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The Will of WILLIAM COCKS, of Hungerford.—19 Dec., 1557. To be buried there. I geve unto Richard Cocks my kynnesman xxth sheepe, &c., and to Thomas Cocks the younger, Margery Harris and my godsonne her sonne, Dorothie Hyves, my five children that is to saye Joane Cocks, William, George, Robert, and John Cocks, sundry bequests. The residue to my wife Johane Cocks and to my kynnesman Thomas Cocks the younger, executors. William Butler, John Wrenne, and Richard Wrenne, overseers.

Witnesses, Aristotell Webbe, preest and curate of Hungerford, Steven Whittington, John Wrene, William Butler, Richard Wrenne and Hansom, with other moo.

Proved 7 Feb., 1557 [8], by John Talkar, notary public, attorney for the executors. (5, Noodes.)

GEORGE F. TUDOR SHERWOOD,

50, Beecroft Road,
Brockley, S.E.

(*To be continued.*)

Rebiews.

HISTORY OF SURREY by H. E. Malden, M.A. (Elliot Stock). The new volume of the Popular County Histories has peculiar interest for Berkshire antiquaries, as Surrey is our close neighbour. The name of the author is a guarantee that the work has been written in a scholarly fashion and with sound historical knowledge. In our excursions we have often visited Guildford, and are glad to read all that Mr. Malden has to tell us about that interesting old town. The book contains a wealth of historical information, and the author has conquered many difficulties in treating of the history of a county, the story of which is somewhat complicated. Surrey never corresponded to the territory of a people nor of a tribe. When it was a Kingdom it was an insignificant dependent State, and only

one of its Kinglets has been remembered by name. Its dependency on London in the north, the great forest of Andredesweald on the south, long unpenetrated, its lack of cohesion, make Surrey a difficult county for the historian. But its position near London and the South coast made striking events to happen in it, and the story of Surrey lacks not interest. We have the castles of Guildford and Farnham. Mr. Malden tells us that the caves and the two crypts in the High Street of Guildford have nothing to do with the castle. King John often held his Court here, and Henry the Third's directions for the improvement of the royal apartments throw much light upon the manners and customs of the time. There were also castles at Reigate, Blechingley, Kingston, Ockley, Addington, Thundersfield, Lingfield and Bletchworth. We learn that Magna Charta was not signed on the island, but *in prato quod vocatur Runingmede*. We should like to have heard a little more about the town life of old Guildford prior to the reign of Henry VIII., but Southwark, the old suburb of London, with its theatres and bear-gardens furnishes a very full and interesting chapter. The ecclesiastical survey of Surrey is perhaps the most attractive part of the volume. The county was rich in monasteries, and the story of Waverley, Chertsey, Bermondsey, Sheen, Merton, Newark, is full of interesting detail. The connection of Chertsey with our Berkshire Priory at Bisham is curious. The former was dissolved in 1537, and the Abbot was re-instated with his monks at Bisham, only to be turned out again in the following year, as the monarch's greed for spoil increased by feeding. Mr. Malden carefully follows the fortunes of Surrey through the Tudor, Stuart and Commonwealth periods, and his chapter on the social life of the county, the rise of the Wells of Epsom and Tonbridge, of cricket and horse-racing, is well worth reading. The new Victoria Series will deal more elaborately and fully with our County History, but Mr. Stock's Popular Histories should still find a place in our libraries, especially when they are written with such care and accuracy as Mr. Malden's *Surrey*.