period, from A.D. 1066 to A.D. 1145, Mr. Sharpe, in elucidating church architecture in Sussex, in our 7th volume, includes this church. It consists of nave, chancel, south aisle, tower, and south porch,

The *Nave*.—Dallaway states that "Norman mouldings of an age as early as that of Henry II., and very few and narrow windows are seen in the nave." "The church," writes Mr. Sharpe, "has a few good Norman windows." There are two on the north side, and one at the west end, the latter recently used as a doorway from the belfry to a gallery, removed in 1864. Conceptional architecture enables us, in a manner, to re-vivify the primary gloom which may be supposed to have hung about the nave, even though the two north windows, at an elevation of ten feet from the floor, had their complementary pair on the south side, allowing likewise for the free ingress of light by the west window, without transmission through a tower. The dim light, it may be, co-existed with additional protection from the weather, and with increased security to women and children finding a refuge in the house of prayer. An unstopped

portion of a north door forms an unsightly window, the most judicious treatment of which, and of the circumjacent wall, is a problem commended to ecclesiologists for solution.

The *Chancel*, Dallaway tells us, is divided from the nave "by a circular arch of a particular moulding, which is continued on the soffit under the curve. This ornament occurs rarely, and that now remaining in the old conventual church at Ely, has been considered by learned antiquaries as of Saxon workmanship." In Grimm's collection, a drawing is given of what is designated "a Saxon arch in Amberley Church." Mr. Sharpe says the church has a good Norman arch, of late date.

We have alluded to the part assigned to Bishop Neville, in connection with the chancel. Its date is probably about 1230. It was described, prior to the reparation in 1864, as a perfect and unaltered specimen of the architecture of the age. Constructional as well as documentary *data* indicate a chancel, or *quasi* chancel, (possibly it may have been an apse), previous to the Bishop's operations. Among those *data* may be mentioned the *quoins*, externally on the north and south sides of the chancel, with horizontal rough masonry, and some internal wall-work, beneath the level of the chancel floor. The question arises, whether or not from these quoins, an apsidal arc might have sprung, or a terminal eastern wall have run, in a right line. Again, the quoins might have been displaced, and worked up *de novo*, in their present site.

Mr. Sharpe refers to the church, in illustration of the Lancet Period, from A.D. 1190 to A.D. 1245, remarking upon unaltered chancels of this period, especially in the western division of the county, as rather the rule than the exception. Amberley, Bosham, North Stoke, &c. "are a few of the many churches, which have the usual Sussex chancel. It has commonly three tall rising lancet windows in the east gable, which generally retains its original pitch; these are separate on the outside, but, owing to the deep inner splay, contiguous."

More curious than symmetrical was the development of the three eastern windows, prior to the alterations of 1864. The central window had, as now, the wider splay, the curtain arch being pointed and still more unsymmetrical than it now is.



In each of the curtains at the side, the curve was considerably more depressed, and the crown was lower than in the central window. If we do not find sermons and history in these stones, they stimulate to conjecture and theory as to their date, and the influences at work in the disposition of them. Did the side curtains assume curves thus depressed and marked, in order that the central window, by its elevation, might be paramount above its fellows? or was the mason, projecting stones from one or more windows of the original chancel into eastern space, constrained by a limited supply to economise his material, and to depress the arches in the plane of the inner surface of the wall? The arrangement of the nine windows of the chancel has somewhat of an *arcadic* character.

Parts of a screen door, Perpendicular, remain to be worked up in the church.

The South Aisle and Tower appear, says Dallaway, to have been added about the 13th century. The apex of the present roof seems to be about three feet higher than the original, as indicated by the weather-moulding of which a portion may be seen from the interior of the nave, below the wooden ceiling.

“There are few churches,” says the writer of “A Few Words to Churchwardens,” “which have not lost much of their beauty, from their roofs being of a lower pitch than they used to be.” Parochial economics at Amberley appear to have favoured an opposite procedure, and the substitution of a continuous expanse of roof for nave and aisle, instead of the two disconnected roofs, whose existence we deduce as a corollary. The bells are five in number, cast and hung in 1742 by Robert Catlin, as appears from Mr. Daniel-Tyssen’s paper in our 16th volume. The diameter of the tenor bell is given, 31 inches.

The Porch, at the south entrance, was built of flint and other stone, covered with Horsham stone, the like material, within the last twenty-five years, lying on the lower part of the south roof. It bore the date 1637. Its demolition took place on Whit-Monday, 1865, to make way for another since erected, more worthy of the pointed arch, and of the carved foliage, at the inner doorway. Some masonic discrepancies about the jambs of the arch are noticeable.

A *brass*-less slab, in two pieces, removed from the chancel, and some fragments of stone with lettering of, it may be, the 12th or 13th century, have been worked into the pavement of the porch.

A record of 4s. 9d., collected for Amberley Church, at Maresfield, in 1721, appears in *Suss. Coll.*, vol. xiv.

The Font, of Norman character, with rude arcade ornament, was removed in 1864, from the west side of the west pillar. It was found to be in more than a dozen pieces, but is now an encouraging example of ecclesiological re-integration and conservatism. Stone slabs were introduced under the bowl, and at the base, and four cylindrical shafts of Purbeck, Petworth, or Forest marble, were substituted for wooden pillars.

Mural Paintings.—Our Saviour, with the *nimbus*, sitting on the lap of the Virgin Mary, crowned, with an ecclesiastic below, is delineated on the eastern wall of the aisle. Purer and sounder teaching from the Word of God is developed on the right and left of the foregoing, almost the whole of the 3rd verse of Revelations ix., being visible, and some portion of Hebrews, x. 23. There appears to be some sub-work of a Pre-Reformation date. On the south wall, a pleasing effect is realised by a few simple lines, depicting, it may be, the *Salutation*. A continuous curve serves for the eyebrows of two faces. Enough of textual writing, heads, and other accessories of art is indicated, and enough is obscured to stimulate the visitor's research and ingenuity.

Of *Consecration Crosses*, as they are supposed to be, two remain. Two, on the west side of the south door, one higher than the other, were obliterated in 1864. Another was to be traced on the pier at the S. W. of the nave.

The dedication of the church is assigned by Mr. C. Gibbon to St. Michael or St. Paul. "By these extracts it appears either that the church had two saints, or that its dedication was altered between 1530 and 1556."<sup>62</sup> Philip Cooper, of Amberley, in his will, dated 6th April, 1540, desires to be buried in the church of St. Michael, in Amberley, by the

<sup>62</sup> Dedications, &c., by Charles Gibbon, Esq., *Richmond Herald*, *Suss. Col.*, vol. xii.

burial of Geo. Rose, there lately buried, bequeathing to the high altar, for his tithes and oblations forgotten, xiid.<sup>63</sup>

*The Brass records—*

Hic jacet Johannes Wantele qui obiit xvi. die Januarii, Anno Domini m.cccc.xxix.,  
cujus anima propitiatur Deus.

The figure reclined near the east window of the aisle, with the feet toward the west, but in 1864 the slab was fastened vertically, in a near locality. We are told that the deceased was of an ancient family settled here, and that two farms in the parish were called Wantley's "at this day," 1817, or circa.<sup>64</sup> This connexion with Amberley wants local corroboration. In Storrington, Sullington, and in or near Fittleworth, there are localities of the same, or of very similar orthography. "In his dress we have an example of the surcoat, assuming the form of the habiliment commonly known as a tabard. The surcoat and tabard are, however, synonymous terms. Wantley's tabard bears, Vert, three lions' heads, langued Argent, represented in enamel on the brass. The upper part of a shirt of mail appears about the neck, where uncovered by the tabard."<sup>65</sup> The arms are noticed by the Rev. Charles Boutell, as not repeated upon the sleeves. The armour, he says, is very good. There is authority for supposing that the brass was not enamelled, but that some resinous or other soft substance was introduced for embellishment. A piscina is near, in the south wall.

The *Hour-Glass Stand* is fixed in the north wall, near the site of the old and present pulpits. If such was the use, once, an accessory to the meteing of time, it is now a memorial of many lives run out, as with the priest, so

<sup>63</sup> He disposes further of 2 oxen, 2 kyne, 2 bullocks of 2 year old, 1 feather bed, 1 bolster, 2 pillows, 1 pair blankets, 1 coverlet, 2 pair of sheets, 20 sheep, 6 hoggs, a gown lined with cotton, 'ventyd' before with serge, a doublet and a pair of hose. His wife, Sibil, was to hold his lease in the south part of the farm of Amberley, while sole and unmarried; on her death or marrying, the residue of years to W. and John Rose.—(Will Office, Chichester.)

<sup>64</sup> A *fore-friend*, it may be, was John de Wantelye, whose name occurs in an Inquisition at Chichester on the Thursday after the Feast of St. Gregory, 29 Edward I., before the Sheriff and Coroners of Sussex, by 12 jurors. Upon

their oath, the latter say that John Muner of Stretham, imprisoned at Chichester, on account of the death of John de Wantelye, is not guilty of the said death. It appears, however, that Reginald de Bakewyse was bound to John le Muner, in a certain sum of money, wherefore he impleaded him in the hundred of Tirpenok, and caused it to be known by William de Holedenne and others upon the country, upon which he was adjudged (*judicatus, indicatus?*) concerning the death of John.—(Attached to the King's writ to the Sheriff for the Inquisition.)

<sup>65</sup> Monumental Effigies of G. Britain, by C. A. Stothard, 1817.

with the people; concomitant with many homilies, now, a dumb preacher, it tells of wreck and changes, wrought ere time itself shall be no more. There is a stand at Houghton Church, and there used to be one at Bury. Were these homiletical checks necessitated by somnolent habits, due to Sussex "air, though clouded with mists and vapours which arise from the sea, yet is good and healthful."—*Speede's Norden*.

The inside Measurements, from plan, appear to be approximately as follows:—

	Feet.
Belfry . . . . .	11 × 11
Nave . . . . .	40 × 25
Chancel . . . . .	41 × 17
Aisle . . . . .	42 × 11
By measure, the Porch is about . . . . .	9 × 7.6

Among the *Reparations, &c.*, of the twenty-five years prior to 1864, were boarded ceilings, in lieu of lath, reed, and plaster, to the nave and aisle; the E. and W. windows of the aisle, in part or entirely opened; new pavement in chancel; white-washing and un-white-washing; restoration and, shall we term it, *de-restoration*.

Among the works of 1864-65, are, with respect to the chancel, the cutting into it and the erection of buttresses at its N.E. and S.E. angles, the removal of plaster and rough-cast externally, the reparation and pointing of the N. and S. walls, the reparation of the roof and the exhibition of a plaster ceiling between the rafters; the removal of a gallery at the W. end of the church, and of square pews throughout; the blocking up of a north window; the erection of plain open sittings of fir, unstained and varnished; of pulpit and rails; the substitution of stonework instead of weather-boarding, at the east end of the nave; with the almost entire removal of the internal plastering. Such are some of the works which were carried out under Mr. Gordon M. Hills, of John Street, Adelphi, architect, and Mr. Robt. Bushby, of Little-Hampton, builder. A pavement in the nave, the aisle, and part of chancel, of Minton's red, black, and buff tiles, of square, circular, and other more unique shapes, has been laid by Mr. England, of Bury Place, Bloomsbury, mosaic artist, the Rev. the Lord Alwyne Compton having furnished some effective designs.<sup>66</sup> It has been permitted us to see the church attain a condition of marked improvement—a state more worthy of its high and holy purposes, partially developing the ideal

<sup>66</sup> In 1864-65, works at the church to the amount of upwards of £800 have been carried out.

of the House of God, as having all things decent and in order—as open, free, common to rich and poor, partakers of common flesh-hood and common blood-hood ; as set apart for a common service, from those who are blessed with the Book of Common Prayer, and upon whom lie the common duties of worshipping God, “in the beauty of holiness,” and “in honour, preferring one another.” (1 Chron. xvi. 2 ; Rom. xii. 10.)

A list of incumbents is an ecclesiastico-archæological item, for the transmission of which, from the collections of the late Mr. J. B. Freeland, I am indebted to Mr. Parsons, in the absence, abroad, of Mr. Freeland's son, late M.P. for the City of Chichester. I take the opportunity of expressing my sense of the confiding friendliness of Mr. Freeland's successor in the office of Deputy Registrar, Mr. E. W. Johnson, when I have been allowed to prosecute researches connected with his department.

## AMBERLEY V.

DATE OF ADMISSION.	INCUMBENTS.	HOW VACANT.	PATRON.
... ..	Robert Meere, cap.	... ..	... ..
1402. Oct. 18	John Fozell	res. Robt. Meere	The Bishop.
... ..	Almorici Puttuk	... ..	... ..
1443. Feb. 20	Henry Wellys, LL.B.	death A. Puttuk	The same.
(Story's Visitn. } 1478)	Dominus Johannes	... ..	... ..
... ..	Robert Harryson	... ..	... ..
1490. Mar. 8	John Atkynson	res. Robt. Harryson	The same.
... ..	James Alexander	... ..	... ..
1508. Nov. 5	William Bramley	death Jas. Alexander	The same.
1511. June 20	Richard Burg	res. Wm. Bramley	The same.
1514. Feb. 24	Richard Leg, cap.	... ..	The same.
... ..	Richard Smyth	... ..	... ..
1519. June 26	Henry Symonds, cap.	res. Rd. Smyth	The same.
1525. May 22	Arnold Goldwith, cap.	res. Hy. Symonds	The same.
1558. Oct. 3	William Cockinge, Presb.	res. Arnold Goldsworth	The same.
1560. July 13	Jonn Whiteacres	res. Wm. Cockinge	The same.
1568. July 21	Richard Whitakers	res. John Whitakers	The same.
1593. Aug. 18	John Scarborough	res. Richd. Whitakers	The same.
1609. Oct. 8	James Hutchinson, s T.B.	res. John Scarborough	The same.
... ..	Samuel Eborne	... ..	... ..
1627. July 24	Henry Manners	res. Samuel Eborne	... ..
... ..	George Hutchinson	... ..	... ..
1696. July 2	John Wright, A.M.	death Geo. Hutchinson	The same.
AMBERLEY AND HOUGHTON.			
1701. Mar. 28	Edward Littleton, A.M.	res. John Wright	The Bishop.
1721. Oct. 20	Bell Carleton, A.M.	death Edw. Littleton	The same.
1746. July 2	Henry Peckham, B.A.	death B. Carlton	The same.
1795. May 6	John Hanley, M.A.	death H. Peckham	The same.
1840. June 25	{ John Charles Fowell } { Tufnell, A.M. }	death John Hanley	The same.
1840. July 17	{ George Arthur Clark- } { son, A.M. }	cess. J. C. F. Tufnell	The same.

We are enabled to add the following as elucidatory :—

Bishop Praty's Register, 1443, records: "Pleno jure spectantem tibi conferimus in tuitu caritatis, teque vicarium perpetuum de continue ac personaliter residendo in eadem, juxta formam et tenorem constitutionum dominorum Othonis et Ottoboni, quondam in Anglia apostolicae sedis legatorum primitus juratum, institutum," &c.

Monday, 2d October, 1609.—Johannes Scarborough, vicar of Amberley, petitions to resign his vicarage, which is granted, and the living is declared vacant. (Letters H. and G., fol. 50.)

D<sup>nus</sup> H. Symonds V. de Amberley non apparuit, D<sup>nus</sup> Episcopus pronunciavit eum contumaciæ and in poenâ contumaciæ, multavit in 12 denariis. (Bp. Sherborne's Regist. Visit., 1521. Vide Dallaway.)

The *Church Land* is reported to be "a piece of land called the Bell-Acre, the rent of which, it is supposed, was formerly applied to the purchase of bell-ropes and the repair of the framework of the bells of the parish church. By the addition of waste lands, under an inclosure act, it has been increased to 6A. OR. 8P., and is now let out on lease for seven years, at a rent of £12 12s. per annum. There are no documents to show by what means this land came into the possession of the parish authorities. It is let by public tender, and the highest bidder takes it upon a lease for the above term. The proceeds are applied to the general expenses of the church." The land is now let for £13 a-year. The last of several trustees died in 1861. The property is administered by the churchwardens, subject to an audit at the parish meeting, the Charity Commissioners claiming a supervision. Some entries from a book, before quoted, bought by a churchwarden, to keep the churchwardens' accounts in, and to enter the briefs collected, 1725, are of interest.

"For Beer at the Coronation £1. 5; for killing one fox S.2. 6; for a new Church bear, £1. 6; for Vication fees; collected by a Church book, £15. 18. 1742; Paid for the Cannons of ye Church. 1s.; gave 3 men in extremety, D6; a bill for iron worke about the Storks S.1. 10. Mr. boucher, for cloath for a cotten to the pue, S.2."

There was formerly a chapel at Rackham, a field being called the Chapel Croft, on the east of Rackham farm house. In farming operations stones have been found, which probably were remains of the chapel or its appurtenances.

*Parochialia*.<sup>67</sup>—The Vicar appoints one churchwarden, the parishioners one.

<sup>67</sup> Village Annals may, by a judicious disinterment of facts worth knowing, kept above ground in a department of this kind, be made to subserve archaeological purposes, and other ends of a practical and useful nature. Statistical, topographical, and archaic facts would often be found to

accumulate. The introduction of local matters, as to acreage, boundaries, church and parochial measurements, soil, produce, inscriptions, genealogies, names, derivations, &c., into the village school, might tend to interest and develop rural wits, in a healthy and profitable manner.

By a declaration, sent in 1864, to the Incorporated Church Building Society, 7, Whitehall, the minister and churchwardens certified that they found twenty-six sittings, in the Chancel, appropriated to the Vicarage and two farm houses, held under lease from the lessee or lessees of the Lord Bishop of Chichester, and the whole of the remaining portion of the said Church free and subject to allotment by the Wardens, according to Law, according to the best of their judgment.

The Parochial Library of bye gone years, does not seem inappropriate for notice here. Thirty-one volumes, two imperfect, are extant, with dates ranging from 1691 to 1728. A catalogue of the books of the Parochial Library of Amberley and Houghton, in the County of Sussex, for the use of the Incumbent thereof, for the time being, and his successors for ever, includes thirty-eight. On one book plate, St. John is depicted, with the Apocalyptic angel handing him an open volume, on which is inscribed, *Apoc. c. x. v. 9*. In the other hand of the angel is a scroll, with ACCIPE LIBRUM ET DEVORA ILLUM. Other accessories are an eagle and an open cabinet of books, with the letters S. G. in the corner of the plate. Another book plate represents Augustine, upon his knees, with an open volume at hand, and others, goodly looking, upon his book-case. The tradition is indicated, and the lesson to mark and read the proffered boon is conveyed in the legend, TOLLE LEGE, enshrined among rays. Beneath, *Vid. St. Aug. Confess. Lib. 8, Cap. 12*. The title-page of one of the works, Dr. Bray's *Bibliotheca Parochialis*, Vol. 1. 1707, indicates that he desired to perfect a design for "the forming and erecting Libraries of three degrees, viz., *General, Decanal* or *Lending*, and *Parochial*, throughout Her Majesty's dominions, both at home and abroad." It is not improbable that in the early part of the last century, about the period of the formation of Amberley and Houghton into one benefice, this Parochial Library was started. In this collection we have "An Appendix to a small Parochial Library, consisting of some Tracts against Popery, proper to be provided for, and put into the Possession of Ministers of Country Parishes, to be lent to [by] them as they shall see occasion, among the People," the promoter of the work, it appears, desiring to circulate among the Clergy,

Magistrates, and other persons of influence, such tracts, "to peruse themselves, and to lend among the people, as a means to awaken them out of their Lethargy." The following list includes some sound and valuable reading:—Oluffe, Hole, and W. Archbishop of Canterbury, 1720, on the Church Catechism, Kettlewell's Help to Worthily Communicating, Taylor's Two Covenants of God, Worthington's Charitas Evangelica, and Great Duty of Self-Resignation to the Divine Will, Sherlock on Divine Providence, Bishop Wilkins' Gift of Prayer, Euchiridion Precum and Ethicum, Comber upon Ordination, Blair's and Hopkins' Sermons, Disney upon Execution of Laws against Immorality and Prophaneness, J. Ardnii de Vero Christianismo, Apparatum Biblicum, A Folio, with Allen on the Two Covenants and Faith, Bray on the Baptismal Covenant, and Kettlewell's Practical Believer; W. Allen's Select Discourses (imperfect); Collection of Tracts against Popery, Dr. Henry More's Works, 1708, (with an additional book plate of Harry Peckham, shield, crest, and motto, *Tentanda via est*), Divine Dialogues, Franciscus Palæopolitanus, 1713, Bibliotheca Parochialis and Spincke's Sick Man Visited. 1722.

The *Registers*.—The first date given is 1560. Some of the entries are extra-official.

1564. The same day [Dec. 7] were buried iij men y<sup>t</sup> were drowned by tempest.

1577? The 27th day of Feb. was drowned Richard Campion buried in the oxe brooks, the 17th of March.

1620. Marie, y<sup>e</sup> d. of ffraye Lucknor, was baptized, 25<sup>th</sup> Marche.<sup>68</sup>

1630. Nicholas, sonne of Mr. ffray Luknor, was buried, 25<sup>th</sup> Jan.

1632. The d. of Mr. ffray Lewknor, who died unbaptized, was buried, 14<sup>th</sup> Aprill.

1636. Edward Greene was buried the 1<sup>o</sup> ffebur, in the year of our Lord God 1626. He was 94 years of age.

1718. Martha Grumbridge, an infant belonging to a

<sup>68</sup> Vide Pedigree of the Lewknor Family. By W. D. Cooper, Esq. Suss. Coll. vol. III. This family, "now passed away," "from the time of Edward I. to the days of Philip and Mary, occupied a very high position among the families

of Sussex." The fortunes of a fallen house are, happily, not incompatible with things of more serious import and of greater worth.

His coat of arms, a *spotless life*;  
An *honest heart*, his crest.



travelling woman, was buried Oct<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>st</sup>. Mem<sup>dum</sup>. I received no certificate in 8 days concerning her being buried in woollen, of which I gave notice to the Parish Officers Oct<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 30<sup>th</sup>. Received a cert. [Dec. 3.]

1725 Ann Morgan, a travelling woman found dead was buried March 22.

1732. Widow Gearing aged 92 was buried.

1737, July 29<sup>th</sup> Cath<sup>ne</sup> Betsworth. (A mural tablet on the east end of the chancel, external, erected by her niece Mary Groom, states that she was the wife of Richard Bettesworth, of Woollavington, Esq., and daughter of the Rev. Bell Carlton.)

1728, May 27. George Parker, of Chichester, Esq., then took possession of Amberley Castle, &c. (He left two daughters, Ann, married to James Clayton, of Chichester, Esq.; and Jane, married to Wm. Smith, of Droxford, Esq. Vide Burrell MSS., and Buck's View of the Castle.)

Among the fees of this Church, to the Vicar, is, for churching, besides a cake, 6d.

Edward Cruley gent. sonne of Richard and Elizabeth Cruley of [Cackham] was borne in Amberley castell, and there baptized in the chappell within y<sup>r</sup> said castell, by Thomas Sadlyf, the . . . of December anno dni 1577. Edward Fenner and Richard [Tye] and Margaret Stevens witnesses, 1577.

In the year 1724 was planted a small Yew-Tree directly opposite to the Porch of this Parish Church, taken out of the Vicar's Garden.

On Sunday Evening, the 7th July, 1839, a very heavy tempest of thunder, lightning, and hail passed over this district. The lightning was extremely vivid, and presented an almost continuous blaze of fire. The hailstones were of unusually large size, most of them weighing half an ounce, and measuring  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in circumference, many of them 9 inches, all of various forms; but no injury was experienced further than the damage which conservatories could not fail to sustain from hailstones of such extraordinary size.

Some of the preserves in the Archæological Manor have now been beaten; our game-bag, not exhausted, has contributed to the *cuisine archaique*. As the material way of Amberley was described, by the Master of the Revels in

Ireland, to Charles II., as “a reasonable thoroughfare,” so we hope that pen and ink have not outstepped their bounds. Capable of emendation as is the record, in spite of its shortcomings, it may illustrate how well wrote one who bare office in the *Court of Time*:

“The particular history of the fortunes and changes of any one noble family individualizes the events of general history; and the rise or fall of any one lineage, even if humble, is perhaps the clearest exponent of the progress and mutation of human affairs. So also, in like manner, the history of a county, a hundred, or a township, if properly investigated, disinters the most important facts with regard to the general state and condition of society, giving facts instead of theories, figures instead of surmises.”<sup>69</sup>

Appropriating the words of Bishop Sherborne:  
Vale, Bone Lector—

commingling grave and gay, our thoughts recur to the words of the song, in connection with the decadence of the Lucknor family,—“There is nae luck about the house.” The euphony of the name is preserved as a Christian one in a family, a member or friend of which was wont to speak of “Cousin Lewknor.” In addition to this *nominal* memorial to the Lewknors, we understand that a metal dish extant in the family, bears their crest or shield.

<sup>69</sup> Sir F. Palgrave's (Deputy Keeper of the Rolls) Report to the Queen, 1859. Ordinations.

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#### ADDENDA.

Page 186, Note.—For *Ambe*, read *Amber*. “Amberley. Ambury. Mr. Gough says that the first term denoted any earth-works, and a Danish camp on Minchinhampton Common is so called; but Ambury is applied to an old Druid temple near Huddersfield, co. York. The etymon of the first syllable is uncertain.—Fosbroke's Encyc. of Antiq. *Leah* (f.) a *lea*.—The root of this word, which is still common in English poetry, is liegan *to lie*, and in all probability it originally denoted meadows lying fallow after a crop.”—Kemble's Codex Dip., Vol. III.

Page 188.—Gough's Camden gives, *sic*, the “Empetium Nigrum, Black berried Heath Crow or Crake berries; on the brinks of the peat pits near the *Weald* brooks.” (*Sic*, as regards absence of commas and hyphens.)

Page 203.—*Dele*, not to say of a seventh.