

## AN ANCIENT INTERMENT AT KINGSCLERE.

The site and human remains found at Hillside, Kingsclere, in November, 1910, were carefully examined by Mr. Walter Money, F.S.A. (the Editor of the "Transactions of the Newbury Field Club), who made the following report:—

" We usually find the earliest grave mounds in the highest districts of the land, and other imposing positions, overspreading hill and valley, wood and water of many miles in extent and the situation of the burial place in question, in the wild and beautiful district of Kingsclere, at the side of the bold and lofty range of Hampshire hills, is quite in accordance with the practice to which we have alluded.

" In excavating the ground on the south side of Hillside, on a spot where two old cottages formerly stood, an entire human skeleton was met with at a depth of 3ft. 6in. in an irregularly formed cavity on the surface of the natural chalk rock, the body lying on its left side, in a crouching position, the most ancient method of burial, with the head inclining towards the east, the knees drawn up towards the chest, the hands before the face, and the head, which lay in a westerly direction, protected by a large unhewn block of conglomerate stone—a most distinct characteristic of a class of interments during the Celtic period.

" This crouching position, it may not be without some interest to note, is thought by some to have been adopted not only for the sake of economy of space in the grave, but upon a desire to imitate the actual position in which savages sleep, and according to some authorities this doubled-up posture is regarded as none other than that of the unborn infant, which was imposed upon the dead, when about to enter the bosom of the universal mother.

"In fact, it has been held to be symbolical of a belief, not only in a life to come, but likewise that of the resurrection of the body. It also is said that the dead were so placed on the funeral pile. No ornaments or articles, sometimes associated with such interments, were noticed, but Canon Greenwell, the highest authority on the subject, states that the great number of interments of this character have no grave goods accompanying them. The skull is of considerable ethnological interest, and a strongly marked example of the cranium of the brachycephalic, or round-headed type, such as are found in the round barrows referable to the Bronze Age, and to that of the bronze and iron transition. The teeth were perfect, and not much the worse for wear, and judging from the small jaw and the size of the femur or thigh-bone and tibia, it may be inferred that the remains were of a young woman in the prime of life, and of a somewhat short stature. It is possible that there may have been other interments at the same spot, over which, as usual, a mound was raised, probably removed when the old cottages were built. If we may judge by comparison, the general characteristics of this interment lead one to the conclusion that it may be attributed to a period anterior to the establishment of the Roman power in Britain."

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## DAGGER FOUND AT KINGSCLERE.

In the year 1911 a very remarkable dagger was brought to public notice, said to have been concealed in the chalk deposit at "The Dell," Kingsclere. It was acquired by the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, and the following is the official description:—

"Dagger of steel, etched and gilt. German, dated 1541. The hilt of Moorish form shows remains of etched ornament; the quillions are turned inwards close to the blade. The blade has a wide back, bevelled towards the point; it is enriched with arabesque foliage at the base, and with inscriptions on either side as follows:—

"Ein linde antwordt stillet denn zornn. Aber ein hardt word Richt. grip ann Salomonn am 15."\*

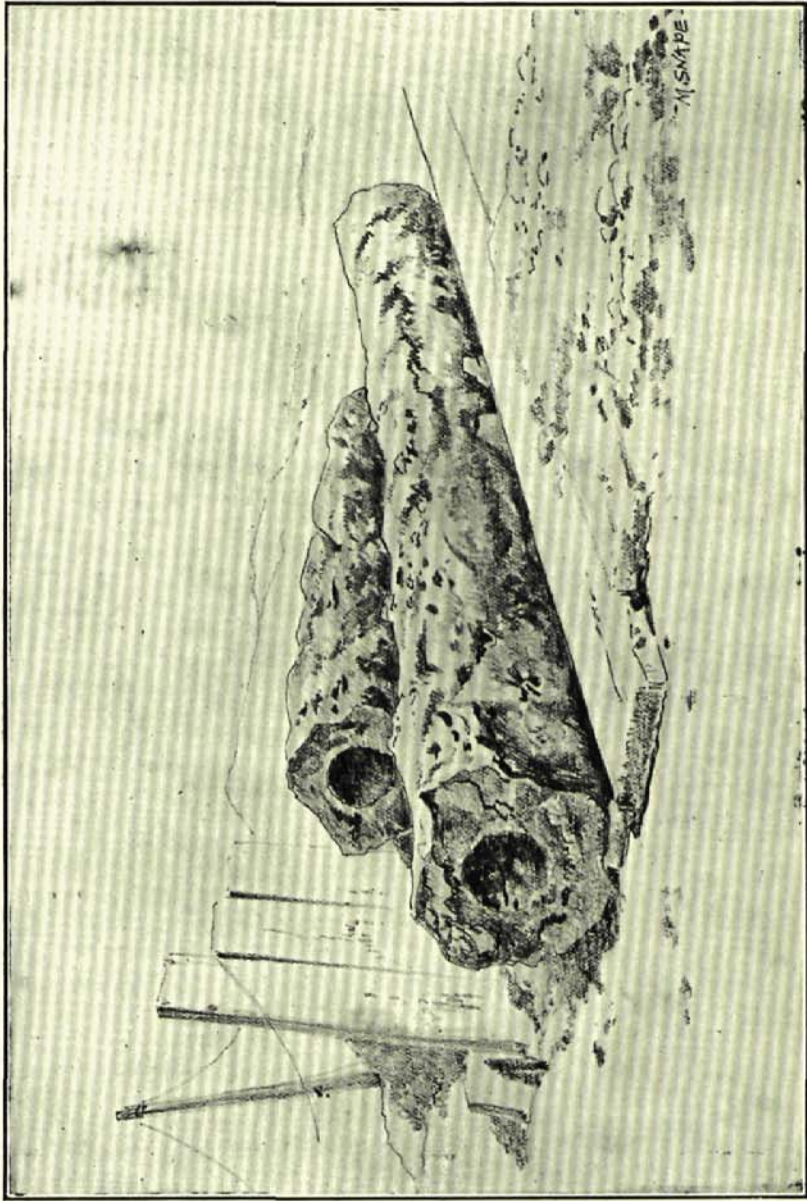
"Es kumdt alles vonn got gluck vnnd vngluck leben vnnd tod armut vnd Reichtum Ecc. am 11 anno do. 1541."†

"The dagger may perhaps have been used for hunting purposes. The sheath, which did not belong to the dagger, was not purchased.

\* "A soft answer turneth away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger." Proverbs XV., 1.

† "Prosperity and adversity, life and death, poverty and riches, come of the Lord." Ecclesiasticus XI., 14.

The above information was originally printed in the "Transactions of the Newbury Field Club for 1911," and is here printed by the permission of that Society, for which we tender our most grateful thanks. EDITOR, "Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club."



OLD WOODEN DRAINPIPES FOUND AT GOSPORT, 1903. Drawn by Martin Snape.

## REPORTS FROM LOCAL SECRETARIES.

The undermentioned letter was sent to all the Local Secretaries:—

HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Finchampstead Place,  
Finchampstead,  
Berks.

9th December, 1913.

Dear Sir,

I should be much obliged if you would furnish me with any particulars, which may have come to your notice during the past year (1913), connected with the district for which you are the "Local Secretary," whether referring to "Nature Study" or "Archæology"; in the latter case, please include restoration of Churches, Manor Houses, or other interesting ancient buildings, excavations of ancient British, Roman or Saxon remains or discoveries of coins, weapons, etc.

I should be much obliged if you would kindly let me have an answer not later than January 1st, 1914.

I remain,

Yours truly,

J. HAUTENVILLE COPE,

*Editor.*

The replies are as follows:—

*Alresford*—Rev. W. L. W. EYRE: "No discoveries or anything of a similar nature to report."

*Fareham*—Mr. T. H. HARVEY: "Am afraid the old mill at Cams is to be pulled down. It is a fine old timbered structure with tiled roof, and said locally to date from the time of King John. A mill was certainly on this site at the time of the Domesday Survey. If I can do anything to preserve it, shall do so. Have been in correspondence with Mr. Dale about it."

*Portsmouth*—Mr. MARTIN SNAPE: "Alverstoke and Gosport were main drained in 1903; not much of interest came to light during the excavations, except some wooden water-pipes of elm—each one a tree trunk."

*Winchester*—MR. N. C. H. NISBETT, A.R.I.B.A. : "Notes of work at Winchester Cathedral and " Finds " of antiquarian interest."

Winchester Cathedral. On the completion of the underpinning and the erection of the new buttresses on the south side of the Nave, some of the ordinary repairs, postponed owing to the other works, have been carried out. They include the re-covering of the lead roofs over the south slope of the Early English work of Bishop de Lucy, and also that over the eastern aisle of the South transept. In each case the old lead was taken off and re-cast and then relaid. While doing this work decayed timbers were, where necessary, re-placed by new and any requisite ties or struts provided where the construction was defective and undue stress in consequence was being thrown on parts unable to resist it.

Portions of the stonework of the Eastern Gable of the Choir having for many years been falling, owing to the action of the wet and frost, some repairs became absolutely necessary. Three finials, apparently erected during the last century, of very poor design, and more recently patched with Portland stone, were found quite unfit for re-use. Their condition, as well as other parts of the gable, was to a great extent owing to the use of hard stone like Portland to repair work originally executed in a soft one like Caen. The result being that all the wet not absorbed by the Portland was thrown down on the Caen, which was in some parts entirely destroyed. Wherever the Caen was in good condition, and this is fortunately the case with a very large proportion of it, it has been retained and treated with a coat of limewash. Where absolutely necessary to use new stone that from Coombe Down has been used. This stone has resisted even the London atmosphere at Westminster Abbey for quite a century.

Old joints that were open and admitted damp to the interior of the walls have been raked out and carefully "grouted." The old figure of Bishop Fox in a canopied niche has been carefully preserved and re-used.

While carrying out this work a rather interesting discovery was made in connection with the small three-light window, which is practically central with the gable. It was found to be half of an earlier window of six lights. The three northern lights have been blocked up but can be seen, together with the inner arch enclosing all six lights, on the inside. How this window could have formed a feature in a gable spanning the Choir is a puzzle. It seems possible, however, that before Fox erected the gable there may have been an "eaves" on the eastern side and gables north and south.

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A good Norman corbel with grotesque lion's head was found in Kingsgate Street during 1913. Somewhat similar ones still exist in the corbel tables of the Cathedral over the North and South Transepts, but, of course, it may equally well have come from Wolvesey Castle or any other Norman building.

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A very fine bell metal mortar was dug up at Kingsworthy. It is supposed by Mr. Baigent to have belonged to the Infirmary of Hyde Abbey.

It measures 13½ ins. across the mouth and 8½ ins. across the base. It stands 11 in. high and weighs 107 lbs. There are two ornamental bands and rough mouldings. The band below the brim is decorated with a pattern consisting of crosses patée fitchée alternating with trefoils or fleur-de-lis. Mr. Baigent notes that the arms ascribed to Edred, grandson of Alfred, were: Vert, a cross patée fitchée arg. As Alfred founded the New Minster, afterwards removed to Hyde, Edred, who, on the Mortuary chest in which his bones are preserved in the Cathedral, is designated "Pious Edred," was probably a benefactor of the foundation in which both his father and grandfather were so much interested.

The mortar was probably cast some time in the 15th century. It may be of interest to remember that part of

the present parish of Kingsworthy is still called Abbots-  
worthy and belonged to the Abbot of Hyde.

*Winchfield*—Mr. F. MASON GOOD: "Nothing to report."

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The Editor much regrets that no replies were received  
from the other local secretaries.

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## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

*Austen (Jane)*, by Francis Warre Cornish. Cr. 8vo.; pp. 254. 2s. net. (Englishmen of Letters series). (Macmillan).

*Austen (Jane)*, Austen Leigh (W. and R.). Jane Austen; her life and letters; a family record. Portrait. 8vo.; pp. 452. 10s. 6d. net. (Smith Elder).

This new life of the classic Hampshire novelist is based on the memoir of his aunt by her nephew, the late Rev. J. E. Austen Leigh, on the letters published by Lord Brabourne, and on other family documents, some of them hitherto unpublished. The writers are two members of Jane Austen's family. The charming portrait-frontispiece is reproduced from the little known picture by Zoffany.

*Ball (Wilfred R. E.)*. Hampshire Water-colours. 8vo. 1s. net. (A. & C. Black).

Twenty representative pictures selected from the well-known Hampshire colour book (text by Rev. Telford Varley).

*Black..* Guide to Hampshire, 17th edition, by A. R. Hope Moncrieff. Maps, &c. Cr. 8vo. 2s. 6d. net. (A. & C. Black).

An enlarged and much improved edition of this most useful handbook.

*Caine (William)*. The New Foresters. 8vo.; pp. 256, with Maps. 5s. net. (J. Nisbet).

In "The New Foresters" Mr. Caine has combined the fun of his former words with the gentle sentiments of his "Angler" at Large, and for his background has taken the New Forest. To those who know the New Forest this book will make the strongest appeal, and the remainder of his readers who have not this fortune will hastily hire a donkey and go there. An altogether delightful human and humorous book, conceived in the true Stevensonian tradition and full of character and personality.

*Caliguse (R.)*. An Ode to Bournemouth, and other Poems. 12mo. 1s. net. (George Bell).

*Gill (Conrad, M.A.)*. The Naval Mutinies of 1797 (at the Nore and Spithead). 8vo.; pp. 432. Maps and Plans. 10s. 6d. net. (Manchester: University Press).

A very full and careful historical study of this important naval episode.

*Hargrove (Ethel C.)*. Wanderings in the Isle of Wight. Illustrated. Cr. 8vo. ; pp. 324. 6s. net. (Melrose.)

*Jessep (Col. H. L., R.E.)*. Notes on pre-Conquest Church Architecture in Hampshire and Surrey. Illustrated. pp. 32. 1s. net. (Winchester: Warren.)

*Kenealy (M. E.)*. The Tichborne Tragedy, being the secret and authentic history of the extraordinary facts and circumstances connected with the claims, personality, identification, conviction, and last days of the Tichborne claimant. Roy. 8vo. ; pp. 384. 16s. net. (Griffiths.)

*Kinch (Arthur E.)*. Chapters of the History of Farnborough, Hampshire. Illustrated. pp. 80. 2s. 6d. net. (Simpkin.)

*Lea (Hermann)*. Thomas Hardy's Wessex. Illustrated from photos by the author. 8vo. ; pp. 342. 7s. 6d. net. (Macmillan.)

Readers of Thomas Hardy will be aware that the topographical settings to his words are not bounded by the eastern border of Dorset. The author has taken each novel or volume of poems and has carefully identified, described, and photographed scenes connected with the various narratives. The book is one of great interest as shewing the close and faithful connection between Mr. Hardy and the country he has made his own, and should prove an almost indispensable companion to this author's works.

*Leeds (E. T.)*. The Archæology of the Anglo-Saxon Settlements. Illustrated. 8vo. ; pp. 144. 5s. net. (Oxford: Clarendon Press.)

*Leigh (William Austen) and Knight (Montagu G.)*. Chawton Manor and its Owners; a family history, with portraits. 4to. ; pp. 228. 21s. net.

*Locke (A. Audry)*. In Praise of Winchester, an anthology in prose and verse. 8vo. ; pp. 310. 5s. net. (Constable.)

*Major (Albany F.)*. Early Wars of Wessex, being studies from England's school of arms in the West, edited by the late Charles W. Whistler, with Maps, Plans and Diagrams. 8vo. ; pp. 254. 10s. 6d. net. (Cambridge: University Press.)

*Sumner (Heywood, F.S.A.).* The Ancient Earthworks of Cranborne Chase, described and delineated on plans founded on the 25in. to 1 mile, Ordnance Survey. Roy. 8vo. ; pp. 96. 20s. net (only 200 copies signed and numbered by the author). (Chiswick Press.)

Happily, Mr. Sumner does not confine his researches strictly to Cranborne Chase as we know it to-day, but includes Breamore Down and other localities of the greatest archaeological interest which fall within the old outer boundary of the Chase. As in the authors' former delightful work, "The Book of Gorley," the charm of his literary style makes a strong appeal, while the plans themselves are most carefully drawn, the work as a whole evincing not only the master hand but irresistible enthusiasm.

*Townsend (Frederick, F.L.S.).* Flora of Hampshire, including the Isle of Wight. New edition. 8vo. ; pp: 698, with Map and Plates. 12s. net. (Lovell Reeve.)

The enlarged and carefully revised second edition, now obtainable at the more popular price of 12s. It constitutes the most exhaustive record of the flowering plants and ferns of the County.

*White (Gilbert) of Selborne,* by W. H. Mullens ; a concise description of Gilbert White, his celebrated book and the village of Selborne, with 7 plates. pp. 32 ; 2s. 6d. net. (Witherby.)

*Williams (J. F., Editor).* The Early Churchwarden's Accounts of Hampshire. 8vo. ; pp. 304. 5s. net. (Winchester : Warren.)

Winchester : Its History, Buildings, and People. Cr. 8vo. ; pp. 192, with plans and illustrations. 2s. 6d. net. (Winchester : Wells.)

A most pleasing little history of the ancient and royal city compiled from papers by members of the Winchester College Archæological Society.

*Books and Magazines for review in our columns to be sent, in future, to the Editor, Hampshire Field Club Proceedings, John Hautenville Cope, Esq., Finchampstead Place, Finchampstead, Berks.*