

REPORTS OF THE SOCIETY'S MEETINGS, 1944

1. HENDON (conducted by the Chairman of Council), Saturday, 27th May, 1944. St. Mary's Church, with its Norman font, Early English chancel and aisles, 1430 tower and modern extension, was first visited. There are interesting memorials to John Donne (1575), the Nicholls, Herberts, Whichcoles, Rawlinsons and Colmore, the latter by Flaxman. Sir Stamford Raffles, founder of Singapore (at the time of our visit in Japanese hands) is buried in the Church, and there is a fine statue of him in the Town Hall. Others associated with the Parish are Sir Joseph Aylofffe, Curator of the State Papers; Mark Lemon, Editor of *Punch*, and Rev. Sir Henry Bate Dudley, Curate at the Church, and later the founder of the *Morning Post*.

Miss Pyman, research librarian, had arranged a Collection of Hendon Surveys and Ancient Deeds at the Central Library, where the Ministry of Information had an exhibition of contemporary American literature.

2. ALL HALLOWS, TWICKENHAM.—Saturday, 10th June. The Vicar conducted our members round this new church, mainly constructed from the old city church of All Hallow's in Lombard Street. The tower is a reconstruction, and in it are hung the old peal of ten bells. Almost all the old fittings are being used, and were described by J. W. Bloe, F.S.A.

3. HAMPTON COURT PALACE.—Saturday, 15th July. Edmund Yates, F.S.A., gave our Society the benefit of his encyclopaedic knowledge of this home of Wolsey, Henry VIII, Cromwell and William III. There are a few relics of the original owners, the Knights Hospitallers, but most of the building is Tudor and Classical Renaissance. The Great Hall is now known to have been built to the order of Henry VIII, in 1531, and the Tennis Court (1529) is the oldest still in use.

Sir Christopher Wren was responsible for the additional quadrangle built for William and Mary and for Queen Anne, and there are fine specimens of the work of Grinling Gibbons, Sir James Marpill and William Kent.

4. CHISWICK CHURCH.—Saturday, 16th September (conducted by Francis R. Taylor, Hon. Director of Meetings). The

Roman Survey line passes through the site, and there may have been a pagan temple, consecrated to Christian uses by Mellitus, Bishop of London in A.D. 604. The first recorded church dates from 1252, and the tower was built about 1435. Everything save the tower was pulled down in 1882, and a new building, designed by J. L. Pearson, R.A., was consecrated in 1884. Amongst those buried in the old church are Mary Cromwell, Lady Fauconberg, who died in 1713; Frances Cromwell, who married Robert Rich and Sir John Russell, and died in 1726. Both were daughters of the Lord Protector.

Barbara Villiers, Countess of Castlemaine and Duchess of Cleveland, is also buried at Chiswick (1709) and may have lived at Walpole House. The church has many interesting memorials to members of the Challoner and Walpole families, while in the churchyard Hogarth is buried. His house, which is national property, was damaged during the second World War, but can be restored.

5. HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—Colonel the Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan, a member of Council, showed a large party round the Palace of Westminster on Saturday, 18th November. The ruins of the House of Commons were seen, and the House of Lords, the Royal Gallery, St. Stephen's Chapel, St. Mary's Chapel and Westminster Hall were also visited. It was a most successful visit, and all thanks are due and are hereby paid to our host and guide.