

## NOTES ON TWO PLACE-NAMES

MR. DAVENPORT'S remarks about "*Stute de Stone*" as a corruption of "*Strete de Stone*" serve as a reminder that other explanations in the Middlesex volume of the English Place-Name Society (whose London volume is still so eagerly awaited) are perhaps in need of further consideration.

It is shown that STAMFORD HILL *Sanford* 1255 was the hill by the sandy, not the stony, ford. But the ford was *not* across the Lea. That river is the best part of a mile away from the little hill, 100 yards in length, rising from Abney Park Cemetery to Stoke Newington Station. It is only during the past 70 to 80 years that the name Stamford Hill has been used to denote a larger, but very restricted, district. The ford was across the Hackney Brook, which was crossed by the main road at the foot of Stamford Hill opposite the cemetery. Not far away, opposite Church Street, the narrow Sanford Lane still leads down towards the former course of the Brook at Stoke Newington Common, formerly a palaeolithic floor, and it is interesting to note that in Church Street lived Thomas Day, author of "*Sandford and Merton*."

Again, it is said that the *hatch* of COLNEY HATCH was a gate of Enfield Chase. This is not possible. Colney Hatch lies, as the crow flies, at least two miles from the South Gate. The Chase lay entirely on the *other* side of the Chase Side. No part of it was nearer than two miles to Colney Hatch.

Both elements of COLNEY HATCH *Colneha(t)che* 1492 must be water-words, as indeed is but logical. The little stream which ran through Colney Hatch rose to the west of the Great North Road at North Finchley, near Fallow Court Avenue. It flowed between Brook House and Colebrooke House, the latter of which has now disappeared. A few years ago I traced its course eastward between Woodhouse Road and Summers Lane towards Colney Hatch Lane. I suggest that in olden times it was called Colebrook<sup>1</sup> and that at Colney Hatch it was dammed, possibly to make a carp-pond, by a weir or a floodgate, here called a *hatch*, as at Heck Dyke (Lincs.), and elsewhere.

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1. It is susceptible of proof that Colne, Cole and Colney are interchangeable. The Herts. Colne is *Colney* (1398), *Cole* (1577) (Ekwall, *English River Names*). The Middlesex and Bucks Colne is *Colneystreme* (1433), *aqua de Colney* (1620), *Cole* (1577) (EPNS *Mx.*), Colchester is *Colneceastre* (921), *Colecestra* (1086) (Ekwall ERN).