

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
CONCERNING OR CONNECTED
WITH HAMPSHIRE.

Allingham, H., and Radford, D. William Allingham: a Diary. 12/- net. (London: Macmillan & Co.)

In 1863, "fortune, not chance," sent William Allingham as a customs officer to Lymington, and there he entered into a close friendship with Tennyson and his circle across the narrow strip of sea which divides the Hampshire coast from the Isle of Wight. This volume gives an account of an interesting library group in Hampshire.

Andrews, A. G. Chilcomb, an old Hampshire Parish, with 27 illustrations and a map. 2/6 net. (Winchester: Warren & Son).

Anon. (Author of "*Mademoiselle Ixe*.") Old Hampshire Vignettes. 2/6 net. (London: Macmillan & Co.)

(See Review.)

Bigg-Wither, Rev. R. F., M.A. Materials for a History of the Wither Family, A.D. 1189—1889. Illustrated with coats of arms, photographs and facsimiles, with annotations from wills, registers, pedigrees, and ancient documents. 292 pages crown 4to, with 31 plates and 3 facsimile documents, in art cloth boards, price £2 2s. to subscribers; afterwards £3 3s., issue limited to 200 copies. (Winchester: Warren & Son).

(See Review.)

Hooley, R. W., F.G.S. Goniopholis Crassidens (from Isle of Wight). Quart. Journ., Geol. Soc., Vol. lxiii, 1907.

(See Review.)

Horan, Rev. F. S. Sermons preached at the Royal Naval College, Osborne. 3/6 net. (London: Murray.)

Jears, G. E. Memorials of Old Hampshire. 15/- net. (London and Derby: Bemrose & Sons.)

(See Review.)

Kingsley, Rose G. Eversley Gardens and others, with 18 illustrations. 6/- net. (London: George Allen.)

(See Review.)

Lucas, E. V. The Hambledon Men. 2/6 net. (London: Henry Froude.)

(See Review.)

Mullens, W. H., M.A., LL.M. Gilbert White of Selborne. 2/6 net. (London: Witherby & Co.)

According to the publishers' announcement, which is itself a miniature review, "This little work contains a concise and, so far as the limits of space allow, a complete description of Gilbert White, of his celebrated book, and of the village of Selborne. It is illustrated with seven plates, including extracts from the parish registers relating to White's baptism and burial, a fac-simile of the title-page of the original edition, views of the church and the Wakes. The bibliography is exceptionally complete, especially as regards the earlier and rarer editions. There is other information important to lovers of Selborne. Visitors to Selborne will also find the carefully prepared directions invaluable."

The lecture deals first with White's ancestry, and then with White's own uneventful career. Next it passes on to consider the merits and (in the light of more modern knowledge) defects of the great *Natural History*. The subsequent section treats of the village of Selborne, while to round off this scholarly and authoritative study comes a very complete and accurate bibliography.

Perkins, Rev. T. Romsey Abbey. 1/6 net. (London: George Bell and Sons.)

(See Review.)

Schofield, Mary. Christina, Abbess of Romsey, a story of Romsey Abbey. 3d. (London: Simpkins.)

Rogers, W. H. Maps and Plans of Old Southampton, a collection of thirteen maps and plans, covering the period 1560—1905. 15/9 net. (Southampton: Cox & Sharland, for the Southampton Record Society.)

Stephens, W. R. W., and Capes, W. W. The Bishops of Winchester. 2/6 net. (Simpkin.)

Townshend, F., M.A., F.L.S. The Flora of Hampshire, including the Isle of Wight; a list of the flowering plants and ferns found in the County of Southampton, with localities of the less common species, new and enlarged edition, with coloured map mounted on linen and two plates, one coloured. 21/- net. (Lovell, Reeve & Co.)

REVIEWS.

Old Hampshire Vignettes. By the author of "*Mademoiselle Ixe.*" London: Macmillan and Co.; 2/6 net.

The Author of that sparkling little volume, "*Mademoiselle Ixe,*" which some twenty years ago gave a successful send-off to the once popular *Pseudonym Series*, has here, in quite a different vein, presented us with a collection of sketches of peaceful country folk in some unnamed but evidently very secluded Hampshire valley. These sketches have about them the charm of that rural tranquillity whose departure from this bustling earth is as lamentable to-day as it was when Virgil deplored it amid the turmoil of the making of the great Empire of the Old World.

The first vignette describes the valley thus: "Not far from the madding crowd lay the valley as we remember it. A journey of barely two hours divided it from London, but the traveller thence, in that brief time, passed from one world to another. . . . The amateur of scenery might bewail the absence of bold outline or of wide outlook, but perhaps for that very reason did the victim of town fever love it and steep himself with rapture in its sleepy calm. The voices of the sea or of the mountains never sounded there, nor any that stir to daring deeds or strenuous effort. "Peace" was the perpetual lullaby of this lovely land, which even the winter winds visited not too roughly, and the summer half buried with luxuriant bloom. At rest after storm it was perfect; but what of its influence on those who lived and died within its borders? It bred a kindly but unaspiring race, noted, so strangers tell us, for their dullness, their apathy, their capacity for doing nothing—invaluable qualities in those times, the source of future sanity and health, perhaps, and destined, let us hope, to furnish presently an inestimable drag to the headlong career of the Midlands and the North."

The remaining twenty-two vignettes fill in with delightful personal detail the foreground of the picture thus sketched.

Goniopholis Crassidens. By R. W. HOOLEY, Esq., F.G.S.
 Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc., Vol. lxiii., 1907.,
 pp., 50—63, plates ii.—iv.

This paper records a valuable find of crocodilian remains from the Wealden Shales, near Atherfield Point, Isle of Wight. After a subsidence of the cliff in that neighbourhood the sea washed up numerous fossil fragments which were collected and re-arranged by the author. They proved to represent the skull, vertebræ, and scutes of *Goniopholis Crassidens*, commonly known as the "Swanage Crocodile."

This is the first recorded specimen of any large portion of the skull of this species, though it is the type form of its genus.

A comparison of the Wealden remains with those of the various Purbeckian relatives (*G. simus*, *tenuidens*, and *carinatus*) reveals several important differences, perhaps generic in degree. The mandibles are of considerable length and remarkably slender. The posterior nares are far back on the palate. The nasals and palatines are quite distinct in shape from those of *G. simus*. The orbits are elevated, and have a frontal outlook; the interorbital ridge, so well developed in *G. simus*, as well as in the modern alligators and caimans, is entirely absent. The supra-temporal fossæ are comparatively larger than in *G. simus*, being, in fact, nearly twice the size of the orbits. The maxillæ bear deep pre-orbital depressions, of which *G. simus* shows only slight traces. With the present extension of our knowledge of the genus we are able to see more clearly than before its relationships, on the one hand, to the Teleosaurs, Steneosaurs and other early Mesozoic Amphicœlia; and, on the other, to the alligators and allied types of the modern Procoelian group.

The author is to be congratulated on the successful salving and reconstruction of such valuable material, and his careful description of the parts is highly praiseworthy.

His success ought to inspire other local collectors, as it gives conclusive proof that even in these days of bulky memoirs and surfeited museums opportunities for good and useful work are not wanting.

A. E.

Memorials of Old Hampshire. Edited by the Rev. G. E. Jeans, M.A., F.S.A., Vicar of Shorwell and Rector of Mottistoun, I.W. (Bemrose and Sons, London: 1906; 15s. net, 10s. 6d. to subscribers).

This volume is one of a series of County Memorials in course of publication by Messrs Bemrose. Hampshire is fortunate in having an excellent and experienced Editor in the Rev. G. E. Jeans, the Author and Editor of Murray's handbooks to Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, and other works.

Mr. Jeans claims for Hampshire, in a certain sense, to be the premier county of England, and in his "*General Sketch*," which forms the first article in the volume, he shows how the natural features of the county have influenced its history. Various points connected with the history of Southampton, Winchester, and Portsmouth are ably discussed and summarised. The paper on "*Silchester*," by the Rev. J. M. Heald, is a compendium of the notice contained in the Victoria History of the County and of the Reports of the excavations carried on by the Society of Antiquaries. "*The Jutes and their Settlement in the Meon Valley*," by the Rev. L. Knights Smith, records the brief settlement of the Jutes in alliance with the Saxons, and the discovery of Jutish relics described by Mr. W. Dale, F.S.A., and presented by him to the British Museum. Professor Hearnshaw's able paper on "*Southampton*" gives a succinct sketch of the vicissitudes and development of the town, which in 1774 had but 705 houses, and in 1801 numbered only 7,913 inhabitants. Its history and progress in various ways are described, and the population at the last census had risen to 108,000. Its advancement is attested by the rates, which the Professor humorously tells us are "as high as the most enthusiastic pioneer of progress could desire." "*The New Forest*" receives a long and sympathetic notice from Mr. Willingham F. Rawnsley, J.P., a resident in the district, who treats of the history, terms, and practices of forestry which led to much oppression and cruelty to man and beast. The resentment which followed, as the writer suggests, probably caused the death of the Red King, designedly and not *incaute*, as described by some of the

chroniclers. "Rufus's tomb" in Winchester Cathedral is dismissed as a fable; it was probably that of an ecclesiastic. A breezy article on "*Old Portsmouth*" is contributed by the late Rev. G. N. Godwin, who also writes on "*Basing House*" and "*Charles I. at Place House and Hurst Castle*." The eventful history connected with these old houses could not have been in better hands than those of the author of "*The Civil War in Hampshire*." The Editor treats of "*The Churches of Hampshire*," but omits any detailed notice of the Cathedral¹, which is amply described in so many works.

Mr. Jeans remarks that, with the exception of the noble Minsters of Romsey, St. Cross, and Christchurch Priory (of which separate notices are found in the volume), the parish churches of Hampshire are inferior to those of other counties. Some, however, present interesting features, notably Corhampton, with its Saxon work and *frith stool*; Headbourne Worthy, with its ancient rood; Breamore, with its inscribed tympanum; and Whitchurch, with its Memorial. The remarkable black fonts at the Cathedral and elsewhere (formerly supposed to be Saxon, but now proved to be of more modern and Belgian origin), tombs and brasses are briefly noticed; also numerous churchyard yews of great antiquity, which are a local feature. Mr. C. E. Keyser, F.S.A., the chief authority on mural and painted decorations, contributes an interesting paper on "*Wall Paintings in Hampshire Churches*." The remains of coloured decorations are named and described, and two illustrations are given—from Bramley and from Catherington. "*Romsey Abbey*" finds an enthusiastic chronicler in the vicar, the Rev. J. Cooke Yarborough, who gives a poetic description of the neighbourhood of the noble minster, and points to its architectural grandeur and eventful history with accuracy of detail and reverent feeling. "*Christchurch Twynham*," with its Castle and grand Priory

¹ The venerable building, so rich in historic memories, is now in perilous condition, and calls for prompt and liberal aid to prevent disaster. The Hampshire Field Club has contributed to the Repair Fund, but some of our members are begged to offer individual help as well. Contributions will be thankfully received by Mr. F. Bowker, 17, Southgate Street, Winchester, or by the Dean, who will also send collecting cards to any willing to undertake them.

Church, is the subject of a paper by Mr. G. Brownen. Mrs. Willingham Rawnsley gives a slight sketch of "*Beaulieu Abbey*." Its architectural arrangements and plan have been admirably done by Mr. H. Brakspear, F.S.A.,¹ and we hope that Netley, about which much ignorance prevails, will receive like attention. The Rev. W. A. C. Chevalier writes on "*Netley Abbey*," and has been allowed to perpetuate old guide-book stories of the "penitential cell" (really the sacristy), the "secret passage,"—the great sewer of the monastery flushed by the water from the neighbouring fish-ponds. The vaulted hall, with its fine hooded fireplace, is wrongly named the "kitchen"; the chamber under the dormitory is called the "refectory." The real refectory was, as usual, on the south side of the cloister, and its lines were demonstrated by excavations made in 1893². Mr. Chamberlayne, who succeeded Mr. Dummer in the estate, was not, as stated, the grandfather of the present owner. The late Rev. P. Gaisford Bourne, D.D., writes on "*The Knights Hospitallers at North Baddesley*," of which parish he was rector, the matter being principally derived from a paper on the subject communicated to the *Winchester Diocesan Chronicle* by the writer of this review. Mr. N. C. H. Nisbett, A.R.I.B.A., one of the most skilled and observant of our architectural antiquaries, contributes able chapters on "*Wolvesey Castle*" and "*The Hospital of St. Cross*"—noble works of Bishop Henry de Blois. These are followed by a description of another glory of Old Winchester, "*The College of St. Mary*." The author, the Rev. W. P. Smith, sketches the condition of education in the fourteenth century, and the history and architecture of the wise master-builder, Bishop William of Wykeham. "*Bramshill*," one of the finest Jacobean mansions in England, is described by the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, F.S.A., the General Editor of the series of "*County Memorials*," who tells us that the old house is associated with the tragedy of the "Mistletoe Bough," which is also said to have occurred at Marwell Hall, Owslebury. The "very chest" in which the unhappy lady hid herself

¹ *Journal of Archaeological Institute*, 1896.

² Mr. H. W. Taunt, of Oxford, made these excavations in the summer of 1893, and the result is noticed in his revised edition of Adams' *Guide to Netley Abbey*.

used to be shown at Upham. With so many claimants it is possible that some such event took place in Hampshire, although Italy is the home of a similar legend. Mr. Godwin's papers, referred to above, follow, and the concluding article is one on "*The Hambledon Cricket Club*," by Mr. Horace Hutchinson. The game is said to have had its origin in the county, or, at least, to have taken organised form at Hambledon, whose Club is associated with the names of many famous matches and players. It is pleasant to find that several of the writers whose co-operation Mr. Jeans has secured have derived much information from our *Hampshire Field Club Papers*.

The book, which is dedicated (by permission) to His Grace the Duke of Wellington, consists of 282 pages of matter, with an excellent index (always an indication of good editing.) The illustrations are numerous and well reproduced, and there is a very pleasing coloured frontispiece from a sketch by Mrs. Willingham Rawnsley. All who are interested in the history of Hampshire should find a place for the volume on their shelves.

G. W. M.

Eversley Gardens and Others. By Rose G. Kingsley,
with 18 illustrations.
London: George Allen. 6/- net.

From this book it is easy to see that Miss Kingsley has not only great love of gardening, but also great knowledge of its mysteries. She has evidently inherited the taste for gardening from her famous father, and has availed herself of all the opportunities which her early training gave her. In addition to the experience she gained from him, she has the possession of his gardening books by him marked and annotated.

Gardening, she says, is the "purest, sweetest, most sane and wholesome of recreations;" it is "one of the best of life's minor enjoyments." In this book of fourteen chapters Miss Kingsley not only gives much instruction on the subject of

gardening generally, but she describes her own garden at Eversley, together with three other gardens, viz., those at Sandhurst Lodge, at Bramshill, and at the Rectory of Eversley. The text is illustrated by eighteen beautiful illustrations, two of them in colour.

In the first place Miss Kingsley gives an account of the way in which she set to work to make her own garden at Eversley. In the year 1899 she chose the situation. The house, which she named "Keys" (from the seed-pods of the ash tree), was built in the midst of a field, and the surrounding rough grass was turned into the garden-plot. She says: "From such humble beginnings the garden is still growing," and she remarks on the "intoxication of the possession of land of one's own, which can be arranged and re-arranged as one wishes." After the choice of the ground there followed the task of obtaining suitable soil, laying out the grounds, arranging the paths, and planting shrubs and trees. We are told why certain trees were chosen, and why they were placed in certain positions, *e.g.*, the limes for shade and shelter, the rhododendrons to act as a screen from the road, the poplars for their beauty and height, and certain forest trees and flowering shrubs for various other stated reasons. Then follows a useful list of the different varieties of rose trees and fruit trees planted. In the orchard the cherry, pear, plum, and apple trees were planted diagonally for the blossoms to blend, and under the trees, instead of being sown with grass, the ground was utilised for a kitchen garden, as "the well-worked soil benefits the trees."

In the chapter on "Soil, Planting, and Pruning," many useful hints may be gathered by the would-be gardener. It is necessary to have a knowledge of the different kinds of soils and manures, *e.g.*, turfs, loam, peat, leaf mould, road scrapings, stable litter, and cuttings from mowing machine. It is not enough to know that the land needs food, but it must be realised that all kinds of soils and plants do not want the same treatment. "Why will not people remember that plants, like human creatures, or dogs, or cats, need food suited to their various constitutions?" With regard to planting, full descriptions are given concerning the various

manners of procedure. From this chapter, for example, one might learn how to start and treat a rose-bed, how to trench, plant, and prune the trees. As to the important work of pruning there is great diversity of opinion; some advocate light, some heavy pruning, some Spring and some Autumn pruning. Miss Kingsley advocates Spring pruning, though much depends on whether one desires quality (for exhibition) or quantity of blossom.

A garden is full of delights at every season of the year. In the Spring all kinds of flowers grown from bulbs, such as tulip, daffodil, jonquil, polyanthus, can make "every poor man's cottage, every rich man's house, stand alike in a jewelled setting." So many and so lovely are the flowers grown from bulbs that there is great temptation to buy many expensive varieties. Miss Kingsley advocates a combination of bulbs—tulips, daffodils, etc.—with a grounding of some dwarf-growing flower, *e.g.*, auriculas, forget-me-nots, or primroses. In addition to the lovely display in the garden in the Spring, it is possible to have flowers of large bloom in the house all the winter by growing the bulbs in peat fibre in china bowls, etc. The exact mode of procedure is described.

Scarcely is the bulb season over before we are delighted with the full glory of the blossoms of the fruit trees—plum, apple, cherry, etc.—which are at their best at the same time as the hawthorn, almond, laburnum, lilac, rhododendron, and azalea. "What is more lovely on this dear earth of ours than an apple orchard in full bloom? What miracles of colour!" Miss Kingsley then dilates on the beauties of colour and form of the azalea and the rhododendron. In order to see rhododendrons in perfection we are recommended to pay a visit to the nurseries at Bagshot, where we shall be rewarded by seeing trees forty or fifty years old, simply "mountains and cliffs" of gorgeous colour. Miss Kingsley gives a list of early and late varieties of rhododendrons, and shows that it is possible to have a wealth of blossom from March to June. After noting the special advantages of certain varieties, she says the famous novelty Pink Pearl stands alone, a crowning triumph to three generations of

patient scientific work in hybridisation. . . . The life history of the modern hybrid, or rhododendron, is a deeply interesting one, for nearly all the gorgeous modern varieties have been obtained by endless crossings of four species—*R. Ponticum*, *Catawbiensis*, *Arboreum*, and *Caucasicum*.

A whole chapter is devoted to the discussion of the shrubbery. All kinds of beautiful shrubs have lately taken the place of the "dismal wilderness of the octopus-like laurel," so that we may say that "the change which has come over the spirit of our gardens in the last half-century is nowhere more evident than in the shrubbery." This is partly owing to the opening up of Japan and California and other foreign countries, which have given us, among countless other shrubs, *berberis*, the gold and silver *euonymus*, and the *ceanothus*, with its pale blue and mauve flowers. There are so many flowering shrubs that the difficulty is to make a choice, but the point to remember is to plant the shrubbery so that it shall be pleasant to the eye at all seasons of the year with colour and variety of foliage, and the shrubs should be of hardy constitution and rapid growth. Miss Kingsley mentions many, *e.g.*, *sumach*, *syringa*, *spiræa*, *weigela*, *guelder rose*, *laburnum*, and especially *lilac*—her favourite varieties of which are given in a list in detail.

As the summer approaches its height the work in a garden does not become the less arduous; the summer is a busy time for the gardener, for he must then attend to such tasks as layering, tying up, and the gathering of seeds. The annuals in a garden during the summer are often its chief feature, and Miss Kingsley specially recommends the *Shirley poppy*, *godolias*, annual *chrysanthemum*, *larkspur*, but above all the sweet pea—"the climax of annuals is reached in sweet peas." A long list of the latter and the correct treatment follow.

Two chapters are devoted to the growing and proper treatment of the rose tree; tea and hybrid-tea roses are dealt with in chapter 7, and climbing roses and hybrid perpetuals in chapter 8. The lists given of the favourites which she grows in her garden at Eversley ought to prove most useful.

It is an old-fashioned idea, she says, that the tea rose cannot stand the English winter; with the proper treatment it can and does. The original "Blush Tea Scented Rose" was brought from China as long ago as 1810, and the "Yellow China, or Tea Rose," in 1824, and they have proved two fruitful parents. Since then tea roses have been grown *ad infinitum* both in England and France, and their beauty lasts through the Autumn and often till Christmas. As it is impossible to mention all the desirable tea roses, Miss Kingsley confines her descriptions to her special favourites, e.g., "Madame Lambard," "De Grill," and "G. Nabonnand." Of the first she says, "Few can surpass her. I shall not forget the excitement she created at the Paris Exhibition of 1878." In similar manner this enthusiastic rose-grower depicts the glories of her vast number of favourites of other kinds of roses.

The garden in Autumn, continues Miss Kingsley, is not devoid of delights of its own, for if such creepers as the Virginia creeper, and trees as the sumach tree, the Japanese maple, and the poplar are planted, the whole garden becomes truly a blaze and glow of colour. Of Autumn flowers Miss Kingsley specially loves to see the dahlia, chrysanthemum, michaelmas daisy, and the larkspur.

Hence we see that in all seasons of the year the Eversley garden is a true delight, not only to Miss Kingsley, but (we gather) to all her neighbours, to whom she freely gives hints and advice, cuttings, and flowers. Fashion she does not follow, but simply her own free will. "No true garden," she says, "can be merely initiative—what suits one place is, perhaps, absurd in another." Also "in the gardens we love there is always to be found a personal note;" certain flowers and scents always remind her of certain people and gardens, hence her "border of friendship," which is filled with gifts from far and near.

Many useful hints about the arrangement of cut flowers and the desirable kinds of vases to purchase may be reaped from the chapter on "Cut Flowers." Miss Kingsley advises the employment of one scheme of colour for the floral

decorations in a room, and a free mixture of the foliage with the flowers. Much can be learnt from the Japanese, she thinks, on this matter of the arrangement of cut flowers.

The birds which inhabit the Eversley garden are as much beloved as the flowers. There are among them only three really serious foes to a garden, namely, the bullfinch, the jay, and the sparrow, for these are the culprits which eat the fruit buds. The soft-billed birds, such as the long-tailed tit, do nothing but good by eating up the insects and grubs. Amusing stories are told in this chapter about the pugnacious robin, the greedy thrush, and the ways of kittens and cats with partridges, owls, swallows, and shrikes.

So far Miss Kingsley has been writing mainly about her own garden of "Keys" at Eversley. In addition, three chapters are given dealing with three other gardens in the neighbourhood, viz., Sandhurst Lodge, Bramshill, and the Rectory Garden at Eversley.

Of Sandhurst Lodge she says: "The whole of this garden is the most artistic blending of wild and tame I have ever found." In this place of delight a special feature is the Water Garden, where five or six ponds are covered with water lilies of all shades from every quarter of the globe, and the wild part of the garden, we are told, is "indeed a living poem."

Bramshill Garden is a delight at every season of the year, winter not excepted, for then the masses of holly, furze, and fir may be appreciated. A short history of the Jacobean mansion standing on a promontory of the park adds to the interest of this chapter. The Scotch fir trees were planted by King James I. himself in memory of his northern kingdom, and the house was originally built for his son, Prince Henry.

Finally, we have a description of the Rectory Garden, which Miss Kingsley knew so well in her childhood. She remembers and recounts how her father transformed a wilderness into a paradise; how he loved to make his "Study Garden" a mass of bloom, rich and fragrant with magholia, honeysuckle, briar-rose; how he planted the churchyard; and how famous men, celebrities of their time,

spent long summer afternoons under the fir trees planted in King James's time in the garden. Although this garden was allowed to go to ruin after the death of Charles Kingsley, we are glad to learn that now it is being once more restored to its former beauty.

In conclusion, we may say Miss Kingsley is a true lover of gardens, of flowers, and of trees, and that all lovers of nature and of the country cannot fail to be delighted with her book. It is worthy of study both by amateurs and by professional gardeners.

D. M. H.

The Hambledon Men, by E. V. Lucas.
London: Henry Frowde. 2/6 net.

"The Hambledon Men," by E. V. Lucas, gives an interesting account of what cricketers were like and how cricket was played a hundred years and more ago. It is quite refreshing, in these days of Press-governed cricket, to read of these enthusiasts, in top hats and with handkerchiefs tied round their right knee, so that they could kneel down and stop the bumping ball in the out-field, playing matches on the village greens in the South of England, and making each match a gathering of old friends, with after each match an adjournment to the village inn, where the match and others were fought out again.

Mr. Lucas has gathered many of his facts from a collection of biographies edited by Cowden Clarke some years ago, a great friend of the famous old Hambledon player John Nyren, whose brother (Richard Nyren) is supposed to have been the proprietor of the then famous Broad Halfpenny and Windmill Down Cricket Greens, both in the little village of Hambledon.

It was on these two grounds that the Hambledon Club played and often beat the Rest of England. One wonders how the modern batsman would feel having to bat on those old grounds, especially as the clever home bowler of those days was allowed to select the wicket to suit his style—either a large hump on the ground just where he would pitch the

ball, or a slope to enable him to make his best ball shoot dead. From all accounts the Hambledon men must have been a cheery team to play with and against, as the characters Cowden Clarke gives them are perfect—all good triers and the best of comrades.

The team was drawn from all ranks—farmers, blacksmiths, labourers, and grooms—and the control over the ball the bowlers could attain seems wonderful when we consider that the overhand delivery was not allowed. The reports of single-wicket matches, played between the "Hirsts and Haywards" of different clubs, probably show that these matches were as popular as the full-team matches, and large sums of money were played for and wagered.

The Hambledon Club appears to have been founded about 1754, and continued with success until about 1804, when, owing to the old class of players retiring, new blood was difficult to get, and the Club ceased to maintain its position.

All lovers of the game of cricket will find most interesting reading in this book, and certainly all keen Hampshire cricketers should procure it and become acquainted with the "Hambledon Men," who played for the love of the game in such a sportsmanlike and successful manner.

A. J. L. H.

Romsey Abbey: A Description of the Fabric and Notes on the History, etc. By Rev. T. Perkins.

London: George Bell and Sons. 1/6 net.

This volume forms one of Messrs. Bell's admirable *Cathedral Series* of Guides. Nothing more complete or more satisfactory could be desired by a visitor to the abbey. It begins by giving a resumé—drawn from the most recent sources—of the history of the building, then it passes to a description of the exterior, and finally conducts the reader within the edifice and tells him all that he needs to know in order to be able to appreciate the unique architectural interest of the Abbey Church. By way of appendix are added lists of the abbesses of the convent and the vicars of the parish. Scattered through the book are thirty-two excellent illustrations.

Materials for a History of the Wither Family, by the Rev. R. F. Bigg-Wither, Rector of Wonston (Warren & Son, Winchester, two guineas to subscribers, to others three guineas.)

That worthy antiquary Peter Le Neve was wont to say of heraldry (some would include genealogy) that it was a "study which only loads the memory without improving the understanding." From such an opinion we differ entirely. Heraldry and genealogy are handmaids of history, and the latter pursuit has, in the words of a devotee, all the interest of fox-hunting without its dangers.

Mr. Bigg-Wither in the compilation of his family history shows persevering industry and research, and the result of his investigations of ancient documents, wills, church registers, etc., is an interesting record of a long line of ancestors who lived on their estates and honourably discharged the duties of their station as country gentlemen.

The name of Wither can be traced to Anglo-Saxon times and is found in Domesday. The family, of Lancashire origin, was established in that County 1189—1389; Robert, the younger of three sons of Thomas Wyther, of the County of Lancaster, removed to Hampshire in the reign of Edward III, and became tenant of Manydown¹, a group of manors near Basingstoke, belonging to the Cathedral Monastery of Winchester. In 1649, when an Act was passed confiscating the possession of Deans and Chapters, his descendant William Wither purchased of the Commissioners, the Manor of Manydown. By him and his successors the estates were considerably increased. His son was obliged, in 1662, to restore Manydown, but the family continued to reside there as tenants of the Dean and Chapter. The last William Wither of Manydown (there were five who bore the name) died in 1789,

¹ *The Manor of Manydown*, Edited for the Hants Record Society, by Dr. Kitchin, while Dean of Winchester, gives a picture of Hampshire village life in the 14th and 15th centuries. The documents which formed the materials for that interesting volume were generously presented to the Winchester Cathedral Library by the owner, the Rev. R. F. Bigg-Wither.

unmarried, and thus ended the nine Withers who resided at Manydown, 1484—1789, a period of 305 years. The ancestral estates devolved upon Walter Bigg, grandson of Dorothy Wither, who had married (1684) Lovelace Bigg. Walter Bigg added the name of Wither and thenceforward the property was held by Bigg-Withers until 1871, when, owing to financial necessities, the estates were sold by the Rev. Lovelace Bigg-Wither (he had eleven sons, of whom our author was the tenth, and three daughters.) Thus came to an end the territorial possessions in Hampshire of a family who had lived upon them for at least 413 years.

The family of Wither may not have produced any world-famed men or women, but its members held important posts connected with the County of Hants, the Cathedral and College of Winchester. The pedigrees of the family and its various branches show alliances with many honoured county names. Awdry, Beach, Blachford, Heathcote, Jenvise, Kingsmill, Orde, Portal, Worsley and others. It had, besides, literary connections—Young, the author of "Night Thoughts," Sir William Blackstone, the Commentator, and Jane Austen, in whose letters the life at Manydown is often mentioned. George Wither the poet, came of a branch of the Manydown family settled at Bentworth, where he was born in 1588. Dr. Johnson, who had little sympathy with a Roundhead, relates how Puritan, the poet, was taken prisoner by the Cavaliers, who thought of hanging him, but Sir John Denham got him off on a depreciatory plea—"Please your Majesty," said Sir John, "don't hang George Wither, so that it mayn't be said that I'm the worst poet alive." Notwithstanding this story, the author of the charming lyric

Shall I wasting in despair
Die because a woman's fair?

has some claim to be ranked among British poets. His Evening Hymn

Behold the sun, that seem'd but now
Enthroned overhead,

is included in *Hymns Ancient and Modern*.

The volume has numerous pedigrees with coats of arms in the text, and a beautiful illumination of the Wither arms with many portraits of members of the family and facsimiles of ancient documents. It is an excellent example of Messrs. Warren and Son's taste and skill. We congratulate the Rev. R. F. Bigg-Wither, who is a member of the Hants Field Club and Archæological Society, on having produced a work of so much merit and interest.

G. W. M.

ERRATA.—p. 169, line 17, for "Jenvise" read "Jervoise."
" " 25, " "Puritan the poet" read "the
Puritan poet."

ADDENDA.—(1.) Chapter IV, which is devoted to the
Withers of Bentworth, contains a much
fuller and more correct account than has
yet appeared of the life and works of
George Wither.

(2.) Appendix I. has been most carefully
done and contains extracts from ancient
documents (A.D. 1005 — 1413) which
archæologists will find of great value.

HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MEETINGS DURING THE YEAR 1907.

I. Annual Meeting in Winchester. The Twenty-second Annual Meeting was held at the County Council Chambers (by permission), on Friday, May 3rd, 1907, at 3.30 p.m. Agenda: The Annual Report for 1906; the Balance Sheet of Receipts and Expenditure for the year ending December 31st, 1906; the election of Officers for the ensuing year; the proposed programme of meetings for the ensuing year.

II. Afternoon Meeting in the neighbourhood of Romsey (planned by Mrs. Suckling, of Highwood), Wednesday, 22nd May, 1907. Directors: Professor Hearnshaw, M.A., Hon. Editor, and Dr. E. Buckell, Hon. Local Secretary.

III. Meeting at Whitchurch, Hurstbourne Priors, and Laverstoke, Friday, 31st May, 1907. Director: Dr. S. Andrews, Hon. Local Sec. for Basingstoke.

IV. Meeting at Swainston and Calbourne, Isle of Wight, Wednesday, 12th June, 1907. Director: Mr. G. W. Colenutt, F.G.S., Hon. Local Secretary for Isle of Wight.

V. Afternoon Meeting at Cheriton Battle-field and Titchborne, Tuesday, 18th June, 1907. Directors: The Rev. A. A. Headley and the Hon. Secretary.

VI. Afternoon Meeting at the Roman Villa, Stroud, Petersfield, Monday, 15th July, 1907. Director: The Hon. Secretary.

VII. Meeting at Brook and Compton Bay, Isle of Wight, Wednesday, 24th July, 1907. Director: Mr. G. W. Colenutt, F.G.S., Hon. Local Secretary for Isle of Wight.

VIII. Meeting at Salisbury, Tuesday, 20th August, 1907. Director: The Hon. Secretary.

IX. Meeting at Silchester, Wednesday, 11th September, 1907. Directors, Dr. S. Andrews, Hon. Local Secretary for Basingstoke; and the Hon. Secretary.

X. Afternoon Meeting for Nature Study at Holmsley, Wednesday, 9th October, 1907. Directors: Rev. J. E. Kellsall, M.A., Hon. Local Secretary (for Nature Study generally); and Mr. J. F. Rayner (for Fungi).

Congress of Archaeological Societies
IN UNION WITH THE
Society of Antiquaries of London.

CHURCHYARD INSCRIPTIONS.

The following instructions for transcription have been drawn up in response to the reference from the Congress of 1906, and have been approved by the Committee, constituted as follows :—

LORD BALCARRES, M.P. F.S.A. (*in the Chair*).

SIR GEORGE J. ARMYTAGE, Bart. F.S.A. (*Chairman of Council, Harleian Soc.*).

C. H. ATHILL, Esq. F.S.A. (*Richmond Herald*).

W. BRUCE BANNERMAN, Esq. F.S.A. (*Hon. Sec. Harleian Soc.*).

C. B. PARTRIDGE, Esq. F.S.A.

J. HORACE ROUND, Esq. LL.D.

RALPH NEVILL, Esq. F.S.A. (*Hon. Sec.*).

It is felt that it is most desirable that there should be a uniform system, and that it will much promote transcription if a paper of simple rules can be ready at hand for distribution to anyone who may wish to take up the work.

The record of Churchyard inscriptions is important, because these are so perishable and because, although they must not be taken to be necessarily accurate, they frequently give much more information than Registers, or other formal records.

No attempt has been made to limit the date; in most populous places, the churchyards have for some time been closed, and in others the work of recording up to date will be insignificant.

Verbatim transcripts are the most valuable and are strongly recommended; many distinguished authorities decline to approve any others.

It is felt, however, that to insist on the record of formal expressions, may unnecessarily limit the supply of workers, but no alteration of the sequence of the words of the Inscription must be made, nor the Inscription thrown into Index or alphabetical forms; an Index can be profitably added.

Some transcribers make a rough sketch-plan of the Churchyard and refer to the divisions by letters; this is recommended as a useful method; but is not essential.

It will be an advantage if the transcripts be verified and signed by the clergy or by some other well known and competent person. This could, however, be done after the deposit in the Libraries and previous to publication, and although desirable, is not essential.

In addition to those in Churchyards, it is very desirable that the inscriptions in burying grounds attached to Chapels and Meeting-houses, should also be recorded.

When all the inscriptions of a Church or Churchyard have been completed, they should be sent to the Secretary of the County Society for storage in the Society's Library, or in some suitable Institution.

When the whole of an Archdeaconry, Rural Deanery, or some such division has been completed, it will be for Societies to consider whether they can print the records in full, or an Index to them. It is very desirable that they should be printed in full.

Use may often be made of Parish Magazines for reproducing these Instructions, appealing for workers, and in some cases, for printing the results. In the latter case, arrangements should be made for printing off a certain number—say 50 to 100 copies, which can afterwards be bound up.

Congress of Archaeological Societies

IN UNION WITH THE
Society of Antiquaries of London.

DIRECTIONS FOR RECORDING CHURCHYARD AND CHURCH INSCRIPTIONS.

(Approved by the Congress held on July 3rd, 1907.)

1. Every inscription must be noted—in cases where the lettering is illegible, the fact must be so stated.

An effort should be made to recover at least the name and date, but attempts to clean the lettering must not be made without the permission of the clergy in charge. A rubbing with heel-ball or a photograph may often be taken with advantage.

Much depends on the fall of the light; an inscription that cannot be read in the morning may be quite clear in the evening.

2. It is desirable that where possible transcripts should be signed as correct by the Rector or Vicar, as a copy so certified would be received in evidence when the original inscription has become defaced.

3. It will much facilitate work and subsequent reference if a rough plan of the churchyard is made and referred to by letters or numbers.

4. The form and material of the memorial must be stated—whether Altar tomb (inscribed on top or sides or both), head-stone, wooden rail, cross, or slab.

5. The record should be on white foolscap paper of good quality, or on good quality typing paper, and writing must be on one side only.

The sheets should not be overcrowded and each sheet should be complete in itself, with one or more entries.

A few blank lines, varying in number with the importance of the subject, should be left at the end of each entry, for the addition of further particulars.

6. The name of the County should be entered at the top, followed by the name of the Church.

Verbatim transcripts are the most valuable, and are strongly recommended; many authorities decline to approve any other.

7. When transcripts are not made verbatim, the following rules should be observed :—

The words, "Here lieth the body of"; or "In memory of" must be recorded, as the latter do not always indicate an interment, but it is not necessary to give religious observations, such as "in hope of a joyful resurrection"; nor texts nor poetry, unless these have personal application. Every fact, however trivial, must be noted, such as age, residence, occupation of self or parents, or relatives, or cause of death. No alteration in the sequence of the inscription must be made.

8. The following abbreviations are recommended :—

b.— born.	inf.— infant.
d.— died.	m.— married.
dau.— daughter.	mem.— memory.
grs.— grandson.	par.— parish.
grd.— grand-daughter.	s.— son.
h.— husband.	wid.— widow.

9. The entry should be made somewhat in the following manner:—

SURREY. Coulsdon, St. Mary ; Churchyard.

(1.) Headstone as follows, and footstone uninscribed—

DOE, John, of Brownhill, Coulsdon, surgeon, F.R.C.S., and J.P., b. 1st June, 1740—d. 5th Jan., 1800—of a fall from his horse—s. of John Doe and Mary his wife—of Hill House, Blackheath, Kent, and grs. of Sir James Doe, of Leyton, Warwickshire, one of His Majesty's Judges of the Common Pleas—this tombstone is erected by his wid.

Also of Mary his wife—b. 2nd Jan., 1745—d. 2nd Feb., 1810—dau. of Richard Roe and Ellen his wife—of Caversham, near Reading. Also of George, only surviving s. of the above (dates as above). Also of Mary, wid. of John Stubbs of Chelsfield and dau. of John and Mary Doe (dates as above).

(2.) Altar tomb—Smith family, covered with ivy, probably 18th Century.

(3.) Headstone—name illegible—date partly ditto, 18th Century.

10. Where stones are richly carved, or in any way exceptional, they should be described.

11. Quaint or interesting poetry or other matter may very well be quoted, and early inscriptions (say, previous to 1700) should certainly be given in full.

12. Inscriptions in Churches should always be copied in full, with descriptions of the tombs and of any Arms.

Careful notes should be made of any Coats-of-Arms or Heraldic Achievements that may appear not only upon monumental stones but also in stained-glass windows, or elsewhere, as on Hatchments, Banners, &c.

13. To avoid duplication of work, reference should be made before undertaking a transcript to the Hon. Sec. or Librarian of the County Society, to ascertain if a transcript is known to have been already made.

For the same reason, early notice should be sent of the undertaking and completion of any transcript.

Where no County Society exists, notice may be sent to the Hon. Sec. of the Committee, who will keep a list.

14. Should any question arise of special difficulty as to treatment, the Committee will be glad to give assistance.

15. In addition to those in Churchyards, it is very desirable that the inscriptions in burying grounds attached to Chapels and Meeting-houses should also be recorded.

16. When all the inscriptions of a Church or Churchyard have been completed, they should be sent to the Secretary of the County Society for preservation in the Society's Library, or in some suitable Institution.

17. When the whole of an Archdeaconry, Rural Deanery, or some such division has been completed, it will be for Societies to consider whether they can print the records in full, or an Index to them. It is very desirable that they should be printed in full.

18. Use may often be made of Parish Magazines for reproducing these Instructions, appealing for workers, and in some cases, for printing the results. In the latter case, arrangements should be made for printing off a certain number—say 50 to 100 copies, which can afterwards be bound up.

RALPH NEVILL, F.S.A., *Hon Sec.*,

Castle Hill, Guildford.