



<http://kentarchaeology.org.uk/research/archaeologia-cantiana/>

Kent Archaeological Society is a registered charity number 223382

© 2017 Kent Archaeological Society

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

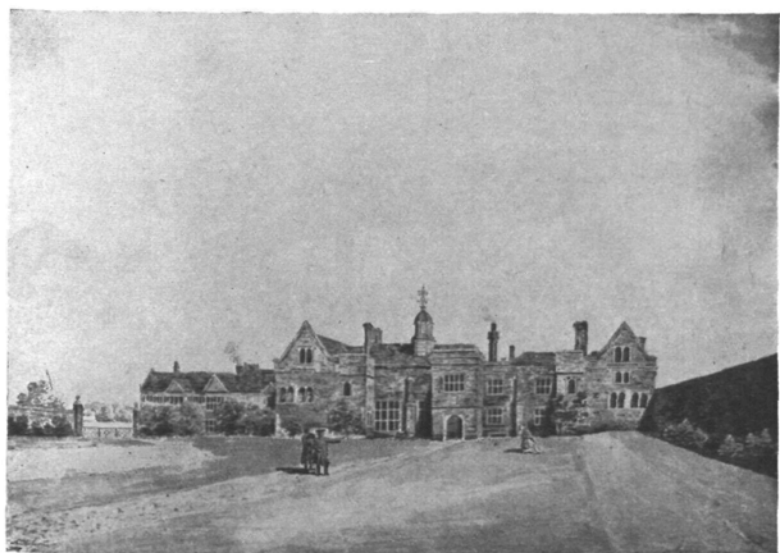
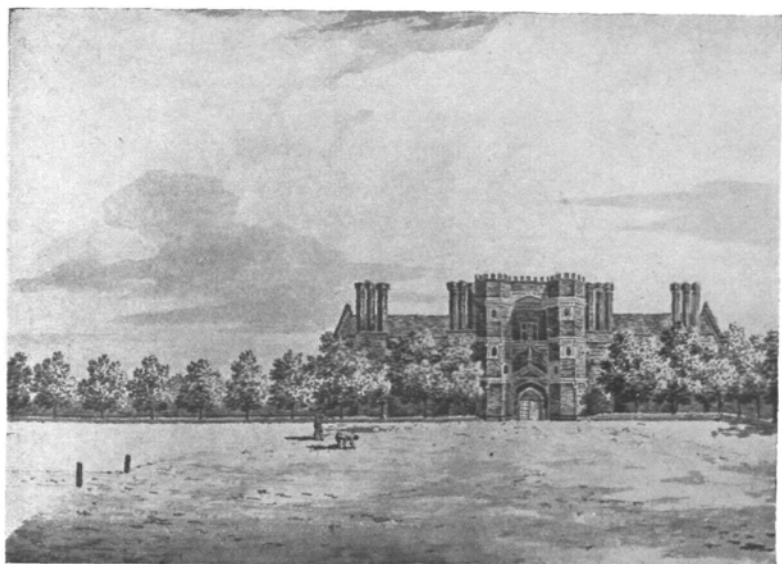
TWO HITHERTO UNKNOWN VIEWS OF SIR ROGER  
MANWOOD'S GREAT HOUSE AT HACKINGTON,  
CANTERBURY.

DURING 1935 there were exhibited at Walker's Galleries, New Bond Street, London, two water-colour pictures of Sir Roger Manwood's great house at St. Stephen's, or Hackington, Canterbury. These were signed by A. Nelson, a little-known artist who flourished in the second half of the eighteenth century, but who exhibited a number of his works at the Society of Artists and the Royal Academy, most of them being representations of places in East Kent.

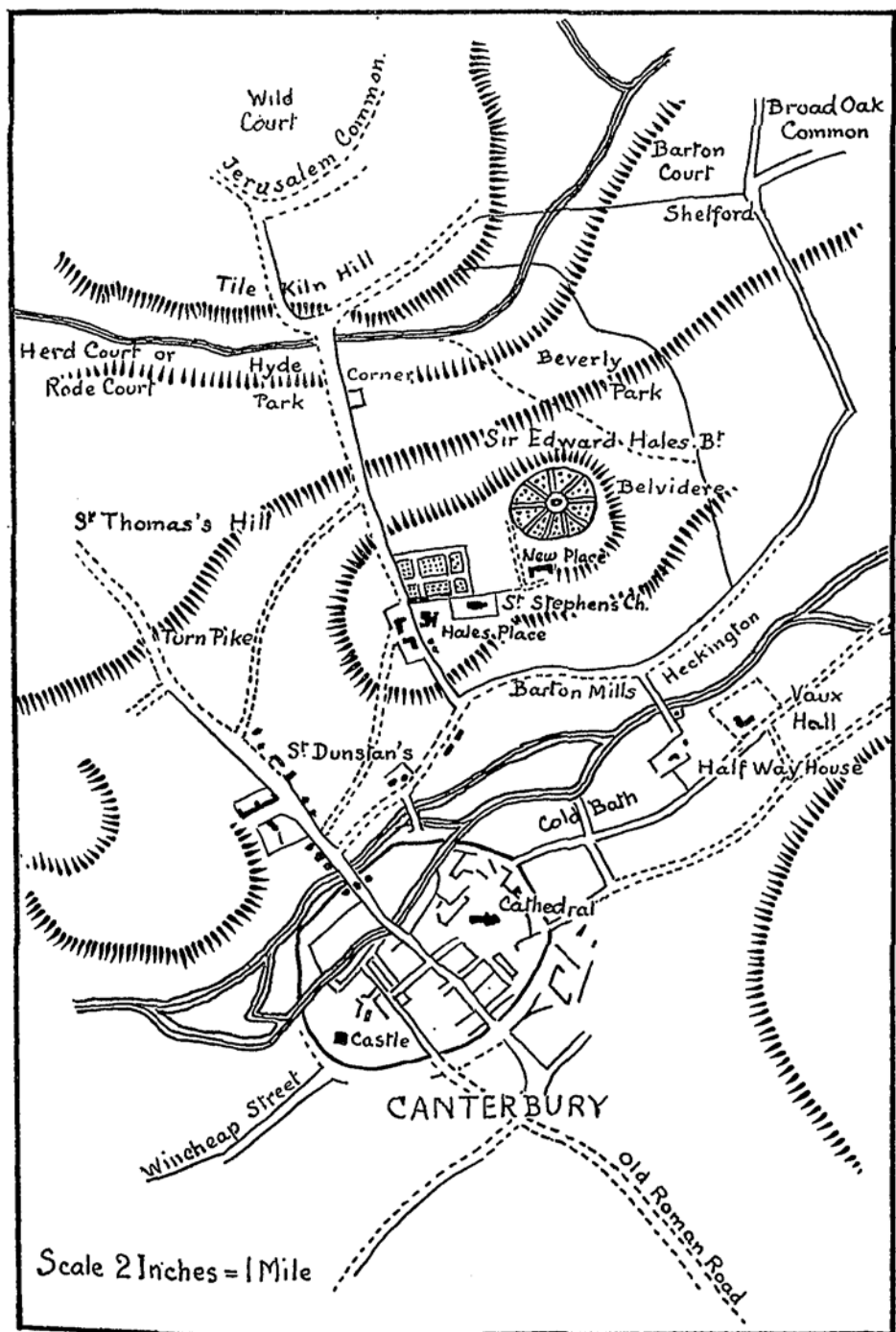
The pictures in question were illustrated in a quarterly publication known as *Walker's Quarterly* and they there attracted the attention of Mr. H. T. Mead of the Royal Museum at Canterbury. They were subsequently sent down to Canterbury on approval and eventually purchased by the Corporation for the City, where they are now exhibited at the Beaney Institute.

In volume XLV of *Archæologia Cantiana*, p. 201, there is a picture of Sir Roger Manwood's house by Francis Grose, F.S.A., which represents the great gateway and a long wall, in front of which runs a road. There can be no doubt that the view of the great gate by A. Nelson is the same as that by Francis Grose, but taken from a different viewpoint, whilst the other view, evidently that of the back of the house, should show the wall in the foreground of Grose's drawing on the left, whereas it appears on the right-hand side of the picture, in fact left and right seem to have been transposed.

It has been suggested that Nelson made a rough sketch of the back of the house, took it to his studio and by means of a camera lucida transferred it to a fresh sheet of paper, and afterwards worked it up into a water-colour picture.



SIR ROGER MANWOOD'S GREAT OR PLACE HOUSE AT ST. STEPHEN'S.  
A. Nelson, pinxit. Fl. 1760-1800.



Copied from 'A Topographical Map of the County of Kent'  
Published in 1769.  
Showing the Site of Hales Place, Hackington.



A camera lucida was a device much used in the eighteenth century for copying drawings and pictures, but it had the disadvantage of transposing left and right.

Where these pictures have been since Nelson painted them is not known. Walker's Galleries obtained them from a collector of old water-colours who is now deceased.

It is of interest to note that in the map of Kent published January 1st, 1769, by John Andrews, Andrew Drury and William Herbert, Manwood's great house is shown and called Hales Place, whilst the house built to the north of it by Sir Edward Hales, Bart., is also shown and is named New Place. This latter came to be known as Hales Place after the older house of Manwood had been demolished.

KENNETH H. JONES, M.B., F.S.A.

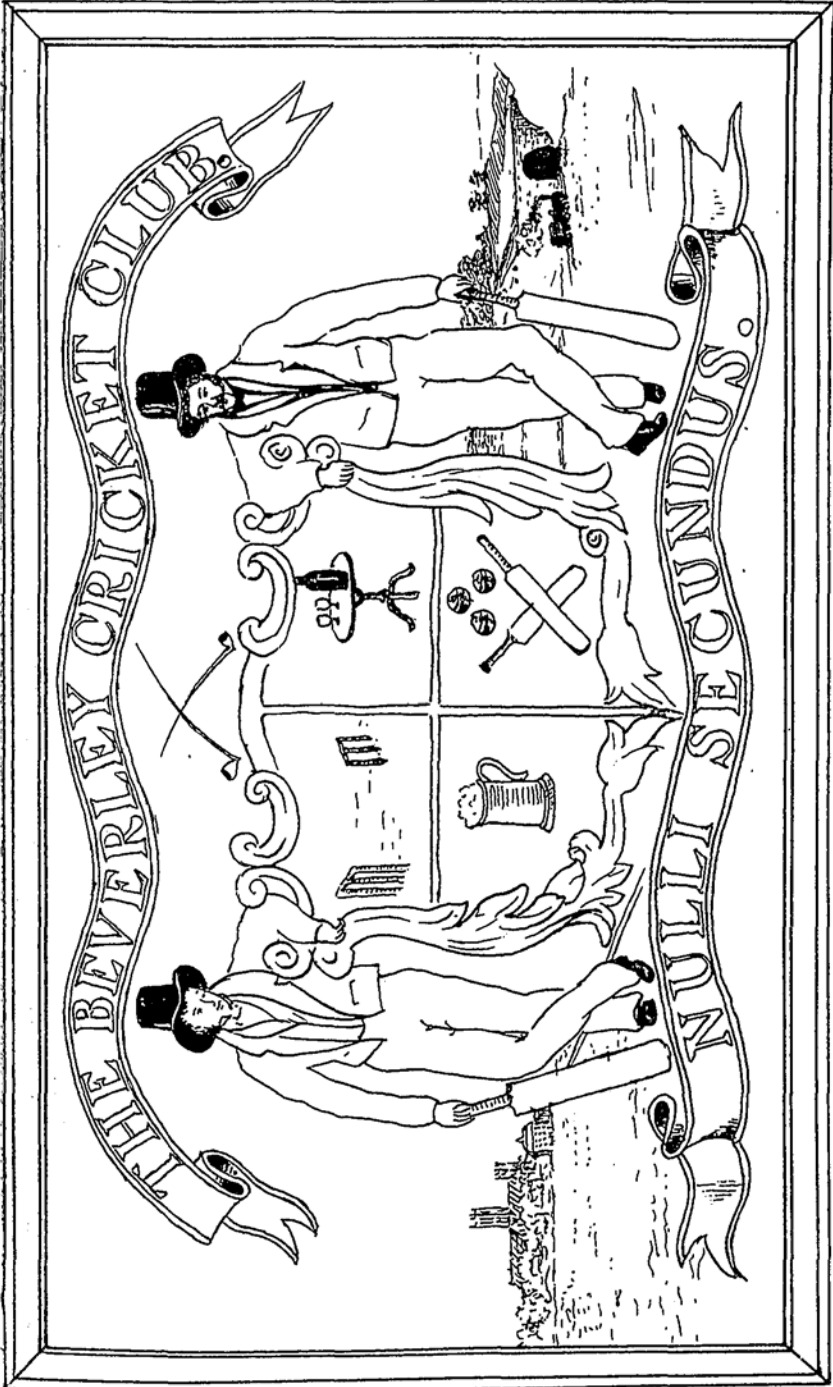
#### AN EARLY RELIC OF KENT CRICKET.

IN the front parlour of the "Olde Beverlie" Inn at Saint Stephen's, Canterbury, there hangs upon the wall facing the entrance door an old picture which was formerly the property of Mr. William de Chair Baker, and which served as a sort of hatchment or "achievement of arms" to the Old Beverley Cricket Club, founded in 1835.

The picture is painted upon four planks clamped together in a wooden frame, and measures five feet in width and two feet nine inches in height. It has hung for many years in its present position, though, until recently, it was impossible to make out the details of the picture owing to the cracked and darkened condition of the varnish.

In 1934 the surface of the picture was successfully cleaned by the present occupier and landlord of the "Olde Beverlie", Mr. Frank Wilson, and now the original design painted thereon is clearly to be seen.

In the centre of the picture is a quartered shield, surmounted by a crest of crossed churchwarden pipes, and supported on either side by a figure in the costume associated with the game of cricket of about the third decade of the



THE BEVERLEY CRICKET CLUB

NULLI SE CUNDUS

nineteenth century, each figure holding a cricket bat. These figures are supposed to represent William de Chair Baker, of the Beverlie Manor (now the Manor House), Saint Stephen's, Canterbury, and his brother George.

In the first quarter of the shield is a cricket pitch with stumps in position; in the second quarter a small table with glasses and a bottle; in the third quarter a foaming tankard; in the fourth quarter two crossed cricket bats and three cricket balls. Below is a scroll bearing the motto "*Nulli secundus*".

As a sort of pictorial background there can be seen, on the left, Canterbury Cathedral and the famous white wooden mill recently destroyed by fire, and on the right, the tunnel on the Canterbury—Whitstable railway, into which a locomotive of the "Rocket" type is about to enter. This tunnel, which is quite near to St. Stephen's, was the first railway tunnel to be made in Great Britain, and was opened for use on the 3rd May, 1830.

At the back of the picture, written on a small planed area, is the information that the picture was designed in 1837 by the Rev. J. G. H. Baker, the Rev. J. W. F. Fagge and William de Chair Baker, Esq.

This "achievement of arms" hung for many years in the Club Room of the inn, but eventually it became the property of William de Chair Baker and was moved to the Manor House, where it was stored for a long time in the loft. On the death of the widow of William de Chair Baker in 1905 the picture was returned to "the Beverlie Arms to be hung for ever", where it still is, the colours somewhat subdued by time, but well worthy of attention.

Under the present design there are traces, faintly discernible, of scroll work and lettering which leave no doubt that the achievement was painted over an old inn sign, perhaps that of the old Beverlie Arms itself.

The home matches of the Beverley Cricket Club were played sometimes on the field between the church and the road and sometimes on a field behind the Manor House, and an old inhabitant of the parish recollects that on these

occasions the board was brought out and put up in front of the marquee or tent of the club.

William de Chair Baker was a famous Kent cricketer in his youth, and was one of the originators of the Canterbury Cricket Week, with which he was associated for many years.

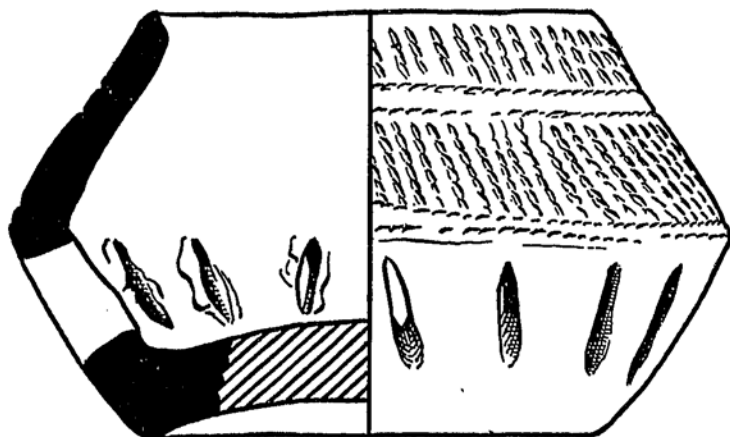
The Beverley Cricket Club became later the Kent County Cricket Club, and it is not unreasonable, therefore, to claim for the Manor House at St. Stephen's the honour of being the birthplace of Kent County Cricket.

The illustration is from a line drawing of the "Coat of Arms" by Engineer-Captain J. B. Hewitt, R.N.

K. H. JONES, M.B., F.S.A.

#### "INCENSE-CUP" FROM CANTERBURY.

THE subjoined illustration is of a small biconical pottery vessel of a type, usually known as "incense-cups", which is often found as funeral furniture with characteristic cinerary urns in graves of the Middle Bronze Age. The cup, which is now in Canterbury Museum and illustrated here by permission of Mr. H. T. Mead, the Curator, was found many years ago in Lutinton Wood, near Canterbury.



"INCENSE-CUP" FROM CANTERBURY.

Height 2.15 inches.

Lutinton Wood does not appear on the Canterbury district six-inch maps, and it has not been possible to locate it.

The cup, fragmentary though it is, is perfectly typical of its kind, and is well made from a greyish brown clay. The upper portion is ornamented with two zones of oblique twisted cord impressions bounded by horizontal lines, while the lower has the usual vertical incisions for draught holes. Other examples have been found in Bronze Age barrows at Ringwould and Tilmanstone in East Kent.<sup>1</sup>

R. F. JESSUP.

#### STONE COFFIN LIDS FROM TONBRIDGE PRIORY.

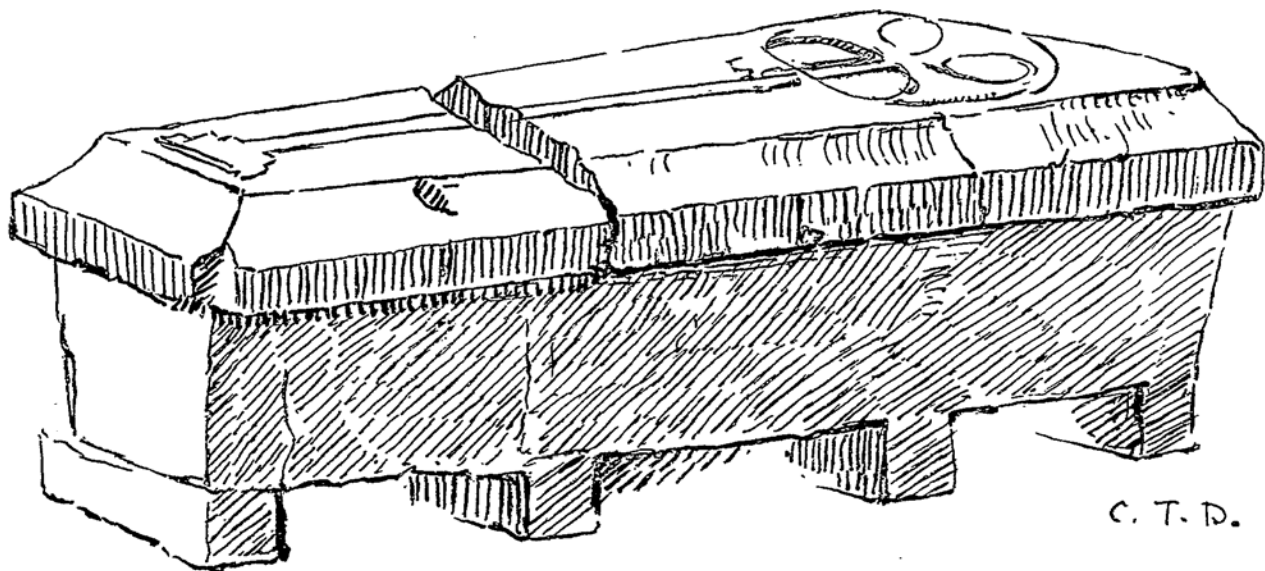
OF Monastic buildings in Kent the Augustinian Priory at Tonbridge was not the least important either in size or beauty. Founded by Richard de Clare in about 1140, at a time when architecture in England was most monumental, it was coincident with the Augustinian foundation at Clare in Suffolk, from whence Richard took his name.

It is interesting to note that the dedication of Clare Church is the same as that of Tonbridge, viz. SS. Peter and Paul, the latter being given (by charter still existing) to the Priory by Roger de Clare.

In 1337 a great fire destroyed the original building of De Clare, and although it was rebuilt there was apparently nothing of outstanding architectural interest in the succeeding structure which finally ended its history in the suppression of twenty-two of the minor monasteries in 1525, under Cardinal Wolsey. "On Feb: 10/1526 Wolsey granted to John Higden, Dean of Cardinal's Coll., Oxford, the site of the *late* monastery at Tonbridge."

The paper by Mr. J. F. Wadmore in *Arch. Cantiana*, Vol. XIV (1882), pp. 326-43, deals with the history of the Priory, and shows two drawings as it appeared in 1838, before the erection of the Goods Station, which now occupies the site.

<sup>1</sup> C. H. Woodruffe, "On Celtic Tumuli in East Kent." *A.C.* VOL. IX, (1874), pp. 16-30. R. F. Jessup, *Archæology of Kent* (1930), 121, 122.



STONE . COFFIN . FROM . TONBRIDGE . PRIORY . -  
AT . SOMERHILL .

FIG. 1.

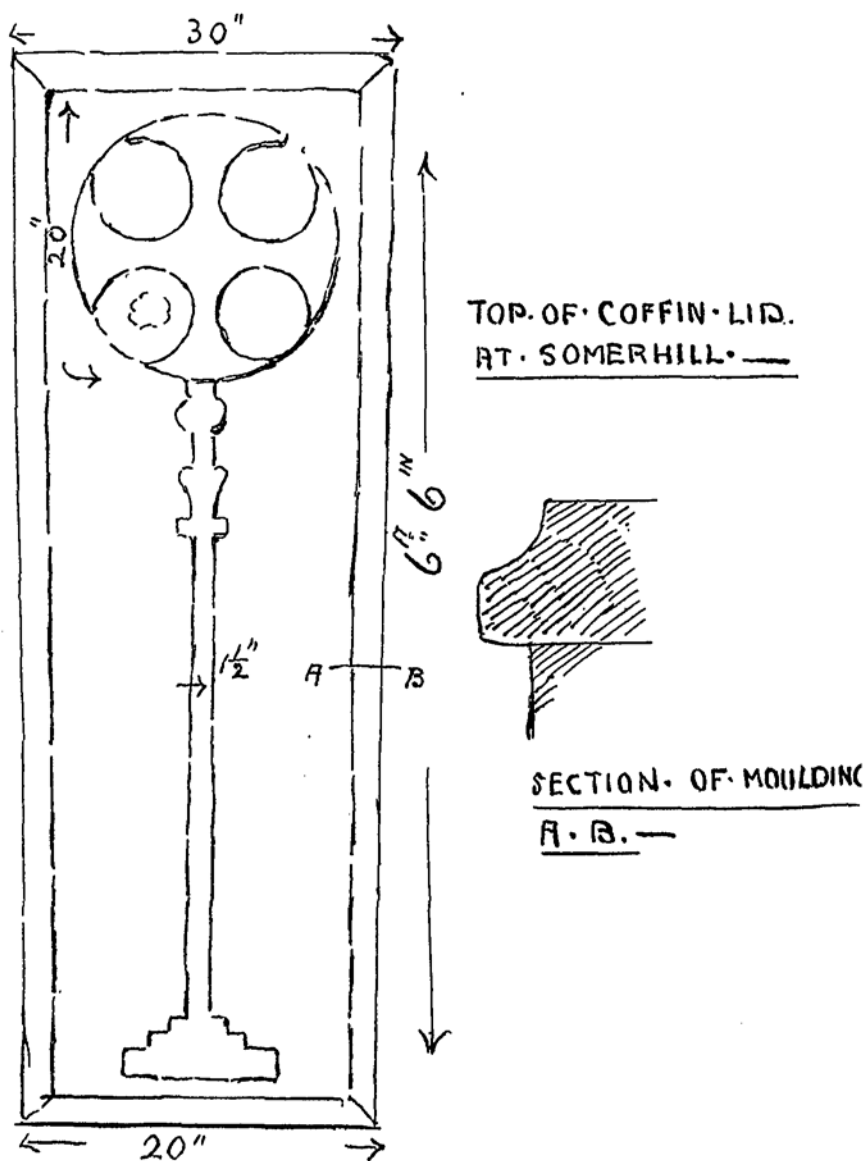
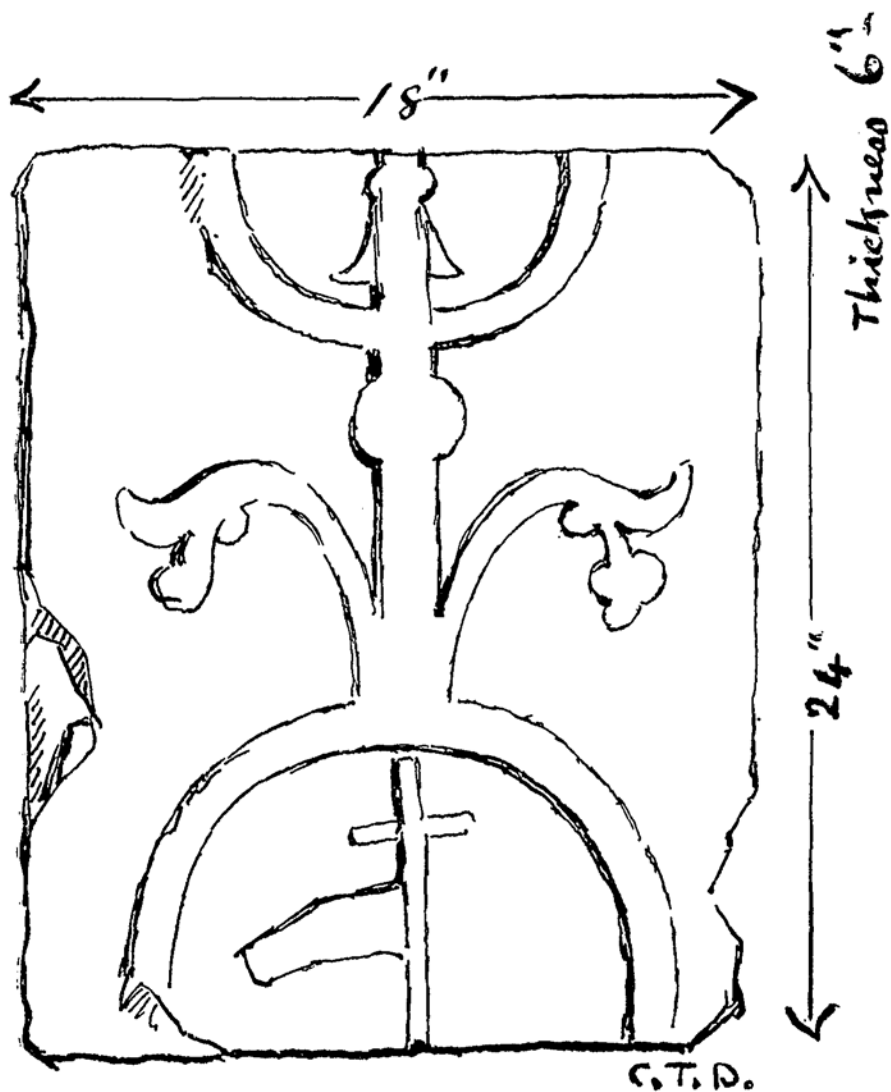


FIG. 2.



PORTION OF COVER OF STONE  
XIII CENTURY. COFFIN.

FIG. 3.



The historical interest of the Priory now lies in the large number of Charters in the Bodleian Library at Oxford.

Some researches, however, I have made in Tonbridge to discover whether any details in stone exist. Of architectural fragments there appear to be none, but some interesting coffin lids were discovered in two gardens.

The largest and most complete stone coffin is that of Somerhill which is shown in the accompanying drawings (Nos. 1 and 2).

On the top is a cross patée and at the foot a small stepped "calvary". (The mark in one of the arms of the cross is the cast of a small fossil shell.) This great stone coffin is now in the stable yard at Somerhill, the residence of Sir E. d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, Bart.

In the garden of Lyons, Tonbridge, I discovered the stone marked No. 3. The detail is peculiarly interesting as it shows a double cross, the sign of a bishop. From 1320-36 Prior John was head of the Convent. From contemporary accounts he seems to have been a man of independent spirit, for on more than one occasion he was threatened with excommunication. The coffin lid which has detail of this period is of hard stone and shows below the double cross a small cross with pennon. This is usually associated with St. John. The above details possibly indicate that this was the Prior John's coffin lid.

Two other examples which are in the garden of the Portreeves House are both early. The stone appears to be local and on one of them again is seen a cross patée.

An account of these last remains in stone of the once great Priory at Tonbridge may be worth recording.

C. TATTERSHALL DODD, A.R.C.A.

### BRONZE FIFTEENTH CENTURY CRUCIFIX FROM NEW ROMNEY.

THIS crucifix, 7 in. by 4½ in., was dug up in New Romney High Street, at a depth of two feet, during reconstruction of the road surface by the Kent County Council, early in June 1936.



BRONZE CRUCIFIX, NEW ROMNEY.



BRONZE CRUCIFIX, NEW ROMNEY.

The Assistant Keeper of the British Museum, to whom it has been submitted, reports as follows :

“ It is very similar in style to a figure on an English fifteenth century processional cross, excavated at West Farleigh Church in 1823, and now in the collection here. I should give it the same date.”

The figure is particularly interesting on account of its exceptional beauty and grace of line.

It is at present deposited in the New Romney Guild Hall Museum.

M. TEICHMAN DERVILLE.

#### A HOARD OF ROMAN COINS FROM MAIDSTONE.

ON December 23rd, 1935, workmen engaged in laying an electric cable to the new wing of the Ophthalmic Hospital in Church Street, Maidstone, near the top of Wyke Manor Road, found a hoard of bronze coins under the roadway. These proved to be Roman sesteriae of the first and second centuries A.D. No trace of a pot or any other container was observed, but some bones were found and almost immediately re-buried in the road. Thus it was not practicable to re-excavate them, although they were not identified. The workmen did not consider them to be human, so the question of whether the hoard was connected with an interment must remain an open one. The coins were dispersed among the men, but thanks to the Maidstone Corporation Electricity Department and the help and generosity of Mr. Walter H. Day, they were speedily brought together again. The fifty-seven specimens now in the Maidstone Museum represent practically the whole of the hoard, or at any rate, as much of it as was found, for in view of the fact that the trench in which the find was made was only one spade's width, it is possible that there are more coins from this hoard yet to be discovered.

Of the following list, the most interesting coins are Nos. 37 and 42. The former is a variety of Mattingly and Sydenham No. 1156, the type of which has no nimbus on the

	Denomina- tion.	Emperor.	Date.	Number in M.S.
1	Sestertius	? Vespasian	Late 1st c.	?
2	"	"	"	"
3	"	Domitian	A.D. 88-89	358.
4	"	"	"	?
5	"	Trajan	A.D. 114-117	666 or 667.
6	"	"	A.D. 115-116	642.
7	"	"	"	"
8	"	"	"	483.
9	"	"	"	Type unidentified
10	"	"	"	" "
11	"	"	"	" "
12	"	Hadrian	"	" "
13	"	"	"	" "
14	"	"	"	" "
15	"	"	"	" "
16	"	"	"	" "
17	"	"	"	" "
18	"	"	"	" "
19	"	"	"	" "
20	"	"	"	" "
21	"	"	"	" "
22	"	"	A.D. 119-120	594.
23	"	"	"	"
24	"	"	A.D. 134-138	770.
25	"	" (L. Aelius Caes)	A.D. 137	1057.
26	"	Sabina	"	1035.
27	"	Antoninus Pius	A.D. 140-144	622.
28	"	"	A.D. 145-161	770.
29	"	" (Aurelius)	A.D. 152-153	1308.
30	"	"	A.D. 154-155	1321.
31	"	"	A.D. 156-161	Type of 964.
32	"	"	A.D. 170-171	998.
33	"	"	"	"
34	"	"	"	Worn. Compare 967.
35	"	Faustina I	"	1121.
36	"	"	"	1126.
37	"	"	"	1103 A, with the addition of a nim- bus to the phoenix.
38	"	"	"	1146 A.
39	"	"	"	1108.
40	"	"	"	1126.
41	"	L. Verus	A.D. 161	1284.
42	"	"	A.D. 162-163	1345 except for FART. RED in Ex.
43	"	"	A.D. 166	Illegible, but cf. 1456.
44	"	"	A.D. 165-166	1438.
45	"	"	A.D. 168	1478.
46	"	M. Aurelius	A.D. 163-164	861.
47	"	"	A.D. 163-165	Type of 803.
48	"	"	A.D. 165-166	898.
49	"	"	A.D. 177-178	1227.
50	"	"	170-180	1262.
51	"	Faustina II	"	1668.
52	"	"	"	Type of 1706.
53	"	Commodus	A.D. 178	1588.
54	"	"	A.D. 183	368b or 400.
55	"	"	A.D. 184	441.
56	"	"	"	"
57	"	"	"	"

phoenix. Mr. Mattingly tells me that the original description is presumably incomplete, but that the phoenix may not always be nimbate. No. 42 is an interesting fluke in which the exergual inscription is blundered by the substitution of A for O in the normal reading of FORT RED.

(M.S.=Mattingly and Sydenham, *The Roman Imperial Coinage*, Vols. II and III.)

NORMAN COOK.

### THE HEARTH TAX FOR SPELDHURST IN 1663.

THE document printed herewith has been sent by our member, Mr. Charles Powell, D.L. It is in the Public Record Office. Lay Subsidy, Kent 129/718. It is headed :

A list of what fire hearths are within the Burrow of Speldhurst in the halfe hundred of Watchlingstone for the year 1663—halfe due Michs.

#### Fire hearths

John Pinson	7	William Stymson	1
Nycholas Ashdewne	5	John Saxby	1
William Avis	3	Richard Hollamby	3
Shiers Constable	4	Henry Crundwell	4
Widdow Harrison	2	Robert Streatfeild	3
Stephen Moyse	1	Robert Curd	3
Thomas Johnson	2	William Coxen	2
Adam Farmer	2	Thomas Sudes	1
Thomas Radcliffe	4		
Edward Fry	3	Ashurst.	
William Dann	1	John Turner	4
Jeremyah Gilbert	3	Edward Lambert	5
William Jeffery	1	John Wickenden	3
Edward Children	7	John Cronke	4
William Fann	2	John Woodhams	3
John Fry senr.	4	Stephen Hodgkin	3
Widdow Coale	3	Thomas Rivers	2
Thomas Fry	3	Samuel Rogers	3
Thomas Waghorne	4	John Still	5

William Goodsale	2				
John Longley	1				
William Longley	1				
Soloman Fann	2				
John Fry junr.	3	John Cronk, Headburrow			
John Godden	1	for Speldhurst			
Richard Jeffery	3				
Nycholas Russell	1				
Edward Colegate	2				
Samuel Farnes	3		£	s.	d.
Thomas Rogers	3	Speldhurst	6	11	0
John Jeffery	3	Asherst	1	12	0
Edward Hunt	2	Rusthall	6	8	0
<i>(This entry is crossed out)</i>		Haleburrow	5	8	0
William Crundwell	1	Barden	6	10	0
Richard Wood	3				5
Richard Weller	1				
Joshuah Weeke	1				
Thomas Eldridge	3				
James Caverly	3				
Everest Franks	1				
Stephen Colegate	3				
Thomas Hollamby	3				
Richard Fann	3				
Widdow Abraham	1				

The hamlet of Barden to-day has four cottages and a farmhouse only. At the date of the tax it had an iron-works, and evidently houses which have disappeared.

Hearth tax, hearth money or chimney tax, as it was variously called, was first imposed in 1662 (13 and 14 Charles II, c. 10), on all houses, except cottages, which paid church and poor rates; and was 2s. annually on every hearth. Blackstone's Commentaries state that by this and "subsequent statutes, for the more regular assessment of this tax, the constable and two other substantial inhabitants of the parish, to be appointed yearly (or the surveyor, appointed by the crown,

Aug: the 28 1600 and Eighty 8

Received of *Sr. Tho: Barker*  
the Sum of *Eleven* }  
Shillings, in full for — 1 half years }  
Duty for — 11 Fire- } 11  
hearths in his House in *Lidon* }  
due and ended at Lady-Day }  
last past. I say Received by — }  
Fol. *25*

L. 15

*J. Borradaile* Collector.



together with such constable or other public officer) were, once in every year, empowered to view the inside of every house in the parish. But upon the revolution," in 1689, "hearth money was declared to be 'not only a great oppression to the poorer sort, but a badge of slavery upon the whole people, exposing every man's house to be entered into, and searched at pleasure, by persons unknown to him; and therefore, to erect a lasting monument of their majesties' goodness in every house in the kingdom, the duty of hearth-money was taken away and abolished.'"

The hearth-tax receipt has been kindly lent for reproduction by our member, Mr. F. W. Tyler, F.S.A.

W. P. D. STEBBING.

#### A COURT LEET AND COURT BARON RECORD FOR THE MANOR OF DEAL PREBEND IN 1708.

THIS small parchment roll, measuring  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length by  $5\frac{7}{8}$  inches in width, belongs to our member, Mr. J. J. Williamson, who has been kind enough to allow it to be transcribed for *Arch. Cantiana*.

The fines for not attending one court or the other, the rents and releases, came into the regular business of the administration of the now extinct manor. Here we have the payment of dues in kind, which eventually became commuted for a cash payment, and those dozens of small fines of which the collection must have kept the Steward of the Manor busy. As for "fasting silver" Professor A. Hamilton Thompson writes that he thinks "that it must be a customary offering made in Lent, probably on Ash Wednesday. I have never seen this exact phrase before, and of course the fasting or fastening penny was given as earnest of a bargain, as at betrothals. But the mention of this particular source of income between Christmas and Easter distinctly points to Lent. Lenten offerings are frequently mentioned as a source of parochial revenues, and I have often come across the phrase *Liber quadragesimalis*,

which I have never seen explained anywhere, but which from the context in which it occurs obviously means the sum total of the offerings recorded in an account-book kept for the purpose."

The untutored crosses added to some of the entries probably indicate that the due has been paid.

The roll is endorsed on the back :

Received November the 19<sup>th</sup> 1708 : The Extracts for  
Deale Prebend 1708.

The Mannor  
of  
Deale p<sup>re</sup> bend

} ff Will<sup>m</sup> Verrier Gent<sup>e</sup>  
Steward of the Said  
Mannor To Joshua  
Coppin Farmer Greeting

These are to will and Require you p<sup>re</sup> Sently upon Receipt hereof That you Collect Levy and Gather of the Severall p Sons hereafter Named the Severall and Respective Sume and Sumes of Money Added to their Severall and Respective Names and that you render an Accompt thereof and pay the Same unto the mo<sup>st</sup> Reverend Father in God Thomas by Divine providence Lord Arch Bishopp of Canterbury primate of all England and Metropolitan or to his officer thereunto appointed att the next auditt to bee holden att his Grace's palace att Lambeth for the revenue of his archBishopp<sup>r</sup>ick And this shall bee yo<sup>ur</sup> Sufficent Warrant Given und<sup>r</sup> my Hand and Seale this Third day of November An<sup>o</sup> Dom 1708

The Extracts of the Court Leete there holden the 25<sup>th</sup> day of October Anno Dom 1708

of John Jenkin Gent <sup>e</sup> one of the Residents living within the Said Mannor for nott app : att this Court	} X	iiij <sup>d</sup>	
of Edward Clements for the like		— — — —	iiij <sup>d</sup>
of Richard Teale for the like		X — — — —	iiij <sup>d</sup>
of John Clements for the like		— — — —	iiij <sup>d</sup>



of Robert Hamond for a Releife due for two acres & one Rodd of Land Lying att Hempsted next Gyles Elme holden att the Yearly Rent Michās is : viij <sup>d</sup> Xmas two Hens Fasting Silver iii <sup>d</sup> Eaſter v Eggs which p <sup>re</sup> miſſes hee purchaſed of the Heires of Thomas White — X — — — — —	Michās xi <sup>d</sup> Xmas l Hene Fasting vii <sup>d</sup> Eaſter v Eggs
---	--

The Sume of this Cot	<table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">s</td> <td style="text-align: center;">d</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">{</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">in Money</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">iiij = viij</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">Xmas</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">one Hen</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">}</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">Eaſter</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">v Eggs.</td> </tr> </table>		s	d	{	in Money	iiij = viij		Xmas	one Hen	}	Eaſter	v Eggs.
	s	d											
{	in Money	iiij = viij											
	Xmas	one Hen											
}	Eaſter	v Eggs.											

The Sume total of this Yeare	<table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">s</td> <td style="text-align: center;">d</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">{</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">in Money</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">v = 0</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">Xmas</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">One Hen</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">}</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">Eaſter</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">Five Eggs</td> </tr> </table>		s	d	{	in Money	v = 0		Xmas	One Hen	}	Eaſter	Five Eggs
	s	d											
{	in Money	v = 0											
	Xmas	One Hen											
}	Eaſter	Five Eggs											

(Signed) Wm.


 Seal

Verrier.

W.P.D.S.

## THE RESPONSE OF THE PARISH OF ASH AND ITS NEIGHBOURS TO THE FEAR OF A FRENCH INVASION IN 1798.

BETWEEN 1796 and 1804 the threat of a French invasion was an ever-present thought in the minds of Englishmen.

From the former year to 1798 recruiting for the Militia as a home defence force was furthered in every way, and Volunteers came forward in their hundred thousand. In June of '96 communication with the Navy in The Downs was improved by installing a telegraph with twelve stations working between the Admiralty and Deal.<sup>1</sup>

On November 5th, 1797, after the danger of an invasion had been apprehended, the Secretary of State (the Duke of

<sup>1</sup> "The Old Telegraph from London to the Coast of Kent," Miss A. G. Hardy, *Arch. Cant.*, XLIV, p. 212 (1932).

Portland) issued a circular to the Lieutenants of Counties recommending an account to be taken of the live and dead stock in parishes within twelve miles of the sea, and on this order was based the information gathered together in the little MS. book, the subject of this note.

Following the order a voluntary subscription was opened on February 6th, '98, to raise a fund for the defence of the country; and by this means £1,500,000 was eventually raised. Presumably part of this money was used to organize the man-power of parishes near the coast into various categories. The response of Ash, Woodnesborough, Elmstone and Staple to be ready for all emergencies is seen in the tabulated entries in this leather-bound notebook, measuring 6 inches by 3½ inches, undated except in the case of Elmstone, where the information had been gathered together on February 12th.

The males of Ash (297 of them) are listed with their names and addresses, and then are divided up into sections under the headings:—On Foot with Pikes; On Foot with Firelocks; Labourers with Pick Axes and Spades (some had only one or other of these, or a shovel); and Labourers with Axes. Others were listed to act as Servants with Cattle or with Teams, while four—one of whom possessed a sword and a pistol—could attend the rendezvous at the Ship Inn, Ash, on horseback. This mixed company was detailed to serve with the Sandwich Volunteers. The Ash portion (all the entries are beautifully written) goes on to enumerate the average amount of the live and dead stock, the figures being attested by a churchwarden and an overseer.

The men of Woodnesborough (seventy-four of them) are then entered with their live and dead stock, and Stephen Southenden is nominated on April 1st by the parish to head them. So the book goes on to Elmstone (twenty-four) and Staple (forty-two), where the rendezvous is "Before the Church."

The Elmstone men by their churchwarden and overseer say, "We the above mentioned Persons (Except those who may be employed as Drivers and Drovers), unite as one Man

in offering our assistance either to oppose, repel and Destroy the Enemy, or to Guard and Protect the Women, Children, Aged & Infirm and likewise the Cattle & Provision that may be removed in such manner as may render to our King & Country the most effectual Service."

The book, which is now in the possession of Mr. H. T. Mead at the Royal Museum, Canterbury, was given to him by Mr. J. Wells of Overland Farm, Ash. It came to the latter from a very old lady who had owned it many years.

W.P.D.S.

#### HOWBURY MOATED MANOR HOUSE, CRAYFORD.

(*Cf. Transactions of the Dartford District Antiquarian Society*, No. V, December, 1935, pp. 22-5.)

THIS house (*vide plate*), now scheduled for demolition as unfit for habitation, stands on a site which has a manorial history dating back to the time of Edward the Confessor. Of its many possessors the most famous was Sir Cloudesley Shovel, who held it in connection with May Place, Crayford.

A site chosen for its ability to receive and hold water to aid in its defence is evidence of early occupation. The long manorial history must have meant contemporary dwellings, but that which has now been condemned seems to be no older than late seventeenth century. It has seen much alteration and contains little of architectural merit. The lower part of the wall of the moat is good ashlar and has the appearance of medieval work.—*Editor*.

#### DENEHOLE AT GRAVESEND.

THIS was found in March 1936, at King Edward's Road, off Singlewell Road. Four chambers were exposed, two communicating by a small breach, but there were probably five altogether, the mouth of the fifth being packed in with flints and earth. The largest chamber was 29 feet in length, 7 feet in maximum width, and 7 feet in height. The hole was examined by representatives of the Gravesend Archaeological



*By courtesy Dartford & District Antiq. Soc.]*

*[Photograph, A. Cumberland.*

HOWBURY MOATED MANOR HOUSE (Feb., 1931).

Society, and at the instance of Mr. F. T. Grant, the Borough Engineer, a plan was made of it. The hole has since been completely filled in, and is to be built over.

R. F. JESSUP.

#### AN EARLY BILL OF LADING.

IN the *Syren and Shipping*, May 27th, 1936, there is a reproduction of an interesting MS. in the Society's possession, namely a bill of lading for the ship *Grace of God* sailing from Nevis in 1701. This is believed to be one of the oldest bills of lading in existence.

G.W.