

The reader is referred to Miss Sharp's book for a full record of the history of these manors. Ufton Richard, or Nervet, was sold by John Nervet to Reading Abbey; ultimately it was granted to Sir John William, afterwards Lord William of Thame, whose daughter married Sir Henry Norreys. Francis Perkins bought the manor in 1709, and thus united it with the other manor. This Francis Perkins won the hand of the reigning belle of London in 1715, Miss Arabella Fermor, of Tusmore, Oxon, who was the Belinda of Pope's "Rape of the Lock." The fame of this lady's beauty and her charms was celebrated both by poets and painters. The history of the Perkins family dates from the year 1380, when one Peter Morley *alias* Perkins was *servus* to Hugh Despencer, Lord of Shipton. During the times of religious persecution, they held to their convictions and were duly tabulated as recusants. The old house in its sequestered nook has witnessed many stirring scenes, and is as replete with interesting historical associations as its beauty is attractive to the artist and architect.

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EARLY EFFIGY FOUND IN READING.—In digging out for foundations at No. 4, Broad Street, in the early part of the present year, a remarkable fragment of sculpture was discovered, in the shape of the head and neck of a Knight, well-posed on a cushion or block, underneath which was the upper part of a second block, which had evidently extended as a bed for the reception of the figure. This again lay on part of a heavy angular slab, which had the appearance of being the upper stone of the altar-table which had supported the effigy and its equipments. The head is colossal, and part of a figure which could hardly have been less in length than about seven feet. It is wrought in fine sandstone. The bust had been represented encased in a *hauberk* of chain-mail, with a continuous *hood*, the rings being well-marked around the neck. The Effigy conveys the impression of being of about the end of the 12th or the beginning of the 13th Century. I am not aware that, at an early period, any important building occupied the place where the fragment was discovered; and can only infer that it must, after the mutilation of the effigy, have been brought from the Abbey. Through the kindness of Mr. A. Cooper, the Surveyor, I have been enabled to place the relic in the Museum.—JOSEPH STEVENS, Reading, Sept. 14th, 1895.