



## “Notes and Queries”

RELATING TO BERKSHIRE.

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### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the County. All Literary Communications should be sent to the EDITOR, Barkham Rectory, near Wokingham, written on one side only of the Paper.*

*It is requested that all MSS intended for printing should be written on foolscap paper, in an orderly manner, with REPLIES, QUERIES, and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name or initials of the writer appended to each communication.*

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### Notes.

THOMAS BASKERVILLE.—This whimsical enthusiast, who affected manners and habits peculiarly his own, was born and resided at a place called Bayworth, in the parish of Sunningwell, near Abingdon. In his younger days he was considered a person of learning and curious research, and was author of a journal of his own travels through a great part of England in the years 1677 and 1678 still existing in manuscript. He was well known to the Oxford students, who from his dry, droll, and formal appearance, gave him the nick-name of the King of Jerusalem, he being of a religious turn, and constantly speaking of that heavenly city; a pretention to inherit which he founded on what he styled his regeneration or second birth, in the year 1666, as may be gathered from his own poetic lines inserted under his portrait:—

“As shadows fly, so houres dye,  
And days do span the age of man.  
In month of August twenty-nine  
I first began my Mourning time,  
Thousand six hundred and ninety-nine.  
Yet I drudge on, as said before,  
There's Time, when time shall be no more;

A second birth I had, I say,  
 January eleventh day.  
 In that circle fifty-two weeks,  
 Thousand six hundred and sixty-six,  
 A ray of light I saw that day  
 Enter my heart with heat and joy,  
 Saying these words unto me then—  
 King of Jerusalem."

The number of sectarians that sprung up at the time Baskerville lived without question bewildered a brain not very strong. For instance, the Quaker, Nayler, the blasphemer; Venner, the fifth Monarchy man; Muggleton, and a whole tribe of schismatic pretenders to new born light, had each their several followers. To one party or another it may naturally be imagined Baskerville inclined, or he might probably feel inspired, similar to Swendenbourg of latter days, to convey disciples to the New Jerusalem by a path unknown to any other than himself. This portrait, which exhibits a meagre, long and mortified countenance, was engraved when he was in his 70th year. Over his monogram, B.O., is inscribed two lines, doubtless of his own writing:—

"Once I was alive and had flesh to thrive,  
 But now I am a skeleton at 70."

He affected most of the singularities which naturally adhere to reclusive and habitual retirement, and, lived to a very advanced age, dying about the year 1705.

Many of his MSS. went with the Harleian collection to the British Museum

I copy the above from a manuscript of about the beginning of this century; it is endorsed:—

"Bayworth.—Sometime after the Reformation it belonged to the family of Baskerville, of whom it was purchased about the year 1720 by the Stonhouses. In Sunningwell Church is a monument to Hannibel Baskerville, lord of the manor, who died 1668. In St. George's Chapel, Windsor, there was a memorial for Capt. Thos. Baskerville, who had maintained a troop of Horse for King Chas. I. at his own cost, and died one of the poor Knights of Windsor in 1711, aged 106."

Sandgate, Kent.

R. J. FYNMORE.

EDWARD IV.—In the New Annual Register for 1789, under Principal Occurrences, 20th March, there is an account of the opening of Edward IV. tomb:—

"Last Friday the workmen, in new paving the choir of St. George's Chapel, at Windsor, discovered a decay in the stones which closed up the entrance into the vault where Edward IV. had been deposited. Two of the Canons and the Surveyor entering the vault viewed the royal body, enclosed in a leaden and a wooden coffin, reduced to a skeleton, which measured six feet three inches, the skull reclined to the left or north side, with a quantity of long brown hair which had fallen off it."

Lyson's, in his Hist. Berks, p. 210, merely states that

"The vault containing the royal corpse was opened in the year 1789, when the skeleton was found in a plain leaden coffin," and a foot note states that the

Bishop of Salisbury communicated an account of the discovery to the Society of Antiquaries.

In an old cabinet (dated 1650) given to my mother many years ago by a Miss Symes, of Axminster, is a little bone box, circular with screw lid, containing what purports to be a portion of the "long brown hair" referred to above. It is I should say four inches long, plaited and twined round the inside of the box, with a bow at the top; on a black leather medallion with gilt stamped border are the figures and letters IV. E.R., 1483. A piece of glass protects the hair and inscription. Inside the lid in very fine hand-writing, is the following:—"King Edward the Fourth was buried in St. George's Chapel at Windsor in 1483. His tomb was opened in 1789 when a Lock of Hair was taken off his Head, of which the enclosed is a portion."

To corroborate the above there is a letter, apparently in the same hand writing as the inscription, dated Windsor, November 9th, 1789.

"Dear Madam,—Enclosed you will receive a small Lock of Edward the Fourth's Hair, the reality of which you may be assured, as I had it from a person who himself cut it off the Head, being at the opening of the Tomb. Should have been happy to have been the bearer of it, but am prevented by my winter companion, a cough, &c., and being at this time of the year busy for two or three months. My Mother does not give up thoughts of coming to town, but it will be the latter end of the winter when the days are lengthened. When you go to Esher pray give our best respects.

"My Father, Mother, &c., unite in kind remembrance to self and Mr. F. with yours ever,

J. BLAKENEY, Junr."

Addressed—"Mrs. Fynmore, No. 65, Aldersgate Street, London. Per favour of Messrs. Scatcherd & Co."

## Queries.

MAYOTT FAMILY.—Are there any memorials to this family at Shalbourn? If so, would a correspondent in the neighbourhood kindly favour me with copies of same.—R. J. FYNMORE, Sandgate, Kent.

KITCAT CLUB.—Will some one give me a full list of the members of the Kitcat Club?—E. E. T.

PURLEY CHURCH.—A most curious piece of tapestry exists in Purley Church, formerly an altar cloth. The figures wear the dress of Queen Elizabeth's reign. There appear to be six scenes. What is the subject?—E. E. T.

## Replies.

**KITCAT CLUB.**—The memoirs of the celebrated persons composing the Club illustrated with 48 portraits was published in 1821. Hill and Sons, 1, Booksellers' Row, have a copy valued at £3 10s.—EDITOR.

**KNAPP FAMILY.**—[No. 4, p. 88.]—John Fynmore in his will proved 6th May, 1730 (Auber 23, P.C.C.), desires that the residue of his estate should go to Coghill Knapp, of Bletchington, Ox., gent.—R. J. FYNMORE, Sandgate, Kent.

**KNAPP FAMILY.**—[No. 4, p. 88.]—The following from "A Monument of Christian Munificence," Parker, Oxford, 1873, may be acceptable.

List of Governours of Christ's Hospital in Abingdon :—

Henry Knapp .....	elected 1693,	died or removed 1723.
Richard Knapp .....	" 1714 "	" 1716.
George Knapp .....	" 1716 "	" 1732.
John Knapp .....	" 1732 "	" 1765.
George Knapp .....	" 1753 "	" 1784.
Henry Knapp .....	" 1797 "	" 1825.
Henry Knapp, jun. ....	" 1816 "	" 1850.

Masters of the same :—

Henry Knapp.....	" "	1698.
Henry Knapp.....	" "	1708.
John Knapp .....	" "	1737.
John Knapp .....	" "	1747.
George Knapp .....	" "	1756.
John Knapp .....	" "	1762.
George Knapp .....	" "	1772.
Henry Knapp .....	" "	1799.
Henry Knapp .....	" "	1811.
Henry Knapp, jun. ....	" "	1818.
Henry Knapp.....	" "	1834.

R. J. FYNMORE, Sandgate, Kent.

**HAUNTED PLACES.**—[No. 5, p. 105.]—The Vicar of North Hincksey writing to me in December, 1886 :—" I am sorry to say the old house was pulled down within memory, and there is only something very uninteresting and modern in its place; it had not been occupied for some years, and no doubt rats and mice in its rambling old rooms and staircase gave it its reputation of *haunted*. I have always understood it to have been the Manor House, and a square pew in the body of the Church properly belongs to it; though it will probably disappear too when we have means of alteration.—R. J. FYNMORE, Sandgate, Kent.