

## NOTES

"SEVENTEENTH CENTURY POLITICAL  
BALLAD"

The above appeared on p.p. 233-241 of the present volume; attention was kindly drawn to an error in it by Mr. H. Markham Temple, one of the joint-authors of the "Temple Memoirs," which is noticed elsewhere in this number. Sir Richard Temple is absurdly mentioned as the "first builder of Stowe"; in point of fact the original house remains to this day encased in the great additions made in the eighteenth century, but it was the work of Peter Temple in 1556-1560.<sup>1</sup> This had been indicated by a former President of the Society, the third Duke of Buckingham (see RECORDS, V. 352), who placed it as early as 1520, however.

A good case was made out for ascribing the ballad to 1679, but the story of the Buckingham Town Hall, with which the article concluded, may be amplified by a quotation from the "Verney Papers" (Edn. 1899, vol. IV p. 329), where in 1685 Edmund Verney writes that "if my Lord Latimer will lay downe £300 for building the Townehall, He may prevayle to make his election sure." The Mayor's name appears as Hugh Ethersey, who held office that year in fact,<sup>2</sup> and Henry Hayward, the barber, and George Dancer, the tanner, are mentioned in the Verney Papers. It would seem therefore that the election of 1679 only produced the timber, and that the Town Hall was still to be built six years later.

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<sup>1</sup> "Temple Memoirs," p. 177.

<sup>2</sup> See Browne Willis's "Buckingham," p. 109. At the foot of the Ballad he appears as "Mr. Eversay, draper."

## GIFTS TO THE NATIONAL TRUST

In accordance with the wishes of the late Mr. N. Charles Rothschild two Bucks properties have been made over to the National Trust.

1. One is the well-known "King's Head" Inn at Aylesbury. This was one of the buildings scheduled by the Historical Monuments Commissioners on account of its retaining two bays of the original building, which belong to the mid-fifteenth century. These two bays of the original hall retain heavily-moulded wall-posts, ceiling-beams, and wall-plates; above all they hold *in situ* a window, divided by a wall-post, on either side of which is a double row of five lights containing a certain amount of glass which is contemporary with the building. Included are the arms of Henry VI and his wife, Margaret of Anjou, the Lion of St. Mark, the Bohun Swan, and covered cups, the badge of the Butler family.

Apart from these two bays the rest of the buildings round the spacious courtyard belong to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The sign of the "King's Head" is presumably a reference to Henry VIII, when the building passed from ecclesiastical to lay ownership. A token was issued bearing the King's head and a sceptre; specimens are in the Museum.

2. The other building which passes into the hands of the Trust is the Manor House, Princes Risborough; an early eighteenth-century house, which contains some woodwork from an earlier house. In particular is a most magnificent staircase of the first quarter of the seventeenth century. In place of the usual turned balusters a double row of massive hoops are linked together; they are executed in a wood which it is hard to identify, but it is believed by Mr. East, the tenant for very many years, to be wych-elm; the joints are so finely executed as only to be seen with difficulty.

When originally purchased by Mr. Rothschild the staircase was painted, but the paint was so skilfully removed as to leave no trace. The treads are 55 inches wide, and the risers are 7 inches high; newel-posts, 6 inches square, are surmounted by large balls, some 8 inches in diameter.

In the drawing-room the walls are panelled, and over the fireplace is an elaborate overmantel with columns and oval panels with bolection-moulding.

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### LANTERN LECTURE

No attempt was made in the winter 1925-1926 to offer the exhibition of lantern-slides, but a request was received for them to be shown at Hambleden, and this was accordingly done. The fact is worth mentioning because these slides have now been shown at the two extreme ends of the county: Newton Blossomville and Hambleden, two of the most inaccessible parishes; in each case, as it happened, a very fine oxy-hydrogen light secured an admirable result.

It is regretted that no offer of support has been forthcoming for extending the scope of these slides to objects of interest in the southern part of the county.

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### THE BURNHAM PALÆOLITHS

The collection of flint implements, acquired for the Museum as was briefly mentioned in the last issue of the RECORDS, p. 361, was derived from a gravel-pit at Lent Rise, Burnham, at about 40 feet above the river level, on the "Taplow Terrace."

Fourteen typical specimens were submitted to Mr. Reginald A. Smith, of the British Museum, who was good enough to describe them as follows:—

No.	TYPE.	DESCRIPTION.	REMARKS.
1	Chelles	Rough hand axe	
2	"	Hand-axe with basil point	Fine patination
3	"	Patinated hand-axe	
4	"	Chipped nodule	

5	„	.....	Pointed nodule	
6	„	.....	Rough implement	
7	St. Acheul	...	Hand-axe with basil point	
8	„	...	Exceptionally large hand-axe	Unrolled
9	„	...	Pear-shaped hand-axe	Black, lustrous
10	„	...	Pointed nodule	
11	„	...	Pointed hand-axe	..... Typical
12	La Micoque	.	Patinated hand-axe	
13	„	.	Hand-axe	..... Triangular section
14	Le Moustier	.	Sub-triangular hand-axe	... Latest drift

Although implements of these periods are frequently met with on the "Taplow Terrace," specimens of the size and condition of No. 8 in the above list and of another, each of which is 9 inches long, are noteworthy.

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