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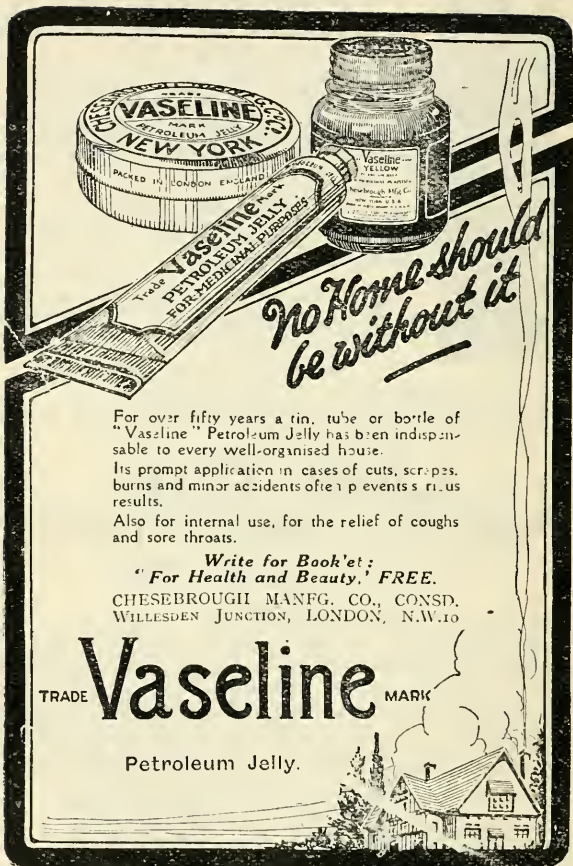
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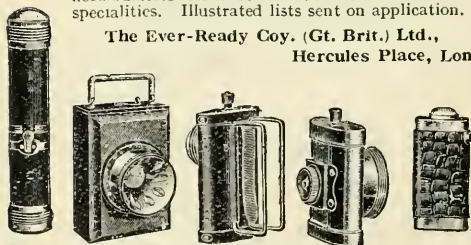
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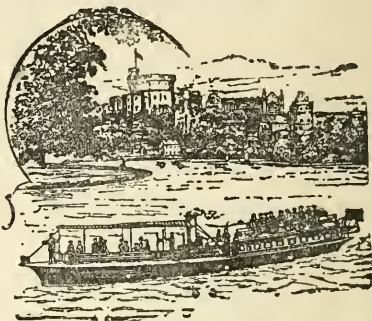
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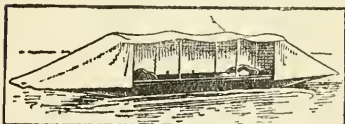
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“He that would bring home the wealth of the Indies must carry the wealth of the Indies with him; so it is in travelling—a man must carry knowledge with him if he would bring home knowledge.”

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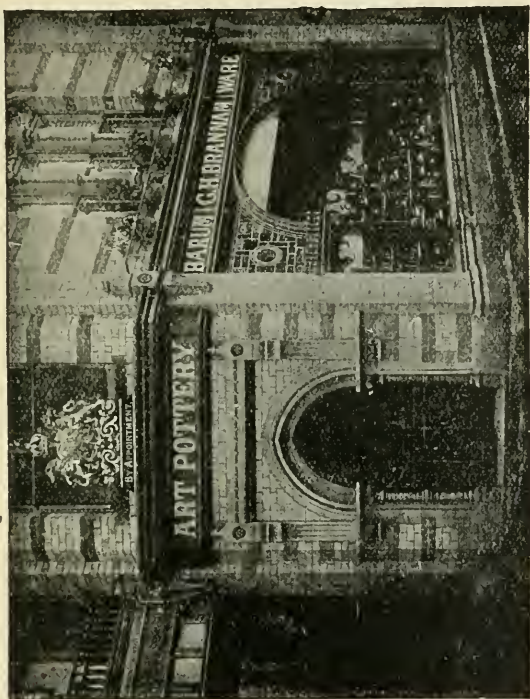
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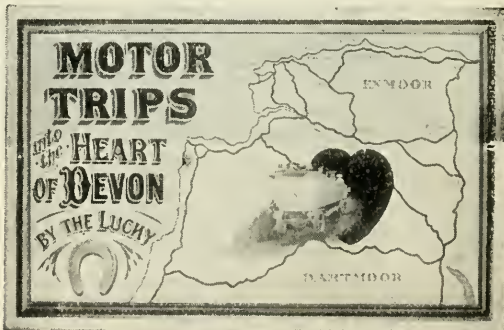
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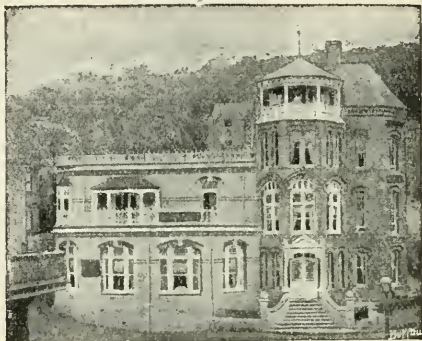
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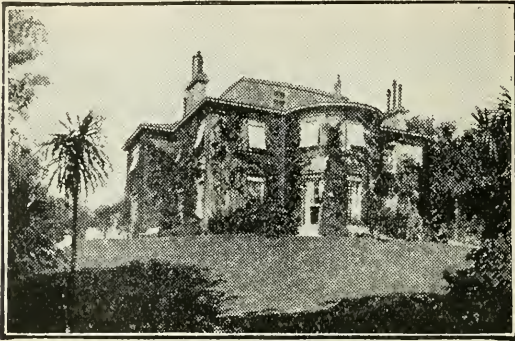
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this Guide.

INTRODUCTION.

Scope of Book—Chief Holiday Centres—"The Combes of the West"—Rail, Steamer and Motor Routes—Climate—Sport—Golf—Motoring—A Literary Note—Hotels.

THIS book deals with North-West Devon, one of the most beautiful portions of a beautiful shire. Well served by rail, steamer and motor routes, the district is easily reached from all parts, though there are still large tracts untouched by the railway.

The extension of motor travel in particular has brought this attractive region within reach of a great body of tourists to whom it was formerly but little known. In the past few years Ilfracombe, Barnstaple, Bideford and Westward Ho ! have been included in the popular tour programmes of the motor coach services from London, Birmingham, Bristol and other great centres, and the glimpses of Devonshire scenery obtained in this way have determined many to revisit the shire on a longer holiday, and to enjoy at greater leisure the delights of "The Land of Junket and Cream."

Comparatively few towns are included in the area described. West of Lynton on the coast, Ilfracombe is the only place of any size ; Combe Martin, Lee, Woolacombe, Mortehoe, Appledore, Westward Ho !, Clovelly, and Hartland Quay are the chief places of interest where hotels will be found. Inland there are numerous villages, but only three towns of importance—Barnstaple, Bideford and Great Torrington.

Ilfracombe may well congratulate itself on its convenient position in a district so attractive to visitors. The "deeps and hollows," from which the county derives its name, are on all sides of the town, as well as high cliffs and hills. The Tors to the west, and Hills-

borough, nearly 500 ft. high, to the east, connected by a lofty ridge of downs on the south, form an imposing screen to the town that rival holiday haunts may pardonably envy. The number of hotels and boarding-houses testifies to the appreciation of Ilfracombe by health-seekers and holiday-makers, and every year the popularity of the town seems to grow.

The town most visited by Americans is undoubtedly Bideford. Beyond the sentimental interest experienced when walking the old streets, conjuring up visions of Salvation Yeo, Amyas Leigh, Sir Richard Grenville, and courtier Raleigh—and perhaps endeavouring to trace a resemblance between the modern pretty maids of Bideford and the Rose of Torridge—the charms of Bideford are of the passive order, but the surroundings are beautiful to a degree.

Barnstaple, the chief business centre of North Devon, presents a pleasant combination of ancient interests and modern industry. Many visitors at Ilfracombe go to Barnstaple for no other reason than the pleasure of the drive, but the town is well worth a short stay, being indeed an excellent centre from which to explore the whole of North-West Devon.

“The Combes of the West.”

No one can read the chapter in *Westward Ho!* entitled “The Combes of the Far West” without experiencing an ardent longing to see for himself the natural wonders Kingsley so graphically describes. These combes intersect the long line of North Devon cliffs, and are characteristic also of North Cornwall. There may be similarity among them, but the effect is certainly not monotonous, and a tour along the coast (a walk held in great esteem by pedestrians sufficiently hardy to undertake it) only makes one long for more of these delightful combes so typical of the county.

Nature has also endowed North Devon, here and there, with stretches of sand such as are seldom equalled and never surpassed by other English seaside resorts.

The superb Woolacombe sands, nearly three miles long and of great breadth, are a favourite playground for children; yet what a contrast do the extremities of those sands present! Morte Point, the maleficent, and Baggy Point—equally dreaded—are bold rocky headlands; grand in fine weather, terrible in storm. No wonder their names are “writ large” on Bristol Channel charts. Well have they earned this deadly distinction by a deplorable notoriety in the matter of wrecks and casualties.

The more easterly part of the North Devon coast is described in the *Guide to Lynton and Lynmouth*, which also contains a section on *Minehead*.

For South Devon the reader is referred to the volumes on *Dartmoor, Plymouth, Torquay*, and *Exeter and South-East Devon*, the last-named including Seaton, Sidmouth, Budleigh Salterton, Exmouth, Dawlish and Teignmouth. Visitors to Bideford and Clovelly who extend their journey over the Cornish border should consult the *Guide to Bude and North Cornwall*. (See map, pp. xvi–xvii.)

How to Reach North-West Devon.

1. By **Southern Railway (South-Western Section)**.¹ Direct through service from Waterloo to Ilfracombe (220 miles) in about 5–6 hours. The train divides at Barnstaple, the front portion going to Bideford (for Westward Ho!, Clovelly and Hartland) and Torrington, the rear portion proceeding to Ilfracombe.

2. By **Great Western Railway**. Through carriages are run from Paddington to Ilfracombe. Passengers for Bideford, Torrington and Clovelly change to the Southern Railway at Barnstaple Junction.

Ordinary Return Fares from London, by either route :
Ilfracombe : 84s. 2d. first ; 50s. 6d. third. **Tourist Tickets**, available two months, 77s. 3d. first ; 46s. 6d. third. Period Excursion Tickets are also issued during the season.

Barnstaple : 78s. 4d. first ; 47s. third. **Tourist Tickets**,

¹ Current time-tables and announcements should be consulted for details as to times, fares, etc.

available two months, 72s. first ; 43s. 3d. third. Period Excursion Tickets during the season.

Bideford : 82s. 2d. first ; 49s. 4d. third. **Tourist Tickets**, available two months, 75s. 6d. first ; 45s. 3d. third. Period Excursion Tickets during the season.

Circular Tour Tickets (first and third) are also issued by the Southern Railway allowing the tourist to travel by train to Bideford, then to Clovelly by motor, and back to Ilfracombe, returning thence direct to London.

3. By **Railway and Steamer**. Rail to Bristol ; then by direct steamer, during the summer, to Ilfracombe. There is also a constant service in summer between Cardiff and other South Wales ports and the North Devon resorts.

The coast scenery between Clifton and Ilfracombe is remarkable for its grandeur. Passing through the beautiful gorge of the Avon, the steamers call at Portishead, Clevedon, Weston-super-Mare or Cardiff and Minehead. After Minehead the coast is rugged as far as Lynmouth, and the view from the sea of the little fishing village is indescribably picturesque. Lynmouth passengers disembark by small boats, and the steamer continues its course by Duty Point, past snug little Combe Martin, to Ilfracombe.

4. By **Railway and Motor**. By Great Western Railway to Minehead ; thence by motor-coach to Lynton and in summer on to Ilfracombe. This is a pleasant and speedy mode of reaching Ilfracombe, the well-appointed motors following the old coach route (*see the Guide to Lynton and Lynmouth*).

The railway does not run to Clovelly, but through tickets are issued, passengers leaving the train at Bideford and proceeding by motor (12 miles). Passengers for Westward Ho ! and Appledore leave the train at Bideford and complete the journey by motor-'bus.

Climate.

The mild and salubrious climate is undoubtedly one of the most valuable assets of Devonshire, and has

induced many chance visitors to make a permanent home within its borders. The holiday-seeker who is unable to do this will still be interested in the statistics as to climate and sunshine, which we give by permission, on the authority of *The Book of the South-West*, a valuable work of reference published on the occasion of a meeting of the British Medical Association at Exeter, and prepared expressly for the medical profession. Ilfracombe shows an average yearly rainfall of 32·5 inches; average summer temperature 57°; average winter temperature 44·9°; whilst the mean daily range during ten years has been remarkably small, only 8·4°. Cool summers and mild winters make the climate most equable. Old age is of remarkable frequency. In 1923, for instance, over 50 per cent. of the deaths at Ilfracombe were of persons over 70 years of age, a large proportion of these being over 80. The Exmoor portion of Devon generally is warm and very equable wherever shelter can be obtained—and there is abundance of it in the rather narrow valleys under its steep hills—with a heavy rainfall but a quickly-drying soil, a great deal of sunlight, bracing air, bare heights, but beautifully-wooded hollows in shelter.

Sport.

Devon has always had the reputation of being a sporting shire, and there is no more sporting part than that dealt with in this handbook. Exmoor was a royal forest, although there appear no actual records of a monarch's hunting visit, but from time to time court officials were sent down to take stags, and warrants were occasionally granted to others. Licences to hunt the fox and hare were frequently granted and occasionally there was trouble because a stag was also hunted. Thus in 1366 Robert Coran was haled before the Forest Court for killing a stag when hunting foxes. In 1508 Henry VII leased his forest rights on Exmoor to Sir Edmund

Carew, who has sometimes been called the first master of the Devon and Somerset Stag-hounds, and in the time of Elizabeth the ranger of Exmoor kept a pack of hounds, but nothing can be said of the hunting with any certainty until the 18th century. Then, and up to 1825, the deer were hunted with the old-fashioned stag-hound, which was a hound more after the style of the blood-hound. That breed has practically been lost through the pack being purchased and removed to Germany in the year stated. The hounds now used are more of the build of foxhounds, and quite different from the old stag-hound. A census made in 1780 of the stags on Exmoor—or rather a calculation made as carefully as possible—stated that there were then 300 head. In a single season in recent years nearly 400 deer have been killed by the different packs hunting Exmoor, so that the wild red deer are increasing rather than diminishing.

For the meets of the **Devon and Somerset Stag-hounds**, the principal pack hunting Exmoor, Lynton and Lynmouth will be found more convenient than Ilfracombe. Those visiting the district purely for the hunting, however, will select a place farther on the moor. Good sport will also be found with the **Stevenstone Foxhounds**, which hunt the Bideford and Torrington country, and the **Exmoor Foxhounds**, which show some very good runs near Lynton, while most of the meets of the **Cheriton Otter Hounds** can be reached from Barnstaple or Bideford.

Golf.

Golf is perhaps the sport most favoured by visitors, and there are excellent links within easy reach of every town in North Devon. The **Royal North Devon Golf Club** have their headquarters at Westward Ho!, the excellent links on the Northam Burrows being known to golfers the country over and included in the championship rota. Next in importance is the eighteen-hole course at Saunton, within easy reach of Barnstaple, and connected by a regular motor-bus service. The 18-hole course at Ilfracombe was extended in 1924; particulars of this

and other links in the district covered by this Guide will be readily found by reference to the Index.

Motoring.

The motorist regards North Devon roads as hilly, narrow and winding. The importance of motor traffic is fully realized by the authorities, who are spending considerable sums on road-widening and in improving dangerous corners. A new road affords an alternative route to Lynmouth from the Somerset side, avoiding the precipitous Countisbury Hill. Another new road at Braunton allows the narrow main street of the town to be avoided. Up-to-date and fully-equipped garages and repair shops are to be found in all the North Devon towns, the garages at Barnstaple, Bideford and Ilfracombe being particularly extensive. Barnstaple makes an excellent centre for motorists. Those who patronize the motor coach will be satisfied to know that Ilfracombe is one of the greatest motor coach centres in Devon. All the well-known places of North Devon are within comparatively easy reach, while those who count the enjoyment of the day by the length of the trip need have no fear of going unsatisfied.

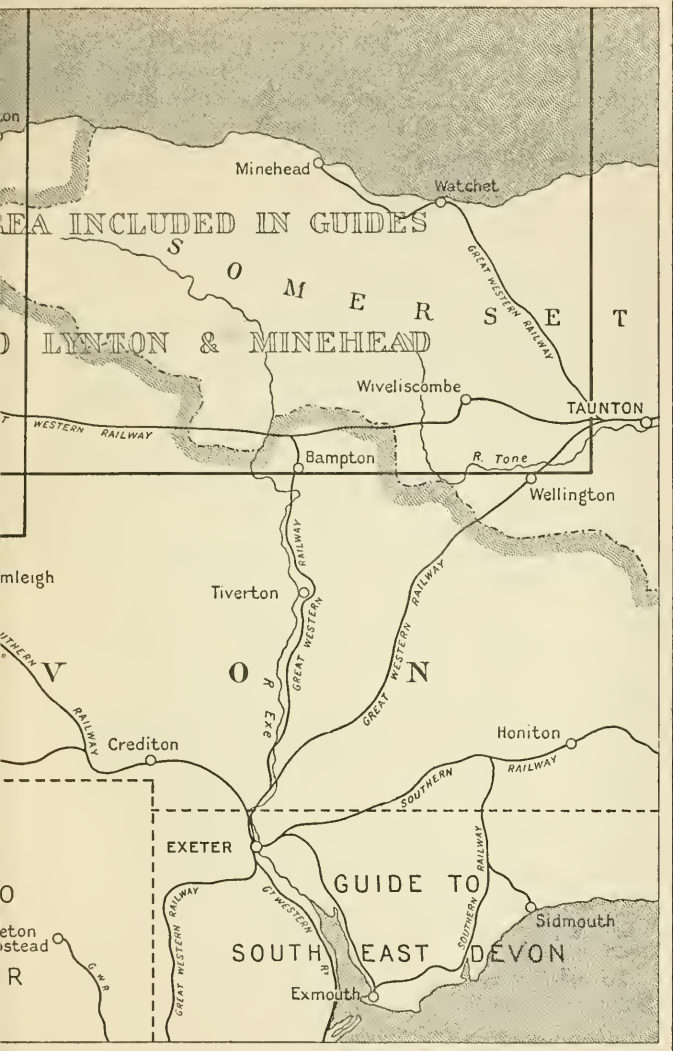
Walking.

Cyclists will probably find the long, steep hills of North Devon rather trying and the secondary roads are not of the best, either as to surface or gradient, but the walker has every reason to rejoice, whether he walks merely to enjoy the exhilaration of exercise in the bracing air of this breezy district, to admire ever-changing views, or merely to loiter the hours away, watching the play of light and shade and the varying atmospheric effects, or studying the wild life and flowers. The pedestrian with a cool head may follow the cliff paths, which should be avoided by those likely to turn giddy, for whom are many pleasant paths and roads overlooking the sea, but care should be exercised, as the cliffs are crumbling in many places and the incautious may encounter a nasty



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10 Miles

ON GUIDES OF THIS SERIES.

fall or find themselves involved in a small landslide. The motor-bus services help those whose desire to ramble is greater than their capacity, while these will also find the cheap tickets issued by the railway companies of much advantage.

A Literary Note.

When in North Devon one cannot but be conscious of the romance pertaining to its every nook and corner, and the wanderer instinctively recalls the vivid portraiture of Kingsley and Blackmore, the charm of Baring-Gould, and the master hand of Whyte-Melville. Though the venue of Tennyson's *Revenge* was far from Devonshire, it was the heroism of "Men of Bideford in Devon" that gave inspiration to the poet. A concise account of the battle is given in Watkins' *Essay towards a History of the Town of Bideford*—a most interesting book, dated 1792, copies of which may be seen in the libraries at Barnstaple and Bideford.

Gosse in his *Devonshire Coast* pays eloquent tribute to the loveliness of North Devon, and Charles Kingsley's eulogies are quoted on every hand. His description of Clovelly, though hackneyed by repetition, invests the place, apart from its own fascination, with irresistible charm.

Stag-hunting has been the sport of Exmoor for centuries, and is still very popular. Whyte-Melville's *Katerfelto* as a romance of Exmoor of course includes a breezy description of "a morning with the chase." No one visits this neighbourhood without an intimate acquaintance with *Lorna Doone*. Enthusiasts are occasionally disappointed that there is so little to distinguish the famous Doone Valley. Visitors who penetrate so far as the Doone Glen will, however, have their reward in other ways, for, of its kind, the scenery is unsurpassed.

To many visitors not the least attractive feature of Bideford is the richly-decorated apartment at the *Royal Hotel* known as "Kingsley's Room." This hotel boasted intimate acquaintance with another distinguished man

of letters, J. A. Froude, who, like Kingsley, made considerable use of the collection of rare works possessed by the proprietor.

James Hervey, curate of St. Mary's Church, in 1789 wrote his *Meditations among the Tombs* and *Contemplations* at Bideford. Edward Capern, the "Postman Poet," lived in Mill Street, Bideford, and in an upper room of the same house Charles Kingsley opened a night school for the benefit of the young men of the town. Capern was buried at Heanton Punchardon, and the bell he used on his rounds may be seen on the grave.

Another Devonian who has achieved no small measure of fame as a writer is Charles Kingsley's talented daughter, Mrs. Harrison, whose husband was rector of Clovelly. *The Wages of Sin*, *Colonel Enderby's Wife*, *The Carissima*, *The Gateless Barrier*, *Sir Richard Calmady*, *Deadham Hard*, and other novels published under the name of Lucas Malet, have attained great popularity. Many of her admirers declare that she surpasses her father in the realism of her scenic descriptions.

Books to Read.

Among other novels dealing with North Devon are *Lovers of Silver* and *Uncle Lionel*, both by S. P. B. Mais (Ilfracombe); Morteheo appears in *Ivor* by G. H. Russell, which is otherwise an exciting tale of Lundy Island; Woolacombe in *Ropes of Sand* by R. E. Francillon and *Alice for Short* by W. de Morgan; Braunton in Blackmore's *Maid of Sker*; while Combe Martin is the locality of Marie Corelli's *The Mighty Atom*; and Heddon's Mouth will be found in Blackmore's *Clara Vaughan* and *Maid of Sker*. *A Pier and a Band*, by Mary MacCarthy, is located on a sea-board which is obviously that of North Devon. Two other stories of this coast are *Love on the Happy Hill* by Violet Pearn, and *Collins & Co.* by Captain Jack Elliott. J. Mills Whitham's *Silas Braunton* includes Ilfracombe ("Widmouth"), and Combe Martin ("Torberry").

Barnstaple in 1664 appears in *His Grace o' the Gunne* by J. Hooper, and in 1714 in *The Gipsy King* by May Wynne; in *The Maid of Sker* and *Ivor*, both already referred to; as "Bidecombe" in Dorin Craig's *The Mist in the Valley*, and as "Bamley" in *Wolfgang* and *The Human Circus* by J. Mills Whitham. Barnstaple is further seen in *Devonshire Idylls* by H. C. O'Neill, in *Discovery* by Harold Williams; and in a clever detective story *The Peer and His Plunder* by Headon Hill.

Bideford and Northam are, of course, the principal scenes in Kingsley's *Westward Ho!* Bideford in 1675 is seen in *The Island Providence*, by F. Niven; with Appledore in the modern story of *A Man of Genius* by M. P. Willcocks; and with Westward Ho! in *The Happy Elopement* by E. H. Lacon Watson. Three smuggling and adventure novels by I. Weare Giffard, based upon Bideford and Appledore, are *Lure of Contraband* (with Braunton Burrows), *The Riddle of the River* (with Wear Giffard), and *The Golden Bay*. Northam will be found in *Shifting Sands* by Alice Birkhead; Instow, Appledore and Lundy in *The Last of the Grenvilles*, by Benet Coplestone; Lundy being also seen in J. Huntly McCarthy's *Henry Elizabeth*; in *The Edge of Circumstances*, by E. Noble; in *The Man at Odds*, by Ernest Rhys; and in *The Golden Bay*.

Few readers of the *Windsor Magazine* are likely to forget that *Stalky & Co.* consists of stories of Mr. Rudyard Kipling's own school days at the former United Services College, Westward Ho!, and that "the egregious Beetle" flimsily disguises the author's own personality.

Clovelly Court is the "Aberalva" of Charles Kingsley's *Two Years Ago*, and probably also appears in Henry Kingsley's *Ravenshoe*. Lucas Malet utilized Clovelly scenery in *The Wages of Sin*. Clovelly, too, with an episode at Barnstaple, is the village of Charles Dickens's Christmas story, *A Message from the Sea*. Its vicinity is seen in John Oxenham's *My Lady of Shadows*, and it is visited by Americans in K. D. Wiggin's *Penelope's*

Postscripts, and *An English Honeymoon* by A. H. Wharton. Hartland and Clovelly are seen in *The Golden Bay*, and Hartland occupies the major portion of *The Drawn Line* by E. Shaw Cowley. Hartland enters into three works already referred to, *The Island Providence*, *Shifting Sands* and *A Man of Genius*, and Tonacombe in the latter is the ancient manor-house at Morwenstow. *The Vicar of Morwenstow*, by S. Baring-Gould, will also interest visitors to this neighbourhood. Marsland Mouth appears in *Westward Ho!* and is probably the locality of *A Daughter of the Sea* by A. Le Feuvre. It is also seen in *The Gaverocks* by S. Baring-Gould. Lastly, the whole of this seaboard is sketched in *Set in Silver* by C. N. and A. M. Williamson. Excellent holiday reading is J. Henry Harris's *My Devonshire Book*.

Highways and Byways in Devon and Cornwall by A. H. Norway, is a standard work of topography for the two counties, and other interesting books are S. Baring-Gould's *Book of Devon*, *The North Devon Coast* by C. G. Harper, *North Devon* by F. J. Snell, *Lundy Island* by J. R. Chanter, *Wanderings in North Devon* by J. M. Chanter, and *The Coasts of Devon and Lundy Island* by J. L. W. Page. Worth's *History of Devon* is well known. Geologically the county is dealt with in *The History of Devonshire Scenery*, by A. W. Clayden, and the district described in this Guide more particularly in *The Coast Scenery of North Devon*, a noteworthy book by E. Newell Arber.

Nature-lovers may care to be reminded that most of the nature papers in *The Lone Swallows*, by Henry Williamson, relate to the coast between Ilfracombe and Barnstaple.

Hotels and Tariffs.

The following list of the principal hotels and boarding houses in the district covered by this Guide may be useful to the intending visitor. Where tariffs are appended they have been supplied by the proprietors themselves, but as changes of management are frequent

and prices have fluctuated greatly since the War the terms are inserted only as an approximate indication of the grade of establishment and should be verified by previous inquiry. Nearly all the larger hotels have motor accommodation, and in the principal centres there are numerous other garages. *Week-end* terms include dinner or supper on Saturday and breakfast on Monday.

[ABBREVIATIONS; *R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *t.*, tea; *d.*, dinner; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Ilfracombe.

Ilfracombe, Capstone Parade: *R.*, single, fr. 7/6; double, fr. 16/6; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 4/-; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 6/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 21/- per day; fr. 136/- per week.

Royal Clarence, High Street.

Queen's, High Street: *B.* and *b.*, single, fr. 7/6; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, fr. 1/6; *d.*, 4/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 13/6 per day; fr. 73/6 per week; fr. 27/- per week-end.

Cliffe Hydro: *R.*, single, 6/-; double, 12/-; *b.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 6/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 16/- per day; 105/- per week; 30/- per week-end.

Great Western, High Street.

Runnacleave: *R.*, single, fr. 5/-; double, fr. 10/-; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 5/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 12/- per day; fr. 84/- per week.

Private Hotels and Boarding Houses.

Arlington: *R.*, single, 4/6; double, 7/6; *b.*, 2/-; *l.*, 2/-; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 2/6.

Boarding terms: 10/6 per day; fr. 73/6 per week.

Berkeley

Blenheim House

Cavendish

Cecil.

Gilbert: *B.*, 2/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 3/6.

Boarding terms: 12/- per day; fr. 84/- per week; 25/- per week-end.

Granville: *Boarding terms*: fr. 12/- per day; fr. 73/6 per week.

Grosvenor, Wilder Road: *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 9/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 3/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 15/- per day; 84/- per week; 30/- per week-end.

Imperial, Capstone Parade: *R.*, single, fr. 4/6; double, fr. 8/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 4/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 12/- per day; fr. 73/6 per week; fr. 24/- per week-end.

Montebello, Fore Street: *R.*, single, fr. 4/-; double, fr. 7/6; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 4/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 12/6 per day; fr. 84/- per week; fr. 23/6 per week-end.

Montpelier House.

Moonta, Capstone Crescent: *R.* and *b.*, single, 6/6; double, 12/-.

Boarding terms: 12/- per day; 73/6 per week; 21/- per week-end.

Seafeld, Larkstone Terrace: *Boarding terms*: fr. 63/- per week.

St. Petroc: *R.*, single, 4/-; double, 7/6; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 3/6.

Boarding terms: 12/6 per day; 84/- per week; 37/6 per week-end.

House and Estate Agents.

W. C. Hutchings, High Street.

H. C. Cathcart.

Barnstaple.

Imperial: *R.*, single, fr. 6/-; double, fr. 13/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 5/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 15/- per day; fr. 105/- per week; fr. 40/- per week-end.

Richmond.

Victoria (*temp.*): *R.*, single, fr. 5/6; double, fr. 10/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, fr. 1/3; *d.*, 5/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 16/- per day; fr. 94/6 per week; fr. 30/6 per week-end.

[ABBREVIATIONS: *R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *t.*, tea; *d.*, dinner; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Bideford.

Royal: *R.*, single, 8/6; double, 16/-; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 5/6.

Boarding terms: 21/- per day; 126/- per week; 42/- per week-end.

Tanton's.

New Inn.

House and Estate Agent.

R. Dymond & Son, The Quay.

Appledore.

Royal.

Braunton.

New Inn, etc.

Clovelly.

Red Lion: *R.*, single, fr. 4/6; double, fr. 7/-; *b.*, fr. 2/6; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 4/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 15/- per day; fr. 84/- per week; fr. 25/- per week-end.

New Inn.

Combe Martin.

King's Arms: *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 7/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 3/6.

Boarding terms: 12/6 per day; 84/- per week; 18/6 per week-end.

Marine.

Great Torrington.

Globe: *R.*, single, 3/-; double, 6/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/3; *d.*, 4/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 12/- per day; 84/- per week; 25/- per week-end.

Hartland.

Hartland Quay: *R.*, single, 6/-; double, 7/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 4/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 12/6 per day; fr. 70/- per week; fr. 21/- per week-end.

King's Arms.

Heddon's Mouth.

Hunter's Inn, Parracombe: *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 7/6; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/9; *t.*, 2/-; *d.*, 5/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 12/- per day; fr. 84/- per week.

Hele.

Hele Bay.

Instow.

Marine: *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 8/6; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 5/-.

Boarding terms: 105/- per week.

New Inn.

Lee Bay.

Lee Bay.

Lundy.

Manor House (private): *R.*, single, 10/-; double, 20/-; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 3/6.

Boarding terms: 105/- per week.

Lynton and Lynmouth.

Tors, Lynmouth: *R.*, single, fr. 7/6; double, fr. 15/-; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 4/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 6/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 21/- per day; fr. 105/- per week.

Valley of Rocks, Lynton: *R.*, single, 8/-; double, 17/-; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 4/-; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 6/-.

Boarding terms: 21/- per day; 147/- per week.

Royal Castle, Lynton: *R.*, single, 7/6; double, 15/-; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 5/6.

Boarding terms: 20/- per day; 126/- per week; 37/6 per week-end.

Lyndale.

Imperial, Lynton: *R.*, single, fr. 6/-; double, fr. 12/-; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 5/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 15/- per day; fr. 105/- per week; fr. 30/- per week-end.

Lyn Valley, Lynmouth: *R.*, single, fr. 6/-; double, fr. 10/6; *b.*, table d'hôte, 3/6; *l.*, 4/-; *t.*, fr. 1/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 13/6 per day; fr. 84/- per week.

Bath, Lynmouth: *R.*, single, 6/-; double, 12/-; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 5/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 12/6 per day; fr. 73/6 per week; fr. 25/- per week-end.

Private Hotels and Boarding Houses.

Fairholm.

North Cliff, Lynton: Boarding terms: 15/- per day; 84/- per week.

Granville House.

Green House Tea Rooms.

Mortehoe.

Watersmeet (private).

Glen Haven (private).

Fortescue.

[ABBREVIATIONS: *R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *t.*, tea; *d.*, dinner; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Saunton.

Saunton Sands.

Westward Ho!

Golden Bay.

Pebble Ridge.

Woody Bay.

Woody Bay: *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 9/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 4/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 73/6 per week.

Woolacombe.

Woolacombe Bay: *R.*, single, fr. 8/6; double, fr. 12/6; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 6/-.

Rathleigh (*private*): *R.*, single, 7/6; double, 10/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 5/-.

Boarding terms: 17/6 per day; 105/- per week; 35/- per week-end.

Melrose (*private*).

Bungalow Café (*restaurant*).

The Little Maids of Devon.

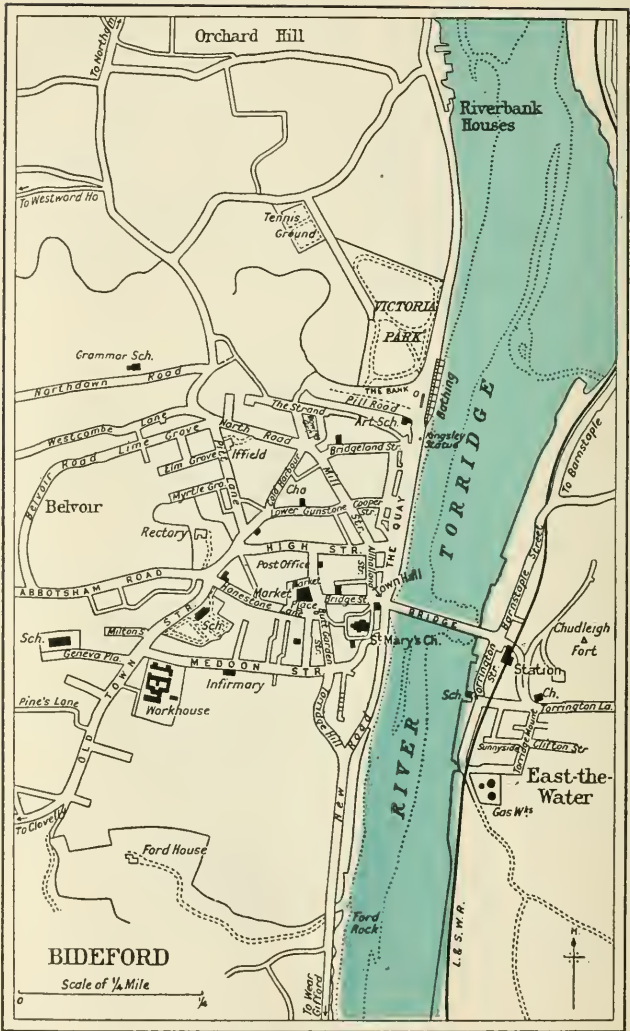
Oh! the little maids of Devon,
They've a rose in either cheek,
And their eyes like bits of heaven
Meet your own with glances meek,
But within them there are tiny imps
That play at hide-and-peek!

Oh! the little maids of Devon,
They have skins of milk and cream,
Just as pure and clean and even
As a pool in Dartmoor stream,
But who looks at them is holden
With the magic of a dream.

Oh! the little maids of Devon,
They have honey-coloured hair
Where the sun has worked like leaven,
Turning russet tones to fair,
And they hold you by the strands of it,
And drive you to despair.

Oh! the little maids of Devon,
They have voices like a dove,
And Jacob's years of seven
One would serve to have their love,
But their hearts are things of mystery
A man may never prove!

DOROTHY FRANCES GURNEY.



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BIDEFORD.

Banks.—*Lloyds, Midland, National Provincial*, all in High Street.

Bathing from the pontoon moored in the river off the Park.

Boating is very popular. Both rowing and sailing boats can be hired. The pull up river to Wear Gifford when the tide favours can be strongly recommended. The river is wide enough to sail with ease, and the views along the wooded banks are charming. A Regatta is held annually in August or September.

Bowls.—The *Bowling and Lawn Tennis Club* have an excellent green, where the game is enthusiastically played. Visitors are always welcomed.

Early Closing Day.—Wednesday.

Fishing.—Trout fishing in the Council's Reservoirs. Tickets can be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office. Season (March 1 to October 15) tickets, £1 1s. (a limited number are issued); month, 10s. 6d.; day 2s. 6d. For fishing in waters controlled by the Taw and Torridge Conservators see Barnstaple Section, p. 1.

Golf.—At Westward Ho! See pp. 17 and 19. There is also a putting green at Bideford.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction, p. xxiii.

Lawn Tennis is played at the courts on the Northam Road, where extensive grounds have been laid out by the *Torridge Vale Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club*. Hard and grass courts at the enclosure of the Sports Ground Company.

Market Days.—Tuesday and Saturday.

Motor-buses.—To Barnstaple and Ilfracombe, Northam, Westward Ho! Appledore, Clovelly, Hartland, Bude, Torrington, Hatherleigh, Holsworthy, Exeter, etc. For particulars see bills. Most of these services start from the Quay, except that to Clovelly in connection with the Southern Railway (see p. 25).

Places of Worship.—*St. Mary's* (Parish Church), *St. Peter's* (East-the-Water), *Roman Catholic* (North Road), *Wesleyan* (Bridge Street), *United Methodist* (High Street), *Congregational* (Bridgeland Street), *Baptist* (Lower Gunstone), *Plymouth Brethren* (North Road), *Salvation Army* (Lower Meddon Street), *Bethel* (East-the-Water). Sunday services at 11 and 6.30.

Post Office.—High Street, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, 9 to 10.30 a.m. Bank Holidays, 9.30 to 11 a.m. Branch Offices, Lime Grove and East-the-Water.

Railway Station. (Southern Railway) on east side of river. The town is reached by crossing the Bridge.

BIDEFORD is charmingly situated on the Torridge, and apparently owes its name to the fact that it is "by-the-Ford" on what in Roman times was a very important highway along the coast from Cornwall through Devon into Somerset. During excavations on the eastern side of Bideford, a paved footway, 12 ft. in width, presumed to be part of the old Roman fosseway, was discovered. In later periods Bideford and Bideford men played a prominent part in the history of the

country, and one instinctively feels, as the postman poet Capern wrote—

“ Whene’er I tread old By-the-ford
I conjure up the thought
’Twas here a Grenville trod,
And here a Raleigh wrought.”

The town obtained a charter of incorporation in 1574. To the lover of history the place has a special interest as the home of the Grenville family, two noble scions of which were Richard Grenville, who subdued Glamorganshire in the reign of Rufus, and Sir Bevill Grenville, described as “ the handsomest and most gallant of his generation,” who fought and won for Charles at Lansdown, and “ bravely fighting fell.” Then, again, there was Sir Richard Grenville of Elizabeth’s time, whose exploit in the *Revenge* “ off Flores in the Azores ” won for him undying fame. For nearly 700 years the manor of Bideford was the possession of the Grenville family, and to them much of the maritime importance of the town was due.

Bideford is the nearest town of any size to Clovelly, and motor coaches and other conveyances run thither daily. It is also within easy distance of Westward Ho ! Instow, Appledore, and Wear Gifford, to all of which pleasant walks or drives may be taken.

The streets, especially in the older portion of the town, are narrow, tortuous and steep, but in the High Street, Grenville Street and Mill Street there are some good shops, and excellent hotel accommodation is at the visitor’s disposal.

The Bridge.

Bideford’s proudest possession is the Bridge, a noble and picturesque structure of twenty-four arches, of a total length of 677 ft. The bridge spans the Torridge and connects East-the-Water with Bideford proper. By the townspeople it is used in the evenings as a promenade, and there is no finer sight than the view from the Bridge towards Instow at high tide on a summer

day, especially when some shipping can be seen in the fairway. The bridge was built about the middle of the fourteenth century, and according to Westcote "the foundation of the structure is very firm and strong, yet it shakes or seems to do with the slightest step a horse makes in his passage over it." Readers need not fear, however ; the bridge is quite safe, and the shaking may be put down to Westcote's imagination. Concerning the building of the bridge there is a legend that Sir Richard Gourney, a priest of the place, was admonished by a vision to begin the work, and he was to lay the foundations where he should find a stone fixed in the ground. Upon walking by the river he espied such a stone or rock there rolled and fixed firmly, which he never remembered to have seen before, and, regarding his dream as a heavenly inspiration, he disclosed it to the Lord Bishop of the diocese, who granted indulgences for so pious a work, and with the assistance of Sir Theobald Grenville the bridge was finished. Another legend, which we repeat for what it is worth, is that no solid bottom could be found for the bridge until the inhabitants threw in bales of wool—there was formerly a big woollen industry in the town—and upon these wool bags the bridge was built. Mr. R. Pearse Chope tells us the present stone bridge dates from the sixteenth century, and quotes from the "Calendar of Papal Letters" to prove that in 1459 it was of wood and with the two chapels that stood upon it in a bad state of repair.

Generous persons in the past left lands and property to the bridge "in trust" for its maintenance. In course of time the Bridge Trust became an opulent corporation, and a "Bridge Dinner" was a great event in the mental calendar of the invited. Charles Kingsley's summary of the virtues of the Bridge is comprehensive :

"Every one who knows Bideford cannot but know Bideford Bridge, for it is the very omphalos, cynosure and soul around which the town, as a body, has organized itself ; and as Edinburgh is Edinburgh by virtue of its Castle ; Rome, Rome by virtue of its Capitol ; and Egypt, Egypt by

virtue of its Pyramids, so is Bideford Bideford by virtue of its Bridge. But all do not know the occult powers which have advanced and animated this said wondrous bridge for now five hundred years, and made it the chief wonder, according to Prince and Fuller, of this fair land of Devon; being first an inspired bridge; a soul-saving bridge; an alms-giving bridge; an educational bridge; a sentient bridge; and last, but not least, a dinner-giving bridge. All do not know how, when it began to be built some half-mile higher up, hands invisible carried stones down stream each night to the present site; until Sir Richard Gourney, parson of the parish, going to bed one night in sore perplexity and fear of the evil spirit who seemed so busy in his sheepfold, beheld a vision of an angel, who bade him build the bridge where he himself had so kindly transported the materials, for there alone was sure foundation amid the broad sheet of shifting sand. All do not know how Bishop Grandisson, of Exeter, proclaimed through his diocese indulgences, benedictions, and 'participation in all spiritual blessing for ever,' to all who would promote the bridging of that dangerous ford, and so, consulting alike the interests of their souls and of their bodies, 'make the best of both worlds.' The bridge is a veritable esquire, bearing arms of its own (a ship and a bridge proper on a plain field) and owning lands and tenements in many parishes with which the said miraculous bridge has, from time to time, founded charities, built schools, waged suits at law and finally given yearly dinners, and kept for that purpose (luxurious and liquorish bridge that it is) the best-stocked cellar of wine in all Devon."

Finally we may quote from a recent article in the *Daily Telegraph* :

"For six hundred years successive generations have gone and come across this venerable bridge. It has heard the hoof of the pack-horse, the creak of the farm-wain, the rattle of the stage coach; it has echoed to the tramp of soldiery as long ago as the Wars of Cavalier and Roundhead and as recently as the great conflict from which we have just emerged. Twice a day for six hundred years it has felt the swirl of the swift salt tides that bear the wrack and foam of the ocean far inland among the silent hills, where the trees come down to the water's edge and the kingfisher flits like a blue flame in the shadow of their overhanging branches. For six hun-



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BIDDEFORD AND THE TORRIDGE.

[Reigate.]



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

THE PARISH CHURCH, BIDEFORD.

[Dundee.]



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

STATUE OF CHARLES KINGSLEY, BIDEFORD.

[Dundee.]

dred mellowing years it has felt the caress of the soft sea-winds, and listened, in the stillness of the night, to the sound—faint and far off as the sighing of a shell—of the billows breaking on the long, dark pebble-ridge of Northam or raving over the treacherous bar. And now this bridge, the silent witness of so many vicissitudes; this bridge which beheld the little contingent of swift-footed craft set sail to join Drake at Plymouth, and to meet in victorious combat the towering galleons of Spain; this bridge has at last begun to yield to the unwonted strain that modern motor traffic has imposed upon it."

Within the last century the bridge has been considerably altered. It was formerly so narrow that in 1810, when vehicles generally superseded the old pack-horses, it was found necessary to add to its width by semicircular arches, at a cost of £3,200. After the opening of the railway the bridge was again widened at a cost of about £6,000, and the strengthening of the pillars has been going on for some years. In recent years the amount of traffic using the bridge has increased to such an extent that further widening became necessary and the work was begun in 1923, the cost being estimated at over £20,000.

The Municipal Buildings

face one on entering Bideford from the Bridge. On the right is the **Bridge Hall**, a modern building, and on the left the **Library**, a portion of the funds for which were given by the late Andrew Carnegie. Room is also found for a small **Museum**, which shelters the old parish stocks, an Armada chest, and many objects of geological and local interest. The Library adjoins the **Town Hall**, and both buildings are in the same style. At the end of the Quay is a fine **Statue of Charles Kingsley**, 18 ft. high. The memorial was erected by public subscription, and stands at the entrance to the Park (*see* p. 10).

The Parish Church

(St. Mary's) is almost hidden behind the Municipal Buildings. The sturdy square tower with clock face,

however, can be seen peeping over the top of the Free Library. The said tower is the only remaining portion of the old church, the main portion having been rebuilt in 1865. Before that date the ruthless modernizer had laid sacrilegious hands on the venerable pile. This Dr. Oliver pithily described, writing of the Church as it stood in 1842: "It was startling as we approached the church to behold a Doric portal knocked up to lead to a north gallery; to view fluted granite columns tumbled out of the church, and broken up to serve for gate posts about the cemetery; and such fantastic doors and windows, etc. We were prepared for a worse interior, and for patchwork, and detestable and outrageous attempts to convert the appearance of the House of Prayer into that of a Lecture Room or Theatre; nor were we disappointed." Much of the old oak carving, which would be priceless now, was broken up and sold for firewood. Some that remains, by which the beauty of that which is gone may be judged, can be seen converted into a screen for the choir vestry in the tower. But there are several old monuments and inscriptions that will repay examination.

Like the present building, and like the Bridge, the old church was built of local stone. Under date May 31, 1504, the Church is styled in the archiepiscopal registers, "The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary." Readers of *Westward Ho!* will remember that Sir Richard Grenville in 1588 brought to Bideford the first convert of the North American Indians. That this is a fact beyond dispute is proved by two entries in the earlier registers belonging to the Church:

"1587-8. Raleigh a Winganditoian (was baptized) March 26th.
1589. Rawley a Winganditoian (was buried) April."

Variations in the spelling of Raleigh occur in other places (the great Sir Walter uses the form *Ralegh* in his famous *History*). In the second instance it will be noticed that the word is spelt as it is pronounced in Devonshire.

It is commonly believed that the system of mortuaries

came to be regulated by Act of Parliament in consequence of a scene in Bideford churchyard. In the reign of Henry VIII, so the story runs, Sir William Coffin, of Portledge, a Master of the Horse and "a great man about Court," was passing Bideford Church, and seeing a disturbance inquired the cause. He was told the rector refused to bury a corpse that had been brought to the cemetery until his mortuary dues had been paid, and this the bereaved relatives either could not or would not do. Enraged beyond measure, Sir William ordered his retainers to seize the stubborn cleric and bury him in the grave that had been dug for the other. And the Rector was, in truth, in sore peril of being buried alive when he relented and performed, albeit with a bad grace, the office demanded of him. Sir William had to answer for his conduct before Parliament, but the result of the exposure was the passing of an Act, 21 Henry VIII, c. 6, regulating the mortuaries.

The visitor should not fail to see the Norman font, with rude cable moulding, and the fine sixteenth-century monument to Sir Thomas Graynfyld (Grenville). In the south aisle, at its eastern end, is a brass erected by the Rev. Roger Grenville, one-time rector, in memory of the gallant Sir Richard Grenville, who commanded the little *Revenge*. On it is inscribed the great sailor's memorable farewell :

"Here die I, Richard Grenville, with a joyful and quiet mind, for that I have ended my life as a true soldier ought to do, that hath fought for his country, his Queen, religion, and honour; my soul willingly departing from out of this body, leaving behind the everlasting fame of a valiant soldier, having behaved as any is in duty bound to do."

Also on the south side is a mural tablet to the memory of John Strange, a merchant, in more humble life than Grenville, but none the less a hero. Strange died in 1646, and the monument is said to have been erected by a mariner who had received generous treatment at his hands after being shipwrecked on the North Devon coast. The quaintly-worded inscription runs :

“ Sacred to the Memory of Mr. John Strange, sometime Merchant of this Towne, who for sweetness of disposition, affability in discourse, courteousness in carriage, uprightness in commerce, fidelitie in magistracy, largeness of heart, and liberality of hand to the needy, bountifulness in hospitality, humility in the flow, equability in the ebb of outward things, and sincere love to God, His gospel and saints, having lived beloved and deservedly honour'd, after the pilgrimage of fiftie-six years ended, dyed, desir'd and not without cause, much lamented, Aug. 1st, Anno Dom. 1646, in his fourth and fatal Maioraltie, whose better part returning whence it came, he left unto the world the pretious odour of a good name, and the choyce example of a sweet conversation, together with his earthly tabernacle put off and heerby interred, till being refined and raised a glorious body, the more glorious soul return to take possession of it, and both be rapt up to enjoy that bliss that knows neither tear nor tedium.”

Strange deserved this eulogy. He was a level-headed man, and when the panic-stricken Mayor of the borough had fled the town, then smitten with plague brought over from Spain, he took the reins of command and did all that was then humanly possible to keep the plague within bounds. For full six months terrible havoc was wrought, as many as eighty-three being carried to their graves in a month. Strange at last took the infection and died, richly beloved.

In the churchyard are many curious epitaphs. One, upon which a novel with a moral might be written, records the death of a Captain Henry Clark, whose sad life's story is inscribed in verse on his tombstone.

Bideford was the birthplace of John Shebbeare, M.D., who achieved fame by his political writings. He addressed *A Series of Letters to the English People*, supporting the Stuarts and strongly opposing the House of Brunswick. For his animadversions on the Government of George I he was sentenced to stand in the pillory and to suffer imprisonment for two years. On the accession of George III, however, he obtained a pension of £200 per annum, and, like the Vicar of Bray, from that period employed his abilities in defence of the Government.

Mention must also be made of Thomas Stucley, born in 1681, son of the chaplain to Oliver Cromwell. Deep study turned his brain, and he lived a strange life. Watkins adds, “ When the Duke of Marlborough laid

siege to any town in Flanders, Mr. Stucley would draw a plan of the place upon his kitchen floor, which, according to the Devonshire custom, was made of lime and ashes ; and by the intelligence of the newspapers he would work at the plan with a pick-axe, so that every conquest cost him a new floor." An old house in Bridgeland Street, Bideford, is pointed out as the place where this singular man died, in 1730, surrounded by dirt and money.

Other Public Buildings.

There is a busy Pannier Market at the top of Bridge Street (principal markets, Tuesdays) and a Cattle Market above. In Meddon Street is the **Infirmary**, opened in the Jubilee year. For the size of the town the political clubs are well equipped. The **Conservative Club** is in Bridgeland Street, where there is now also a **Women's Unionist Club**, and the **Liberal Club** is at the top of High Street. There is a Music Hall (**The Palace**), at which entertainments are given, in Bridgeland Street, and close to it is the **Masonic Hall**. In Mill Street is the **Palladium Cinema**. Near the river bank and park are the **Science, Art and Technical Schools**. There is a **Grammar School** for boys, which is recognized as a secondary school, and the **Edgehill United Methodist College** provides secondary education for girls. The latter building was destroyed by fire in 1920, but the task of reconstruction was put in hand almost immediately, the school being meanwhile carried on in temporary quarters.

The Quay.

The Broad Quay, which belongs to the town, having been purchased by the Corporation in 1881, has been several times widened, and presents a very different appearance from that it bore when Amyas Leigh trod its cobble paving. At that time, with the exception of the *Ship Inn*, barely a house stood on it, and it was but a fourth of the present width. Now it is a broad promenade, tree-sheltered on one side, and fronting the other are shops and private residences, to say nothing of the *Ship*, which is supposed to stand on the site of

the original inn of that name. From the inscription on the wall we read that here the Brotherhood of the Rose was founded, and surely, painted high upon the front, is the portrait of Rose Salterne herself ! This, however, is not claimed to be an old masterpiece. As a matter of fact, the enterprising innkeeper, with an eye to the advertisement it would bring him, had it painted in 1905. At different times this Inn has been variously named *The Blue Anchor* and *Newfoundland Inn*, but it now goes under the original name.

The **Bideford, Westward Ho ! and Appledore Railway**, opened in 1901, was closed early in 1917, owing to the exigencies of the War, and communication between the places named is now maintained by means of motors and other conveyances. The track formerly laid on the Quay was taken up in 1920. The line taken by the railway can be traced through much of its length, and its use as a new road is advocated.

Victoria Park.

Like its neighbour Barnstaple, Bideford possesses a pretty riverside park. At the entrance is the **Statue of Charles Kingsley**, already referred to. Many acres of marshland have been purchased by the town and gradually laid out, with the result that there is a large open space for sports, encircled by a good cycle track, the whole being bounded by a pleasant riverside walk, provided with seats, along a beautiful avenue. The view from this walk is magnificent, embracing the river and the hills as far down as Instow, whilst on the other hand is the ancient Bridge. Altogether the Park would do credit to larger towns.

The Armada Guns.

Until their historic interest was discovered these relics of the days when Bideford men and Bideford ships conquered the Spaniard were used as mooring posts on the Quay. Experts from the Royal Artillery and the British Museum have inspected these weapons, but no one can indicate their origin with absolute certainty. Some say they are Armada guns, others call them Spanish guns of the sixteenth century, but not necessarily

Armada guns. Without question, they are very old and of foreign make. Captain Enthoven, R.H.A., who made a careful examination at the request of the Royal Artillery Institution, Woolwich, reported :

“ It is only reasonable to suppose that a port of the distinction of Bideford would become possessed of some of the guns captured from the Armada. These guns are not English, are of the sixteenth century, and four out of five [the number then examined] correspond in a remarkable degree with the authenticated guns at Inveraray. It is therefore more than probable that in these guns Bideford possesses guns captured from the Spanish Armada.”

At Westward Ho ! several guns were formerly seen at very low tides. One has been recovered and ornaments the Golden Bay Hotel. At Instow two of these old cannon were for years to be seen on the Quay. A few years ago, however, Mr. A. L. Christie, who owns the foreshore and quay, had them removed to his house at Tapeley. At Portledge, beyond Westward Ho !, three similar guns were recovered about fifty years ago, and are at the rear of the mansion. Finally, at Clovelly can be seen three more guns of the same character. When the mystery surrounding these old guns is unravelled—if it ever is—we shall doubtless hear a most interesting story. There may be more guns about the coast, in not very deep water, waiting to be discovered. At present the collection comprises—

At Bideford . . .	8 guns.	Cleaned and preserved.
At Portledge . . .	3 „	do.
At Westward Ho !	1 „	do.
At Clovelly . . .	3 „	Built into Quay.
At Westward Ho !	? „	Several have been seen at low tides.
At Instow . . .	2 „	Removed from the Quay to Tapeley Park.

On the river bank, just beyond the park, efforts have been made in recent years to revive the shipbuilding industry of Bideford.

Chudleigh Fort.

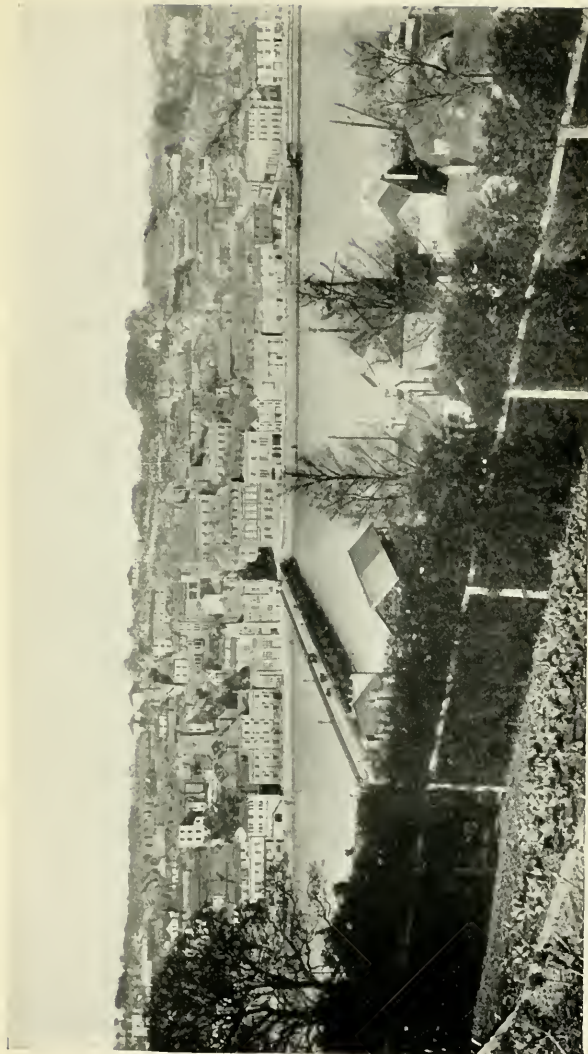
By climbing a short distance up the hill behind the red-brick church of St. Peter, East-the-Water, and then

crossing a field, Chudleigh Fort is reached. When Barnstaple and Bideford declared for the Parliament against the King, two forts were built by Major-General Chudleigh, one on each side of the Torridge. That at East-the-Water remains, and is visited both on account of its historic memories and for the splendid views it affords of the town and up and down the river. In the summer of 1919 it was purchased by public subscription in the town as a site for the **War Memorial**, and is laid out as public gardens. The site of the fort on the other side is conjectural. It has always been referred to as the Appledore Fort.

The River Torridge,

one of Bideford's chief attractions, rises but a few miles from the sea, close to the source of the Tamar, near Bursdon Moor. In the form of a large loop it wanders inland for fifty-three miles, until it joins the Taw before Bideford Bar. Great Torrington is the town of next importance to Bideford on its banks. The great width of the Torridge, except at low water, renders sailing most enjoyable, and boating is highly popular. Rowing is a sport much indulged in, and the little town has in recent years sent out the champion oarsmen of the county. It is expedient to have a knowledge of the tides. Oarsmen well know the advantage and comfort of rowing with the stream. By carefully watching the tide and selecting the right time, excursions can be made with the current each way. The trip to Wear Gifford and back is about ten miles, with the perfection of river scenery. There is no great depth of water at Wear Gifford, but enough for ordinary requirements. Care should be taken to avoid shoals. Down stream, Appledore, Instow, or Braunton Burrows may be visited.

For fishing in the Torridge *see* p. 1, Barnstaple section.



W. H. Puddicombe.]

BIDDEFORD, FROM EAST-THE-WATER.

[Biddeford.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]

NORTHAM.

[Dundee.

EXCURSIONS FROM BIDEFORD.

FROM Bideford can be visited all the places of interest in the "West Countree," as the great railway-less tract of land extending to Hartland Quay is called.

Motor and other conveyances run to Clovelly daily in the summer and to other places as noted on p. 1. For times and other particulars—too variable to be quoted here—*see* current announcements.

TO NORTHAM.

Bank.—*National Provincial*, Monday and Thursday, 11 to 1.

Distance.—1½ miles north of Bideford. There is a 'bus service.

Golf Links.—*Working Men's Golf Club*, 18 holes.

Places of Worship.—*St. Margaret's* (Parish Church), *Congregational* and *Wesleyan*;
Sunday services, 11 and 6.30.

Post Office.—9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, 9 to 10.30 a.m.; Bank Holidays, 9.30 to 11 a.m.

There is little of interest in Northam, except a few quaint old houses, and at the cross-roads a beautiful War Memorial. The **Church** has an imposing interior and a handsome organ. On one of the pillars is the inscription "This Yele (aisle) was made Anno 1593."

Fine views of Northam Burrows and the Bay are obtained from **Bone Hill**, a public place where seats are provided, close to the church. Here is a cairn of Westward Ho! pebbles inscribed to naval heroes.

With admirable foresight, the Northam Urban Council have provided a good water supply, which is brought in from Melbury, some miles beyond Bideford. Westward Ho! and Appledore come in the same urban district and have the advantage of this supply.

Burrough House, has been rebuilt since Amyas Leigh lived here, as recorded in Kingsley's *Westward Ho!* Stephen Burrough and William Burrough, two doughty seamen, lived here about the year 1550. The former

became chief pilot of England, and was of great assistance to Sir Hugh Willoughby's expedition to the Arctic Seas. The present Burrough House dates from 1868.

It is a pleasant walk from Northam to Appledore. The visitor will note with interest an inscription on a stone raised by the roadside at a spot locally known as **Bloody Corner**. It reads—

“ Bloody Corner.
Stop! Stranger, stop!
Near this spot
lies buried
King Hubba the Dane,
Who was slain by
Alfred the Great
In a bloody retreat.
A.D.—DCCCLXXXII.”

The stone was erected by the late Mr. Charles Chappell. According to tradition, the Danes landed near here and laid siege to Kenwith Castle, but the Devon men made a desperate attack and cut off the invaders from their vessels. King Hubba was killed and his followers overpowered. Hubba's stone lies nearer the beach.

TO APPLEDORE.

Access.—By motor-'bus from Bideford *viâ* Northam. Or by a pleasant riverside walk of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Ferry to Instow, 3*d*.

Places of Worship.—*St. Mary's* (Parish Church), erected 1838, *Baptist, Congregational, Wesleyan, Plymouth Brethren,* and *Sailors' Mission*, 11 and 6.30.

One of the most beautiful walks in the district is that by the river bank from Bideford to Appledore ($3\frac{1}{2}$ miles). The way from the Quay is past the Park and shipyard, continuing by the waterside to Cleavehouses, where the path, after turning up a narrow lane, winds through lovely woods, enchanting glimpses of the river being obtained through the trees. (Precise directions should be obtained, as the walker may otherwise find himself coming out on the main road to Northam.) In places the path reaches a considerable height, and the views of Westleigh nestling among the trees on the other bank, with Instow close to the water's edge, will make the

artist long to fix the scene on canvas. From this path, too, the best view can be obtained of Tapeley Park and House.

Quaint little **Appledore**, called by Kingsley the "little white fishing village," is situated directly opposite Instow, at the junction of the rivers Taw and Torridge. Like Bideford, it is built on the side of a hill, but has no architectural pretensions. Some of the private residences in the newer portions are pretty, but the older streets are narrow and mostly cobbled. There is much material for the artist, the quaint quay, with its shipping, making a pleasing picture. Shipbuilding and repairing is the local industry, there being several docks, and fishing is extensively carried on.

Visitors should walk through the long cobbled street of Old Appledore, turning to the right past the site of the railway station—signboard to Lifeboat House points the way—to the open space opposite the spot where Taw and Torridge unite their waters and flow into the sea between Braunton and Northam Burrows. Here are seats, welcome after the cobble stones. By continuing round the corner across the lifeboat slip—the lifeboat is launched from a carriage which runs on a long line of rails—then along the shore at low tide or the path above it at other times, to the gasworks, the road can be taken to Northam or Westward Ho!, not much more than half an hour's walk.

With the advent of the railway, for which Appledore waited many years, the place became popular with visitors, and the hotel accommodation improved in consequence. The railway was sacrificed to the exigencies of War, but the motor-'buses keep Appledore in close touch with Bideford and Westward Ho!

Fishing and river shooting can be indulged in, and sailing or rowing boats, in charge of competent boatmen, may be hired.

There is a choice of routes for the return journey ; (a) afoot or by motor-'bus by way of Northam, on the same side of the river ; (b) by ferry to Instow ; then to

Bideford by train, or walk the three miles along the high road.

TO INSTOW.

Access.—By train or motor-'bus.

Bank.—*Lloyds*, Thursday, 10 to 12.

Distance.—From Bideford 3 miles, by rail, road, or river.

Ferry to Appledore, 3*d.*

Hotels.—*Marine* and *New Inn* (See p. xxiii). There are several apartment houses.

Places of Worship.—*St. John the Baptist* and *Wesleyan Chapel*. Sunday services 11 and 6.30.

Post Office.—Between pier and station, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., but closed 1 to 2 p.m. Sundays and Bank Holidays, 9 to 10.30 a.m.

For years Instow has been a favourite resort of artists, who delight in the abundance of land and sea-scapes. The picturesque vessels lying in the Pool or on the beaches at Appledore form splendid studies. The panorama from the hills which protect Instow from east winds is unsurpassed for "breadth." The wide Torridge, with Bideford in the distance and Appledore in the middle distance, always provides a beautiful view. To the north, the mouth of the Taw and the lowlands of Braunton, with the heights beyond, make a fine picture of quietness and solitude, the effect heightened by lonely Braunton Lighthouse. Beyond the confluence of the two rivers the great waves of the Atlantic roll over the bar, and in the far distance mysterious Lundy, twenty miles away, lies like a huge flat tableland against the horizon. Over Appledore the eye follows the dim, dark blue line of coast past Clovelly and Gallantry Bower to Hartland Point, with the Lighthouse, like a dot, at the foot. On a moderately clear evening the lights of Lundy Island and Hartland are well seen.

The splendid stretch of firm sand makes Instow an ideal place for children. The bathing from the beach is quite safe. For a place of this size the Parade is very creditably kept. Sailing is a popular pastime, and boats, with experienced men in charge, may be hired. Bass fishing is much indulged in. The ground of the North Devon Cricket Club (which is considered the oldest in Devon) is pleasantly situated beyond the sandhills. There is also a lawn tennis and croquet club.

Instow Quay, though not large, is substantially built.



W. H. Puddicombe,

APPLEDORE AND INSTOW.

[Bideford.]



Vaelntine & Sons, Ltd.,

INSTOW QUAY.

[Dundee.]



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

APPLEDORE QUAY.

[Reigate.]

It makes a convenient landing for ferry passengers from Appledore, but, except at high tide, a long stretch of sand must be crossed. This ferry is most useful for anyone staying at Instow, as it brings Westward Ho ! and the Pebble Ridge within easy reach.

In Plantagenet days Instow belonged to the St. John family, and the name is a corruption of John's Town. To find the **Old Church** we must walk beyond the houses of Instow Quay about three-quarters of a mile, to **Instow Town**. The Church, which has an embattled west tower, was thoroughly restored in 1875. It is worth looking into : there are some memorials to Devon worthies.

Less than a mile along the Bideford road is **Tapeley**, where are two of the Armada Guns referred to on pp. 10-11. The obelisk was raised to the memory of Cornet Cleveland, of the 17th Lancers, who fell at Inkerman.

TO WESTWARD HO !

Access.—By motor-bus from Bideford.

Church.—*Holy Trinity*, built 1870 (chapel-of-ease) ; *Baptist*. Sunday services at both, 11 and 6.30.

Distance from Bideford.—By road *via* Northam, 3 miles. By road and footpath about 2 miles. Signposts point the way.

Golf Links.—*Royal North Devon Golf Club*. 18 holes. Entrance fee, £10 10s. ; subscription, £3 3s. Visitors, 6s. day, 30s. week, £4 month.

Hotels.—*The Golden Bay* ; *Pebble Ridge*.

Post Office.—9 a.m. to 7 p.m. ; Sunday and Bank Holiday, 9 to 10.30 a.m.

With its natural advantages, it is remarkable that Westward Ho !, except for its well-deserved reputation in golfing circles, remained so long in the background. Even now, though largely visited, it hardly gains the patronage such surroundings merit. The name was given, after Charles Kingsley's famous novel, in 1863, when the Countess of Portsmouth laid the foundation-stone of what is now the *Golden Bay Hotel* (formerly the *Royal*), and much was hoped of the "settlement." However, things seemed to go contrary. The Kingsley Memorial College did not last ; the tide washed away the pier and some houses as well ; and some years ago the United Services College (in which Mr. Rudyard Kipling was educated and which he rendered famous in *Stalky & Co.*) was removed nearer London. More

recently another school has been opened. Retired officers form a large proportion of the residents, and use the Union Club. The equable climate is appreciated by many who have spent some years in the East.

The sands at Westward Ho!—from which there is good bathing—are superb, and extend for about three miles. In summer many tents are dotted around. A distinctive feature is—

The Pebble Ridge,

about two miles long, composed of smooth, oval, grey stones. It is supposed that each of these pebbles was once a piece of rock torn from the Hartland cliffs by the waves, worn smooth in transit, and finally deposited, after miles of wandering, on the beach of Westward Ho! To lend support to this statement it is said that a Clovelly boatman, who had long been in the habit of securing the painter of his boat to an iron spike embedded in a piece of rock on the beach, one day discovered that the spike was missing. Years afterwards, walking across the Pebble Ridge, he caught his foot against what proved to be his own spiked pebble.

The Ridge is to-day much smaller than it has been. Formerly it was the custom annually to collect the stones which had been flung over the Burrows by the waves. These stones were collected and replaced by the inhabitants of Northam, who went by the old but not very euphonious name of “potwallopers.” They enjoy valuable common rights of pasturage. The work is now supervised by a Burrows Committee, working in conjunction with the lords of the manor (the Royal North Devon Golf Club) and the manor court, an ancient institution which is zealously maintained.

Beyond the Ridge is a **Submerged Forest**, of great interest to geologists. Petrified portions of trees are sometimes found, specimens of which can be seen in the Barnstaple Athenæum. The gradual retreat of the Ridge before the Atlantic billows has laid bare a patch of blue clay, and from this, at intervals, relics of the



[Liverpool.]

WESTWARD HO !

M. Leventon,]



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

[*Dundee.*

FRITHELSTOCK CHURCH AND ABBEY RUINS.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

[*Dundee.*

WEAR GIFFORD.

Palæolithic age are obtained. Many flint weapons and human remains have been found ; also the antlers of a red deer in excellent preservation. Some of these objects can be seen at the Museum connected with the Bideford Library.

Protected by the Pebble Ridge are the famous **Golf Links** of the *Royal North Devon Golf Club*, one of the courses on the Championship rota. These links are the chief glory of Westward Ho ! and many, both amateurs and professionals, claim them to be unexcelled in the South or West of England. The great majority of visitors who stay at Westward Ho ! for any length of time are golfers. There is a well-appointed club-house, and the large membership includes some of the best players in the country. Water is laid on to all the putting greens. J. H. Taylor learnt his golf here.

TO ABBOTSHAM CLIFFS.

Distance from Bideford—4 miles.

This is an enjoyable walk, which can also be made from Westward Ho ! (1½ miles). From Bideford, take the Abbotsham Road at the top of High Street. This leads directly to the village of **Abbotsham**. The **Parish Church** (St. Helen's), in the Early English style, was restored in 1870. A monument to Anthony Honoy is dated 1639. The beautifully carved bench-ends—a feature of so many North Devon churches—should not pass unnoticed. To reach the cliffs, go through the village and take the lane on the right past the Post Office ; turn right at second opportunity, then past a prosperous farm with a water-garden opposite until after a lane (left) a track (right) leads to cliffs. A better way is to take the first turn to the right soon after turning up past the Post Office, joining a road coming in on the right and going left soon after, continuing to the lodge of Abbotsham Court, close to which a gate gives access to a narrow lane eventually leading to the cliffs. Tourists are recommended to ask precise directions in the village to prevent them going wrong. From the cliffs the

view is very beautiful. The return by way of Westward Ho! is the best.

TO WEAR GIFFORD.

Distance from Bideford.—3 miles by road (on public motor route) or river.

This idyllic spot can be reached, easily and pleasantly, by water when the tide serves. It is also a favourite drive from Bideford.

Wear Gifford is noted throughout North Devon for its strawberry teas. The old Hall, embattled and ivy-clad, makes a strikingly pretty picture, with the Torridge sweeping round it, and set, as it were, in a little amphitheatre of cliffs and hills. The scenery calls to mind similar places in the Wye Valley. The **Hall**, which contains splendid wood carvings, has survived periods of varying good and bad fortune. It was defended against the forces of the Parliament, but surrendered. Cromwell's men have not the reputation of adding to the beauty or even preserving the property of Royalists. A couple of centuries later it was used as a farmhouse, but it has now reverted to its proper use as a mansion. The Hall has belonged to the Fortescue family from the fifteenth century, and in the adjoining **Church** (Holy Trinity) are numerous inscriptions to their memory. Over the chancel door on the south wall is a mural painting in good preservation representing the martyrdom of St. Edmund. There are six bells in the tower, the tenor being inscribed, "Religion, death and pleasure make me ring."

TO GREAT TORRINGTON.

Access from Bideford.—6 miles. By train or motor-bus, the latter preferable on account of the charming scenery, unless time is limited. Great Torrington is 3 miles beyond Wear Gifford. Visitors using a privately-hired vehicle, would do well to instruct the driver to take the road by the river for the forward journey, returning *via* Frithelstock and Monkleigh. This will only add about two to three miles to the distance.

Banks.—*Barclays, Lloyds, Midland, National Provincial*—all near one another in High Street and Fore Street.

Bowls.—On the Castle Mound is the oldest bowling green in North Devon.

Early Closing Day.—Thursday.

Fishing.—Excellent fishing may be had. For licences issued by Taw and Torridge Conservators *see* Barnstaple Section, p. 1.

Golf.—On high ground at Darracott, two miles from Torrington. 9 holes. Green fees (which should be paid at the *Globe Hotel*), 2s. 6d. per day, 10s. week.

Hotel.—*Globe.*

Places of Worship.—*St. Michael's (Parish), Baptist, Congregational, United Methodist, Wesleyan.* Sunday services at 11 and 6.30.

Post Office.—Fore Street, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday and Bank Holidays 9 to 10.30 a.m.

Railway Service.—Torrington is the terminus of the North Devon line of the Southern Railway. The station is a mile from the town, at the bottom of the hill. An omnibus meets all trains.

The North Devon and Cornwall Junction Light Railway.—In 1922 was begun a new railway to connect Torrington with Halwill Junction, on the North Cornwall Line of the Southern Railway. The first six miles from Torrington are along the route of the former Light Railway to Peters Marland, the gradients being reduced and the curves widened. A new bridge has been constructed over the Torridge, and part of the old wooden viaduct across the valley filled in to form an embankment. The old railway was constructed by Mr. Fell, the engineer of the Mont Cenis Railway.

Great Torrington, so called to distinguish it from Little and Black Torrington, is an old-fashioned municipal borough and market town, occupying the summit and slope of a high hill. It is of great antiquity. The old **Church**, in which Cardinal Wolsey had preached, was accidentally blown up by gunpowder during the Civil War; the present fane was erected in 1651. Warriors returned from Palestine affirm that Torrington, by reason of its situation and approach, bears a striking resemblance to Jerusalem. In the centre of the Market Square is a prettily-designed fountain. The **Market** (market-day, Saturday) is close to the **Town Hall**, in which are several interesting portraits. A door at the farther end of the Market leads on to the **Castle Mound**, which is also reached by way of South Street and Castle Street. From the Mound there is a superb view of the surrounding country, the Torridge flowing peacefully at the foot of the hill, which was once crowned by a castle. Seats are conveniently placed for those who wish to enjoy the view. Close to the flagstaff is a well-kept **Bowling Green**, for the ancient and honourable game of bowls has here as strong adherents as has golf at Westward Ho! A little to the south-east of the Castle Mound, at the edge of the escarpment above the river, is a curious **Obelisk** commemorating the battle of Waterloo. A glove-making industry provides considerable employment.

The **Cottage Hospital** was erected as a memorial of the Hon. Mark Rolle and other benefactors of the town. There are an **Institute** with reading room and a **Cinema**.

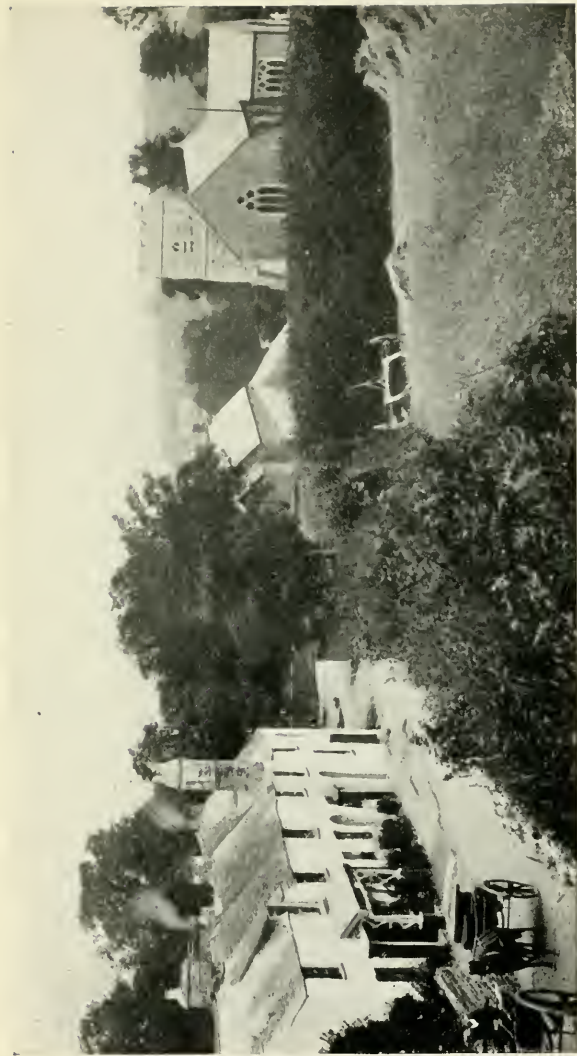
The slopes above the Torridge, intersected with paths and dotted with seats, with extensive views of the surrounding country, are one of the attractions of Torrington, while on the other side of the town are extensive undulating gorse-covered commons. **Fishing** is to be had in abundance, and is highly popular with residents and visitors. Considering its surroundings, it was only to be expected that Torrington would bring itself up-to-date by catering for golfers, the 9-hole links of the **Golf Club** being a short distance from the town. The Stevenstone Foxhounds, whose kennels are not far from Rothern Bridge, hunt the district.

A few miles from Torrington is the beautiful park and mansion of **Stevenstone**, so long identified with the Rolle family.

Historical Note.

Great Torrington has a pre-Norman ancestry. In old records it is called Cheping-Torrington, a proof of the antiquity of its market. A Castle, of which few traces remain, was erected during the Norman period. The town long "enjoyed" the right of sending representatives to Parliament, but in 1368 successfully petitioned for exemption from the privilege, as the expense was more than it could afford. In the reign of Mary the town received its charter of incorporation.

Torrington was the centre of stirring scenes during the Civil War. In December, 1642, a body of about five hundred Royalists possessed themselves of the town, in order to form a base for active operations against Barnstaple and Bideford, and endeavoured to raise more forces. Barnstaple attacked them, hoping to destroy, before it could increase in size, this leaven of loyalty which had suddenly appeared. The party chroniclers on each side claimed the victory, but the Royalists fled from the town. After various skirmishes, Colonel Digby



[Keigate.

ABBOTSHAM.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]



[Clovelly.]

CLOVELLY, FROM THE HOBBY DRIVE.
Lundy Island in the distance.

George S. Reilly.]

occupied Torrington again (July, 1643) with a strong Royalist force. Again the Barnstaple men attacked, but were defeated. Colonel Digby then marched upon and took Bideford, and subsequently Barnstaple. In February, 1645, Fairfax himself left Exeter for Torrington with ten thousand men, and after severe fighting the town was taken, with "three thousand stands of arms, the whole of the baggage and money, and more than six hundred prisoners." This victory utterly crippled the Royalist forces in Devon. In the church the Royalists had stored their powder, and during the engagement this exploded, entirely wrecking the building. It was re-erected in 1651, and John Howe was "intruded" as vicar. Ten years later he was ejected, and became the founder of the Congregational body in Torrington, whose church is known as the Howe Congregational Church. It was James Buckpitt, the minister of this church, who, when a Bishop of Exeter refused to consecrate the conformist part of the cemetery unless it was divided from the unconsecrated part by a wall, made such an emphatic protest that the Bishop retracted his refusal, and the circumstances had national results.

TO MONKLEIGH.

Distance from Bideford—4 miles.

A pleasant return journey from Torrington, if one is driving, is by way of Monkleigh, a pretty village high among the hills. Included in the parish are some fine residences, among them **Annery**, which descended from the family of that name to the Hankfords, one of whom was Lord Chief Justice. It is said that, having given instructions to his keeper to shoot anyone he met in the park with designs upon the deer, the faithful man one "dark tempestuous night" met his master in the park and challenged him. Receiving no reply, he notched an arrow and shot the marauder, as he thought him. The judge fell dead beneath Hankford Oak. He was buried in Monkleigh Church, where a monument depicting him in robes may be seen. While some

historians thus ascribe his death to accident, others, less charitable, suggest that he was tired of life, but, fearing to put an end to his existence by his own hand, adopted the strange course detailed above.

Those interested in churches may be recommended to make their drive a little longer by taking in **Frithelstock**, where there are scanty remains of an Early English Priory beside the church. Then return to Bideford *viâ* **Buckland Brewer**, where in the rebuilt church is a fine Norman doorway with beaked heads. Buckland Brewer is also notable from its connection with Edward Capern, the postman-poet.

TO LITTLEHAM.

Distance from Bideford—2 miles.

A pretty walk southward, showing the surrounding villages dotted over the landscape, and several church towers. Bideford and the bridge are also seen to advantage. The **Church** (St. Swithin's) dates from 1319, and has many features of interest. A few years ago it was restored and lavishly decorated. A white marble altar-tomb, some five feet high, to Lieut.-General Crealock, occupies about a fourth of the whole church. Littleham once had a splendid screen, but lost it. The present oak screen is quite unlike the usual Devon type, but the carved seat-ends and choir stalls are interesting. During restoration a fresco representing a bishop was discovered behind a thick covering of plaster. Visitors having inspected this beautiful church will not regret the stiff climb to Littleham.

CLOVELLY.

Access.—Daily in summer (June to September) and thrice weekly in winter, a regular service of passenger motors is maintained between Clovelly and Bideford in connection with the Southern Railway. (For times *see* current time-tables.) There are also the motor mail brake service (twice daily) and motor-bus services from Bideford and Bude. Clovelly is also much visited by public motors from almost all parts of Devon and North Cornwall. Thousands come also by steamer from Ilfracombe and the Bristol Channel ports.

Bank.—*National Provincial*. At the Reading Room at the top of the street, the first Friday in each month, 12 to 2 p.m., and from July 16 to September 11 every Friday.

Distance from Bideford.—11 miles.

Hotels.—*New Inn*, near the top of High Street; *Red Lion*, on the Quay. There are many refreshment places which provide tea and light luncheons.

Places of Worship.—*All Saints'* (Parish Church), and *Wesleyan Chapel*.

Post Office.—About halfway down the street.

Reading Room.—At top of street. Visitors pay 1d. per day.

“Clovelly, ah, sweet Clovelly, beside the western ocean sleeping,
Thy rocks and woodlands the noontide steeping in golden ray;
And when I wander sad and friendless, in lands a thousand leagues
away,
I long and long for my returning, but nevermore will come the
day.”

VERNE, in *A Song of Devon*, quoted above, was the first to immortalize Clovelly in song, but Charles Kingsley had already fixed the spot for ever in the minds of readers by his beautiful prose description. He had a true affection for the little village of which his father was at one time rector, an affection which can be traced through every word of his eulogy:

“Take the steepest hillside with which you are acquainted; let the Atlantic roll at its base; cover it with ancient trees and tangled undergrowth to its summit; suppose a brawling stream to fall in a deep and narrow channel from the heights to the shore; in your mind’s eye people its banks with a straggling village of irregularly shaped lichen-covered cottages, on so sharp an incline that the base of the one is on a level with the roof of its neighbour; pave the street with miniature boulders from the shore, arranged in a series of terraces, and

terminate the descent by an antique pier of wave-worn stones, from which the only approach to the sea at low water is by ladders, whose perpendicular depths may well startle the inexperienced traveller; and then you will obtain something which would resemble Clovelly, if it were not indeed unique in its singular construction and beauty, and did not surpass all descriptive powers, whether of pen or pencil."

It is claimed that Kingsley "discovered" Clovelly, but there are those who advance a much older claim, and in support of a contention that the Romans, seventy years before the Christian era, enjoyed the charms of Clausa Vallis quote Virgil's *Æneid* :

"Within a long recess there lies a bay:
An island shades it from the open sea,
And forms a port secure for ships to ride:
Broke by the jutting land, on either side
In double streams the briny waters glide."

Lundy is presumed to be the island, and Clovelly is suggested as an Anglicized form of Clausa Vallis—the enclosed valley. The description might equally apply to other places on the North Devon coast, but the quotation is of interest. Clovelly Dykes—a peculiar formation of earthworks at Clovelly Cross, on the Hartland road—if they are of Roman origin, or adapted by the Romans from British entrenchments, as is probable, would bear out the theory.

Clovelly, though far from railways, is not difficult of access. From Bideford there is regular connection by the motor-buses run in conjunction with the Southern Railway, besides other motor services, and in summer all cars from Ilfracombe to Clovelly call at Bideford. Shoals of day visitors come also from Bude, and even from places as distant as Torquay. For cycling and motoring the road is fair, though somewhat hilly. The best and most popular route, however, is by the steamers.

The drive from Bideford is along the summit of a ridge sufficiently high to command a succession of extensive views, with the sea away on the right, and on the left the church towers of Parkham and Buckland



George S. Reilly,

“ UP-ALONG,” CLOVELLY.

[Clovelly.]



George S. Reilly,

HIS MAJESTY'S MAILS AT CLOVELLY.

[Clovelly.]

Brewer, which can be seen for miles around. There are plenty of hamlets on the road with old-world inns, and if one takes a horsed vehicle the driver does not need much persuasion to stop at *Fairy Cross*, *Horns Cross* and *Hoop's Inn*. The entrance to the famous Hobby Drive is passed before the steep descent to Clovelly begins. The conveyances stop at the top of the cobbled descent, and an extensive garage and parking place for motors has been constructed just off the road.

Clovelly streets (or street, for it is one winding path) culminate in a series of wide cobble-paved steps, upon which the usual beasts of burden are pannier-laden donkeys. In 1920 the street was for the first time climbed by a motor-car, which was considered so exceptional a feat that it was "filmed."

Clovelly has been truly described as "a place unlike any other in the kingdom," and this is the secret of its popularity with many visitors. The one street is often so crowded with visitors as to resemble a queue awaiting entrance at a theatre. Looking down the street one sees a narrow torrent of flower-decked cottages, no two exactly alike, either in design or colouring. Flowers bloom all over the place. Giant fuchsias, almost wild, quite cover the fronts of some of the tiny cottages, and the air is so mild that later than at almost any other place in Devon may be seen in flower honeysuckle, hydrangeas, jessamine, camellia, japonica, and rhododendrons. Originally a stream ran down the street, but the water was long ago diverted.

The two Inns are comfortable, and the terms moderate. The *New Inn* (rebuilt) is in the main street; the *Red Lion* on the Quay. The Quay is a strongly-built stone Pier, constructed by George Cary, whose family held the manor so far back as the reign of Richard II. Sheltered by the harbour is a **Lifeboat House**, and the hardy Clovelly fishermen will man the boat in any weather. Near the top of the village is a **Reading Room**, maintained by the generosity of the Hamlyn family, of Clovelly Court.

Clovelly Church.

Quite close to **Clovelly Court**, at what may be called the entrance to Clovelly, is the Church. In passing note the inscription on the lodge at the Court entrance, placed there by the former owner on his return from abroad, "Go North, Go South, Go East, Go West ; Home's Best." The present mansion is of later date than that occupied by the Carys. The **Church** (All Saints') is an ancient structure of mixed architecture. There is a lych gate, a rebuilt Norman porch, and a low embattled west tower. A sundial is dated 1678, but the register dates from a few years later, 1686. Within the altar rails is a brass, dated 1540, representing a knight of the period, with the request, "Praye for the soule of Walter Robert Cary, Esquire." Two other epitaphs bear witness to the loyalty of this famous Devonshire family :

"In memory of William Cary, Esqr., who served his King and country in ye office of a Justice of Peace under three Princes—Qu. Elizabeth, King James, and King Charles I. And having served his generation, dyed in the 76 yeare of his age, An. Dom. 1652, *Omnius caro fenenum.*"

"In memory of Sir Robert Cary, Kt. (Sonne and Heyre of William,) Gentleman of the Privy Chamber vnto King Charles 2d., who, having served faithfully the glorious Prince, Charles I., in the long civil warr against his rebellious subjects, and both him and his sonne as Justice of the Peace. He died a Bachelour, in the 65th yeare of his Age, An. Dom. 1675, *Peritura perituris relique.*"

A curious Cary memorial is to be seen on the window sill in the north side of the chancel, a square brass, depicting a skeleton holding a spade, commemorating the young daughter of Dr. George Cary who died in 1655.

One simple inscription, on the left of the little chancel, always gathers a silent respectful crowd. The brass reads—

June 12th, 1819.—January 23rd, 1875.
 In memory of
 Charles Kingsley,
 Rector of Eversley, Canon of Westminster,
 Poet, Preacher, Novelist,
 Son of Charles Kingsley, sometime Rector
 of this Parish, and of Mary Lucas, his wife.

The old peal of four bells was increased to five in 1900, and in 1905 a sixth was added. The latest bell bears the inscription : "Ring out, ye bells of Clovelly."

The Hobby Drive.

The Hobby Drive is so named because its construction was the hobby of its projector, Sir J. H. Williams. The entrance from the Clovelly road is just beyond the eighth milestone from Bideford, and Clovelly itself can be reached by this route. The "Drive" consists of a winding carriage road, three miles long, through the thickly-wooded combes to the east of Clovelly. The views obtained by peeps through the trees are most enchanting and beyond description. Certainly this is an idyllic spot. Being private property, a charge of 4d. each (devoted to charities) is made to pedestrians for admission; cycles and donkeys, 6d.; carriages, 1s. 6d. It is not a motor road.

At the top of the street, opposite the entrance to the Hobby Drive on one side and the Yellery Gate entrance to the grounds of Clovelly Court on the other, is **Mount Pleasant**, the open space presented by Mrs. Hamlyn to the National Trust for the use of the public as a memorial to the local men who fell in the war. From it fine views over the Bay may be obtained. Here is the War Memorial.

Clovelly Dykes.

Close to the junction of the main road (Bideford to Hartland) and the road to Clovelly village are remains of extensive earthworks. The plan of the ancient encampment can be traced, and shows that the place must have been of great strategical importance in early British days. Clovelly Dykes are three encampments, each with its own vallum and ditch. The outer embankment surrounds an area of some thirty acres. There is a splendid view from the top.

Bucks Mill,

*Bus from Bideford
to Bucks Cross*

or "Buckish," is the collection of little white houses which may be seen from Clovelly Pier some $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the east, perched in a seemingly most precarious position on the cliffs. At one time all the inhabitants of Bucks

were "Braunds," and many of that name live there still. They seem to be a distinct race, swarthy to a degree, and are held to be the offspring of a party of Spaniards who some say were wrecked near, and others contend were taken prisoners at the time of the Armada. A Braund was at one time locally known as the "King of Bucks." At low tide Bucks Mill may be reached by walking along the shore, which course enables one to see the **Freshwater Cascade** which originally flowed through Clovelly, but which now adds to the countless attractions of the Hobby Drive. The fall can be seen from Clovelly harbour, tumbling from the cliff to the beach.

Gallantry Bower.

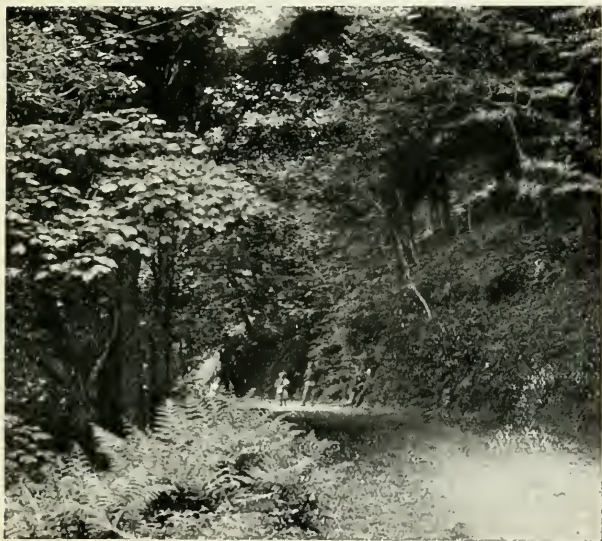
Admission to Park, Gallantry Bower, etc., daily ticket 6d., weekly 1s.

The walk here is again through private property. The entrance, called the *Yellery Gate*, is at the top of Clovelly village, on the right (the Hobby Drive gate being opposite on the left). The footpath passes in sight of Clovelly Court (*see* p. 28.)

Gallantry Bower is the inappropriate name bestowed on a huge cliff of four hundred feet, almost perpendicular and wonderfully smooth. Venturous folk lie flat down on the grass and look over. This is not recommended. Peeps at the cliff are easily obtainable by following the right path to one or two snug coigns of vantage at the side. The path continues across a common-like expanse with wide views and by a zigzag descends to the entrance gate to **The Wilderness**, affording fine views of Gallantry Bower. Then it ascends to a cliff nearly as high and just as perpendicular, overlooking the little bay at—

Mouth Mill,

a charming dell opening on to the sea, with a gorgeous background of sloping hills clothed with semi-tropical luxuriance. It can be reached by the road just below the entrance gate of **The Wilderness**. Of course, there is a stream, which bubbles a noisy course through the wood, races joyfully through the open vale, and is quietly



IN THE HOBBY DRIVE, CLOVELLY.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

BLACK CHURCH ROCK, MOUTH MILL.

[Reigate.]



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

WATERFALL AT SPEKE'S MILL.

[Dundee.]

swallowed by the ocean. By the stream is a cottage where tea and light refreshments may be had. Each year sees an increasing number of visitors to this neighbourhood, and the demand for accommodation at surrounding farms is growing considerably.

The rocks at Mouth Mill are stupendous, notably **Black Church Rock**, eighty feet high, with a natural arch worn by the waves. Mouth Mill is a delightful place for a picnic. The walk up the combe, through a fairyland of ferns, trees and stream, is recommended, and a more lovely place for a ramble it would be hard to find. To return to Clovelly there is no better way than to retrace one's steps. Visitors should remember that these are private grounds and keep to the paths indicated.

MOUTH MILL TO HARTLAND POINT.

Before further investigation is made of this superb coast, which becomes grander and wilder at every step westward, it must be clearly understood that—

(a) There is plenty of rough climbing, and each adventurer practically makes his own path, and that parts of it are hardly worth the exertion entailed, while at one or two points fields reach right to the cliff's edge.

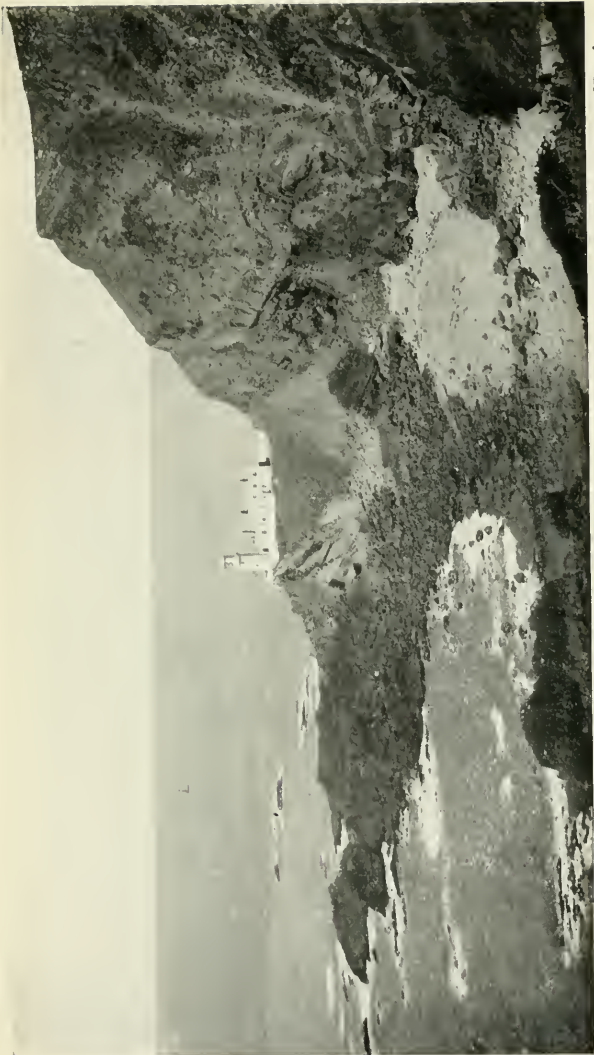
(b) The distances are : Hartland Point and the Lighthouse, four miles from Mouth Mill, with a return road to Clovelly of about seven or eight miles. The destination is Hartland Quay, three miles south of Hartland Point.

(c) There is no hotel on the coast nearer than Hartland Quay, three miles beyond the Lighthouse at the Point. In the event of being belated, travellers must use their own discretion whether they make for Hartland Town or Hartland Quay. The latter is nearer the Lighthouse.

Pedestrians sometimes find that towards the end of the day they have not accomplished the full route intended. In case of this eventuality, or other mishap, there are always vehicles at the *Hartland Quay Hotel*, or the *King's Arms*, Hartland Town.

After mounting, by a very stiff climb, the cliff on the west side corresponding to the cliff descended from Gallantry Bower, we cross another ravine. Next comes **Windbury Head**, on which are some earthworks. Soon after we cross **Exmansworthy Cliff**, a hundred feet higher

than Gallantry Bower. The **Chapman Rocks** are next passed, then **Fatacott Cliff**—the highest on this part of the coast. **Shipload Bay** is a mile beyond Chapman Rocks. Here a road leads inland to **Hartland Town**, and those bound for Hartland Point will lose little by turning inland past East Titchberry Farm and continuing right by the road to the lighthouse. Shipload Bay is about the only place hereabouts where it is possible to descend to the shore. From Shipload Bay the first cable to Lundy Island was laid. On the right-hand side, looking towards the sea, will be noticed the peculiarly contorted rocks of **Eldern Point**. **Titchberry Cliffs** are next surmounted, and about half a mile beyond is **Hartland Point**, three hundred and fifty feet high. A path leads from the summit down to the plateau, near the foot, on which the **Lighthouse** stands. From the Lighthouse the road inland leads to Hartland Town, from which we can return to Clovelly, or the cliff path can be continued to Hartland Quay, three miles, the direction being due south, passing Blackmouth.



[Dundee.

HARTLAND LIGHTHOUSE.

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

HARTLAND ABBEY.

[Reigate.]



Wm. Ellis,

SCREEN, STOKE CHURCH, HARTLAND.

[Clapton.]

HARTLAND.

AT Hartland, 13½ miles from Bideford and five miles from Clovelly, we reach practically the western limit of Devonshire, and the coast-line assumes a rougher and bolder character as we approach the north coast of Cornwall. The town of **Hartland** is three miles inland, about equi-distant from the Point and the Quay; but along the coast we come to—

Hartland Quay.

Approach.—The motor mail leaves Bideford every morning and afternoon, bringing letters or passengers as far as Hartland Town. One or two general carriers return from Bideford to Hartland Town on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. The motor-'bus service between Bideford and Bude passes through Hartland Town. Many of the motor coaches from Bideford, Bude, and other centres, include Hartland in their routes and allow for a short stay at the Quay and for an inspection of the Church at Stoke.

Distance.—16 miles from Bideford.

Hotel.—*Hartland Quay Hotel* (see also p. xxiii).

Besides the Hotel there are scarcely any houses here and the Quay is more a name than a reality. The sea-views, however, are magnificent, and after a glance at the jagged rocks one can imagine the heartrending scenes witnessed in case of shipwreck.

When approaching from Stoke or from Hartland Town the houses at the Quay are not seen until almost the edge of the cliff is reached, when a road and pathway descend very steeply to the rocks below.

At the top of the steep hill behind the Hotel is the building containing the rocket apparatus. Beside this is a stile. Cross this stile and proceed along the cliffs, passing the ruins of a stone-built summer house. **Black-mouth** soon comes in sight. This is sometimes called Blackpool Mill, or Blackpole Mill in some old documents, *temp.* Queen Elizabeth. Of course the mill has vanished, but the Mouth at all seasons is a place of wonder. In rough weather the spectacle is grand in the extreme. In calm weather the scene has a sweetness and fascina-

tion that never fail to charm. A little bridge crosses the stream which flows from the valley down through the Mouth. About a hundred yards below the bridge is a cascade.

Take the path up the valley on the left, passing through various gates which enclose the private grounds of Hartland Abbey. The path ends in a road, beyond which is seen the Abbey itself, most romantically situated.

Hartland Abbey is a mansion built on the site and incorporating the cloisters of an ancient abbey founded early in the eleventh century by Githa, wife of Earl Godwin, and the mother of Harold, as a thankoffering to St. Nectan for the preservation of her husband from shipwreck. *The house is private, and visitors are not admitted.*

Other authorities affirm that Githa established not an abbey but a college of secular canons. All agree that she built a church also. If Githa was not the foundress of the Abbey it was probably one Geoffrey, son of Oliver de Dynham, who obtained from Henry II licence to change the college of secular canons into regular canons of the order of St. Augustine, and to found a monastery. The transfer was confirmed by Bartholomew, Bishop of Exeter. Richard I granted to the Abbey the ecclesiastical "Right of Gallows." By various grants Hartland was made opulent. In 1312 the cloisters were built.

To meet the requirements of the fairly large population of Hartland, it would appear that the present St. Nectan's Church was built about the year 1350, on the site of the old church which had accommodated the saint himself. At the Dissolution the Abbey Church, which stood on the east side of the Abbey, was pulled down. With the commodious erection of St. Nectan's close by, it doubtless appeared unnecessary to maintain the Abbey Church, which had probably been in existence over five hundred years. In 1545 Henry VIII granted "the site of the priory" to one William Abbott—a most appropriately-named gentleman. The old buildings had already shown signs of decay, but they do not appear to have been substantially restored, either by the Abbott family or by the Luttrells, who next held them. The property passed by marriage to Paul Orchard in 1722, and in 1740 to his son, who bore the same name. This gentleman is credited with having built on the old foundations, in 1779, the mansion now known as Hartland Abbey, incorporating into his new building the cloisters and part of the then existing walls.



[*Bath.*

BREAKING WAVES (NORTH CORNISH COAST).

Graystone Bird.]



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

THE COAST AT BUDE, LOOKING NORTH

[Reigate.]

From Orchard the Abbey descended to his great-nephew, L. W. Buck, and from him to his son, who became Sir George Stucley, Bart. The property is still in the possession of the Stucley family.

The valley in which the Abbey stands is very picturesque. Magnificent woods clothe the sides, and at the foot flows a lovely stream.

The tall tower of—

St. Nectan's Church,

at **Stoke**, between Hartland Town and the Quay, is seen from many a long mile away to impinge on the skyline ; consequently the view from the top (not a difficult ascent) is extensive. The tower, which also serves as a landmark for mariners, is 144 ft. high, including pinnacles, and contains in the east wall a large figure representing St. Nectan. The tower dates from 1400, the Church from about 1350. The Norman font has some grotesque carving. On the north side of the Church is a Norman doorway. There are numerous memorials dating back to 1619. A modern cross, 15 ft. high, stands in the churchyard. Excavations for its erection disclosed a very early font and an altar-slab with five crosses. The most treasured possession of the Church is its nobly-proportioned fifteenth-century screen, lavish in design, ornate in decoration, marvellous in workmanship, and nearly perfect in preservation. The screen is 45 ft. wide, the entire width of the Church. The height is about 15 ft. The staircase to the rood loft still exists.

The Lady Chapel—restored several years ago—has a magnificent roof. This was formerly known as “ Our Lady Aisle,” and was probably the chapel of the Guild of St. Mary. In it Mass was said until some years after the Reformation. The priest was paid by one Hugh Prust, who provided the seats, made in Bideford, and the initials “ H.P.” may be found on some of the bench ends in other parts of the Church. There is a Norman font. The main altar came from the Abbey. Some panels of the old pulpit, on which is “ God save Kinge James

Fines," are kept in a chamber over the north porch. No one has satisfactorily explained the meaning of the word "Fines." Here are also the parish stocks. It is commonly said that this room was called the "Pope's Chamber," a mistake arising from the name of Thos. Pope, last Abbot of Hartland.

The vestry contains a "Register of Births and Deaths, 1558-1652," written in beautiful "copper-plate."

There are six bells in the tower, recast in 1826, four bearing characteristic inscriptions. In the plantation adjoining the churchyard are two of the old pinnacles from the tower. The Church was restored in 1850. In 1901 it narrowly escaped destruction by fire. The roof suffered much damage, but the flames were subdued before the priceless screen was harmed.

St. Nectan, the eldest son of Brechan, King of Brecknock, came over from Wales, it is said, with the twenty-three other children of the king, in the year 595, to preach Christianity and remove Druidical superstitions. The name of this saint is preserved not only here at Hartland, but also at Welcombe, near the county boundary, and at Lostwithiel.

Leaving the Church by the east gate we pass through the hamlet of Stoke. The road goes steeply down into the valley again, but at a point beyond the Abbey. Half-way along this romantic valley is little **Bow Bridge**, affording a most pleasing view of the Abbey, with its surrounding woodland.

Hartland Town.

Bank.—*Lloyds*, Monday and Thursday, 12 to 3.

Communication.—With Bideford by motor mail brake. By motor-'bus with Bideford and Bude. By motor coaches from Bideford, Bude, etc.

Hotel.—*King's Arms*. **Inns.**—*Anchor and New Inn*.

Places of Worship.—*St. John's* (Chapel-of-Ease). Services 8 and 10 a.m., 6.30 p.m.; *United Methodist and Wesleyan*.

Post Office.—9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, 9 to 10.30 a.m.

Hartland Town, once an important borough, is so no longer. Its charter, dated 1285, has lapsed, the mayor and town council no longer exist, and the municipal functions have fallen into desuetude. The Town Hall has vanished, and on its site was built, in 1839, St. John's Chapel-of-Ease.

Hartland Point.

To reach Hartland Point from the Quay (3 miles) take the same route as to Blackmouth, whence the path to Hartland Point will be seen creeping up the steep opposite (north) side of the Mouth. The path continues along the cliff top, passing a stream which ends in a waterfall. The rocks near the Point are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Hartland Point (350 ft. high) affords the finest coast view—both ways—in North Devon. Ptolemy called the Point “The Promontory of Hercules.” The cliff scenery is very grand. The **Lighthouse** (open on weekdays from 1 p.m. to one hour before sunset) stands on a plateau below the cliffs, 120 ft. above sea-level. The keepers exhibit parts of the interior, such as the fog-signalling apparatus, the lantern and reflectors, to visitors.

An enjoyable walk from Hartland Quay is that to **Speke's Mouth Waterfall**; it can be continued to **Welcome**, a village most appropriately named, as it is the first the visitor reaches on entering Devonshire from the Cornish side. The village has of late become popular with visitors, for whom several good farmhouses provide accommodation. The surrounding scenery is very attractive, and those seeking a restful holiday, with the best of sea and country air, would do well to make a note of this hospitable spot (nearest station, Bude). **Hartland Moors** are health-giving and expansive, and the *West Country Inn* is near. Close by also may be found the source of the rivers Torridge and Tamar. They rise about five miles from the sea and flow nearer fifty before reaching the ocean on opposite sides of the county.

Between three and four miles south of Speke's Mouth, and about two miles north of Morwenstow, is **Marsland Mouth**, a beautiful combe which with its stream helps to divide Cornwall from Devon. Readers of Kingsley's *Westward Ho!* will remember how “the fair Rose of Torridge” carried out at Marsland Mouth the “White Witch's instructions,” and how the scheming Jesuits were discomfited.

MORWENSTOW.

A PART from the fine drive that an excursion over the border into Cornwall affords, the memory of that remarkable personage, the Rev. R. S. Hawker, brings a great many visitors to pretty Morwenstow.

The romantically placed **Church** of St. Morwenna is one of the most interesting in Cornwall. Its ancient foundation is borne out by the record of the endowment which still exists. "The striking point of this ancient document is that whereas the date of the endowment is 1296, the church is therein referred to by name as an old and well-known structure. To such a remote era, therefore, we must assign the Norman relics of antiquity which still survive."

Leaving the green, with the *Bush Inn* on the left, the Church is reached by the road turning down on the right. It stands on the side of a deep valley running in from the sea. Here it was that R. S. Hawker, the divine, the literate, the poet, the eccentric, lived, preached and worked from 1834 to 1875. The porch has numerous points of interest besides the fine Norman doorway. This and the three arches on the north side are said to be the remains of the former Church, dedicated to the same saint about the year 875. Hawker had a wonderful knack of reading a significance in the smallest detail of his church. The late S. Baring-Gould, in his *The Vicar of Morwenstow*, mentions :

"When I first visited the church, I exclaimed at the beauty of the zigzag moulding. 'Zigzag! zigzag!' echoed the vicar, scornfully, 'do you not see that it is near the font that this ornament occurs? It is the ripple of the lake at Gennesareth, the spirit breathing upon the waters of baptism. Look without the church—there is the restless old ocean thundering



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MORWENSTOW CHURCH.

[Reigate.]



Photos by]

[Frith, Wise and Thorn.

MORWENSTOW VICARAGE—HAWKER'S COTTAGE, COOMBE
VALLEY—TONACOMBE.

with all his waves ; you can hear the roar from here. Look within—all is calm ; there plays over the baptismal pool only the Dove who fans it into ripples with His healing wings.' ”

The same zigzag moulding over the door will be noticed at Kilkhampton and at one or two other Cornish churches. Hawker's interpretation is beautiful and poetic, but not strictly accurate.

The not uncommon decoration found in the carved woodwork of many West of England churches, and of which there are some good examples in Morwenstow Church, inspired the following lines :

“ Hearken ! There is in old Morwenna's shrine,
 A lonely sanctuary of the Saxon days,
 Reared by the Severn sea for prayer and praise,
 Amid the carved work of the roof, a vine.
 Its root is where the eastern sunbeams fall
 First in the chancel, then along the wall ;
 Slowly it travels on, a leafy line,
 With here and there a cluster, and anon
 More and more grapes, until the growth hath gone
 Through arch and aisle. Hearken ! and heed the sign.
 See at the altar side the steadfast root :
 Mark well the branches, count the summer fruit !
 So let a meek and faithful heart be thine,
 And gather from that tree a parable divine.”

The font, said to be 800 years old, is irregularly shaped and ornamented with a cable pattern. The bench-ends, dating from 1575, are all finely carved. The handsome screen of the Perpendicular period was erected in 1575. In 1825 one of the churchwardens had it removed, but it was replaced in 1845. The fresco on the north chancel wall was discovered in 1884. The register dates from 1558. There are numerous ancient memorials here.

Chiefly owing to the interest of Lord Rosebery, assisted by other admirers of Hawker's work, a beautiful window has been erected in the church to the famous Vicar's memory, embodying scenes and legends commemorated in his verse. In the churchyard the figure-head of the brig *Caledonia* marks the spot where are

buried many of her shipwrecked sailors (1842). A cross, erected by Hawker, stands by the church stile. There is also in the churchyard an altar-tomb to John Manning and Christina his wife, who died 1546.

The Vicarage nearly adjoins. It was built by Hawker, and over the doorway is an inscription reading—

“ A house, a glebe, a pound a day,
 A pleasant place to watch and pray.
 Be true to Church, be kind to poor,
 O Minister, for evermore ! ”

The chimney-stacks of the Vicarage were built to represent different church towers in miniature : Stratton, Whitstone, North Tamerton (with which places Hawker was associated), and two Oxford towers. The kitchen chimney represents his mother's tomb.

From the west side of the churchyard a path leads along high ground to **Hawker's Hut**, a favourite retreat of the Vicar's, and one affording beautiful views in all directions.

A difficult path leads to **St. Morwenna's Well**, on the cliff. The arched covering still remains. Near the churchyard is the **Well of St. John in the Wilderness**.

About a mile from Morwenstow is **Tonacombe**, probably the best specimen of a fifteenth and sixteenth-century manor-house in the West.

For a fuller description of this neighbourhood and of **Bude** the reader is referred to the *Guide to Bude and North Cornwall* in this series.



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BARNSTAPLE.

Banks.—*Barclays, Lloyds, Midland, National Provincial, Devon & Exeter Savings Bank.*

Boating.—There are two stations where boats may be hired. Pleasant trips can be made up the Taw and in the estuary.

Bowls.—The principal green is that of the Barnstaple Bowling Club, in Ashleigh Road. The town has provided the champion bowling club in the county. There is also a green at Newport.

Cinema.—At the *Theatre Royal.*

Early Closing Day.—Wednesday.

Fishing.—The Taw and the Torridge are noted for salmon and trout. The *Fox and Hounds Hotel*, Eggesford, is popular with anglers on the Taw. Both rivers are under the supervision of the Taw and Torridge Fishery Board, which controls fishing in all waters flowing into the sea between Somerset and Cornwall borders, and licences are issued by the Clerk to the Board (Barnstaple) and distributors in the different districts. For the upper waters of the Torridge, Torrington is a good centre. Licences: For Salmon and migratory trout (including trout), £2 the season (March 18 to October 31); 7s. 6d. per day; Trout, 7s. 6d. the season (March 1 to September 30), 2s. 6d. per week. Local inquiries must be made as to the waters available.

Golf, at Saunton (*see* p. 23). Instow Ferry or Bideford Bridge also bring the famous *Westward Ho!* Links within easy reach (*see* Bideford section).

Hotels.—*See* Introduction, p. xxii.

Market Days.—Fridays and Tuesdays.

Motor-buses.—To Ilfracombe (*viâ* Braunton); Saunton and Croyde; Bideford and Westward Ho! (*viâ* Instow); Swimbridge and South Molton, etc.

Post Office.—*General Post Office*, Cross Street, between High Street and the Strand, and near St. Anne's Walk, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sundays and Bank Holidays, 9 to 10.30 a.m. There are several sub-offices.

Railway Stations.—The *Southern Railway* stations are **Barnstaple Junction**, on the south side of the river, and **Barnstaple Town**, on the north side, close to the principal thoroughfares. The former is the junction for trains from London (and everywhere) for the Ilfracombe branch line and the Bideford and Torrington branch line. The Town Station is on the Ilfracombe branch and is also the station for the Lynton Railway.

The *Great Western Railway* station is at the east end of the town, with a through service of trains from Paddington, *viâ* Bristol and Taunton. This station connects by a loop line with Barnstaple Junction (*Southern Railway*) and by this means conveys through passengers to Ilfracombe direct.

Barnstaple and Lynton Railway (19 miles), now part of the *Southern Railway*. The gauge of this useful little line is only 1 ft. 11½ in. It was the first railway in England of this gauge for passenger service. So far, the only ones like it are the Welsh Highland Railway from Dinas to Tremadoc and the Festiniog line. The "Toy" railway, as it is called, passes through fine

scenery. The intermediate stations are: Chelfham, Bratton, Blackmoor Gate, Parracombe, and Woody Bay. The Chelfham Viaduct is about 350 ft. long, and 70 ft. above the valley. The views from the line embrace some of the finest scenes in North Devon.

BARNSTAPLE, whilst ranking among the oldest boroughs in the kingdom, strikes the visitor as a progressive little town, and for the tourist who has but a few days in which to "do" North Devon there is no more convenient headquarters. Geographically, and in regard to roads and railway routes, it is centrally situated. Railways run in five directions from three different stations. From the Great Western station there is a direct line to Taunton; from the Southern Railway Junction the main line runs up to Exeter and down in the other direction to Bideford (for Clovelly) and Torrington; and from the Southern Railway Town Station passengers usually book to Ilfracombe and Lynton. The railways issue excursion tickets to places of interest and the motor-'bus services not only supplement the railway but open up country rather off the beaten track, especially for walkers.

Of late years Barnstaple has become popular with all classes of summer visitors. There are several pretty public parks and pleasure grounds, the principal being Rock Park, bounded by a pleasant river walk.

Visitors can play bowls and lawn tennis, indulge in boating and take motor-coach trips to places of interest. Good angling can be obtained within easy distance, and the motor-'bus services keep golfers in close touch with the best links in North Devon. For indoor entertainment there is the cinema at the Theatre Royal, with occasional dramatic performances, and concerts and so on elsewhere.

The town has some good shops, and is a busy agricultural centre, besides possessing several important factories for cabinet-making, lace-net manufacture, glove-making, pottery, milling, etc.

In recent years attempts have been made to revive

the old-time shipbuilding industry which flourished at Barnstaple.

The majority of visitors approach the town from the **Bridge**, 700 ft. long, which spans the river Taw, and the first impression is a pleasant one. The town proper lies in a pretty valley, and the residential streets meander up the hillsides away from the business thoroughfares. On the right hand is the valley of the Taw ; on the left the river widens out until, at Instow, six miles below, it joins the Torridge, and, thus augmented, flows into the sea.

At the north end of the Bridge is an open space called—

The Square,

neatly laid out with lawns and flower-beds surrounding a fountain and the handsomely-proportioned **Albert Memorial and Clock Tower**. Close by is the **North Devon Athenæum**, and adjoining it is the **Taw Vale Parade**, a favourite promenade which skirts the river as far as the Park ; as the South Walk it continues as a riverside promenade as far as the G.W.R. bridge over the Taw. Running parallel with the Parade is **Litchdon Street**, leading to the Penrose Almshouses, the Old Barum Pottery, Trinity Church, and the Great Western Railway Station.

The Parish Church,

dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul, is one of the oldest in North Devon, and not so many years ago was the only church in the town. Pilton, however, was not then included in the borough. Portions of the present fabric date from 1318 ; the church was then rebuilt, but records earlier than this are vague. The curiosity of visitors is always aroused by the **Twisted Steeple**, much out of the perpendicular. This malformation is attributed by some to a severe storm in 1810, when the spire was struck by lightning. At one time there was a movement afoot, when the church was restored, to put the steeple straight, but Sir Gilbert Scott, who was consulted, said he would decline to have anything to do with the work if the steeple were touched. In 1910,

however, it was found that the steeple was getting into a dangerous condition through the deterioration of the timbering, and after much anxious thought a thorough restoration was decided upon. The whole of the lead was stripped off—after careful photographic records had been taken, and each sheet measured so that it might all be accurately replaced—and the internal timbers were all examined and strengthened where necessary. A temporary workshop was erected in the churchyard and the lead melted, remade into sheets, cut to shape and eventually replaced on the tower, the spire now presenting exactly the same appearance as before it was touched. The lead is believed to have originally come from Combe Martin and is rich in silver, which would account for its particularly good colour. The restoration of the twisted steeple was looked upon by the inhabitants of Barnstaple as a townspeople's work, and Nonconformists joined in raising funds to defray the expense. According to Sir Lawrence Weaver, F.S.A., an authority on leaded spires, this is the finest existing lead broach spire.

In the Church itself are a number of interesting 17th-century monuments of Barnstaple worthies. There are also some good stained-glass windows. The Corporation pew—with a "state seat" for the mayor—will be seen in front of the pulpit, and there are the remains of a wall painting. In 1910 an old and beautiful chasuble, which appears by an inventory in the Athenæum to have been used in the church three and a half centuries ago, was presented by Mrs. Peard.

St. Anne's Chapel.

In the churchyard of the Parish Church is an edifice small in size, but of great historic interest, and the cause of much archæological speculation. In early years it was used as a chantry of St. Anne, and after the Dissolution became by purchase the property of the Corporation, who used it as a Grammar School until the new premises elsewhere referred to were erected.



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TAW VALE PARADE, BARNSTAPLE.

[Reigate.]

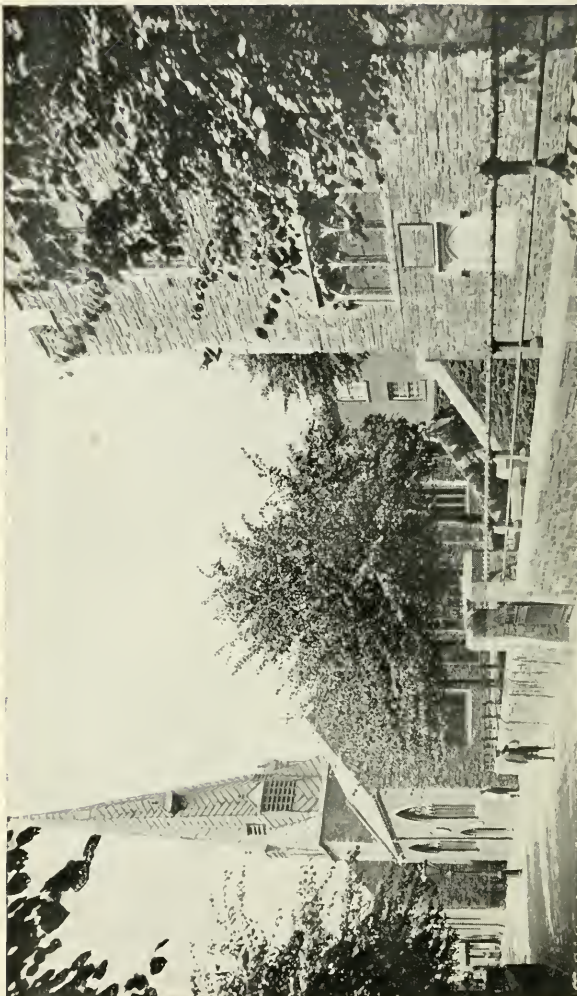


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QUEEN ANNE'S WALK, BARNSTAPLE,

[Reigate.]

Barnstaple (b)



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PARISH CHURCH AND OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BARNSTAPLE.

[London.]

Accurate information concerning the Chapel is difficult to obtain. Some authorities believe it was the chapel of St. Sabinus, an early Irish missionary who came to preach Christianity and was wrecked at Woolacombe. Barnstaple's archives certainly show that a chapel to St. Sabinus once existed in the town, and where it could have stood, unless on this spot, no one can conjecture. The upper portion of the building is believed to date from 1456, but there is no doubt the lower portion is much older. An interesting reference to the former use of the chapel is made in Mr. Chanter's *Memorials of St. Peter's Church*. He says :

“ In the latter part of the seventeenth century, concurrently with its occupation as a school, the building was for some years used for a purpose more congenial with its original intent, as a place of worship for a body of French Protestants, who escaped here and settled in the town after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, 1685. A picturesque description of their arrival and reception here has been handed down. They left Rochelle in a small crowded vessel, in the height of the Protestant persecution. They were tossed about in tempestuous weather for a long time, and at length found themselves in Bideford Bay ; they sailed over the bar, up the Taw, and landed on the Quay at Barnstaple on a Sunday morning during divine service. In their miserable destitution they ranged themselves in the market place. The inhabitants, when they came out of church, flocked to see the poor refugees. An old gentleman—would his name had been recorded !—took two of them home with him and recommended his fellow-townsmen to follow his example ; thus in a few minutes they were all distributed through the town.”

St. Anne's Chapel was placed at the disposal of the refugees by the Corporation, and there for seventy-five years service was conducted in the French language, but the congregation dissolved in 1761, on the death of the last minister, Dr. Duncan. Samuel Pepys, the immortal diarist, married a daughter of one of the refugees.

Pilton Church,

dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, is a building of great age and much interest. From the road the Church is

almost hidden by the Almshouses at the top of the main street of **Pilton**, a place now within the administrative area of Barnstaple, but which some years ago was quite distinct and managed its own affairs. The site of the Church was originally that of a Priory founded by King Athelstan, and a list of the Priors of Pilton from 1200 to 1527 is in existence. Bishop Bronescombe dedicated Pilton Church in 1259, and the present building was probably erected anterior to 1320. It has been restored at various times and in 1914 much was done to improve and beautify the chancel. A remarkable feature of the interior is that many of the columns and even the pulpit and screen are out of the perpendicular. As a tablet above the south porch records, the Church did not go unmolested during the Civil War—

“The tower of this Parish being by force of arms pul’d down in ye late unhappy Civil wars, Anno Dom. 1646, was rebuilt 1696.”

As to how the tower was demolished there is much controversy, some holding that it was, as the inscription hints, literally “pulled” down, others suggesting that it was bombarded until it fell. The oldest inscription, dated 1494, is that on a Chichester grave slab in the chancel not far from the more celebrated memorial of Sir Robert Chichester, who died in 1627, and his two wives. On the other side of the Church is the Renaissance memorial to Sir John Chichester (1569). There are other elaborate monuments, mostly with Latin inscriptions. The carved oak canopy and cover over the font are unusual, and the cover itself is considered by many the most beautiful in the West. The screen is good but unlike most of those in Devon; formerly there were figures in the panels, but it is said that someone, considering they required cleaning, did it to such purpose that the paintings afterwards faded away. On one of the bells is inscribed a curious doggerel—

“Recast by Thomas Taylor & Son,
Who the best prize for Church-bells won
At the Great Ex-hi-bi-ti-on
In London, 1-8-5- and one.”

Extended from the pulpit is the iron arm for the preacher's hour-glass, and over it is a canopy or sounding board. Altogether this Church repays careful inspection.

Holy Trinity Church,

a modern building, is in the eastern portion of the town. For internal decoration dark green and gold are used throughout, which colours, with some choice brass work, give a quiet harmony, rich-looking yet unpretentious.

The Grammar School.

One of the most important and most recent additions to Barnstaple's public buildings is the Grammar School, a County Secondary School which cost about £14,000, and is healthily situated at the Newport end of the town, overlooking the river Taw and Tawstock woods. Although not in the strict sense of the term a boarding-school, arrangements are made for scholars to be placed in hostels belonging to the Governors and in properly accredited houses. The title preserves a name associated with Barnstaple for over 350 years. For a long time the school was housed in the old chantry in the churchyard, and among the many distinguished men who were educated at Barnstaple Grammar School were Bishop Jewell, John Gay, the poet, and John Doddridge, Solicitor-General to James I. Barnstaple is also justly proud of its **Science and Art School**, whose scholars have won many successes, the object of its governors being to teach the importance of industrial art.

Queen Anne's Walk,

a piazza-like structure in the Strand, opposite the bottom of Cross Street, arouses interest. There is a covered way, 67 ft. long by 12 ft. broad, having a series of stone columns which support the roof, and a parapet on which is a full-length statue of Queen Anne, in whose reign the structure was rebuilt. It served at the time as a walk or exchange for the merchants of Barnstaple. The Quay then extending to this part, the Walk was

doubtless of great convenience. The statue is dated 1708 and was the gift of Robt. Rolle of Stevenstone. The walk was last restored by the Corporation in 1859 under the supervision of Mr. R. D. Gould. The heraldic designs, with which it is profusely ornamented, are said to be the armorial bearings of those who contributed to its re-erection in 1713. Immediately under the statue of Queen Anne is a small "table" of stone standing on a pillar or column. This is the "Tomb" or "**Tome**" stone which formerly stood on the quay, and on which merchants are said to have paid their accounts. From the names of the mayor, ex-mayor, and alderman carved on the rim [John Delbridg(e), Richard Fer(r)is, and Nicholas Delbridg(e)] it is estimated that it dates from 1633.

The North Devon Athenæum,

(Open to the public daily, 10 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. and 2.15 to 8 p.m. ; on Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

a fine building in the Square, near the Bridge, was presented to Barnstaple for the encouragement of art, literature and science, by Mr. W. F. Rock, who also gave the town a park. Among its treasures is a valuable collection of manuscripts, and the endowment by Mr. Rock enables frequent additions to be made. The library of over twenty thousand volumes is also augmented continually. There is a fine collection of shells, fossils, and minerals. Visitors are welcomed. Future chroniclers will have cause to be grateful to the late Mr. Wainwright, the curator, for the valuable translations he made of the town's old manuscripts. The Doddridge Library, chiefly consisting of theological works left by John Doddridge in 1664 for the benefit of the town, and formerly kept in the vestry of the Parish Church, is now preserved at the Athenæum. The well-stocked reading-room is much used.

The Market.

One of the sights of Barnstaple is the **Pannier Market** on market day—Friday. It is a huge covered building occupying a space of about 45,000 square feet, being

110 ft. wide by 445 ft. in length, and connecting High Street with Boutport Street. Farmers and their wives bring in their produce, which is sold from low stalls at which the vendors sit. To the Londoner, especially, the scene is a remarkable one. A great deal of business is done here weekly, and dealers buy up large supplies for the London and Midland markets. Adjoining is **Butchers' Row**, where there are some twenty to thirty butchers' shops, each with a frontage of about eleven feet, and "all in a row." Barnstaple is one of the few towns where the practice of placing butchers' shops together, as far as possible, still obtains.

In Litchdon Street are the interesting old **Almshouses** founded by John Penrose in 1627. The quaint colonnade, with its granite pillars, is a remarkable feature.

The Royal Barum Ware.

The souvenir-hunter will enjoy a visit to one of the potteries, which are among the most cherished of Barnstaple's industrial possessions, and have come down, naturally much improved, from remote centuries. In Litchdon Street is the pottery belonging to Messrs. C. H. Brannam, Ltd., and attached to it are beautiful show-rooms. Visitors who so desire are allowed to watch the process of manufacture. This Barum ware was patronized by Queen Victoria, and other royal personages have made purchases. The productions of this pottery are noteworthy for the wealth of colour, the rich glaze, and the quaintness of pattern of the ornamental pieces.

Rock Park.

Originally marsh land, this is now a beautiful park, with a frontage on the river bank of about a third of a mile. Adjoining is the **Sports Ground**, which covers another ten acres. The park is a pleasant resort for visitors and residents, and in the summer months band concerts are given. The Park gives access to two pleasant rambles, one along the river bank, the other through the romantically-named **Lovers' Grove**, which has lost most of its trees.

Barnstaple Bridge.

It is on record that Daniel Defoe described Barnstaple Bridge as "more noble" than that at Bideford, but visitors generally give pride of place to Bideford Bridge, for the latter has an added charm from the more extensive view to be obtained from it. Still, the Long Bridge (as it is known, probably to distinguish it from the shorter Pilton Bridge over the Yeo, which has also a romantic story connected with its original construction), with its sixteen arches, is no mean structure, and, like that of Bideford, has some legendary lore. The story runs that once Tom Faggus, who plays so notable a part in the story of *Lorna Doone*, was in extremity on Barnstaple Bridge, both ends being blockaded by parties in pursuit. At a word, however, the highwayman's strawberry mare cleared the parapet, and the twain swam safely away before the eyes of their astonished assailants. Like the sister bridge at Bideford, authentic information is not forthcoming as to the date of its construction. Leland says: "Some say that one of the Tracys made the right grete and sumeptus bridge of stone having sixteen high arches of Berstaple." Camden, in his *Britannia*, calls it: "A stately bridge built by Stamford, a citizen of London." Several historians refer to its existence in the time of Henry de Tracy, and he died in 1274.

An interesting account in *Barnstaple Records* includes the following:

"This Bridge at the beginning of the sixteenth century had thirteen arches only, and was then described in a contemporaneous document as much dilapidated; but a few years subsequently, at Leland's visit, it was described as having sixteen arches, the last two or three of which were probably of wood, as in 1589 Philip Wyot records the north piles being rebuilt on arches called maiden arches. The Bridge was originally very narrow, as was usual in those days, and only suited to foot passengers and to the pack-horse traffic then in use, with deep recesses over the cutwater or chevron of each pile. These piles projected very considerably—so much so

that when the carriage-way was widened in 1796 they served as the only abutments for the supplementary arches, about four feet wide on each side, and at the more modern extension in 1832 they were still found sufficient to support the additional width and weight. In some parts at least the foundation appears to have been on wooden piles, but they are all strengthened or supported externally by piling, which may be seen when the water is low. The original piles still remain, though now recased throughout, and the original pointed inner arches are altogether intact. Some of the arches have been widened at various periods, thus causing some irregularities of appearance, and there were formerly tablets in the parapets recording the dates of the various alterations, but they were hidden from view when the stone parapets and the character of the Bridge were destroyed by the process of widening and the substitution of iron railings."

The Guildhall,

in High Street, was erected in 1826. The Council Chamber is in the same building, the Mayor's Parlour being underneath. Several old flintlocks, halberds and staves, the latter dated 1826, may be seen on the principal stairway, and there are also some thirty portraits of members of the Corporation and others in 1730, painted by Thos. Hudson, who is said to have been assisted by his illustrious pupil, Sir Joshua Reynolds. A recent addition to this fine collection is a painting of "F.C.G.," the famous caricaturist, the work of his son, given to the Corporation at the time Sir F. Carruthers Gould was made a freeman of his native town of Barnstaple.

HISTORICAL NOTE.

Though Barnstaple has the appearance of a modern well-to-do town, its history can be traced so far back that it is lost in the obscurity of the pre-Norman period. Probably Barum was the *Artavia* of the Romans. Le-land and other authorities say the name was Abertaw, signifying "At the mouth of the Taw." The suffix "staple" is indicative of the markets which have been held here from time immemorial. Records show that

Barnstaple was an important Saxon stronghold ; it appeared in the list of Wessex boroughs in 900, and once possessed its own mint. Athelstan is reported to have repaired its walls about 938. The town claims to have received from Athelstan a charter dated 928, but this cannot now be proved. "Wise Men" of Barum sat at the Saxon Witenagemote. Barnstaple's first Norman Lord was Judhel of Totnes, son and heir of the Earl of Brittany, who received the barony from William the Conqueror, and who added to the strength of the walls. After a few years, in the reign of Henry II, Barnstaple was formally incorporated, and from the time of Edward I its representatives sat in Parliament. Since the redistribution in 1885 the town has given its name to a county division. To instance the antiquity of Barnstaple's woollen manufactured goods, the borough records show a petition to Edward II in 1308 to have a certain duty imposed by Edward I removed.

As a maritime port Barnstaple had been steadily growing, and in 1346 could send ships with the English fleet to the siege of Calais. Ten years later, Lord Audley, who held the manor, greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Poitiers. Nearly three hundred years having elapsed since the grant of Henry II, this pushful community obtained from Henry VI, in the year 1444, another important charter. Fifty years later we find "The Great Reformer," Henry VIII, exercising his conscientious scruples and diverting into the capacious royal pockets the incomes of the religious houses. During this reign energetic Barnstaple put in another claim for a charter, which was granted.

In 1588 the town promptly responded to the national call, and sent five ships against the Spanish Armada, as was tersely recorded by the then Town Clerk, "Five ships went over the bar to join Sir F. D. at Plymo." The resources of the port were such that, after the Spanish defeat, privateers were fitted out, and played sad havoc with Spanish shipping. For the expedition to Cadiz in 1596 Barnstaple ships were again requis-



S. W. Wood,]

[Barnstaple.

THE TAW BRIDGE, BARNSTAPLE.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

[Reigate.

ROCK PARK, BARNSTAPLE.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

[Dundee.]

PILTON CHURCH, BARNSTAPLE.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

[Reigate.]

BISHOPS TAWTON.

tioned. Queen Elizabeth increased by two more charters the privileges of the town. The foreign trade of the port was now considerable, notably in wine and wood. Various manufactories flourished, particularly woollen industries, and the manufacture of Bayes (baize). The trade in woollen fabrics had been introduced by the Flemish. James I, to show his good will, followed the example of Elizabeth, and gave two more charters to the borough, dated respectively 1610 and 1611. The former gave the borough the privilege of appointing a High Steward, which office has been maintained from 1637, when the first appointment was made, to the present time.

At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1642, the town promptly took sides with the Parliament, and in the course of the struggle changed hands no fewer than four times. About December, 1642, hearing that a small Royalist army had reached Torrington, the men of Barnstaple determined to attack them rather than to await attack. The newsmongers of those days were as much addicted to garbling war news as are some of their kind to-day. The Royalist papers claimed a victory, but significantly added that their army had decided to leave the town. The Roundheads, however, reported that they "drove out 500 Royalist troops from Torrington, slew 10 of them, took 40 prisoners and 200 arms, and so freed that part of the country also from these rebellious plundering pilferers." The battle of Sourton Down soon followed, where the Royalists were defeated; but in May, 1643, Sir Bevill Grenville inflicted a great defeat on the Parliamentarians at the battle of Stratton, capturing sixteen pieces of ordnance, four thousand arms, a hundred barrels of gunpowder, £3,000 in money, besides a large number of prisoners, including Major-General Chudleigh, builder of the Forts at Bideford. Bideford was soon menaced by the Royalists, and Barnstaple sent supplies to enable the town to hold out against "ye seidge of Coll. Digby." They succumbed, however, and the royal standard was soon hoisted on Appledore Fort. Cut off on all sides, Barnstaple surrendered on Septem-

ber 2, 1643, and was occupied by the King's forces until June, 1644, when the Barumites revolted, overpowered the Royalists, and came again to their own. Emboldened by success, they endeavoured to restore Appledore Fort to the Parliament, but had to abandon the siege on account of assistance arriving from Exeter for the Royalists. In September of the same year General Goring marched against Barnstaple, and the King was once more supreme in the town. During this period, the King's forces being shattered in the rest of the country, the Prince of Wales, afterwards Charles II, then a lad of fifteen, was sent to Barnstaple for security. The site of the house in High Street at which he stayed is now occupied by the local offices of the Prudential Assurance Company. In July, 1645, he retired for further safety to Cornwall.

The following autumn saw a decided movement by Parliament. Both Fairfax and the great Oliver himself reached Devon. The Royalist forces, "utterly disorganized and mutinous, and hated by the people for their incredible profaneness and unmerciful plundering," gave way before the excellent generalship of Fairfax. A detachment left the main Parliamentary forces and laid siege to Barnstaple in April, 1646. After five weeks the town surrendered, and, the rest of the country being already occupied by Cromwell, the Royal cause received for the time its quietus.

At a later period Charles II helped the town with another charter, and she then settled down during the next century to recuperate, and to develop her resources both as a port and a manufacturing town.

Kean is said to have acted once in Barnstaple ; it is believed that Shakespeare visited the town in 1605.

John Gay, author of *The Beggars' Opera*, was born in Joy Street in 1685. His opera, stage-managed at Drury Lane by Rich, was so successful that it was said to have "made Rich gay and Gay rich." It has in recent years been revived with enormous success in London. Gay's poems were published by admiring subscribers in 1720,

but the proceeds were lost in the South Sea vortex. At an auction sale, his arm-chair was put up and sold, and the purchaser was lucky enough to find, hidden in the seat, a secret drawer containing genuine documents in Gay's handwriting and one or two short poems, which have since been printed. The chair is now in the possession of Mr. Sydney Harper, of 27 High Street, who has also a very interesting collection of Devonshire books and pictures of old Barnstaple.

As befitting a town of such antiquity and importance, Barnstaple possesses some valuable civic plate and regalia, which are publicly displayed at the time of the annual Fair. Some of the pieces date from 1425. A punch-bowl dated 1745 is not only curious in form, being indented at the rim to hang glasses round, but has a curious history. An inscription records that it was the gift of Thomas Benson, and the accompanying ladle is inscribed, "He that gave the bowl gave the ladle." Benson, who was M.P. for the borough in his time, suffered the terrible sentence of outlawry and had his property confiscated. He is stated to have contracted to carry convicts oversea, but landed them at Lundy, which he had leased, and there employed them in smuggling. A silver gilt flagon and two silver gilt goblets resembling church chalices are notable features of the collection. A recently-acquired treasure is a Coronation Mayor's chain of beautiful design, with a community badge consisting of the borough arms and the three seals of the town, decorated with the Barnstaple ships of the Armada.

The **Great Fair**, held at Barnstaple near the end of September, has been called "The Saturnalia of North Devon." It is always opened by the Mayor, who invites the townspeople to a feast of spiced ale, toast and cheese. This is followed by a full-dress parade of the municipal officials, and the Fair begins, to last for three days. The Fair has latterly been shorn of many of its old-time characteristics, but the "pleasure fair" is as popular as ever, and in one day attracts 20,000 visitors to the town.

WALKS AND EXCURSIONS FROM BARNSTAPLE.

THE ever-extending road motor services have greatly added to the advantages of Barnstaple as a centre. The regular services from Ilfracombe to Clovelly, Bideford, Westward Ho! and South Molton all pass through the town, and there are a number of locally-owned motor and horse-drawn vehicles. There is also a regular service between Barnstaple and Croyde, which takes in Braunton and Saunton, considerably improving the accessibility of the latter place, the station at Braunton being some three miles from the sands. The 'bus, however, runs direct to Saunton, and is very convenient both for the golf links and the sands.

There are numerous pretty walks around Barnstaple, one of the best being the popular riverside walk—

TO ANCHOR WOOD,

though the wood exists in name only, the trees having been all cut down. From Barnstaple Bridge take the pathway down the left bank of the river, entered by a swing gate on the railway; continue ahead between the cabinet works buildings and then between palings beside the shipyard (beware of crossings over railway sidings) to the river bank. Should the tide be up, the view is beautiful, extending to Fremington Point on the one hand and to Heanton Court on the other. There are seats at intervals. After about half a mile the path runs under a low railway arch, on the other side of which is the Rifle Range. At the entrance to what was the wood, and through which there is still a public path, is the famous **Dripping Well**, which has been fenced off and rescued from threatened oblivion. Local tradition

credits the water with medicinal virtues, and it was at one time believed that the blind would recover sight after bathing their eyes at the well. The new road to Bideford is reached at the top of **Bickington** village, a little over a mile from Barnstaple, or by keeping to the upper path and turning up through the fields to a lane the walk can be shortened. Return by road. Total distance, about three miles.

TO TAWSTOCK.

Seven Brethren Bank is the name given to the river bank opposite the Rock Park *up* the river. Access is gained through the wicket gate on the Bridge, opposite the entrance to the walk previously described.

By taking the **Lake** road at the bottom of Sticklepath Hill, just beyond the Junction Railway Station, instead of going by the river bank, there is a pretty walk to **Tawstock**, a village about two and a half miles from Barnstaple. Here is beautiful **Tawstock Court**, long the seat of the Wrey family. The visitor should spare time to see the beautiful little **St. Peter's Church**, which contains costly tombs erected in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries to the Earls of Bath. Returning from the Church, the interesting old gates of Tawstock Court will be seen on the right. The quaint and picturesque village school in the hollow below the village will also repay a visit.

TO BISHOPS TAWTON AND CODDON HILL.

Distance.—To Bishops Tawton, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles by road. The railway does not serve.

This is a slightly longer walk, or the cycle may be used with advantage, but if the visitor explores Coddon Hill he should leave his machine in the village.

Bishops Tawton is on the Exeter road, and boasts two churches, one built by the Chichester family at Herner, some little distance to the south, and the Parish Church (St. John the Baptist) in the centre of the village, near the railway. This Church has some good stained-glass windows and two beautiful white marble tablets, the workmanship in the drapery of the figure being exquisite.

Barnstaple (c)

Close to the Church are the remains of the Bishop's Palace, now a farmhouse. The two small towers are noteworthy. The village is close to the railway line and midway between Barnstaple and Chapelton stations. On the opposite side of the river (cross by New Bridge, one and a quarter miles upstream) is **Tawstock Court**.

Coddon Hill (630 ft.), the highest point in this district, is a furze-covered slope at the back of the village; the view from the top well repays a climb, for great stretches of Dartmoor and Exmoor can be seen, and Lundy Island is in the distance. At the summit is a mound upon which beacon fires were formerly lit. A broad path leads up the face of the hill from the roadway, at a point a short distance beyond the last houses in Bishops Tawton and where the road forks. The road skirting the hillside leads to Chittlehampton.

TO CHITTLEHAMPTON.

Distance.— $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles eastward from UMBERLEIGH station, an uphill walk, parts of the road being bad for cycling. 10 miles by road from Barnstaple through Bishops Tawton—a good road.

Post Office, next the *Bell Inn*, faces the open square in front of the Church.

In this land of fine churches comparisons are invidious. Atherington, Swimbridge and Stoke have their screens, but the tower of Chittlehampton is unsurpassed. With the Church, it has between eighty and ninety pinnacles. There are three churches, not far from each other, the respective merits of which gave rise to a proverbial Devon folk saying. It is said that one architect designed the three edifices, but in the absence of evidence in black and white, legends are sometimes distorted. Some now say that the three churches were built by an architect and his two pupils, and that the pupils excelled the teacher. A current saying, of which there are several variants, is—

“Bishop's Nympton for length,
South Molton for strength,
Chittlehampton for beauty.”

The Church is dedicated to St. Hieritha, “foundress of this church,” as the inscription on an empty niche on the left of the chancel explains. The carved ceilings of



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TAWSTOCK CHURCH.

[*Reigate.*



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

TAWSTOCK COURT.

[*Dundee.*



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SWIMBRIDGE CHURCH.

[Reigate.



Wm. Ellis,

SCREEN AND ROOD LOFT, ATHERINGTON CHURCH.

[Clapton.

the Rolle and Giffard aisles—on the right and left of the chancel respectively—are fine. Underneath the matting by the pulpit are some good brasses to the Cobleigh family, and there are many memorials to the Giffards and one or two to the Rolles. The Church was carefully restored by the munificence of the Bishop of Crediton.

TO UMBERLEIGH.

Distance.—About 10 miles by rail or road.

This is a pretty little village, just a cluster of houses amid lovely scenery, through which the Taw gushes with alternate courses of calm and weir water. By the station is a bridge, commanding a charming peep of the river, but something of the picturesqueness of this corner has gone since the old bridge was replaced by one more suited to modern traffic, which connects the two parishes of Chittlehampton and Atherington. The great attraction here is the fishing. Full particulars can be obtained at the *Rising Sun*. The inns and cottages provide good quarters for anglers.

TO ATHERINGTON.

Route.—From Umberleigh station, 1 mile westward, up a very steep hill. Cyclists will find the road from the station not only too steep to ride, but often in bad condition. By road from Barnstaple $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

The road from Barnstaple through Bishops Tawton, and *viâ* New Bridge and Chapelton station, is usually good, but hilly in places. (At the cross-roads, one and a half miles south of Chapelton, the left leads to Umberleigh, straight forward for Atherington.)

The **Church** is dedicated to St. Mary, and according to Risdon, the historian, was founded by Athelstan and “endowed with two hides of land.” The splendid screen retains its loft, the only instance of the kind in Devon. Several authorities have pronounced this the finest screen in the county. It is small, however, and a visit to Swimbridge and Stoke may make admirers of the Atherington screen waver in their faith. Still, the loft is absolutely unique. Harry Hems, of Exeter, wrote: “This loft appears to have been made originally for another building, as it does not fit its present position

properly." Visitors are allowed to enter the rood loft if they so desire. The ascent of the tower is not recommended to any but robust climbers. In the north aisle of the chancel are some nameless monuments; one fine altar tomb has brasses of a knight between two ladies with a number of children with shields of arms, supposed to represent Sir John Basset and his two wives. Two other tombs are said to be of Sir Ralph Willington and wife, while the damaged stone figure of a knight at the other end of the Church probably represents the last of the Champernounes who held the estate. It is usually said that some of these tombs and some other fittings of the Church came from the chapel at Umberleigh, pulled down over a century ago.

The manor of Umberleigh is connected with John of Gaunt in a well-known Devonshire folk rhyme:—

" I John of Gaunt
Do give and grant
To thee and thine
From me and mine
The manor and fee
Of Umberleigh.
And in token of my truth
Do seal it with my tooth!"

TO HIGH BICKINGTON.

Distance.—2 miles south of Atherington, on the same main road from Barnstaple, from which it is about $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant.

This Church is also reported to have been erected by King Athelstan and endowed by him as follows:

" Iche Athelstane, King, Grome of this home, geve and graunt to the preist of this church, one Yoke of mye Land, frelith to holde, Wood in my holt (Saxon term for a wood), House to buyld, bitt grass for all hys beasts, fuel for hys Hearth, pannage for hys Sowe and piggs, world without End."

TO SWIMBRIDGE.

Access.—4 miles from Barnstaple by rail (Great Western). Also by motor-'bus from Barnstaple.

Post and Telegraph Office.—In the village.

The road, good either for cycling or walking, passes **Landkey** (2 miles). Cyclists should keep to the main road on the left above the village, but pedestrians may well use the right-hand one, passing Landkey Church.

Parson Jack Russell, of fox-hunting fame, was vicar of Swimbridge for forty-eight years, and was buried in the churchyard, where his tomb may be seen. Russell's *Life* finds a place in most sporting libraries. The **Church** is most interesting (the latch of the door is very stiff and heavy, the ring which raises it requiring a strong wrist or both hands), and contains one of the finest of Devonshire screens. It extends the whole width of the Church and is of beautiful design. The assigned date is 1420. It has been suggested that the two square empty spaces in the screen were intended for pictures. Another treasure is the finely-carved oak case of the font, with a tall cover of the usual conical shape, but unusual ornamental carving, the whole surmounted by a canopy of choice design and workmanship. The roof of the nave is likewise a study, and if the quaint bosses in the roof above the organ are examined, the observer will detect the figure of St. Dunstan seizing the devil by the nose with a pair of pincers. The hagioscope, or "squint," between the aisle containing the organ and the altar, is interesting. Among a number of memorials is a curious one, dated 1658, referring to John Rosier, "one of the attorneys of the Court of Common Bench," and there is a painting (near organ) on copper of a member of the Cutcliffe family. The stone pulpit with figures of Apostles is also worth noting.

The short spire is of the "twisted" variety, like St. Peter's, Barnstaple, and St. Brannock's, Braunton.

The walk from Swimbridge to Bishops Tawton, four miles, is through pretty, narrow lanes, and is well worth the trouble of finding the right road, which starts at the back of the tannery. This is not, however, a road to be attempted by the cyclist.

TO BRAUNTON.

Access.—6 miles, by road or rail, from Barnstaple (the Ilfracombe branch line closely follows the road). Also reached by motor-bus from Barnstaple. The road is good and level for cycling.

Banks.—*Lloyds* and *National Provincial*.

Golf.—At Saunton: see p. 23.

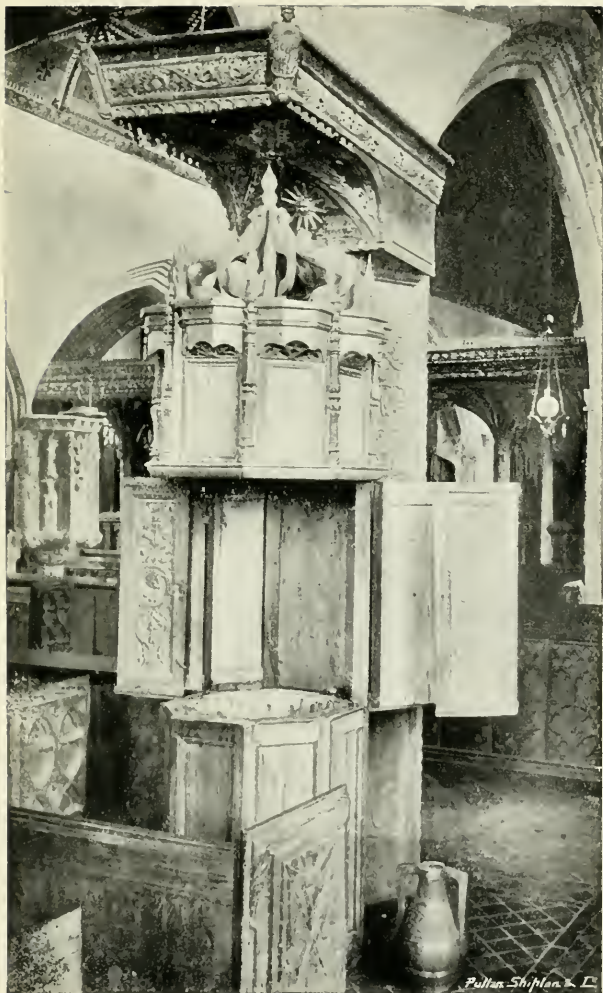
Places of Worship.—*St. Brannock's, Wesleyan, Congregational, Brethren.*

Post Office.—9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sundays and Bank Holidays, 9 to 10.30 a.m.

Most of the places of note inland from Barnstaple having been explored, we now go seaward. Braunton is on one road to Ilfracombe, and as the "going" is perfectly level, the journey thither is a favourite cycle run. On the way are passed **Heanton Punchardon**, where the postman-poet Capern lies buried, and **Wrafton**. The castle-like building on the left is **Heanton Court** (now a farmhouse), which figures prominently in Blackmore's romance, *The Maid of Sker*.

Braunton

is between a village and a township, aspiring to something greater than the former but lacking the dignity of the latter. A good water supply and electric light have given an impetus to building here, and Braunton is a growing place. The new road between the main street and railway is an improvement and the entrance to the town from Saunton has also been widened. Braunton dates from the fourth century. St. Brannock arrived on a preaching tour about A.D. 300. The **Church** is named after him, and a legend is told that he tried to build the Church in various places, but the stones and materials were miraculously removed, until at last the saint dreamed that he was to build the Church on the spot where he should first find a sow and a litter of pigs. In support of this legend will be found represented on one of the bosses of the roof (over north door) a sow and her litter. A similar story is related in connection with the Church of Newton St. Cyres, near Exeter, and other churches. Braunton Church has been described by an old writer as "the fayrest church in these parts of one span," and by another as "the strangest collection of odds and ends to be found in the county." There is much truth in both assertions. The oak seats are the pride of the Church, the ends being most elaborately carved and including St. Brannock himself. Among the memorials is a palimpsest brass commemorating Lady Elizabeth Bourchier, on the back of which is part of a figure of a knight. The old Portuguese Chest is inter-



Wm. Ellis,]

[Clapton.

FONT AND CANOPY, SWIMBRIDGE CHURCH.



[Dundee.

SAUNTON SANDS.

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]

esting, and many other things are worth noting, including a stone at the foot of the wall to the right of the south door showing the date 1055. There is a dwarf tower surmounted by a short leaden spire. Whether this spire is really twisted from the vertical one hesitates to say. On the right-hand side of the south porch is an old tablet with a date that looks wonderfully like 1100, but close inspection seems to resolve it into 1-91, the second figure too mutilated to read.

TO SAUNTON SANDS.

Access.—Braunton Railway Station is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant. Vehicles ply between the two places. Also reached by motor-bus from Barnstaple, and by motor coach from Ilfracombe.

Golf.—*Saunton Golf Club.* Sandy course of 18 holes. Entrance fee: gentlemen £5 5s., ladies £2 2s.; subscription, gentlemen, £3 3s., ladies £2 2s. Visitors: gentlemen 5s. day, 25s. week, £3 month; ladies 3s. 6d. day, 17s. 6d. week, £2 month.

Hotel.—*Saunton Sands*; several boarding houses.

Saunton Sands are a very popular summer resort. The sands are most extensive, and skirt the **Braunton Burrows**, where there are excellent golf links, a very sporting course of 18 holes, among sand hills. There is a good club house.

It is a fine walk along the sands to **Braunton Lighthouse**. In addition to the interest always attaching to a lighthouse, there is the reward of a charming view. On the left in the far distance can be seen busy Barnstaple, and flowing thence the wide river Taw; that is to say, wide if the tide be high, but narrow and showing innumerable sandbanks at low water. Close at hand, but on the opposite side of the river, is pretty Instow, making a pretence of maritime importance with its substantial little quay. This is at the mouth of the Torridge, with Appledore on the bank opposite.

The lighthouse shows (low) a fixed white light from half-flood to half-ebb tide and a fixed red light when there is less than 15 ft. of water over the bar; by day a red ball is hoisted at same state of tide. The high light, visible 14 miles, occults once every 30 seconds. To the north-west is an iron skeleton tower showing an occulting light having red and white sectors.

For returning from the lighthouse, the path leads back to Braunton or to Wrafton railway station—the latter is actually nearer (4 miles).

TO CROYDE BAY.

Motor-bus from Barnstaple.

Railway Station.—Braunton, 5 miles distant.

This is really a continuation of the walk or drive from Saunton, by the new coast road. From it beautiful marine views are obtainable. The village is small, but the situation is delightful, up a sheltered combe with a stream running down one side of the road. Croyde Bay is a little further along the coast where a new settlement seems likely to spring up. A mile inland is **Georgeham Church**, rebuilt in 1876.

TO BRATTON FLEMING.

Access from Barnstaple.—By road (8 miles) or by the Lynton and Barnstaple Railway.

A popular motor route to Lynton is *viâ* **Bratton Fleming**, a village with a population of some 500. Accommodation here is much sought after on account of the healthy situation of the place, about 900 ft. above sea-level. By rail it is easy to get to Barnstaple or Lynton. Good walkers will find it a first-class centre for exploring the western side of Exmoor.

TO PARRACOMBE.

Distance from Barnstaple.—About 12 miles, by the Lynton and Barnstaple Railway.

Parracombe is an interesting village with a population of between 300 and 400. There are two parish churches. The old one at the top of the hill has an old screen, similar to that across the nave at Atherington, with a curious post-Reformation tympanum. The new Church was consecrated in 1878. There is in existence a list of rectors from 1308.



ILFRACOMBE.

Banks.—*Barclays, Lloyds, Midland, National Provincial*, all in High Street.

Boating.—The charges for *sailing* boats are 5s. per hour for five persons, each one above this number 1s.; for *rowing* boats 3s. per hour for four persons, for each extra one 1s. Tolls must be paid on landing or embarking on the piers and certain beaches. Motor-boats may also be hired.

Bowls.—There are good greens, belonging to the local club, in Highfield Road. Public Green at the Victoria Pleasure Grounds.

Early Closing Day.—Thursday.

Fishing.—For variety of fishing, North Devon can hardly be excelled. Sea-fishing, for bass and smaller fry, is followed by many visitors. Good catches are obtainable not far from the shore, off Hillsborough. The fishermen usually charge 3s. an hour to take out their boat with hooks and bait. Sixpence to 1s. for each person over four. Another favourite place is the other side of Hillsborough, in Hele Bay. An obliging boatman will indicate the best grounds. Fishing from the pier frequently results in good sport. Conger fishing, too, is exciting. Trout fishing can be had in the town reservoirs. For tickets apply at Town Hall. For particulars of freshwater fishing, under control of the Taw and Torridge Conservators, see p. 1 Barnstaple Section.

Golf.—*Ilfracombe Golf Club*. Eighteen holes, near cliffs beyond Hele (frequent service of motor-buses). Green fees: gentlemen, 3s. 6d. per day, 15s. per week, 25s. fortnight, 40s. month; ladies, 2s. 6d. day, 10s. week, 17s. 6d. fortnight, 25s. month. Sunday play. Membership:—*Entrance Fee*:—Ladies, £2. 2s.; Gentlemen, £3 3s. *Annual Subscriptions* (Full Members):—Ladies, £1 11s. 6d., Gentlemen, £3 3s., Country members, £1 11s. 6d. A country member is one who lives outside a radius of 10 miles from Ilfracombe. If he resides within the radius for more than three months, he qualifies *ipso facto* for full membership.

At the Victoria Pleasure Grounds is a *putting green* (18 holes), including use of club and ball, 6d.; 9 holes, 3d.; there is another at Larkstone, at the foot of Hillsborough, and one in the grounds of the Ilfracombe Hotel.

See also under Lee Bay, p. 17; and Woolacombe, p. 21.)

Hotels and Boarding Houses. See Introduction, p. xxii.

Motor-Buses.—To Lynton, Combe Martin, Lee Bay, Woolacombe, Braunton, Barnstaple, South Molton, Bideford, Westward Ho!, etc.

Places of Worship, with hours of Sunday services (some of these may vary at different seasons):

Holy Trinity (Parish Church): 8.30, 10, 11.15, 3.30, and 6.30.

St. Philip and St. James, near Capstone: 10, 11, 3.30, and 6.30.

St. Peter's, Highfield Road: 8, 11, and 6.30.

Christ Church, Free Church of England, Portland Street: 11 and 6.30.

Congregational, High Street: 11 and 6.30.

Baptist, High Street: 11 and 6.30.

Wesleyan, Wilder Road: 11 and 6.30.

United Methodist, the Hall, Oxford Grove: 11 and 6.30.

Brethren, Assembly Hall, High Street: 11 and 6.30.

Roman Catholic, Runnacleave Road: 8, 9.30 (in summer only), 10.30 and 6.30.

Salvation Army, Brookfield Place: 11, 3, and 6.30.

Population.—During the season (June to October) a census would show sometimes over 30,000 persons. Out of season the population is about 12,000.

Post Office.—The head office is in High Street (8 a.m. to 7 p.m. ; Sundays and Bank Holidays, 9 to 10.30 a.m.) ; and there are sub-offices at Chambercombe, Church Street, Portland Street, and St. James' Place, near the Capstone.

Railway Station, a mile from the Capstone, high on a hill overlooking the town, Motor 'buses meet trains to take passengers to main parts of the town for 1s., and other conveyances from and to are to be had in abundance.

Situation.—Ilfracombe is 12 miles by road from Barnstaple, 17 miles by road from Lynton, 52 miles from Exeter, and 220 miles by rail from London.

Steamers.—Daily trips by well-appointed steamers to most places up and down the coast, the most popular trips being to Clovelly and to Lynmouth.

Tennis.—Courts at Ilfracombe Hotel. Tournaments are held in the season. There are also grass courts at Biclescombe Park and grass and hard courts at Larkstone, below Hillsborough.

Water Supply.—The water is obtained direct from Exmoor. An analysis made by the Clinical Research Association states: "This is a water of great purity, and from a chemical point of view admirably suitable for drinking purposes."

ILFRACOMBE lays justifiable claim to being the premier watering-place of North Devon. For variety of scenery, magnificent cliffs, seascapes, picturesque walks, and marine and motor excursions, it has few rivals in the kingdom. A progressive Council has provided a capital water supply and a first-rate drainage system. Next to its scenery, Ilfracombe's greatest charm is its mild and equable climate ; its advantages as a winter resort deserve to be better known. Charles Kingsley was not given to overpraise, and he spoke of the climate of Ilfracombe as heavenly, with " its rich, soft, sham winter."

Climate.

Ilfracombe prides itself on the statement of Mr. Symonds, F.R.S., that in endeavouring to ascertain the mildest places in England during the winter months, chiefly as indicated by the mean minimum temperatures, he found the stations ranged themselves in the following order : Guernsey, Ilfracombe, Falmouth, Ventnor, Teignmouth, Weymouth, Llandudno and Babbacombe. The smallness of the daily range of temperature was an important factor in the determination of the climatic conditions of any place, and giving weight to this consideration as well as to the average degree of cold experienced, the following order was obtained : Ilfracombe, Guernsey, Falmouth, Ventnor, Llandudno, Weymouth, Teignmouth and Babbacombe.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

ILFRACOMBE.

[Dunce.]



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

[*Dundee.*

CAPSTONE HILL.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

[*Dundee.*

CAPSTONE PARADE AND WILDERSMOUTH.

“The result of observations extending now over a period of about twenty years is to confirm in every particular all previous observers who, in discussing the comparative climatology of England, assign to Ilfracombe the mildest climate which is to be found within the United Kingdom.”

It is not surprising that Ilfracombe has steadily grown in favour as a winter resort. It is less relaxing than South Devon. If the town can be said to face any particular point of the compass, it looks to the north—a great advantage during the summer. The Victoria Pavilion has a southerly aspect, and is sheltered from north winds by the Capstone Hill, over 150 ft. high.

The average death-rate for several years past (excluding non-residents) has been about 11.0.

Amusements.

No town in North Devon is so well provided with amusements and opportunities for social enjoyment as Ilfracombe. Some of the outdoor sports are indicated in the introductory chapter, but it may be briefly stated here that there are exceptional opportunities for fishing, boating, cricket, golf, tennis, Badminton, swimming, sailing and bowls, the last-named being a game which finds increasing favour with those to whom more arduous pastimes are denied. During the season there are indoor amusements galore. Concerts and theatrical performances are given by good travelling companies.

The **Alexandra Hall**, near the Town Hall, is a fine concert room and dance-hall, in which theatrical performances also are given during the season; opposite the Capstone is the **Gaiety Concert Hall**; the **Runnacleave Theatre** adjoins the Runnacleave Hotel; there is the **Scala Cinema** near the Post Office; the **Empire Cinema** in Northfield Road; the **Palace Cinema** in High Street, and the **Victoria Pavilion**, a striking glass structure at the foot of the Capstone Hill. There are also frequent outdoor amusements on the Pier and in an open space below the Arcade.

The **Victoria Pavilion** (of glass), was erected at a cost of £6,000 to commemorate the Jubilee of Queen Victoria. The interior is ornamented with flowering shrubs and climbing plants, and on a wet day visitors repair there with their books, or to listen to the frequent concerts. So useful and so popular has the Pavilion proved, that the Council recently decided to add accommodation for a further 800 people.

The gardens in front of the Pavilion have a **Bowling Green**, and a **Putting Green**, both open to the public at a small charge.

Bathing.

As far back as 1811 we read : " The town is frequented in summer as a bathing-place " (with a packet to Swansea twice a week), and in 1822 : " Ilfracombe has of late years been much frequented as a bathing-place, and there are warm baths for the accommodation of invalids." The following are the chief resorts :

1. **The Tunnels** (enclosed pools ; mixed bathing). This is a passage cut through the solid cliff to give access to the beach below the Tors. The entrance is in Wilder Road, at west end of Runnacleave Road. By building up walls to connect various rocks, two good pools have been made. The charge is 6*d.* for a machine, including all essentials (*admission fee for non-bathers 1*d.**). An arm of the cliff shelters each bath from the other. In these large pools the safest of bathing can be had.

2. **Rapparee Cove**. A good beach at the end of the Harbour, free from rocks. Mixed bathing is also allowed here.

3. **Blythe Cove**, under the cliffs of Hillsborough, on the farther side from the town. The distance is about a mile, and bathing here is free, the cove being town property.

4. **Hele Beach**. Every convenience for bathers is supplied at this beach, where an ample supply of tents will be found.

5. A large public **Swimming Bath** is attached to the



[Aero Series.]

ILFRACOMBE, FROM AN AEROPLANE.
Showing the Capstone, Lantern Hill, and the Harbour.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

THE BATHING POOLS.

[Keigate.

Ilfracombe Hotel. Open daily from 7 a.m. Mixed bathing at stated times. Tickets, 1s. each, or six for 3s. Also hot and cold baths.

6. **Tepid Swimming Bath** at the *Baths* near the entrance to the Tunnels. Here are also hot and cold baths.

Golf.

Golfers are well catered for on the sporting 18-holes course (5,105 yards) overlooking the sea a short distance beyond Hele. It possesses a well-appointed Club House where lunches and teas can be obtained, while a frequent motor-'bus service brings it close to the centre of Ilfracombe (fees, etc., see p. 1). The annual open meeting is in August. Special competitions are arranged for visitors, weekly during the summer.

At the Victoria Pleasure Grounds, as already stated, is a public **Putting Green** (18 holes, 6d. ; 9 holes, 3d. ; including use of club and ball).

Steamer Trips.

The daily steamer trips are one of Ilfracombe's greatest attractions. The trips vary from an afternoon or evening cruise in Barnstaple Bay to day trips to the South Wales and Bristol Channel ports. Excellent meals are provided on all the boats. The services are fixed weekly, and advertised in the town and district and at the Steamship Company's offices on the Quay. Thousands of visitors who come to Ilfracombe every year from South Wales travel by these boats, which also form a cheap and pleasant means of reaching Ilfracombe from Bristol. Trips may be taken to Lynmouth, Clovelly, Lundy Island, Minehead, Bude, Weston-super-Mare, Newquay, Tintagel, and to Swansea, Tenby and other places on the South Wales coast.

Drives and Motor Trips.

Here, as elsewhere, the horse-drawn coach is being steadily limited to the shorter trips by the competition of the motor coaches. Booking offices abound in the

town, and many of the vehicles call at the principal hotels and boarding houses.

Lee, Sterridge Valley, Watermouth Caves and Woolacombe, etc., are among the delightful places easily reached by horse-drawn vehicles. The motor-coach, however, has immensely widened the scope of the day trip, and places as far distant as Exeter, Torquay, Dartmoor and Bude are included in the tours which a few years since rarely extended beyond Clovelly—thirty-three miles each way. This trip is still one of the most popular, and every day in the season a number of cars go down in the morning and return in ample time for the evening meal. Barnstaple and Bideford are visited *en route*. The scenery is pleasing and varied. Between Barnstaple and Bideford there are good views, first of the river Taw and then of the Torridge and the estuary at Instow and Appledore, with Lundy Island in the distance—though not too plainly visible, let us hope, for a local couplet only too truthfully affirms :

“ When Lundy’s plain
There will be rain.”

The Exeter and Dartmoor trips are through well-wooded scenery following the Taw Valley upward. From Barnstaple to Exeter is the most level forty miles of road in Devonshire, but few points of interest are seen from the road, and the largest place one passes is Crediton. Eastward, Lynton, Lynmouth and Hunter’s Inn are much visited by the cars.

In addition to these excursion trips, well-appointed enclosed motors maintain regular services to Combe Martin and to Lynton, Barnstaple, Bideford, Westward Ho ! and South Molton, to many of them several times a day, and as they stop at various intermediate points and run to a regular time-table they enable the visitor to reach interesting villages and other places not easily accessible by train. South Molton is rather beyond the scope of this Guide, but makes a delightful trip by road. Details of fares and times are posted in Messrs. Colwill’s

office in High Street, and all the motor trips are well advertised in the town.

Historical Note.

Ilfracombe is said to have derived its Saxon name, *Alfreincombe*, from a supposed residence of Alfred the Great. It was subsequently known as Hilfrincombe, Ilfridcombe, Ilfordcombe, and other variations. To its small natural harbour—a rarity on the north coast of Devon—the town undoubtedly owed most of its past importance. Edward III had reason to thank Ilfracombe as a port for assistance, inasmuch as the place contributed six ships and ninety-six mariners to the fleet destined for the expedition to France in 1346 and the capture of Calais in 1347. Several historical records mention that “Ilfracombe, having been a garrison of the Parliament, was taken in September, 1644, for the King, by Sir Francis Doddington, with twenty pieces of ordnance, twenty barrels of powder, and two hundred stands of arms.” In 1685 Colonel Wade and his companions unsuccessfully endeavoured to reach the Continent from Ilfracombe after the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth at Sedgemoor.

Rapparee Cove, which forms part of the Harbour, was the site of the wreck of a large treasure vessel, a portion of the combined Spanish and French fleets captured by Lord Rodney in 1782. Skulls, gold, and silver have been washed ashore at various times here.

In 1797 four French ships appeared in the harbour and scuttled all the vessels there.

From the prosperous days of Edward III, Ilfracombe gradually declined as a port, owing partly to the energy and rising importance of the neighbouring towns, Barnstaple and Bideford. From Norman days the manor has been held at different periods by the Champernouns, Martyns, Greys, Sir Philip Sidney, the Audleys, and the Wreys. Camden, the celebrated antiquary and historian, held the prebend of Ilfracombe from the year 1589 to 1628.

A STROLL THROUGH THE TOWN.

AN advantage of arriving at Ilfracombe by rail is that one has immediately a panoramic view of the town. The **Station** is the terminus of the railway, which here ends abruptly at the top of the hill, from which a steep road leads down into the town. The distance to the Capstone is about a mile. Outside the station one looks directly over the town. On the left is a high range of switchback hills—the Tors. The green slopes on this side, however, give no idea of the grandeur of the other side. But that is a walk to be taken later. The Capstone appears small in the distance, especially in comparison with Hillsborough. Running back into the valley, or combe, away from the sea, is the residential part of Ilfracombe proper. Dotted about on prominent points which give them a commanding appearance are some of the principal hotels, and beyond is the Bristol Channel, with glimpses, if the day be moderately clear, of the Welsh coast in the distance.

Station Road leads down to the town ; at the bottom, on the left, is the **Parish Church** (Holy Trinity), and close at hand the site of the **War Memorial**. To the right is **Church Street**, the beginning of the main artery of the town. The shops—Ilfracombe is an admirable shopping centre—begin here. Church Street merges into **High Street**, and we pass the **Congregational** and **Baptist Chapels**. On the left is the **Scala Cinema**. Running along a considerable distance on one side of High Street is a high bank which rather detracts from the appearance of the street and makes it in places unduly narrow. Proposals to level the bank have been made from time to time, but the expense would be considerable. At one end, however, a little has been taken away. There are

some good shops in this street, and the **Chief Post Office** is on the left, as is also the **Palace Cinema**. Half-way along High Street is the **Town Hall**, also on the left, at the corner of Market Street, with the **Alexandra Hall** just a little behind it, and a few yards farther we reach the **Arcade**. At the fork, the right-hand road, starting as Portland Street, is the high-road to Barnstaple, *via* Muddiford and Pilton.

The left, **Fore Street**, which we take, slopes steeply down. Through the little streets on the left glimpses of the sea and the Capstone are obtained. At the end of Fore Street is the **Harbour**, above which, on the right, rise several fine terraces. Keeping the Harbour on the right, we reach the entrance to the **Pier** and **Lantern Hill**. On **Cheyne Beach**, approached by a narrow passage, seats have been placed. There is a fine view of Lantern Hill from here, and the approaching and departing steamers can be watched. Turning westward, we walk along **St. James's Place**, with the pleasant green vista of the Capstone lawn at the end. So far, houses and shops have denied "views," but as soon as the **Capstone** is reached (a huge rock nearly 200 ft. high, with grassy slopes on the land side), the town is more open, and one sees something of Ilfracombe proper. The Capstone is on the right, with the **Victoria Pavilion** sheltering itself at the foot. In front are the artistically laid out **Victoria Pleasure Grounds**, on one side a bowling green, and on the other a putting course. Opposite, on the other side of the road, is a row of smart shops and cafés, with, at the end, the **Gaiety** concert hall.

When looking at the tidy lawns here, in the calm of a sunny summer day, it is difficult to realize the havoc that a storm will sometimes cause in this apparently sheltered spot. The great tidal wave of December, 1910, will be long remembered in the town. The sea then rose over Wildersmouth Beach, destroyed a low wall, and, carrying lamp-posts and seats before it, turned the Pleasure Grounds into a seething whirlpool and wrought great damage to the shops along the front.

Just beyond the Capstone is **Wildersmouth Beach**, studded with great rocks and boulders. A large portion of what would otherwise have been open frontage to the sea is occupied by the building and grounds of the *Ilfracombe Hotel*. The castellated building above is the *Granville Boarding House*. Facing the sea and the Capstone Parade is the *Imperial Private Hotel*.

We now enter **Wilder Road**, with its many private hotels. Market Street and the **Market** are on the left. A little farther along, where several roads converge, we notice the **Baths** on the right, and the entrance to the **Tunnels**—passages which pierce the cliff and thus provide access to another beach largely resorted to for bathing. Here we can keep to the right for Tors Park Road and turn up Granville Road for the entrance to the **Tors Walk**, or, by keeping to the left along Wilder Road, can complete the circuit of the town, arriving at Church Street again.

Having taken a preliminary survey, greater attention may be given to certain more important features of the town.

The Pier and Harbour.

Admission.—*2d.*; day tickets, *3d.*; weekly, *1s. 6d.*; monthly, *3s.* Landing and embarking, *3d.*

The **Pier**, a substantial construction of wood, to which considerable improvements have in recent years been made, is a favourite place from which to watch the arrival and departure of steamers. At the same time visitors can listen to open-air entertainments and band concerts. Fêtes, aquatic and otherwise, are also held at intervals. Within the boundaries of the Pier are housed the Board of Trade rocket life-saving apparatus and the Lifeboat.

Of the antiquity of Ilfracombe Harbour, proof is found in the roll of Edward III's fleet, taken in 1346, where the town is described as having provided six vessels and ninety-six men, whereas the Mersey found but one vessel and five men. The course of years, how-

ever, has dealt very differently with Ilfracombe and with Liverpool.

The old Pier to the right, protecting the inner harbour, was built by the Wrey family, when Lords of the Manor of Ilfracombe, as an inscription records. The tolls now benefit the town.

The conical—

Lantern Hill,

a hundred feet high, is crowned by a small building dating back about seven hundred years, the pride of "old" Ilfracombe. Originally a Chapel dedicated to St. Nicholas, the patron saint of sailors, it is now used as a **Lighthouse**, showing a red light to point the entrance to the Harbour. The popular idea is that long before Trinity House took up the guardianship of our shores, the lights burning on the altar were sufficient to guide mariners when negotiating dangerous passages in the Channel. It is more probable that the 'Combe sailors and fishermen combined worldly wisdom with piety, and placed a good light in the roof of the little building both to light the interior and to shed a reflection across the water for the guidance of their comrades at sea. Pretty winding paths lead from the Pier to the old chapel, and the seats make the hill a pleasant lounge, from which splendid views are gained.

The Capstone and Capstone Parade.

The Capstone is the most popular promenade in Ilfracombe. If the town can be said to have a "front," this is it. The Capstone rises abruptly from the sea, and is a huge rock 156 ft. high, almost precipitous on the north (or sea) side, dizzily sheer on the west, but with a steep grassy slope on the town side. From the top fine views of the Channel and of Lundy Island are obtained, with the South Wales coast in the distance. Local enterprise has hewn a broad walk round the base, and built a protecting wall on the sea side. At intervals there are steep steps from the promenade to the rocks

beneath, and here and there steps have been cut in the lower rocks themselves to facilitate a scramble at low water in search of anemones, of which many varieties are found. Seats are placed in every possible nook and corner of the Parade, as well as along the paths which scale the Capstone. Comfortable **Shelters** are provided facing the sea, and a Bandstand is close by. To the south-east is a Rockery with alcoves and seats. As protection from the wind can always be had on one side or other of the Capstone, visitors can remain in the open air even on rough days without inconvenience, a matter of no slight importance to invalids. By ascending the Capstone after dark a unique effect can be witnessed, the town's innumerable lights not quite illuminating the darkness, but "rendering darkness visible."

Viewed either from the Capstone or the Parade a rough sea at Ilfracombe is a magnificent and never-to-be-forgotten sight. Wildersmouth Beach is then a mass of tumbling foam, the waves breaking among the rocks in grand confusion.

The Tors Walks.

The walks are private property, and a charge of 3*d.* is made.

To visit Ilfracombe without seeing the Tors is to miss its most attractive feature. This famous beauty spot is situated at the western end of the town. Go along Wilder Road, turning right and at once left where the entrance to the Tunnels is noticed, and then a short distance along Tors Road turn up Granville Road to the right, and beyond the houses on the left will be found the entrance to the Tors, or, as the signboard declares, "The Alps of England." The roads here are a little confusing, but the signboards show the way.

By a succession of zigzag paths the hills rise abruptly one above the other to a height of some 500 feet above the sea. Ferns and all kinds of wild growth fringe the way, with here and there walls of solid rock, which also peeps above the greenery in many places. The paths slope gently enough for the walk not to be fatiguing.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

TORS WALKS AND THE BATHING POOLS.

[*Dundee.*



Gale & Polden, Ltd.,

[London.]

BELOW THE CAPSTONE PROMENADE.

But in no case would one "rush" the Tors. The ever-changing views of the Channel, then a glimpse of the Capstone, followed by a peep at another point down over the cliffs to the bathing beaches at the Tunnels below, compel countless pauses. In cosy nooks seats are provided in plenty, and at the summit is a refreshment pavilion. From the lower paths are ways of getting down to the beaches below. From the summit one looks down on the railway station, which itself seems such a height when one first arrives. Ilfracombe is far below that again. Across in the direction of Bull Point Lighthouse stretch the Downs, through which the cliff path runs to Lee and Morteheo.

Cairn Top.

A popular picnic resort is Cairn Top, a hill 511 ft. high, reached from the top of Station Road, near the Railway Station. It is the property of the town. The climb to the top is stiff, but rewards the energetic with splendid views in all directions. The name of the height is derived from the pile of rocks at the summit.

Bicclescombe Park.

In the same direction from the town is a charming ramble by way of Bicclescombe Park to **Score Woods**. At the bottom of Station Hill keep to the lower road—St. Brannock's—soon branching again to the left along Bicclescombe Park Road. Some little way out is **Bicclescombe Park**, an athletic ground which has of late been considerably improved, and where facilities for tennis are provided.

Hillsborough Hill.

This noble headland, 447 ft. high, and from the sea practically perpendicular, is another of the public pleasure grounds of the town. It is one of the few points of vantage from which the sun appears to rise out of and to set in the sea, and commands a grand view

of the town and its surroundings. The ascent is not difficult ; signboards indicate the easiest route. The hill is reached by a walk through the fields from the front of **Larkstone Terrace**, and past the lawn tennis ground and putting green. The District Council have thoughtfully provided not only a good supply of seats, but, what are sometimes a great convenience, **Storm Shelters**, and on the west side overlooking the harbour is a **Tea Pavilion**. These shelters are not ornamental summer-houses, but solidly-constructed iron-roofed sheds, built into the rock, intended to serve as temporary refuges in case of sudden storms. From the highest point a magnificent panorama is seen. The Welsh coast is discernible twenty miles distant, and the intervening sea has an ever-changing interest by reason of the ships of all nationalities making their way up or down the Bristol Channel. Eastward are the Hangman Hills, Great and Little, the former over 1,000 ft. high. At our feet lie the sheltered hamlet of Hele and Hele Bay. Inland the wooded heights of Berry Down are seen ; and the other half of the picture is completed by the superb view of beautiful Ilfracombe, with the Harbour, Lantern Hill, the Capstone, the Tors and Tors Park, Cairn Top and Score Wood, enclosing and sheltering the town on all sides.

For those who are not good climbers there is a delightful walk round the base of Hillsborough. Approaching through the field path from Ilfracombe, the path leads to the right of Hillsborough—at the back, so to speak—and presently overlooks Hele. The steep path which appears to descend to Hele Beach leads nowhere. Keep on the same level, and the path, which has several seats, will lead right round the hill, passing **Blythe Cove**. After walking parallel with the sea for some time, Ilfracombe is once more in sight, and a steep and slippery path descends to the beach opposite the Pier. Here can be inspected at low water several fine cavities in the rocks, veritable chambers and halls worn by the action of the waves.



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HILLSBOROUGH HILL, FROM THE PIER.

[Dundee.]



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]

LEE DOWNS.

[Dundee.

Heights.

The following are the approximate heights of hills in and near Ilfracombe :

	Feet.		Feet.
Lantern Hill . . .	100	Coddon Hill, Barn-	
Capstone Hill . . .	156	staple	630
Gallantry Bower, Clo-		Slade Down	673
velly	387	Little Hangman Hill .	716
Hillsborough	447	Great Hangman Hill .	1044
The Tors . . (about)	600	Kentisbury Down . .	1105
Cairn Top	511	Holdstone Down . .	1146
		Chapman Burrows .	1500

Ilfracombe Parish Church.

The Parish Church (Holy Trinity) is close to the foot of the hill leading to the Railway Station. It is an old church, presenting a mixture of styles. Records show that in 1322 it was enlarged, and it is suggested that to this enlargement is due the fact that the tower occupies its unusual position in the middle of the church. There are a number of monuments, including one to members of the Cutcliffe family, dated 1637, which forms a double acrostic. In the churchyard, on the tomb of George Stanbury, who died in 1740, is a curious nautical epitaph.

On the outer side of the eastern wall of the Church is a list of centenarians who have lived in the parish. The stone contains the names of ten, the earliest buried in 1784, the last in 1913, aged 103. The longevity of its inhabitants says much for the healthful air of Ilfracombe.

EXCURSIONS FROM ILFRACOMBE.

THE following distances by road to the principal places of interest round Ilfracombe will assist the tourist, and, perhaps, decide his mode of locomotion :

Distances by Road.

	<i>Miles.</i>		<i>Miles.</i>
Appledore (<i>viâ</i> Instow ferry)	20½	Lynton (steamer)	13
Barnstaple	12	Minehead	37
" (by rail)	14	Mortehoe (coast road)	5
Berrynarbor	3½	" (main road)	6
Braunton	8	" from Mortehoe Railway Station	2
Bideford	22	Parracombe	12
Bull Point (by coast road)	5	Porlock	30
" " (<i>viâ</i> Mortehoe)	8	Saunton Sands	11
Clovelly (by boat)	18	Watermouth	3
" (by rail and road)	35	Woolacombe (coast road)	7
Croyde Bay	11	Westward Ho! (<i>viâ</i> Bideford)	25
Combe Martin	5½	Westward Ho! (<i>viâ</i> Instow ferry)	22½
Instow	20	Woody Bay (road)	14¼
Lee (by coast road)	3		
Lynton (road)	18		

Several of the foregoing places are described in the Bideford and Barnstaple sections of this book.

Of excursions from Ilfracombe we deal first with that—

TO LEE AND BULL POINT.

There is no prettier place near Ilfracombe than—

Lee.

Church.—*St. Matthew's*. Sunday services, 11 and 6.30.

Distance.—Three miles.

Golf.—Lee Golf Club (18 holes). See p. 17.

Hotel.—*Lee Bay*.

Station.—Mortehoe, 2¼ miles.

Lee lies in a combe aptly known as the Fuchsia Valley. The last part of the carriage-road is leafy, but the



Graystone Bird.]

LEE BAY.

[*Bath.*



P. Goss,]

[Morteheo.

OLD COTTAGES, LEE—BULL POINT LIGHTHOUSE AND
FOGHORN—MORTEHOE CHURCH.

gradient is steep and trying for horses. Pedestrians usually prefer the **Coast Road**, entered from the Tors estate. Signboards point the way; from the refreshment pavilion at the top of the Tors walk the path can be traced onwards, through a gateway or two and over a stile to its junction with the road, hardly deserving the name in places. Soon after it begins to drop to Lee Bay, a signpost *on the left* beside a stile indicates the path down to the village. Alternatively, one may go by way of Church Hill and Langleigh Road, or through the hamlet of Slade.

With residents in the happy village of Lee, longevity is a fascinating pursuit, and several "centuries" have been scored. It is recorded that one old lady, with excusable nervousness, rose at four o'clock on the hundredth celebration of her birthday, lest she should not live to tell the tale. Her neighbours gave her a purse of gold, and she was also presented with a hundred bunches of white roses. Several veterans had nearly reached the coveted age, but from extraneous circumstances, not from innate weakness, were snatched away prematurely at the age of ninety-nine. The one hotel and licensed house is the *Lee Bay Hotel*, formerly the manor-house, beautifully situated in its own grounds of about fifteen acres. Just before the carriage-road enters the village, there is on the right a pretty little **Dripping Well**. The *Old Post Office* is a popular place for luncheons, teas, etc., as also is *Warcombe Farm*, reached by a pleasant walk.

The links of the **Lee Golf Club** are on the cliffs between the Bay and Bull Point, within a short distance of the hotel. It is a sporting course with good natural turf and has recently been increased to 18 holes after the design of James Braid. There is a club house on the course and three shelters. Entrance fee £3 3s.; annual subscription £3 3s. Green fees, 2s. 6d. per day; 10s. per week.

St. Matthew's Church, built in 1834, contains several monuments and a window to descendants of Sir Bernard Drake of Ashe, who, according to Prince, boxed the ears

Ilfracombe (c)

of his distant though more famous kinsman Sir Francis, because the latter assumed the wyverns on his coat of arms. The manor of Lee belonged to the Cutcliffe family, one of whom married a descendant of Sir Bernard. John Cutcliffe, a well-known reforming friar, was born at *Damage Barton*, the old manor house of the family, passed on the way to Morteheo by footpath, in 1340, and there are Cutcliffe memorials in Ilfracombe and Swimbridge churches.

Lee Bay is small, but the view of the sea, the cottages, the combe, and the thickly-wooded hills makes a perfect picture.

About two miles west of Lee is—

Bull Point Lighthouse.

The road ascends very steeply from Lee. To reach the Lighthouse, continue by the road until a signboard on the left, pointing to a track on the right, indicates a *Footpath to Morteheo and Bull Point Lighthouse*. After crossing several fields and a brook, another signboard points *To the Lighthouse*. The pathway traverses most beautiful scenery. The Lighthouse can generally be seen in the afternoons under guidance of the keeper. (Those who *drive* from Morteheo *must obtain the key* to the road gate at Seaview Cottage, towards the end of the village, and give it back on return.) The white light gives three flashes in quick succession every thirty seconds and is visible eighteen miles. The fixed red light, 18 ft. below the flashing light, gives warning to mariners of the proximity of the dreaded Morte Stone. During fog the siren gives one blast every minute.

TO MORTEHOE.

Distance from Ilfracombe.—By coast, 5 miles; by road, 6 miles. Morteheo can also be reached by rail. **Station** about 2 miles from village. Conveyances ply between.

Golf.—*Lee Golf Club*, 2½ miles from Morteheo Station. Eighteen holes. See P. 17.

Places of Worship.—*St. Mary Magdalene*; Sunday services, 11 and 6.30. *Wesleyan Chapel*, 11 and 6.30.

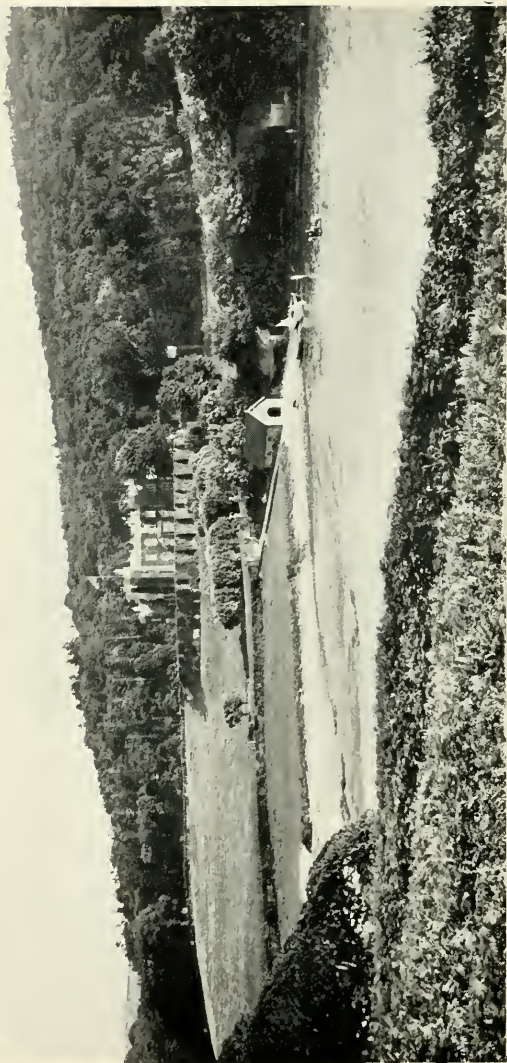
Morte Point is a cliff with a deadly reef of rocks extending a mile from the shore. It is easily recognized.



[London.]

BULL POINT LIGHTHOUSE.

Gale & Polden, Ltd.]



[London.

WATERMOUTH CASTLE.

Gate & Polden, Ltd.,]

In *Prose Idylls*, Kingsley's comment is : " a chaos of rock ridges. The Death Rock does not belie its name. See how, even in this calm, it hurls up its column of spray at every wave ; and then conceive being entrapped between it and the cliffs on some blinding, whirling, winter's night, when the land is shrouded thick in clouds, and the roar of the breakers hardly precedes by a minute the crash of your bows against the rock."

The landowner has presented the Point as a public space and it is controlled by the National Trust.

Various legends connect Mortehoe with the scene of the supposed perpetual doom of the family of Tracy, Norman lords of the barony of Barnstaple, on account of the participation of Sir William de Tracy in the murder of Thomas à Becket. The old Church of St. Mary Magdalene (probably twelfth-century), in which may be seen some fine bench ends, contains the tomb of " Sir William Tracy," but it has been conclusively shown that this " Sir " William was a priest of the church, not a knight militant. He was, in fact, rector of Mortehoe from 1257 to 1322, and died 146 years later than Becket's assassin. It was an old-world custom to bestow on clergy in priests' orders who were not university graduates the title of Sir.

While on the subject it may be well to say that there were two Tracy families, and that, strictly speaking, the murderer was not a Tracy at all, being the son of Sir John de Sudeley, and only assuming the name on his marriage with Grace, the daughter of Sir William de Tracy, said to be a natural son of Henry I. The Tracys, who were overlords of the manors belonging to the barony of Barnstaple, of which Mortehoe was one, were descended in the maternal line from the Domesday Baron Judhel of Totnes, and were settled in the neighbourhood long prior to the year 1170, so that the frequent occurrence of the name in North Devon does not justify the common assumption of a connection with the murderer of the " pestilent priest." Nevertheless,

it is curious to observe that the church of Newton Tracey, near Barnstaple, is dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket ; and that yet again, local legends connect the founder of the church at Nymet Tracey, near Yeoford Junction, with the murderer of Becket. Bovey Tracey Church has the same distinction and dedication. A chapel to St. Thomas à Becket once stood by Barnstaple Bridge, and, according to Gribble's *Memorials* (1830), "obtained some celebrity from being said to have been built by Sir William de Tracy, one of the prelate's assassins, in expiation of his crime." There are at least six accounts, each totally different, of "the end" of Sir William de Tracy. It is conjectured that the well-known saying, or curse—

"Oh, woe to the Tracies
With ever the rain and the wind in their faces,"

may have arisen from the fact that Sir William de Tracy and others of the family vainly endeavoured to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, but were always driven back by contrary winds and violent gales. According to a letter to *Notes and Queries* from one of the numerous descendants of the Tracys, "the fate of members of the family has been very similar to that of most other families. Some have been fortunate in their lives, and others have had 'the rain and the wind in their faces.'"

TO BARRICANE.

By taking the cliff road southward from Morteheo **Barricane** is soon reached. It is a quaint little rocky cove, very narrow, noted for its beach of minute shells. Zoolites are found here.

As Morteheo points with proud boast, but unquestionable inaccuracy, to the tomb of Sir William de Tracy, Barricane retaliates by claiming him as a ghostly resident.



NORTH DEVON COAST AND PART OF SOMERSET



TO WOOLACOMBE.

Access.—By motor-'bus from Morte-hoe Station—also a service from Ilfracombe.
Bank.—*Lloyds* (Wednesday, 10 to 12. During season, Friday also).
Golf.—*Woolacombe Bay Golf Course*, 18 holes. Visitors, 3s. day, 20s. two weeks, 30s. month. Ladies, 2s. day, 15s. two weeks, 22s. 6d. month.
Hotel.—*Woolacombe Bay*.
Places of Worship.—*St. Sabinus*; *United Methodist*.
Post Office.—9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 to 7 p.m. Sundays and Bank Holidays, 9 to 10.30 a.m.

Woolacombe is a seaside resort of rapidly-growing importance, reached by way of Morte-hoe station, 1½ miles distant, with which, as with Ilfracombe, it is connected by motor-'bus. An excellent water supply is obtained by arrangement with the Ilfracombe Urban District Council, and there is a good gas supply. It is necessary to write some time ahead for accommodation both at Woolacombe and Morte-hoe, which are now separated only by a short distance of cliff road.

Parents find Woolacombe a paradise for children, who have for their enjoyment a fine stretch of sands, perfectly safe, about three miles in length. Such a superb stretch is in delightful contrast to the severity of the surrounding rock and cliff. Several charming drives can be taken, including that by the **Marine Drive**, running parallel with the sands and commanding extensive views.

Woolacombe prides itself upon its equable climate, the advantages of which are being discovered by increasing numbers each year, as is evidenced by the many pretty villas which have been erected on the high ground. Taking Torquay as the best example on the South Coast for comparison with regard to bright sunshine, the official records give Woolacombe a decided advantage in the five dullest months of the year of nearly 107 hours. It is claimed that Woolacombe, being sheltered from the north, east, and south-east, facing due west, and overlooking the open Atlantic, has a far more bracing air than any place on the South Coast open only to the south.

The attractive *Woolacombe Bay Hotel* is surrounded by extensive pleasure grounds. Close to the hotel are the

Golf Links, a sporting 18-hole course nearly two miles in length. The hazards are formidable sand hills, some 60 ft. in height, loose sand bunkers, a road with open ditch, and other obstacles. The greens are well maintained and the lies are good. There are good public *Tennis Courts* in addition to those at the hotel. There is a **Church**, consecrated in 1912, and dedicated to St. Sabinus, who came over from Ireland to preach Christianity and was wrecked at Woolacombe. The place includes several boarding-houses, a chapel, post and telegraph office, and a convalescent home.

TO CHAMBERCOMBE VALLEY.

This is a pretty and popular walk, with charmingly varied scenery, within easy distance of the town. Proceed by way of Portland Street to the Hillsborough road, east of the town; pass the thatched cottage on the right and follow the Chambercombe Road to Manor-House and Comyn Farm. The farm-house at **Chambercombe** is historic, and was formerly the residence of the Champernour family. Recently a coat-of-arms was discovered, carved in stone, beneath the plaster in one of the rooms. Some interest attaches to an antique oak bed, and many traditions are associated with the house, the interior of which repays inspection. (A charge is made for admission and lunches and teas can be obtained.)

At **Comyn Farm**, near by, where also teas may be obtained, is the entrance to the Valley and Woods, which are private property, but open to visitors. The farm is less than half an hour's walk from High Street, Ilfracombe.

From the Woods, return again to Comyn Farm—there is no outlet through the Woods—and take a path to the left leading over fields to the Barnstaple Road, by which the return may be made to Ilfracombe, or the walk extended to the Sterridge Valley.

TO BERRYNARBOR.

This is a pretty walk. There are two ways :

- (a) (About three miles.) *Viâ* Hele village, which is practically a suburb of Ilfracombe. At the

turnpike turn to the right, and go by the old Berrynarbor Road over the hill.

- (b) to Comyn Farm, as on p. 22, thence by a lane skirting the woods and past Lower Trayne Farm to a road reached at a signpost which points to Chambercombe by the route just traversed. Here by turning left and later right Berrynarbor can be reached by road, a dull route, the better one being to descend to the **Sterridge Valley**. Opposite the signpost is a stile leading to a continuing footpath; this slopes down *rightwards* to a combe, eventually reaching a footbridge over the little stream. Sheep tracks are somewhat bewildering, but the path to this point is pretty plainly marked. Cross the bridge and follow a path that keeps fairly close to stream, over stiles or through gates until a road is struck, when turn left and into that along this beautiful valley, which is followed until Berrynarbor is reached.

The return can be made, if a longer walk is desired, through Combe Martin, or by turning left down past the church and then right, down the valley past the lake, the motor route will be reached not far from Watermouth.

Berrynarbor is a staid little village, taking its name from one Berry de Nerbert, a former lord of the manor, whose monument is in the church. The **Church**, dedicated to St. Peter, has a good tower, 80 ft. high, and an interesting interior. There are memorials to the Berrys, and the squire's pew, containing a fireplace, on the right of the chancel, is an interesting survival.

The village is noted for an old farmhouse, **Bowden**, the birthplace, in 1522, of Bishop Jewell, whose *Apologia Ecclesiae Anglicanae* so pleased Queen Elizabeth that it was ordered to be chained in the parish churches.

Outside the church, opposite the tower, is all that remains of the Berry manor house, which, after having been divided into cottages, is now incorporated in an Institute room.



The hamlet of **Hele** is divided into two parts, one cluster of houses nestling between the hills and among the trees, the remaining houses filling the entrance to Hele Bay. Running beside this last-named row of cottages are a stream and a pathway, which lose themselves on the little beach. A disused lime kiln adds an "ancient" touch to the scene. The bay and beach are miniature, but mighty Hillsborough towers above like a protecting giant.

TO WATERMOUTH.

Distance from Ilfracombe.—3 miles (on Combe Martin 'bus route).

About half-way between Ilfracombe and Combe Martin is a pretty castellated residence, **Watermouth Castle**, belonging to the Basset family. The gardens are among the finest in North Devon. Opposite the grounds, on the left-hand side of the road, will be seen a small gate, close to which a board conveys the information that the caves (*admission 3d.*) can be visited on week-days from June to September. The views are magnificent, and if the morning be a little hazy, with a hot sun, the effect of Great Hangman Hill looming in the distance is grand. A boatman is usually waiting to take visitors on a little tour of inspection. This is undoubtedly the best way of seeing the caves. The formation of the rocks here, especially at **Briary Cave**, is most peculiar. In 1919 a landslip occurred, when some hundreds of tons of shale and limestone supporting the cliff road fell into the sea. A new road was completed in 1920, and is used by the motor service between Ilfracombe and Combe Martin.

TO COMBE MARTIN.

Access.—By a regular and frequent motor-'bus service between Ilfracombe and Combe Martin.

Banks.—*Lloyds, Midland, and National Provincial.*

Boating.—Rowing boats can be hired, and there are a number of motor-boats.

Clubs.—*Conservative and Liberal*, both in High Street.

Early Closing Day.—Wednesday.

Golf.—Ilfracombe Golf Club. (*See pp. 1 and 3.*)

Institute (billiards, etc.).—Visitors *6d.* per week.

Motor-'buses.—To Ilfracombe, Lynton (in summer) and (on certain days) Barnstaple.

Places of Worshp.—*Parish Church.*—Sunday services at 8, 11 and 6.30; daily 9.30 a.m. *Baptist and Wesleyan.*—Sundays, 11 and 6.30.

Population.—About 2,000. Doubled in summer.

Post Office.—High Street, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closed 12.30 to 1.30 p.m. every day); Bank Holidays, 9 to 10.30 a.m. Sub-office at Seaside.

The road from Ilfracombe is on high ground nearly all the way, necessitating a sharp dip as the village is approached. (Cyclists will note the danger board at the top of the hill.) This is regarded as one of the prettiest marine drives in the district.

Combe Martin, situated amid delightful scenery, has become very popular with visitors, and has grown so much that it aspires to the dignity of an Urban District Council. The name is derived from *combe*—"a low and deep valley surrounded by very high hills," and *Martin*—"Le Sieur Martin de Tours," a man of much worth and assistance to William Duke of Normandy. The view from the hill on the Ilfracombe side of the bay is charming. Green fields, well-cultivated market gardens, quaint thatched cottages and tasteful modern villas nestling in cosy corners, make a picture contrasting well with the wild scenery of the coast.

The little bay, snugly tucked away among the cliffs, is picturesque at all times, and at low water the stream meanders seawards across the sands, but the visitor should heed warning notices about the danger of falling cliffs, as these falls occur from time to time. Overlooking the bay on the west side, and shaded by trees in part, is a walk and promenade provided with seats which is, perhaps, the best loitering place in Combe Martin, especially towards evening when the lowering sun sets off the varied colouring to perfection.

Combe Martin itself consists principally of a single long, straggling street, a mile or more in length. There are a number of good shops. To the artist and the lover of quiet, the place is an ideal holiday resort. A number of houses are let furnished during the summer months, and there are apartment houses close to the picturesque harbour, for the place has developed greatly in the last few years. A correspondent, long resident in the village, contributes the following note :

“ The surroundings are indescribably beautiful, the village winding through a fertile valley alongside a rushing brook. The climate is almost perfect. Rain falls during the winter (which scarcely ever starts before January) ; but it quickly runs off the high hills, and the soil being shale, gravel and rock, the roads dry quickly. The air is mild and would be relaxing were it not for the sea breezes which blow from the north-west and seem to come straight from the Atlantic. A stay here, even of short duration, is wonderfully beneficial to those suffering from threatened lung trouble. The neighbourhood is much frequented by Anglo-Indians.”

A great proportion of the inhabitants are engaged in market gardening and fruit-growing, the soil and climate being very favourable, and the produce finding a ready sale in Ilfracombe, Lynton and Lynmouth. Strawberry-growing is largely practised, and many tons of fruit are dispatched to London, South Wales, and other large centres every summer. Of late years a jam factory has been established and has manufactured large quantities. In 1924 the Parish Council entered into a lease of 80 acres of **Little Hangman Hill** (*see* p. 31), which has been made more accessible by a new path by way of Pear Beach.

The Church,

the chancel of which is vaguely dated at about the twelfth century, was built by Lord Martin, a lord of the manor (Combe Martin was originally known as Martin's Combe). The fine tower, 99 ft. high, is of later date. The interior of the church is most interesting. The key by which the door is opened is five hundred years old, and looks its age.

The feature of the Church which claims most attention is the **Screen**, of wood. The central doors are three inches wider than the opening, so that they cannot be closed. This is a peculiarity of this screen, and does not help to indicate the age, which is of the late fifteenth century. It has figures of prophets and saints in most of the panels, but it has been altered and “ restored,” and, as Devonshire screens go, this is certainly not one of the best. The organ is new. A brass of 1587 to William

Hancock will be noticed, also the elaborately sculptured monument to Judith Hancock (1637), the lace on her dress being particularly noteworthy. Some fragments of old glass may be seen in one of the windows. An old door—eight hundred years is somewhat doubtfully given as its age—leads into the vestry, and is worthy of note. Inside this vestry is an ancient oak chest containing a curiously wrought silver and lead communion service. Combe Martin Church was made widely known by the late Marie Corelli's novel, *The Mighty Atom*.

The *King's Arms Hotel* was formerly known to fame as "The Pack of Cards" as it was said to have been built in the eighteenth century from winnings at card-playing and constructed on the principle of a child's house of cards.

Besides being very fertile, the valley is rich in geological treasures. Blended with the prevalent formation of argillaceous slate are limestone, iron, copper, lead, tin, silver and gold. Silver, tin, and lead mines were discovered here as far back as the reign of Edward I, when 337 men were brought from the Peak of Derbyshire to work them. Records state that in the twenty-second year of that reign "William Wymondham accounted for 270 lb. weight of silver, forged for Lady Eleanor, Duchess of Barr, and daughter of Edward I. . . . In the twenty-fourth year was brought to London in finest silver, in wedges, 704 lb. 3 dwt. ; and the next year 260 miners were pressed out of the Peak and Wales—and great was the profit in silver and lead."

Camden states that Combe Martin silver helped to pay the cost of the French wars in the reigns of Edward III and Henry V. From that period to the reign of Elizabeth the mines appear to have been neglected ; but then Adrian Gilbert discovered a new lode, which was subsequently worked by Sir Beavis Bulmer, Knt., with such skill that the mines again yielded a considerable revenue. In 1593 he presented to the then Lord Mayor of London—Sir R. Martin, Knt.—a cup and cover of Combe Martin silver which bore the inscription :

“ When water-workes in Broken-Wharff
 At first erected were ;
 And Beavis Bulmer, by his art
 The waters 'gan to rear ;

Dispersed I in earth did lye,
 Since all beginning olde,
 In place called Combe, where Martin long
 Had hid me in his mold.

I did no service on the earth ;
 Nor no man sate me free,
 Till Bulmer by his skill and charge
 Did frame me this to be.”

In November, 1643, it was decided to recast these as “ Lesser Potts,” and some time afterwards they were made into three tankards, still to be seen at the Mansion House, London.

After Bulmer's time the mines fell into desuetude. Since 1648 repeated attempts have been made to work them, but without permanent success. Combe Martin, however, is still regarded by many eminent geologists as a highly valuable, though neglected, mineral district.

There is a farmstead, *West Challacombe*, close to the village, built partly inside an old abbey or church, the oak roof of which may be seen in the passage at the back of the living-rooms. The front door is of worm-eaten oak, and on the panels are figures of a gentleman and a lady, apparently of the Stuart period. West Challacombe is now a private residence.

Walks from Combe Martin.

Combe Martin abounds in delightful walks. The favourite is to the **Great Hangman Hill**. Turn up a flight of stone steps in the High Street and cross a vegetable garden known as *The Shackies*. Pass down a lane on the left until a gate across the lane is reached. On the other side enter a field immediately on the left and climb the footpath. On no account must dogs be taken beyond this point. On the way to Great Hangman a path is passed which leads down the face of the cliff to **Hangman Beach**, a delightful spot for picnics. On the north side of the beach is a stream of drinking water.

If a shorter walk is desired one can be taken by following



[Aurco Series.

COMBE MARTIN : AN AERIAL VIEW.



[Dundee.

GREAT AND LITTLE HANGMAN.

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]

this route only as far as **Little Hangman**. As already stated, a shorter path from Combe Martin to Little Hangman was opened in 1924.

Great Hangman (1,044 ft.) and **Little Hangman** (716 ft.), derive their ominous names, according to Fuller, from the following somewhat curious incident :

“Near Combe Martin is the hanging stone, one of the boundary stones which part Combe Martin from the next parish. It received this name from a thief, who, having stolen a sheep and tied it about his neck to carry it on his back, rested himself for a time upon this stone, which is about a foot high, until the sheep, struggling, slid over the stone on the other side and strangled the man.”

Hunter's Inn, about six miles eastward, can be reached by turning up Shute Lane to Stoney Corner and taking the Trentishoe road, which follows the slight dip between Holdstone and Trentishoe Downs, passing a little below Trentishoe Barrows and through the village of **Trentishoe**. Alternatively, Trentishoe village can be avoided by keeping to the right at the fork beyond the Barrows, and walkers may be recommended to go one way and return by the other, which will afford different and dissimilar views. Stoney Corner can also be reached through Buzzacot Lane, near the top of the village.

Another delightful walk is to **Berry Down** by way of the Barnstaple road, and back to Combe Martin through the Sterridge Valley and Berrynarbor village.

Watermouth Caves (p. 26) are about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles along the road to Ilfracombe. Teas are provided here.

The walk to **Blackmoor**, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, is hilly and uninteresting, but from Blackmoor there are frequent trains to Lynton and Barnstaple on the “Toy” Railway.

TO HUNTER'S INN, HEDDON'S MOUTH AND WOODY BAY.

From Combe Martin many of the conveyances continue along the Lynton road to—

Hunter's Inn.

This is, indeed, one of the most popular drives both from Ilfracombe and Lynton. The scenery in this district is generally considered the most romantic in Devon, and it is impossible to over-praise it.

Hunter's Inn is an idyllic spot in the combe which

runs down to **Heddon's Mouth**. It can also be approached *viâ* the Lynton and Barnstaple Railway, with a delightful walk either from Woody Bay station or Parracombe. The *Inn* itself is a picturesque building beloved by anglers, artists and others.

Fishing tickets for the *River Heddon* may be had here by the day. The trout are considered excellent.

There is a marked contrast between the wooded loveliness of the valley in the vicinity of the Inn and the bare rocks where the combe opens to the sea at Heddon's Mouth. As one proceeds seawards the hills close in, making it a narrow glen or gorge, which varies with the seasons, it bearing a softer aspect in summer, when the greens hide much of the rock, than in winter, when the growth dies down and the rusty reds and browns with a full stream foaming over the boulders give it an air of wild grandeur. The valley can be followed on either side of the stream, that on the left or west bank (approached by keeping to the road on the left of the Inn and taking a gate beyond a subsidiary stream) being more level than that on the right or east (the path starts close to the back of the Inn). Further on this path forks, one climbing the hillside and forming the cliff path to Woody Bay, which should only be traversed by those with clear heads, the other keeping more or less beside the stream until the shore is reached. Tourists must be careful about clambering up the steep hillside, as falls of cliff have lately been frequent.

All with little time to spare, especially those proceeding to Woody Bay or Lynton along the coast, may obtain a fine view of the Heddon's Mouth gorge by taking the cliff road which starts to the right of Hunter's Inn. This gradually ascends, winding round subsidiary combes and then, turning **Highveer Point**, comes out on the open coast, with sheer drops to the sea in places, until, nearing Woody Bay, woods cut it off from the sea. The views are ever changing, those eastward across the bay towards Duty Point, the Castle Rock near Lynton, and the Foreland being especially fine.



Montague Cooper,]

HUNTER'S INN.

[*Lynton.*



Photochrom Co., Ltd., *

HEDDON'S MOUTH.

[*London.*



[Dundee.

WOODY BAY.

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]

This road, however, is a private one and not fit for heavy traffic, and with its soft surface, in places covered with stones, and its sharp corners is really not fitted for motors. Above Woody Bay it joins the zig-zag grid-iron of roads that descends to the shore. By continuing straight ahead, avoiding turns up and down, and then through a gate, the road crosses a bridge over the Woody Bay stream and passes the hotel, eventually joining the private drive through the grounds of Lee Abbey. By turning to the left at the zig-zag, where a notice forbids motors, the road to the beach may be reached, a turn right lower down, crossing the stream by **Inkerman Bridge** (built in 1857 to commemorate the victory), being the road to Lee Abbey and Lynton.

An alternative, but less attractive, route, and very steep, is that through **Martinhoe**; a track or path on the left some little way past the Church cuts a corner, joining the descending roads where the cliff drive goes off. It begins on the right of the Inn, striking immediately uphill towards a house, and is apt to be overlooked as a mere track, continuing upwards through woods, somewhat thinned, with a stream bubbling near, until after passing the farm at **Mannacott**, a turn to the left must be taken. Motorists will find the best, if round-about, way is by continuing up the valley to the main road—more hills on the way!—turning left in the direction of Lynton and left at **Martinhoe Cross**. The roads here cannot be called good and at Woody Bay itself are distinctly bad, nor are they improved by disagreements over ownership and responsibility for upkeep.

The parish of **Martinhoe** will always be associated with the memory of James Hannington, the martyred first bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, who for some time laboured here and at **Trentishoe**.

Woody Bay,

a charming glen, has, like every true Devonshire combe, a rushing torrent. The place has been opened up of

Ilfracombe (d)

late, and finds much favour with motor parties and others. (Motorists proceeding to Hunter's Inn should read the preceding remarks about the reverse route. Motor parties can be recommended to alight at the top of the zig-zags, sending the motor on by the best road and themselves proceeding by the cliff drive.) The cliffs, covered with foliage to the water's edge, fall steeply to the sea, and perhaps more enjoyment can be obtained by looking at the scene from the roads which encircle it high on the down than by exploring the various descending zig-zags through the trees, although some charming peeps may be had here and there.

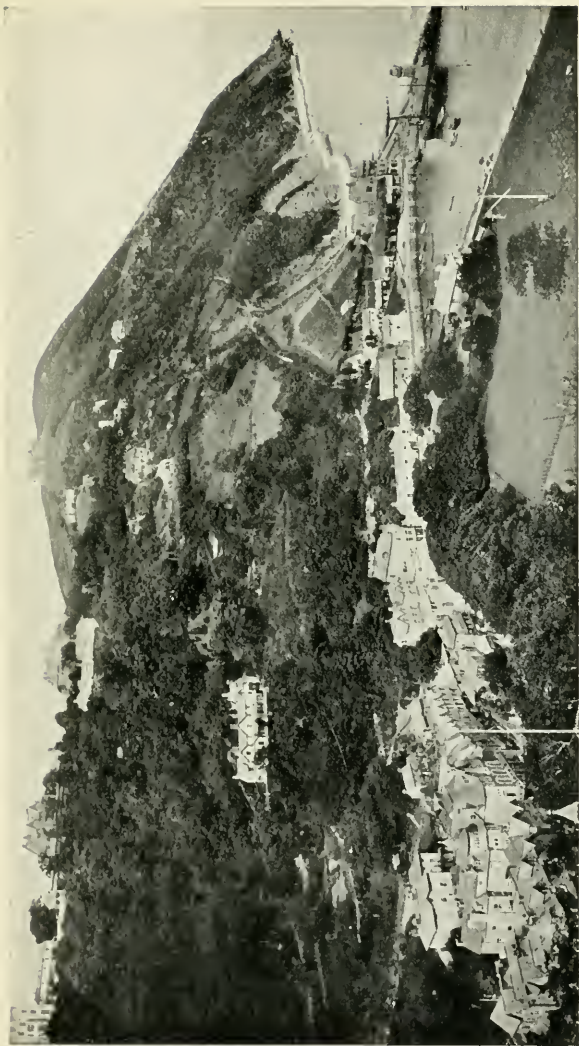
Round the west side of the bay the downs soar some hundreds of feet, and are dotted with attractive villas. Below, near the strand, is *Martinhoe Manor House*. The precipitous western horn of the inlet, wooded from base to summit, is **Wringapeak**.

LYNMOUTH AND LYNTON.

The road from Ilfracombe to Lynton (18 miles) winds up hill and down dale, amid lovely scenery, passing Hele and **Combe Martin**. Then there is a stiff climb almost to the summit of **Kentisbury Down** (1,105 ft.). From the cross-roads by **Blackmoor Gate** (station on Lynton and Barnstaple Railway) the road descends to **Parracombe** (*Fox and Goose Inn*). The next hill is also steep.

After another steep ascent the road passes the station for Woody Bay at Martinhoe Cross, and thence continues over Caffins Heanton Down to **Lynton** and **Lynmouth**.

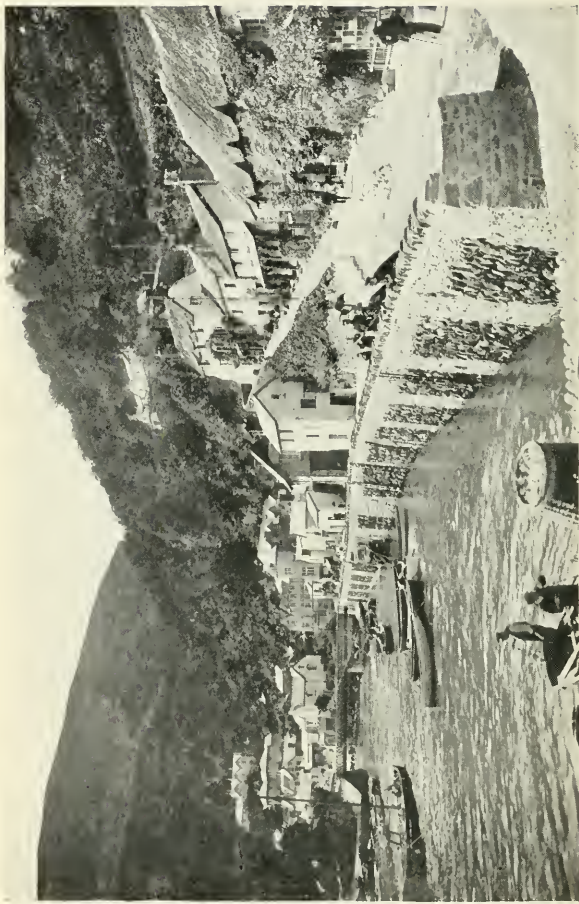
Walkers can be recommended to go by the route *viâ* Hunter's Inn (described on pp. 31-2), obtaining a good lift on the way by taking the 'bus to the top of Combe Martin village, and going over Trentishoe Down, but avoiding the village. From Hunter's Inn, the route continues by the cliff road to Woody Bay, past the hotel by the road leading to the Lee Abbey drive, and so to Lynton by the Valley of Rocks. This affords varying scenery of hill and valley, coast and woodland.



[Dunee

LYNTON AND LYNMOUTH.

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]



[Lynnton.]

LYNMOUTH HARBOUR.

Montague Cooper,]

Ilfracombe to Lynmouth by Steamer (13 miles).

The depth of water is sufficient to allow the steamer to make the passage quite close to the coast in safety. The cliffs are lofty and precipitous and remarkable for the succession of little cascades which discharge into the sea. From Ilfracombe the principal features of interest are passed in the following order : Hillsborough, Hele Bay and Hele, Rillage Point, Watermouth Castle and Caves, Combe Martin (lying back), Little Hangman (716 ft.), and Great Hangman Hill (1,044 ft.). Beyond is a cascade called Sherracombe, with a fall of about 60 ft., nicknamed "Sherry-come-out." Next comes Heddon's Mouth, and shortly afterwards the superb Woody Bay, aptly named, and Lee Bay. Wring-cliff Bay and the celebrated Castle Rock are followed immediately by **Lynmouth** in the hollow, and **Lynton** perched above to the right. Should it be low water when the steamer arrives, the landing and walk (or hop) over the boulders up to the quay is certainly trying. If distinctions are not invidious, the principal sights are :

(a) The walk up the East Lyn (cross the water by the second bridge, and continue by the path close to the river) to **Watersmeet**, two and a half miles, and return by the road.

(b) **Glen Lyn**, a glen of beautiful cascades and waterfalls entered from the foot of the hill leading to Lynton. Small charge for admission.

(c) The **Valley of Rocks**, Lynton. (Take the Cliff Railway up to Lynton, and proceed by North Walk.)

NOTE.—It is almost impossible, during the short time allowed, to visit the three places above named without "rushing." Allowing a reasonable time for luncheon, (a) and (b) can be managed easily ; or—to make a contrast—(a) and (c) might be tried, but longer time must be allowed to visit (c) than (b).

For full details as to scenery and objects of interest in this incomparable district our *Guide to Lynton and Lynmouth* should be consulted.

TO CLOVELLY.

Visitors from Ilfracombe have here a choice of routes :

- (1) By steamer, the journey occupying about an hour.
- (2) By motor coach (*see* p. 6).
- (3) By train and motor, viz., train to Barnstaple Junction, change, and cross the footbridge for the train to Bideford. During summer there is frequent motor communication between Bideford and Clovelly ; at other times the service may be too infrequent to allow sufficient time at Clovelly. *See* current timetables.

The steamer from Ilfracombe does not follow the coast, but runs across Bideford Bay. The following are the places of interest passed, in order, from Ilfracombe :—The Tors, cosy Lee, Bull Point and Lighthouse, Rockham Bay, Morte Point and Bay, with the grand stretch of Woolacombe Sands, Baggy Point—another dangerous headland—Croyde Bay, Saunton Sands, and the wide estuaries of the Taw and Torridge. In the far distance is seen Westward Ho !, and then the long stretch of high cliffs, completely hidden by thick woods, in the midst of which—straight ahead—the vision of Clovelly is quietly revealed. The landing at Clovelly is effected by means of boats. This charming village is described on other pages.

ILFRACOMBE TO BARNSTAPLE BY ROAD.

Cyclists and motorists may find a note with reference to this route useful. During the War the road *viâ* Muddiford was much damaged by timber-hauling, and the way *viâ* Braunton is still preferable, although a little longer. The motor-coaches use this road. A splendid run of about 25 miles may be had by going to Barnstaple by Muddiford and returning *viâ* Braunton, as described below.

The “ new ” road to Barnstaple from Ilfracombe begins with a very stiff hill (Two Pots), rising to a height of over 800 ft., followed by a gentle decline for nearly all the way. The scenery is beautiful. At six miles is

the Half-Way House, formerly an old-fashioned country inn. The road continues slightly down hill, with lovely wooded hills on each side. From Muddiford (8 miles), prettily situated amid woods and hills, a stream noted for salmon and trout runs beside the road. Fine varieties of ferns are in the walls and hedges around here. About two miles beyond Muddiford is a small **Dripping Well** on the left. The road now goes sharply down hill into **Pilton**, the northern suburb of Barnstaple, having an extremely awkward bend near the bottom, and thence

TO READERS

A GREAT part of the success of this series is due, as we gratefully acknowledge, to the enthusiastic co-operation of readers. Changes take place, both in town and country, with such rapidity that it is difficult, even for the most alert and painstaking staff, to keep pace with them all, and the many readers who so kindly take the trouble to inform us of alterations that come under their notice in using the books, or to draw attention to errors of commission or of omission, render a real service not only to us but to their fellow-readers. We confidently appeal for further help of this kind. All such communications will be duly acknowledged and the information utilized at the earliest opportunity.

THE EDITOR.

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... full of about twenty-five miles round Ilfracombe.

TO CLOVELLY.

Visitors from Ilfracombe have here a choice of routes :

- (1) By steamer, the journey occupying about an hour.
- (2) By motor coach (*see* p. 6).
- (3) By train and motor, viz., train to Barnstaple Junction, change, and cross the footbridge for the train to Bideford. During summer there is frequent motor communication between Bideford and Clovelly ; at other times the service may be too infrequent to allow sufficient time at Clovelly.

THE NEW ROAD TO BARNSTAPLE FROM ILFRACOMBE begins with a very stiff hill (Two Pots), rising to a height of over 800 ft., followed by a gentle decline for nearly all the way. The scenery is beautiful. At six miles is

the Half-Way House, formerly an old-fashioned country inn. The road continues slightly down hill, with lovely wooded hills on each side. From **Muddiford** (8 miles), prettily situated amid woods and hills, a stream noted for salmon and trout runs beside the road. Fine varieties of ferns are in the walls and hedges around here. About two miles beyond Muddiford is a small **Dripping Well** on the left. The road now goes sharply down hill into **Pilton**, the northern suburb of Barnstaple, having an extremely awkward bend near the bottom, and thence over Pilton Bridge it crosses the light railway to Lynton at the end of Pilton Causeway and beginning of Barnstaple.

Barnstaple is described in a separate section.

For the return journey proceed by High Street, at the end of which cross the river by the swing bridge, thence following the Braunton Road, which is a continuation. The highway runs close to the railway, and is quite level, with a good surface. The populous parish of **Braunton** is reached in five miles. Entering the town, keep to the left at fork, and at the bottom of the slope by the tree turn right up the *new* road between the railway and the main street, the two roads joining again just beyond the Church, whence proceed keeping the railway on the left but not crossing it. (To avoid part of the town, keep a right course at the fork by the basket factory; this leads direct to the Church, where bear round to the left, then sharply to the right). **Knowle** is passed one and a half miles later. At Knowle keep to the left by the inn, then straight forward by the main road, which gradually rises. Presently railway and road part company. By a few twists the latter does its best to avoid the hills, but these have to be encountered on nearing Mullacott Hill. The run from the high ground down into Ilfracombe finishes what is on the whole the best run of about twenty-five miles round Ilfracombe.

LUNDY.

Access.—The majority of visitors to Lundy are brought by the pleasure steamers which ply in summer from Ilfracombe, Cardiff, and other Bristol Channel ports. Generally about four hours are allowed on the Island, but this of course depends upon the tide.

The motor trawler *Lerina* makes a weekly visit, sailing from Instow, except at high spring tides, when it leaves from Barnstaple. Private parties may, of course, hire a sailing or motor-boat at Instow or Appledore at any time convenient to them.

Accommodation.—There is a large and well-appointed *Boarding House*, and lodgings can be obtained at one or two cottages on the island.

Distances.—From Hartland Point, 11½ miles; from Clovelly, 15 miles; from Ilfracombe, 23 miles; from Instow, 23 miles.

Post Office.—There is a Post Office on the Island, but the money-order office is Instow, through which the weekly mail goes. There is public telephonic communication with Cardiff, Bristol, and the South-west of England *from* Lundy but *not* to the Island.

Refreshments.—Visitors who are on the Island only a few hours may have refreshments in a building specially provided, where 250 persons can be seated. The steamers have taken as many as 2,500 passengers to Lundy in one year.

“A lusty, black-browed girl, with forehead broad and high,
That often hath bewitched the sea-gods with her eye.”

SO Michael Drayton, in his *Polyolbion*, described Lundy Island, the granite sentinel of the Bristol Channel, which stands a lonely guard over one of the greatest waterways of England. Thousands of ships in the course of the year bound for, or just leaving, Bristol or the South Wales ports sail past Lundy—indeed, it is estimated that one-fifth of the shipping of the country passes by. In a storm the Island is a pleasant enough sight for the mariner, who generally finds safe anchorage and a shelter from the elements, even though a landing is denied him. Ever present in his mind is the local rhyme :

“From Padstow Port to Lundy Light,
Is a watery grave by day or night.”

In 1906, the magnificent battleship *Montagu*, practically a new vessel, struck the Shutter rock during a fog, and, although expensive salvage operations were resorted to, had eventually to be abandoned, a loss to the country

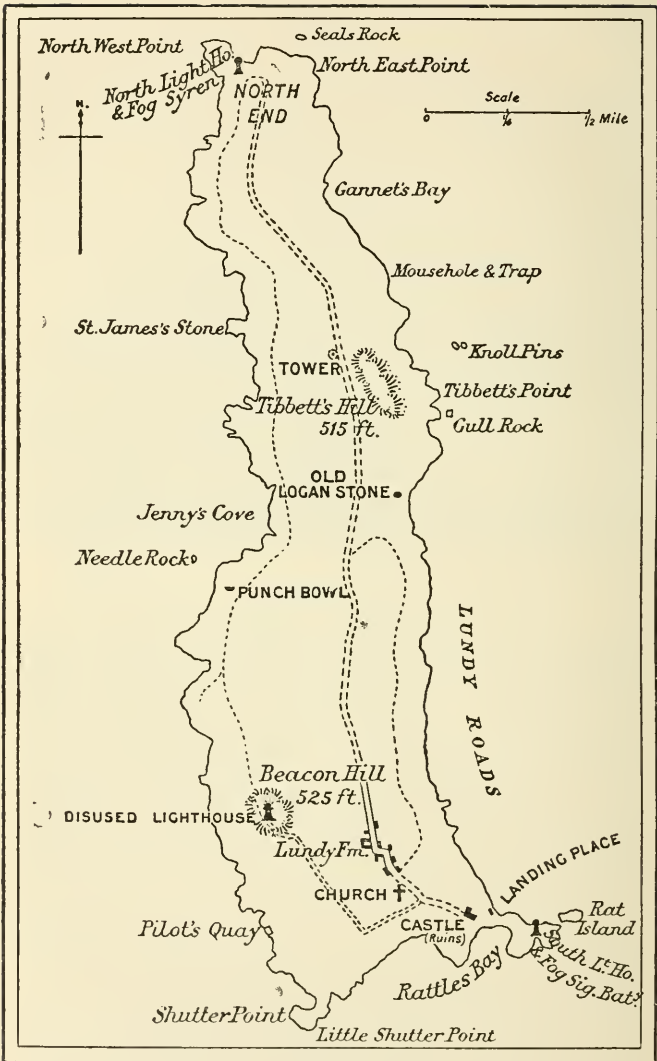
estimated at nearly £2,000,000. But notwithstanding such a remarkable instance to the contrary, Lundy is generally regarded with favour by seamen, for, lying north and south, it acts as a gigantic breakwater during the prevalent westerly winter gales, and the roadstead off the east side of the island is usually quite smooth, with fine holding ground below a moderate depth of water. In bad weather over a hundred vessels have anchored at the same time in Lundy Roads.

The tourist who has time and opportunity would do well to include a visit to Lundy Island in his tour of North Devon, both for the pleasure of getting there and for the unique charm of the spot. If one is an average sailor the trip will be found very enjoyable if made from either Instow or Appledore. This trip gives quite the finest view of the North Devon coast that is to be obtained. Accommodation may be obtained (*see* p. xxiii.) and there is a general store which is comprehensive in the articles it sells.

Lundy Island

is a huge rock of granite, probably of volcanic origin, three and a half miles long, averaging just under half a mile broad, with cliffs rising almost perpendicularly from the sea to a height of from 400 to 500 ft. The total area is 1,047 acres. The late Rev. Hudson Groset Heaven, M.A., inherited the Island in 1883 from his father, who purchased the property in 1834. The present owner is Mr. A. L. Christie, J.P., D.L., of Tapeley Park, lord of the manors of Instow and Westleigh, who purchased the property in 1918.

The Bristol Channel pilots find Lundy a convenient place of call—a “half-way house,” so to speak, and make use of it as such. The landing is made by small boats on the little piece of beach, on the south-east under the lighthouse. The soil is light and wild flowers abound. Only a small portion is under cultivation, but about a fourth of the area is permanent pasture, the rest being moorland. Bullocks and sheep are now success-



LUNDY

fully raised on the Island, beside colts, goats, etc. Lobsters are caught in large quantities. An abundance of fresh water is supplied by the springs. Snow and ice are practically unknown. The study of bird life on Lundy is most interesting, and to preserve the many rare birds which nest here watchers are placed on duty in the breeding season. Birds long regarded as rarities in the British Isles appear with regularity and in considerable numbers. The peregrine falcon, cormorant, puffin and oyster-catcher are common. The gannet, one of the largest of wild birds, breeds on the Island. Woodcock are very plentiful when severe winters are experienced on the mainland.

So much for Lundy as it is to-day. Its past is also interesting, if not always creditable. The earliest mention of this Island occurs in 1199, the first year of the reign of King John. Its then lord, William de Marisco (son and heir of Sir Jordan de Marisco, by Agnes, daughter of Hamelin Plantagenet, natural son of Geoffrey, Earl of Anjou, the father of King Henry II), being in rebellion, the king gave the Island to the Knights Templar. But we read that in the year 1202, the fourth of the same reign, the said William still held possession of the Island, for he was not a willing party to the gift, and possession being nine-tenths of the law, he made the other tenth by main force. Marisco, however, was received into royal favour in the following year, and the next mention of the Island is to be found in the records in the Tower, which show that Henry III gave it to the keeping of Henry de Tracy. It remained the property of the Crown for a long time, and various governors were appointed. It is recorded by Sir Thomas Delamere, Knight, that Edward II, about 1326, "endeavoured to shelter himself here from his troublesome wife and rebellious barons, who pursued him with great fury and threatenings." In the reign of Edward III the Grenvilles of Bideford governed the Island, and later Lord Say and Sele held it for Charles I, by whom it was strongly fortified. About the year 1780 the Island

passed by purchase into the possession of Sir John Borlase Warren, Bart., who established a colony of Irish. It has been frequently sold since then. In 1264 a jury valued the Island at £11 3s. 2d. In 1781, however, it sold for £1,200, and in 1803 was disposed of again for £700. The last owner previous to Mr. William Heaven, who died on the Island in 1883, gave £4,500 for it.

The dark side of the history of Lundy is its connection with the old smuggling and piratical days. Then the law that "might was right" was known nowhere more surely than on Lundy, and the Island was subject to the attacks of foreigners, who sometimes succeeded and held possession as long as they listed, or until a stronger turned them out. A story of how the Island was once captured by a clever ruse comes down from the time of William and Mary. One morning a ship of war bearing Dutch colours anchored in the roadstead, and an officer, landing, stated that they had mistaken their bearings and begged some milk for the captain, who, he said, was dangerously ill. The boat remained at anchor for some days, and the unsuspecting islanders daily sent milk and comforts for the captain. Then it was given out that the captain had died, and the crew begged leave, if there was any church or consecrated ground on the Island, to deposit the corpse in it, and also asked that all the islanders would be present at the ceremony. Both requests were complied with, and the islanders even helped to carry the coffin to the church. As soon as they had rested it, they were desired to quit the chapel, on the pretext that the custom of the visitors' country forbade foreigners to be spectators of that part of the ceremony which they were then going to perform. As soon as the visitors were alone, however, they opened the coffin and armed themselves to the teeth with the weapons it contained, for the dead captain was but an effort of their imagination, to make the capture of the Island more easy. Rushing out in a body, the enemy, who were Frenchmen sailing under false colours, made



[Dundee.

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the islanders prisoners, and took or destroyed all their belongings. So bent were they on spoiling all that they could not take with them, that it is reported that finding a large quantity of meal in some lofts, under which was some salt for curing fish, they scuttled the floor ; and so, by mixing the meal and salt together, spoiled both. After throwing the guns over the cliffs the unwelcome visitors left the Island in a most destitute and disconsolate condition.

It is a matter of history that the Algerine pirates in 1635 were accustomed to use Lundy as a harbour and shelter. This portion of the Bristol Channel was such a happy hunting-ground for pirates and privateers in the seventeenth century that it received the appellation of "The Golden Bay." Among the Borough records of Barnstaple are entries referring to the bringing in of captured pirate vessels, and the parish registers in many parts of North Devon show that church collections were made for the ransom of captives from the Turks, as the Algerine and Tunisian pirates were locally known.

Even the lawful owners of the Island did not always keep themselves within the law. Mr. Thomas Benson, M.P. for Barnstaple, contracted with the Government in 1748 to take convicts to Virginia, but he landed them at Lundy, and employed them in extensive smuggling operations. The Corporation of Barnstaple possesses a cup given by this same Benson, who had at last to flee the country, and died abroad.

The Church, dedicated in 1897 to St. Helena, is a most beautiful building, with a finely carved alto-relievo reredos. The tower has a peal of eight bells. In 1922 the rectorship, which, formerly belonging to Cleve Abbey, Somerset, lapsed at the Reformation, was revived. Near the old lighthouse are some mounds marking the site of the old church of St. Helena. Below the church is the principal residence ; and close to it a substantially built **Farm-house**.

There are three **Lighthouses**. That on the extreme top of the Island is no longer used as such, for at the crucial

moment, when light was most needed, the highest part of the Island would be capped with a thick cloud, while other portions of the rock not so high were seldom hidden. Consequently, two new lighthouses were erected, one at each end of the Island. The shell of the old lighthouse remains as a landmark for mariners. It is used as a dwelling-house in summer.

The few ruins of the Mariscos' Castle are at the south-east corner, not far from the landing beach ; but what is more interesting, perhaps, is **Benson's Cave**, close by. It was used by the M.P. as a storehouse, but the actual excavation in the cliff was doubtless made at a much earlier date—probably by the Mariscos. The granite quarry on Lundy was opened in 1864, and has yielded stone for many important buildings. Like the stone from Hey Tor, of which London Bridge was built, the Lundy granite is of great hardness.

In a cliff at the south-west corner there is a curious funnel-shaped cavity, about 370 ft. deep, called the **Devil's Lime Kiln**, at the bottom of which is a small passage leading to the sea. Close at hand is a huge conical-shaped rock called **Shutter Rock**, on which the battleship *Montagu* was wrecked in 1906. The rock is referred to in *Westward Ho !*, and it is an article of belief in this part of the world that if the Shutter Rock were inverted, and placed in what is believed to be its original position, it would exactly fit into the Devil's Lime Kiln. Lying off the north end of Lundy is a cluster of rocks called the **Hen and Chickens**. Vessels making the circuit of the Island give these a wide berth. In the same neighbourhood, but on the Island, is the **Constable Rock**, but the most curious is the **Templar Rock**, on the east side, which bears a marvellous resemblance to the human face.

Seals breed on, and are frequently seen near, Lundy, and one small cave is known as the **Seals' Hole**.

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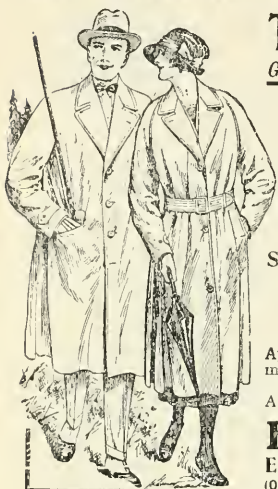
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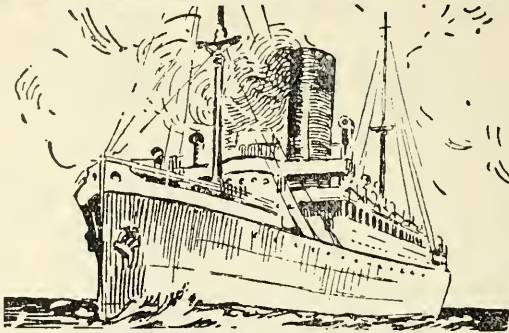
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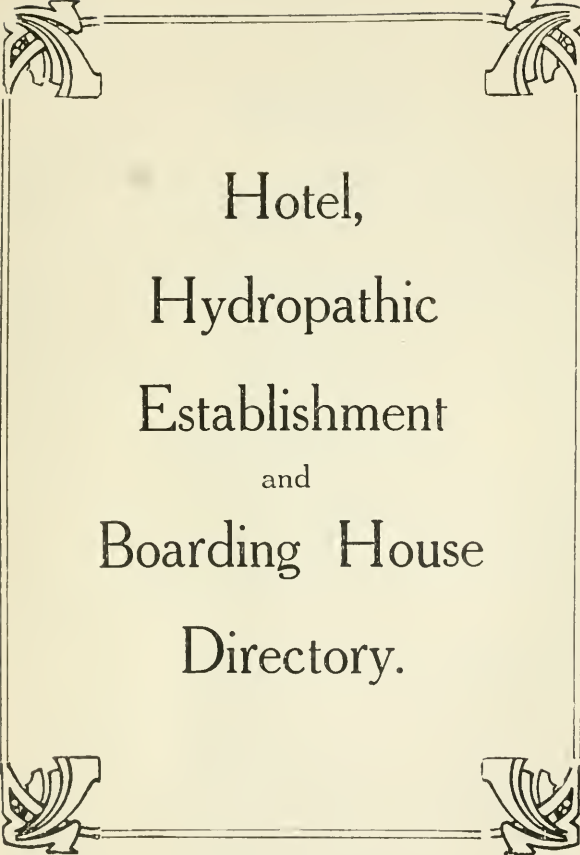
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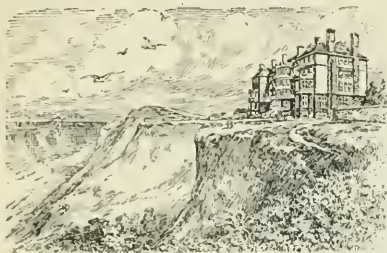
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(See pages 25, 49, 50)

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(See pages 10, 30, 51, 52, 62)

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GROUNDS. FACING SEA. Phone 55 G. S. STACEY.**Littlehampton (An Ideal Winter Resort)—THE WHITE HOUSE.**Finest Position on Sea Front. Close Beach & Golf Links. Inexpensive
& Comfortable. See Advertisement on back of Illustrated Guide to
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Private Hotel. On Sea Front, Facing South. Phone 42.

Apply Miss WOOD, Manageress.

THE LIZARD, CORNWALL—KYNANCE BAY**Boarding House.** Beautifully Situated, and com-
manding Magnificent Views of
the rugged Cornish Coast. Write for Terms. Early Season Terms
from 3 guineas. Under the Personal Supervision of

Mrs. E. ROWE, Proprietress.

LLANDRINDOD WELLS.**BRYNAWEL HOTEL****HIGH-CLASS. FINEST POSITION.**

Accommodation for 150 Guests. Electric Lift.

Golfing and Fishing Centre. Tennis. Croquet.
Billiards.

Tel. 27. JEFFREY JONES, MANAGING DIRECTOR.

LLANDRINDOD WELLS, Mid Wales—THE GWALIA

HOTEL. Health and Pleasure Resort. The Largest Unlicensed Hotel in Llandrindod. Lounges, Ladies' Drawing Room, Smoke Room, Billiard Room, (two tables), Recreation Room for Dances, Concerts, &c. Near Station, Post Office, Golf, Tennis, Bowls, and Mineral Springs. Tariff on application, Five miles of good Trout Fishing for Hotel Visitors.

Llandrindod Wells—KINGSLAND Private Hotel.

Facing Common. Terms: April to June, 3½—4½ gns., other months 4—5 gns. 'Phone No. 67. Miss EDITH WALTER, Proprietress.

Llandrindod Wells—BRAMPTON Private

Hotel. For Home Comforts. Tels., "Brampton Hotel." 'Phone 66. Mr & Mrs. J. THOMAS.

LLANDUDNO

Centrally Situated. Facing Sea.

Electric Light.

Two Lifts.

IMPERIAL

Private Garage.

140 Rooms.

'Phone 391 (3 lines).

HOTEL

Terms and Full Particulars—

S. CHANTREY, Managing Director.

LLANDUDNO.—First-class. Central Position. Close to Pier, Pavilion & Golf Links. Ex. Cuisine. Electric Light. Heated in Winter.

THE CLARENCE HOTEL

Lounge.

Billiard & Smoking Rooms.

Tels., 'Phone 285 Special Winter Terms.

"Clarence Hotel, Llandudno," For Tariff apply MANAGERESS.

LLANDUDNO. Facing South—Finest Sea & Mountain View.

Lounge. Prom. Verandah. Heated Throughout. Open all Year. Special Winter Terms.

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Close Pier,

Prom. and Two Golf Links

(Sunday Play). Garage Fully Licensed.

'Phone 259.

Apply Mrs. J. HALL, Proprietress.

LLANDUDNO. Facing the Sea.

Recreation Room. Billiards.

Electric Lift. Tel. Add.:

"Middwood."

THE CRAIG-Y-DON

BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT (Temperance).

Near

Tennis Courts.

Accommodation for 200 Visitors.

Misses MIDDLETON & WOOD.

Llandudno **"Ormescliffe"** first-class hotel. Facing Sea. Open all the Year.

Accom. 250 Visitors. Ballroom. Dancing & Wireless Concerts Each Evening. Billiards. 'Phone 178. Mr. & Mrs. ALLEN SMITH.

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Promenade, facing Sea. Splendid View of Bay and Ormes. Electric Light. Picnics, Motor and Coach Parties arranged. Terms Moderate. Mrs. E. L. PARRY.

Llandudno—FOUR OAKS Boarding Estab.

(Temperance). Central Promenade, opposite corner to Hydro. Back entirely open to Mountains. Easy distance Golf, Pier, Garage, Tennis and Theatres. Sep. Tables. Excellent Cuisine. Open all the year. Xmas Festivities. Personal Supervision. Good Fires in Winter. Good Ventilation in Summer. Telephone 306. For Terms apply Mrs. SIMPSON YATES, Proprietress.

Llandudno—'THE DRUMMOND' HIGH-CLASS BOARDING ESTAB.

Central. One minute from Sea, Promenade, and few minutes from Pier and Pavilion. Electric Light Throughout. Separate Tables.

For Tariff, apply Mrs. SPRINGTHORPE, Proprietress.

LLANDUDNO—'MARSHLANDS' PRIVATE HOTEL,

Gloddeath Avenue. South-west Aspect. 1½ minutes from Promenade and Pier. Near Three Golf Links, Recreation Ground and Tennis. Mountain View. Liberal Table. Every Comfort. Reasonable Terms. Special Winter Terms. For Terms apply Telephone 183. Miss RICHARDS (late West End Hotel).

Llandudno—The Shakespeare Bdg. Estab., S. Parade, Facing Sea. Near Pier, Palladium, &c. Pte. Apartments, Oct. to June. Elec. Light. Liberal Table. Personal Supervision. Mrs. W. L. EDWARDS, Prop'tress.

LLANDUDNO—'THE CRESCENT'

PRIVATE HOTEL. "ONE OF THE BEST." Promenade Facing Sea. Own Terms. Lawn Free. Tel. 274. W. L. MORAN.

Imperial Hotels Russell Square London

7 Hotels. 2,000 Rooms. Central Position. Room Fitted Hot and Cold Water. Bath. Breakfast and Service from 7/9

LOWESTOFT.

Facing Pier & Yacht Basin. Passenger Lift.

'Phones: Lowestoft

394—Hotel Office.

395—Visitors' Calls.

GARAGE.

ROYAL HOTEL
Established 50 years.

Two Tennis

Courts and Croquet

Lawn within Hotel Grounds.

Terms and Full Particulars,

J. B. WHALEY, Resident Proprietor.

Lowestoft—"ESPLANADE HOTEL."—First-class Private Hotel.
 Finest Position on Sea
 Front. Tel. 293. Apply Proprietors, Mr. & Mrs. JENNER.

London

(See also pages ii and v in front of this Guide)

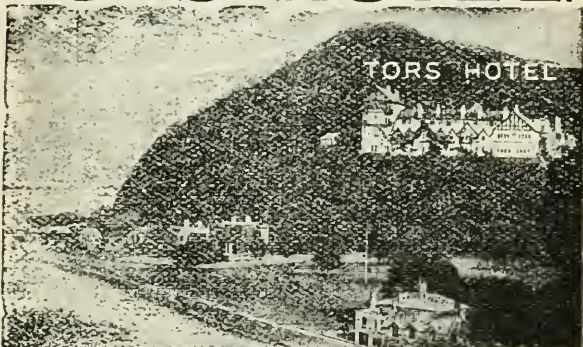
Lymington—The ANGEL HOTEL.

LEADING FAMILY AND COMMERCIAL. Officially Approved
 R.A.C. 'Phone 50 W. J. FELTHAM, Proprietor.

Lyndhurst (Hants) "Crown Hotel" First-class Family
 and Residential.
 (Rebuilt 1897). Facing South. Electric Light. 60 Bed and
 Sitting Rooms. Large Gardens. Motor Garage. Livery Stables.
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BEAUTIFULLY Situated in its Own Grounds 300 feet
 up, and facing the Sea. Luxurious Ball Room
 Billiard Room. Garage. Hard and Grass Tennis Courts.
 W. & R. RIDDELL, PROPRIETORS.

Tels., "Tors, Lynmouth."

'Phone 47 Lynton Exchange.

LYNMOUTH, N. Devon.

The BATH HOTEL

UNDER Entirely New
 Management and
 Own Personal Super-
 vision. Nearest Hotel
 to and Facing Sea
 and Harbour.

Excellent Cuisine.
 Mod. Tariff. Garage.

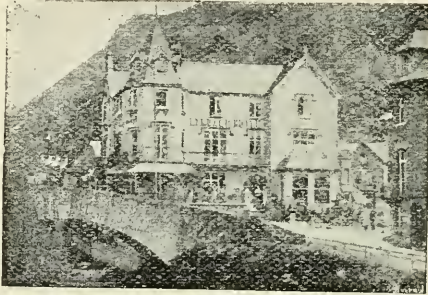
'Phone 28 Lynton.
 Telegrams, "Lord, Lynmouth."
 Tariff, apply J. W. LORD.



LYNMOUTH, NORTH DEVON.**LYNDALE HOTEL.**

The Oldest Established First-class Family Hotel.
Best Position in Lynmouth. Two minutes from and Overlooking Sea.

Telephone 45 Lynnton Exchange.

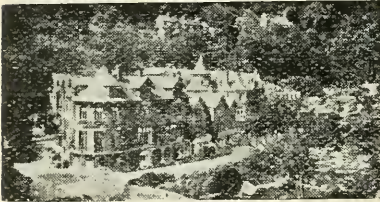


Telegrams: "Lyndale, Lynmouth."

Nearest Hotel to Watersmeet; Doone Valley, and Most Central for Devon and Somerset Staghouuds. G.W.Rly. Motor Coaches call at Hotel.

Extensive Garage with all facilities adjoining Hotel. Petrol.
Private Lock-ups.

Officially appointed to R.A.C. & A.A. Salmon, Trout and Deep Sea Fishing,
Golf, Bathing and Tennis. A. W. GAYDON, PROPRIETRESS.

LYNMOUTH N. Devon.**GRANVILLE HOUSE (PRIVATE HOTEL).**

Central for Watersmeet,
Doone Valley, and
All Places of Interest.

Close to Sea and Cliff Rail-
way connecting Lynton.

Minehead Coach Passes
Door.

Touring Car for Hire, and to
all Places of Interest.

Mrs. T. W. SLANN.

PROPRIETRESS

Tels., "S'ann, Lynmouth."

LYNTON, N. Devon.**FAIRMOLM**

HIGH-CLASS Boarding Establishment. Beautifully situated in Own
Grounds, on the sunny side of a hill, about 400 feet above, and
facing Sea; commanding Finest Views of Sea and Coast, River Lyn, and
far-famed Watersmeet Valley. Tels., "Fairholm." Also

WATERLOO HOUSE

OLDEST Established Boarding House in Lynton. Every Comfort.
Moderate Terms. H. & C. Baths. Electric Light.

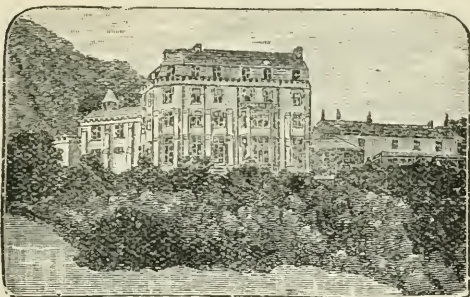
Terms on application to—THE MISSES COURTEEN & MADDOCKS.
Tels., "Waterloo, Lynton."

LYNTON (N. Devon).

ROYAL CASTLE HOTEL.

In the LORNA DOONE Country.

Leading Family Hotel.
Choicest Position in the
Neighbourhood.



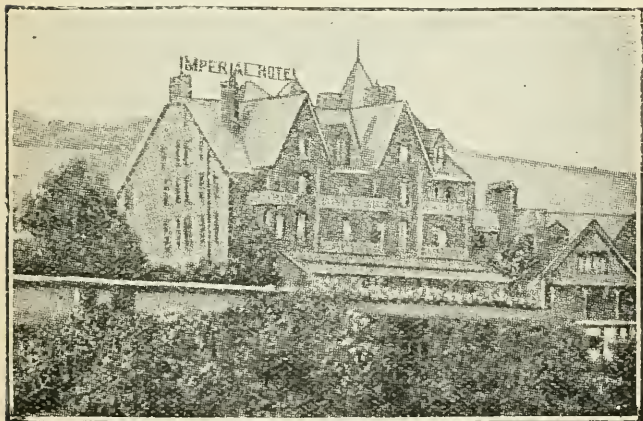
500 Feet above the Sea.
Ornamental Grounds, 9 Acres,
Overlooking Sea.

Elec. Light Throughout. Table d'Hôte. Reading and Drawing Rooms. Newly constructed Lounge, with Loveliest Views in England. Putting Course, Tennis, En Tout Cas and Grass Courts. Motor Coaches Daily to Minehead and for Excursions Stag & Fox Hunting. Fishing. Motor Garage. Moderate Tariff.

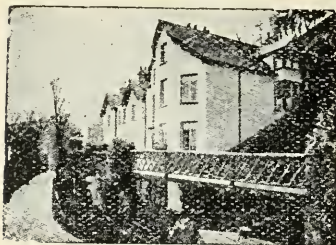
'Phone 48. Telegrams, "Castle, Lynton" TOM JONES, PROPRIETOR.

LYNTON, N. Devon.

IMPERIAL HOTEL.



Magnificent Position. 600 ft. above Sea. Charming Views of Sea & Headlands. Fully Licensed. Heated Throughout. Elec. Light. Garage. Well-appointed Hotel for Comfort, Ex. Cuisine & Mod. Tariff. Tels., "Imperial, Lynton." 'Phone 50.

**LYNTON, N. Devon.****NORTH CLIFF****Private Hotel.**

FIRST-CLASS. Situated in the Famous North Walk. Rebuilt and Redecorated. Sanitation Perfect. Stands in Own Grounds, 500 feet above and facing Sea.

Electric Light Throughout.

W. F. SLOUGH,

PROPRIETOR,

Tels., "Northcliff, Lynton."

MALVERN.**ALDWYN TOWER**

Boarding Establishment.

FINEST POSITION IN MALVERN.

BEAUTIFULLY Situated, 600 ft. above Sea Level. Convenient for Town and Hills. Balcony commanding Magnificent Views. Highly Recommended. Electric Light. Garage Near.

MRS. FRED. J. SMITH,

'Phone 304 Malvern PROPRIETRESS.

**MALVERN.****GOLDHILL****PRIVATE HOTEL.**

Situated in Own Grounds. Nearest Hotel to Station, Manor Park, Malvern College for Girls. S. Aspect. Elec. Light. Heated Throughout. Ten minutes Hills, Public Gardens, Churches and Golf Links. Handsome Lounge. Ex. Winter Home. Write for Descriptive Tariff with Local Views. Garage Near.

Apply—'Phone 91.

Mrs. BRAY HARTLAND.

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(UNLICENSED). Most Convenient for Visitors and Tourists. Replete with every Comfort. Moderate Tariff. Also Restaurant in connection. Hot & Cold Luncheons Daily. Teas, &c. H. G. BERRY, Prop.

Malvern—MONTROSE HOTEL FIRST-CLASS.

Beautifully Situated in Own Grounds. 400 feet above Sea level. Central Heating. All Modern Improvements. Close to Hills, Public Gardens and Golf Links. Special Terms for Winter Months. Illustrated Tariff.

'Phone 335.

Apply Mrs. J. W. VAUGHAN,

Resident Proprietress.

Malvern—SIDNEY HOUSE BOARDING ESTAB.

Beautifully Situated. Magnificent Views. Close to Hills, Public Gardens and Golf Links. Electric Light Throughout. Private Car for Hire. Garage Opposite. Moderate Terms.

Under the Personal Supervision of the Proprietress,
Mrs. A. EDWARDS.

Malvern—Grosvenor Private Hotel.—Centrally situated. In Own Grounds. South Aspect.

Heated in Winter. Magnificent views of the Hills and Severn Valley.
Phone 155. Mrs. WALWYN YATES Proprietress

CLIFTONVILLE (Margate)—Hotel Florence.

First-class Family & Residential. (Fully Licensed). Finest Position on Sea Front. Spacious Ball Room—Unsurpassed Floor. Large Dining Hall, Comfortable Drawing and Reading Rooms, and Billiard Room. Lift to all Floors. Open all the Year.
Phone 118. Telegrams, "Hotel Florence, Margate."

Mr. & Mrs. W. JAMIESON.

Margate, Cliftonville — A L M A R COURT

PRIVATE HOTEL. Opposite Queen's Hotel. Sea View. A High-class Boarding Establishment and a Home from Home. Cuisine Excellent. Terms from 3 to 5½ guineas according to Season and Room. Garage adjoining. Under the Personal Supervision of the
Tel. No. Margate. 747. PROPRIETRESS.

Margate, Cliftonville — THE DEDDEN

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MATLOCK.**THE****LILYBANK HYDRO, LTD.**

Bracing. Health & Pleasure Resort the year round Beautiful Ballroom, Spring Floor. Extensive Grounds. Ex. Cuisine. Elec. Light Throughout. Central Heating. All Hydro Baths Free to Visitors. Garage, Six Lock-ups. Tennis, Bowls, Croquet, Billiards. Terms Moderate. Phone 81.

Mr. & Mrs. JOHN KAY,
MANAGERS.

MATLOCK BATH, DERBYSHIRE—NEW BATH HOTEL.

Under Entirely New Management. Listed A.A. Garage. Thermal Swimming Bath. Excellent Cuisine. Special Attractions for the Winter Season. Tariff on Application. Phone, Matlock 33. Tels., "New Bath, Matlock Bath." PROPRIETOR.

S M E D L E Y ' S
Hydropathic Establishment,
MATLOCK.

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ESTABLISHED 1853.
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ONE of the largest and most complete in the Kingdom, extensively patronised all the year round by Pleasure-seekers as well as those requiring Hydropathic Treatment. Daily average of Visitors, over 240. An unrivalled suite of Hydropathic Baths, including an up-to-date installation of Electrical Appliances. Consulting and Resident Physicians. A large Staff (upwards of 50) of trained male and female Nurses, Masseurs, and Bath Attendants.

Matlock Golf Links—18 holes, within 15 minutes' walk.

TERMS:—13/- to 16/6 per day, inclusive, according to Bedroom, no extra charge for Turkish and Ordinary Hydropathic Baths.

Illustrated Prospectus on application to

H. CHALLAND, MANAGING DIRECTOR.

Telegrams—"Smedleys, Matlock."

Telephone No. 17

MINEHEAD, SOM.

STRAND PRIVATE HOTEL
PROMENADE.

IMEDIATELY Facing Sea. Commanding Extensive Views of the Bristol Channel, North Hill, Moors, Golf Links, &c. Balcony extends entire length of Hotel. Electric Light. Baths (H. & C.). Private Sitting Rooms if Required. Under Personal Supervision. **Nearest Hotel to Golf Links.**

'Phone 144.

Telegrams, "Strand Hotel."

Tariff on Application.

F. STEVENS, PROPRIETOR.

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First-class Tourist House. Finest Garage in the Wye Valley. Table d'Hôte 7.30 p.m. Sep. Tables. Finest Cuisine and Wines at Moderate Charges. Telephone 10 Monmouth. Miss A. RAINBOW, Manageress.

THE
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FOR THE BEST
STORIES, ARTICLES AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

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MORTE OE.

Woolacombe Bay, N Devon.

RATHLEIGH

First-class
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CLOSE to and Facing Sea. Few minutes from Tennis and Golf. Comfortably Furnished. Separate Tables. Good Cooking. Nursery Meals for Children (under 12 years old) with Nurses. Inclusive Terms, from £3 3s. Resident Proprietors, Mr. & Mrs. S. KELLY.

MULLION, CORNWALL.**POLDHU HOTEL.**

FIRST CLASS. Largest in District. Electric Light. Close to Sea. Good Beach. Bathing and Boating. Close to and Nearest to Splendid Golf Links. (18 holes).

Motor Garage.

Station—Helston.

Apply MANAGER.

MULLION, South Cornwall.**POLURRIAN HOTEL.**

FIRST-CLASS. Stands in its Own Grounds of 4 acres. Replete in all Modern Appointments. Large Lounge. Electric Light Throughout. Facing Sea. Good Boating and Fishing. Splendid Sands. Near Excellent Golf Links (18 holes). Visitors driven to same free at stated times. Garage. **Terms Moderate.** Apply MANAGER.

New Forest

(See page 39)

Newcastle-on-Tyne—ST. MARGARET'S HOTEL

64 to 68,
OSBORNE RD.,
JESMOND.

This Commodious Hotel forms an Up-to-date Residence with conveniences of ordinary Hotel. Garage near Hotel. Tels., "St. Margaret's, Osborne Road, Newcastle." Phone 453 Jesmond.

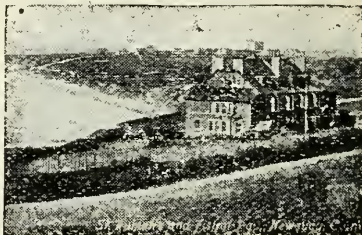
Newquay, Cornwall.**ST. KUMON'S**

Private
Boarding House.

BEAUTIFULLY situated, facing the Sea. Adjoining Beach & Golf Links. Private Tennis Courts. Garage. Terms Moderate. Phone 73.

MRS. JOHNS.

PROPRIETRESS.

NEWQUAY, CORNWALL.

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HIGH, Bracing Situation. Magnificent Sea View. A few minutes' walk from Sands, Golf Links and Tennis Courts. Separate Tables. Good Cuisine. Moderate and Inclusive Terms. Personal Supervision.

Apply Miss E. CHALMERS, PROPRIETRESS.

Telegrams, "Tregwella."

NEWQUAY. CORNWALL.

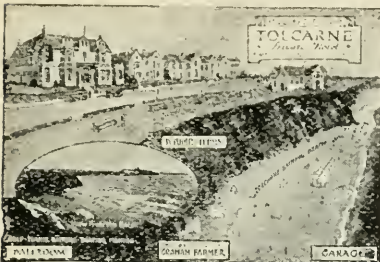
NARROW CLIFF

Private Hotel (RECENTLY OPENED)

Sea View. Close to Beach and Station. Electric Light. Tennis Courts. Certificated Sanitation. Terms Moderate and Inclusive. Garage Near.

Special Winter Terms.

MRS. VERRAN,
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PRIVATE HOTEL.

Facing Sea and Bathing Beaches. BALLROOM. GARAGE. Finest English Catering. Most Reasonable Terms. Newly Furnished. Electric Light. Separate Tables. Thirty-five Bedrooms. Write to-day for Tariff and Booklet.

Telegrams.
"Farmer, Newquay."

GRAHAM-FARMER,
PROPRIETOR.

Newquay—PENOLVER Private

Hotel. Situated on Narrow Cliff. Facing the Atlantic. Path to Beaches opposite House. Quiet and Comfortable. 3 minutes from Station.

CECIL DAVIS, Proprietor.

Newquay—RUNNYMEDE PRIVATE

Situated in the best part of Newquay, facing Sea and Bathing Beaches, with fine Views. Close to Station. Excellent Cuisine. Separate Tables. Electric Light. Perfect Sanitation. Near Tennis Courts. Every Comfort. Terms Moderate. Highly Recommended.

Mrs. HALL, Proprietress.

NEWQUAY, N. Cornwall—"CLIFFDENE"

FIRST-CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL. Situated on Cliff Balconies. Unrivalled Views of the Atlantic Ocean. Access to Bathing Beaches from House. Close to Tennis Courts and Bowling Green. Easy distance to Golf Links. Three minutes from Station. Excellent Cuisine. Moderate Terms. **Special Winter Terms.**

'Phone 183.

Mrs. & Miss PEARCE, Proprietresses.

NEWQUAY—TOWAN Private Hotel

ISLAND ESTATE. Beautifully Situated on Cliff facing Towan Bathing Sands. Extensive Sea and Coast Views. Well-appointed Modern House. Electric Light. Tennis, Bowls. 10 minutes from Golf Links. Separate Tables. Excellent Cuisine. Special Winter Terms.

Mrs. A. MORRIS, Proprietress.

Private Car for Hire.

(Late of Trevoze.)

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Recently Enlarged & Improved. Finest Position on Sea Front, facing Atlantic Ocean. One minute from Sands. Garages. Nr. Station, Golf Links, Tennis Courts & Bowling Green. Home Comforts. Electric Light. Moderate Charges. Personal Supervision. 'Phone 159.

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FIRST CLASS MODERN HOTEL. Furnished by
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Night Porter.

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MOST Interesting 15th Century House. Beautifully
Furnished and brought up to date. New Bath
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Billiards.

Morris's Garage.

OXFORD.

Private and
Residential Hotel,
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Terms Moderate.
Telephone 776.

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Near Colleges and River.
Good Public Rooms.
Private Sitting Room if required.
Motor Garage. Small Garden.
Miss BAKER, Proprietress.

Oxford—OXENFORD HALL, 13 to 17,
MAGDALEN STREET.
Private and Residential Hotel.

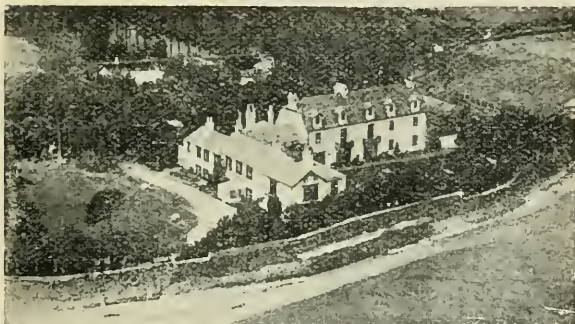
In the Centre of City. Near Colleges, and opposite Martyrs' Memoria
Terms Moderate. Phone 748. MISS WATSON.

Plymouth—PEARSE'S HOTEL, FAMILY AND COMMERCIAL,
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THE WINDSOR MAGAZINE

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PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL HOTEL.
An Ideal Summer and Winter Resort.

Taken by Aerco Aerials Ltd.

Finest Position on Tor Bay. Terms En Pension according to Season and Room. Electric Light. Two Large Lawns. Home Grown Fruit and Vegetables. Garage. For Safe Bathing on Own Sandy Beach. Nearest Churston Golf Links Two miles to Club House. No Roads to Cross.
 'Phone PAIGNTON 151. Apply to PROPRIETOR.

Penzance—CENTRAL HOTEL.

OLD-ESTABLISHED COMMERCIAL.

Three Minutes from Sea and Station. Electric Light Throughout.
 'Phone 89. J. S. RICHARDS, Resident Proprietor,
(22 years Wyvern Hotel, Leicester).

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Splendid Summer and Winter Residence. Situate on Promenade, Full View of Mount's Bay, The Lizard, St. Michael's Mount, &c. Sanitation Perfect. Baths (h. & c.). Gas Fires in Bedrooms, Electric Light Throughout. For Terms Apply 'Phone 67.
 Mrs. ROLLESTON, Proprietress.

Penzance—WESTERN HOTEL.

This Old-established Hotel will be found replete with every Comfort for Families and Tourists.
 'Phone No. 10. H. CHAMPION, Proprietor.

Port Erin—"SNAEFELL" Private Hotel.

Finest Position on Promenade, Facing Bay. Close to Links. Accommodation for 120 Visitors. Large Ballroom, Highly Recommended. Tariff on application.

T. N. SCOTT, Proprietor.

Port Erin, I.M.—Headlands Private Hotel.—

Overlooking the whole Bay and Headlands. Adjoining Golf Links.
GARAGE Personal Supervision. Tariff. Apply P. DANSON

Port Erin, I.M.—Eagle Hotel—

First-class Family and Commercial. Facing Sea. Boating, Bathing, Fishing and Tennis. Moderate and Inclusive Tariff. Tels., "Eagle, Porterin." W. WHITHAM, Proprietor.

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"Over the Sea to Skye."

For a Charming and Health-giving Holiday, Magnificent Mountain and Loch Scenery, Rest, Romantic Interest, or Variety—

VISIT THE ISLE OF SKYE.

ROYAL HOTEL

PORTREE, ISLE OF SKYE.

The Largest and Finest Hotel in the Island.

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Twenty Magnificent Photos and Visitors' Guide, 1s. 6d.

J. SIMPSON, Portree.

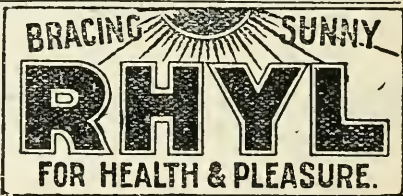
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SUMMER AND WINTER RESORT.

Picturesquely Situated, with Perfect Views of Sea Coast and Mountain Ranges. Unsurpassed for Grandeur in any Part of Britain. Ideal Seaside Resort and Medically Recommended.

Send 2d. for Booklet—Information Bureau, Town Hall, PWLLHELLI.

A BUNDANCE of Bright Sunshine, Clear Days, no Fogs or Snow. Light Rainfall and Sandy Subsoil. Excellent Train Service. As a visiting centre Rhyl is unsurpassed. The safest Bathing and Sands in the Kingdom. Plenty of Amusements. Municipal Orchestra & Entertainments in New Pavilion and Marine Gardens.



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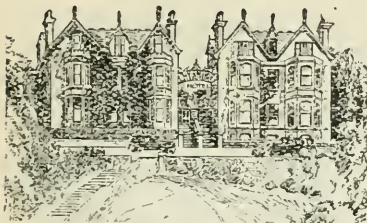
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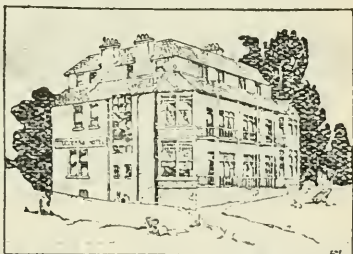
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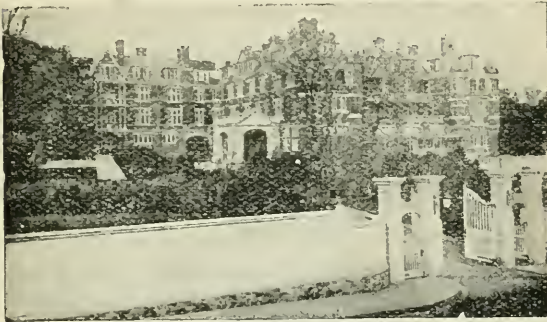
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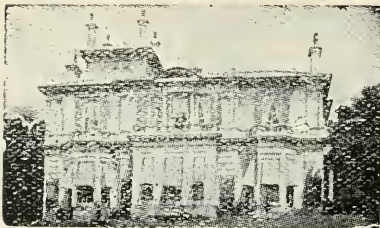
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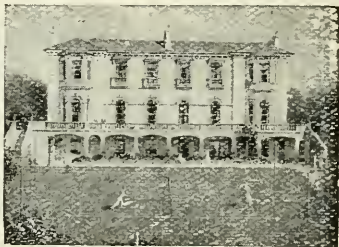
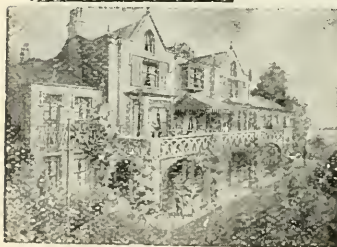
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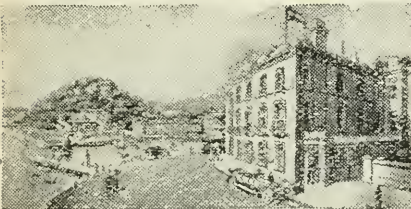
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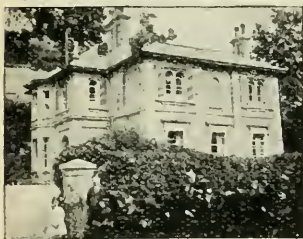
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(Mortehoe) (see page 45)

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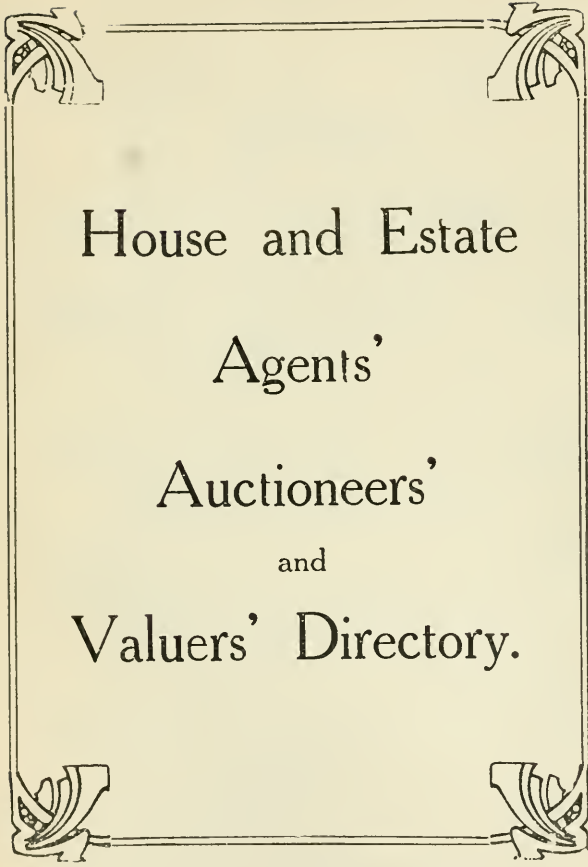
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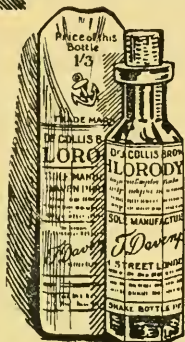
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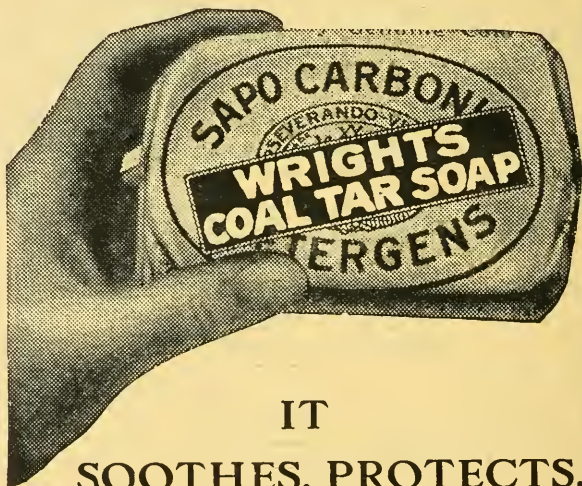
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