

"That no Brother take any woman to sewe or attend him in his house, without special license of the Rector—nor therewith under age of 50, unless she be his sister, or daughter, and of good conversation."

What one feels, I think, on reading these rules, is that in connection with them, there must have been some interesting items in the Parish book of the Rectors of that time, when he had to sit in judgment now and again on the delinquencies of a "Brother" or a "Sister," who, maybe, had ventured across the border into some neighbouring "ale-house," and while doing so had encountered the watchful eye of the Rector; or who perhaps had disagreed with the received interpretation of a sentence in the Athanasian Creed.

Not far from Quainton there is a similar almshouse, erected in 1605, at Chenies, and "endowed with £50, for support of ten poor persons, six of Chenies, two of Northall, and two of Wotton Under-edge." (1)

This Almshouse has the same kind of chimneys as that of Quainton, but is unlike it in the respect that it has three sides to its buildings and stands back some little distance from the road. There are three crosses on its gables and one on the arch of the doorway.

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(1) Lipscombe.

(To be continued.)

## Notes and Queries

### RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

*Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.*

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### Notes.

ERRATUM.—May I call your attention to the misreadings of the inscription on p. 6 of the last number of the *Journal*? "Huii" for "hujus" (hui'), "Januaru" for "Januarii," "Cuuis" for "Cujus," and "xxv" twice for "xxii."—W. D. MACRAY.

KING JOHN AT SONNING.—Shortly after the fateful meeting at Runnymede, and one month before his death, or to be more exact on Thursday, September 8th, 1216, King John and his retinue came from Reading to

Sonning, where he stayed for six days as the guest of Bishop Herbert Poor. The following entry occurs in "King John's Itinerary," amongst the attestations or receipts for money paid to him. "Teste, 10th September at Sonning:—" "Know that we receive in our Chamber at Sonning on Friday, the morrow of the Nativity of the Blessed Mary (9th September) and the eighteenth year of our reign, 240 marks, for the ransom of William d'Albini." This William d'Albini was one of the leading barons who opposed the King, and it was he who held Rochester Castle against John and his foreign mercenaries till forced to surrender. The King in one of his demoniacal moods ordered the whole garrison to be hanged, but this barbarous order was not carried out in its entirety, owing to the counsel of one of the foreign leaders, who advised John to hold for ransom all prisoners of note. The above entry proves that John's avarice mollified his rage, but it is sad to think that the unfortunate soldiers of the garrison who could not buy their lives were hanged.—*Reading Mercury*.

BISHOP, OF BRAY, BERKS.—The pedigree of WINCH, entered in the Heralds' Visitation of Berkshire 28th March, 1665, records a Simon Winch, of FIFIELD in Bray, then aged 31, married to Ann, daughter of Robert Bishop, of Bray. A Chancery suit of 1691 (WINCH v. WINCH, Reyn. 428/188) supplies a scrap of the pedigree of this family of Bishop, which runs as follows:—

Robert Bishop above-named married Mary . . . who made her will as of Oakley [Green in Bray], widow, 20th April, 1656, proved in the P.C.C. 18th Sept. following. Their daughter Ann married at Bray, 24th April, 1654, Simon Winch, by whom she had a son, Richard Winch, of whom hereafter. A son

. . . Bishop, had issue:

George Bishop, of Bray, gentleman, died 3rd November, 1690, intestate.

Elizabeth, married John LIDGOLD, of Burnham, Bucks.

Mary, died before 1668.

Margaret, aged 21 in 1668, married 1670 George YEILDALL, and died in 1675, a widow, intestate, leaving an only child, Elizabeth, born 1671, married

1690, her cousin, the aforementioned Richard Winch, of Bray, gentleman, son of Simon and Ann, and plaintiff with his wife in the Chancery suit of 1691.

Sarah, dead in 1691, and

Rebecca, married to William YEILDALL, of Easthampstead, Berks.

The will of Mary Bishop, of Oakley Green, 1656, mentions a grandson, James Bishop, whom I do not at present place.—GEORGE F. T. SHERWOOD, 50, Beecroft Road, Brockley, S.E.

BISHAM ABBEY.—I am much interested in Mr. Dormer's article in the "Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal" on Bisham Abbey. When I was young I used to stay there, and often visited the Vansittarts, who were connected with my great aunt, the Marchioness of Thomond, by her first marriage with Admiral Fane. I will now tell the story of the finding the copy books of the unfortunate Hoby child. Mr. Charles Littledale, of Scarlets, Hare Hatch, now dead for some years past, was my informant. As a quite young man his father and mother took Bisham Abbey for a summer. One day, when at luncheon, a panel of the dining room fell into the room, accompanied with a stone coffin buried upright; fortunately it fell clear of the luncheon party. Mr. Littledale had the panelling examined by carpenters all round the room, and in the shutter panelling near the window was found a number of old copy books with a child's bleared and blotted handwriting, and with a curious cramped formation of the letters. These copy books were shown to a surgeon of note, who pronounced them to have been written by a child who had a malformation

of the right hand. What became of the copy books, Mr. Charles Littledale did not remember, but he told me it was a Hoby child, and I have always been told the child kneeling in front of Lady Hoby represented the one. Mr. Charles Littledale died at a great age, if I remember rightly 80 odd years, so one is carried back probably a long way over 100 years when this discovery was made. There is very little doubt that Lady Hoby did not realize the malformation, and looked upon the child as merely obstinate and not capable of regular writing. I think it would be a pity this story was lost, as Mr. Littledale, my great friend, was incapable of anything that approached untruth.—EMILY J. CLIMENSON, Shiplake Grange, May 19th, 1906.

B.A.S.—The Librarian presents his compliments to the Hon. Secretary of the B.A.S., and begs to forward him a recent correspondence which would seem to have some bearing on a recent article in his esteemed and authentic journal of the Society's proceedings. It is supposed, from internal evidence, to be of a date not earlier than the 14th century.

MEDITATION OF THE SHADE OF ST. EDMUND'S, READING.

Lonely, and quite forgotten by my friends,  
I've haunted nightly my deserted shrine,  
Or wandered where, transferred to Reading's ends  
On Battel's site was all I could call mine.

Just a few stones, first chapel, then behold  
Fortress, and barn, and store-house. It was not  
All swept to ruin; bartered, bought and sold,  
Lost in oblivion, totally forgot.

Did I say totally? then did I lie;  
For one there is who ne'er neglected me;  
Twelve long, long years he had me in his eye,  
Or wished me there metaphorically—

He found my stones, fort barn, on Battel site,  
Blessed be his name! Green may it ever be!  
Though all beside have done me sore despite,  
I'm vindicated by my friend "A. C."

Transcribed by W. RAVENSCROFT, F.S.A., Hon. Treasurer of the B.A.S.

THE GHOST OF LAWRENCE BURGESS' REPLY.

Fair Sir, you rob me of my old renown—  
It's Lawrence Burgess, bailiffe of this town,  
Not Edmud's palled ghost that doth complain  
Of such as violate his ancient reign.  
I've had my troubles, too, though may be less  
Than those the martyr monarch did oppress.  
Abbots and Friars, Mayors and men of might  
At divers times had done me great despite.  
Now, worst of all, your antiquarian Rout  
Forsooth must dig my Hermitage about,  
Would fain collect my chapel's scattered stones  
And stir again my much too burdened bones—  
Away with mention of your friend "A.C.,"  
Reading's requirements are L. S. D."

THE WRITER OF THE SCRIBE, B.C., M.A. A.D. 1906.

EARTHWORKS IN BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.—Mr. J. Chalkley Gould would be glad of any replies to the following queries:—

1. Will you kindly inform me of any such papers which have appeared in your publication or as separate pamphlets?
2. Please say whether you know of the recent destruction or mutilation of any ancient defensive works, barrows, or tumuli in your Society's sphere.
3. Have any "camps" or other remains come into possession of Corporations or other public bodies, or been purchased with a view to their preservation?
4. Has your County Council exercised its powers under the Ancient Monuments Protection Act (1900)?
5. Has the excavation of any ancient site taken place in your district since June of last year?

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### Replies.

THE EXECUTION OF THE ABBOT OF READING.—There has been some difference of opinion as to the site of the gallows on which Abbot Hugh Faringdon met his death. Contemporary writers speak of the gibbet as being near to the "Abbey Gate," but do not specify whether the principal or Compter Gate or the Inner Gate is referred to. Probably either site would be spacious enough for the crowd of spectators that attended on so memorable an occasion. Mrs. Climençon (History of Shiplake, p. 183) states that the gallows were erected on what is now the site of the Roman Catholic Church in the Forbury, but for this statement no authority is given. What Miss Mitford meant by "the deep and beautiful arched gateway forming part of an old romantic house" I am unable to suggest.—JAMIESON B. HURRY.

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### Queries.

THOMAS RAWLINS.—There was a Thomas Rawlins, of Hanslop, Bucks, gent., who was one of the witnesses at the trial of Charles I. Could any of your readers tell me how I could find out what became of him?—F. L. RAWLINS, Rhyl, N. Wales.

BRETT OF YATTENDON.—Was there a family of this name at Yattendon in the 17th or 18th century? I wish to know why Carte, the historian, who after living at Caldecot House, Abingdon, died there, was buried at Yattendon. His wife was named Brett. Perhaps she might have buried him among her own kin. It is said that for some years previously to going to Caldecot, Carte lived at Yattendon.—M. T. PEARMAN.

CHAMBERLIN FAMILY.—Will anyone kindly tell me where to search for the Baptismal Register of Dissenters, which would record the names of some members of the Chamberlin family, who lived at Radcliffe-on-Soar, co. Notts, between the years 1630 to 1730, also marriage licences for the same period. Any notes *re* the pedigree of John Chamberlin, of Redhill, Radcliffe-on-Soar, and Sutton Bonnington, would be welcomed. He was born in 1741, married Ann, daughter of Thomas Hopkins, Esq., of Long Eaton, co. Derby. He became High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire the 29th April, 1789, and died 1815. His son John Chamberlin assumed the additional surname of Hopkins. He was born 1770, died 1850 at Kegworth, buried at Long Eaton, co. Derby.—T. CHAMBERLIN TIMS, Great Bourton, near Banbury.