

## Notes and Queries.

### ANCIENT MONUMENTS IN THE COUNTY OF BERKS.

The Council of the Berks Archæological Society and the Committee of the Berkshire branch of the Local History Recording Scheme have appointed a committee to assist with the scheduling of Ancient Monuments in the county. It is desired to make lists of all prehistoric earthworks and historic structures (other than those noted below) of archæological or architectural interest, which are not at present scheduled in the official List of Monuments prepared by the Commissioners of Works. When the lists have been compiled the monuments contained therein will be brought to the notice of H.M. Office of Works for scheduling. The committee is most anxious to receive as much help as possible in drawing up the lists, so that no "monument" worthy of preservation may be omitted.

Types of "monuments," which, under the Ancient Monuments Consolidation Act, 1913, and Ancient Monuments Act, 1931, may be scheduled are :—

Long Barrows, Round Barrows of all classes, Stone Circles, etc., Hill-top Camps, Bank Enclosures, Chalk Figures, Dykes, Ditches and other miscellaneous earthworks, Ancient Tracks and Roads.

Roman Buildings, Norman Mottes, Disused Castles, Unoccupied Manor Houses; Ecclesiastical Buildings including Monastery Ruins, Disused Churches, Tithe Barns, etc.; Town and Village Halls, Guildhalls, Market Houses and other public buildings of historical value.

Miscellaneous structures such as Toll Houses, Wind and Water Mills, Dovecotes, Ancient Barns and other agricultural buildings, Old Bridges, Village Crosses, Holy Wells, Grottoes, Boundary Stones, etc.

It should be noted that consecrated religious houses and dwellings which are still inhabited do not fall into the category of Ancient Monuments under the Acts.

The total number of monuments in Berkshire which have been scheduled up to date is twenty; they are:—

Abingdon Bridge, including Burford Bridge and Maud Haile's Bridge.  
Abingdon, The County Hall.  
Borson Barrows, Wasing.  
Combe Gibbet Long Barrow.  
Donnington Castle.  
Dragon Hill, near Uffington.  
Great Coxwell Tithe Barn.  
Hampstead Marshall Park, two tumuli N. W. of.  
Holden's Firs, group of barrows at Stratfield Mortimer.  
Inkpen Hill, group of barrows on.  
Kingston Bagpuize, New Bridge.  
Newbury Burial Mounds or Barrows.  
Ock Bridge, Abingdon.  
Reading Abbey, (Remains of Church, Chapter House, Dorter and Rere Dorter, Frater and Gatehouse).  
Sinodun Hill Camp, Little Wittenham.  
Uffington Castle.  
Walbury Camp, Combe.  
Wan's Dyke, Inkpen.  
Wayland's Smithy (Long Barrow).  
White Horse, near Uffington.

So that all the monuments which should be preserved may be scheduled, the committee will be grateful if all who can will kindly help by filling in on a specially prepared form which may be obtained from the Hon. Sec. particulars of monuments not included in the above list, which they think should be scheduled. The forms when filled in as fully as possible should be returned to the Hon. Sec. of the Anc. Mon. Committee, from whom more forms may be had on application.

The Chairman of the Committee is Dr. J. W. Walker of East Hagbourne and the Hon. Sec. is Mr. W. A. Seaby, of 35, Kendrick Road, Reading.

## HOARD OF COINS.

The following Roman coins were recently sent to the Reading Museum for identification by Mr. Stuart Piggott. He states they are all that remain of a hoard of two or three dozen found just outside Wantage thirty or forty years ago.

1. Augustus restored by Tiberius. As, struck in A.D. 22.  
*Obv.* DIVVUS AVGVSTVS PATER, radiate head of Augustus l.; *rev.* PROVIDENT, square altar between S.C. *Mattingly and Sydenham* 7; *Cohen* 228.
2. Domitian (A.D. 81-96). As, struck in 88-89.  
*Obv.* IMP. CAES. DOMIT. AVG. GERM. P. M. TR. P. VIII. CENS. PER. P. P., laureate head of Domitian r.; *rev.* COS. XIII. LVD. SAEC. FEC. S. C., Domitian sacrificing l. over altar; harpist and flute-player r.; in background, temple. *Matt. and Syd.* 385; *Cohen* 85.
3. Domitian. As, struck between 92 and 94.  
*Obv.* IMP. CAES. DOMIT. AVG. GERM. COS. XVI. CENS. PER. P. P., laur. head of emperor r.; *rev.* VIRTVTI. AVGVSTI. S. C., Virtus standing r., holding spear and parazonium. *M. and S.* 409; *C.* 658.
4. Hadrian. (A.D. 117-138). Dupondius, struck between 125 and 128.  
*Obv.* HADRIANVS AVGVSTVS, radiate bust of Augustus r., with drapery on l. shoulder; *rev.* COS. III. S. C., Fides standing r., holding corn-ears and basket of fruits. *M. and S.* 656; *C.* 388.
5. Philip Junior (A.D. 244-249) (?). Sestertius. Most of both legends is off flan and the reverse is much worn.
6. Small worn bronze piece. Probably of Claudius Gothicus (A.D. 268-270).

W. A. SEABY.

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OLD CAVERSHAM RECTORY.

At the moment of writing the fate of Old Caversham Rectory is undecided. The Reading Town Council have postponed for a while action upon their decision to demolish the house and it is

understood that an endeavour is being made to formulate a scheme which will ensure that the house is saved and put to a practical purpose. There is certainly a growing volume of opinion that if the proposal to pull the house down and make a roadway through the grounds is carried into effect a very delightful spot will be spoiled. And this belief is held by many who are not necessarily concerned about the preservation of the house itself. While it cannot be contended that it is a "rare remnant of unspoiled England" the immediate surroundings are full of rural charm and interest and no growing and thriving town can afford, in these days of pylons and speed tracks, to lose those oases of sunlight and greenery.

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#### SURLEY ROW, CAVERSHAM.

Can any reader give any historic details concerning this part of Caversham? Was it connected with Emmer Green? There are several old houses in the neighbourhood, including what appears to be a fine late Elizabethan house of flint and brick, said once to have been a farm house. There is also "The Grove," which in parts seems to be a building of some age. There was also a spring, the waters of which were said to be efficacious in the cure of weak eyes.

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#### A HERALDIC QUERY.

Is it correct, on a coat of arms, or any heraldic device, to show the *helm without a crest*? In most cases, where a crest is described, it is said to be "the ornament on the upper part of the helmet, which is placed over coats of arms."

H.T.

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#### COLDHARBOURS.

The derivation of this place-name has been again receiving attention. It has been argued that in this case the common meaning, so often found to be erroneous, is correct and that it denotes a place of protection from chill winds and bleak airs. Unfortunately, however, this easy explanation fails when any

test of surroundings is applied. Others hold that it derives from the French "*Col d'arbres*," but here again no skyline of trees, in many cases, is at hand to support the belief. Taylor speaks of no less than seventy instances, and recalling that numbers occur on ancient trackways such as the Icniel Street, Watling Street, the Portways, etc., suggests that they may mark the sites of ruined Roman villas. Perhaps some readers can tell if they occur in the west country and Wales as frequently as the south and the east. There is one other suggestion—that the name may be derived from *Colonia arborum*, a colony of trees. Most of the Coldharbours seem to be in the neighbourhood of Roman remains.

L.D.

Notes are invited on this subject: there are several local Coldharbours.—(ED.)

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#### THE BELLS OF HARWELL.

The bells at Harwell Parish Church have been re-dedicated. They have been cleaned, tuned, and two new trebles added. The cost of this work has been borne by the Bernhard Baron Trust. Their generosity has made it possible for the people of Harwell to hear their bells so much sooner than the most optimistic parishioner thought possible. It is not often in the history of a village church that a gift of £528 is received. Many generous donations were received both from within and outside the parish during the past few years, the amount to the credit of this fund on July 13th being £226 13s. 4d. (to which interest on Savings Certificates is to be added). Most of this sum has been expended on work in the tower, for after the removal of the old wood bell frame and bells it was found that the walls and certain timbers of the tower were in need of thorough repair and strengthening, in order to support the new bell frame of steel.