

## NOTES BY MEMBERS AND OTHERS.

ADDITIONAL NOTES TO A SURVEY OF LONDON BY JOHN STOW.—By Charles Lethbridge Kingsford. Oxford: at the Clarendon Press. 8vo 33 pp. (2s. 6d. net).

Since the publication, 1908, of the edition by the late Mr. Kingsford of Stow's *Survey of London*, much new material concerning the history of London has become available. Much too has been written on London history itself. The present NOTES, in common with the original NOTES to the edition of 1908, are designed chiefly to supply references to sources and modern works of authority where further information may be obtained. In the Introduction to the *Additional Notes*, new matter upon the family of Stow appears as well as additions to the text of Stow's 'Collections.' Further, a list of manuscripts which belonged to Stow is also given. Uniformly with the NOTES of the edition of 1908, the references to authorities, papers, etc., follow the quotation of the page and line of the relevant extract from the *Survey*. In many instances an illuminating explanation accompanies the references. As an example of the NOTES the following is taken from page 28:—

[Vol. II], 92, 1, 7. *Excester house*. On its history see *Archæologia*, lxxiii, 1-54 (with plans and illustrations). The site was acquired by Walter de Stapledon in 1323-5. It became Paget Place when Sir William Paget obtained it in 1548. Paget's heirs sold in it 1569 to Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. Its name was then changed to Leicester House. After Leicester's death his stepson, the Earl of Essex, obtained it, and it became Essex House. The greater part was pulled down in 1675-6. Essex Street and Devereux Court are on the site. The archway at the end of Essex Street has nothing to do with the house; it was probably built in 1676.

To those in possession of Kingsford's edition of the Survey, these *Additional Notes* are invaluable; they must be obtained

and placed with the original *Notes*. They can also be read with profit and interest by those who not having the *Survey* at hand yet retain some knowledge of the history and topography of London.

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SERGT.-MAJOR O'CONNOR.—Many here and in America must have regretted the death of Sergt.-Major O'Connor, Head-Porter of the Middle Temple, which took place in June, 1927, in his 74th year. Well known to the numerous visitors of the Inn, British and Foreign, and respected by all, his genial presence will be much missed. Ever ready to impart information, he was as proud of his connexion with the Society as the most aged of Benchers or youngest of Students. In the nineties of the last century he was staff-sergeant of the Inns of Court Rifle Volunteers, "the Devil's Own," where he soon became a favourite with the rising barristers, retaining their affection and regard until the end. When the "C.I.V." went to South Africa, he also went with them, serving in the official capacity of Paymaster-sergeant. After their return, he took service in the Middle Temple, and in 1914 was appointed Head-Porter. A stickler for old-time ceremony in Hall or in the Temple Church, his martial bearing, ever-courteous demeanour, and devotion to the Inn was a liberal education. As a Bencher told the writer—he was "a character, a good fellow withal and much liked. I don't believe he invented anything but he was probably credulous and easily adopted any story which added interest to the Hall. To me he always posed as the guardian of old traditions handed down in the House." At any rate, if he occasionally adorned a plain narrative, his pithy and graphic description, particularly to a following of American visitors, were lively and entertaining and far removed from the usual dry and mechanical descriptions of the ordinary guide. A pity it is that no stenographer took down all he said or knew. We are all the poorer by his departure.—ED.

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LORD HALSBURY AND THE TEMPLE (p. 468 *ante*).—It has been pointed out to the Editor that Lord Halsbury was a Bencher of the Inner and not of the Middle Temple. It may be therefore that the individual whom he described as the Constable of the Tower and a Bencher was William Petyt (1636-1707), Keeper of the Records in the Tower, while the "Papers," etc., were some of the Petyt Manuscripts which are now in the Inner Temple Library.—ED.

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EARLY REPORTS OF LEGAL CASES.—As Mr. Gordon's Paper upon a Middle Temple Manuscript (p. 472 *et seq.*) appears under the heading of "Mary, Queen of Scots and her execution," the importance of the paper and of the manuscript to lawyers and students of our legal procedure may be somewhat obscured. As Mr. Gordon informs us, the manuscript, which contains reports of cases from the year 1586, is of very great intrinsic interest and value. The reports belong to that small body which falls within the gap between the cessation of the Year Books in 1520, and the old law reports, a period which is considerable. The volume carries on the traditions of the Year Book, and is more illuminating than any of them. It sheds light upon the spacious days of the Great Elizabeth, and is an indispensable link in the chain of English Law Reports. The volume stands in the very front rank of unlicensed Law Reports.

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CASES FOR BINDING.—In response to several enquiries as to the provision of cloth cases for holding loose parts of the Transactions of the Society, the Council has decided to provide a limited number. These cases, which are eminently suitable for binding completed volumes, may be obtained from Mr. C. W. F. Goss, F.S.A., Hon. Librarian at a cost of 1/3 each.

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MEMBERS' NOTES.—For inclusion in the *Transactions* of

the Society the Editor will be glad to receive from Members and others notes of archæological and antiquarian interest and queries concerning London and Middlesex.

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