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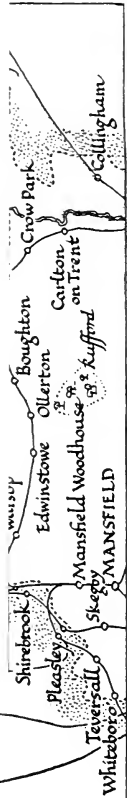
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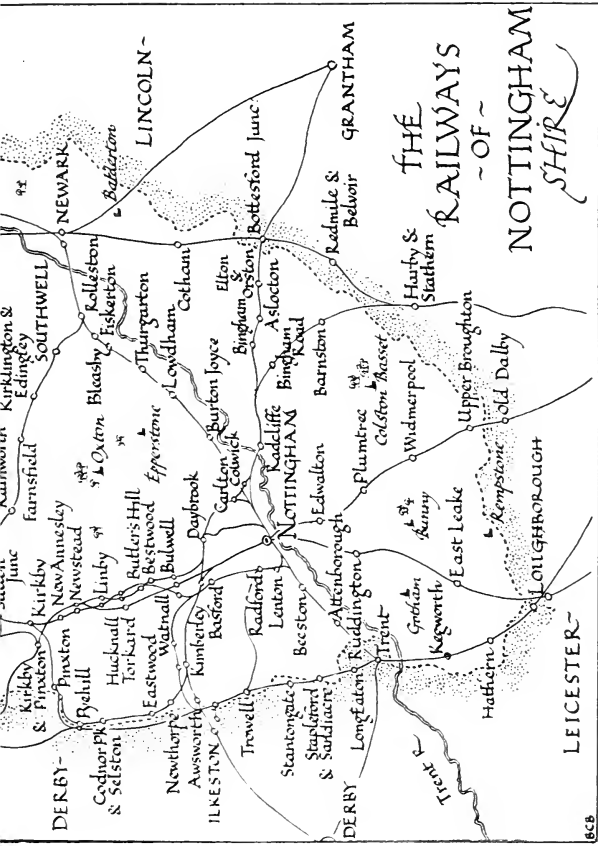
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THE  
RAILWAYS  
- OF -  
NOTTINGHAM  
SHIRE

LEICESTER



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

## THE LITTLE GUIDES

CAMBRIDGE AND ITS  
COLLEGES

OXFORD AND ITS COLLEGES

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

THE ENGLISH LANES

THE MALVERN COUNTRY

SHAKESPEARE'S COUNTRY

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

CHESHIRE

CORNWALL

DERBYSHIRE

DEVON

DORSET

ESSEX

HAMPSHIRE

HERTFORDSHIRE

THE ISLE OF WIGHT

KENT

MIDDLESEX

MONMOUTHSHIRE

NORFOLK

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NORTHUMBERLAND

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

OXFORDSHIRE

SOMERSET

STAFFORDSHIRE

SUFFOLK

SURREY

SUSSEX

WILTSHIRE

THE EAST RIDING OF  
YORKSHIRE

THE NORTH RIDING OF  
YORKSHIRE

NORTH WALES

KERRY

BRITTANY

CHANNEL ISLANDS

NORMANDY

ROME

SICILY





NEWARK CHURCH



# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

*By*

EVERARD L. GUILFORD, M.A.

*With Thirty Illustrations and  
Three Maps*

---

“Turn to these scenes, these well-known scenes,  
once more,  
Tread once again old Trent's romantic shore.”

H. KIRKE WHITE

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LONDON  
METHUEN & CO  
*36 Essex St. Strand*

*First Published in 1910*

DA  
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TO

S. G. AND H. G.

THIS LITTLE BOOK IS AFFECTIONATELY

DEDICATED BY THE AUTHOR

AS A SMALL TOKEN OF

A GREAT DEBT

853176



## PREFACE

**I**N this little book I have tried to compress the vast and interesting collection of facts bearing on the history, natural features and antiquities of the county. I have taken as my model Mr F. G. Brabant's excellent "Guide to Sussex" in this series—a book which I have had the frequent pleasure of using and valuing.

It is more than thirty years since a guide-book to the whole county appeared, and this is strange when we consider that there are few great events in the history of England which do not find their echo in Nottinghamshire. Wherever we turn the facts crowd on us, and the work of selection and elimination has been no small one. I believe that no place of importance has been omitted and I have tried to make the book as up-to-date and correct as possible by visiting personally all the places I have described. Here and there where authorities differ as to the actual course of events I have ventured to suggest theories which, of course, cannot hope to meet with universal approval. Even the most careful supervision cannot prevent the occurrence of mistakes, and I shall be very grateful if my readers

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

will point out to me any which come to their notice.

It is impossible to give a complete list of all those who have helped me so readily and courteously at many and various times; but I must thank especially the Rev. Dr J. C. Cox for all that he has done, for his encouragement, for his kindness in reading through the manuscript, and for the many additions and improvements which he has suggested. To my friend Mr Bernard Smith I tender my most grateful thanks for his illuminating and original article on the physical features of the county. Special thanks are also due to Mr T. M. Blagg, F.S.A., Professor J. W. Carr, M.A., etc., Mr J. T. Godfrey, Mr J. C. Warren, M.A., and Mr G. H. Wallis, for much valuable assistance. To these and to all other helpers, too numerous to mention, I am deeply indebted.

There is a large mass of material bearing on the history and antiquities of Nottinghamshire, and of this I have made full use. The first volume of the "Victoria History of Nottinghamshire," the *Transactions of the Thorton Society*, and of the Associated Architectural Societies, the late Mr Lawson Lowe's "Guide to Nottinghamshire" (1875, Black), and "Old Churches of the Mansfield Deanery," by Walkerdine and Buxton (1907) have been especially useful.

So many of the most beautiful places in the

## PREFACE

county are unknown, apparently, to the book  
illustrator, that I have tried to obtain photographs  
of as many of these little-known places of beauty  
as possible. To Mr Harry Gill I wish to express  
my thanks for the help he has given me in this  
connection.

E. L. G.

23 LENTON AVENUE  
THE PARK  
NOTTINGHAM





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*Where not otherwise acknowledged the illustrations are from photographs by the author.*



# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

## INTRODUCTION

### I. SITUATION, EXTENT, AND BOUNDARIES

**N**OTTINGHAMSHIRE is one of the North Midland counties of England. On the north it is bounded by Yorkshire, on the east by Lincolnshire, on the south by Leicestershire and on the west by Derbyshire. In shape it is an elongated oval, leaning slightly towards the north-east. Its greatest length, 50 m., is from north to south; its greatest breadth, 25 m., is from east to west, the average breadth being about 18 m. Its extreme points are:

N. long.  $0^{\circ} 57'$  (W.), lat.  $53^{\circ} 30'$  (near Finningley).

E. long.  $0^{\circ} 38'$  (W.), lat.  $53^{\circ} 16'$  (some 2 m. to the east of Thorney).

S. long.  $1^{\circ} 3'$  (W.), lat.  $52^{\circ} 47'$  (at Six Hills).

W. long.  $1^{\circ} 20'$  (W.), lat.  $53^{\circ} 4'$  (near Pye Hill Station).

The circumference of the county is 140 m., enclosing an area of 826 sq. m. Among the English counties it is twenty-seventh in size.

# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

## II. GENERAL PHYSICAL FEATURES, by BERNARD SMITH, M.A.<sup>1</sup>

In general elevation the greater part of Nottinghamshire is low. Small tracts in the west and south-west rise slightly above the 500 or 600 ft. contour line, as, for example, in Newstead Park and at Cockpit Hill, near Woodborough, whilst Robin Hood's Hill attains a height of over 600 ft., as do also those at Huthwaite, Teversal and Kirkby. Northward and eastward the average summit levels gradually decline to the low-lying Trent Valley, and upon its eastern side only reach 200 ft. level in two places. In the south, however, the Wolds rise to some 400 ft. near Upper Broughton.








The scenery and physical features of the county are controlled by the geological structure and by the river Trent with its tributaries.

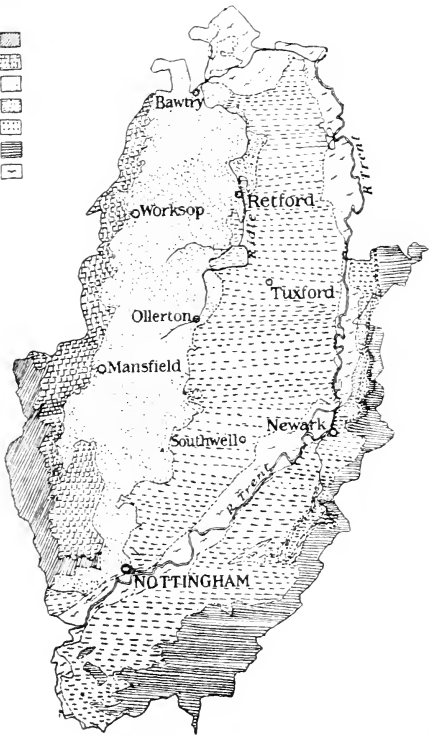
The following formations are represented :—

Superficial deposits	{	Soils.
		River deposits.
		Glacial deposits.

A great interval of time during which earth movements took place, overlying beds were stripped off, and the sculpture of the country proceeded.

<sup>1</sup> Compiled from the publications of H.M. Geological Survey: J. F. Blake's account of the geology of the county in the "Victoria History of Notts.," vol. i.; Dr W. Gibson's "Geology of Coal Mining," Dr Wake's "History of Collingham," and Cornelius Brown's "History of Newark," as well as from personal notes and observations.

- Coal Measures 
- Permian 
- Bunter 
- Keuper 
- Rhætic 
- Lias 
- Alluvium 



GEOLOGICAL MAP OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE





## GENERAL PHYSICAL FEATURES

Jurassic System (part only)	}	Lower Lias.
Triassic System		{
	Keuper Marl.	
	Keuper Waterstones.	
	Bunter Pebble Beds.	
Permian System	{	Lower Mottled Sandstone.
		Permian Marl.
		Magnesian Limestone with Marl Slate and Breccia at base.

Interval of time with earth movements, uplift and great erosion.

Carboniferous System      Coal Measures.

Beneath the Coal Measures the Millstone Grit, the Yoredale Shales and the Mountain Limestone (Derbyshire, etc.) have been found in deep borings, but do not crop out at the surface in the county. The Coal Measures represent the floor of old rocks which the younger Permian, Triassic and Jurassic rocks deposited in succession. This floor of old rocks had been warped and elevated, and for many years exposed to destructive action, hence it is evident that in certain places more of the Coal Measures will be present than in others; in the far south they are entirely absent and much older rocks are exposed to view.

The Measures, which cover such a large area west of the county boundary, occupy only 36 sq. m. of surface in the county itself. They disappear eastward beneath the Permian and younger rocks, but for some distance are found under comparatively thin cover, so that coal seams are

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

mined at several points. In deep borings they have been reached as far east as Thurgarton, and are probably continuous at some depth under the greater part of the county in this direction, for they are considered to have been also found at South Scarle. The Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield is the largest, and next to South Wales, where some of the coals are superior, the most important, in Great Britain, and the concealed portion contains the greatest reserve of coal in the British Islands. In 1906 the output amounted to about 60,000,000 tons, nearly twice that of South Wales. In Nottinghamshire the Top Hard Coal (Barnsley Hard of Yorkshire) of the middle division of the Coal Measure is the most important bed. The coal seams are frequently associated with strata containing marine fossils. Such coals were evidently formed of vegetation accumulated near sea-level; others again have fresh-water mollusca in their vicinity, which points to a land origin. Probably the horsetails, clubmosses and ferns all grew in low river valleys or on plains near sea-level, but whether individual seams represent vegetation which actually lived and died upon the spot or whether the vegetation drifted away from the place of growth and accumulated in river estuaries or shallow seas, is still a matter of discussion.

The Coal Measures are a group of strata consisting chiefly of alternating layers of sandstone, grit, shale, clay and coal. In Notts. they are 1900 ft. thick, and of this amount only 83 ft. is coal, which occurs in separate seams seldom exceeding 4 ft. in thickness. Many seams are too thin to work, but usually several are grouped

## GENERAL PHYSICAL FEATURES

together, whilst the groups may be separated by several hundred feet of barren strata.

The strata can be well seen in the cuttings at Kimberley and near Heath, where the surface is well clothed with vegetation and is undulating, the sandstones and grits forming the hills and the shales the lower ground.

As stated above, the Coal Measures have been altered in position since they were laid down layer upon layer, in nearly horizontal beds. At the end of the Carboniferous Period there was a long interval of time, during which there was no deposition of sediment in the district now called England; but slow and long-continued earth movements took place which upheaved the backbone of England—the Pennine Chain—so that the rocks dipped to east and west from its axis and formed basinlike hollows on its flanks. Thus the Coal Measures which once covered the Pennines were uplifted and exposed to the ceaseless attack of the atmospheric agents—sun (heat), frost, wind, rain and rivers—which stripped them away and exposed the Millstone Grit, Yoredale Rocks and Mountain Limestone below them and separated the coalfields of Lancashire and North Staffordshire from that of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire. At the close of this period sediments were again deposited in restricted (perhaps desert) seas over the lower ground upon our flank of the Pennines and around their southern termination. The first-formed rocks rest upon different parts of the Coal Measures and a coarse conglomerate or breccia at their base marks the old shore-line.

The Permian and Triassic rocks overlying the

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Coal Measures north of an east-and-west line through Nottingham follow each other in regular succession, dipping gently to the east. This easterly dip (which is the result of a much later set of earth movements), together with the erosive action of rivers and the atmosphere, has given rise to a series of long ridges or escarpments with their steep slopes facing west. Escarpments are the basset-edges of the more resistant beds which have become prominent through the destruction of the softer rocks above and below them; and in general, the shape of every valley, hill or ridge is due to the sculpture of the different formations in proportion to their various degrees of resistance to destruction. The production of these bold escarpments and steep slopes on the valley flanks gives a deceptive appearance of great height to any particular hill because a very extensive view from its summit is possible owing to the low elevation of the district as a whole.

The Magnesian Limestone, which extends southward in a broad continuous belt from the coast of Durham, has become much attenuated before it enters the county, and, still diminishing, reaches its southerly termination at Nottingham. In its typical form it is a yellowish rock full of rhombohedral crystals with intervening hollows, the whole having a sugary texture. It is everywhere water-bearing and is much used as a building stone. Some parts are very sandy—*e.g.* near Mansfield—whereas others form a beautiful Dolomite, as at Mansfield Woodhouse and Bolsover Moor.

Permian Marls form low ground like that of the broad shallow valley of the Leen, where the

## GENERAL PHYSICAL FEATURES

Magnesian Limestone forms a platform rising gently westwards and ending in a bold escarpment.

Triassic deposits cover more than three-quarters of the surface of the county.

The Lower or Bunter division consists mainly of sands, soft sandstones and pebble beds whose characteristics are well seen in that district once occupied by Sherwood Forest. This belt of sandy, somewhat unprofitable land—9 m. wide between Robin Hood's Hill and Farnsfield, and with an average height of above 400 ft. above sea-level—commences with an escarpment on the west and forms an undulating district, in whose valleys few brooks or streams are to be seen. (The Newstead and Welbeck lakes, and to some extent those of Thoresby and Clumber, are held up by the impervious Permian Marls below.) Though relatively unprofitable from an agricultural point of view it does not fail in picturesqueness, a large area between Rufford and Worksop being still forest land, whilst it is of inestimable value as a reservoir containing a large supply of wholesome water. The catchment area is over 120 sq. m. in extent. Mansfield, Newark, Retford, Southwell and Worksop all draw largely upon it, and it has lately been tapped for the supply of Lincoln city. Where it disappears beneath the Keuper covering its waters are sought by boring.

The greater part of Nottingham city is built upon the pebbly sandstones which terminate in the steep bluffs overlooking the Trent flats and culminate in the Castle Crag. This rock is easily cut, and does not fall from a roof of large size. The late Professor Blake remarks: "For this reason the rock is often cut into chambers, caves, and passages,

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

with which the city of Nottingham abounds, of which Mortimer's Hole in the Castle Rock is one. . . . Most of the cellars in the centre of the city are rock cellars and passages are often discovered in making excavations. . . . Probably the whole city is more or less excavated like a piece of bored wood. . . . 'The catacombs in the Church Cemetery are modern excavations.'

The famous Hemlock Stone is a fine example of atmospheric weathering. It consists of a capping of the pebbly sandstone which has been hardened by the deposition about its grains of barium sulphate by infiltrating waters in the past. The lower part of the stone is soft and hardly impregnated at all, and would soon be worn away were it not for the resistant capping above.

The Keuper division consists of red (and green) clayey marls and shales, with thin red, pink and white sandstones. The lower beds—waterstones—are similar to the marls, but contain relatively more sandstones, which are usually red in colour, and may be important enough to form distinct escarpments, like that extending from Oxton to Edingley Hill. The upper parts, however, often form long concave slopes leading up to the steeper rise marking the escarpment of the Keuper Marls. This escarpment runs from Nottingham to Halam and Southwell and passes east of Bilsthorpe, Wellow and Markham Clinton to Retford, but it is breached here and there by streams which rise in the sandstone of the forest and flow to the Trent.

Thin hard pale-coloured sandstones in the Keuper Marls (locally called "Skerry" and comprising, amongst others, the building stones of Maplebeck and Tuxford), though not often more

## GENERAL PHYSICAL FEATURES

than one or two feet in thickness, have a considerable effect upon the outlines of the country. Thus the flat-topped escarpment of the Marls and the little plateaux between this escarpment and the Trent Valley owe their characters mainly to the presence of skerries; and the alternations of broad shallow troughs and low ridges in the lower ground south of the Trent are due to the same cause. Good examples are furnished by "The Plains," about 1 m. S.E. of Arnold, Mickleborough Hill, Upton, near Southwell, and by the well-dissected plateau between Laxton, Tuxford and Askham.

While the Bunter probably represents the deposits of large rivers brought down into current-swept land-locked waters, the Keuper appears to have been deposited in the quiet waters of the large salt lake or inland sea, at a time when desert conditions prevailed over the surrounding land. The extensive deposits of Gypsum, extracted at Newark, Bowbridge, Cropwell Bishop, East Bridgford, East Leake, Hawton and other places, are witnesses of the concentration of the waters of the inland seas, and the casts of crystals of common salt together with sun-cracks and ripple-marks in the shales and sandstones also point to the frequent desiccation of the area.

The Rhaetic deposits form a low but very definite escarpment, capped by the lowest beds of the Lias. The feature is easily traceable from Cotgrave through Elton and Cotham to Beacon Hill near Newark. Marine fossils are found in this deposit, but the mollusca belong to a limited number of species, mostly dwarfed, as though the conditions had not been favourable to a purely

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

marine fauna, such as that found in the overlying Lias. The Rhaetic, therefore, is interpreted as marking the first inroads of the sea upon the region in which desert conditions had previously prevailed.

Lower Lias forms a small portion of the south-east part of the county occupied by the Vale of Belvoir and the Wolds. The lower beds consist of blue shale interstratified with thin beds of highly fossiliferous clayey limestone. Many pits have been dug in them either for the making of hydraulic cement, as at Barnston, or for the extraction of road-metal, flagstones or building stones.

A long interval of time, during which the rocks were slightly tilted to the east, separates the above described "solid" rocks from the superficial deposits. If any younger rocks ever covered the area—and some no doubt did—they had been stripped away by long-continued erosion before the deposition of the superficial deposits, which are comparatively recent, and occur in patches upon the underlying rocks.

The oldest are the Glacial Drifts, accumulated at a time when Arctic conditions prevailed in this country. The largest mass is the Boulder Clay, which forms a plateau extending from Cropwell Wolds southward to Upper Broughton and Wimeswold and is continuous with the sheet of Great Chalky Boulder Clay of East Anglia.

This Boulder Clay is the ground-moraine of the ice which invaded the southern part of the county from the north-east. Other important masses of Boulder Clay, derived from a somewhat different point of origin, lie at Blidworth and Kneesall.

Glacial deposits of a gravelly and sandy nature,



## GENERAL PHYSICAL FEATURES

like that upon the ridge east of Annesley, are also represented, many of which were undoubtedly formed by the waters associated with ice-sheets. Other examples are to be seen at Gringley and Kersall Lodge, and again at Blidworth, where the gravels have been cemented by infiltrating waters into masses of rock now weathered out and shaped by men into what are popularly known as "Druidical Remains."

Deposits younger than the Glacial Drift are always definitely associated with the existing valley system, and prove the continuity of the land drainage since the close of the Glacial Period. They consist of river gravels, loams and other alluvial sediments, occurring either on the valley floors or in irregular terraces along their flanks.

The oldest gravels probably belong to the closing stages of the Glacial Period, when the rivers were subject to seasonal floods of powerful volume. Gravels of this character line the south side of the Trent flats between West Bridgford and Radcliffe, and form a well-marked terrace or plateau running north-east from Newark and Langford to within 1 m. of the outskirts of Lincoln. Similar gravels are found in the Witham Valley upon the east side of the gap in the "Cliff" at Lincoln. From this and other evidence, it is thought that the river of those days reached the sea *viâ* the Lincoln Gap. Possibly its free exit by way of the Humber was closed by a barrier of retreating ice. The Trent subsequently excavated its broad trench deeper into the Keuper Marls, and continued to bring down from its higher reaches huge masses of gravel, which were spread in sheets and low banks

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

over the whole of the valley floor. At this stage some of the waters still went out to sea *viâ* Lincoln, but by a circuitous route round the north-west flanks of the Eagle and Doddington Hills. The waters apparently flowed on both sides of the higher ground occupied by North and South Clifton, and, as might be expected, all the river deposits become finer and finer when traced downstream.

On the east bank of the river, from North Collingham to beyond North Clifton and farther north near Misterton there are deposits of blown sand often rising into picturesque dunes some 20 ft. high. They were formed by south-west winds blowing over the spreads of gravel, then more exposed than at present. They swathe the exposed flanks of the rising ground, and still tend to move to the north-east when interfered with by agricultural operations.

The present alluvium is a fine loam and silty clay which partly buries the older deposits; it is quite evident that the Old Trent was a river of much greater spread and swiftness than its present-day equivalent.

Old channels of the Trent, partially silted up, are frequently met with, the most interesting perhaps being the Fleet stream with its expansions between Winthorpe and Girton Stakes, different parts having probably been occupied by the river at different times. Abandoned meandering channels are traceable over the large "Holmes" near Bole and Burton, Carlton, Clifton, Fledborough and Kelham, and also between Newark and Nottingham.

Alluvial deposits also mark the courses of

## GENERAL PHYSICAL FEATURES

tributaries of the Trent. In some of these side valleys there used to be, until quite recently, broad marshy expanses or meres, badly drained and water-logged, choked by a profusion of reeds and inhabited by swarms of fresh-water mollusca. Springs issuing from the Keuper "Skerries" deposited lime about the bases and stems of the reeds, giving rise to beautiful casts in tufa. Such deposits may be seen at Kingshaugh, Scarthing Moor, Moorhouse, Caunton, Lambley Dumble, and other places. Near Bunny and Bingham also large spreads of peaty alluvium with fresh-water shells testify to the former existence of shallow lakes. At Caunton and Maplebeck many animals—cattle and horses, sheep and goats—were bogged and drowned in the marshes, and their remains preserved to this day.

The Trent has varied its course within the limits of its recent alluvium, not only by bursting its banks and making new cross-cuts, but also by a slow sideways movement caused by the river swinging into the bank on the outer downstream parts of its meandering curve. Thus it eats into the outer bank and deposits sediment on the inner bank, the width of the stream remaining constant. In this way the remains of animals, and occasional humans, must be accounted for, when found at considerable depth in the alluvium. Teeth of the mammoth have been discovered at Wilford and from Island Street, Nottingham. Antlers of red deer at North Clifton, and at the Oven (a spot rich in animal remains, near the site of the Roman Bridge), Cromwell, where a new lock is now being constructed. Roman pottery is also to be found here. During the construction of the Great

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Northern Railway Bridge over the Trent near South Muskham a female human skull, together with bones of ox, horse, red deer, and some pottery, was found at a depth of 25 ft.

The Trent Valley has been visited by many disastrous floods. In A.D. 1346 rain fell continuously from Midsummer to Christmas, causing a fearsome flood. In 1683 the Trent Bridges at both Nottingham and Newark collapsed under the pressure of water arising from the breaking up of a frost accompanied by much snow. In November 1770 the waters reached Lincoln because the Foss Dyke embankment gave way near Torksey. The great flood of February 1795 was also the consequence of a quick thaw after seven weeks of frost, and the whole valley of the Trent was a scene of desolation. Coals were delivered at South Collingham Churchyard from a barge which had navigated the lanes between the village and the river. The outer river bank near Spalford (Wath Bank) burst at the south-east end of Clifton Hill, where the signs of the flood are still visible, and the torrent stopped only when it reached the High Street at Lincoln, which was raised 12 to 15 ft. above the surrounding land by the Romans. It entered every house in Spalford, with only one exception. Girton village street was submerged 3 ft., and the water rose to a height of 4 ft. 6 in. on North Collingham Churchyard wall. Thousands of acres of hay and corn were under water in August 1837; whilst in November 1852, before the bank gave way near Dunham, the water rose half way up the western wall of North Collingham, and Girton village was inundated to a depth of 2 ft.

## CLIMATE

Girton is almost yearly surrounded by flood waters, so that provisions often run short. A sudden thaw produced an immense flood in January 1867; and in 1875 thousands of acres were submerged in the Trent Valley, the scene from Nottingham Castle being remarkable. From Newark Castle, almost as far as the eye could see, the fields presented the appearance of a vast lake, the tops of hedges and hovels, the railway and the Great North Road being alone visible above the water-line. An adventurous four with a coxswain from Newark Magnus School rowed across the floods over gate tops, and nearly came to grief at Averham Weir. Collingham, Girton and Low Marnham and other places have flood marks registering the height of the waters of this last big flood.

### III. CLIMATE

The climate of the county presents few exceptional features which its position would not justify.

1. *Rainfall*.—Just as it is intermediate in position between Derbyshire and Lincolnshire, so is the amount of rain in it intermediate between that of these two counties. And in the county itself, where the prevalent wind is from the west, the proximity of the Derbyshire hills renders the rainfall heavier on the west than on the east, so that, as we should expect, the rainiest place is Mansfield with 29·35 in., during 1908, against the 19·25 in. at Stockwith, and 19·29 in. at Newark. During 1908 the rainfall at Notting-

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

ham was 22·703 in. Other places whose figures are worth noting are : Lowdham 17·48 in. (the lowest), Sutton Bonington 21·06 in., Strelley 24·51 in., Papplewick 23·36 in., Eastwood 25·14 in. It will be noticed that, taking the towns of the district between Nottingham and Mansfield, the rainfall decreases as we move southwards.

The average rainfall for Nottingham from

1867-1908 inclusive is	24·898 in.
1867-1886	„ 27·707 in.
1887-1906	„ 22·160 in.

Thus the average for the last twenty years is 5·547 in. below that for the twenty years previous to 1887.

This fact of the decreasing rainfall will be better appreciated when we state that the fall during 1887-1906 was 111 in. less than that during 1867-1886.

The heaviest recorded rainfall during twenty-four hours fell on 24th August 1903, 2·357 in.

The average of days in which more than 1 in. of rain falls during twenty-four hours is less than 1 per annum.

The wettest year was 1872, when 35·903 in. fell.

The driest year was 1887, when 15·643 in. fell.

2. *Temperature.*—It has been stated frequently that Nottingham experiences extremes both of heat and cold. Figures do not bear out this statement which, we believe, applies with greater truth to Loughborough in Leicestershire.

In Nottingham the highest temperature in the shade recorded during the last forty-two years is

## FLORA AND FAUNA

97·3 in June 1868,<sup>1</sup> followed by 94·3 on 23rd July of the same year, and 94·2 on 2nd September 1906, while the lowest is -3·9 on the grass on 7th December 1879, though on Christmas Day 1860 we are informed that -8 was registered 4 ft. from the ground and -13·2 on the grass. 1908, however, may be taken as an average year, with a highest of 84·0 in the shade, a lowest of 7·4 and a mean temperature of 48·5.

3. *Sunshine*.—Little can be said on this point except to notice that in 1908 there were 1342 hours of sunshine, or 31 per cent. of the number possible.

### IV. FLORA AND FAUNA

*Botany*.—The following notes will mention only a few of the most interesting plants which are found in this county; readers wishing for fuller information will find much valuable matter in Professor J. W. Carr's excellent article in vol. i. of "The Victoria History of the County of Nottinghamshire." To Professor Carr I here tender my grateful thanks for the personal assistance which he has given me in the compilation of these notes.

Considered geographically and geologically the county has less to recommend it to the botanist than have the surrounding counties. An inland county, and for the most part below 600 ft. above sea-level, it possesses no marshes nor natural lakes of any size; almost the whole of its area is under cultivation, with the exception of parts of Sherwood Forest, which, however, are situated on the

<sup>1</sup> No official confirmation of this reading is obtainable.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Bunter Sandstone and can, in consequence, produce only a scanty flora. The one compensation which we have is the presence, in the west of the county, of the Permian Magnesian Limestone, but even this has suffered botanically from coal-mining and building operations. Taking all these unfavourable circumstances into consideration, we cannot be surprised to find that out of the 1300 inland and non-Alpine plants growing in Great Britain, Notts. possesses only 860, and even this number seems likely to be reduced by the extension of towns and by various other destructive processes.

Perhaps the most interesting plant is the Nottingham Catchfly (*Silene nutans*), which was first found growing on Nottingham Castle Rock; a few roots still survive and will, we hope, be carefully guarded. Some few years ago the Nottingham Meadows were carpeted every spring and autumn with the two crocuses (*C. vernus* and *C. nudiflorus*); now, however, these beautiful plants have become comparatively rare. Similarly the wild tulip (*Tulipa sylvestris*) is only to be found now in one spot.

Other interesting plants, grouped geologically, are :

1. *Coal Measures and Permian Rocks* (on the western side of the county).—In the Mansfield and Warsop district may be found : *Aquilegia vulgaris* (Columbine), *Parnassia palustris*, *Inula conyza*, *Crepis paludosa*, *Anagallis tenella*, *Carex distans*, and *Carex fulva*. Near Warsop we find the *Mentha piperita* (Peppermint), *Orchis pyramidalis* and *Habenaria conopsea*. Perhaps the most interesting find in this district has been the *Silinum carvifolia* which was discovered growing near Mansfield in 1908, this being only the third



station in Britain in which this rare plant has been found. Other plants to be noticed are : *Arabis hirsuta*, *Campanula Trachelium* near Pleasley, *Pinguicula vulgaris* near Mansfield, *Ophrys muscifera* (Fly orchid) at Newstead, *Polygonatum multiflorum* (Solomon's Seal), *Gagea lutea* at Nuttall and Pleasley, and *Schoenus nigricans* near Mansfield.

2. *Bunter Sandstone*.—*Arabis perfoliata* (Tower Mustard), *Teesdalia nudicaulis* at Blidworth and elsewhere, *Viola palustris* at Linby and elsewhere, *Ulex Gallii* on Bulwell Forest and *Ulex minor* in Sherwood Forest, *Callitriche truncata* near Misterton (this is a very remarkable find, as hitherto this plant has not been found in England farther north than Kent), *Arnoseris pusilla* near Everton—a very northerly station for this plant—*Vaccinium Vitis-idaea*, *Empetrum nigrum*, *Monotropa Hypopithys* in Sherwood Forest, *Mentha alopecuroides* near Edwinstowe, *Echium vulgare* on the Barrow Hills, *Potamogeton falcatus*—only previously found in Cambs. and Hunts—*Potamogeton praelongus*, *Lastrea cristata*, and *Scirpus maritimus* at Misson.

3. *Keuper Deposits* (Trent Valley).—*Ranunculus parviflorus*, *Dipsacus pilosus* (small Teasel), *Paris Quadrifolium*, *Campanula patula* in Wellow Park, *Myosotis sylvatica*, *Carex palescens*, and the following close to the river Trent :—*Thalictrum flavum*, *Nasturtium sylvestre*, *Stellaria aquatica*, *Lythrum Salicaria*, *Hottonia palustris*. It has been said that the value of celery as a vegetable was first recognised by some French soldiers resident at Nottingham, who cultivated the wild plant. It seems much more probable, however, that these

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Frenchmen introduced the seed into this district, and that the wild specimens that have been found are escapes from this seed.

The rare *Melampyrum cristatum* has been found near Retford.

4. *Lias Beds.*—*Senecio erucifolius*, *Cnicus erio-phorus*, *Lotus tenuis*, *Linaria spuria*, *Caucalis arvensis*, *Galium tricornis*, *Galeopsis Ladanum*, *Specularia hybrida* on the West Leake Hills. Until recently the Royal Fern (*Osmunda Regalis*) was to be found, but it has now unfortunately disappeared. Liquorice was once cultivated near Worksop, Woad at Scrooby, and Hops near Southwell.

*Birds.*—A very able and comprehensive article on this subject by Mr J. Whitaker, F.Z.S., will be found in vol. i. of the "Victoria County History of Notts.," and anyone desiring the fullest information can do no better than refer to it. We wish to express our indebtedness to Mr Whitaker's article for the information here given.

The same disadvantages—lack of sea-coast and mountains—which we have already referred to in our notes on the botany of the county, are to a somewhat less extent noticeable when we come to consider the birds. The varied nature of the country and the careful observations of such gentlemen as Mr Whitaker have resulted in the compilation of a list of birds which compares favourably with that of any other inland county. Some 250 species have been recorded and of these 155 have been seen at Rainworth Lodge (Mr Whitaker's residence). The low-lying land drained by dykes in the north, the woodland, and carefully preserved estates of the middle, and the open grass-

## DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

land of the south, and above all the Trent, which provides such an excellent entry for sea birds, can show a varied list from which we can but mention a few of the most interesting species.

While omitting those birds whose rare appearances prevent us from including them in such a list as this and those which are common property of every shire, we would mention the following as of some scarcity and interest :—ring ouzel, stonechat, redstart, goldcrest, and the much rarer firecrest, chiffchaff, wood warbler, reed warbler, tree creeper, grey wagtail, red-backed shrike, sand martin, hawfinch, lesser redpoll, bullfinch, corn bunting, reed bunting, magpie, jackdaw, swift, nightjar, green woodpecker, kingfisher, barn owl, long-eared owl, kestrel, stock dove, turtle dove and common snipe. A large number of water birds—species of geese, ducks and swans—might be added. It is very pleasing to be able to note that such a bird as the great crested grebe is on the increase, while the nightingale is not so rare as it is generally supposed to be.

### V. DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION — TOWN AND COUNTRY

The large area occupied by Sherwood Forest in the Middle Ages would tend to keep the population of the county at a very low figure. No statistics remain. In 1801 we find that there were 142,820 inhabitants, divided as follows :—Nottingham, 28,861, Bassetlaw Hundred, 31,433, Bingham Hundred, 9055, Broxtow Hundred, 34,847, Newark Hundred, 12,505, Rushcliffe Hundred,

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

8163, and Thurgarton Hundred, 17,953. By 1831 the total estimate for the county was 226,440, of which Nottingham claimed 50,727, and the Broxtow Hundred (which includes the colliery district of the Leen Valley) 65,299,

In 1871 the population of the town of Nottingham was 86,621, but in 1877 the Extension Act added 7960 acres and nearly 100,000 inhabitants, so that in 1881 we find that there are 186,700 inhabitants. The census of 1901 gives the figures as 239,753, and in 1908 the estimated population was 260,449. For the county, we know that in 1881 the population was 391,985, and in 1901, 514,469, so that by now (1909) it is fair to presume that it is approaching 600,000. It will thus be seen that half the inhabitants of the county dwell in Nottingham itself, while the only district where there has been any large increase is the colliery district between Mansfield and the Trent. The following striking facts may be mentioned :—

(1) Apart from Nottingham there is only one town, Mansfield, with over 20,000, inhabitants. There are ten others with over 10,000 : Sutton in Ashfield, Worksop, Hucknall Torkard, Newark, Kirkby, Carlton, Retford, Beeston, West Bridgford and Arnold.

(2) In the rural districts the figures show that except where the well-to-do classes have begun to build houses, or where a manufacturing industry of some kind has been established, the population is stationary or on the decrease. At Lowdham, Ratcliffe-on-Trent, Ruddington, Trowell, and a few other places, a considerable increase is noticeable. At Tollerton, Tythby, Kingston-on-Soar,

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Hockerton, Gonalston and Scarrington the population has been almost stationary for the last fifty years. But at Thurgarton, Upton, Willoughby-on-the-Wolds, Woodborough, Wysall, Keyworth, Kneeton, East Leake, Flintham, Norwell, Besthorpe, and many others, there has been a steady decrease.

### VI. COMMUNICATIONS

*Roads.*—It is extremely difficult to speak with any certainty of the course taken by the earliest roads of this county. Numerous tracks traversed the land in all directions, but it is only here and there that any trace of them can now be identified. In consideration of this uncertainty and of the small space at our disposal our purpose will be best served by mentioning only those old roads about which there can be no doubt. The Fosse Way traverses the county from Six Hills in the south to Potter's Hill, near Collingham on the east, but, from its southern entrance to the point where it crosses the Nottingham to Melton Mowbray highway, it is often little more than a stoney cart track. Another undoubtedly Roman road is that which cuts across the county on its way from Lincoln to Doncaster, entering at Littleborough and leaving the county at Bawtry. The road from Nottingham to Mansfield and Worksop, and so out of the county to Tickhill, is of undoubted, though undatable, antiquity. The Great North Road, which has a history second to none of the great roads of England, enters Notts. a little to the south of Newark and passing through Tuxford and Retford, reaches Yorkshire at Bawtry.

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To-day Notts. roads are well spoken of, and deservedly so, for they are, taking them all round, very excellent. But this was not always the case, especially in the clayey districts of the north. In 1640 we read that "about Tuxford is the most absolutely vile road in the world," and at a later date we find that the usual rate of progress on horseback in this district was 2 m. an hour.

A careful and scientific research into the courses of the early roads in this county would be of inestimable value to local historians, and much that is now obscure would have a light thrown upon it were such a study undertaken.

*Railways.*—The first railway in Notts., known as the "Midland Counties Railway," was opened between Nottingham and Derby in 1839. At the present time the county is admirably served by the Midland, Great Northern, and Great Central Companies, while the London and North Western Company have a line from Nottingham to Melton Mowbray and thence, by Northampton, to Euston. The Dukeries district has been opened up by the Lancashire, Derbyshire and East Coast Railway, now taken over by the Great Central Railway Company. Few, if any, great provincial towns are better served in the matter of railway facilities than is Nottingham, whence London may be reached by a frequent service in a very few minutes over the two hours. Its central position and exceptional railway facilities cause Nottingham to be selected frequently for congresses, conferences and other important functions.

*Rivers.*—Nottinghamshire owes the most charming features of its scenery to its rivers, of which the Trent stands out pre-eminent. The fourth

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longest river in England, the Trent rises in Staffordshire and enters Notts. near Barton-in-Fabis, thence it soon reaches the steeply wooded slopes of Clifton Grove and, sweeping past Wilford Church, it makes a large curve between the Wilford and Trent Bridges at Nottingham. For some miles beyond Nottingham its course lies, for the most part, between meadows until Radcliffe is reached, where, at the foot of a red cliff, the river takes a northerly turn towards Burton Joyce. Again rich meadows are on either side, but not for long, for at East Bridgford it washes the foot of those hills which overhang its right bank as far as East Stoke. Just before reaching Averham the river branches—one, the larger but younger stream, passes by Averham and Kelham, while the smaller and older stream washes the base of Newark Castle and, passing on, rejoins the larger branch. Just before this smaller stream has reached Newark it is joined by the Devon (pron. Dee-von), and it is often supposed, though incorrectly, that Newark is situated on the Devon. Observations have led geologists to believe that in prehistoric times the Trent left its present line of flow near Newark and, cutting across Lincolnshire, joined the sea by the present lower course of the Witham. (See *Physical Features*.) From Newark the Trent travels in a winding course due north. Just between North Clifton and Dunham it becomes the boundary of Notts. and Lincolnshire, and continues to act as such until it passes wholly into the latter county, at West Stockwith.

The Trent is tidal as far as Littleborough, and

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

at the time of the spring tides a curious phenomenon is very noticeable in these lower reaches of the river. The incoming tide, confined between the narrow banks, forms a wave sometimes 5 or 6 ft. high, which rushes up the river as a perpendicular wall of water—a great source of danger to unwary boatmen. It is known by the name of *Eagre* (identified by Carlyle with the Norse Spirit of the flood).

From the earliest times the Trent has been ever prone to change its course, and we have many records of such changes, an interesting feature in this river's history, which has been somewhat neglected by its historians.

In the county of Notts. the Trent is bridged by the Wilford and Trent Bridges at Nottingham, by Gunthorpe Bridge, by Newark, Muskham and Kelham Bridges, and yet again by bridges at Dunham and Gainsborough.

*Canals.*—Besides its rivers Notts. is served with a system of canals of which the chief are the Grantham Canal connecting Nottingham with Grantham, the Cromford and Erewash Canal linking Notts. and Derbyshire, and the Chesterfield Canal in the north of the county, serving Worksop and Retford and joining the Trent at West Stockwith.

### VII. INDUSTRIES

Throughout its long history Nottingham has been a commercial town ; a multitude of industries have been practised within its walls, but curiously enough we cannot point to any one trade which has occupied a pre-eminent position throughout





THE RAAGE ON THE TRENT



## INDUSTRIES

a very long period. The coal trade and agriculture are the only two industries which are not centred in Nottingham, so that unless it is expressly stated to the contrary it must be understood that we are dealing with the industries of the county town.

Malting was the earliest industry practised in Nottingham, how early we do not know, but even in Saxon times we are led to believe that Nottingham ale had won some notoriety. Nottingham ale is still well known, and there are also considerable breweries at Newark and Kimberley. If we seek a reason for the excellence of the local brew we shall doubtless find it in the proximity to the water supply of gypsum beds. Nottingham supplied the Midlands, and even the north of England, with ale brewed from the barley grown in the Vale of Belvoir.

Cloth must have been made at Nottingham soon after the Norman Conquest, for in the reign of Henry II. there was a Guild of Weavers here, who, in 1199, received a charter designed to encourage the manufacture of dyed woollen cloth. Throughout the 14th cent. the chief citizens of Nottingham were Merchants of the Staple, and such an exalted place did Nottingham hold in this trade that in 1343 the price of Nottingham wool was taken as the standard price for all England—a privilege the town lost a couple of years later. The loss of Calais caused a decline of the wool trade here which led eventually to its disappearance.

Iron working was rendered easy by the presence of all the necessities in the immediate neighbourhood, and Nottingham smiths appear to have

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come to the front about the time when the cloth trade declined. The fame of

“The little Smith of Nottingham,  
Who doth the work that no man can,”

bears testimony to the excellence of the workmanship. The memory of the manufacture of harness and all kinds of agricultural implements remains for us in the names of three Nottingham streets: Smithy Row, Bridlesmith Gate, and Gridlesmith Gate (now Pelham Street). After a decadence about the middle of the 18th cent. a revival of the iron trade came with the introduction of machinery into the lace and hosiery trades, and nowadays Nottingham makes all the machinery she needs for these two trades.

One other trade connected with metal working must not be forgotten. During the 16th, 17th and 18th cents., Nottingham bellfounders had a wide reputation, and the marks of such makers as Mellors, Oldfield and Hedderley will be found on many bells to-day. The Norwich bell trade would seem to owe its origin to a Nottingham man, one William de Nottingham, who leaving his native town went to Norwich, and there continuing his trade was admitted in 1376 to the freedom of the city.

*Cotton.* — In the cotton trade Nottingham certainly holds a unique position, for from within its borders every important invention in this industry would seem to have emanated, a statement the more readily believed when we find such men as Paul, James, Foster, Hargreaves, Hayes, Cartledge, Arkwright and his persistent partner, Coniah Wood, were all connected with

## INDUSTRIES

the industry in Nottingham. Hosiery and lace form the staple industries of Nottingham at the present time, and we can trace their history back to the invention, in 1589, of the stocking frame by the Rev. William Lee, curate of Calverton. The reason why he turned his mind to such matters makes too good a story to be forgotten. William Lee paid his addresses to a maiden who appears to have been somewhat of a shrew and quite indifferent to his attentions. To show her indifference to her lover's visits she used to pass the time in knitting, and this so exasperated Mr Lee that he gave up everything in order to invent some machine which would prevent cold-hearted maidens from emphasising the state of their affections by the click of their knitting needles. Lee did not receive much encouragement from Queen Elizabeth, and he left England to better his fortunes in France, where he died in 1610. His brother James, however, returned to Notts., and from that day onwards invention has followed invention, and carried the lace and hosiery trades to their present state of excellence; and just as in the cotton trade, so in these trades Nottingham has been the home of many of the most important inventions. Before the building of the huge factories the trade was carried on in the villages round Nottingham as well as in the town itself, and in 1812 Blackner enumerates as many as 30,000 frames. The years 1811-1816 witnessed the smashing of many lace machines by the rioters, called Luddites, after a half-witted youth Ned Ludd. It is impossible to enter here into the intricate history of the lace trade and its inventions during the last century, but suffice it to say that

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Nottingham lace is famous all the world over. The *Coal Trade* is so important an item in the industrial history of the county that we must regret the uncertainty which exists as to its early working within our borders. The earliest record which we possess of coal being worked at all in this kingdom is a grant to the monks of Newcastle between the years 1210 and 1219. This coal was carried by sea from Newcastle, whence it came to be known as *Carbo maritimus* or sea coal. Charcoal (*Carbo*) was extensively manufactured in Sherwood Forest, and it does not seem improbable that when coal was first dug in Notts., it was called *Carbo maritimus* to distinguish it from charcoal. At anyrate, in 1257 Henry III.'s queen was compelled to leave the Castle at Nottingham on account of the objectionable nature of the smoke from the sea coal. In 1348 mention is made of a mine at Cossall, where the coal comes quite to the surface; and in 1483 "pytte coles" were obtained from Selston. The Wollaton pit is heard of in 1549, and during the years 1580-1588 coal from this pit was exchanged for stone from Ancaster, which was used in the building of Wollaton Hall. Yet coal does not appear to have come into common use until the latter half of the 16th cent., though for a long time it had been steadily gaining ground because of its cheapness when compared with wood. Nottingham was particularly favoured as compared with London, for in 1745 we read that, whereas Londoners had to pay £1, 3s. per ton plus carriage for their Newcastle coal, the people of Nottingham obtained their coal for 10s. a ton. The coal trade too has influenced the means of transit in the county, for in 1819 the

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first railroad (worked by horses) was opened to connect Mansfield and Pinxton with the Cromford Canal, while the first canal in the county brought the coal of the Ereswash Valley to Nottingham.

Several trades which have little or no history remain to be mentioned. Until recently the Humber Cycle Company had large works at Beeston, and there are now such well-known makers of cycles as the Raleigh Company, besides many firms of local fame.

In the tobacco trade the name of Player has a world-wide renown, while cardboard boxes and blouses are very extensively made in Nottingham.

### VIII. HISTORY

We have dealt elsewhere with the history of the town of Nottingham which provides the chief part of the history of the county, and in consequence it will not be necessary here to give more than a short and general sketch of events.

The Romans left very few traces of themselves in the county, and we can readily believe that the Trent Valley was of so marshy a nature and Sherwood Forest of so impenetrable a thickness that extensive and domestic settlements would be impossible.

The early days of the Saxon Conquest are hidden from our sight, but at first the area now known as Nottinghamshire was included within the kingdoms of Northumbria, Mercia and Lindsey. Later on Mercia extended its bounds and included all the county. It is only when the frequently recurring quarrels with the Danes begin that we obtain any reliable material.

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Nottinghamshire took no strenuous part in the struggle against William the Norman, and therefore suffered less severely than some other counties. In Domesday Book we find the county divided for the first time into wapentakes or hundreds, of which there were eight—namely, Bassetlaw, Broxtow, Bingham, Thurgarton, Newark, Rushcliffe, Oswardebec (now practically the North Clay division of Bassetlaw) and Lide (the north part of Thurgarton Hundred). These divisions remained until about 1719, when we find that the two latter have been absorbed into the Hundreds of Bassetlaw and Thurgarton respectively. Nottinghamshire was strongly in favour of Stephen, and in consequence suffered severely at the hands of Henry II. The county town seems to have shared with Hereford the doubtful honour of welcoming King John when he made things too hot for himself elsewhere.

With the rest of England, Nottinghamshire felt the stern judicial hand of Edward I., and took its share in the French and Scots wars. During the Wars of the Roses the county was strongly Yorkist, and Nottingham Castle was the residence of Richard III. when he heard that Henry Tudor had landed in Wales and was marching on Shrewsbury, and it was from Nottingham that this last of the Yorkist kings set out to meet his death at Bosworth Field.

The heavy hand of Henry VII. dissatisfied the Yorkists, who provided themselves with a catspaw in Lambert Simnel, who was defeated in 1489 at the battle of East Stoke, a little village a few miles south of Newark.

The Pilgrimage of Grace, in 1536, did not



## ANTIQUITIES

extend farther south than this county, but at Lenton the prior and his monks suffered for their sympathy with the movement.

The great period in the pageant of Nottinghamshire history is that of the Civil War, which, briefly, may be divided into three scenes: first we have the raising of the standard at Nottingham in 1642, then a long series of skirmishes between the Parliamentarians represented by the Nottingham garrison led by Colonel Hutchinson, and the Royalists represented by the garrison of Newark, and finally the surrender of King Charles to the Scots at Kelham.

The troubles of 1715 and 1745 proved that there were still men in this county who would welcome back the Stuarts, but they were inconsiderable in numbers.

Since this date Nottinghamshire has taken little or no share in the political history of England, though it has played a large part in the industrial development of the kingdom.

### IX. ANTIQUITIES

1. *Prehistoric and Pre-Roman.*—By far the earliest record of human life within these borders is to be found among the deposits in the Church Hole Cave, Cresswell Crags. These crags form the sides of a ravine on the borders of Notts. and Derbyshire. The scientific exploration of the Church Hole Cave and the caves on the Derbyshire side was carried out in 1875-1877, and extensive remains of man of the Paleolithic Age were discovered. Numerous isolated finds of

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Neolithic implements have been made, notably at Gunthorpe, Averham, Car Colston, Carlton, and Nottingham, while those at Wollaton, Beeston, and Thrumpton point to a time when the use of bronze was superseding that of stone. The Hemlock Stone, near Bramcote, and the "Druidical Stones," near Blidworth, are supposed to have been put to a religious use during the Stone Age. There is, however, nothing but tradition to support this theory. Like its predecessors the Bronze Age is represented by a number of isolated finds, of which those at Colwick and Gringley deserve special mention. In 1860 a hoard of bronze objects was dug up in Great Freeman Street, Nottingham.

It is extremely difficult to speak with any certainty upon the subject of pre-Roman earthworks. As race followed race each one was ready enough to adapt the fortresses of his predecessors to his own use. The two promontory fortresses, Combs Farm Camp, near Farnsfield and Castle Hill, Worksop, are almost certainly pre-Roman in origin, and to the same uncertain period we may assign the hill fortresses of Castle Hill Retford (later used by the Romans), Hill Close Camp Farnsfield, Fox Wood Woodborough, St Mary's Hill Nottingham, and the rectangular camp at Cockpit Hill Arnold (which may owe its shape to a later occupation). Of the numerous sandstone caves in or near Nottingham it is necessary to speak with extreme caution. It was the custom during the Middle Ages to use these caves for residential purposes. Many, however, are nothing more nor less than sand-pits.

## ANTIQUITIES

2. *Roman*.—It is to the disgrace of the antiquaries of the county that so little has been done to lay bare the history of Notts. during the Roman occupation. Of the five Roman stations (four on the Fosse Way) only one (Crocolana) has been excavated. The stations are Vernometum (near Willoughby-on-the-Wolds), Margidunum, between East Bridgford, and Car Colston, Ad Pontem (unknown), and Crocolana (Brough), all on the Fosse Way, and Segelocum (Littleborough), at the point where Till Bridge Lane crosses the Trent on its way from Lincoln to Doncaster.

There was a bridge across the Trent near Collingham leading to the interior of the county, probably to Mansfield, for near there a Roman villa has been found, and passing through Caunton, where numerous traces of an early settlement have been discovered. A tessellated pavement was found at Barton-in-Fabis in 1856, and a portion of it may still be seen. Many other isolated finds have been recorded, but the study of Roman Notts. is still in its infancy.

3. *Churches*.—Taking them altogether, these compare very favourably with the churches of most counties. Many have disappeared, and some are ruinous. Large churches are few in number but good in quality : Southwell, Newark, St Mary's, Nottingham, Blyth, East Retford, and Worksop exhaust the list.

In the south of the county the frequency with which churches occur points to a time when the district was much more populous than it is now. The decrease in population is evidenced all over the county, for churches which have become smaller are not at all uncommon.

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*Saxon Work* is very rare, and indeed it is doubtful whether, with the exception of the foundations of a Saxon church at East Bridgford, there is any building about which all authorities are un-animously agreed in assigning a date previous to the Norman Conquest. Professor Baldwin Brown considers that there is late Saxon work in the church tower at Carlton-in-Lindrick. In 1906 some work, certainly Saxon, was uncovered in the tower of Plumtree church. The Rev. Dr J. C. Cox considers that there is much Saxon work of late date in the north walls of East Leake and Farndon churches, and probably also at Wysall, while some of the work in Oxtun is believed by this authority to be of similar date.

There are several pre-Norman stones in the county—*e.g.* the fine cross at Stapleford, the stones at Shelford, Shelton, Hawksworth, Rolleston, Kneesall, East Bridgford, Costock, Hickling and Bilsthorpe.

*Norman.*—There is a comparatively large amount of “herring-bone” masonry, and curiously enough this is frequently found in churches adjacent to the Trent, notably at Littleborough, Averham, Laneham, and several others. The best example of early Norman work will be found at Blyth ; of early 12th-cent. work at Southwell, and of late Norman work at South Collingham, South Scarle and Everton. The work at Oxtun has already been mentioned in the previous section, though personally we are of opinion that the work is of post-Conquest date. Littleborough and Sookholme are good examples of small Norman churches. Other work of this period will be found at Winkburn, Plumtree, Balderton, Elston, Thoroton,

## ANTIQUITIES

Colston Basset (old church), Cottam, Finningley, Selston and Haughton Chapel.

*Transitional Norman* is not common in large quantities except at Worksop, where everything that remains of the parish church, except the Lady Chapel, is of this period. Sturton nave has been reconstructed exactly as it was previous to the fire. Other examples will be found at Attenborough, Shelton, Hayton and South Leverton.

*Early English.*—Many naves are of the 13th cent. The best work of the period is at Southwell choir, Normanton-on-Soar, Shelton, South Leverton, North and South Collingham, Rolleston, Misterton, Radcliffe-on-Soar, Hawton, Langar and Orston.

*Decorated.*—This style is the glory of the county, and the series of fine chancels at Hawton, Woodborough, Sibthorpe, Arnold, Car Colston, Barnby-in-the-Willows, and the chapter-house at Southwell, and the south aisle at Newark, with the Easter sepulchres at Hawton, Sibthorpe and Arnold could challenge comparison with the work of the same period in any other county. Then, too, the square-headed window was used so largely that it has become, perhaps, the most characteristic feature of the architecture of the county. Good examples will be seen at West Bridgford, Keyworth, Screveton, Syerston, East Stoke, Thorpe, and indeed in most of our village churches. The windows of Orston aisles, Norwell, Scarrington, Wysall and Barnby-in-the-Willows are good. Two good early Decorated spires can be seen at Bingham and Burton Joyce.

*Perpendicular.*—Evidence of this style is apparent in most of the towers of the village churches,

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

notably at Rolleston, East Markham, Car Colston and Sturton. Three good spires will be found at Gedling, Scrooby and West Retford. The three large churches of St Mary at Nottingham, East Retford and Newark belong to this style.

*Screens.*—Stone screens at Blyth and Southwell.

Wooden screens at Balderton, Bingham (base), Blyth (with painted figures), West Bridgford, Bunny, Burton Joyce, Halloughton, Hawton, Holme, Lambley, Langar, East Leake, Maplebeck, East Markham, North Muskham, Newark, Nuttall (originally parclose), Ordsall, Plumtree, South Scarle, Staunton, Strelley, Sutton-on-Trent, Walkeringham, Winkburn, Woodborough, Wysall (with “squints”).

*Misericords* at Southwell, Newark, Thurgarton, Sneinton, Wysall, Strelley, Screveton, North Colingham.

*Old Pulpits.*—Blidworth, Eakring, Elton, Granby (1627), Headon, Kirklington, Langar, Laneham (inscribed), Owthorpe, Strelley, Syerston, North Wheatley (1604, inscribed), Winkburn, Wysall (pre-Reformation).

*Altar Tables* of the 17th cent. or earlier at Egmanton (1683), Halam, Kilvington, Kneesall, Lambley (1619, inscribed), Oxtun, Staunton, Teversal, Woodborough (inscribed).

*Old Glass.*—Annesley, Cossall, Cromwell, Cropwell Bishop, Egmanton, Fledborough (good), Gonalston, Halam, Hickling, Kirklington, Lambley, Linby, Mansfield Woodhouse, South Muskham, Newark, Papplewick (good), Southwell, East Stoke, Strelley, Sutton-on-Trent, Warsop.

*Effigies.*—Notts. is famous for its alabaster effigies. The best are to be found at Averham, Barton-in-

## ANTIQUITIES

Fabis, Bingham, Clifton, Colwick, Holme Pierrepont, Langar, Laxton, West Leake, Nuttall, Radcliffe-on-Soar, Staunton, Strelley, Whatton, Wollaton.

*Brasses* are rare. The only ones are at Newark, Ossington, Hickling, Stanford-on-Soar, North Wheatley, Annesley (in private possession), Darlton, East Markham.

*Fonts—Norman.*—Annesley, Beckingham, Bils-  
thorpe, Bingham (in porch), Calverton (fragment),  
Carburton, Car Colston, Egmanon, Epperstone,  
Everton (in vicar's garden), Finningley, Flaw-  
borough, Gonalston, Halam, Keyworth, Kirkling-  
ton, Lenton (very good), South Leverton, Markham  
Clinton (good), Rampton, Screveton (good),  
Selston, Sookholme, Stanton-on-the-Wolds, Sutton-  
in-Ashfield (fragment), Teversal, Thoroton, Wellow,  
North Wheatley (very large), Woodborough.

*Early English.*—Beeston, Bramcote (good),  
Edwalton, Elton, Farndon, Farnsfield (outside),  
Hoveringham, Kneeton, East Leake, Misterton,  
Wysall.

*Decorated.*—Attenborough, Balderton (good),  
Barton-in-Fabis, Bothamsall, Cropwell Bishop,  
Gotham, Laxton, Lowdham (good), Normanton-  
on-Soar, Radcliffe-on-Soar, Stapleford, Strelley,  
Sutton Bonington St Michael (good).

*Perpendicular.*—Cossall, Edwinstowe, Flintham,  
Granby Grove, Hickling, Holme Pierrepont,  
Owthorpe, Trowell, Wollaton.

There are a large number of fonts placed in  
the churches during the years succeeding 1661.  
The best is at Orston. They are generally dated.

There is a good font-cover at Tuxford.

*Benches and Bench Ends.*—Attenborough (good

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

17th-cent.), Balderton (good 15th-cent.), Barnby-in-the-Willows (good 15th-cent.), Bilsthorpe, Coddington, Costock (15th-cent.), Cropwell Bishop (1400), Edwalton, Elton, Granby (15th-cent.), Hickling (1400), Hockerton, Holme, Kneesall (15th-cent.), East Leake (15th-cent. and Jacobean), North Muskham, Newark, South Scarle, Scrooby (17th-cent.), Sutton-cum-Lound, Sutton-on-Trent, Teversal (fine 17th-cent. pew), Walkeringham, North Wheatley, Wysall.

### 4. *Abbeys and other Ecclesiastical Remains*

PLACE	ORDER	REMAINS
Blyth	Benedictine Monks	Nave of church remains.
Wallingwells	Benedictine Nuns	Nothing left.
Lenton	Cluniacs	Very scanty remains.
Rufford (Abbey)	Cistercians	Scanty remains.
Beauvale	Carthusians	Scanty ruins.
Felley	Augustinians	Very scanty remains.
Newstead	,,	Plentiful remains; very interesting.
Shelford	,,	Nothing left.
Thurgarton	,,	Part of church left.
Worksop	,,	Nave of church, Lady Chapel (in ruins), and fine gatehouse.
Welbeck (Abbey)	Premonstratensian Canons	Nothing left.
Broadholme	Premonstratensian Nuns	Nothing left.
Mattersey	Gilbertines	Very little above ground; wants excavating.
Southwell	College (Secular)	Church remains entire.





NEWSTEAD PRIORY



## ANTIQUITIES

Other religious foundations in the county were :

Knights Hospitallers at Ossington and Winkburn.  
Franciscan Friars, Nottingham (c. 1230. Grey  
Friar Gate).

Carmelite Friars, Nottingham (1276. Friar Lane).  
Observant Friars, Newark (founded by Henry  
VII., 1499).

Colleges (besides Southwell) at :

Clifton (founded by Sir Robert Clifton, 1476).  
Newark.

Ruddington (founded by William Babington, 1459).  
Sibthorpe (1324).

Tuxford (founded by John de Lungvillers, 1362).

Hospitals at :

Bawtry : St Mary Magdalene (1280).

Blyth : St Edmund (1228).

St John the Evangelist (1226).

Bradebusk : St Mary Magdalene (1252).

Lenton : St Anthony (within the priory).

Newark : St Leonard (1125. Still exists as  
six almshouses in Northgate).

Nottingham : Holy Sepulchre (1267).

St John the Baptist (1202, on the  
north side of the town. The  
brethren had to keep the Trent  
Bridge in repair. In 1551 the  
property of the hospital was given  
by Edward VI. to the mayor and  
burgesses for the upkeep of the  
bridge. In 1601 the old hospital

# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Nottingham—*continued*

buildings were turned into a poor-house, and somewhat later into a house of correction).

St Leonard (1189, Leper. On north side of the town).

St Mary at West Bar (1330, Leper).

Plumtree's Hospital (founded 1390 and still in existence in a rebuilt condition in Red Lion Square).

Southwell: St Mary Magdalene (1255).

East Stoke: St Leonard and St Anne (Leper. Before 1135).

5. *Castles*.—Newark and Nottingham are the only considerable remains. The extensive earthworks at Laxton are very interesting. Those at Egmanton and Bothamsall are smaller.

## X. CELEBRATED MEN

It is possible here to mention only a few of the men and women who have written their names large upon the pages of history. In all spheres and in all ages Nottinghamshire men have always been to the front, whether on land or on sea, in peace or in war. Such names as Peveril, Everingham, Molyneux, Markham, Whalley, Sacheverell, Babington, Rempstone, Hutchinson, Stanhope, Scrope, Cranmer, Holles, Fenton and Cromwell need no introduction of ours. They are national, not local.

But perhaps beyond all these one man stands out pre-eminent and occupies a place no other hero, except it is King Arthur, has ever challenged.

## CELEBRATED MEN

Robin Hood is a Nottinghamshire possession. He may be a Yorkshireman by birth, and a thief by profession, or he may never even have existed, as some sticklers for the truth would have us believe, but as long as a tree stands in Sherwood Forest so long will the name of Robin Hood and the tale of his deeds have a place in English hearts.

The list of *Divines* contains many well-known names. It is to Paulinus that Notts. owes its introduction to Christianity, while in the 13th cent. the head of the Franciscans in England was one William de Nottingham. Wolsey and his friend, Dr Thomas Magnus, are to be met with, the one at Southwell, the other at Sibthorpe. Archbishop Cranmer, Queen Elizabeth's godfather, according to Shakespeare, was born at Aslockton, and probably received his earliest education in that village. Bishop Warburton was the son of the town clerk of Newark, and at Sibthorpe, in 1693, was born no less a man than Archbishop Secker. Gilbert Wakefield, scholar and controversialist, was born at St Nicholas' Rectory, Nottingham, in 1756. William Brewster and his companions, Bradford and Clifton, are for ever connected with Scrooby. That mysterious plotter, Henry Garnet, head of the Jesuits in England, has been identified as one of the Whalleys of Screveton. After his heroic behaviour at Eyam, the Rev. William Mompesson came to the little village of Eakring and finished his life there. Nor can Dean Hole, son of Newark, and for many years the Rector of Caunton, be omitted. General Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army, must be included, though he is still alive.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

*Statesmen.*—In the reign of Edward I. Henry de Newark was an important man, and in the neighbouring village of Cromwell we find the nameplace, if not the birthplace, of three great men—Ralph Lord Cromwell (1394-1456), Thomas Cromwell and Oliver Cromwell. Denzil Holles was born at the family house at Haughton, the Marquis of Halifax enlarged Rufford Abbey, and Mr John Evelyn Denison (Speaker of the House of Commons) took his title from a little Notts. village when he became Viscount Ossington. Viscount Sherbrooke, better known as the Right Hon. Robert Lowe, was the son of a rector of Bingham. In 1832 Mr Gladstone entered Parliament for the first time as a member for Newark.

*Literary Men.*—Pride of place among the poets must be given to Lord Byron, who lived at Newstead Abbey, and lies in his grave in Hucknall Torkard church. The birthplace and many of the haunts of Henry Kirk White, one of the "Albino Poets," as a great American writer called him, can still be found, and though a modern warehouse occupies the site of the house wherein Philip James Bailey, the author of "Festus," was born in Weekday Cross, yet he is remembered by all who were fortunate enough to know him. The Quaker poets, William and Mary Howitt, spent the greater part of their lives in or near Nottingham, where their house was the resort of the chief local literary personages of their day. By the side of a retired path in the General Cemetery, Nottingham, is the nearly forgotten grave of Robert Millhouse, a poet belonging to the artisan classes. That voluminous writer Thomas Miller was born just outside the county,

## CELEBRATED MEN

at Gainsborough, but he came to Nottingham and served his apprenticeship to a basketmaker. Among his many works perhaps "Royston Gower" is best remembered. One other Nottingham apprentice we must not omit, Colley Cibber. There have been a very large number of poets of local fame who are almost forgotten now, but one, Henry S. Sutton, is deservedly remembered. Lady Mary Wortley Montague spent the early part of her life with her father, the Duke of Kingston, at Thoresby. Nor may we omit the names of the three chief historians of the county: Dr Robert Thoroton, Dr Charles Deering (a German by birth) and Thomas Bailey (the father of the author of "Festus"). Newark was the birthplace of Henry Constable, the Elizabethan sonneteer, and Mansfield can claim to have produced Dodsley, the writer and publisher, who counted Pope among his friends. And yet another poet has a certain right to be mentioned here. Thomas Moore settled down after his marriage at Kegworth just over the Leicestershire border, and he was undoubtedly a frequent visitor in this county, though it is not until later, when he lived at Ashbourne, that we hear of him visiting at Bunny Hall and elsewhere. A small tablet in Holme Pierrepont church recalls to our memory John Oldham, a writer of odes and satires. George Eliot was connected in one or two ways with Nottingham, and one of her characters, Dinah Morris in "Adam Bede," is of particular local interest. Elizabeth Tomlinson, for such was her real name, came to Nottingham to work in a lace factory where she made the acquaintance of Hetty Sorrel (Mary Voce), who

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

was convicted of child murder in this town. Mrs Hutchinson deserves to be mentioned for the memoirs of her husband. Dr Brewer, compiler of the "Reader's Handbook," and other similar works, spent the last few years of his life at Edwinstowe vicarage, where he died in 1897. Previously he had lived some time at Ruddington. There is an almost total lack of *Musicians* in this county. Dr John Blow, who was born at Newark, has not yet arrived at that degree of fame to which his work entitles him. Reginald Spofforth of Southwell was a glee writer of note and composer of "Hail, Smiling Morn." Almost more numerous than the literary men are the *Men of Action*. Sir Thomas Rempstone was a great admiral under Henry. IV., with whom he landed at Ravenspur ; while his son, Sir Thomas Rempstone of Bingham, gained his reputation as a soldier in France, where he fought at Agincourt and struggled against Jeanne Darc. Captain Robert Fenton of Fenton, near Sturton-in-the-Clay, was the Elizabethan navigator who acted as pilot to the admiral's ship during the fight that led to the defeat of the Armada. Henry Ireton of Attenborough, son-in-law of Oliver Cromwell, the Earl of Kingston, and Colonel Hutchinson of Owthorpe, the gallant defender of Nottingham Castle, all played leading parts in the Civil War. Gilbert Millington of Felley was one of the Regicides, and to Colonel Francis Hacker of East Bridgford was entrusted the warrant for the execution of King Charles. Edward Whalley of Kirketon Hall, Screveton, followed the fortunes of his famous cousin, Oliver Cromwell. Sir John Borlase Warren of Stapleford, and Admiral Earl Howe of Langar are two well-



## CELEBRATED MEN

known sailors. Martin Frobisher, who came of a Finningley family, Sir Hugh Willoughby, of Arctic fame, and Sir Charles Fellows, are explorers all belonging to well-known local families. David Livingstone resided at Newstead for a considerable time.

Among *Artists*, Paul Sandby and his less famous brother, Thomas, Richard Parkes Bonington of Arnold, Henry Dawson, James Orrock, who for a time was a dentist in Nottingham, and Rossi the sculptor, are all men who, by rising to fame, have conferred honour on this county.

*Inventors and Scientists.*—John Arderne of Newark was one of the earliest surgeons and writers on medical subjects, who gained his experience in the French wars of the 14th cent. The Rev. William Lee of Calverton invented the stocking frame in the days of Queen Elizabeth; and it is to Edmund Cartwright, who was born at Marnham in 1785, that we owe the invention of the power loom. Dr Erasmus Darwin, grandfather of Charles Darwin, was a naturalist and writer of some note, who lived for a short time at Elston. Sir Francis Willoughby, naturalist and philosopher, was born at Wollaton Hall, where he conducted many of his researches in the company of Ray, who frequently visited him. Dr Marshall Hall was born at Basford.

## DESCRIPTION OF PLACES IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY

NOTE.—The position of any place can be readily discovered from the railroad map on the flyleaf. If the place has no railway station the distance of the nearest station is always given as a guide.

The following abbreviations and approximate dates of architectural styles have been employed:—

Norman—1070-1160.

Trans. = Transitional Norman (c—1160-1200).

E. E. = Early English (13th cent.—1200-1270).

Dec. = Decorated (14th cent.—covers roughly the reigns of the first three Edwards).

Perp. = Perpendicular (15th cent.).

*Adbolton* (2½ m. S.E. of Nottingham), which now consists of only a few houses, is joined to the parish of Holme Pierrepont. The church was taken down in 1746, and all traces of the site removed in 1834.

*Alverton.* (See *Kilvington.*)

*Annesley* (R. Station). There are two Annesleys, a new and an old, but with the former we have no concern, beyond to state the fact that it has grown up round a colliery, and that a church has been added on the summit of the hill. This church was destroyed by an incendiary on 17th January 1907. Near the hall, the seat of the Chaworth Musters family and the home of Byron's Mary Chaworth, is the old church (All Saints) now deserted. The south aisle was built

## ADBOLTON—ASLOCKTON

in the 14th cent. as a chantry chapel, and is known as the Felley Chapel. It contains a fine east window with reticulated tracery, and a triple sedilia. Note (1) good Norman font ; (2) old stained glass ; (3) effigies ; (4) that there used to be a brass, dated 1593, depicting a hunter armed with bow, arrows and hunting knife, and followed by his dog ; it is now in the possession of Mrs Musters of Wiverton Hall.

*Arnold* (1 m. N. of Daybrook) is no longer the pleasant village on the borders of Sherwood Forest which it used to be, but instead has become a centre of industry, so that little or no charm remains. Collieries and the hosiery trade claim the attention of most of the inhabitants. It lies on the southern slope of the hills which mount up to 470 ft. at Dorket Head. The church (St Mary) has a 13th and 14th cent. nave and aisles and a 14th-cent. chancel, in which is a stone Easter Sepulchre, bereft of all its figures. Note (1) triple sedilia ; (2) double piscina. Arnold was probably the birthplace of R. P. Bonington, the artist.

At the foot of Red Hill on the main road from Nottingham to Mansfield is an old house known as "The Guide House," where travellers could obtain guides to take them through the devious tracks of the adjacent forest.

*Askham* (3 m. N. of Tuxford) has a church (St Nicholas) which was restored by Mr Hodgson Fowler in 1907. Some curious niches in the north and south walls were then discovered. Only one of the three bells, that dated 1613, is now in use.

*Aslockton* (R. Station) is a small village on the north bank of the river Smite. Its only claim

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

to note is that at the old manor house Archbishop Cranmer was born on 2nd July 1480. The Cranmer family had acquired this manor in the reign of Henry VI., but no trace now remains of the house, and a farmhouse has been built on the site. Not far from the east end of the church, a modern structure, and to the rear of this farmhouse, is a mound known as "Cranmer's Mound," and reputed to have been raised by the Archbishop so that he might "sit and survey the face of the country and listen to the tunable bells of Whatton." During the days of the Reformation the parochial chapel was desecrated. Subsequently it became a beershop, but it has been rescued, and now serves as a mission room to the new church. The story goes that early in the 14th cent. a child was found deserted on the church stile here; he was christened Aslac, and became standard-bearer to Edward III. There is an old stump mill, not a common thing in the county nowadays, on the road to Scarrington.

*Attenborough* (R. Station) is now but a little village consisting of some cottages and a few modern residences. Tradition asserts, however, that it was once a place of considerable importance. Its church (St Mary Magdalene) is very interesting on account of the grotesque capitals of the nave arcade (c. 1200). The 17th-cent. carved panels of the benches in the chancel are peculiar. The supporting arches in the south aisle of the nave, the Dec. font, the steps to the rood-loft, some 14th-cent. bench ends in the chancel, the south door, the incised slabs in the porch, and the mural monuments of local interest, should all be noted. The most interesting fact connected with

## ATTENBOROUGH—AVERHAM

Attenborough is that in the house to the west of the church was born Henry Ireton, the famous Parliamentary general, who married a daughter of Oliver Cromwell. The church registers contain the record of his baptism under the date 10th November 1611, and in 1615 there appears that of his brother John, who became Lord Mayor of London.

The Erewash, which divides Notts. from Derbyshire, joins the Trent close by this village.

*Austerfield* (1 m. N. of Bawtry), though entirely in Yorkshire, is associated ecclesiastically with Blyth and Bawtry and deserves mention on account of its fine Norman chapel, which is to all intents and purposes the same as it was when built by the De Buslis. There is a good Norman tympanum. Here lived William Bradford, one of the little band who listened to Richard Clifton at Babworth, and William Brewster at Scrooby, and who became one of the leading men among the Pilgrim Fathers in America.

*Averham* (some 3 m. from Rolleston and Newark Stations) should be visited on account of the exceptionally beautiful situation of its church (St Michael), which stands on the bank of the Trent, in a churchyard timbered by some grand old trees. Across the river a pleasant expanse of meadow stretches to Newark, whose spire is so conspicuous an object throughout this district. The masonry of the church is largely of that variety known as "herring-bone," and dating from early Norman times. The five-light east window (c. 1300) and 14th-cent. tower arch are worthy of note. The tombs of the Suttons of Averham are of exceptional merit; note especially

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

the 13th-cent. coped coffin-shaped tomb with Norman-French inscription, under a depressed ogee recess (1500), and the English inscription on the large tomb in the chancel in memory of William Sutton, who died in 1611. The rich upper storey of the tower dates from the 15th cent. There are some very pleasant walks by the river.

*Babworth* (1 m. W. of Retford G.N. Station) consists of little more than church, rectory and Hall, pleasantly grouped amid trees, and presenting a delightful picture. The church (All Saints), which contains monuments of the Simpson and Eyre families, is associated with the Pilgrim Fathers through its minister, Richard Clifton, one of the earliest of the Separatists. William Bradford, perhaps the most remarkable of this noble band of men, used to attend Clifton's ministrations, coming over from Austerfield for the purpose. Clifton fled to Amsterdam in August 1608, and died there eight years later.

*Balderton* (2 m. S.E. of Newark) has nothing to attract the traveller except its interesting Church of St Giles, which retains a Norman north porch, reconstructed in the 13th cent., and south doorway. The inner north doorway, with its beautiful 15th-cent. wooden inscribed door, belongs to the 13th cent., at which time the north side of the nave and most of the windows of the chancel were built, the remainder being the work of the next century. Perhaps the best feature is the fine Perp. screen (c. 1475), with the figure of a monk with arms crossed, on its western face, and that of the Virgin and Child on the eastern side. Note (1) the large number of old bench ends (some carved with rabbits) and the old pulpit; (2) the 14th-cent. font

## BABWORTH—BARTON-IN-FABIS

with ball-flower ornament ; (3) the spire and top part of the tower (c. 1450). There are some large engineering works, where 500 men are employed.

*Bardolph, Stoke.* (See *Stoke Bardolph.*)

*Barnby-in-the-Willows* (2½ m. N.E. of Claypole) lies on the bank of the river Witham, which here forms the county boundary. The church (All Saints) has a remarkable early Decorated chancel (1275-1300) which is worthy of notice. There are some remarkable and unique openings beneath the lancets at the east end. Note (1) memorials of the Sharpe family ; (2) 15th-cent. benches ; (3) Laudian altar rails disused ; (4) Dec. font. There is a circular stone dovecote in the village.

*Barnby Moor* (½ m. W. of Sutton). It is almost impossible to learn anything either very definite or very interesting about this little hamlet, which lies on the Great North Road, and boasts of a large hotel, whose fortunes are reviving in these days of motor cars. When Barnby belonged to the Priory of Blyth all this district was wild moorland, and doubtless a happy hunting ground for footpads and "gentlemen of the road."

*Barnston* (R. Station), near Langar, has a chapel (which is attached to Langar) rebuilt in 1855.

*Barton-in-Fabis* (1½ m. S. of Attenborough. There is a ferry across the Trent) is a village of considerable antiquity, for a Roman pavement, of which a large portion remains, was discovered here in 1856. The old dovecote belonging to the manor house of the Sacheverells is fast tumbling into ruin and requires immediate attention if it is to be saved. The church is mainly interesting on account of the tombs of the Sacheverell family.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

The heraldry on these tombs is worthy of notice. There is a Jacobean holy-table. On Brents Hill near the village are traces of extensive earthworks, which may, however, be the remains of terrace ploughing.

*Basford* (R. Station and trams), which now forms part of the city of Nottingham, once gave its name to a family not unknown to history. The most interesting point about the church, which exhibits work of various periods, is its dedication to St Leodegarius, familiarly known as St Leger. The brick-built manor house near the church was at one time the residence of Philip James Bailey, the author of "Festus."

*Bawtry* (R. Station) is a little market town, half in Yorkshire and half in Notts. Down its broad street passes the Great North Road, and along this highway has passed the traffic of many centuries. Mention of the Port of Bawtry occurs in the Hundred Rolls, and indeed this sleepy little town "was one of the principal depôts and wharfs for the productions of the Vale of the Don, the hardware of Sheffield and the lead of Derbyshire, which found a more convenient passage by the Idle and the Trent, than by the less certain navigation of the Don, the Aire, and the Ouse, to Hull." The church (St Helen) is not a handsome structure. It has a 12th-cent. north door, but the greater part of the building dates from the 14th cent. There is a good 13th-cent. east window. The hospital of Bawtry, a Norman foundation, was situated in Harworth parish. The chapel at Martin was the Hospital Chapel.

*Beauwale Priory* (3 m. W. of Hucknall Torkard) lies in the basin of a valley which,



## BASFORD—BECKINGHAM

even now, when there are collieries on all sides, deserves the name of beautiful, given to it so long ago. Little remains of this Carthusian foundation—the last monastic foundation in the county—which owes its conception to Nicholas de Cantilupe, Lord of Ilkeston and Greasley, in 1343. Henry VIII.'s determination to marry Anne Boleyn was the beginning of the end for Beauvale. Its Prior Lawrence together with Prior Houghton of the London Charterhouse (once Prior of Beauvale) and Prior Webster of Axholme went to London to see Thomas Cromwell on this matter. They did not prove amenable to the royal will, and in May 1535 were put to death. The last prior, Thomas Woodcock, surrendered his charge to the king in 1540. Excavations were made by the Thorton Society during 1908, and though not of great extent they have disclosed the size of this priory. The prior's house and the west end of the church, a chapel near the cloister and one cell may now be seen, and the remains of the gatehouse and the fishpond near it are recognisable. Anyone visiting here in the early summer should try to obtain permission to go into the woods as far as Robin Hood's Well (just behind the priory); for perhaps nowhere else in this neighbourhood can such masses of forget-me-nots and other early flowers be seen.

*Beckingham* (R. Station), a village, picturesque with its red tiles and abundance of trees, presents a pleasant contrast to the uninteresting country which surrounds it. Its church possesses some good Early English work (c. 1220) in the nave and sedilia. The pear-shaped shafts at the west

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

end of the nave are worthy of notice. The font is quite plain and belongs to the Norman period. There are some curious brackets inside, and on the exterior a remarkable series of gargoyles. The large number of brick-built dovecotes in this and the neighbouring villages should be noted.

*Beeston* (R. Station) has grown during the last few years from a village into a town given over largely to manufactures. The chief cause of this sudden growth was the presence of the Humber Cycle Works, where a very large staff was employed. These works have recently been removed to Coventry, with the result that the population has decreased by 3000. Excellent boating may be had on the Trent at Beeston, and during the summer months a large number of houseboats take up their stations in this reach of the river. The church was one of Sir Gilbert Scott's earliest restorations. It retains part of the old chancel, a 14th-cent. sedilia and a 13th-cent. font.

*Besthorpe* (3 m. N.W. of Collingham) is worth visiting on account of the Fleet, a large sheet of water due originally to the vagaries of the Trent at this point. The scene is not dissimilar to many in the Broads, and will please artists.

*Bestwood* (R. Station) was once one of the wildest and most primeval parts of Sherwood Forest, but all this has been altered. Edward III. emparked this part of his royal forest, and built a hunting lodge here, which he granted to Richard de Strelley for his lifetime. In Henry VIII.'s reign it belonged to Sir John Byron, and later on it passed to the Earl of Rutland. In

## BEESTON—BILSTHORPE

1683, however, Charles II. gave it to his natural son by Nell Gwynne, Henry Beauclerk, whom he created Duke of St Albans. It has never since left the possession of this family. The house is modern and so situated as to command extensive views, and yet to retain some of that privacy which the proximity of a large and ever-growing town, like Nottingham, tends to destroy.

*Bevercotes* (3 m. N.W. of Tuxford) is situated on a low bluff of land projecting into the formerly marshy courses of the Meden and the Maun, which are restrained within artificial channels. The name of this village provides us with our only ground for claiming that there have ever been beavers in the county. The church fell down about the middle of the 17th cent. and has not been rebuilt.

*Bilborough* (4 m. N.W. of Nottingham) is a little hamlet adjoining Strelley. With the exception of a tithe barn and a little church built during the reign of Richard II., there is nothing to see. The epitaph of Edmund Helwys, who died October 1590, is worth recording :

“ Edmunde exiguo residens Helwise sepulchro  
Extremum doceas corporis omnis iter.  
Nata simul dilecta tibi vi mortis iniquæ  
Rapta sub hoc tumulo cum genitore jacet.  
Scilicet hic mortis mos est mortisque triumphus  
Grandævos teneris tollere saepe simul.  
Ætas flos serus non rumpunt vincula mortis  
Nata paterque cadunt tempore nata prior.”

*Bilsthorpe* (3½ m. N.W. of Kirklington) occupies a very secluded position on the borders of Sherwood Forest. Its conspicuous church

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(St Margaret) contains the tomb of Mr Henry Savile of Rufford, who died in 1881, and a wreath sent by Queen Victoria as a token of her esteem for Mr Augustus Savile, who died in 1887. Here too is a memorial to Dr William Chappell, who became Bishop of Cork and Ross, and was famous as a debater. He died at Derby in 1649. The nave is partly 14th-cent., and the chancel was built early in the next century. There is an early Norman tub font supported, as Dr Cox ascertained recently, on part of a pre-Norman cross. Note pre-Reformation benches under tower. There is a good view from the churchyard, in which is the epitaph on the tomb of the wife of John Fletcher (d. 1751):

“Little Mary, she is dead and gone  
And was a loving and a precious wife to Little John.”

But little of the old Hall remains, in which Charles I. is supposed to have hidden himself.

*Bingham* (R. Station) is now a drowsy little town with a large empty market-place, which bustled with life in the days of the stage coaches. Its only claim to attention lies in its fine cruciform church with a broach spire, of unusual design and great beauty, at the west end. The bases of the nave piers and the tower date from the first half of the 13th cent. The nave appears to have been built when the E.E. style was changing to the early Dec. The chancel and transepts are somewhat later. Note (1) caps of the nave piers; (2) cross-legged effigy of a knight, carved in Caen stone, which lies in the vestry, and is supposed to represent Richard de Bingham, son of Ralph





HAYWOOD OAKS, BLEDWORTH

## BINGHAM—BLIDWORTH

Bugge, a wealthy Nottingham Merchant of the Staple, and the founder of the family of Willoughby ; (3) the base of the old rood-screen ; (4) ball-flower ornament on tower.

*Bleasby* (R. Station) is of little interest. In the church (St Mary) is an E.E. arcade. This village is one of the numerous claimants to the honour of being Tiovulfingacester, where Paulinus baptised in the Trent.

*Blidworth* lies over 2 m. south of its railway station. It occupies the crest of a long ridge, and has the reputation of being a very healthy site. The church (St Mary) has a late 15th-cent. tower, but the rest of the building is 18th-cent. work.

The oak panelling round the chancel came from Southwell Minster. The Italian plaster-work pulpit (*temp.* George I.) is a remarkable piece of work. To the north-west of the village are some so-called Druidical remains. These are natural boulders of great size, which have, however, been slightly tampered with by man. This parish is closely associated with the traditions of Robin Hood, and his comrade, Will Scarlet, is said to have been buried in the churchyard. A curious custom, known as Blidworth Rocking, was, until recently, celebrated here on the day of the Purification. A cradle was carried in procession, a remembrance of the presentation of the Infant Christ at the Temple. On a clear evening magnificent views can be had from Blidworth : the spire of Laughten-en-le-Morthen, the towers of Lincoln Minster, the spire of Newark, and the square outline of Belvoir Castle being the most distant objects.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

*Blyth* (3 m. W. of Ranskill) is, architecturally, one of the most interesting places in the county, and it has also the additional charm of being extremely picturesque. At Bawtry you will be told with some scorn that Blyth is but a village, while Bawtry is a town; but the fact remains that a market used to be held here every Thursday, and there were, in addition, two fairs every year. These, as well as the market, have been discontinued.

In 1088 Roger de Busli, who built and resided in the great castle of Tickhill, founded at Blyth a priory of Benedictines, subordinate to the house of St Katherine at Rouen. The position of an alien priory was not always a comfortable one during the frequent wars between this country and France in the Middle Ages, and the priors found that their revenues were not as safe as they would have wished them to be. At first merely a conventual church, the south aisle was widened to admit of its being used as a parish church, and it was this change that saved so much—and yet so little—of this magnificent building. All the eastern part of the church and all the domestic buildings have disappeared, and we have left but the nave, two aisles, and a western tower. The nave of five bays and the north aisle are of the greatest interest to archæologists, for the rough style of work reminds strongly of the building that had been carried out some forty years earlier at the great Abbey of Jumièges in Normandy. If we compare the work at Blyth with the contemporary work at Durham, we cannot fail to be struck by the difference. Durham, of course, was advanced, but, notwith-



## BLYTH—BOLE

standing this, the conclusion that forces itself upon us is that someone, imbued with the skill that had built Jumièges, came over and built Blyth, and thus we have what is really the oldest piece of Norman architecture in England in point of style, though not of date. The south aisle was enlarged to its present size about 1290, the tower was built about 1400. Two extremely fine wooden screens remain, their lower panels being decorated with paintings of saints, some half-dozen of which are still recognisable. In the south aisle are the remains of an effigy with a square-topped helmet, a type unique on tombs though not unknown on seals. The north and east sides of the church cannot be visited, as they lie in the grounds of the Hall, the residence of Mr Willey. Here were two medieval hospitals—that of St Edmund, a leper-house just outside the town, probably on the north, and that of St John the Evangelist, also a leper-house, founded in the township of Hodsock by William Cressy (*temp.* John). It was re-established in 1446, "for poor strangers and pregnant women." Blyth Spital, pulled down in 1810, was the master's house. This foundation survived the days of the Reformation.

(For Blyth Tournament Field see *Styrrup*.)

*Bole* (2 m. N.N.E. of Sturton) is a small village which was once on the bank of the Trent, but is no longer so, for the river now takes a more direct course than it formerly did. The church (St Martin) belongs chiefly to the 13th cent., with 15th-cent. additions and alterations. Note (1) pulpit; (2) brass on sill of south-east chancel window to John Danby (1400). There is a moated site near the village.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

*Bothamsall* is about equidistant ( $5\frac{1}{2}$  m.) from Tuxford and Retford stations. The church was built in 1844 by the Duke of Newcastle to replace a dilapidated structure. On the western side of the village are the mounds of what was once a large fortified building, occupying a strong position above the marshes of the Meden, which now runs in an artificial channel.

*Boughton* has a modern church and a railway station. The city of Nottingham obtains much of its water from this locality.

*Bradmore* (2 m. S. of Ruddington station) is a hamlet and chapelry of Bunny on the main road between Nottingham and Loughborough. The place was devastated by a fire on 2nd July 1706, and all that was left of the church was the tower and spire as they stand to-day.

*Bradebusk.* (See *Gonalston* and *Introduction*, Section IX.)

*Bramcote* (2 m. E. of Stapleford station) stands high above the surrounding country, and the spire of its modern church, erected in 1861, is a conspicuous feature of the landscape. The village is, moreover, of great beauty, and the desolate tower of the old Church of St Michael stands lonely, but picturesque, in its leafy frame. The rest of the building was pulled down in 1861. The old font (c. 1250) is in the new church. Bramcote Hall is the residence of the Smith family whose fame as bankers is world wide. Near Bramcote, on the Strelley road, is an isolated mass of red sandstone, known as the Hemlock Stone, the object of many excursions from Nottingham and the surrounding villages.

*Brents Hill.* (See *Barton-in-Fabis.*)

## BOTHAMSALL—WEST BRIDGFORD

*East Bridgford* (2 m. S. of Lowdham Station) occupies the summit of a steep cliff overhanging the Trent, and looks down on to Gunthorpe Bridge. The church (St Peter) has little to reward the glances of the casual observer, yet for the archæologist the rector's researches have brought to light much interesting matter, of which the most notable is a part of the foundations of the Saxon church found near the north pier of the chancel arch. The monument to John Hacker (1620) reminds us that his grandson, Colonel Francis Hacker, was a prominent Regicide, and that it was into his hands that the death warrant of King Charles I. was delivered, and the arrangements for the execution of that monarch were made by him.

On the Fosse Way, near East Bridgford, is the site of the Roman station of Margidunum, of which nothing like a thorough excavation has yet been made. The mounds will be seen on the left of the road almost opposite the lane joining the hamlet of Newton to the Fosse Way.

*West Bridgford* (1 m. south of Nottingham Midland Station. Frequent trams), from being only a small village twenty years ago, has now become a large residential suburb of Nottingham, with streets of villas stretching widely in all directions. The Notts. County cricket ground and the grounds of the leading football clubs are situated here. The old church (St Giles) has been enlarged quite recently, and was also restored in 1871. The old part now serves as a south aisle to the larger modern structure, which is of no interest. The 13th cent. is represented by the priests' door and the window at the west end of the south aisle, together with most of the masonry.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

The best work belongs to the 14th cent. The small window above the two east windows is an exact reproduction (1871) of that formerly occupying this position. It should be noted that the heads of these curvilinear windows are not pieced together, but are cut out of single blocks of stone. The heads of the windows, which were displaced when the north wall was taken down to make room for the new church, may be seen in the south porch. The tower is a late and debased example of 15th-cent. work. Note (1) the double sedilia—the only one in the county; (2) the 14th-cent. screen; (3) the corbels in the south aisle; (4) the founder's tomb, rebuilt in the new chancel, and the effigy placed therein (this latter is the "Stone Man of West Bridgford"); (5) the inscribed stone built into the south side of the tower.

*Brinsley* (2 m. N. of Eastwood station) is a scattered village, which is increasing in size and ugliness at a rapid rate. The church was built in 1838.

*Broadholme* (1 m. S. of Saxilby Station), now a hamlet, is the site of the first Premonstratensian nunnery in England, founded about 1140 by Agnes de Camville, wife of Peter de Gousla, who introduced the Order into England. Hardly anything, except a few reused stones, remain. There was but one other nunnery of this order in England—at Ilford, Lincolnshire.

*Brough* (3 m. S. of Collingham) is the site of the Roman station of Crocolana. Recent excavations, carried out by Mr T. C. Smith Woolley of South Collingham, have laid bare but a small part of what was a large inhabited area—some 40 acres,

## BRINSLEY—BUDBY

in fact—and the discoveries tend to show that this was much more than a mere military post. A large assortment of coins have been found, ranging from Domitian (A.D. 81-96) to Gratian (A.D. 375-383). A consular denarius inscribed "Acisculus" (49-45 B.C.) has also been found.

*Broughton, Upper, or Broughton Sulney* (R. Station), occupies the eastern slope of a steep hill overlooking the Leicestershire village of Nether Broughton. The church (St Oswald) has rather an incongruous appearance due to the flat roof of the nave and the high-pitched roof of the chancel. The lower storey of the tower and south arcade of the nave are Trans., the north arcade E.E. Note (1) sculptured stone in the porch. It has been suggested that the crowned figure represents St Oswald; (2) cross at east end of the chancel gable; (3) late Dec. font bowl. In the village is the stump of a cross, and in the front of a house to the south of the cross is a beautiful lead cistern, embossed with the signs of the zodiac, and dated 1777. From 1767-1802 the Rev. Charles Wildbore, an eccentric man of great mathematical ability, was curate here.

*Broxtow Hall*, which lies between Nuttall and Strelley, is but a shadow of its former self, and little of interest remains. Before the Conquest, Broxtow was the property of Earl Godric, and in the 16th cent. it was occupied by Sir Hugh Willoughby, the famous navigator. The church disappeared at some unknown date, and no trace of it remains.

*Brunsell Hall.* (See *Screveton.*)

*Budby* (4 m. N. of Edwinstowe Station) is

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

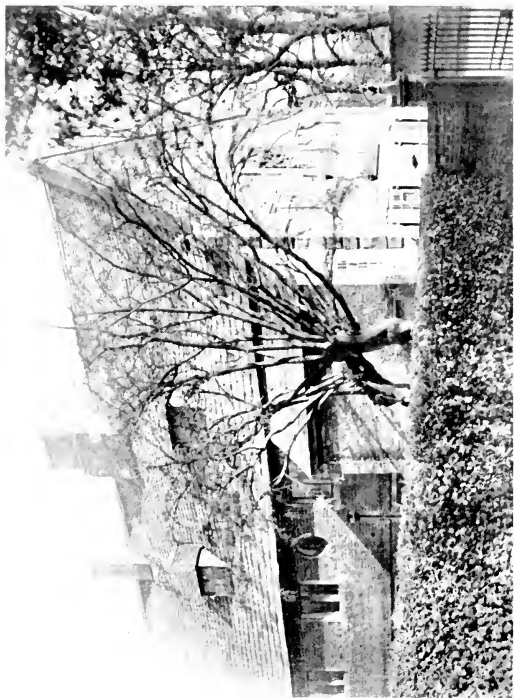
rendered extremely picturesque by the river Meden, which flows beside the road, and adds beauty to what is already beautiful. Here numerous swans and waterfowl can be seen swimming in the brown shaded water, while all around are the trees and open moor of the Thoresby estate. The church is of the "tin tabernacle" variety.

*Bulcote* is a hamlet between Burton Joyce and Lowdham. The church is modern.

*Bulwell* (R. Station and trams), now a part of Nottingham, has little to recommend it to the visitor. The church was built in 1850. Bulwell Forest is now little more than a name, thanks to railways. The golf courses, which have recently been made here will, we hope, do something towards preserving what little is left of the old forest.

*Bulwell Wood Hall* is a somewhat isolated farmhouse lying just off the road between Watnall and Hucknall Torkard. It formed part of the estates which were granted to Sir John Byron in 1540 on the dissolution of Newstead Priory. The house was built by the Hon. William Byron, second son of the second Lord Byron. He was an ardent Royalist, and was knighted at the battle of Edgehill. The White Lady of Newstead was said to be his daughter.

*Bunny* (3 m. S. of Ruddington) is a picturesque village on the main road from Nottingham to Loughborough. Among the many owners of the manor, Ralph, Lord Cromwell, Lord High Treasurer to Henry VI., must be mentioned. In Queen Elizabeth's reign, the manor came into the possession of the Parkyns family, of which the



THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE, BUNNY





## BULCOTE—BURTON JOYCE

most remarkable member was Sir Thomas, the second baronet (1663-1741), who practically rebuilt the village, erecting the school, which we see by the main road, restoring the hall, and enclosing the park by a wall built upon arches—the first of its kind in England. He also purchased the manors of Ruddington, Great Leake, Costock, Wysall, Thorpe, Willoughby, and parts of Keyworth, Barrow-upon-Soar and Gotham. This remarkable man is best known for his passion for wrestling, which he encouraged by the institution of annual wrestling matches held on a piece of ground, now in the gardens of the “Rancliffe Arms.” He published a book called “Inn Play, or Cornish Hugg Wrestler.” He made a collection of stone coffins, and was buried in one of them, while over him is erected a monument, which he had had made during his lifetime, representing him as a wrestler overcome by death.

The church (St Mary) is a large and handsome building of the Dec. and Perp. periods. The chancel is of a surprising size for a village church, and was begun about 1344. Note (1) south porch; (2) marble christening bowl on pedestal; (3) sedilia; (4) monument of Sir Thomas Parkyns on north side of the altar; (5) screen.

In 1795 Colonel T. B. Parkyns was raised to the Irish peerage with the title of Lord Rancliffe, which peerage became extinct with the second Lord Rancliffe in 1850.

*Burton Joyce* (R. Station) is beginning, unfortunately, to show undoubted and much-to-be-lamented signs of suburbandom, and soon there will be little left of the old village on the bank of the Trent. The church (St Oswald) contains

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

nothing earlier than 1250, to which date the beautiful east window of the north aisle belongs. The rest of the church with the exception of the chancel, which is late 14th-cent. work, is slightly later. Note (1) large squint; (2) small window in north wall; (3) tombs of De Jorz and Stapleton families; (4) the interesting and, for this district, unusual broach spire.

*Burton, West*, about 4 m. S. of Gainsborough, was once a village of some importance, attached to the Archbishop of York's manor at Laneham. At an early date the church was given to the Prior of Worksop. Towards the end of last century it was pulled down.

*Calverton* (5 m. N.E. of Daybrook Station) is hidden away among the hills, and bears the impress of occupying a site inhabited at some very early date, for a mile or so to the west there is a large pre-Roman encampment on Cockpit Hill. It was at Calverton that the Rev. William Lee was born. He it was who invented the stocking frame, but failed to impress Queen Elizabeth with the importance of his discovery, and was compelled to seek a foreign country, where, in France, his bad luck followed him, and he died penniless. The church (St Wilfrid) seems to have been reconstructed in the 14th cent. out of the materials of a previously existing Norman church. A subsequent rebuilding in 1760-1763 has resulted in the insertion of some round-headed windows. The early Norman chancel arch has on its north capital a carving believed to represent St Wilfrid and a convert. Built into the third storey of the tower, on the inside, are eight carved stones, while a ninth may be seen on the north side of the

## BURTON, WEST--CARLTON

tower outside near the ground. These stones seem to have formed part of the arch of a Norman doorway, and are carved to represent symbolically the months of the year. Counterparts of this work may be seen on the fonts at Burnham Deepdale in Norfolk, and Brookland in Kent.

*Carburton* (7 m. S. of Worksop) is a collection of some half-a-dozen houses and a tiny Norman chapel, which is associated with Perlethorpe and, like that church, possesses a register which begins in 1528, these being two of the three extremely early ones of this date, the other one being at Elsworth, in Cambridgeshire.

*Car Colston* (4 m. N. of Bingham) is very picturesquely grouped round a large open green, the abode of innumerable geese. It is of interest to Notts. people as the home of Dr Robert Thoroton, the first historian of the county. His stone coffin is in the church, and a tablet to his memory has recently been erected by the local archæological society, which bears his name. The church (St Mary) has one of those noble 14th-cent. chancels, built by that school of craftsmen whom we shall meet at Woodborough, Hawton, and elsewhere. The sedilia is a good specimen of its period. The shoulderlike curvature on the eastern face of the chancel arch is curious, but not particularly pleasing. The nave is E.E. and the font Norman. The tower is E.E. in its lower stages, but has been rebuilt in the Perp. period.

*Carlton* (R. station) will probably be a continuation of Nottingham on the east in the near future, and is of no interest whatever.

*Carlton-in-Lindrick* (2½ m. N. of Worksop)

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

comprises the pretty villages of North and South Carlton. At the latter is a fine church (All Saints) in whose tower there would seem to be authentic work of the last period of Saxon building, though there are some who argue that this is post-Conquest work. There is a considerable amount of "herring-bone" masonry in the upper storeys of the tower. The nave has been much restored, and shows work of the late Norman period, similar to that at Worksop.

*Carlton-on-Trent* has a station on the G.N.R. Its church was built in 1851.

*Cars, The*, is the name given to that part of Hatfield Chase which lies within the borders of Notts. It stretches some 8 m. from Bawtry on the west to the Trent, with an average width of 2 m. In the middle of the 17th cent. attempts were made to drain this fenland, but it was not until early last century that success was attained. This part of the county is very little known, yet it is quite worth a visit, if only because it is so entirely different from anything else within our borders. One might be in the Cambridgeshire Fens for anything the scenery would indicate to the contrary. Hedgeless roads, flat and uninteresting, pass in straight lines between dykes of sedgy water, and rich crops wave in the large fields on either hand.

*Caunton* (5 m. N. of Newark) has a well-restored church (St Andrew) with late 12th-cent arcade, 13th-cent. chancel and font, 14th-cent. aisle windows, and 15th-cent. tower. Dean Hole was vicar here for many years.

*Checkerhouse Station*. A station between Worksop and Retford on the G.C.R.

*Chilwell* (1½ m. W. of Beeston) is a hamlet which

## CARLTON—CLAYWORTH

still retains a few traces of beauty. One Barnaby Googe, writing in 1577, says: "There is beside Nottingham an auncient house called Chylwel in which house remayneth yet as an auncient monument in a great wyndowe of Glasse, the whole order of planting, proyning, stamping and pressing of Vines. Beside, there is yet also growing an old Vine that yeeldes a grape sufficient to make a right good wine as was lately proved by a Gentlewoman in the saide house." Needless to say the culture of vines is one of the lost arts at Chilwell.

*Church Laneham.* (See *Lancham.*)

*Cinder Hill* (Bulwell, 1 m.) is a modern village, near Nottingham, which quite lives up to the promise of its name.

*Clarborough* (3 m. N.E. of Retford) is a pleasantly situated village on the eastern edge of the valley of the Idle. The church has been largely restored, and calls for no description. There is a fine yew-tree in the churchyard. A large number of strawberries are grown in this district.

*Clayworth* (Ranskill  $4\frac{1}{2}$  m., Retford, 7 m.) on the Roman road from Lincoln to Doncaster. Its church (St Peter), which was restored by Sir G. Scott in 1875, is a curious mixture of styles. The lower part of the tower is of early 12th-cent. date, while the nave has been built probably in the 13th and altered in the late 15th cent. Note (1) the Chapel of St Nicholas in south aisle; (2) tomb of Humphrey Fitzwilliam, who died 18th October 1559. The modern wall paintings do not always convey the meaning intended. There is an extremely interesting rector's book kept, from 1676-1701, by the Rev. William Sampson.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Close to Clayworth is Wiseton Hall, the modern residence of Colonel Laycock, D.S.O. The property was originally in the possession of the Acklom family.

*Clifton* (2 m. N.W. of Ruddington. A pleasanter way of reaching it is to take a tram from Nottingham market-place to Wilford Bridge, and thence to walk by the river, through Clifton Grove, a distance of about 2 m. in all) has contrived to retain most of its old-world charm, notwithstanding the fact that it is one of the chief show places of Nottingham. There are numerous thatched cottages, a wide open green with a brick-built dovecote in the midst of it, and above all the far-famed Grove, immortalised by Henry Kirk White, the Hall, and the church. The Hall has some very beautiful gardens, which overhang the Trent in a series of grassy terraces. The church (St Mary) is a cruciform structure with a central tower. The north arcade was built about 1200. There is a fine series of effigies and brasses in the north transept. Note (1) chancel roof, 1503; (2) south door to family vault, 1632; (3) the cross on the west end of the nave roof. The most remarkable member of the Clifton family, which has been connected with the village from a very early date, was Sir Gervase Clifton (born, 1587), married seven times; he was a staunch Royalist, and was noted for his generosity and hospitality. He it is who is mentioned in the lines, written by Queen Elizabeth:

“ Gervase the Gentle, Stanhope the stout,  
Markham the lion, and Sutton the lout.”



CLETON GROVE





## CLIFTON—CLUMBER HOUSE

Visitors to the Grove should make themselves familiar with Kirk White's narrative poem of "The Fair Maid of Clifton." Near the village is a large piece of open field, 330 acres in extent, known as Clifton Pasture. Every year this land is divided among the farmers, the unit of division being a "gate" ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres).

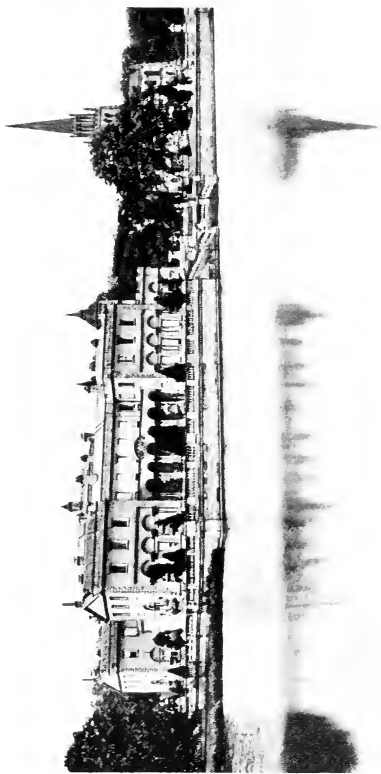
*Clifton, North and South* (R. Station), are situated in the north of that part of the country which lies to the east of the Trent. The church (St George) lies between the two villages. In the year 1819 the father of Charles Kingsley was curate here. The ferry over the river is an old one, and formerly the ferryman could claim a meal at the vicarage at Christmas, while his dog had a right to the best place near the fire, to the exclusion of the vicarage dog. A little to the south of South Clifton, on the main road, a large embankment marks the place where, in the great flood of 1795, the Trent burst its banks, flooded the adjoining parish of Spalford, and flowed eastwards to join the Witham.

*Clipstone* (2 m. S.W. of Edwinstowe) has the scanty ruins of a hunting lodge where King John used frequently to resort, whence its name, "King John's Palace." Here Richard I. met William the Lion of Scotland on his return from the Crusades. By the side of the road from Ollerton to Mansfield, and situated about 1 m. N.W. of Clipstone, is the "Parliament Oak," a veteran tree beneath which King John is said to have consulted with his nobles when the news of the Welsh rebellion arrived. (See *Nottingham Castle*.)

*Clumber House* (for admission apply to the estate office at Worksop. The house may only

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

be visited when the family are not in residence). This house has less history attached to it than any of its great neighbours. Before 1770 the park was a barren waste, boggy and untenanted, except by rabbits. There may have been a hunting box on the estate, but of that we cannot be certain. In our description of Haughton and Welbeck it will be found stated how these two estates were once in the same hands as Clumber, and how it fell out that Welbeck went by marriage to the dukes of Portland. The Holles estates, of which Clumber formed part, came to the Pelhams, who, as dukes of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, also owned Nottingham Castle. Failure of male heirs led to a reconstruction of the dukedom and Thomas Pelham became duke of both Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Newcastle-under-Lyme. On his death the former dukedom became extinct, while the latter passed to his nephew, Henry Clinton, from whom the present duke is directly descended. The first Duke of Newcastle-under-Lyme had been a politician and courtier, but the new duke was a country gentleman, and having no suitable house on his Clumber estate he caused one to be built in 1770. The architect was Mr Stephen Wright, the designer of the Cambridge University Library Building. The original Clumber House consisted of a large central block with four wings, but in the fire of 1879 the central block was destroyed, and with it whatever may have remained of the somewhat mythical hunting lodge. It is therefore in the wings that we must look for Wright's work, and we cannot fail to be struck by the restraint and delicate touch of this part of the work. In the crimson drawing-room will be found



CLUMBER HOUSE



## CLUMBER HOUSE—COLLINGHAM

a number of contemporary family portraits painted by Hoare of Bristol. The state drawing-room belongs to the time of the fifth duke, and the library to that of the fourth. The great hall was built by Barry after the fire. The gardens owe much to the fourth duke, who became the possessor of Worksop Manor in 1840, and before destroying that house he transferred many of the vases and other gems from the gardens to Clumber. The great lake covers an area of 87 acres, and on it float two vessels. As we traverse Clumber Park (11 m. in circumference, and 3400 acres in extent) it is difficult to believe that it was a barren waste little more than a century ago. A few venerable oaks may remain, the last survivors of Clumber and Hardwick Woods.

*Cockpit Hill.* (See *Calverton.*)

*Coddington* (2½ m. E. of Newark) occupies a slight eminence on the road from Newark to Sleaford. Its houses are red roofed and picturesque. The church (All Saints) is mainly of E.E. character, the plate tracery of the windows of the south aisle being noticeably good. Note (1) Dec. font; (2) six old bench ends; (3) stone seats round the piers. The chancel is modern. In Henry III.'s reign part of this manor was held by Walter de Maresco by the service of providing the king with a new pair of scarlet breeches once a year. Near by is Beacon Hill, where the beacon used to flare when danger threatened the townsmen of Newark.

*Collingham Station*, on the Nottingham and Lincoln branch of the Midland Railway, serves the two adjoining villages of North and South Collingham, situated by the side of the sluggish

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

little river Fleet. Many attempts have been made to give these villages a Roman origin, as well as to place within their borders a large monastery, but beyond the fact that the Roman station of Crocolana was near by, at Brough, no evidence in support of these theories can be advanced. Nowadays the most interesting features of Collingham are its two fine churches. South Collingham church (St John the Baptist) has a nave of three bays, the north arcade of which is of fine Norman character. Probably the two eastern bays were finished about 1120, while the western arch dates from some thirty years later, when the whole arcade was carved with the wealth of zigzag ornamentation which now adorns it. The tower and fine south arcade were built early in the 13th cent., the aisles and chancel in the 14th cent. and the east window inserted in the 15th cent. Note (1) 13th-cent. font; (2) the grotesque on the north side of the nave—a beast with a man's head in its mouth; the meaning of this is not clear unless it be intended to refer to the legend of St Edmund; (3) the registers, which are particularly rich in Puritan Christian names. North Collingham church (All Saints) is later in style than its sister church, but even more beautiful. The north respond of the tower arch is the earliest feature of the existing building (*c.* 1200). The nave arcades (1225-1250) are the finest work in the church. The chancel arch, of the same period, is of much simplicity and beauty. The rest of the church compares but poorly with the nave. Note (1) font-cover, 1684-1700; (2) north porch and door, 15th cent.; (3) unidentified effigy in north porch; (4) the heraldic misericords, now placed above the

## COLLINGHAM STATION—COLWICK

chancel arch ; (5) the stones in the churchyard wall marking the heights of the floods ; that bearing the date 1795, the year when the Trent and Witham joined, is the base of a churchyard cross. In the High Street of North Collingham are the steps and lower part of the fine crocketed village cross.

*Colston Basset* ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  m. S. of Bingham) is one of the prettiest villages in this part of the county. Its surrounding lanes are shaded by the trees of the park and the presence of the little river Smite adds a pleasant feature. But a sad act of vandalism has to be recorded : a few years ago the old church, which stands a short distance from the village, was dismantled and a new erection put up in the village. Nothing but the bare walls and a bed of nettles remain to mark what was once a church showing all styles of architecture and celebrated for its peal of bells. This was one of the finest churches in the south of the county, and its dismantling was an irreparable mistake. The screen is now in Long Whatton Church, Leicestershire. Burials still take place in the old churchyard, which can be approached by a footpath across the park. The cross in the village was reconstructed in 1831 on the old base, to commemorate the coronation of William IV.

*Colwick* (R. Station). Thirty years ago this was described as "one of the most picturesque spots within the reach of the townsfolk of Nottingham" ; but this can no longer be said to be true, for the Hall, having passed successively through the hands of the de Colwicks, Byrons and Musters, is now a brick mansion (1776) turned into a hotel, and in front of it is the Nottingham race-

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

course. The Hall and the church lie a considerable distance from the village. The church (St John the Baptist) is interesting on account of the tombs of the Byrons and Musters. Round the nave are a series of thirty-two carved panels, which were probably inserted when the church was restored and practically rebuilt in 1684. Note the memorial to Mrs Musters (d. 1832), Byron's Mary Chaworth. The pleasantest way to reach Colwick is to take the steamer which plies all summer between Trent Bridge at Nottingham and the landing stage near the hall.

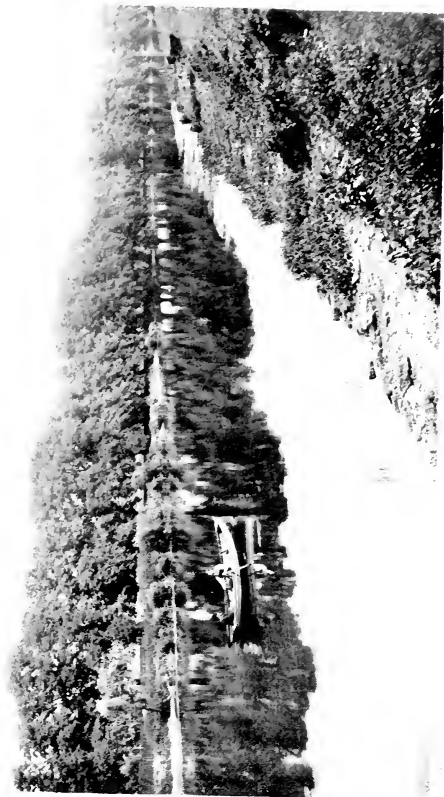
*Conjure Alders.* (See *Walesby*.)

*Copmanhurst.* (See *Fountain Dale*.)

*Costock* (2 m. E. of East Leake) used to be known by the unabbreviated form of its name, Cortlingstock. The small church (St Giles) is almost entirely built in the Dec. style. Note (1) tomb outside the chancel; (2) low-side window; (3) north doorway; (4) the pre-Norman stone built into one of the buttresses; (5) 15th-cent. bench ends. There is a fine view northwards from the hill to the south of the village.

*Cotgrave* ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. S. of Radcliffe-on-Trent) is situated among the small hills which give so much beauty to this sparsely populated district. The church (All Saints) contains memorials of the Scrimshire family and some good modern woodwork. Note "King Charles' Rules" hung up under the tower. In 1839, during some work on the Fosse Way near here, three bodies, which are supposed to have been buried in the 5th cent., were dug up. In this part of its course through the county this Roman road is little more than a very rough lane, but it is well worth while to





THE TREN F. COLWICK TREES



## CONJURE ALDERS—COSSALL

walk along it, for the scenery has considerable charm.

*Cotham* (R. Station) is a scattered village by the side of the Great Northern Railway. The church (St Michael) stands in an isolated position in a field and need not be visited. In 1830 a fine west tower and one bay of the nave were taken down. The epitaph of Elizabeth Hadkins, who died in 1767, is curious :

“Stop passenger, until my life you’ve read ;  
The living may get knowledge from ye dead :  
Six times three years I liv’d a virgin life :  
Seven times two years I was a virtuous wife ;  
Eight times six years I liv’d a widow chaste ;  
Tired of this mortal life ; and now I rest.”

A younger branch of the Markham family had a house here—the largest in the district—which has disappeared. From it Sir John Markham set out to distinguish himself at the battle of Stoke Field, which must have been largely visible from the windows of the Hall.

(See *East Stoke* for the road from there to Cotham.)

*Cossall* stands on an eminence about 1 m. from Ilkeston Midland Station. Its church (St Catherine), which was partly rebuilt in 1842, contains a good font and a piece of old stained glass representing St Catherine. Note the monument in the churchyard to Shaw, Waplington and Wheatley, three heroes of Waterloo. To the west of the church are the picturesque almshouses, founded in 1685 by George Willoughby. There are eight houses and a chapel. From Cossall there is a good view over the thriving

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Erewash Valley, with the town of Ilkeston on the opposite slope. The earliest known mention of coal dug in Notts. comes from Cossall in 1348.

*Cottam* (R. Station) has a small chapel with a rich Norman door. This is the most convenient station for Littleborough.

*Cresswell Crags* lie on the border of Notts. and Derbyshire, not far to the west of Worksop. Here is a long ravine cut out of the magnesian limestone, and on each side are some very deep caves in which numerous remains of animals, long extinct in England, have been found.

(See prehistoric notes in *Introduction*.)

*Cromwell* (2 m. S. of Carlton-on-Trent Station) has given its name to a family whose fame is national, the first of whom to achieve a reputation was Ralph, Lord Cromwell, Lord Treasurer of England, who is buried in his church at Tattershall in Lincolnshire. There is a well-restored church (St Giles), in which traces of "herring-bone" masonry have been found. The nave, south door and windows of north side of the chancel were all built in the 13th cent. The south side of the chancel is lighted by some excellent 14th-cent. windows, and the east window has Flamboyant tracery. The tower is said to have been built in 1427. In the churchyard is the base of the cross supporting a sundial.

*Cropwell Bishop* (4 m. S.E. of Radcliffe-on-Trent) has large plaster works supplied by the gypsum found to the south of this place. The church (St Giles) has an E.E. nave and a good early Perp. east window. Note (1) Tudor roof supported by grotesque brackets; (2) carved

## COTTAM—DARLTON

bench ends late 14th cent. ; (3) fragments of old glass in east window of south aisle ; (4) the piece of wall-plate timber bearing the nailhead ornament of the 13th cent.

Pleasant walks may be had along the towpath of the Grantham Canal, and for those who are not afraid of a long walk we would suggest a return to Nottingham by this path.

*Cropwell Butler*, which lies 1 m. to the north of Cropwell Bishop, is a chapelry of Tythby.

*Crow Park Station* is the station (G.N.) of Sutton-on-Trent.

*Cuckney* (3 m. N. of Warsop) is pleasantly situated on the river Poulter, which between here and Carburton has been formed into a number of picturesque artificial lakes. The church (St Mary), which has been well restored, has an exceptionally long nave of six bays with a north aisle, which appears to have been built about 1200. A 13th-cent. outer door leads through the porch into the church by a late Norman door. The tower has 13th-cent. belfry windows. Note (1) font ; (2) stoup in the porch. The manor passed from the De Cuckneys by marriage to the Fauconbridges, who held it by the tenure of shoeing the king's horse when he came to Sherwood Forest.

*Darlton* (3 m. N.E. of Tuxford) has a church (St John) with a good Trans. south door, two 16th-cent. brasses, and a chalice dated 1579. Near to Darlton is the moated site of Kingshaugh, once a hunting lodge of King John, which seems to have been of some strength and importance, for Thoroton records that here Earl John made war against his brother Richard I. The moats

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

may be traced with considerable clearness throughout their whole course.

*Dorket Head.* (See *Arnold.*)

*Drakeholes* ( $\frac{1}{4}$  m. N.W. of Ranskill) is 1 m. from Everton. It is situated at a narrow part of the hills through which the Chesterfield Canal passes by means of a short tunnel. There is said to have been a Roman station at this spot. It is worth mentioning that good accommodation (a thing rare in this part of the county) may be obtained at the White Swan Inn here.

*Drayton, East* ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  m. N.E. of Tuxford), once had a Hall belonging to the Rayner family. There is a large church (Sts. Peter and Paul) with a fine Dec. stone-roofed porch retaining the remains of a stoup. There is nothing of interest inside.

*Drayton, West* (3 m. N.W. of Tuxford), stands on a piece of rising ground between the Meden and the Maun. Its little aisleless church (St John the Baptist) has a Norman south door with a stoup beside it.

*Dunham-on-Trent* ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of Fledborough) stands near a toll bridge across the Trent, which is of great beauty here. The church (St Peter) is noteworthy for the four great Perp. windows in the tower.

*Eakring*, which lies  $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. from both Ollerton and Kirklington Stations, consists, for the most part, of a street 1 m. in length. A particular object of interest is the church (St Andrew), in which is a brass to the Rev. William Mompesson, the heroic clergyman who braved the plague at Eyam in Derbyshire. Sir George Savile presented him with the living of Eakring, where he remained rector

## DORKET HEAD—EDWALTON

for thirty-eight years, until his death in 1708. Note (1) font, 1674; (2) two carvings in the south porch of the coat-of-arms of Queen Elizabeth, which came from a house in the village, formerly an inn, where that ubiquitous monarch is said to have slept; (3) figure over west door; (4) poor-box "Remember ye Poor 1718"; (5) Jacobean pulpit.

*Eastwood* (R. Station) owes its rapid growth entirely to collieries. The church was built in 1858.

*Eaton* (2 m. S. of Retford) is the traditional site of the battle of the Idle, fought in 617 between Redwald of East Anglia and Ethelfrith of Northumbria. We consider Rainworth is a more probable spot for this battle, and refer the reader to that place. The church is modern. There is a footpath along the left bank of the river to Retford, for those who prefer it.

*Edingley* (1 m. S.W. of Kirklington) has a church (St Giles) which has been pulled about and made smaller to such an extent that the only curious thing about it is that it exists at all.

*Edwalton* is a very small village with a mean church (St Lawrence), which was founded about 1166 by Robert Fitz Ranulph and given to the Priory of Beauchief in Derbyshire, not, however, in expiation of the murder of Thomas à Becket, as the story has it; for Fitz Ranulph had nothing to do with that crime. Near the porch is a tombstone to Mrs Rebecca Freeland, who died 1741, bearing these lines:

"She drank good Ale, good Punch and Wine,  
And liv'd to th' Age of ninety-nine."

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Note the diapered brick tower of Marian date.

*Edwinstowe* (R. Station) is, perhaps, the best centre for visiting the most delightful parts of Sherwood Forest. Birklands and Bilhagh are within easy reach, and there many of the finest trees will be found, including the popular and much-spoiled Major Oak, named after Major Rooke, a local antiquary of note. So innumerable are the walks which may be taken in this part of the forest that it is quite useless to point out any one or other surpassing the rest. The church (St Mary) is quite one of the best in this district. It is largely of 13th-cent. date, and its beautiful spire is a landmark far to the south. Above the south chancel door is a carved stone which is said to have been used as the standard foot of 18 in. employed in measuring forest land. At present the stone is not much more than 14 in. long. It has been claimed that it was to Edwinstowe that King Edwin's body was brought after the battle of Heathfield (633), and from what we know of this obscure period it does not seem unlikely that such may have been the case. It is worth while noting that Robin Hood and Maid Marian are reputed to have been married in Edwinstowe church.

*Egmanton* (1 m. S. of Tuxford G.C. Station) lies in a hollow by the side of a little stream. The church (St Mary) has a south door and font which cannot have been made much later than 1100, though the nave is now Trans. in character. On the south side is the Savile Chantry, in the windows of which two small pieces of good old stained glass remain. The altar-table in the north aisle is dated 1685. The church has recently



## EDWINSTOWE—EPPERSTONE

been restored by the Duke of Newcastle and the parishioners. One family here have been accustomed for generations to bury its dead "in ham." A large ham is kept ready, and after the funeral a feast is held at which the ham is eaten. Just behind the vicarage are the mound and earthworks of a castle, probably built soon after the Conquest by Roger de Busli. On the road between Egmanton and Kirton is the site of the Hall, once the residence of the Laycocks.

*Elkesley* (4 m. S.E. of Checkerhouse Station) has a church (All Saints) of somewhat heavy character. The old font does duty as a pump trough in the village. Several pleasant walks may be taken in the direction of Clumber and the Normanton Inn.

*Elston* (5 m. S.W. of Newark and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.W. of Cotham) will be for ever associated with the Darwin family, who came here from Lincolnshire in the 17th cent. Here were born Robert Darwin and his more famous brother, Dr Erasmus Darwin, the grandfather of Charles Darwin, and a scientist of no small repute. In a field is a deserted chapel with a fine 12th-cent. doorway. The church (All Saints), which has two beautiful early Dec. windows on the south side of the chancel, has many memorials of the Darwins.

*Elton* (R. Station) is a small, pleasantly situated village possessing little attraction. The large Hall is the property, and one of the seats, of Lord Grantley. The church (St Mary) is an extremely mean building which like many others in Notts. has once been larger. It contains some old altar rails, but little else. Part of the stocks remain in the village.

*Epperstone* (2 m. N. of Lowdham) is embowered

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

in a profusion of trees, which gives much charm to this pretty little village. Here were three manor houses, of which nothing remains. The church (All Saints) has a remarkable nave arcade (*temp.* Edward I.), an aisle, tower and spire of good 15th-cent. work, with a good base plinth of the same date. The fine 14th-cent. chancel was pulled down, probably in the 17th cent., and a brick erection substituted. Note (1) effigy of a man at east end of south aisle, slightly earlier than that at Oxton; (2) rude Norman tub font; (3) 12th and 13th cent. incised slabs. John Odingsells, whose tablet will be seen, was a member for Notts. in the Barebones Parliament.

*Everton* (3 m. E. of Bawtry) stands on the range of low hills which run east and west in the north of the county. It commands a fine view over the valley of the Idle to the south, and across the marshy Cars to the north. The church (Holy Trinity) contains a fine Norman tympanum, chancel arch and tower arch. At a restoration in 1841 the south transept and apse were built, and a copy of the old font, which is now in the vicarage garden, was made. Traces of fortifications, believed to be Danish, have been found on some of the hills in the neighbourhood.

*Farndon* (2 m. S.W. of Newark) is situated a little to the west of the Fosse Way. The church has a 14th-cent. south arcade. An inscription on the tower shows that considerable repairs were done in 1598. Dr Cox is of opinion that some of the masonry of the north wall of the nave is pre-Conquest work.

*Farnsfield* (R. Station) is a large village with a church (St David) built in 1860. The old font

## EVERTON—FINNINGLEY

was placed in the churchyard as recently as 1880 and, unfortunately, still remains out of doors. Two stages of the old tower (c. 1400) remain. North-east is Hexgrave Park, where are traces of a camp which was probably used by the Romans; south-west is Combs Farm, where another earth-work is to be seen.

*Felley Priory* (3 m. W. of Annesley) was an Augustinian house, founded by Ralph Britto of Annesley in 1156. Until 1260 it was subject to Worksop Priory. The very little that is left of it is incorporated in a beautiful brick-gabled house, the residence of Mr Gerard Oakes. The property was formerly in the hands of the Millingtons, of whom the best known is Gilbert Millington, the Regicide. The priory, or abbey as it is incorrectly called, occupies a beautifully sheltered position at the head of a valley sloping to the south, and fully bears out the dictum that the founders of these religious houses had an unerring eye for beauty of position.

*Fenton.* (See *Sturton-le-Steeple.*)

*Finningley* (R. Station), which is situated in a curiously projecting piece of Notts., is the most northerly village in the county. It is connected with the Frobishers, of whom Sir Martin Frobisher, the great Elizabethan seaman, is the best-known owner of the manor, though he was not born here. The church (Holy Trinity) has a Norman tower, good south door and font, while the chancel is of 14th-cent. date. In the porch are a number of incised slabs. The pulpit is dated 1603. The country here is extremely flat and to the east of the village much resembles the fens of the eastern counties. The inn called the Horse and Stag derived its name

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

from an incident which happened in 1707. During a stag hunt a wounded stag (or red deer) apparently attacked its hunter, who was helped by his horse, which attacked the stag, to subdue the wounded animal.

*Fiskerton* has a station on the Midland Railway, Nottingham and Lincoln Branch. It is a great resort of anglers. (See *East Stoke*.)

*Flawborough* (2 m. from Elton and Orston Station) has little to recommend it except the magnificent view from the churchyard. Close by may be seen Thoroton spire on the other side of the river Smite, then Sibthorpe, with its stone dovecote, and on the right Shelton among the trees, while in the distance Elston and Cotham appear. The church was rebuilt in 1840 and retains only a Norman circular font with shallow arcading round it, and a fine Norman west door. There is a painting of the church as it was previous to the rebuilding. From the road between Flawborough and the windmill there is a good view of Belvoir Castle and Bottesford spire.

*Flawforth* (1 m. E. of Ruddington). Nothing remains of the village which occupied the top of a slight hill. That the place was of some importance is witnessed by the fact that the church was the mother church of the chapelries of Ruddington and Edwalton. Various descriptions of the building remain, which show it to have been of considerable size. It was not used after 1718, and was pulled down in 1773. In the Castle Museum at Nottingham may be seen three effigies of St Peter, the Virgin Mary and a bishop, which were found here in 1779.

*Fledborough* occupies an isolated position by the

## FISKERTON—FOUNTAIN DALE

side of the Trent, which may have had something to do with the fact that from 1721-1753 the church was an imitation Gretna Green, for the rector, the Rev. W. Sweetapple, was only too ready to grant licences. Here, on 11th August 1820, Dr Thomas Arnold, the well-known headmaster of Rugby School, married Mary, the daughter of the Rev. John Penrose, one of whose sons married Miss Cartwright of East Markham, the authoress, amongst other works, of "Mrs Markham's History of England" and who himself was buried here on 17th September 1829 by John Keble of Oxford. The church (St Gregory) has a 12th-cent. tower and a 14th-cent. nave and aisles. The chancel is modern. Note (1) the interesting effigies and incised slabs, especially the floriated cross under the tower; (2) the 14th-cent. glass; (3) the remains of the Easter Sepulchre.

*Fleet, The.* (See *Besthorpe*.)

*Flintham* (5 m. N. of Bingham) was for long the residence of the Hose family, whose house occupied the site of the present Hall, in which lives Mr Thoroton Hildyard, a lineal descendant of the brother of the local historian, Robert Thoroton. The church (St Augustine), which is curiously designed, was rebuilt, with the exception of the chancel, in 1827, when it lost its transepts. The cross-legged effigy of the knight in chain mail bears the arms of the Hoses.

*Fountain Dale* (4 m. S. of Mansfield) is a modern house built amid beautiful wooded surroundings at the source of the Rainworth Water. Unfortunately coal mining operations have caused the lake to dry up. In the woods is Friar Tuck's Cell, Copmanhurst, and if the merry friar chose

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

this site himself, he must have had an eye for beauty in nature, for there are few more charming, unspoilt pieces of country than that between Fountain Dale and Rainworth. It was here that Robin Hood first met Friar Tuck and was unceremoniously tumbled into the waters of the moat. Sir Walter Scott was a frequent visitor here.

*Gamston* (3 m. S. of Retford), which stands on the right bank of the Idle, has a church (St Peter) with an early Perp. tower, which has few rivals in this district. A sepulchral slab of a priest and an effigy vested in chasuble, alb, stole and maniple, form the objects of interest inside. As early as 1673 the Baptists are known to have had a meeting-house here.

*Gamston*, a hamlet adjacent to West Bridgford, is of no interest.

*Gedling* (R. Station) is a fair-sized village occupying the southern slope of a long hill in the valley of the Trent. The church (All Saints) is mostly of 13th-cent. date, with the exception of the conspicuous tower and spire, which belong to the next century. Note the incised slab with its curious effigy. In the churchyard are the graves of two of the greatest cricketers Notts. has produced—Arthur Shrewsbury and Alfred Shaw.

*Girton* (4 m. N. of Collingham Station), though once as large as North Collingham, has shrunk to small measure. The surrounding country is marshy and sandy, and to the east of the main road, both north and south of the village, considerable sand dunes have been formed by the drift sand from the Trent blown by the prevalent south-west wind. The church (St Cecilia) is a small building (E.E. and Perp.).

*Gonalston* (1 m. N.E. of Lowdham), in the midst of pleasant scenery and not far from the

## GAMSTON—GRANBY

Trent, occupies a position by the side of the Dover Beck, well sheltered from the north. The church (St Lawrence) was almost entirely rebuilt in 1852, but still retains its late 13th-cent. chancel. In the north aisle of the nave are three effigies of the De Heriz family, the old font and stoup. Between here and Thurgarton was a hospital, called Bradebusk, founded by William de Heriz (*temp.* Henry III.).

*Gotham* ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. N.W. of East Leake) has more than a passing interest for us, for here is the *locale* of an extremely interesting group of folk tales, which deserve more expert examination than they have hitherto received. Everyone will be familiar with the Merry Tales of Gotham, and know how the inhabitants of that village tried to make a hedge round a cuckoo that it might sing to them for ever. This and many other foolish tales were first written down by Andrew Boord, a merry-andrew of the 16th cent. who came from Sussex. The three facts that there is a Gotham, a manor house, in Sussex, that Boord owned land thereabouts, and that the sea is mentioned in one or more of the stories, have led to the theory that these stories belong to Sussex. There can be little doubt, however, that Notts. has a right to these stories. A traditional Cuckoo Hill is still shown, and not far away was the meeting-place of the Hundred of Rushcliffe. The church (St Lawrence) was built chiefly in the 13th and 14th cent., and contains some monuments to the St Andrew family, some of whom were also buried at West Leake.

*Granby* ( $\frac{3}{4}$  m. N.E. of Barnston) stands on the top of a steep slope, the southern end of an

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

escarpment which runs south-south-west from Flawborough. The church (All Saints) is but a ruin of what it once was and a recent restoration has not been able to make it more than presentable. The 13th-cent. blocked-up south doorway is good, and fourteen old bench ends remain, all of different design. Note (1) pulpit, 1629; (2) a Perp. east window, whose tracery and jambs were composed of moulded terra-cotta, was taken down in 1888 and rebuilt in stone; (3) the floor slab in memory of a sister of Archbishop Secker.

The Marquis of Granby is the title taken by the eldest son of the Duke of Rutland.

*Greasley* ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of Watnall) is a parish with a large but uninteresting church (St Mary), which contains a 15th-cent. bell. From the Greasley family the manor passed to the Cantilupes, the founders of Beauvale Priory, who in 1340 obtained permission to fortify their house, which was henceforth known as Greasley Castle, of which traces may be seen near the church. This parish is the second largest in the county, and out of it several ecclesiastical districts have been formed.

*Gringley-on-the-Hill* (3 m. W. of Beckingham) is a compact village standing well above the surrounding country and commanding remarkable views in all directions. Close by the church (Sts. Peter and Paul), a 12th and 13th cent. structure, badly in need of a thorough overhauling, is a good example of a village cross, with an octagonal shaft and niche. To the east is Beacon Hill where traces of a camp remain. The position is unique in the county, commanding the approaches for thirty miles in all directions, and rendering the unseen arrival of an enemy extremely unlikely.



## GREASLEY—HALLOUGHTON

In 1644 this hill was occupied by Prince Rupert prior to his succouring Newark.

*Grove* ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  m. E.S.E. of Retford) is built on a steep hill facing south, and possesses a Hall and park, in which are many fine trees. The Hall was built by the Hercys early in the 16th cent., and is now the property of the Harcourt Vernons. The church (St Helen) was rebuilt in 1882 from the designs of Mr C. Hodgson Fowler, on a site to the north of that of its predecessor. Two slabs, one of which is to the memory of Hugh Hercy and his wife, 1455, alone remain.

On Castle Hill, between Retford and Grove, are extensive earthworks of a hill fortress, to which we may assign a pre-Roman date, though probably they were in use as lately as the Civil War.

*Grymston.* (See *Wellow.*)

*Gunthorpe* (1 m. S. of Lowdham) lies on the north side of a toll-bridge across the Trent. The manor was given by Henry III. to Simon de Montfort.

*Halam* (2 m. W. of Southwell) is placed with its back against a steep hill, and has a church (St Michael. Medieval Sanctus bell) with a stumpy tower which was probably built in the 12th cent. though it now appears to be of 13th-cent. date. The Norman chancel arch is good, and there is a curious piscina and some 15th-cent. glass in the chancel.

Note (1) Elizabethan altar-table; (2) late Renaissance candlesticks; (3) late Norman font and Jacobean font-cover.

*Halloughton* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. N.W. of Bleasby) is in a very retired position in the midst of hilly country, and one might pass by frequently without observing it. Thanks to guide-books it has been associated

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

with ghastly and unsavoury stories of a nunnery here, underground passages to Thurgarton Priory, and infants' skeletons. There never was a nunnery here and the lie of the land is not at all favourable to underground passages. The church (Holy Trinity) has been almost entirely rebuilt but retains its original east end. The 15th-cent. screen is good. Opposite the church is a portion of the late 14th-cent. house belonging to the prebend. In the village is a medieval dovecote.

Halloughton was a favourite resort of Henry Kirk White who, it is said, used to meditate in the churchyard.

*Harby* (R. Station) is very unapproachable, especially from Notts., but it is of much national importance, for it was the death-place of one of the best of English queens, Eleanor of Castile, wife of Edward I. On 11th September 1290 the King and Queen arrived at Harby and stayed at the house of Richard de Weston, which is believed to have been close to the church. As Eleanor was unwell, she remained here while the King paid several visits to neighbouring houses. On 20th November the King returned to Harby, only to find that his wife was far too ill to travel. The evening of 27th November saw the end, and Edward was left to mourn her of whom he wrote: "I loved her tenderly in her lifetime, and I do not cease to love her now she is dead." The stages of the funeral journey to London were marked by the erection of the well-known Eleanor Crosses. No trace of that at Harby remains, nor indeed does the village contain anything of merit, for the church is quite modern. There are memorials of the Queen in the church.

## HARBY—HAUGHTON

*Harworth* (3 m. S.W. of Bawtry) is a pleasant little red-roofed village, with a church that is somewhat difficult to find. This church (All Saints) has a good Norman chancel arch and a Trans. south doorway. Note (1) the font in the north transept; (2) the hagioscope, which has been turned round at some time. In this parish is Serlby Park and Hall, the residence of Viscount Galway.

*Hatfield Chase.* (See *The Cars.*)

*Haughton* (5 m. N.W. of Tuxford) is a place of associations rather than of sights, for the little ruined chapel, standing lonely by the river Meden, in its encircling clump of trees, is all that remains of the pomp and ceremony that once made the name of Haughton known throughout England. In Henry VIII.'s reign there was no finer house in Notts. than Haughton, which at this period passed from the Stanhopes to William Holles, Lord Mayor of London, the son of a baker of that city. It passed to the Lord Mayor's second son, another William, who rebuilt the old house of the Stanhopes and lived there in such lavish style that his name became a byword for all that was hospitable. This "good Lord of Haughton" kept a company of stage players of his own—an unusual thing at that time. He was succeeded by his grandson, John, a thrifty and learned man, who, during the period when the crown was always short of money, managed to buy from King James and Buckingham the earldom of Clare. He was succeeded by his son John who, during the civil strife of the first half of the 17th cent., was "often of both parties and of no advantage to either." It is, however, this John's brother, Denzil, who is

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

best known of all the Holles. He was the intrepid fighter who held down the Speaker in his chair while the House of Commons passed anti-royal resolutions, and who was, later, one of the famous five whom the king tried to arrest. In the later struggles, Denzil Holles found himself a Presbyterian, in opposition to Oliver Cromwell, the leader of the Independents. A sojourn on the Continent was the result, and when Charles II. came to his own, Denzil Holles was created Baron Holles of Ifield. He died in 1679-1680. Two generations later, the Earl of Clare married the heiress of the Cavendishes, and so came into possession of the Welbeck estates. A lack of male heirs ended in the Welbeck estates passing to the Dukes of Portland, and the Holles estates to the Pelhams, who, in 1715, were created Dukes of Newcastle. But before this, Haughton had ceased to be the residence of the Earl of Clare, for he found Welbeck more suited to the needs of a Restoration house and allowed his old home to fall into disrepair.

To-day nothing but a farmhouse marks the site. The old chapel is still there, but, alas! in ruins. It was formerly of the Norman style and later additions have been made. In the north chapel is the effigy of a woman, while outside the south door are two more figures, which are becoming rapidly effaced. The condition of the effigies no doubt gave birth to the tradition that all those who were buried here had had their throats cut. All the surviving effigies commemorate members of the Stanhope family. This little building may be reached either by a footpath across the fields from Lound Hall, near Bevercotes ( $\frac{1}{2}$  m.), or by first turn to the left after crossing the second bridge





HAWTON CHURCH. EASTER SEPULCHRE

## HAUGHTON—HAWTON

on the road from Bothamsall to Haughton and across the fields ( $\frac{1}{2}$  m.).

*Hawksworth* ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of Aslockton) has a church (St Mary and All Saints) which was rebuilt in 1851. It is worth visiting if only for the tympanum inscribed as a dedication stone of the church and for a so-called "Saxon Cross," which has been proved to be the lintel of the doorway supporting the tympanum.

*Hawton* (2 m. S. of Newark), situated on the banks of the little river Devon, possesses a church noteworthy among village churches. The nave is E.E., the chancel Dec. and the tower Perp. In 1330 Sir Robert de Compton built the chancel, and was buried in the canopied recess on the north side. The builders employed were that talented school of craftsmen, who are thought to have had their headquarters in this district, at Southwell, and to whom we owe the Chapter-house in the Minster there. The Easter Sepulchre is a remarkable piece of work on account of the wealth of its detail and the consummate skill displayed in its carving, while the sedilia, piscina, and Sir Robert de Compton's tomb are worthy companions of the Easter Sepulchre. The tracery of the east window should be noticed. Under the tower may be seen the casement of the brass of Sir Robert de Compton, who died in 1308. Had this brass remained it would have been one of the earliest dated specimens in England. The tower and clerestory were built in 1491 by Sir Thomas Molineux of Sefton and Hawton, whose arms (the cross molines) are much in evidence. The tower door is original, and bears the inscription "Jesu Mercy, Lady Helpe."

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

*Hayton* ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of East Retford) has a church (St Peter) with a beautiful 13th-cent. nave arcade and an interesting 14th-cent. south porch, with one of the stone roofs so common in these parts. From the hills to the east of Hayton a very extensive view may be had. There is said to have been a castle here, but no trace except the name remains.

*Headon* ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.E. of Retford) belonged to the Wasteney family from the reign of Edward III. Sir Hardolph Wasteney rebuilt the Hall in 1710, but it was taken down shortly before 1800. One or two of the seven fine avenues of trees which converged on the Hall may still be seen between Headon and Grove. The church (St Peter) was restored in 1885, when the north and south aisles were shortened. The nave was built in the 13th cent. There is a good Jacobean pulpit with a canopy and an old oak chest.

*Hemlock Stone.* (See *Bramcote* and *Physical Features.*)

*Hexgrave Park.* (See *Farnsfield.*)

*Hickling* (2 m. N.E. of Upper Broughton) is a large village penned into the south-west corner of the valley of the Smite. The church (St Wilfrid) was chiefly built in the 13th cent. The tower has been rebuilt, and the chancel is modern. In the south aisle is a pre-Norman carved sarcophagus lid, considered to be one of the finest hitherto found in England. Built into the exterior of the west wall of the south aisle is a 13th-cent. coffin slab, with a foliated cross of unusually rich design carved in relief. In the chancel is one of the two brasses to ecclesiastics



## HAYTON—HOLME

which remain in the county. During the early 18th cent. an artist in tombstones lived here, to judge by the number of stones of considerable beauty of lettering, which are in the churchyard. The letters are nearly always carved in relief. One epitaph at least deserves quotation. It is dated 1725, and is in memory of one John Smith :

“This world’s a city full of crooked streets,  
Death is ye market-place where all men meets,  
If life were merchandise yt men cold buy,  
The rich would often live and poor men die.”

Note (1) 14th-cent. wrought-iron hinges on south door ; (2) a few poppyhead bench ends.

*Hockerton* (3 m. E. of Kirklington). The church (St Nicholas) shows several Norman windows and a chancel arch of the same date. The recess and niche on the south side of the altar are worthy of notice. Note (1) stoup in porch ; (2) bench end 1599 under the tower.

*Hodsock* is the name given to the scattered houses in the district to the south-west of Blyth. Hodsock Priory, the home of Colonel Mellish, was never a priory. It belonged to the Cressy and Clifton families. Nothing but the brick gatehouse (c. 1500) remains of the old Hall.

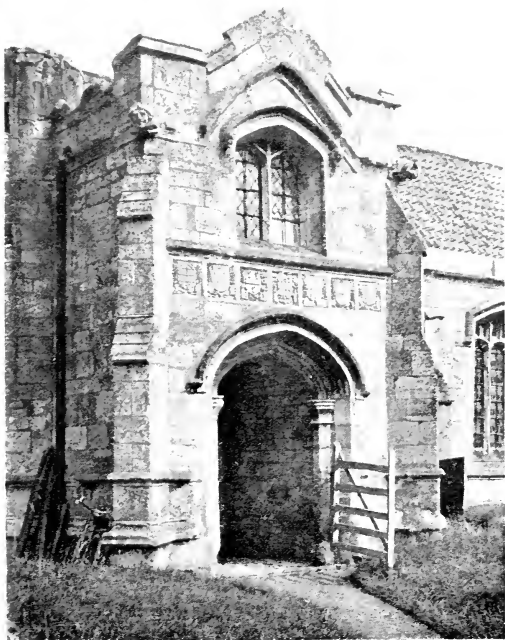
*Holme* (4 m. N. of Newark) belongs territorially to the western bank of the Trent, though now it lies on the east of the river. This is explained by the statement that at some date previous to 1575 the Trent changed its course. The church (St Giles) has a very ancient look, but this is really due to neglect. Though there are remains of the E.E. and Dec. periods, the main structure

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

is of the 15th and 16th cents. Note (1) the tomb of John Barton and his wife, who rebuilt the church and to whom the "fair chapel" is due (end of 15th cent.); (2) the two-storeyed south porch with the seven coats-of-arms across the front. The chamber over the porch is known as "Nan Scott's Chamber," after an old woman who is reputed to have dwelt there to escape the plague in the 17th cent.; (3) the 15th-cent. bench ends.

*Holme Pierrepont* (4 m. E. of Nottingham) is very pleasantly situated among wooded surroundings, but comprises little more than the church, the Hall, and a few farms. Tradition asserts—and we have records to support this tradition—that the Trent has changed its course near Holme Pierrepont, and that at one time this hamlet was on the north bank of the river. The church (St Edmund), though restored in the pseudo-classical style, still retains the E.E. nave arcade and late Perp. tower. The Pierrepont and Manvers tombs are the most interesting features of the interior. Note the mural tablet, opposite the south door, to the poet Oldham, once domestic chaplain to the Earl of Kingston, who wrote the Latin epitaph. The Hall, which used to be the residence of the Earls of Kingston, is close to the church. It was frequently visited by Lord Byron. It is at present unoccupied. A very pleasant walk may be taken by leaving Nottingham by the right bank of the Trent and continuing until the lockhouse is reached, whence a field-path leads into the road about  $\frac{3}{4}$  m. from Holme Pierrepont.

*Hoveringham* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. S. of Thurgarton) is a



HOLME CHURCH, S. POUGH



## H. PIERREPONT—HOVERINGHAM

village on the north bank of the Trent, much visited by excursionists on account of the beauty of the river, which here flows between wooded hills on the south and rich meadows on the north.

In 1865 the old church was destroyed and the present brick church built. Three features of the old building have survived and are worthy of notice—the font, the Norman tympanum and the Goushill tomb. The font, which is a patchwork of the E.E. and Norman periods, appears to have been originally a holy-water stoup—perhaps from Thurgarton Priory. The tympanum represents St Michael defending the Church (the Agnus Dei) from its enemies (dragons), while the *Dextera Dei* issues from the sky. On one side stands St Peter dressed as a bishop, and on the other an ecclesiastic. The Goushill tomb is interesting on account of the curious history of Sir Robert Goushill and his wife. This lady, Elizabeth, was the daughter of Richard Fitzalan, the fourteenth Earl of Arundel, who, with several others, was accused of high treason and beheaded in 1397. Among her father's accusers was Thomas Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham, and afterwards first Duke of Norfolk, and Elizabeth, after the death of her first husband, William de Montacute, married him. In 1398 arose the quarrel between Henry of Hereford (afterwards Henry IV.) and Thomas Mowbray, which resulted in both being banished. Mowbray left his esquire, Robert Goushill, to look after his estates, and when, in 1400, the duke died the duchess married this Robert Goushill, who was murdered after the battle of Shrewsbury, 1403. Before her death,

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

in 1425, Elizabeth had married for the fourth time. She is represented at Hoveringham in her peeress' mantle and ducal coronet beside her husband, who is in full armour. It is not known, however, whether she was really buried here.

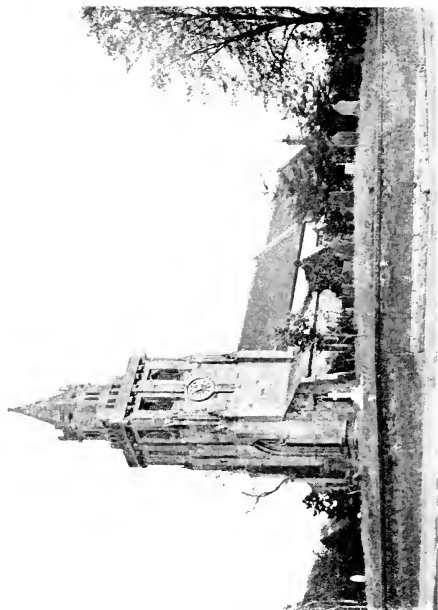
*Hucknall Torkard* (R. Station) is the fifth largest town in the county, with a population of 17,000. It is largely dependent on the surrounding collieries. The church (St Mary Magdalene and All Saints) has little except its late 12th-cent. tower to show us its history, though the south porch and some incised sepulchral slabs are of interest. Here is the tomb of Lord Byron, a shrine visited by many every year. The funeral took place on 16th July 1824, a long procession escorting the poet's remains from Nottingham. (See *Nottingham*.) There is a marble floor tablet presented by the King of Greece. It was once the custom of the sexton to allow visitors to see the coffin, but this practice has, fortunately, been forbidden.

*Hucknall-under-Huthwaite* (1 m. S.E. of Whiteborough Station), now known simply as Huthwaite, is connected with Sutton-in-Ashfield by a service of electric trams. There are few more depressingly sordid places in the county than this, which stands close to the highest point (654 ft.) reached within our borders. From this height a wide view may be had in a westerly direction.

*Huthwaite*. (See *Hucknall-under-Huthwaite*.)

*Kelham* (2 m. N.W. of Newark) is reached by a modern bridge across the Trent, whose course here is comparatively modern, to judge by the scarcity of alluvial deposit near the bridge. The old Hall was destroyed by fire in 1857 and the present one designed by Sir Gilbert Scott. It used to be





KEYWORTH CHURCH



## HUCKNALL TORKARD—KINGSTON

the seat of the Manners Sutton family, but is now a college of priests. The church (St Wilfrid) is of little interest. It was near Kelham that the Scottish army was encamped when, on 6th May 1646, Charles I. surrendered himself.

*Keyworth* ( $1\frac{1}{4}$  m. S. of Plumtree) stands on the top of a hill and commands considerable views of the surrounding country, which is well wooded. The most noticeable feature is the church tower, on which is superimposed an octagonal stone lantern surmounted by a short spire. The arrangement of the buttresses and windows is striking. The church, which is dedicated to St Mary Magdalene, has an unusual ground-plan. The nave was built in the 14th cent. and the chancel in the 13th cent., while the tower is 15th-cent. work. Note the low-side window.

*Kilvington* ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  m. S. of Cotham) consists of but a few cottages and a church, which contains nothing of interest except a medieval chalice and paten dug up in 1897. The altar-table is probably Elizabethan. This church was disused in the first half of last century. In 1843 the fabric was on sale for its materials. However it was rebuilt in 1892.

Adjacent is *Alverton*, a place of no interest.

*Kimberley* (R. Station), though almost a town, is only of recent growth and depends largely on breweries and collieries for its existence. No trace of the old church remains, the ancient rectory having been united to the benefice of Greasley in 1448. The present church was built in 1847.

*Kingshaugh*. (See *Darlington*.)

*Kingston-on-Soar* ( $\frac{3}{4}$  m. N. of Kegworth Station)

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

is small, well built and by no means devoid of beauty, which it owes largely to the first Lord Belper. The Hall, the residence of this family, is a modern house, built shortly after the estate came into the possession of its present owners. The church (St Wilfrid), which was almost entirely rebuilt during 1899-1900, is of the late Perp. style. The Babington Chantry is a remarkable piece of decorative work, without its equal for richness in the county. No trace of the tomb remains, nor does any inscription tell us to whom this monument was erected, yet the frequent occurrence of the rebus "Babe-in-Tun" (it is said that there are two hundred of these babes and tuns) can leave no doubt as to the identity of owners. The exterior of this chantry, with its oriel window, is a charming piece of work. One member, at least, of the Babington family has handed his name down to posterity. Anthony Babington, a hot-headed youth of eighteen, and a Catholic to boot, came to London in 1580 and stoutly espoused the cause of Mary Queen of Scots, in whose favour he led a conspiracy five years later. The discovery of this led to his flight and, says local tradition, concealment on the top of the big tomb. He was arrested and executed in London.

*Kinoulton* (2 m. N.E. of Widmerpool Station) is a long straggling village of somewhat mean appearance, with a church (St Luke) built in 1793 to replace one which stood on Kinoulton Wolds, near the Fosse Way. Of this old church the outline can still be traced. Tradition has it that the Archbishop of York once had a residence here, and it may be due to this that the vicar had, until 1858,

## KINOULTON—KIRTON

the right of proving the wills of his parishioners. On the Colston Basset side of Kinoulton was the village of Newbold, of which all trace has been lost.

*Kirkby* (R. Station) is now composed of three villages: Kirkby-in-Ashfield, perched on a hill, East Kirkby, or, as it used to be called, Kirkby Folly, and Kirkby Woodhouse. The two latter are modern. Kirkby-in-Ashfield is not a very beautiful place to-day, but until 1907 it possessed a most interesting church (St Wilfrid), which, however, early in that year, was destroyed by an incendiary, so that little except the tower and spire remained. It has been rebuilt, but nearly all that was interesting has perished. The stump of the village cross can be seen.

*Kirklington* (R. Station) has a very picturesque millpool spanned by a bridge between the station and the village. The church (St Swithun) is of little interest. There is a Norman font and some old glass. In "English Church Furniture" (Cox and Harvey) the following reference is made to the pulpit here:—"In the pulpit sides are some holes filled up with more recent wood. The explanation is that a sporting rector of the beginning of the 19th cent. used to have this pulpit, which was loose from its base, carried down on weekdays to a swamp in the parish frequented by wild duck, where it served as a screen for the parson when firing at the birds through the holes made for that purpose."

*Kirton* (1 m. N. of Boughton) is situated on the western slope of a somewhat steep hill in a very secluded part of the county. The church (Holy Trinity) is of no particular merit. There are stone seats round the piers of the nave arcade.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

*Kneesall* (5 m. S.E. of Ollerton) occupies a very exalted position, far from all noise and bustle. The church (St Helen) has a Dec. nave with small seats round the piers of both arcades. The tower is 1435-1450. Note (1) old wooden benches; (2) part of Saxon cross; (3) gargoyles.

*Kneeton* (5 m. N.W. of Bingham) stands right on the top of a steep cliff which overhangs the Trent, opposite to Hoveringham, and commands splendid views in this direction. The church (Sts Peter and Paul) is not worth visiting. There is a ferry over the river at this point. Originally this village spelt its name Kneveton, but it was pronounced as it is now spelt. This dropping of medial "v's" in pronunciation is the rule in Notts.

*Lambley* (2½ m. N.E. of Carlton Station, 3 m. W. of Lowdham, the latter is pleasanter) is a straggling and rather sordid village, lying in a hollow among the hills, with a small stream flowing beside the street. The big, broad windows of many of the cottages show that once a large stocking-making industry was carried on here; but now comparatively few of the machines remain; and it is only occasionally that their clicking and rasping noise can be heard, or that the large green globe, filled with water, through which the light is concentrated on to the work, may be seen. Nowadays a large number of the inhabitants are colliers, employed at the neighbouring Digby Colliery. The church (Holy Trinity) is an interesting example of Perp. work, for all but the tower (13th-cent.), with a base course and upper stage of late 14th-cent. date, and the north wall of the chancel (1370-1380), belong to the reign of Henry VI.,

## KNEESALL—LANGAR

when they were erected by Ralph de Cromwell, Lord High Treasurer, whose badge, a purse, may be seen at the east end. Note (1) screen of this date; (2) fragments of old glass; (3) the squint from the two-storeyed chantry chapel, believed to have been founded by the sixth Ralph de Cromwell in 1340; (4) inscribed communion-table, 1619. Lambley Dumbles, a series of small, steep-sided ravines, watered by the Cocker Beck, were once renowned for their beauty. For a cyclist, the pleasantest way to reach Lambley from Nottingham is to ride along the Mapperley Plains—a road commanding extensive views on both sides.

*Laneham* (4 m. N. of Fledborough) is situated on some low-lying ground a little distance from the Trent. Here was once a palace of the Archbishops of York. The church (St Peter) will be found in the little hamlet of Church Laneham. A building full of interest, it stands on the bank overlooking the broad flowing river, along which frequent heavily laden barges pass. There is a large amount of "herring-bone" masonry in the walls, and the south doorway and the chancel arch are of 12th-cent. date. The nave, of three bays, was built in the 13th cent., and the graceful design of the piers and caps cannot fail to please. Note (1) the old wooden door with ironwork; (2) the wooden porch; (3) the Norman font; (4) the tomb of Ellis Markham and Jervase, his son; (5) the pulpit inscribed "Soli Deo honor et gloria."

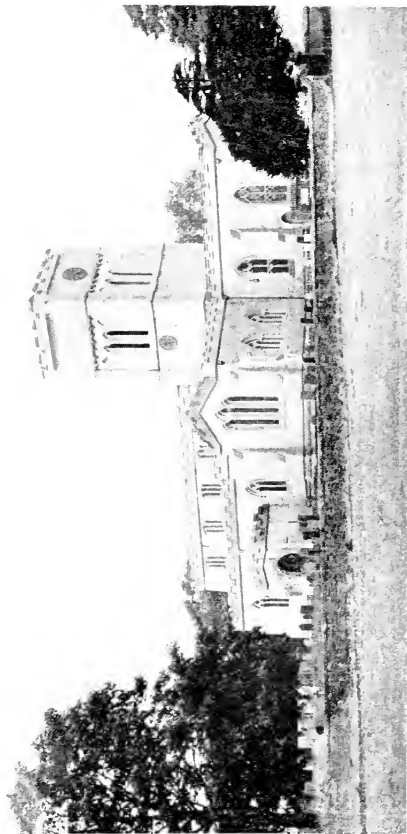
*Langar* (1½ m. S.W. of Barnston) is sometimes described as being one of the deserted villages of Notts. It is small now, and the roads by which it is approached from all sides are not at all good.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

The church (St Andrew) is quite one of the most pleasing in this part of the county, notwithstanding the fact that it has been largely rebuilt and that the woodwork which it once possessed has been removed to a neighbouring manor house. The nave arcades are good late E.E. work. The chief point of interest is the tombs. In the north transept are the fine 16th-cent. tombs of the Chaworth family, while in the south transept are the large monument to Lord Scrope of Bolton and his wife, and to Admiral Lord Howe, the hero of the Battle of "The First of June" 1793. The transepts are enclosed by wooden screens. The beautiful tower has been much altered during the last two centuries. Note Jacobean pulpit. Not far from Langar was the Church of St Ethelburga, the site of which has been lost. It was of some note as a place of pilgrimage.

*Langford* (3 m. N. of Newark) is a hamlet by the side of the Midland Railway. The church (St Bartholomew) appears to belong to the early 16th cent., with the exception of its 13th-cent. tower. There was formerly a north aisle and some kind of an addition to the chancel on this side, the fine entrance arch to which remains. Note (1) 15th-cent. effigy in chancel; (2) nave roof. Near the church is the Tudor manor house, now a farm, the property of Lord Middleton.

*Laxton* (3 m. S. of Tuxford G.C.R. Station) takes a premier place among the villages of Notts., both on account of its old-worldness and of its interest to the antiquary. Here the open three-field system of culture is still used, and every year two of the three fields, which are called West Field, Mill Field, and South Field, are cultivated while



LANGAR CHURCH





## LANGFORD—LAXTON

the third remains fallow. About half-a-mile to the north of the village (approached by the grass lane to the north of the church) are the mounds and outcropping masonry of some large mansion—almost certainly the castle of the Everinghams, the premier Lords of Laxton, and Hereditary Custodians of the Forests of the North, until about 1300—now known as “the Old Hall grounds.” Probably there was an encampment here long before the Everinghams built their castle, but nothing is known for certain. The church (St Michael) was almost rebuilt in 1860, and unfortunately on a smaller scale, for the tower was erected one bay more to the east, and the north and south walls within the outline of the former building. The nave arcades were built about 1200 and the fine clerestory was the work of Archbishop Rotherham (1480-1500), whose figure appears on the north battlements. The E.E. chancel was considerably altered in the 14th and again in the 16th cent. Here will be seen an Easter Sepulchre, a sedilia and a double piscina, and a low-side window in a very unusual position at the east end of the south wall. The effigies are of great interest, and we are able to identify them, thanks to the labours of Mr W. Stevenson. It should be understood that though the chapel on the north side belonged to the Lexingtons and that on the south to the Everinghams, all the effigies belong to the latter family. The three Everingham effigies on the north side have been put upon a tomb of the Lexingtons and we would draw attention to the resemblance of the angels on this tomb to those in the famous Angel Choir at Lincoln, which was begun during the episcopate of Henry of Lexing-

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

ton. The beautiful marble, in which two of these three effigies are carved, is worthy of admiration. It came from Aubigny in France and was probably carved before it was brought over. The wooden effigy is unique in this county. Edward I. and Queen Eleanor were at Laxton for a few days just before the latter's death. To the south of the church are traces of further earthworks. William Chappell, Bishop of Cork and Ross, was born here. (See *Bilsthorpe*.)

*Leake, East* (R. Station), is a pleasant village lying in a hollow of the South Wolds of Notts. on the G.C.R. between Nottingham and Loughborough. The church is of considerable interest. For the most part of E.E. work, there yet remain traces of the Norman period, in the north wall of the nave, though this work may even be of pre-Conquest date. The chancel was enlarged about 1350, and the fine reticulated east window must be attributed to this date. Note (1) east window of south aisle; (2) the E.E. font; (3) poppyhead seats of the 15th cent. and rudely carved bench ends dated 1612; (4) the "Shawm"; this trumpet, which measures 7 ft. 9 in. when extended and 4 ft. 1 in. when closed, is the best of the five remaining examples in England. Till about 1855 it was used within the church for the bass singer to "vamp" through; (5) the chained book, "The Dippers dipt or the Anabaptists Duck'd and Plung'd over Head and Eares," by Daniel Featley, D.D., 1645. There is a story that when, in 1745, the Young Pretender was approaching Derby, the farmers of the Derwent and Soar Valleys, fearing for the safety of their cattle, drove them south to the shelter of



EAST LEAF, THE SHAWM



## LEAKE, EAST—LENTON

the Leake Hills, where they remained until the danger was passed.

*Leake, West* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. W. of East Leake), has an interesting church with an extremely long nave of five bays. There are three early and very interesting effigies in the church.

*Lenton* (R. Station)—the south-west portion of the city of Nottingham—shows no trace now that it was once the site of one of the great monasteries of England. This priory was founded by William Peveril about 1105, and soon became of great importance and wealth. However, it fell into debt about 1536, and in the next year its prior, Nicholas Heyth, appears to have taken a part in the Pilgrimage of Grace, for which he and some of his monks suffered death. Lenton was the site of a great fair, which lasted for twelve days, during which time no markets could be held in Nottingham. In the priory church are some traces—very slight—of old work and the bases of two columns remain in a neighbouring coalyard; but the most interesting relic is the magnificent Norman font, now in New Lenton church. This font, which has not its peer in the country, is carved on four sides and the top. The north side has on it a large floriated cross, the east a representation of the Baptism, and the south one of the Crucifixion. The west side is divided into four panels, the interpretation of the subjects carved on them having been much disputed. The upper right-hand panel shows either the Burial and the Resurrection (it was not uncommon to depict two scenes in the same carving), or the Raising of Lazarus, the upper left-hand panel the Ascension, while below the

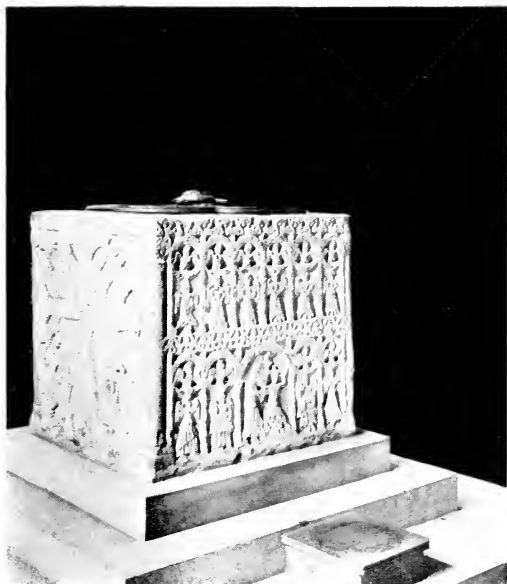
## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Three Maries and the Church of the Sepulchre are seen.

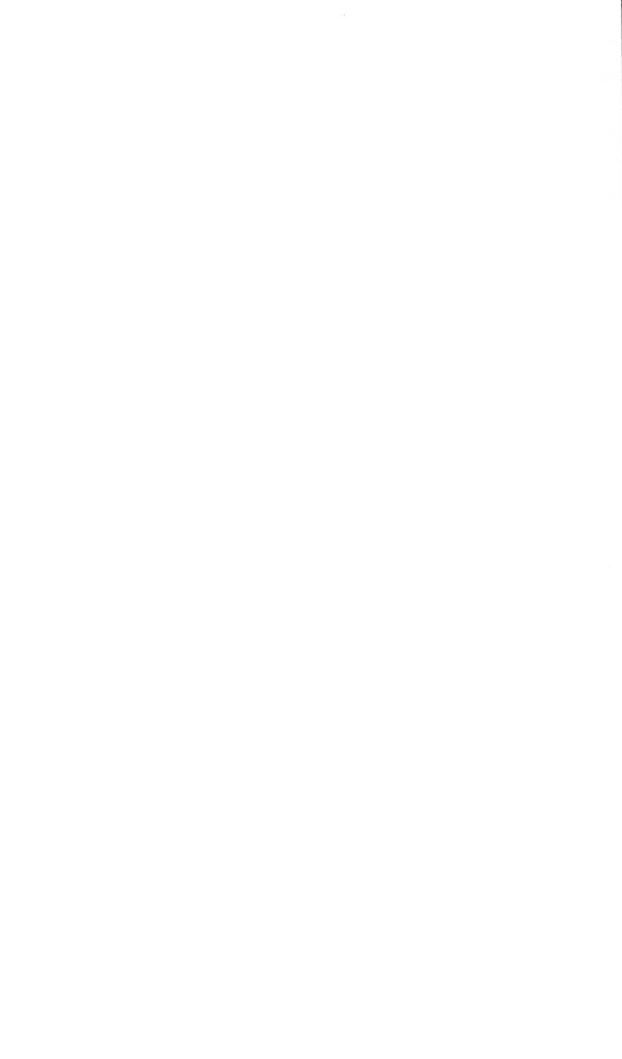
*Leverton, North* (R. Station), is built on the eastern slope of the hills which lie between the Trent and the Idle. The church (St Martin), which is not interesting inside, has a late Dec. chancel and a south aisle built c. 1300. It is approached by a foot-bridge across a little stream and through a shady avenue of trees.

*Leverton, South* (R. Station), adjoins North Leverton. The spacious church (All Saints) has some fine 13th-cent. work in the nave arcades. The chancel was rebuilt in 1865. The aisle windows are good examples of 14th-cent. work. Note (1) the Norman tub font; (2) the richly ornamented south doorway.

*Linby* (R. Station) was once as pretty a village as one could find in the county, but now its beauty is a thing of the past, and modernism has come in its most conspicuously obnoxious form—to wit, collieries and railways. The little streams flow polluted and muddy through the street, and the maypole is but a memory. The top and bottom of the village are marked each by a cross, mounted on steps. That at the lower end of the street is unrestored and marks a spring, and may be one of the Sherwood Forest boundary marks. Near the top cross, with its restored shaft, stood the maypole until recent years. The church (St Michael) has little to attract the visitor. The 12th-cent. north doorway is sheltered by a porch built in 1548, and in it is a squint, whose *raison-d'être* is not easy to understand, indeed we should be tempted to believe that it is not in its original position.



LENTON CHURCH. THE FONT





## LEVERTON, NORTH—LOWDHAM

*Littleborough* (2 m. N. of Cottam Station) is a historic site notwithstanding its small size. At this point on the Trent Till Bridge Lane, a Roman road connecting Doncaster and Lincoln crossed the river, and here the Romans had their station. Agelocum or Segelocum. A century or so ago travellers record the existence of masonry, but nowadays all that bears witness to its past is the occasional upturning by the plough of coins of Roman date. In the bed of the river to this day are the stones of the ford which was first made in the days of Hadrian, and over which much of the traffic between the north and south of England passed. In 1066 Harold, hastening southwards to his death at Battle, crossed the river here, and two years later his conqueror most probably passed this way on his journey from York to secure Lincoln. This ford is no longer in use, and there is no regular ferry. The church (St Nicholas) is a tiny Norman building, whose masonry is largely decorated with herring-bone work. Note the use of Roman tiles. Travellers will do well to note that there is now no inn in the village.

*Lound.* (See *Sutton-cum-Lound.*)

*Lowdham* (R. Station) is a large scattered village by the side of the Cocker Beck. Its church (St Mary) lies in a secluded position to the north-west of the village. The late 12th-cent. tower, once separated from the body of the church, the two bays of the early 13th-cent. chancel and the graceful 13th-cent. nave should be noted. Considerable alterations were carried out in the 14th cent., and within modern times the church has not come off scathless. Note (1) 14th-cent. font; (2) low-side window; (3) effigy of Sir

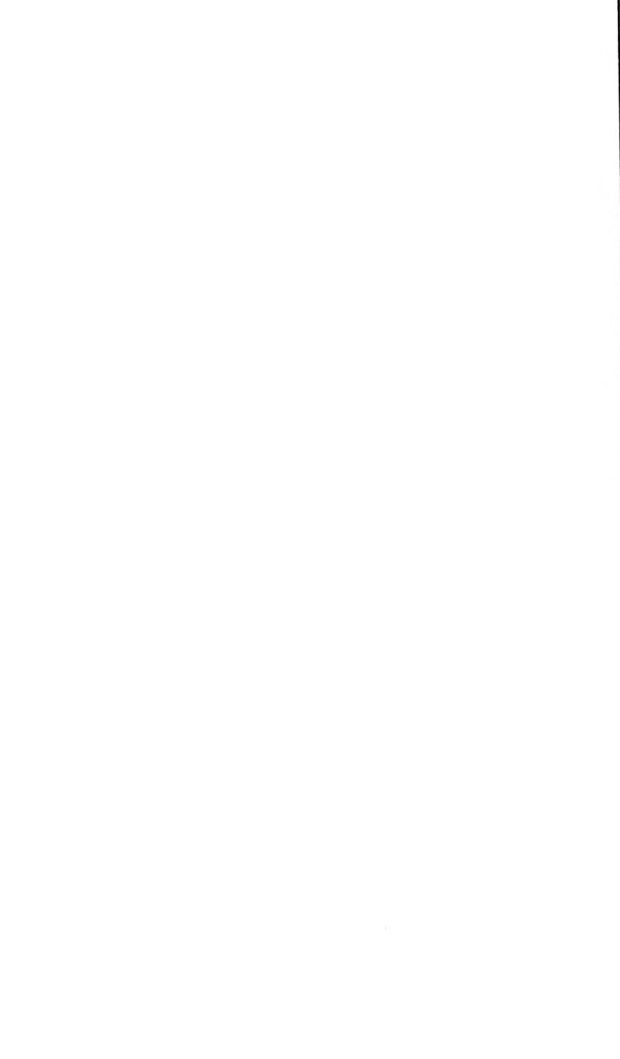
## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

John de Lowdham, to whom we probably owe the 13th-cent. chancel; (4) the unusual arrangement of the vestments of the priest on the incised slab in the south wall of the chancel. Near the church is the old Hall, traditionally known as Broughton Hall, a picturesque timber house of early 17th-cent. date. A small moated site remains in the grounds. The country to the north of Lowdham in the direction of Epperstone is of great charm and beauty.

MANSFIELD (R. Station), "a praty market town," as Leland calls it, though he would probably modify his statement were he to visit it now, derives its name from the little river Maun, which flows through it, "and there runneth in the middle of it a rille." Its proximity to Sherwood Forest has given Mansfield the dignity of being a royal manor, for when kings were bent on hunting they frequently visited this "praty" town. Like many other places in the county it claims to have been a Roman station, and indeed considerable remains have been found in the neighbourhood. Nor did the ancient ballad-maker forget it, for have we not the ballad of "The King and the Miller of Mansfield"? The church (St Peter) is not of great interest and may be best described as "mixed." All that there is to know may be learnt from the admirable plans provided in the church—an example we would bring to the notice of other incumbents. Mansfield has been the birthplace of many well-known men, from William de Mansfield, who about 1320 was renowned for his knowledge of "logic, ethics, physics and metaphysics," to Archbishop Sterne, grandfather of the more famous Laurence Sterne. Dodsley the



TOP CROSS, LINBY  
*(Showing Maypole now destroyed)*



## MANSFIELD—MAPLEBECK

publisher, Hayman Rooke the antiquary, and last, but not least, James Murray, who invented the circular saw in 1790 in a factory in Bath Lane. This James Murray was the son of "Old Joe Murray," Lord Byron's servant.

Two more facts in connection with the church must be mentioned. In 1669 George Mompesson, son of the heroic Rector of Eyam (see *Eaking*) became Vicar of St Peter's, and during his tenure the church appears to have become a sort of Gretna Green. The following inscription to the memory of Margaret Meymott is worthy of quotation:—"Remarkable in that she departed this life on the same day in which her beloved and justly admired sovereign Queen Anne, of pious memory, changed her earthly crown for a more exceeding weight of glory, which was August 1st. 1714." After all we must not blame Mrs Meymott.

*Mansfield Woodhouse* (1½ m. N. of Mansfield) is soon destined to be spoilt, as so many villages to the south of that town have already been spoilt, by the advent of collieries. The church (St Edmund), which was almost entirely rebuilt in 1847, is one of the worst-lighted churches we have ever seen. The tower and spire, which are of a design almost unknown in this county, were built after a fire which destroyed the church in 1304. In the 14th cent. some land was held here by a family called Wolfhunt by the service of blowing a horn to scare the wolves in the forest.

*Maplebeck* (5 m. N. of Kirklington) clusters at the foot of a hill beside a little stream, which, like so many in the county, is nameless. Numerous remains have been found here pointing to a settlement at some early date. The church (St

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

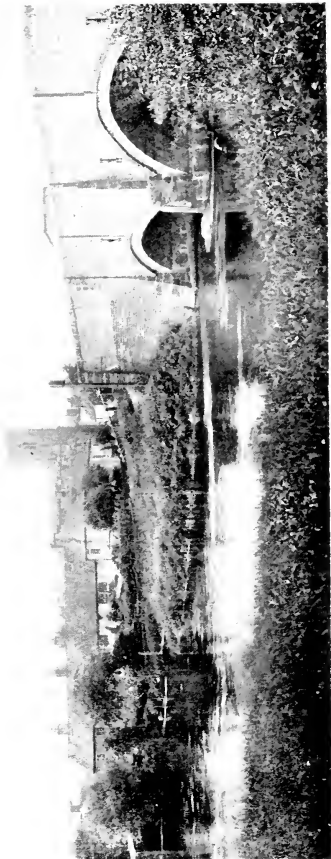
Radegund) has a small spire and a wooden porch. There is a 17th-cent. screen of poor design. Note the four small pillars on the north wall.

*Markham, East* (2 m. N. of Tuxford), is situated on the watershed ridge of the Trent and Idle, in a district famous for its plum orchards and picturesque with numerous windmills. The Markham family has produced many famous men. Pride of place among them is taken by Sir John Markham, the great judge, who drew up the legal document deposing Richard II., and who, in the next reign, is claimed to have been the judge who rebuked Prince Hal for his riotous behaviour, an honour which has usually been given to Judge Gascoigne. His tomb is in the chancel of the church, which is dedicated to St John the Baptist. The building is chiefly Perp. in style. Note : (1) the figure on the tower, probably intended for St John the Baptist ; (2) the font, 1686, with its elaborate cover ; (3) the brass of Dame Millicent Meryng, second wife of Judge Markham ; (4) the screen ; (5) the stairway to the rood-loft which has been used as a chimney. There is a memorial window to Mrs Penrose, the author of "Mrs Markham's History of England." She was the daughter of Dr Edmund Cartwright, who invented the power loom in 1786. (See *Fledborough*.)

*Markham Clinton* or *West Markham* (2 m. N. of Tuxford) has a church which is disused and will soon be in ruins. Inside are an effigy and a fine Norman font, which ought to be moved to the Mausoleum near Milton. (Keys at the vicarage near the Mausoleum.)

*Marnham* (3 m. N. of Crow Park Station) is





MANITERSKY



## MARKHAM, EAST—MILTON

composed of the two hamlets of Low Marnham and High Marnham. Here is a church (St Wilfrid) with a beautiful 13th-cent. nave arcade and north chancel arcade.

*Mattersey* (3 m. E. of Ranskill) is picturesquely grouped on the south bank of the Idle, which is here crossed by an old stone bridge (note masons' marks) built by the canons of the Priory, the whole forming a charming picture. The church (All Saints) is of no interest except for the two stone carvings, discovered in 1804, representing St Helen finding the Cross, and St Martin dividing his cloak. These stones are now built into the wall of the vestry. The Priory ( $\frac{1}{2}$  m.) is reached by a rough lane which leaves the main road to the south of the church. Hardly anything remains except a part of what was either the refectory or the undercroft, a small portion of a cloister and the south-east corner of the church. The position chosen by Roger de Mattersey in 1185 for this house—the only Gilbertine house in Notts.—exhibits the skill usually shown in choosing sites for such foundations, for it stands in an angle of the river Idle, but well above the reach of floods. At the time of its foundation it is said to have stood on an island. This small house, dedicated to St Helen, was suppressed in 1538. Thomas Norman, the last prior, became master of the Grammar School founded at Malton, Yorks., in 1546. The property was given to Sir Anthony Neville, from whom it passed to the Hickmans.

*Mering.* (See *Sutton-on-Trent.*)

*Milton* (3 m. N. of Tuxford) is a hamlet attached to Markham Clinton. The large Mausoleum built by the Duke of Newcastle in 1831 in

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

memory of his wife, and containing memorials of this noble family, is used as the church for Markham Clinton. It was designed by Sir R. Smirke in the Classic style, but it is not a pleasing piece of work.

*Misson* (3 m. N.E. of Bawtry) stands in an isolated position in the midst of fenlike land. The church has a stoup.

*Misterton* (R. Station) is a very straggling village with a spired church, a rather unusual feature in the north of Notts. The spire is E.E., and the interior contains some beautiful work of the same period; notably the arch which faces us as we enter by the south door. The dogtooth and two-leaved ornament of this arch should be noted. The nave arcade is of the 15th cent. Some of the smaller details of the building are worthy of attention. The traveller should not fail to go a short distance along the road towards Walkeringham, whence there is an extensive view across the Cars, a flat, marshy piece of land stretching from Everton and Gringley-on-the-Hill away northwards into Yorkshire.

*Morton* ( $\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of Fiskerton) has a modern brick church which serves the two villages.

*Muskham, North* (3 m. N. of Newark), is a very long village, straggling on the west bank of the Trent, which is said, on the unsupported authority of Thoroton, to have changed its course at this point about 1600, for, whereas it formerly flowed between Holme and Langford, it now flows between Holme and North Muskham, a change which necessitated the formation of the separate parish of Holme. The very interesting church (St Wilfrid) is of the 14th and 15th cent. only.

## MISSON—NEWARK

The north aisle was probably added by the Bartons, whose arms appear on the buttresses, and to whom Holme church owes so much. Note (1) 15th-cent. screen, in excellent repair, roof of nave and aisles, and other woodwork; (2) font, 1662; (3) the curious pyramidal alabaster memorial in the chancel, on which may be read that "Heare lieth ye corp of Jhon Smithe Meate for Wormes to fede therwith," who died in 1583. The other three sides are inscribed with the conditions of his will; (4) remains of cross and stocks at the north end of the village.

*Muskham, South* (2 m. N. of Newark), is joined to Newark by the Great North Road, which for the greater part of the way passes over the arches built in 1770 by John Smeaton, the engineer of the Eddystone Lighthouse, to raise the road above the level of the floods which used frequently to obstruct the great flow of traffic passing along this highway. The church (St Wilfrid) exhibits traces of herring-bone work in the masonry of the north chancel wall. The north door represents the 12th cent. and the two lower storeys of the tower and the chancel belong to the 13th cent. The nave and the third storey of the tower date from the succeeding century. During the 15th cent. the top storey, with its fine windows, was added to the tower. In the western window note the figure of a bishop, believed to be intended for St Wilfrid.

*Nettleworth Hall.* (See *Warsop*.)

*Newbold.* (See *Kinoulton*.)

NEWARK (R. Station, Midland and Great Northern) is a busy market town of some 16,000 inhabitants, retaining much of its quaintness and possessing a history second to none in the county

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

and a parish church which can claim equality with the Minster at Southwell, some seven miles away. Lying 20 m. to the north-east of Nottingham, Newark has a very similar geographical position to that town ; both are situated on an important road running north and south, and the Trent flows by both, rendering them important distributing centres in medieval days. Large quantities of wool were taken from Newark by water to Boston whence it was conveyed to Calais, the boats returning to Newark with cargoes of wine and cloth. This water trade received a fresh impetus with the construction of canals, and large amounts of malt, grain and flour were distributed through the Midlands. Nowadays malting and the manufacture of plaster of Paris are the chief industries.

It is not certain, though extremely probable, that there was a Roman station at Newark ; at any rate the Fosse Way passes through the town, making it of great importance in the days of stage coaches—an importance which is to some extent reviving in these days of motor cars. Destroyed by the Danes, Newark was rebuilt and received its present name in the reign of Edward the Confessor, when the manor was in the possession of Leofric, Earl of Mercia, and of his wife Godiva who gave it to the monastery of Stow near Lincoln. In Stephen's reign it was held by Bishop Alexander of Lincoln who, much to that monarch's disgust, built a strong castle and suffered imprisonment until he saw fit to resign this and other fortresses of his to that unstable king. John, during whose reign Newark changed hands several times, came to the castle in October 1216 to die at the moment when he seemed about to make some

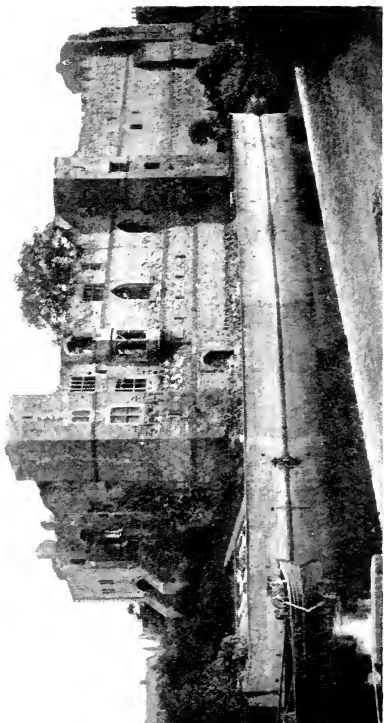
## NEWARK

headway against his barons. From the reign of Henry III. to that of Henry VIII. Newark was owned by the bishops of Lincoln, but soon after it had become crown property Edward VI. incorporated it under an alderman and twelve assistants, who in 1625 were replaced by a mayor, twelve aldermen and a recorder, which number of aldermen was reduced in 1835 to six. A visit from Wolsey in 1530, followed by some slight interest in the risings then prevalent in Lincolnshire, and a visit from James I. in 1603, fill in the period which brings us to the great event in Newark's history. The Civil War found it uncompromisingly Royalist. Nothing could shake the faith of this "Loyal Borough"—the key to the north—and three sieges only brought confusion to the Parliamentarians and honour to the citizens of Newark. The importance of this town to the king may be easily understood. Its possession enabled the communications between the north and the south to be kept open, while at the same time the garrison could keep an eye on the Nottingham Parliamentary garrison and attack them when opportunity occurred. From 1642-1644 various onslaughts were made on the town at frequent intervals, but it was not until Sir John Meldrum besieged it in the latter year that there was really any danger of the town being taken, but even then a timely and characteristically impetuous charge by Prince Rupert raised the siege and saved the town. In 1645 Lord Bellasis was appointed governor, and towards the end of that year the town was beleaguered by the English and Scottish forces. Again Newark proved impregnable, and it was

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

only at the king's express command, and amid the tears and entreaties to the contrary of the citizens, that Lord Bellasis surrendered—marching out with all the honours of war. Like Nottingham Castle, the Castle of Newark was reduced to a ruin—"slighted," as it was called. Many are the names of great men connected with Newark. In Cartergate Bishop Warburton was probably born in 1698, and the Grammar School was founded in 1530 by a friend of Wolsey, Thomas Magnus, whose name it bears. While living at Southwell, Byron came frequently to stay at the Clinton Arms Hotel, while superintending the publication of his first volume of poems (1806-1808), and Mr Gladstone first entered Parliament as a member for Newark (1832). The parish church was once graced by the eloquence of Jeremy Taylor, while in the list of scholars of the Magnus Grammar School is the name of Samuel Reynolds Hole. Nor must we forget that Newark was the birthplace of Nottinghamshire's only great musician, John Blow.

Quite close to the Midland Station is the castle, now a mere shell, but retaining much of interest. The west wall remains intact, with a tower at each end, and the large entrance gateway is a magnificent example of its period (1130-1139); in it may still be seen the remains of the chapel of Sts Philip and James. The south-west tower, in which King John is said to have died—a rather improbable statement—part of the west wall, and the crypt are the only other remains of the warlike Bishop Alexander's castle. The west wall was completed and the north-west hexagonal tower—a fine piece of work—built in the 13th cent.,



NEWARK CASTLE





## NEWARK

and it is interesting to distinguish the work of these two periods : the oolite of Bishop Alexander and the sandstone of the later builders. The three large windows in the west front mark the great hall, which was much altered when the castle was used as a residence in the 15th cent. To this period belongs the beautiful oriel window, which still retains the arms of Thomas Scot, Bishop of Lincoln, 1471-1480, and from which a good view can be obtained. The dungeons are beneath the north-west tower.

It is impossible here to point out all the interesting and picturesque houses in Newark, but the visitor will be well advised to explore all yards and passages leading behind the houses, for thus he will find many things of great beauty. In the market-place is the fine 14th-cent. house (now Messrs Bambridge & Co.), which was formerly the White Hart Inn, and near it the Saracen's Head, where an inn of this name has been since 1341 at latest. Sir Walter Scott mentions it as a resting place of Jeanie Deans on her journey to London. Next to this is the Clinton Arms Hotel, which has already been mentioned, and at the entrance to Stodman Street is the old timber-fronted house occupied by the governors of Newark during the Civil War. The old Town Hall, with its front supported on pillars, is on the north side of the market-place, while the present one, built in 1773, is on the west. If we pass through the Saracen's Head yard we come to the Beaumont Cross, which has proved a puzzle to archæologists. Many theories have been advanced as to its *raison d'être*, but that alone which places it among the Queen Eleanor Crosses seems

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

at least possible. Cartergate, Appletongate, Kirkgate, and the ways leading from them all contain interesting features. Two modern buildings deserve mention : the Gilstrap Free Library standing in the castle grounds was built and presented to the town by Sir William Gilstrap in 1883 : and the Ossington coffee tavern, built in 1882, forms an interesting imposing feature of the entrance to Newark from the north. It was founded by Viscountess Ossington in memory of her husband, Viscount Ossington, better known as Mr Speaker Denison.

South of Newark are the Sconce Hills, the very perfect fortification erected by the Parliamentarians during the Civil Wars. Near by is St Catherine's Well, to which is attached a curious legend, given in full in the histories of Newark.

But the glory of Newark is its church, by far the finest parish church in the county, which cannot fail to arrest the attention of even the untutored, while to the architect it is a pleasure to behold and a theme for study. Dedicated to St Mary Magdalene, this church seems at first sight to be built almost entirely in the Perp. style, and, what is more, to be a very fine example of that style. However we soon find traces of much earlier work. The large piers at the crossing of the transepts were built about 1160 in the Norman style and of the same date is the curiously interesting crypt, with its very oblong quadripartite vault, under the high altar, where the relics belonging to the church would probably be kept. The survival of these pieces of work shows us that they belonged to a cruciform building but little less in size than the present church. It seems

## NEWARK

doubtful whether a central tower was even intended, for the piers do not look strong enough to support any great weight. About 1230 the western tower was commenced, and finished up to the level where the clock is now. At first it stood out from the west end of the church, but before long the aisles were continued westwards and the tower included in the building. Had these 13th-cent. builders been able to complete their tower and spire—it was probably lack of funds that prevented them—Newark would have possessed the finest as well as the earliest tower and spire of any size in England. Every bit of this work is worthy of study. In 1313 a rebuilding of the church was taken in hand. The top storey of the tower and spire was added and the beautiful south aisle of the nave was built. This latter, with its fine series of windows, was the work of that school of sculptors whom we hear of so frequently during the 14th cent. and of whom we know so little. In addition to these works the ground-plan of the church was laid out and the walls built up to the ground-course and, it would seem, a little farther at the east end. They were destined not to be completed, for the Black Death swept over the country and carried off most of the skilled workmen. It was not till about 1390 that work was recommenced and the nave was begun. Little however was done and the work was not completed till 1460, by which time the nave and its aisles were as we see them to-day. By 1498 the chancel was finished, and the fabric was completed in 1539 by the addition of the transepts. The details of the church are of considerable interest. In 1500 the chantry chapel on the north side of

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

the chancel was founded by Thomas Meryng, whose arms appear on it, while five years later that on the south was founded by Robert Markham. The fine screen and its parcloses, which are worthy of comparison with any others in England, were the work of Thomas Drawswerd of York in 1508, while the stalls with the series of twenty-six misericords were put in in 1525. All the stained glass that has survived the Civil War will be found in the east window of the south chancel aisle. There are three brasses still in existence. The finest is that which commemorates Alan Fleming, who died in 1361. It measures 9 ft. by 5 ft. 7 in. and is one of four large brasses of Flemish workmanship which have come down to us. This brass is now on the wall of the south transept. In a bad position at the west end of the north aisle will be found the Phyllypot brass. On the floor of the north transept is a small brass to a civilian of the first half of the 16th cent. The monuments are more interesting for the men they commemorate and the strangeness of the epitaphs than for any intrinsic merit. The font is very curious. The top half was destroyed in 1646 and restored in 1660, and so we have the anomaly of saints whose legs belong to the 14th cent. but whose lovelocks and moustaches are Carolian. A close study of the lettering on the base will show that the letters are formed of intertwined beasts of various kinds. The inscription reads "Carne rei nati sunt, hoc Deo fonte renati." In a room over the south porch is a library bequeathed by Bishop White of Peterborough, who, in 1688, was one of the famous "Seven Bishops" who were tried by King James II.

*Newstead Abbey.* (Open to visitors on Tuesdays

## NEWSTEAD ABBEY

and Fridays only. Permission must be obtained by writing beforehand to the housekeeper. No bicycles are permitted in the park and visitors must leave by the same entrance as that by which they come in.) There are two ways of reaching Newstead; one, by train to Newstead Station on the Midland Railway, and the other, by walking, driving or riding to the Hutt Hotel on the Nottingham and Mansfield road, opposite which are the entrance gates. In either case there is a walk of about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. before the Abbey is reached. In 1170, Henry II. founded a Priory (it is not really an abbey at all) of Black Canons here, which passed at the Dissolution into the hands of Sir John Byron of Colwick, who immediately proceeded to convert the old buildings into a magnificent residence for himself. For services to the Royalist cause the family were raised to the peerage in 1643, with the title of Baron Byron of Rochdale. All went well with Newstead until the fifth Lord Byron inherited the property. He did everything within his power to ruin the estate; the trees were felled, the park divided into farms, and the herds of deer killed. The buildings were allowed to fall into disrepair, and when he died he breathed his last in the scullery, the only place where the roof was watertight. He was succeeded by his great-nephew, the poet, whose eccentric life is too well known to be sketched here. At first the Abbey, as it has always been called, was rented to Lord Grey of Ruthyn, but Lord Byron frequently visited and in 1806 wrote "Hours of Idleness" there. In 1808 Byron went to live there, but only for a short time. In 1813 an attempt was made to sell the estate. Byron's

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

marriage did not mend matters, and in 1816 he left England for the last time. In 1818 the Abbey was sold to Colonel Wildman, to whom it is due that this is one of the noblest houses in this district.

As we approach the Abbey we cannot fail to be struck by the dignified beauty of the 13th-cent. west front of the old priory church. Directly after entering the house we are in the monks' parlour. The refectory does duty as a dining hall, while Byron's bedroom formed part of the prior's lodging. The library and drawing-room contain many excellent and valuable pictures. The chapter-house has survived as a private chapel and the cloisters are still to be seen. Much of this old priory has come down to us and we ought to be grateful to Sir John Byron—"Little Sir John with the great beard"—for preserving so much. Every visitor to Newstead goes to see the beautifully situated tomb of Byron's favourite dog "Boatswain," with whom it is said the poet himself wished to be buried. The lake in front of the Abbey has a bare appearance though it adds much to the view of the west side. During the time of the fifth Lord Byron the brass lectern was found in the lake. It is now at Southwell Minster, and when opened it was found to contain documents relating to the priory.

On the death of Colonel Wildman the abbey was purchased by the late Mr W. F. Webb. This gentleman was the personal friend of Dr Livingstone, who was frequently a visitor, and wrote one at least of his books here. Mr H. M. Stanley was entertained at the Abbey, where several relics of Livingstone are preserved, though of course the relics of Byron far outnumber them.



NEWS-HEAD PRIORY. THE CLOISERS.





## NORMANTON—NOTTINGHAM

*Normanton-on-Soar* ( $\frac{3}{4}$  m. S. of Hathern Station) is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river and there is good boating to be had on a stretch of some 3 m. The church (St Mary) was built almost entirely in the 13th cent. The central tower and spire are particularly noticeable. Note (1) stone altar in retro-choir; (2) large plaster Royal Arms 1683; (3) some good old benches. Excellent accommodation may be had at the Plough Inn.

*Normanton-on-Trent* ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of Crow Park Station) is built at the foot of a slight slope leading down to the alluvial flat of the river. The church (St Matthew), a 14th and 15th cent. structure, calls for little notice. It has a well-proportioned tower. The old font does duty as a flower-pot in the churchyard.

*Norwell* (2 m. S.W. of Carlton-on-Trent) was once of considerable importance, for here were six moated houses, the site of one of which may be seen to the south of the church, and moreover there were three prebends of Southwell Minster. The church (St Lawrence) shows a Norman and E.E. nave, on the north side of which may be seen stone seats round the piers. Undoubtedly the best work is the rich clerestory. Note (1) effigy of cross-legged knight in south transept and of lady with coronet in south aisle of nave; (2) early Dec. window at east end of south aisle.

NOTTINGHAM. We are not here concerned with the meaning of the word "Nottingham" but rather with the history of the town bearing that name; yet we are at once struck by the appropriateness of the suggestion—a suggestion due originally no doubt to its appropriateness—that the word

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

means "the home of the cave-dwellers." We cannot get away from the caves ; they were probably the dwelling-place of the first human beings living on this site, and they continued to act as shelter for inhabitants of Nottingham until comparatively recent times.

The British tribe of the Coritani was settled in this district, and the proximity of a dense forest and a large river, added to a strong military position, cannot fail to have induced some of them to occupy the site of the future town. It is stated that its British name was Tiuogobauc ; but of an actual British settlement we have no record. The Romans do not appear to have had any important station here, for beyond the name of a street where the road to York passes through the town, there is no trace of them ; nor, when we consider the matter, ought we to be surprised, for the Roman conquest was a conquest by land, whilst the real strength of Nottingham lay in its position as a river town. It was left to the Saxons to realise this ; but again we know nothing of this period beyond the fact that the conquest of Mercia, in which province this town was situated, followed the lines of the rivers. It is not until 868 that we reach our first fixed date. In that year the "burh" of Nottingham was captured by the Danes and the defeated Saxons summoned to their aid the youthful Alfred and his brother Ethelred, King of Wessex. Little success can have accompanied their efforts, however, for though the Danes withdrew for the winter they were in occupation again in the ensuing year. The period that followed was one of frequent capture and recapture, until about 920, when we find that Not-

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tingham had become the chief of the Five Danish Boroughs. In 924, in continuance of his victorious career, Edward the Elder captured the town, fortified it, and threw a bridge across the Trent, further strengthening his new acquisition by building a fort at the southern end of this bridge. Little peace, however, was destined to fall to the lot of Nottingham until Canute mounted the English throne in 1017, and the long period of chaos gave way to some sort of settled order.

Like their lords, Edwin and Morcar, Nottingham men were probably absent from the battle of Hastings, and to this is due the fact, noted by Professor Freeman, that a comparatively large number of Saxons retained possession of their lands in these parts. The Saxon element was indeed so strong that the town had to be divided into two parts—a Norman and a Saxon borough. Of course they did not enjoy equal privileges, but this arrangement was found more conducive to peace. William the Norman met with little or no resistance when he marched through Nottingham, but he left William Peveril<sup>1</sup> behind with orders to strengthen the wooden fortress that occupied the rock where the castle now stands. After the death of Henry I. the town sided with Stephen, and suffered severely at the hands of Matilda's army under the Earl of Gloucester. It was in fact left in such a condition that when, in 1153, Henry II. gained possession of it he found it necessary to rebuild and refortify it, and, having done so, he bestowed on the town its first charter.

<sup>1</sup> There does not seem to be any reason to suppose that William Peveril was the illegitimate son of William the Norman.

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With this beginning of its corporate life we may perhaps date its entrance into the commercial world. Dyed cloth must have become an important product about this time, for early in the next century King John specially protected this trade. As the years pass on we find many new industries established in the borough, which became in time a distributing centre for the upper Valley of the Trent and its tributaries. It is perhaps one of the most remarkable features in the history of the town that it should have become attached and remained faithful to King John. Yet such is the case, and in return no doubt for its loyalty the town received two charters. Now that we have seen the borough launched on both its corporate and commercial career we can hasten on, merely pausing to note that in 1283 Edward I. granted the burgesses the right to elect their own mayor, and that in 1448 Henry VI. raised it to the dignity of a county with a sheriff of its own, and henceforth its strictly proper designation was "The Town and County of the Town of Nottingham." Its development must have been accelerated by the fact that many sovereigns, notably Richard II., Edward IV. and Richard III., chose the castle as their favourite residence. The Wars of the Roses passed lightly over the heads of the citizens of Nottingham, whose interests were on the Yorkist side; and no other events of importance occurred to disturb its peaceful advance until the terrible Civil War broke out. Charles I. raised his standard at Nottingham, and probably expected that the citizens and gentry of the neighbourhood would flock to his banner, but this was not the case, and the castle was shortly afterwards seized

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and held for the Parliament by Colonel Hutchinson. The town, however, whose fortifications were in a bad condition, appears to have been considerably divided in its allegiance, for several times during the years 1643 and 1644 the Royalists gained easy possession of the Trent Bridge and the town itself, though they were never able to capture the castle. The chief effect of this war was a deadening of commercial life in the borough, while the surrounding country was left desolate and uncultivated. To add to these misfortunes the plague made one of its dread visitations and many of the villages near Nottingham suffered severely. When this time of tribulation had passed by Nottingham found itself at the commencement of its career as a purely commercial town, for the feudal castle lay in ruins and no longer was it affected by fear or hope of royal frown or favour nor could depend for any part of its trade on the lords and ladies who, following in the train of their king, brought their money to the Nottingham dealer and craftsman. Though once more the castle was rebuilt and became a ducal residence, yet never again did it dominate the town, and the old mansions of the Dukes of Newcastle and Earls of Kingston, the earls of Meath and Clare, the Willoughbys and other noble families were gradually deserted by their former owners and pulled down or turned to other uses. The economic distress of the end of the 18th cent., and the beginning of the 19th cent., found its voice in a series of local outbreaks known as the Luddite Riots, which, during the second decade of the 19th cent., were directed against the stocking frames, a number of which were smashed. But beyond showing that no

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cause is advanced by senseless violence these riots had little effect, and with the end of the French war a period of commercial prosperity began which has continued more or less to the present day.

*Nottingham Castle.*—We cannot tell at what date this sandstone rock, rising on its south side to a height of 133 feet, was first fortified; history is silent and legend helps us little; yet we feel that no race of men, living in the neighbourhood and possessed of any self-protective instincts, would lose such a chance of establishing their safety. We know there was a fortress here when William the Norman visited the town, for he ordered its reconstruction. This reconstructed fortress, which like its predecessor was of wood, was situated on the summit of the rock where the present castle stands and was replaced in the reign of Henry I. by a building of stone. So much damage was done to it in the stormy days of Stephen that when Henry II. came to his own he rebuilt it on a much larger scale and considered it of such importance that he kept it as a royal fortress. As such it remained till the 17th cent. The “discovery” of Sherwood Forest as a hunting ground increased the importance of the castle, and it was seldom that a sovereign missed an opportunity of coming to Nottingham to enjoy the pleasures of the chase in the forest, which, it must be remembered, came close up to the town on the north and east sides. John used the castle as the headquarters of one of his rebellions against his brother Richard’s authority, and in consequence had to be driven out. Among the many deeds by which John soiled his name few exhibit quite such savage brutality as the execution of the twenty-



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eight Welsh boys, hostages for the good behaviour of Prince Llewellyn, whom he caused to be hanged from the castle walls when the news reached him that that turbulent prince was once more in revolt.

The reigns of Henry III., Edward I. and Edward II. appear to have been a period of embellishment rather than enlargement of the castle; though the present gateway was added during this period. Visitors may still see the passage, known as Mortimer's Hole, through which Edward III. is said to have reached the interior of the castle and captured his mother, Queen Isabella, and Earl Mortimer. While the same Edward and his son were winning the battle of Crecy, King David of Scotland attempted the invasion of England, only to be defeated and made prisoner at the battle of Neville's Cross. He is said to have spent some years in a dungeon beneath the castle, where some two centuries later certain carvings, reputed to be the work of this monarch, could be seen. No trace of either the dungeon or the carvings has been found, and modern historians have not hesitated to deny that such work ever existed. In Richard II.'s reign the castle belonged to his queen, Anne of Bohemia, and in 1387, while in residence there, this unwise king tried unsuccessfully to effect a *coup-d'état* and infringe the liberties of the people. A few years later Henry IV. sent Owen Glyndwr as a prisoner to Nottingham. During the reigns of Edward IV. and Richard III. the castle reached its period of greatest magnificence, as it certainly did of greatest extent, for it then stretched as far as Park Row and the town side of Standard Hill, covering all the ground now occupied by St James' Church and the General Hospital.

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From its walls no doubt many watched Richard III. lead his army to Leicester and his last fight at Bosworth Field, while a few years later a similar sight, connected with an event of no less moment, was to be seen when Henry VII. marshalled his forces before setting out to fight Lambert Simnel at East Stoke. But the castle was drawing near its end as a fortress ; had it been the residence of some noble holding the neighbouring lands it might have escaped the metamorphosis into a peaceful dwelling, but as a royal castle which the quieter times had rendered of no further use it was allowed to fall into disrepair. To such an extent indeed had it crumbled away in the ensuing century that when needed again in the Civil War it was found to be in so ruinous a condition as to be hardly tenable. In 1642 Charles I. chose Nottingham, as has been already mentioned, as the rallying point of his forces for the struggle with his parliament. On a spot now within the precincts of the General Hospital he caused a standard to be raised with much pomp and ceremony, but with little success from a military point of view. The town seems to have been distinctly apathetic to his cause, though soon afterwards, when Colonel Hutchinson had made himself as strong as the ruinous condition of the castle buildings permitted, there appears to have been a Royalist party in the town sufficiently strong to neutralise any active movements on the part of the Parliamentary citizens. Thus it was that Colonel Hutchinson often found himself hard pressed to hold his own against an enemy who was even able to penetrate as far as the tower of St Nicholas' Church and thence to bombard the castle. But this last flicker

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of life in the old fortress did not last long, and when the Commonwealth became supreme the total dismantling of the buildings was ordered in 1651. When already a ruin the castle had been granted by James I. to the Earl of Rutland, and at the Restoration the property was inherited by the Duke of Buckingham, who sold it in 1674 to William Cavendish, Duke of Newcastle. This last-mentioned nobleman shortly afterwards commenced the building of a Renaissance palace of rather poor design. This was completed in 1679 and remained intact until it was destroyed by the Reform rioters in 1831, though by that time the dukes of Newcastle had ceased to reside there. It was restored in 1875, when the town authorities leased it and opened it (3rd July 1878) as an art museum.

One last incident in the castle's history deserves to be noted. In 1688 James II. found himself in great disfavour with his subjects, who were ready to throw in their lot with William of Orange. The last straw which, metaphorically, broke James's back was the desertion of his general, John Churchill, and the flight of his daughter, Anne, the future Queen of England. Anne fled northwards, with Nottingham as her goal. Here she was welcomed enthusiastically, and we have an account of the banquet given in her honour from the pen of the future Poet Laureate, Colley Cibber, who was one of the band who marched out of the town and met the princess on Wilford Hill.

*Nottingham Castle Museum.* (Open weekdays 10 A.M. to 9 P.M. ; Sundays 2 P.M. to 5 P.M. Admission : Fridays sixpence, other days free.)

(The order of the exhibits is liable to change.)

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PORTICO contains memorial bas-reliefs and busts in bronze of Nottingham literary men and women.

INTERIOR (enter by south door).

ROOM L. Savile Collection of Classical Antiquities recovered from the site of the Temple of Diana at Nemi, Italy. Note the very fine portrait bust on stele in marble of Fundilia Rufa and the cast of the supposed bust of the Rex Nemorensis.

SOUTH COURT. Godson Millns Collection of Engravings of local men of note: Felix Joseph Collection of original drawings for book illustrations by Stothard, G. F. Sargent and others.

ROOM K. Electrotypes, local maps, engravings and plans.

ROOM J. Medals (military), Nottinghamshire tokens, English and foreign porcelain, and English wrought-ironwork, some of which is almost certainly the work of the famous Huntingdon Shaw.

ROOM I. English porcelain. Here is one of the finest public collections of Wedgwood in the country, bequeathed to the museum by Felix Joseph, Esq. It includes one of the fifty copies of the Portland or Barberini Vase and a large vase with Flaxman's designs of the Apotheosis of Homer. One of the most interesting features is the large number of medallions and plaques. In the wall-cases will be found examples of the old Nottingham brown ware.

ROOM H. Oriental pottery.

ROOM G. Miscellaneous arms.

THE TEXTILE GALLERY downstairs occupies the site of the old kitchen, and the fireplace (1670) for baking still remains *in situ*. Here is a good collection of lace and embroidery of all dates and

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from all lands, together with some early hosiery and lace machines. Note the coloured photographs of the Bayeux Tapestry.

At the foot of the North Staircase are some carved oak columns and arches (*temp.* James I.), which stood formerly on the Long Row. On the staircase are autotype reproductions of famous pictures.

GALLERY F. Local portraits and views.

GALLERY E. Collection of Portraits lent by Lieutenant Bromley of East Stoke Hall, including works by Van Dyck (three heads of Charles I.), John Hoppner (Henry Kirk White), Sir Peter Lely (Prince Rupert), George Romney (Mrs Wilson), Richard Cosway, R. P. Bonington and Turner (The Whalers).

GALLERY D. (Long Gallery) Permanent collection of pictures or Special Exhibitions.

GALLERY C. Etchings, engravings and aquatints.

GALLERY B. Drawings by early Italian, Dutch and French masters. Drawings for book illustration. Leech's drawings made for *Punch* and other periodicals. Group of drawings by John Flaxman, Thomas and Paul Sandby, Henry Dawson, etc. Collection of 18th-cent. miniatures.

GALLERY A. Godson Millns Collection of early English, Dutch and Flemish pictures and miniatures. Note the landscapes by Jan Wijnants and figures by David Teniers.

Collection of Shells made by John Ruskin to illustrate colour and form in natural objects.

On South Staircase is the Godson Millns Collection of Engravings of Painters and Engravers.

*Description of Nottingham.*—Nottingham was (and

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is still divided into three parishes, though the boundaries of St Mary's parish have been very greatly extended) divided into three parishes of St Mary, St Peter and St Nicholas, all included within the area bounded by the town walls which ran roughly from the castle postern (now remembered in Postern Gate) down Park Row along Upper Parliament Street, Lower Parliament Street Coalpit Lane, Hockley, Sneinton Street, Carter Gate, Fisher Gate, up Hollow Stone, along High Pavement, and past Garner's Hill and Middle Hill, where it made a projecting angle, and thence by Middle Pavement, Low Pavement, Brewhouse Yard to the castle. With one or two exceptions everything of interest in the town will be found on or within the line of this wall, of which nothing remains visible except a small portion now reconstructed in the castle grounds.<sup>1</sup>

Soon after the Norman Conquest the town was divided by a line running along Milton Street, Clumber Street, High Street, Bridlesmith Gate and Drury Hill into two boroughs—an English and a French—for the better preservation of peace between the Saxon and Norman inhabitants. This arrangement placed the parish of St Mary

<sup>1</sup> We have been shown recently a piece of old wall in a yard between Low Pavement and Broad Marsh which has every appearance of being part of the town wall. One reason why everything of any antiquity lies within the circuit of the old town wall is that until 1845 this area was nearly surrounded by the Lammas Fields, which, belonging to the community from August till February, were divided between private owners during the rest of the year, and so formed a belt of open space which, while enclosing the town, led to the growth of a number of surrounding villages, now part of the city.





NOTTINGHAM MARKET-PLACE



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in the eastern or English borough and the other parishes in the French portion of the town. This division, which existed for judicial purposes until 1714, left the market-place entirely in the French borough, a difficulty which was overcome by building a wall from east to west so as to enable the inhabitants to share it equally.<sup>1</sup>

Nottingham people are justly proud of their huge market-place—the largest open one in England—and whether it be seen empty or filled with the stalls and the bustling buyers and sellers of Saturdays, or packed with a jovial Goose Fair crowd, it is not a sight to be readily forgotten. From the descriptions which have come down to us we are able to reconstruct the appearance of the market-place in olden times, with its horsepond and open drains, its sawpits, pillory, stocks and ducking stool; on the South Parade, then known as Timber Hill, was the horsemarket, which later on was moved to St Peter's Square; on Beastmarket Hill where once had been the gateway and other buildings of the Friary of the Carmelites or White Friars, were sold cattle; while country produce was to be bought in the Poultry, where formerly stood the Hen Cross, then the eastern boundary of the Saturday market, of which the western boundary was the Malt Cross, situated near the spot where the statue of Queen Victoria now stands. Goose Fair, which is now held on the first Thurs-

<sup>1</sup> The separation between these two boroughs is exemplified in an interesting manner by the law of inheritance which was in force. In the English borough the custom known as "Borough English" was followed—that is to say, the inheritance went to the youngest son, while in the French borough it passed to the eldest, in accordance with the feudal law of descent.

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day and two succeeding days in October, can be traced back to the 13th cent. It no longer retains anything of its former character as a market, but is entirely given over to merrymaking. The western entrance to the town was by the Chapel Bar, the latest surviving of all the town gates. Space does not permit us to notice here the changes that have taken place in the streets in the centre of the town ; old ones have been widened and have changed their names, and new ones have been cut through, so that few of the streets now retain anything to remind us of their antiquity. At the southern corner of Friar Lane and Wheeler Gate was the town hall of the French borough and that of the English was on Weekday Cross, where the bridge of the G.C.R. and G.N.R. now stands. On Angel Row remains an extremely fine example of the town house of a wealthy man of Queen Anne's reign — Bromley House, still retaining much of its fine decorative work in wood and plaster. Here on the first floor is the Nottingham Subscription Library, which possesses some 30,000 books, including many very valuable topographical and historical works. Continuing into Chapel Bar we find a house, No. 17, which is interesting in the history of British journalism, for here it was Mr Ingram, carrying on a printing business (Ingram & Cooke), hit upon the idea of an illustrated paper, and leaving Nottingham for London founded *The Illustrated London News*, the first journal of its kind. Many literary associations have gathered round Dunn's bookshop on the South Parade (now Kiddier's brush shop). Among the visitors of interest was the poet Montgomery, mention of whom reminds us that he was also a frequent guest

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at the chemist's shop kept by William and Mary Howitt, which stood at the corner of Parliament Street and Newcastle Street. Here too came Philip James Bailey and read aloud his "Festus" before its publication, and once William Wordsworth is known to have paid a visit. Just behind the Exchange in the Shoe Booth a house is marked as the birthplace of Henry Kirk White. Near by is a very beautiful old shop front (Harrison's), the only one remaining in Nottingham. Newdigate House in Castle Gate was the residence of Marshal Tallard who was captured at the battle of Blenheim and sent prisoner to Nottingham, where he placed Nottingham men deeply in his debt by encouraging gardening, for quite one of the features of the suburbs of the town is the large number of workmen's allotment gardens. Quite close to Newdigate House, whose ironwork gate we must not omit to notice, are some fine old brick houses in Brewhouse Yard and an extremely pretty row of cottages, known as Jessamine Cottages, formerly the workhouse of St Nicholas' parish. (These latter may be very well seen from the castle grounds.)

In Castle Gate and Low, Middle and High Pavements we see many "stout broad-shouldered" houses of Queen Anne's reign now unfortunately degraded into warehouses. At the corner of Low Pavement and Drury Hill is the house known as Vault Hall, fronted by the best ironwork in Nottingham. The vaults of this house were used extensively by the merchants of the Staple, but in the 17th cent. were occupied for quite a different purpose when the Act of Uniformity of 1662 turned the Presbyterian ministers, Whit-

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

lock, Reynolds and Barrett, out of their livings, and compelled them to hold their services in secret. The old Postern Gate Inn was built during the early 17th cent. on the site of the gatehouse that was formerly here. Middle Pavement leads into Weekday Cross, where (on the left-hand side) we note a tablet recording the birthplace of Philip James Bailey. Weekday Cross was the site of the weekday market in olden times, and was perhaps as important as the great market-place. On the south side of High Pavement is the High Pavement Chapel (Unitarian) founded by Whitlock, Reynolds and Barrett, in 1670 after the passing of the Toleration Act, where in 1796 Samuel Taylor Coleridge preached a charity sermon in "my blue coat," and where on 28th November 1802 Richard Parkes Bonington was baptised, and where Byron as a boy attended. The chapel is worth visiting on account of its fine modern stained glass by Burne-Jones and Holliday. As we approach St Mary's Church we note on the left-hand side (No. 17) the dwelling-place of Henry Kirk White from 1798 to 1806, and a little farther on are the Judges' Lodgings and almost opposite the Shire Hall is No. 29, the best piece of brickwork in Nottingham (A.D. 1820). In front of the Shire Hall criminals were publicly hanged until 1864, and the curious may still find in the upper part of the building a square white stone, which in earlier days used to be removed to make way for the insertion of the cross-piece of the gallows. In High Street, close to the music shop of Messrs Henry Farmer & Co., is the site (then occupied by a room of the Blackamoor's Head Inn) where

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Lord Byron's body lay after it had been brought from Missolonghi for burial at Hucknall Torkard church; and hard by, near the top of Pelham Street (on the right-hand side), was the town house of the Byron family, lords of Newstead. Here the poet and his mother at one time lived, and at the top of St James' Street is another house where Byron resided during the years 1798-1799.

*St Mary's Church* is an extremely imposing structure, placed well above the High Pavement, and its massive central tower is a prominent object in all views of the town. The history of the church is somewhat obscure. It was a place of some importance before the Conquest, for in Domesday Book it was the holding of Aitard the Priest and of the value of 100 shillings. The foundation of Lenton Priory brought about its degradation from a rectory to a vicarage, and it was handed over with all its belongings to this great priory by William Peverel by the consent of Henry I. During the 12th cent. Nottingham and its churches were destroyed by fire three times, and it was after the last of these conflagrations, that of 1174, that a late Norman church was built. During the restorations of the last century two capitals of this building were found, but they were, unfortunately, reburied. A further rebuilding took place about 1300, and of this church the remains of a pier can still be seen beneath the floor of the nave. We can determine nothing as to the size and shape of these two churches, though the second of them had, in all probability, transepts, for the foundations of the present nave and transept walls are composed of old masonry. The greater part of the present build-

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ing appears to have been erected during the last twenty years of the 15th cent. It is an excellent example of the work of this period, and the nave is worthy of the greatest admiration. The south porch is in a state of considerable decay, but this would seem to be due to inferior stone and to exposure, rather than to greater age, for it seems to be of the same date as the nave and transepts. The chancel is aisleless, and compares but poorly with the rest of the work. When Leland visited Nottingham in 1540, he found the church "excellent new and uniform in work." In 1559, in accordance with the First Act of Uniformity, fourteen commissioners were appointed to visit the Northern Province. On 22nd August they visited St Mary's and recorded, "The Charncell is in gret decaye and the wyndowes unglased." Elsewhere it is recorded that on 7th July 1558 a great hurricane from the south-west visited Nottingham and district, and destroyed two churches by the Trent. It is quite likely that it also wrought havoc to the chancel of St Mary's. It seems not unlikely therefore that this part of the building would be rebuilt, and to this late date we may attribute the poorness of style. The tombs which remain cannot be assigned with any certainty. That in the south transept, of the same date as the church, probably belongs to a member of the Salmon family; that in the north transept, of slightly later date, to Thomas Thurland; while the figure in the north aisle of the nave is unknown. Note (1) the font with the Greek inscription, which may be read either forwards or backwards, "Wash away thy sin, wash not thy face only"; (2) the piece of alabaster

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carving in the south wall of the chancel, representing a pope, supported by two cardinals, bestowing a benefice on a bishop; (3) the painting by Fra Bartolomeo (1459-1517), the friend of Savonarola, given to the church by Mr Thomas Wright of Upton Hall, and fixed to the south-east pier of the tower; (4) the tombstone in the churchyard at the north-west corner of the church, dated 1714 and made of Nottingham pottery, the inscription being stamped on.

*St Peter's Church* (or, to give it its full dedication, Sts Peter and Paul) is not a place of great beauty. The 13th-cent. south arcade and the 15th-cent. piers on the north do not blend harmoniously, and the modern chancel is of no great merit. It replaced a poor structure, which was put up after the original work had been destroyed during the Civil War. The nave roof and that of the south aisle remain to testify to the generosity of the Strelleys. The present vestry was formerly a Chapel of All Saints. Note (1) the communion plate which, though of no great age, is good; (2) the monument of William Ayscough, 1719, who is said by Deering to have introduced printing into Nottingham in 1710.

*St Nicholas' Church* presents the usual lack of interest which attaches to brick churches. It was entirely rebuilt by the year 1682. During the Civil War it had been seized by the "Newarkers," as the king's party were called locally, and from its tower the castle garrison were so much harassed that in 1647 Colonel Hutchinson ordered its demolition.

*The Roman Catholic Cathedral* (St Barnabas) on Derby Road is a simple and severe example of Pugin's early work.

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By far the best modern church in the town is St Alban's near Sneinton market-place.

*The Trent Bridge.*—This fine bridge, which crosses the Trent and connects Nottingham and West Bridgford, was built in 1869-1871 in place of a medieval bridge of which one of the arches on the south side still remains. This crossing of the Trent has always been of the greatest importance as it forms a link between northern and southern England. In 924 we hear that Edward the Elder built a bridge across the Trent—the only mention in the Chronicles of such a construction—and though we cannot be sure that it occupied the exact place which the present one does (for it seems more than likely that at that date the Trent flowed rather more to the north than it does at the present day), yet we may safely say that the old wooden bridge was the ancestor of that which we now see. The next record of this bridge is in 1231 when the Archbishop of York issued an indulgence of thirteen days to whomsoever contributed to the construction of the bridge “of Hoybel at Notingham.” We can have little doubt that this refers to the building of the first stone bridge over the Trent. Like many medieval bridges, the Hethbeth bridge, as it was usually called, had a chapel on it where marriages could be solemnised and services held. As early as 1202 we find that the Trent Bridge depended for its repairs on the Brethren of the Hospital of St John the Baptist, an early foundation outside the town walls on the north side. In February 1551 Edward VI. deprived this hospital and several other similar foundations of their property, which he handed over to the



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mayor and burgesses of the town to provide funds for the sustentation of Trent Bridge. The strategic importance of this bridge was fully recognised during the Civil War of the 17th cent. when frequent attacks and counter attacks were made by both parties, with the result that it frequently changed hands.

Other places of interest in the city may be mentioned:—

*The Park* forms one of the residential quarters of the city. It is a private estate of 140 acres belonging to the Duke of Newcastle, and is in shape a vast amphitheatre, as may be seen very well from the castle grounds, or from Lenton Road between Ogle Drive and Castle Grove. It is only within comparatively recent years that houses have been built in the Park, which was formerly the haunt of red deer. It is now prettily laid out and, being well wooded (for the most part with elms), provides as pleasant a walk in spring and early summer as anyone can desire. In the grounds of Mr Hemingway's house in Hermitage Walk is a series of caves which have caused much dispute among antiquaries. Authorities have attributed various purposes to them from a Columbarium in Roman times to a shop in the Middle Ages. One thing alone seems fairly certain; that there was once a Chapel of St Mary of the Rock here. These excavations can only be visited by permission from the owner, but the entrance to them may be seen from the top of the tramcars which pass along Castle Boulevard.

*The Arboretum*, which is the name given to the city's chief public park, has an area of seventeen acres and consists of sloping lawns and paths.

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There is an artificial pond and a small aviary. The Arboretum may be entered either from Waverley Street or from Sherwood Street. Passing out of the gate into the latter street we cross the Mansfield Road and soon reach Corporation Oaks and St Ann's Hill, whence an extensive view may be obtained. The top of the Mansfield Road used to be known as Gallows Hill and formed part of the hamlet of Longotten. St Andrew's Church, which occupies this spot, is a conspicuous feature in views of the city.

Opposite St Andrew's Church is the *Church Cemetery*, which was laid out in 1853. It is extremely picturesque—for a cemetery—and in it are some interesting large sandstone caves. By its side is the *Forest*, now the recreation ground for this side of the city, and until 1890 the town racecourse. The Forest was within living memory a waste of heather and gorse, a remnant of Sherwood Forest, made more picturesque by the presence of windmills. Close to the Forest, but on the opposite side of Mansfield Road, is the Children's Hospital, which until recent years was in Postern Gate, opposite the General Hospital.

The High School (now in Arboretum Street) was founded as a free Grammar School by Dame Agnes Mellers in 1513.

The chief places of amusement in the city are: The Theatre Royal at the top of Market Street, flanked by the Empire and the Hippodrome and the Grand Theatre in Hyson Green.

The chief public halls are the Mechanics' large hall at the corner of Burton Street and Mansfield Road, and the Albert Hall, in East Circus Street,

## NUTTALL

a fine modern building erected at a considerable cost by the Wesleyans. The large block of buildings between Sherwood Street, Shakespeare Street and Bilbie Street contains the *University College* of Nottingham, affiliated to Cambridge, the *Nottingham Free Library*, which has a very fine collection of books, and is open daily to the public, and the *Natural History Museum*.

*Nuttall* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.E. of Watnall Station) lies on the main road leading from Nottingham to Matlock and the Peak of Derbyshire. Its church is dedicated to St Patrick and was built chiefly in the reign of Richard II. Note (1) the "pudding" roll bases of the tower arch; (2) Perp. screen, originally a parclose screen enclosing a Chapel of St Mary; (3) the alabaster effigy of Sir Robert Cokefield, who was the probable re-builder of this church at the end of the 14th cent.; (4) the low-side window.

The manor was originally a possession of the family of St Patricius. In 1216 we find that it had passed into the hands of the Cokefields, who must have held it for 200 years, when it became the property of the Ayscoughs, who retained possession until 1612. Opposite the church is the entrance to Nuttall Temple, the residence of Mr John Holden. This "Temple," so called because of its dome, was built by Sir Charles Sedley during the years 1754 and 1757. It is an imitation of Palladio's Villa Capra, near Vicenza, which has been copied at Chiswick House in Middlesex, Footscray Place and Mereworth Castle, both in Kent. The story goes that Nuttall Temple was built with the winnings of one race.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

*Ollerton* (R. Station). — This little humdrum place, close to the junction of the rivers Rainworth Water and Maun, is called a market town though few signs of any commercial activity are ever visible. It is only when motor cars or brakes arrive at that excellent hostelry, the Hop Pole, that the lethargy is broken. There are a few remains of the house of the Markhams, one of whom, Sir Griffin Markham, was associated with the Bye Plot, which failed, in 1603, and it was only by the greatest good fortune that he escaped death and was allowed to live abroad. Ollerton, like its neighbour Edwinstowe, is quite one of the best centres from which to visit the beauties of Birkland and Bilhagh. Few more delightful walks are possible than that from Ollerton to Thoresby when the spring is young and the night's frost has frozen the sap in the trees until it hangs in icicles. Then we wander in the sharp morning air under the stately beeches, until we come to an eminence and there below us is Thoresby and in front a herd of deer feed peacefully.

*Ordsall* ( $\frac{1}{2}$  m. S. of Retford) suffers somewhat from its proximity to its large neighbour, yet its church (All Saints) is well worth a visit. Several restorations have given it a new appearance but work of the 13th and 14th cent. will be seen. The nave arcade is especially to be noted. The screen at the west end was brought from Hayton Castle. It is interesting to note that in 1662 the Rev. Marmaduke Moor was turned out of his benefice "for the heinous and damnable offence of playing at cards three several times with his own wife."

*Orston* (Elton and Orston R. Station) when approached from the station is a picture of beauty,

## OLLERTON—OWTHORPE

with its red-tiled cottages and wealth of timber. The church (St Mary) is at present (November 1908) under repair and the 15th-cent. roofs of the nave and aisles require much strengthening. The nave and chancel belong to the E.E. period and the aisles are good early Dec. work, the tracery of the windows being worthy of attention. The font is the best Restoration font in the county. Note (1) base of cross in the village; (2) old cottage opposite the churchyard.

*Osberton Hall* (2 m. N.W. of Checkerhouse Station, 3 m. S. of Worksop) is a modern house, the seat of the Foljambes. Near the adjacent hamlet of Scofton is a little church built in 1833 in the Norman style.

*Ossington* (2 m. W. of Carlton-on-Trent) belonged for many years to the Cartwrights, who, in 1780, sold it to William Denison, a wool merchant of Leeds, in whose family it still remains. The Hall is modern and stands in a well-timbered park. The church (Holy Cross) is quite near the Hall. It is a modern building with an interesting tomb to William Cartwright (1602) and a brass to Reynold Peckham (1580) and his wife, which has recently been found to be a palimpsest brass.

*Owthorpe* (5 m. E. of Plumtree and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  m. S. of Radcliffe-on-Trent) will be familiar to all readers of the "Memoirs of Colonel Hutchinson." Now a mere handful of houses, hidden in a hollow of the Wolds, this little village, with its large green, is rich in memories of the stern Parliamentarian. Here was the house of the Hutchinsons which "having bene rob'd of every thing which the neighbouring garrisons of Shelford and Wiverton could carrie from it, it was so ruined

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

that it could not be repair'd, to make a convenient habitation, without as much charge as would almost build another." Though one of the Regicides, Colonel Hutchinson was allowed, in 1660, to retire to Owthorpe, where in 1650 he had rebuilt his house and the church, and here he amused himself by laying out gardens and planting avenues of trees, one of which may still be seen in the field near the church. The old hall has totally disappeared, though its site may still be traced.

The last year of his life Hutchinson spent as a prisoner at Sandown in Kent, where he died in 1664.<sup>1</sup> He is buried in the little church at Owthorpe, which contains a Jacobean pulpit and a Perp. font.

*Oxton* (5 m. N. of Lowdham) is situated in a district in which numerous remains of British and later pre-Norman inhabitants abound. About 1½ m. N.N.E. of the village is the Oldox Camp, whose age it is impossible to determine until some careful excavation has been made. The object of this camp is not at first clear for it is placed in a hollow and commanded by hills on all sides. In all probability it was a place of shelter for the women, children, and such belongings, living and material, as they possessed, while the eminence to the north-west could be used as a look-out post. Other pre-Conquest earthworks remain in the parish. The church (St Peter) has a chancel arch and south side of chancel dating from the last quarter of the 11th cent., though thought by some to be

<sup>1</sup>The date on the monument is 1663, but he is known to have signed documents in 1664, so that the latter date is correct.

## OXTON—PAPPLEWICK

Saxon. There is an effigy (14th-cent.) at the west end of the nave, which is intended to represent a serjeant-at-law, to judge by the coif. The old font has recently been discovered, thanks to the vicar, whose energies in this direction should commend themselves to all antiquaries.

*Papplewick* (1 m. E. of Linby) seems to partake both of the peaceful country behind it and of the busy colliery district which it overlooks. The church stands away from the village (take the last gate on the left at the top of the village before the road bends to the right) and can only be described as quaint. It is beautifully situated, but does not share that beauty. It was rebuilt with the exception of the 14th-cent. tower in 1795 by the Hon. Frederick Montagu, who in 1787 had built the adjacent Hall. The present dedication is to St James, but the older one of St Helen is found in wills at York. That there is some ground for the modern dedication is proved by the small figure over the south door. This, the only fragment of the Norman church, is a representation of St James with his pilgrim's staff. The E.E. font gave way to a Puritan apology in the form of a basin. We are reminded that Papplewick was in Sherwood Forest by the presence, both in the church and in the porch, of incised slabs commemorating the ironworker with his bellows, the chief forester with his bow, and the woodward with his knife. Note (1) two pieces of 14th-cent. stained glass of especial merit; (2) the family pew with fireplace. There were once large flax mills at Papplewick, and a considerable number of pauper boys were drafted in from London workhouses,

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

but the long hours and poor living caused a very heavy mortality, and the Linby registers contain the frequent entry "a London boy."

*Perlethorpe* ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of Ollerton) lies close to Thoresby House. It has a fine modern church built in 1876 by the third Earl Manvers, to whom there is a brass inside. The registers date from 1528.<sup>1</sup> (See *Carburton*.)

*Pleasley Hill* (3 m. N.W. of Mansfield) is a cluster of cottages by the side of the Meden, which here forms the border between Notts. and Derbyshire. In Pleasley Park are earthworks, believed to be of Roman origin, and here in 1786 a Roman villa was unearthed.

*Plumtree* (R. Station) has given its name to a family which has played an honourable part in the history of the town of Nottingham. The church (St Mary) is mainly E.E. in character. The base of the tower is Norman, but when being rebuilt in 1906 some Saxon work was uncovered, and the Perp. chancel contains a sedilia. The north aisle was rebuilt in 1879 with stones from the old Trent Bridge at Nottingham. The interior has been somewhat spoilt by painting. Note the gargoyles of the nave.

*Radford* (R. Station and trams) is a squalid artisan portion to the west of the city of Nottingham.

*Radford*. (See also *Worksop Priory*.)

*Radcliffe-on-Soar* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of Kegworth Station) straggles beside the green meadows that fringe the peaceful river. The church (Holy

<sup>1</sup> As a matter of fact the keeping of registers did not begin officially till 1538, so that any entries prior to that year are not part of the register proper.



## PERLETHORPE—RAINWORTH

Trinity) is mostly unrestored and has a tower (c. 1200) and a nave and chancel of the first half of the 13th cent. There are some good Dec. windows in the aisles, of which the north aisle has been rebuilt lately. There is a fine series of tombs of the Sacheverell family. The recess to the north of the altar is probably a founder's tomb used (as was often the case) for the sepulchral rites at Easter.

*Radcliffe-on-Trent* (R. Station) is a village of little interest with a modern church. The river at this point is of much charm and beauty.

*Ragnall* (2 m. N. of Fledborough) is of no interest. Its church (St Oswald) should be dedicated to St Leonard.

*Rampton* (3 m. S.W. of Cottam, a footway across the fields reduces this distance by a half) has passed through the hands of many well-known families. The De Ramptons passed it on to the Maulovells, who handed it on to the Stanhopes, and from them it went by marriage to the Babingtons, who in their turn were succeeded by the Eyres, a family of soldiers, in whose hands it now is. Of the old hall, built *temp.* Henry VIII., nothing remains except the entrance gateway with its heraldic bearings. The family removed to Grove about 1730 and the old hall was taken down, but on their return in 1853 a new house was erected in the Elizabethan style. The church (All Saints) contains numerous memorials of the families above mentioned. Note (1) Norman font with arcading; (2) small hagioscope; (3) south door with the heads of a king and queen, perhaps Henry III. and his wife.

*Rainworth* is now a small hamlet with a railway

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

station. A little stream, which can be jumped with ease, is all that remains of the "Old Idle," as the Rainworth Water used to be called. Those who ramble to its source near Fountain Dale (and few more delightful walks can be found) will notice that it was once much broader, and that the ground on either bank was of a marshy nature. (Permission should be obtained as most of this walk is private.) In Bede's "Ecclesiastical History" the following passage occurs:—

"For as soon as the ambassadors were returned home, he [Redwald] raised a mighty army to make war on Ethelfrid; who, meeting him with much inferior forces (for Redwald had not given him time to gather all his power), was slain on the borders of the Kingdom of Mercia, on the east side of the river that is called Idle. In this battle, Redwald's son, called Regnhere, was killed."

Or, to quote Henry of Huntingdon, "*Amnis Idle Anglorum sanguine sorduit.*" The date was 617. Hitherto it has been supposed that this battle was fought at Eaton, or Idleton as the old maps have it, 2 m. S of Retford, but the following data lead us to think that the battle took place at Rainworth:—(1) the name Rainworth—*i.e.* Regnhere's wath or ford—is a likely name for the place where the victorious king's son was slain; (2) the suitability of the ground for the encounter, as far as we can judge from the meagre accounts that survive. Redwald would advance from the east, and appears to have taken Ethelfrid unawares on the east bank of the river—*i.e.* with a river and marshes behind him; (3) the stream was called the "old Idle" in medieval times. This new theory is put forward tenta-

## RANSKILL--RETFORD, EAST

tively in the hope that it may serve to throw some light on this obscure Notts. battle.

*Ranskill* (R. Station), with its obviously Danish name, was associated closely with the archbishops of York, and serves to remind us of the important part which the raven, Odin's bird, played in Norse mythology.

*Rempstone* ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.E. of East Leake) is situated on the main road from Nottingham to Loughborough. The church (All Saints), which is sometimes called St Peter-in-the-Rushes, was built in 1771 to replace the old church which stood to the east of the village. On the floor of the church is a brass plate to the Davys family, of whom George Davys, Bishop of Peterborough (d. 1864), was tutor to Queen Victoria.

RETFORD, EAST (R. Station), is a small market town and borough, which is believed to have received its first charter during the reign of Richard I., and which sent members to Parliament as early as 1315, though from 1330 to 1571 the practice was discontinued on the score of expense. The parliamentary history of Retford during the last years of the 18th cent. and first quarter of the 19th cent. is not one of which any town can be proud, for this little town was one of the most corrupt in that period of parliamentary corruptness, and in 1827 it narrowly escaped disenfranchisement in favour of Birmingham. However it was decided to extend the electoral district to the Hundred of Bassetlaw, of which Retford is the capital. It is rather as a convenient centre for exploring the very interesting neighbourhood that Retford is worthy of attention than for any very patent merits of

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

its own. Blyth, Scrooby, Mattersey Priory, the Dukeries, and much beautiful and picturesque country are all to be found within easy distance. For the most part Retford has a clean, modern appearance, but contains few objects of any great interest. In the market-place is a stone, known as the Broad Stone, which was probably the base of a cross standing on an eminence known as Dominie Cross, formerly called Est-croc-sic. It is believed to have been one of four crosses, two others of which may be now seen in the churchyards at West Retford and Ordsall, though what purpose they served is not known. In the town hall, a modern building, are some interesting historical portraits and the fine corporation regalia, given chiefly during the 17th cent. The large cruciform church (St Swithun) was founded by Roger, Archbishop of York, in 1258. It has suffered much from fire and other misfortunes, which have caused it to be almost entirely rebuilt and restored. The Free Grammar School was founded in 1552 by Edward VI. In Carolgate (Carrhill Gate) is an almshouse founded by Richard Sloswicke in 1657.

*Retford, West* (R. Station), which joins East Retford across the Idle, contains the Great Northern Railway Station. The Church of St Michael has a grand early 14th-cent. tower and spire, and good stone groined south porch. There was formerly a chapel dedicated to St Oswald in the south aisle. To the south of the church is Trinity Hospital, founded by John Darrel, who died in 1665. There are very pleasant walks along the banks of the Idle, especially in the direction of Bolham, which is included within the borough.





RUFFORD ABBEY

## RETFORD, WEST—RUFFORD ABBEY

*Rolleston* lies quite close to its station, which is the junction of the Southwell and Mansfield branch with the main line from Nottingham to Lincoln (M.R.). The village is very pleasantly placed in the low-lying land which borders the Trent, and commands pleasant views, especially to the north, where Upton is visible on the slope of the hill. The church is a very interesting one, with a nave of good, though varied, 13th-cent. work, and a handsome eight-pinnacled tower. There are traces of herring-bone masonry in the north aisle. Perhaps the most interesting objects in the building are two carved Saxon stones. Note the large number of incised slabs, many of rich design, both inside and built into the exterior walls. The stump of the village cross still remains. There was formerly a residence of the Nevilles here.

*Ruddington* (R. Station) is one of the largest villages in the neighbourhood of Nottingham, and it owes its rapid growth in no small measure to the recent construction of the G.C.R., which has a station here. The good modern church was built in 1887.

*Rufford Abbey* (2 m. S.W. of Ollerton. Not open to visitors except in special circumstances) is now the seat of Lord Savile, who has the yearly honour of receiving a visit from his Majesty the King during the week of Doncaster Races. Here an Abbey of the Cistercian Order was founded in 1148 by Gilbert de Gaunt, Earl of Lincoln, and colonised from Rievaulx. At the Dissolution the abbey passed to the Earl of Shrewsbury. Little of the old buildings remains except the refectory, now the servants' hall.

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Royalty frequently visited here in Stuart times, for the abbey was found to be very conveniently placed for hunting in the neighbouring Forest.

*Saundby* (3 m. S.W. of Gainsborough) is a small village well hidden in trees. The nave of the church belongs to the Trans. period and there is an alabaster monument to Henry Helwys, 1599, "Sometyme lorde of this mannoi." In the nave is a mutilated effigy of a knight of the early 14th cent. The entrance to the churchyard is difficult to find for it lies hidden in the neighbouring farmyard, whence a small door set in a high wall will give access.

*Saxendale* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. W. of Bingham) is a hamlet of the parish of Shelford on the main road between Nottingham and Bingham. Its name is interesting and suggestive, and it was a place of some worthiness in the 11th cent. It came into the possession of Shelford Priory, and so passed to the Stanhopes, who pulled down the chapel early in the 17th cent. The site is approximately indicated by the name "Old Chapel Farm." The font is now in Carlton Church (near Nottingham).

"The fairest mile within the vale  
Is that 'twixt Bingham and Saxendale."

*South Scarle* (3 m. N. of Collingham) lies on the boundary of Notts. and Lincolnshire, and possesses a church (St Helen) of much beauty and interest. The two western arches on the north side of the nave are unusually rich examples of late Norman work. The greater part of the remainder of the church dates from the 13th cent. Note (1) 15th-cent. screen; (2) fine 13th-cent. double



## SAUNDBY—SCREVETON

piscina ; (3) incised effigy of Sir William Mering, 1510. Until 1871 there was a carved pew known as that of the "Knights of Eagle Hall." At Eagle near by in Lincolnshire there was a Preceptory of the Knights Templars who are said to have held the lordship of Scarle.

*Scarrington* (1 m. N. of Aslockton) possesses a church (St John of Beverley) of some little interest, with work of the E.E. and Dec. periods. Note (1) west door with ball-flower ornament ; (2) font, 1662. The village is quietly pretty and possesses a fine medieval circular stone dovecote, now in the farmyard of the former manor house.

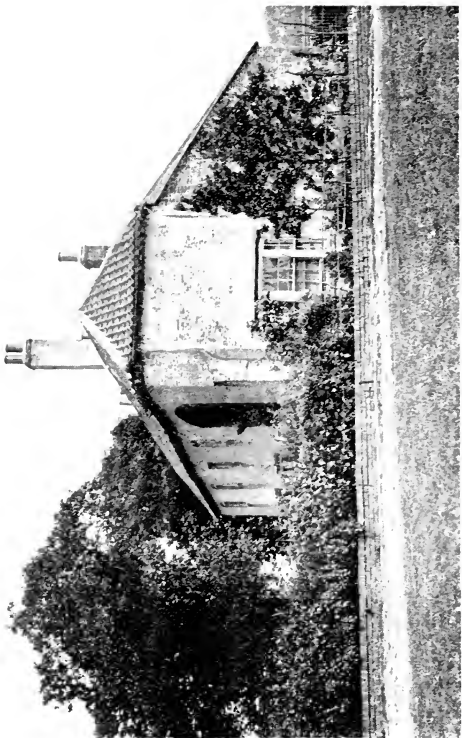
*Scofton.* (See *Osherton Hall.*)

*Screveton* (5 m. N. of Bingham) almost joins the straggling village of Car Colston. The church (St Wilfrid) is largely of 13th-cent. date and contains several very noteworthy features: the rich Norman font, the interesting misericords, and the remarkable Whalley monument under the tower, with the effigy of Richard Whalley, who died in 1583. Carved in bold relief will be seen his three wives and twenty-five children. Space does not permit us to trace the careers of the various members of this family, but it will suffice to mention the names of Richard the politician, and Edward the Regicide, while Henry Garnet the Jesuit is believed to have been a Whalley. Note old chest. Close to Screveton church, though in Car Colston parish, is all that remains of the 17th-cent. brick house known as Brunsell Hall. The Brunells were connected by marriage with Christopher Wren. Dr Brunsell, Rector of Bingham during the Commonwealth, "is said to have been one of the last men to lay a ghost

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

officially." An account of this proceeding may be read in the *Transactions of the Thoroton Society*, 1908.

*Scrooby* (R. Station) is known to all the world as the home, *par excellence*, of the Pilgrim Fathers. But were it not for this, the little village, which huddles beside the Ryton rivulet, would have some claim to fame, for here the Archbishops of York had a palace. Wolsey spent some months here in 1530, when his splendid course was almost run, and Henry VIII. is known to have spent a night here. But all this fades into insignificance beside the fact that this was the home of William Brewster. After Henry VIII.'s reign the palace seems to have fallen into gradual decay, and eventually we find young Brewster's father living here as postmaster. His duty was to supply horses for travellers between Tuxford and Doncaster. At first his son William entered the service of Mr Davison, Secretary of State to Queen Elizabeth. Davison's disgrace led to Brewster's return to Scrooby in 1597, after which he helped his father, till the latter's death in 1590. Young Brewster failed at first to secure the post, but eventually did so, retaining it till 1607. Here he developed Puritanic principles, which were no doubt fostered by Richard Clifton, the venerable Rector of Babworth, and, before long, services were held at Brewster's house and here met that little band at whose humble shrine so many Americans come yearly to worship. Brewster, with William Bradford of Austerfield, Richard Clifton of Babworth, John Smyth of Gainsborough, John Robinson of Norwich, Richard Bernard of Worksop, Richard Jackson and Robert Rochester



SCROOBY, BREWSTER'S HOUSE



## SCROOBY

of Scrooby were the supports of this little community of Brownists, or Separatists as they were afterwards called. Harassed at home, they followed the example of their neighbouring fellow-thinkers at Gainsborough and fled to Holland in 1606. Here at Leyden, two years later, Richard Clifton died. Holland did not suit them, for the fact that the country had been the fighting ground of Europe for many years had lowered the moral standard of its inhabitants, and also these Englishmen were afraid that they would cease to be English if they remained in Holland much longer. James I.'s Declaration of 1618 seemed to take away the last hope they had of ever returning to England, and preparations were made to find a new home in the West. On 6th September they left Leyden and sailed for Plymouth, a little band of 100 men, women, and children, on board the *Mayflower*.

Such is the story of the Pilgrim Fathers. There remains little enough for visitors to see. The house where Brewster lived is on the right-hand side as you leave the station, but little if any of the original building remains. One shilling is the charge made for visiting it and for the quite unreliable information that Brewster sat in such-and-such a room, etc. The former tenants of the house inform us that, during their twenty years' residence, they were never able to determine anything definite about the house and that such information as is now obtainable is manufactured for the benefit of Americans. Scrooby exists on Americans, who make it one of their principal visiting places in England. Little enough remains of the church except some old woodwork said to be Brewster's pew. The font has gone to America

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

and the stocks were purchased for £5. Visitors treasure even ivy leaves, while the picture postcard merchant does a roaring trade.

*Selston* (1 m. E. of Pye Hill Station) occupies a site on the top of a hill and from the churchyard there is an extensive view. The church serves a wide district of scattered miners' cottages. It is dedicated to St Helen and has a north nave arcade of the end of the 12th cent., while the rest of the structure, with the exception of a few later insertions, was built in the 13th cent. Note (1) the Norman font; (2) the Willoughby tomb, 1630; (3) the curious incised slabs, notably one of a priest in the chancel and one of extraordinary design under the tower. At the time of the Commonwealth the rector, the Rev. Charles Jackson, was evidently not a man of peace, for in the Quaker records we read: "1660 2nd April. Eliz. Hooton [see Skegby] passing quietly on the road was met by one Jackson, priest of Selston, who abused her, beat her with many blows, knocked her down, and afterwards put her into the water." In the churchyard is buried Dan Boswell, "King of the Gipsies," whose epitaph reads:

"I've lodged in many town,  
I've travelled many a year,  
But death at length has brought me down  
To my last lodging here."

*Serlby Park.* (See *Harworth.*)

*Shelford* (2½ m. N.E. of Radcliffe-on-Trent), which is situated in a very beautiful part of the Trent Valley, presents a charming picture as seen from the Malkin Hills on the road from Radcliffe. There was a small Augustinian Priory (founded

## SELSTON—SHELFORD

*temp.* Henry II. by Ralph Hauselin) here, but no trace of it remains. On its site was built the manor house, which was captured during the Civil War by Colonel Hutchinson after a bloody siege and storm in which its commander, Philip Stanhope, was slain (October 1645). The present manor house is modern. The church (Sts Peter and Paul) is interesting architecturally as well as on account of the Stanhope tombs, which were removed from the chancel to the south aisle of the nave at the general restoration in 1877-1878. The nave is of late 13th-cent. date, and the aisles, which belong to the 14th cent., have windows of varied and beautiful design, though considerably restored. The west door and the tower arch have good examples of late Dec. mouldings (*c.* 1340). The north doorway belongs to the Perp. and the clerestory to the Tudor period. The font is dated 1662. The chief centre of interest lies in the Stanhope chapel at the east end of the south aisle, now enclosed by a screen made in 1877-1878 from the timbers of the old roof. Note (1) the wall slab to Sir Michael Stanhope and the alabaster monument to his wife. Sir Michael's half-sister was the wife of Lord Protector Somerset; (2) the large mural slab which commemorates, among other members of the Stanhope family, the fourth Earl of Chesterfield, whose reputation as a wit and writer of letters is great; at his death in 1773 he was buried in Audley Street Chapel, London, and later removed here; (3) the mural monument to Lady Georgiana West by Chantrey, 1825; (4) the portion of a pre-Norman cross shaft now on the sill of the east window of the Stanhope Chapel. We cannot do better than quote the late Mr

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Romilly Allen's opinion of this most interesting piece of work. After referring to the intensely Scandinavian character of the work and the peculiar form of the nimbus round the head of the figure, "which is exactly like those on the crosses at Leeds and Nunburnholme in Yorkshire," he continues: "I should think that the object held by the Infant Saviour is a book, although it is a little doubtful. It is worthy of notice that both at Shelford and Nunburnholme the Infant Saviour is shown without any nimbus. The figure on the other face appears to be either one of the Cherubim or perhaps the Angel symbol of St Matthew. An ordinary Angel would only have two wings."

*Shelton* (2 m. S.W. of Cotham Station) is an unpretentious little place pleasantly situated on a ridge overlooking the river Smite. The church (St Mary) is very interesting. It was built at the end of the 12th and beginning of the 13th cent., and has suffered little from restorations. Note (1) two Saxon carved stones, shaped like coffins; (2) Warburton memorials; (3) tablet to the father of Dr Thomas Secker, Archbishop of Canterbury. (See *Sibthorpe* and *Granby*.)

*Sherwood Forest.* To the average modern mind a forest is a large accumulation of trees, but as this is by no means correct we may be excused if we explain exactly what a forest was. In Dr Cox's "Royal Forests of England" we learn that it "was a portion of territory consisting of extensive waste lands, and including a certain amount of both woodland and pasture, circumscribed by defined metes and bounds within which the right of hunting was reserved exclusively to the king, and which was subject to a special code of laws



## SHELTON—SHERWOOD FOREST

administered by local as well as central ministers." The extent of Sherwood Forest, or Nottingham Forest as it was originally called, is determined for us by the numerous perambulations which took place beginning in the year 1232. These commenced at Coningeswath (or the king's ford), now marked on the maps as Conjure Alders, where an old road crosses the river Meden between Perlethorpe and Bothamsall. Roughly stated, the boundaries were Coningeswath to Wellow and then southwards to the Doverbeck and then by this stream to the Trent, up the Trent past Nottingham to the old mouth of the Leen near Wilford, up the Leen, through Annesley to Mansfield and so by Warsop back to Coningeswath. In all some 100,000 acres were included. Sherwood Forest was more wooded than were most of the forests, and its oaks were held in such good repute that they were frequently in demand for shipbuilding. It was not until the great parks began to be enclosed that the forest altered to any great extent. In 1683 the Earl of Kingston formed Thoresby Park, with an acreage of 2000. Shortly afterwards Clumber Park was formed, with an acreage of 3400, and bit by bit the old forest disappeared, the process being hastened by the Inclosure Acts of the end of the 18th. cent. Now Sherwood Forest, correctly speaking, is but a name and the herds of deer are but the noble descendants of royal ancestors.

And what of Robin Hood? We can all enjoy the Forest better if we believe in the merry pranks of the great outlaw, Friar Tuck, Little John, and the rest of the band. The cold facts

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of history cannot dispel our belief in his existence, and indeed Sherwood Forest would be like *Hamlet* without the moody Dane were it ever proved that Robin Hood never existed at all. He is the genius of the forest whose spirit still lurks in the deep glades or haunts the purlieus of the mighty oaks which are associated with his name. Were not he and Maid Marian married at Edwinstowe and did not Friar Tuck live near Fountain Dale? Disprove it who can and he will not have our thanks. Who has not heard of the Major Oak, the Shambles Oak or the Greendale Oak, or Simon the Forester? A very large percentage of those who visit Sherwood Forest make the Major Oak the first object of a pilgrimage, fully believing that they are visiting the shrine of Robin Hood. The impressions of the great American writer, Washington Irving, will convey better than any words of ours the scenery of these woods. Writing of Birkland and Bilhagh in 1835 he says: "Here I was delighted to find myself in a genuine wild wood of primitive and natural growth, so rarely to be met with in this thickly peopled and highly cultivated country. It reminded me of the aboriginal forests of my native land. I rode through natural alleys and greenwood glades, carpeted with grass and shaded by lofty and beautiful beeches. What most interested me, however, was to behold around the mighty trunks of venerable oaks, the patriarchs of Sherwood Forest. They were shattered, hollow, and moss-grown, it is true, and their 'leafy honours' were nearly departed; but, like mouldering towers, they were noble and picturesque in their decay, and gave evidence, even in their



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ruins, of their ancient grandeur. As I gazed about me upon these vestiges of once 'Merry Sherwood' the picturings of my boyish fancy began to rise in my mind, and Robin Hood and his men stand before me.

“He clothed himself in scarlet then,  
His men were all in green ;  
A finer show throughout the world  
In no place could be seen.

Good Lord ! it was a gallant sight,  
To see them all in a row ;  
With every man a good broadsword  
And eke a good yew bow.”

“The horn of Robin Hood again seemed to sound through the forest. I saw his sylvan chivalry, half huntsmen, half freebooters, trooping across the distant glades, or feasting and revelling beneath the trees. I was going on to embody, in this way, all the ballad scenes that had delighted me when a boy, when the distant sound of a wood-cutter's axe roused me from my day dream. . . . The work of destruction was going on.”

We have entirely and intentionally refrained from telling the traveller where the best views may be seen or where the leafiest glades or finest trees are to be found. To enjoy Sherwood Forest one must wander aimlessly, taking each bypath as the spirit urges and keeping as far as possible from the main roads where the busy motors continually rush by, leaving their dusty trails behind. The well-known trees which we have mentioned are little if any better than many others which can be found, and the pleasure of coming upon a beautiful thing by chance is always greater than finding it when sought for.

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*Shireoaks* (R. Station) is dominated by collieries. Near here the county boundary appears to have changed and the point where the famous Shireoak stood is now well within Notts. John Evelyn in "Sylva" speaks of this tree as dropping "into three Shires viz. York, Nottingham and Derby, and the distance from bough end to bough end is 90 feet. This circumference will contain near 707 square yards sufficient to shade 235 horses." No trace of the tree remains. The church was built in 1862 by the Duke of Newcastle.

*Sibthorpe* ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of Aslockton) occupies an isolated position in a thinly wooded part of the county. Here was a college founded in the 14th cent., of which nothing remains; to the east of the church is a very fine example of a circular stone dovecote, 98 ft. in circumference, of early 13th-cent. date. At the Dissolution it passed to Thomas Magnus (for his life only) and then the Whalleys. An interesting letter is extant giving reasons why Thomas Magnus found himself unable to entertain his patron Cardinal Wolsey. The church (St Peter) has one of the fine 14th-cent. chancels for which Notts. is renowned, besides an Easter Sepulchre of unusual design. The font is one of the series of Restoration fonts so common in these parts. Archbishop Secker was born here (1693).

*Skegby* (R. Station) is an uninteresting village built on the steeply sloping hills through which the youthful river Meden runs. The church (St Andrew) has suffered much from the coal mining that has been carried on beneath it and a rebuilding has left little of interest. The 12th-cent. chancel arch is noteworthy, and the effigies sup-



SIETHORPE. THE DOVECOTE





## SHIREOAKS—SOUTHWELL

posed to be those of Edmund Spigurnell and his wife (1296) are good, the costume of the former showing that he was an official of Sherwood Forest. An interesting member of this family was Henry Spigurnell, one of the two judges who, in 1312, condemned Piers Gaveston.

Skegby was an early meeting-place of Quakers in this district, the rendezvous being the house of Elizabeth Hooton, the preaching Quakeress, who joined George Fox in 1647 and afterwards accompanied him to America, where she died.

*Sneinton*, now part of the city of Nottingham, is totally lacking in charm. Its church is modern but contains a fine series of misericords, purchased in 1848 from St Mary's Church, Nottingham.

*Sookholme* (1 m. S.E. of Shirebrook Station) is very little known and yet it possesses a most interesting little church retaining many of the features of a small Norman chapel. Restorations and alterations have deprived it of about one-third of its nave, yet a good 12th-cent. chancel arch remains and much of the contemporary walling. Note (1) the bucket-shaped font; (2) the rude sedilia; (3) the wooden roof.

SOUTHWELL (R. Station) has been claimed by certain of the older historians as the site of a Roman station, on account of some remains that had been unearthed on Burgage Hill. Its Roman name is unknown, if it ever had one, and its identification with *Ad Pontem* is quite incorrect. We learn from Bede that, in 627, Paulinus

“A man whose aspect doth at once appeal  
And strike with reverence,”

baptised the men of Lindsey in the Trent at

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Tiovulfingacester, which appears to have been lower down the Trent than Southwell. Camden, however, relates that Paulinus baptised the men of Nottinghamshire in the Trent and built a church at Southwell, so that perhaps there may have been two separate baptisms. This Southwell church would be a small wooden building, a shelter for the priests and a propagandist centre for the Trent Valley. Century follows century, and many great figures in history pass through Southwell. Here archbishops of York, wearied with the affairs of Church and State, came to rest, and here too came Geoffrey Plantagenet, son of Henry II. and fair Rosamund, to be ordained priest (1189), the beginning of a career that ended in his occupying the archiepiscopal chair of York. A few years later the ambitious William Longchamp, Bishop of Ely, and regent during Richard I.'s absence from England, arrested his rival, Hugh de Puiset, Bishop of Durham, at Southwell. Sad memories remain of the great cardinal, Thomas Wolsey, who paid considerable attention to his manor here, though he did not visit it himself until the year 1530, when the clouds had already gathered round his lofty head, and when he left it was to set out on a journey which only ended with his life at Leicester Abbey.

On his way to London in 1603 James I. admired Southwell Minster, and his unlucky son, Charles I., on 6th May 1646, surrendered himself into the hands of the Scottish Commissioners at Southwell, and, after resting for a while at the Saracen's Head (then the King's Arms), was conducted to the Scottish army, then encamped near Kelham. Between the years 1804 and 1807,

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Lord Byron's mother lived at the white house with the projecting porch overlooking Burgage Green on the right as you climb the hill from the station. Here the poet came during his holidays.

In 1768 Reginald Spofforth, a glee-writer of some note, was born at Southwell. His best-known work is "Hail, Smiling Morn."

*History of the Minster.*<sup>1</sup>—In the absence of any one authentic record of the foundation of the first church here we are compelled to rely on histories whose divergence is very great, and while we cannot claim these accounts as authentic we are, on the other hand, unable to prove them incorrect. Four distinct foundations are recorded. The first is a pre-Saxon church, the second a church founded about 630 by St Paulinus, the third a companion church to St Wilfrid's famous buildings at Hexham and Ripon, though rather later in date—viz. *c.* 707, and the fourth a church which we are told was founded during the reign of King Edgar about 958. Strikingly divergent though they are, these accounts may be reconciled with each other if we presume that before the arrival of the Saxons there was a Romano-British church here—not at all an impossible supposition—and that this church was destroyed by the heathen invaders. After St Paulinus had baptised the men of Lindsey at Tiovulfingacester—wherever it was—he appears to have baptised the people of Nottinghamshire in the Trent and to have founded the church at Southwell. We know that Paulinus had to flee

<sup>1</sup> The early history of the Minster must be dealt with cautiously and the account here given is based upon events which are believed to have happened. It is put forth merely as a suggestion and with all humility.

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before a revival of anti-Christian feeling, and it is not too much to presume that his church was destroyed, only to be rebuilt some few years later by St Wilfrid. The Danes next swept over this part of England, and that Southwell church continued to flourish is too much to suppose. What happened in 958 was probably that a refounding took place and Southwell was now first established as a Collegiate church with three prebends. Many who go to Southwell are unable to understand the nature of a college of secular canons, and perhaps a few words of explanation, extracted for the most part from Mr Livett's excellent "Handbook to the Minster," may not be out of place. Monks such as these of the Benedictine or Cistercian orders lived "strictly according to the regulus or rule of the order to which they were attached, wherefore they have been styled Regular clergy, to distinguish them from the Secular priests or parochial clergy, who, acknowledging no rule, except the law of the land, lived amongst the people and were often married men." However, colleges of secular priests existed, owning common property and worshipping in one church, but living with their families in their own private houses. "Every member of the Collegiate body was at the same time a canon and a prebendary. As a member of the Chapter he was called a canon and he was a prebendary in that he owned a *præbenda* or prebend, that is to say, a separate estate."

Having constructed a possible history of the minster up to the year 958 we can advance, feeling more sure of our ground. The Danish ravages of the years 972-1016 pauperised the Archbishopric of York to such an extent that the See of Worcester

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was added in compensation. This gave Southwell the important position of half-way town between the extreme parts of the See. Early in the 12th cent. the vastness of the See of York necessitated a subdivision in order to facilitate such annual visits as those at Pentecost. Accordingly Southwell, Beverley and Ripon were raised to the dignity of mother churches of their districts. Coinciding with this change at Southwell we find that a large Norman church was built by Thomas II. of York, to be followed in the 13th cent. by a rebuilding of the choir and the erection of a chapter-house. During this period—the 12th and 13th cent.—the influence of the Pope was great in the appointment of canons, and in the scanty lists that have come down to us we notice a large number of foreign names. The building at Southwell was completed by the end of the 14th cent. and its future history may be briefly stated. In 1540 the college voluntarily surrendered its property to Henry VIII., but almost immediately it was re-founded and re-endowed through the exertions of Archbishop Cranmer. It was even intended that it should become a bishopric, but the matter fell through, though the nomination of a bishop had been made. In 1541 Edward VI. again suppressed the college, which was reinstated by Queen Mary and, being protected by her sister, it lasted until it was finally suppressed in 1840-1841. In 1884 Derbyshire was taken from the See of Lichfield, and Notts., from that of Lincoln, and the two were formed into the See of Southwell, with the late Bishop Ridding as its first head.

One further point in the history of the Minster is interesting, though obscure. Between the years

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1000 and 1030 a Pilgrims' Guide to the shrines of the saints in England was written, and in it we find mention of a St Eadburh, whose remains were at Southwell. Who this saint was we cannot say, though it is just possible that it may be Eadburh, daughter of Aldwulf, King of the East Anglians, and Abbess of Repton, a contemporary and fellow-worker with St Guthlac, who died in 714. The fact that these two Eadburhs are the only ones known to history does not of necessity prove them to have been one and the same person.

*Description of the Minster.*—Beyond, perhaps, some fleeting glimpses of the pepper-box spires from the train, the visitor's first view of the Minster is of the west end, and he is liable to be somewhat disappointed, for there is a lack of dignity about this part of the building, induced no doubt by the lanky nature of the western towers and accentuated by the large Perp. window with its rather restless tracery. In order really to appreciate the beauty—for the beauty of the exterior is undeniable—the visitor should go immediately to the north-west corner of the churchyard. From here he will see, leaving the Chapter-house out of consideration for the moment, a fine specimen of a Norman church of the middle of the 12th cent. ; for to all intents and purposes these buildings are now as they were when completed shortly before 1150. Though the large Perp. window of the west end forces itself upon our attention we shall be better rewarded if we notice the richly decorated Norman door beneath and the arcading of the fifth storey of the twin towers. That on the north is interlacing work, while that on the south shows merely a series of



SOUTHWELL MINSTER FROM NORTH





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pointed arches, and a comparison between the two has caused many to conclude incorrectly that here at any rate is an origin of the pointed arch. The nave and aisles are not very long, and the windows are of the small size employed by Norman workmen. The windows of the clerestory are circular, an unusual feature in Norman work. Beneath the roof of the aisles we note a series of small oblong windows which lights the triforium chamber, another very unusual feature. Above these two sets of windows is a characteristic nebuly moulding. The fine Norman two-storeyed North Porch is a prominent feature of the exterior from our point of view, and we must not fail to enter it and examine the deeply recessed doorway with its traceried 14th-cent. wooden door and the arcading at the sides and the plain barrel roof. The zigzag string-course, which is so in evidence, here passes round the Norman exterior in an almost unbroken line. The room above the porch was probably intended as a living-room for the sacrist, who would thus be at hand to ring the bells at the appointed hours. The dignified central tower harmonises excellently with the rest of the exterior as we see it from the north-west corner of the churchyard, and we cannot wish that it had been built otherwise. The north transept resembles the nave except for the large windows of the intermediate storey. Our eye now reaches the exquisite chapter-house, upon whose interior so much praise has been lavished; but the exterior is not to be despised, for the geometrical windows (*c.* 1300) are of a delicate and beautiful design. We must now desert our point of view at the north-west corner and pass to the north-east corner of the

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churchyard, whence we shall have a view of quite a different character. Instead of the Norman choir, which we might quite easily have expected from our former position, we find work belonging to the 13th cent., when the E.E. style was at its best. We shall see the graceful lancets interspersed with buttresses which combine beauty with use and show a fine knowledge of how to employ decorative detail together with structural skill. The arrangements of the lancets at the east end is simple yet effective, reminding us not a little of the work at Rievaulx and Whitby Abbeys. Unfortunately the pitch of the roof has been lowered, thus destroying that grandeur which a high-pitched roof imparts. Passing round towards the south side we note a projecting chapel, companion to that on the north side near the east end. The lines on the east wall of the south transept, whose segmental south doorway we should notice, mark the site of a transeptal chapel which was in all probability taken down when the present choir was built. The character of the south side of the nave is the same as that of the north, though here there is no porch. One modern feature of the exterior of the Minster we must deplore—to wit, the presence of an iron chimney pipe, which even passes through the tracery of the window and adds an extremely incongruous feature. The Palace, which is on the south side of the Minster, has been rebuilt within recent years and now serves as the Bishop's Palace. It was originally built by Archbishop Kempe during the 15th cent.

*Interior.*—Though there are three entrances to the Minster a wise visitor will choose the west door, for by so doing he will obtain first a

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comprehensive view of the Norman *nave*. At first the impression is of a certain squatness and heaviness which soon gives way before the realisation of the undoubted majesty which this work possesses. As we advance up the nave, which is lighted, as it was never intended to be, by the large Perp. window at the west end and the smaller aisle windows of the same period, we shall observe the insignificance of the bases on which the short circular shafts stand, and we cannot fail to be impressed by the capitals decorated with variations of scallopwork, and the strong arches with their billet moulding and inner heavy roll mouldings. We shall notice next the characteristically English large open triforium chamber, which was undoubtedly intended to have an arcade inserted within the present arch, as at Romsey Abbey, for by this means alone can we explain the projecting pieces of stone. Above the triforium are the extremely simple clerestory openings of the passage, lighted from without by the circular windows we noticed on the exterior. On each side of the nave, which is of eight bays and measures 136 ft. in length, is an aisle lighted by windows of Norman and Perp. character, though one alone of the former, that nearest the north-west tower, is original. The most interesting feature to observe in the aisles is the vaulting which, though by no means the earliest rib-vaulting in England, is yet of such an early date that the builders are still to a large extent experimenting with this, one of their most difficult problems. At the west end of the south aisle was a chapel originally built towards the end of the 13th cent., and known as Booth's,

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because in the 15th cent. the Archbishop of that name added to it and founded two fresh chantries. Perhaps the finest work in the whole nave has been left for consideration to the last. The tower arches, with their deeply cut cable moulding, will attract attention on account of their grandeur and richness, and indeed the builders of Southwell were very fond of this moulding, for it appears on most of the pillars of the nave, sometimes plain and sometimes ornamented. The date of the nave may approximately be fixed at 1108, though it was not finished till 1140. It appears to have been built from east to west, so that the west front and north porch are of slightly later character than the rest. There is only one monument of any size in the nave. It is to some unknown person, and belongs to the end of the 12th cent. It is now placed in the north aisle.

The *Transepts* are contemporary with the nave, and compare very favourably with it. Originally there was one eastern chapel in each transept; that on the south has entirely disappeared, while that on the north was replaced about 1260 by a chapel, which is now used as a vestry. Against the north wall of this transept is the alabaster altar tomb with recumbent effigy of Archbishop Sandys, who died at Southwell in 1588. Originally this tomb was in the choir, but it was moved to its present position during the 18th cent. Archbishop Sandys was born in 1519, lived as an exile during the reign of Mary, and on his return was made Bishop of Worcester in 1559, Bishop of London in 1570 and Archbishop of York in 1575. In 1587 he earned the grateful thanks of all by preventing the alienation of the Minster into private hands.

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The chief interest of this tomb lies in the fact that it "is the only instance in which I have found the vestment or chesible on any effigy of a prelate, bishop, or other dignitary, or of the clergy of the Reformed Church of England. The effigy is therefore, I think, perfectly unique" (Bloxam).

Before passing into the choir three things remain to be noticed: (1) the tympanum of the doorway in the north transept, which represents David rescuing a Lamb from a Lion, and St Michael and a Dragon; (2) the dignified triforium arches on the east side of both transepts; (3) the stone rood-screen, which is one of the best of its kind in England, and may be compared with the Percy Tomb at Beverley, belongs to the early part of the 14th cent. It will be considered further when we have entered the choir.

The *Choir* was built between the years 1230 and 1250, during the archiepiscopate of Walter Gray, and was thus the second choir built at Southwell within a hundred years. The Norman choir was but little more than half the size of the present one, and, with the increase of dignity of the Minster as mother church of Notts., it was evidently found to be too small. If we look at the south arcade we shall notice that the arch of the third bay from the east is lower than its fellows, and we shall also see a corresponding irregularity in the string-course above the north arcade. A line drawn at this point across the choir will mark the eastern termination of the Norman Minster. The reason for these irregularities seems to be that, whereas the eastern bays

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were first built, the Norman work was left standing and was in constant use. This necessity for using a building even when alterations were in progress presented many difficulties, and it would seem that the Norman choir hampered the workmen and prevented them from obtaining a just alignment, so that when the Norman work was taken down and the new choir all exposed it was found that this irregularity occurred at the junction of the eastern and western parts of the work. This faultiness of measurement may often be noticed in our large churches, and this case at Southwell is by no means unique. The height of the central tower regulated the height of the choir, and this led to the adoption of the ingenious device of combining the triforium and clerestory under one arch, and thus giving a sense of height to an otherwise low building. The arrangement of the vaulting shafts is also ingenious, and the curious way in which the central rib is brought down between the upper lancets of the east end is striking, though perhaps not altogether pleasing. At any rate it determined that the number of lancets should be even. In the small chapel on the south side of the south choir aisle is the tomb of an unknown ecclesiastic. The Choir-screen and the Sedilia are worthy of the greatest admiration. The former bears some resemblance in detail to the Percy Tomb at Beverley, and was no doubt from the same workshop, which, originally situated at York, sent its craftsmen all over the diocese. The sedilia has been considerably restored, but its beauty is undeniable. Too many theories have been put forward to explain its quintuple nature for us to venture to express

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an opinion. The brass lectern (c. 1500) belonged to Newstead Priory, and at the Dissolution it was thrown into the lake there, with papers enclosed in its bowl. It was recovered during the 18th cent. (See *Newstead*.)

The *Vestibule* to the Chapter-house is reached through a richly ornamented double doorway in the north choir aisle. Here we meet with work which seems to mark the transition between the E.E. choir and the early Dec. Chapter-house. Every one of the carvings here is a work of art, whether they be heads or foliage. One of the forms requires some explanation. On the west side of the passage opposite to the doorway leading into the little sunless court are carved two heads which seem to be intended to show a secular monk pulling a regular by his tonsure—a reminder to us that there was often little love lost between these two divisions of the clergy.

The *Chapter-house* is entered by a doorway whose grandeur and delicate carving is such that it has been acclaimed as "One of the most beautiful specimens within the range of Gothic art." So much has been said in praise of the interior of this Chapter-house that it will suffice here to draw the visitor's attention to the resemblance between it and its fellow at York, which is to some extent a copy. If we examine the tracery of the windows and the mouldings of the arcade, we shall come to the conclusion that the work was carried out between the years 1290-1300. Perhaps nowhere more strikingly than here has the attempt to represent nature in stone been successful. This revolt from the conventional treatment of foliage was a dangerous

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example to set before less skilled workmen, and it had no doubt a great influence on the sculpture of the early years of the 14th cent. The beautiful vaulted roof and the sense of spaciousness gained by the absence of a central pillar are worthy of note. The *glazing* of the church calls for little mention. Beyond some collected fragments in a window of the south aisle the best glass is in the Chapter-house. Some of this is 13th-cent. glass, while that which is later is said to have come from some of the neighbouring churches. The east window of the choir is filled with Cinque-Cento glass which was originally in the Temple Church in Paris and, being turned out at the Revolution, was rescued by Mr Gally Knight and given to Southwell by him in 1818. Some of the figures have been said to represent contemporary historical personages.

*Stanford-on-Soar* (2½ m. N. of Loughborough) is situated on the southern slope of a well-wooded hill. The church (St John the Baptist), with a singularly fine tower, is a handsome 14th and 15th cent. building which has been well restored recently. Note (1) brass to priest in the chancel, one of the two ecclesiastical brasses in the county; (2) effigy of civilian with a purse, sword and dagger, and holding his heart in his hands—known in the village as “The Indian”; (3) low-side window. In the 16th cent. the manor passed into the hands of Robert Raynes, the queen’s goldsmith, who built the first Hall on the present site, about 1½ m. from the village. By sale the estate passed into the Lewis family, and thence by inheritance to the Dash-



## STANFORD-ON-SOAR—STAPLEFORD

woods, by whom it was sold. The present owner is Mr Peacock. The road leading to East Leake is one of great beauty.

*Stanton-on-the-Wolds* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.S.E. of Plumtree) was once larger than it is now, and has quite the appearance of having been shrivelled up by the wintry winds, which must be very noticeable in this singularly bleak situation. The story goes that at some distant date this village and that of Thorpe-in-the-Glebe were much devastated by a great hailstorm. The small church (St John the Baptist) was carefully restored in 1889. There is a much mutilated Norman font.

*Stapleford* (R. Station) is a very ugly manufacturing village on the western border of the county, facing the Derbyshire village of Sandiacre across the river Erewash. Close to the church is the fine Saxon cross, carved on one face with the symbol of St Luke, while on the other sides is conventional decoration. Authorities differ as to the date of this work, but we may safely assume that it is not later than the 9th cent. The church (St Helen) has a 12th-cent. tower, a north arcade (1250-1270) and a south arcade (1300). There are tombs of members of the Tevery family. Sir John Borlase Warren was the son of Arthur Warren of Stapleford. His successful career on the sea during the war with France at the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th cent. has given him a place among the many heroes of those stirring times. For many years he lived at Stapleford and represented the town of Nottingham in Parliament. Visitors to Stapleford should cross the border into Derbyshire in order to see the fine church at Sandiacre.

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*Staunton* (2 m. S. of Cotham) stands in the extreme south-east corner of the county in the midst of a well-wooded district. The Staunton family have held the manor from a date prior to the Conquest until recent times. The Hall is one of the most picturesque buildings remaining in the county. Here Sir Walter Scott stayed, and reproduced the village, under the name of Willingham, in "The Heart of Midlothian." Being situated partly in the hundred of Newark and partly in that of Bingham, the village possessed a church and a chapel both in the same enclosure to serve the two divisions. Nothing now remains of the chapel, which was pulled down in 1827. In 1853 the church was entirely rebuilt and as much of the old work as possible was retained. This work was carried out in a very judicious manner, and the church as it stands to-day is a beautiful and interesting building. The north wall and arcade of the nave are the least restored portions, and the ogee-arched north door and the grotesques should be noted. The north aisle of the nave has been always known as "The Quire of St Lawrence," and here we find the numerous Staunton tombs. This family held their lands by the tenure of "Castle Guard," and a tower at Belvoir Castle still bears their name and commemorates their connection with that building. Note Norman font.

There is a very pleasant walk ( $\frac{1}{2}$  m.) over the fields to Kilvington and crossing the river Devon on the way. Another walk is to Three Shire Bush (1 m.). Starting from the Hall gate we turn first to the right and first right again and from the next signpost we obtain a very extensive and charming view.

## STAUNTON—STOKE, EAST

*Stockwith, West* (1 m. E. of Misterton), stretches along the bank of the Trent which is tidal and at this point is joined by the Idle and the Chesterfield Canal. Some large chemical works, just outside, add an unpleasing feature to the surrounding landscape. The church was rebuilt in 1722.

*Stoke Bardolph* (Gedling Station) is a small hamlet near Gedling. Here was once a castle of the Bardolph family. No trace remains. There is a large sewage farm here belonging to the Corporation of Nottingham.

*Stoke, East* (4 m. S.W. of Newark), is the only village lying directly on the Fosse Way in all the course of that road between Newark and Six Hills. The church (St Oswald), which lies between the road and the river, has been largely restored and rebuilt and retains little of its old work. There is a small amount of old glass in the windows of the chancel. In the churchyard is buried the Rt. Hon. Julian, Baron Pauncefote of Preston, first English Ambassador to the U.S.A., who died in 1902. Adjacent are the Hall and park, which are the possessions of the Bromleys, a branch of the Smith family of banking fame. The Hall is at present the residence of Lady Pauncefote. In the park is the largest heronry in the county. East Stoke was the scene of that extremely bloody battle of Stoke Field, which on 16th June 1487 finally quenched the flickering hopes of the Yorkists and put an end to that aristocratic quarrel known to history as the War of the Roses. The acknowledged unpreparedness of Richard III. for the fight at Bosworth led the Yorkists to think that, could they but gather forces of sufficient strength and find a leader of the blood royal, they might

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hope to oust Henry Tudor from his throne. No leader was forthcoming owing to Henry's astuteness and foresight in getting all possible rivals into his own hands, and a pretender was pushed forward, one Lambert Simnel. Under the Earl of Lincoln the rebel forces marched on Newark, and the king hurried to meet them. The battle took place near East Stoke (the exact site seems doubtful) and resulted in the complete rout of Simnel's upholders. Especially fierce was the fight in what is now the Hall Gardens and the track leading down to Fiskerton Ferry, whither the rebels fled in the hope of finding safety on the farther bank of the Trent. The slaughter that took place here is said to have given this lane its name of Red Gutter. All the Yorkist leaders were slain, with the exception of Simnel, whom Henry reserved for a menial office in his own household. The fate of Lord Lovel is uncertain, and has been the subject of much discussion. Out of a total of 16,000 men, quite 6000 appear to have perished. Just to the east of the Fosse Way is a field called Deadman's Field in which 3000 men are said to have been buried.

At East Stoke was born Dr John Lightfoot, an erudite Hebrew scholar of the 17th cent.

The road from East Stoke to Cotham should not be attempted by any except pedestrians for it grows beautifully less as it approaches Cotham and finally ends in a field where thistles flourish exceedingly.

*Stokeham* (5 m. N.E. of Tuxford) has an aisleless church in an extremely ruinous condition. A small portion has been boarded off at the east end and this is still used for divine service.





ALABASTER HEAD, STRELLBY CHURCH

## STOKEHAM—STURTON-LE-STEEPLE

*Strelley* (3 m. E. of Ilkeston, but more conveniently reached by road from Nottingham, N.W. 5 m.) was well described by Mr Lawson Lowe in his guide-book to the county, as "a district of scattered houses embowered in foliage." From the time of Henry I. to that of Charles II. there were Strelleys in Notts., and the family was one of much importance. The Hall and church are well situated on the top of the hill. The Hall, which is the residence of Mr T. L. K. Edge, is a modern building said to incorporate some of the old Hall. The church (All Saints) was rebuilt in 1356 by Sir Sampson de Strelley. The chief treasures are the Strelley tombs and the well-preserved screen, which was boarded up until the Restoration and thus saved. Note (1) fragments of 14th-cent. and Flemish glass; (2) the "Weepers" at the foot of the figures on the large canopied tomb, an unusual feature in the district; (3) the misericords; (4) the Jacobean pulpit.

*Sturton-le-Steeple* (R. Station) lies on the line of the Roman road running from Lincoln to Doncaster, and known to-day on the Lincolnshire side of the Trent as Till Bridge Lane. In 1901 the church (Sts Peter and Paul), with the exception of the massive and lofty tower crowned with twelve pinnacles, was destroyed by fire. Mr Hodgson Fowler was fortunately able to reconstruct it almost exactly, and the building is well worth a visit. In all probability the present chancel was the original Norman church, and about 1200 the nave was added at the west end. Considerable additions were made during the 14th cent. Beneath the tower are some of the monuments

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

damaged by the fire. The female effigy is that of Lady Oliva (perhaps a member of the Thornhaugh family), to whom the building of the Trans-nave was probably due. On the north side of the altar is the marble slab with the heraldic bearings of Sir Francis Thornhaugh, who, as a Parliamentary leader, passed an eventful life. He was slain at the battle of Preston, 1648. Note (1) the Norman font, which came from West Burton church; (2) Norman stones in vestry; (3) pitch pipe. One mile south of Sturton is the hamlet of *Fenton*. Hardly anything remains of the mansion occupied in the 17th cent. by the Thornhaughs. Previously the Fentons had dwelt there and two of them are not unknown to fame. Geoffrey Fenton (died 1608) was Principal Secretary for Ireland, while his brother Robert added his name to the list of those intrepid adventurers who, led by such men as Raleigh and Frobisher, explored the hidden parts of the world and fought against the power of Spain.

*Styrrup* (3 m. S.W. of Bawtry) is a little over 2 m. N. of Blyth and the road from the latter place approaches it by a slight rise from the flat land known as Whitewater Common, which was once a large mere. Just here, it seems certain, was one of the five licensed tournament fields in England. Tournaments are believed to have been introduced into this country during Stephen's stormy reign, and in order to facilitate the collection of fees which came to the Crown from such encounters, and to regulate these meetings, Richard I. licensed five fields. These were (1) between Blyth and Tickhill; (2) between Sarum



## STYRRUP—SUTTON BONINGTON

and Wilton ; (3) between Warwick and Kenilworth ; (4) between Stamford and Warinford ; (5) between Brackley and Mixbury. That which concerns us is frequently spoken of as "Apud Blidam," and we have every reason to believe that it was situated on the Blyth side of the hamlet of Styrrup. A study of the lie of the land and the suggestive field names confirms this. Leaving Blyth for Harworth we go along the Bawtry road for a short distance to the point where the road branches, and following the left-hand branch towards Harworth we arrive  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. farther on at another parting of the ways ; again we followed the left-hand road, this time towards Styrrup, and it is to the left of the road, between this turning and the hill just before Styrrup, that we must look for the lost tournament field.

*Sutton Bonington* (1 m. from Kegworth and Hathern Stations) is formed by the amalgamation of the two villages of Bonington and Sutton-by-Bonington. It is pleasantly situated on the western slope of a hill on the bank of the Soar. The two original parishes remain to this day. The larger church (St Michael) was restored in 1878, and the chancel rebuilt. It retains its 13th-cent. nave with the seats round the piers. The object of most interest to antiquaries is the 14th-cent. font with its three projecting brackets. It is believed that the larger projection was for the affusion bowl and the two smaller ones for the salt and candle respectively. Farther to the south is the second church (St Anne, one 14th-cent. bell), a small, towerless, ivy-clad structure with a nave built about 1320 and an E.E. chancel. There is a 15th-cent. effigy

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

of a knight wearing the Yorkist collar of Suns and Roses. Repton Grange in this parish, which formerly belonged to Repton Priory, Derbyshire, is a most interesting old house, with remains of both the 14th and 15th cents.

*Sutton-cum-Lound* (R. Station) possesses a church (St Bartholomew) restored in 1857, showing fine curvilinear tracery. Note (1) the triple sedilia; (2) the porch with stone roof—a species not uncommon in this district; (3) the bench ends and wooden south door; (4) the curious niche outside the east wall of the chancel. The church at Lound is modern.

*Sutton-in-Ashfield* (R. Station) is hardly a place to visit for pleasure, for modern buildings, tramways and collieries have done their best to rob it of any beauty it may once have possessed. The church (St Mary) has a nave whose north arcade was built about 1180 while that on the south was erected shortly afterwards. The rest of the church is 13th-cent. work. Note (1) the incised slab marking the burial place of a chief forester, whose symbols, a bow and arrow, appear; (2) the old font. On a clear day there is a good view eastwards from the churchyard.

*Sutton-on-Trent* (Crow Park Station is in the village). The church is largely 13th cent. in date, with a 14th-cent. south aisle and the 15th-cent. clerestory. The Mering Chapel is a good piece of work. It is said, and not without some reason, to have been transported from Mering on the other side of the Trent. The excellent screenwork is worthy of much praise.

*Syerston* ( $5\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.W. of Newark) lies just off the Fosse Way and has barely 100 inhabitants.

## SUTTON-CUM-LOUND—THORNEY

The church (All Saints) comprises a 14th-cent. nave, aisles and chancel with a 13th-cent. tower. Note (1) pulpit, 1636 ; (2) 15th-cent. font. This village appears to have enjoyed almost entire immunity from the plague, which, in 1646, must have almost depopulated the neighbouring village of East Stoke. So good repute had it that several couples from other villages came to be married at Syerston.

*Teversal* (R. Station) stands high above the surrounding country in a district where trees are plentiful and roads hilly. The manor passed from the Greenhalghs to the Molyneux and is now in the possession of the Earl of Carnarvon. The church (St Catherine) is of considerable interest on account of the very curious 12th-cent. south doorway, which provides plenty of material for the fancies of symbolists, and the magnificent family pew of the Molyneux, made, perhaps, in 1684. The present church is largely of 13th-cent. date with a 15th-cent. tower, roof and east window. Note (1) Norman font ; (2) Greenhalgh and Molyneux memorials ; (3) Jacobean communion-table.

*Thoresby* (the house is not open to the public) is the most easily approached of all the great houses in Sherwood Forest. It is the seat of Earl Manvers. It is surrounded by a large park, considered to be the best wooded of all these adjacent estates. Here Lady Mary Wortley Montague lived with her father, the Duke of Kingston. In 1745 the house was burnt down, and a brick mansion put up in its place. This has fortunately been replaced by the present fine stone house.

*Thorney* (4 m. E. of Clifton Station) has a modern church (St Helen) built in a style that

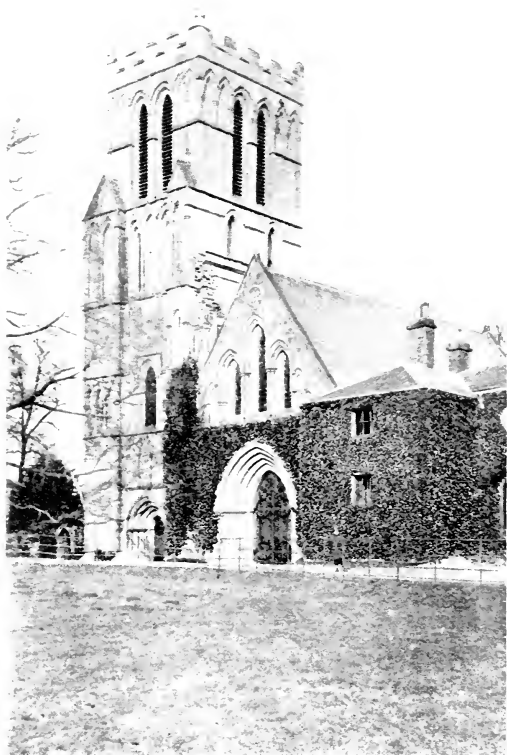
## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

exaggerates the grotesqueness so dear to later 12th-cent. builders.

*Thoroton* ( $2\frac{3}{4}$  m. N.E. of Aslockton) gives its name to the family from which descended the Notts. historian, Robert Thoroton. The church (St Helen) is quite worth entering, though the keys must be sought for at the other end of the village—not at all an unusual thing by the way. The chancel has been rebuilt and the south porch is new, but the church has otherwise many points of interest. Note (1) late Norman north arcade and 14th-cent. south arcade; (2) remains of large Norman chancel archway; (3) small lancet, splayed on outside, to vestry; (4) circular Norman font; (5) fine tower of three stages, late 14th cent., with spire having three sets of dormer windows; (6) remarkable niche 12 ft. 6 in. high on west side of tower. In the village are the remains of a 14th-cent. circular stone dovecote which threatens soon to be a thing of the past unless it is repaired.

*Thorpe* ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.W. of Newark) is a secluded hamlet with a church which is visible on the east side of the Fosse Way just before travellers from Newark reach East Stoke. In the church (St Lawrence) are two mutilated effigies of Margaret de Thorpe (in the chancel) and her husband, Sir William de Thorpe (under the tower), who fought at Crecy and was present at the surrender of Calais to Edward III. shortly afterwards. The font is curiously composite and reminds one somewhat of the little bowl at Hoveringham. There is a fine inscribed silver chalice with lid presented by Henry Druell in 1665 as a thankoffering for his safe return from





THURGARTON. GREGORY CHURCH

## THOROTON—THURGARTON

London, where the plague was raging. Note the stoup in the porch.

*Thorpe-in-the-Glebe* is no more than a name to-day but once it was a village of some size. It lay about 1 m. S. of Wysall. The site of its church may still be traced. It is said to have been destroyed by a great hurricane and hailstorm, but another writer attributes its decline to the Inclosure Acts.

*Thrumpton* (1 m. S. of Trent Station) is a pretty village on the right bank of the Trent, across which there is a ferry. The hall, the residence of the Rev. P. H. Douglas and his wife, Lady Byron, is a fine Jacobean house containing a remarkable staircase. The church (St Edmund) is of little interest, having been extensively restored in 1871. There is a curious stone staircase at the east end of the nave, which was probably the stairway to the rood-loft. When the lofty pulpit, erected in 1795, was removed at the recent restoration it was found that the village carpenter had placed a board beneath the flooring with the following inscription on it:—

“A proud parson and a simple squire  
Bade me build this pulpit higher.”

*Thurgarton* (R. Station) is beautifully situated on the southern slope of a well-wooded hill. Here in 1187, Ralph d'Eyncourt founded a Priory for Black Canons. The church as we see it to-day has been much rebuilt and only the three western bays of the nave, the northern tower and the beautiful western doorway—a piece of work with few equals in England—remain of the 13th-cent.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

building. The 13th-cent. undercroft remains beneath the adjoining house, which was erected in 1777 and was used by Dr Ridding, the first Bishop of Southwell, until his death a few years ago. In 1854 the chancel of the church was rebuilt and as much as possible of the old work was re-erected. The altar-table and the sedilia are of 14th-cent. date, probably originally inserted when the church was altered in 1323.

*Tollerton* may be reached by road from Plumtree Station (2 m.) or by a fieldpath from Edwalton (about 1 m.). It is situated 4 m. from Nottingham. Standing on a well-wooded slope it presents a very pleasant sight when the trees are in leaf. The church (St Peter) was rebuilt at the beginning of the 19th cent. in a very debased style. Its general appearance is incongruous. The gallery at the west end is furnished and provided with a fireplace. The Barry Mausoleum is at the east end of the south aisle. The chancel was rebuilt in 1842. Just inside the west entrance is a richly carved Norman piscina shaft. The numerous hatchments and shields make this church interesting to students of heraldry. The Hall built in the pseudo-Gothic style adjoins the church.

*Treswell* (1½ m. S. of Leverton Station) has a church (St John the Baptist) with a good 14th-cent. chancel.

*Trowell* (R. Station) was once a pretty village on the eastern bank of the Erewash but forges and collieries have sadly disfigured it. The church (St Helen) has a good plain 13th-cent. chancel, a 14th-cent. arcade and font, and a 15th-cent. tower of good ashlar.

*Tuxford* (there are four stations within reach







TUXFORD CHURCH. FONT COVER

## TOLLERTON—TYTHBY

of this town though none of them are actually in it) has lost much of its importance and from being one of the most important posting stations on the North Road has sunk to be a quiet little town with a market once a fortnight, and more motors pass through Tuxford than stop there. The G.C.R. have some engine works there. The church (St Nicholas) is interesting because it provides examples of much Transitional work, especially between the E.E. and Dec. periods. Much of both these periods is left and there is Perp. work as well. There is a fine inscribed font-cover (1673) and a curious carving of St Lawrence being martyred on a gridiron. In the north chapel are the tombs of the White family who now live at Wallingwells. The top part of the screen is ancient. Margaret Tudor stopped one night at Tuxford on her way north to become Queen of Scotland. Formerly the roads round Tuxford were notoriously bad but now little fault can be found with them. About 1 m. from Tuxford on the right-hand side of the North Road going south is a stone inscribed: "Here lies a Rebel."

*Tythby* (2 m. S. of Bingham) possesses but little of interest. The church is quaint but not beautiful. The 18th-cent. western gallery remains, together with some box pews. Half the church belongs to Tythby and half to Cropwell Butler. The font is dated 1663. Note the good 14th-cent. chest with ironwork on it. The country in this neighbourhood is sparsely populated and has a somewhat bare appearance. There are some extensive views from the road between Bingham and Tythby. Smith, a blacksmith of this village, was the ancestor of the great banking family of that name.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

*Underwood* (2 m. E. of Codnor and Selston Station) occupies a lofty position commanding extensive but not beautiful views over Derbyshire.

*Upton* (1½ m. E. of Southwell) stands conspicuously on the side of a slope. The church (St Peter) has an E.E. arcade, a Dec. chancel and a handsome but unusual Perp. tower. There is a low-side window. The old font is in the churchyard. Some years ago several old jars were discovered which, it is believed, were employed to assist the acoustics of the building.

*Walesby* (2½ m. N. of Boughton) has an ivy-clad church dedicated to St Edmund, which retains its Norman south doorway. There are two magnificent beech-trees in the churchyard. About 1 m. E. of Walesby by the side of the Whitewater (as the Maun is here called) is Robin Hood's Cave. Beyond the fact that this lies on the old forest boundary, that it is well concealed and difficult to approach, we cannot find any likely connection between it and the notorious outlaw. The name is probably a product of quite recent years, when local history is so readily manufactured. A little farther down the stream is a wood known as Conjure Alders, where the Whitewater and the Meden join for a short space, only to be separated again. Across the single stream at Conjure Alders was a ford, where the track marking the old forest boundary passes on its way to Worksop. This ford was undoubtedly that mentioned in the Forest Records as Cunniggeswath (or the king's ford), where the perambulations of the forest used to begin.

*Walkeringham* (R. Station) has a pleasing appearance when approached from the south, for it stands on a slope which rises still higher behind it.

## UNDERWOOD—WARSOP

Its church has a chancel with work of the beginning of the E.E. period. The nave is E.E. and the tower Perp. The roof is old, and a Perp. screen and some old benches remain. Note (1) the font, 1663; (2) the bases of the piers of the nave; (3) the monument to Francis Williamson (once dated 1639) with the following remarkable verses:—

“ My life to loose, my soule to save  
My goods to spend, I tooke, I gave.  
See what remains all you yt pass  
And make my monument your Glass  
Mistake not youth nor Ladyes faire,  
A Glass, but not to curle your hayre :  
No Flatterer, but true and iust  
It measures out your time in dust :  
All men doe erre, and Judg amiss  
Till they have uiewed themselues in this.  
Wch to thee Reader shows thus much  
Some few hours past and thou art such  
Then thoughts and cares for long life saue  
And bee undressing for the graue.”

*Wallingwells* is the name of a large modern house and park situated just outside Carlton-in-Lindrick and some three or four miles from Worksop. Here, in the reign of Stephen, Ralph de Cheurolcourt founded a Benedictine nunnery, of which some very small portions are incorporated in the present house. For many years the estate has belonged to the Whites of Tuxford and Wallingwells.

*Warsop* (R. Station) is composed of two villages—Market Warsop and Church Warsop—which are rapidly becoming more populous owing to the mining for coal. Church Warsop is situated on the rising north bank of the Meden, which works

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

a mill here. The church (Sts Peter and Paul) is of much interest, with its varied styles of architecture. There is a rich Norman tower arch and a south arcade built about 1300 with stone seats round the piers. Note (1) the sedilia ; (2) the 16th-cent. vestry with old stained glass in its windows; (3) the 13th-cent. south doorway. About 2 m. S. of Warsop is Nettleworth Hall, formerly the possession of the Wyld family, several of whose memorials are in Warsop church. Gervase Wyld played a prominent part in the great fight with the Spanish Armada.

*Watnall* (R. Station) is a little village composed of two hamlets known as Watnall Chaworth and Watnall Cantilupe. The old Hall, which is approached by a drive opening on to the road through a pair of fine iron gates, has belonged to the Rollestons since the 16th cent.

*Welbeck Abbey* (1 m. S. of Worksop, open to the public on weekdays till 4 P.M. Only a small part is shown) was founded for the Premonstratensian Order in 1153 by Richard de Cuckney. At the Dissolution it came into the hands of Richard Whalley of Screveton and later into the possession of Sir Charles Cavendish, youngest son of Bess of Hardwick, whose son in his turn was first Duke of Newcastle. Failures of heirs and marriages of heiresses took the estate successively into the hands of the Earl of Clare, the Earl of Oxford and finally to the second Duke of Portland, in whose family it still remains. It has the reputation of being one of the best wooded estates in the country. Much of the present house was built in 1604 though many later additions have been made, notably the famous

## WATNALL—WHATTON

underground tunnels and rooms built by the eccentric last duke. Welbeck is a storehouse of treasures (too numerous and varied to attempt even a list of "the most notable") and everything is carried out "on a scale of almost unparalleled grandeur."

*Welham* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. N.E. of Retford) is a pretty hamlet once celebrated for its St John's Well, the waters of which were a sovereign remedy for rheumatism and scorbutic diseases.

*Wellow* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. S.E. of Ollerton) is one of the most picturesque villages in the county, besides being of considerable interest to the archæologist from the fact that it has been surrounded at one time by earthworks. There is another entrenchment near by called Jordan Castle. In the middle of the village green is a maypole erected in 1897 to replace an earlier one. Until recently garlands used to hang on it. The church (St Swithun) is small and of 13th-cent. date; within is a disused font of unusual shape. "Near here," says Mr Lawson Lowe, "was anciently a considerable place called Grymston, no trace of which can now be found; tradition relates that it was entirely destroyed by a fearful earthquake."

*Weston-on-Trent* (3 m. S.E. of Tuxford) stands on a slight eminence overlooking the country to the north where the top of Tuxford spire is visible. The church (All Saints) has a spire, by no means a common thing in these parts.

*Whatton* may be reached in a few minutes by a field-path from Aslockton Station, by road the distance is  $\frac{3}{4}$  m. The village, which is situated on the south bank of the little river Smite, was greatly improved about the middle of the 19th cent.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

by the late lord of the manor, Mr T. Dickinson Hall. The church (St John of Beverley), a much-restored structure, was built chiefly in the 13th cent. It was, up till 1871, cruciform in shape and the tower arch on the south side was Norman in character ; at the restoration it was put on the north side. The nave (E.E.) and the north aisle (Dec.) are the least restored portions. The chancel was rebuilt in 1846 and the tower in 1871, when the present E.E. structure replaced one of the Dec. period. The somewhat insignificant Dec. spire was re-erected. The chief glory of Whatton is its tombs, which are, with one exception, in the north aisle and the chapel at the east end of this aisle. Beginning from the west the first is that of Robert de Whatton, who was a canon of Welbeck till 1310. The small doorway to the west of this tomb may perhaps have led to a chamber over a porch which preceded the present Dec. one. The founder's tomb in the chapel is much mutilated. The magnificent altar tomb of Sir Richard de Whatton (*temp.* Edward II.) deserves all the praise that has been bestowed upon it. Close by is a floor tablet to the father of Archbishop Cranmer. The top of the village cross is preserved in this chapel and a double piscina and some good brackets may also be seen. The remaining effigy is that at the east end of the south aisle to Sir Hugh de Newmarsh, a fine piece of work (*c.* 1400). The glass in the east window of this aisle is from the designs of Sir Edward Burne-Jones and was executed by William Morris. Whatton bells are well known to campanologists. They are commemorated in the following quaint couplet :—



## WHEATLEY, NORTH—WILFORD

“Colston’s cracked pancheons, Screveton’s egg-shells  
Bingham’s ‘tro-rollers,’ and Whatton’s merry bells.”

The font is dated 1662 and is sculptured on five sides.

*Wheatley, North* (2 m. W. of Sturton), is a pleasant and picturesque village clustering on the southern slope of a hill, and containing a very handsome brick house dated 1673 with the arms of the Cartwrights of Wheatley above the door. The church has several interesting details, notably a large font, a rough oak staircase leading to the tower, a palimpsest brass, and a few old bench ends. The tower was built in 1480 and the chancel in 1825. Note the pulpit, 1604, with the inscription: “Wo unto me except I preach the gospel.” There is a fine view eastwards from the top of the tower.

*Wheatley, South* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. W. of Sturton), contains only one or two houses and a ruined church, dismantled within recent years. From what remains it appears to have been a small building with some Norman work. The font is now in St Catherine’s Church, Nottingham. From South Wheatley a pleasant view of North Wheatley is to be obtained.

*Whiteborough* station is a small isolated place on the Derbyshire border, serving Huthwaite. From the road to Teversal a good view may be obtained of Hardwick Hall.

*Whitewater, The.* (See *Walesby.*)

*Widmerpool* (R. Station) is to be found in one of the most beautiful parts of the county, where trees abound. The church (Sts Peter and Paul) is modern except for its 14th-cent. tower. It lies in the Hall grounds and one could not

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

wish for a more picturesque and retired churchyard.

*Wilford* (1 m. S. of Nottingham market-place) is very different now from what it was some fifty or more years ago, when it was one of the rural retreats of Nottingham people, especially when the cherries were ripe. It was then reached by a ferry, in place of which we have the present toll bridge, built in 1870. Of old the view from the churchyard was one of great beauty, comprising a panorama of Nottingham and the villages in the Trent Valley to the west of that town, while the Trent itself flowed in a broad bend by the village. Now a colliery has reared its ugly head on the other side of the river and the rattle of machinery and the banging of trucks take away that peacefulness which caused Kirk White to write in this very churchyard those well-known lines :

“ Here would I wish to sleep.—This is the spot  
Which I have long mark'd out to lay my bones in,  
Tir'd out and wearied with the riotous world,  
Beneath this yew I would be sepulchred.  
It is a lovely spot.”

In 1804 Kirk White retired to Wilford for the sake of his health and the continuance of his studies. The cottage he occupied no longer exists, but for such as desire to seek out the site the following directions from Captain Barker's “Walks round Nottingham” will suffice :—“ Beyond this [farmhouse] we come to four cross roads, that on the left leading to the Nottingham turnpike road, the one in front to Ruddington and that on the right to the banks of the Trent

## WILLOUGHBY-ON-THE-WOLDS

and Clifton. The corner house on the right is of ancient date, and was formerly an alehouse under the sign of the Star. The house adjoining, having a garden in front and a trellised bower over the door, is the place where Kirk White resided, when preparing himself for College." But Kirk White is not the only writer of note who has recognised the charms of Wilford: Philip James Bailey, Henry Sutton, William and Mary Howitt, Thomas Miller and Dr Spencer Hall have all at one time or another welcomed the soothing quiet of this delightful spot.

Wilford is part of the manor of Clifton, and belongs consequently to Sir Hervey Bruce, who resides at Clifton Hall. The church (St Wilfrid) is a somewhat plain but spacious building consisting of an E.E. nave of three bays with a Perp. clerestory and a Perp. chancel of good design and a tower at the north-west corner of the nave. Note (1) the piscina in south aisle with Norman mouldings; (2) the fine series of incised slabs of early date; (3) the turret enclosing the stairway to the rood-loft; (4) the memorial window to Kirk White at the east end of south aisle.

*Willoughby-on-the-Wolds* (2½ m. W. of Upper Broughton) is quite the most interesting place in the south of the county. On the Fosse Way near by was the site of the Roman station of Vernometum and until recent years rumours clung to this district of lost towns and churches that have disappeared. The church of Willoughby has been lately restored, and well restored, too. The nave was built by the year 1200 and the chancel—an extremely large one for the date—by 1300.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Perhaps the most interesting feature is the 14th-cent. mortuary chapel of St Nicholas, and its tombs of members of the Willoughby family. Against the north wall, in judge's dress, is Sir Richard de Willoughby, Chief Justice of the King's Bench in 1327, through whose marriage with Isabella de Mortein the Willoughby family entered into their long ownership of Wollaton. The fine double tomb in the middle of the chapel is that of Sir Hugh Willoughby, who died in 1448. The two 13th-cent. effigies of ladies with wimples are of widows who have taken the vow of chastity. A brass tablet in the floor of the north aisle recalls the fact that here was buried "Collonell Michael Stanhope slayne in Willoughby Feild in the month of July 1648. A souldier for King Charles the first." This stubborn and somewhat bloodthirsty skirmish took place at some unidentified spot near the village and resulted in the defeat of the Royalists. The cottage and farm residences to the south of the church were once the manor house of the Willoughbys. Notwithstanding this division into small residences much good brickwork of the 16th and 17th cents. remains together with some traces of earlier work.

*Winkburn* (3 m. N.E. of Kirklington) is as secluded, melancholy and sleepy a village as one could find anywhere. Smothered by trees it lies in a little valley watered by the river Wink. The church is near the Hall and is so hidden by shrubs and trees that it is not visible until one comes right upon it. The tower, with its Norman belfry windows, is in a sad state of decay. The rest of the church has a 17th-cent. appearance due to the carved pulpit, screen, box pews, good

## WINKBURN—WOLLATON

altar rails and font, all of this period. The Norman tower-arch and south doorway are good. The Hall is comparatively modern but the estate has belonged to the Burnells since the time of Edward VI. Before then it was the property of the Knights Hospitallers of St John of Jerusalem.

*Winthorpe* (2 m. N. of Newark) is a pleasantly wooded village which consists of houses of superior class. The church was rebuilt of brick in 1778.

*Wiseton Hall.* (See *Clayworth.*)

*Wiverton Hall* (pronounced Werton) lies between Tythby and Langar. The property belonged to the De Heriz in the 13th cent., and passed eventually to Sir William Chaworth. Of this family Sir Thomas Chaworth became an extremely wealthy man, and in the reign of Henry VI. he was able to build a strong house and set a park about it. This house remained until the Civil War, when it was garrisoned for the king by John Lord Chaworth. Here the queen slept, and here too came Prince Rupert and his brother. On 3rd November 1645 Major-General Poyntz stormed Shelford, and on the next day appeared before Wiverton, which surrendered and was pulled down. All that was left was the gatehouse, which forms the back part of the present house built in 1614. The Chaworth family became extinct with Mary Chaworth, who conveyed the manor to the Musters. It was at Wiverton that this lady died in 1832.

*Wollaton* (3 m. W. of Nottingham) would be quite a picturesque village were it not for the colliery which so disfigures it. In the village there remains the old dovecote still in use. The

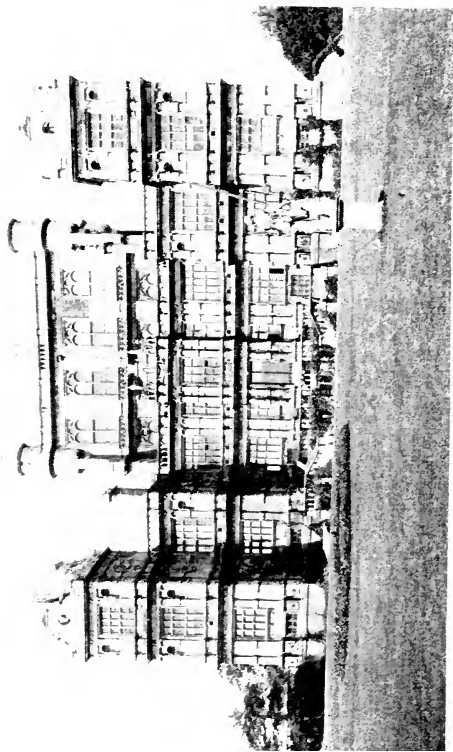
## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

church (St Leonard) is of little interest architecturally, but the tower which stands upon open arches is curious, and it is difficult to understand the reason for this unless we may suppose that there was a right-of-way here. It is to its tombs that the church owes its renown; the beautiful tomb of Henry Willoughby (1528) with the four diminutive effigies of his wives; the large canopied tomb with brasses of Richard Willoughby (1471) and his wife, which must be from the same workshop as the big tomb at Strelley; and the inscribed tablet within the altar rails, with its beautiful lettering, which is difficult to decipher, so that the copy given here may be useful.

“Perci } Wylluhby qui. ob. Aug. 23. 1643  
 Bridg } qua obuit July. 16. 1629  
 Toro }  
 Tumulo } Coiuere in vno  
 Duplici coniuncti connvbio  
 Ignoscat illis omnia  
 Qui nostra tulit crimina”

On the wall of the south aisle is the monument to Robert Smythson, architect and surveyor, who had a large share in the erection of Wollaton Hall. Note the beautiful ironwork in the Willoughby pew.

*Wollaton Hall* (permission to visit the Hall and park in the afternoon may generally be obtained by writing in advance to Mr C. M. S. Pilkington, Wollaton. Visitors arriving without a written permit will not be admitted). The Willoughby family are descended from one Ralph Bugge, a wealthy wool merchant of Nottingham,



WOLFATON HALL.





## WOLLATON HALL

whose house was opposite the Shire Hall on the High Pavement. In 1240-1241 he purchased estates at Willoughby-on-the-Wolds, and thus the family came by their name. A marriage in the reign of Edward III. with the heiress of the Morteins brought to them the Wollaton estate. Before the building of the present Hall the family house was near the church.

The park, 790 acres in extent, is enclosed by a brick wall said to be 7 m. in length, 7 ft. high and to have taken one man 7 years to build. The making of this park caused the disappearance of the village of Sutton Passeys. The Hall is usually approached from the Lenton Lodge, and the drive passes through a magnificent avenue of limes. There is a large herd of deer in the park.

The architecture and history of the Hall have puzzled experts not a little. The facts appear to be as follows :—In 1580 Sir Francis Willoughby set about the erection of this residence. The plans were prepared by John Thorpe, and the director and general master workman was Robert Smythson. Were it not for the reliable statement that Italian master workmen were employed we should not attribute much of the work to Italian models, notwithstanding the gondola rings ; the influences are rather French, for Thorpe was undoubtedly influenced by Du Cerceau, and the Dutch, for Holland was the birthplace of the curly gables on the pavilions. The Hall took eight years to build, and we learn that the stone was brought from Ancaster on horseback, and the horses returned carrying Wollaton coal. And yet, notwithstanding this great saving of expense,

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

the building cost £80,000. In plan it consists of a large central hall, whose internal measurements are 60 ft. in length by 30 ft. in width, 50 ft. in height, the windows being 30 ft. from the ground, and 4 corner pavilions. Mr J. A. Gotch (to whose able article we are much indebted), a great authority on buildings of this period, writing in the *Royal Archæological Journal*, 1891, says: "As a matter of fact it cannot be called a typical example [of an Elizabethan palace]. In its chief characteristic it stands by itself, namely, in its lofty central hall and its four corner pavilions. In its extreme regularity of treatment, and in the great care bestowed upon its detail, it exhibits far more conscious effort than the majority of houses built in that period."

The chief interest of the interior lies in the series of family portraits, which include Sir Hugh Willoughby the explorer, and Sir Francis Willoughby the eminent naturalist.

The gardens are of great historical interest, for according to Beeton's "Garden Management" it was here that a glass structure was first used for the protection of plants in 1695. Also in 1823 the camellia-house, one of the first in England, was built at a cost of £10,000. The gardens were once much larger and were considered only second to those at Chatsworth for beauty throughout England.

*Woodborough* (3 m. N.W. of Lowdham) lies in a valley which opens into the flat land watered by the Dover Beck on the east, and is overlooked by the height of Dorket Head on the west. Little of interest remains in the village with the

## WOODBOROUGH—WORKSOP

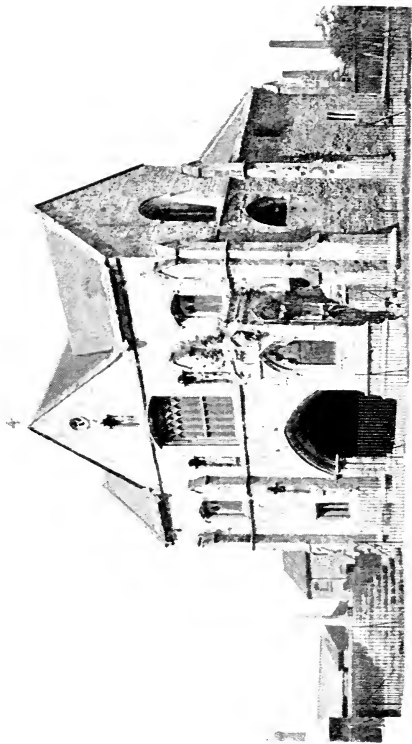
exception of the church (St Swithun), which has a late Norman doorway on the north side. Richard de Strelley, who was lord of the manor in the 14th cent., rebuilt the church, and it is to him that we owe the magnificent chancel, which was built about 1356, at a time when his father, Sampson de Strelley, was rebuilding Strelley church. Richard does not appear to have lived to finish the work, for the nave and aisles are of a later date and comparatively poor in workmanship. Note (1) the two fine crosses on the church roof, which have been restored. The cross at Clifton is the only other instance of such work in the county; (2) the sedilia; (3) the Jacobean altar-table at the east end of the south aisle, given by John Wood of Lambley, Recorder of Newark; (4) the Norman font; (5) the old stained glass; (6) hooks in the chancel from which the Lenten veil was hung; (7) the beautiful script of the mural tablet on the north wall of the chancel, dated 1770. Between Woodborough and Calverton is the Fox Wood entrenchment, one of the best of the numerous earthworks in this neighbourhood.

WORKSOP (R. Station). The late Mr Robert White, the able and painstaking historian of Worksop and the north of the county, gives it as his opinion that the town takes its name from a fortified hill which existed here at an early date. The main street of the town is, moreover, one of those roads of undoubted antiquity which are so frequently met with and about which we know so little. In all probability the hill was that which is called Castle Hill, one which would command the road passing at its base as well as the river

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Ryton, which the road crosses. To-day the chief interest of Worksop, apart from its proximity to Welbeck Abbey and the Dukeries, lies in the remains of its Priory of Austin Canons, which was known as the Priory of Radford. This priory was founded, probably in 1103, by William de Lovetot and dedicated to St Cuthbert. Before the manor came into the hands of De Lovetot it had belonged to the great family of De Busli, and curiously enough out of all the manors held by Roger de Busli in this alone is his name still remembered, for a field bears the name Buslings. From the De Lovetots the manor passed, about 1180, by marriage to Gerard de Furnival, with whose male descendants it remained till 1383, when the heiress of the Furnivals transferred it to the Nevilles, who in 1406 passed it on, again by marriage, to the Talbots, earls of Shrewsbury, in whose family it remained for over 200 years, and it was a Talbot who held Mary Queen of Scots prisoner for a short time at his manor house here. Perhaps the choicest relic of the great priory is the beautiful gatehouse, which seems to have been a guest-house as well, and in consequence we have a good example of an early 14th-cent. house, for the work seems to have been in progress about 1314. The exquisite little porch, which was built some sixty years later, contained a chapel for travellers and a staircase leading to the guest-room. The niches of the south front hold the effigies of St Cuthbert and St Augustine. Note the wooden roof over the entrance gateway. In front are the remains of the cross.

Of the little parish church which formed part



WORKSOP. PRIORY GATEHOUSE



## WYSALL

of the grant made by William de Lovetot nothing remains. About the middle of the 12th cent. a rebuilding was taken in hand and a large apsidal choir built. Of this work only the two most eastern pillars of the present church remain. At this date the additional dedication of St Mary was made. The rest of the church was the work of another William de Lovetot, about 1170-1180. The richness of this work, and its strong resemblance to both the E.E. and Norman styles, is very striking. In addition to the nave of the original church the only other remains are a beautiful piece of mid. 13th-cent. work known as the Lady Chapel, now in ruins, and part of the cellarge at the west end on the north side. At the end of the 12th cent. the nave was apportioned to the parishioners and therefore what remains to this day has been ever since its erection a parish church. Note the ironwork of the south door.

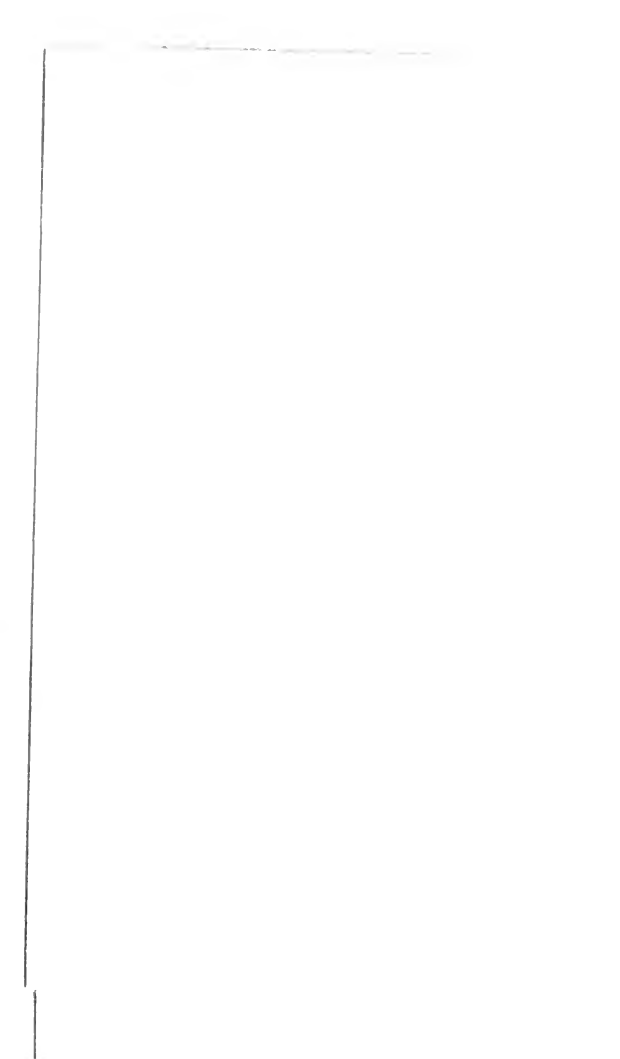
In front of the Old Ship Inn was the Market House, of which nothing is left. Just outside Worksop are the gates leading to the manor park once renowned for its fine trees. A little farther on is the entrance to Welbeck Abbey.

*Wysall* (3¼ m. S. of Plumtree) is a pleasant village with wide open streets and an undoubtedly agricultural look. The church (Holy Trinity) was restored in 1873 but is still of much interest. With the exception of some Norman work in the north wall of the nave, and a certain amount of 13th-cent. work in the nave itself, the major part of the church is of 14th-cent. date and of excellent workmanship. The screen, misericords and chancel roof are especially worthy of attention. Note (1) the alabaster tomb of Hugh Armstrong,

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

who died in 1572, and his wife ; (2) the moulded font of the 13th cent. ; (3) the traces of fresco on the north wall of the nave. At the Plough Inn there is a pump trough which appears to be a Norman pier cap hollowed out. This probably belonged to a church contemporary with the work in the north wall of the nave, though there are some who believe that there is pre-Conquest work in the north wall. It is pleasant to be able to record that the medieval pulpit has been restored to use, after lying neglected for a long time ; its panels were formerly painted.





# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Scale 1 Mile = 1 Inch

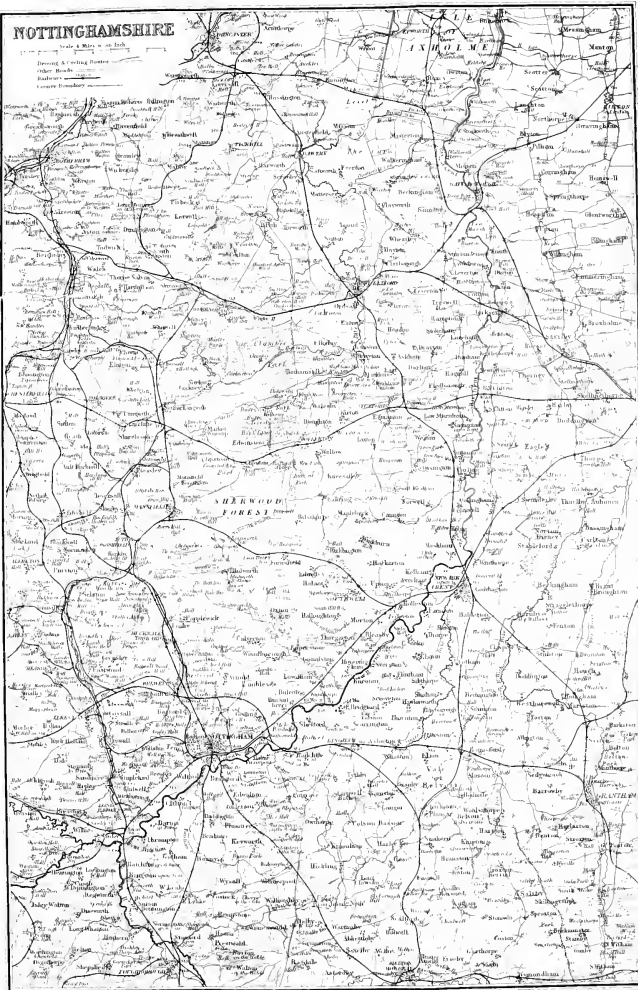
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