

After the practising they would adjourn to the Butt House to regale themselves.

The boundary of the parishes of Ashby de la Zouch and Hartshorne is close to the Butt House. Indeed I have been told by an ancient person of veracity that upon the 29th of May in the old "processioning" times round Ashby Wouds, before the enclosure of them in 1800,* he has been compelled, when a lad, to pass through the temple of the goddess Cloacina in the garden in order to keep up the rights of the parish.

The occupier of the Butt House when Nichols wrote was John Simmonds, Esq. In his diary he records the following locally important events,—

"1801. May 1st. Post boy between Burton & Ashby went by Butt house 1st time about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 o'Clk, morn."

"10th. Sent a letter to E. & M. S.† by the post boy."

He died after a short illness in 1803, and his burial is thus recorded in the register of Lullington, Derbyshire,—“Novb. 24. Buried John Simmonds of the Butt House, Gent.”

Robert William Devereux Shirley, late brother of the present earl Ferrers, was born at the Butt House, Dec. 14th, and baptized Dec. 16th, 1825.‡ His father Robert William Shirley, lord Tamworth, died here, Feb. 3rd, 1830. ||

August 13th, 1855.

A MEETING of the Committee was held in the Town Library, to take into consideration the arrangements necessary to be made for the first autumnal meeting, which it was resolved should be held on Monday the 10th September next. It was suggested that a meeting for the transaction of business should take place on that day, at two o'clock, to be followed by an ordinary at six o'clock, and an evening meeting at eight o'clock; and that the following day should be entirely devoted to an excursion on Charnwood

* At that time the Butt House stood almost alone. Since then a populous village of potters has sprung up in its neighbourhood by the name of "Wooden-Box," or more commonly "The Box," derived, as is well known, from a hut set up there for a person to sit in to receive the toll at the turnpike. The *Historical Collector* may add that this wooden box was originally a port wine butt from Drakelowe Hall. In 1845 the name of the place was changed from Wooden-Box to Woodville, and formed into "The consolidated Chapelry of Woodville" by an order of the Queen in Council, June 17th, 1847.—See *The London Gazette of July 6th, 1847*.

† His daughters; Eliza, afterwards wife of Mr. Edward Mammatt of Ashby de la Zouch, and Maria, afterwards wife of Mr. John Pountney of Wolverhampton.

‡ Ashby de la Zouch register.

|| This paper upon Blackfordby was afterwards contributed by the Rev. J. M. Gresley to the Midland Counties Historical Collector, where it is considerably enlarged, and to which publication we must refer any reader wishing for more information upon the subject.

Forest. The route proposed to be followed was—leaving Leicester at nine, to proceed to Kirby Muxloe, there to examine the castle; thence to Ratby, to visit the Bury Camp, a Roman remain of very great extent; thence to pass on by Groby castle and Groby pool, with a view of seeing the remains at Bradgate; thence to drive to Ulverscroft Priory; thence to Whitwick, in order to inspect its church and see its interesting monument of an ancient knight of the Talbot family; thence to return to Woodhouse, Swithland, Rothley, and from the latter place to Leicester. This route had been planned in deference to the wishes of various members of the Lincolnshire Society, who, at the last associated meetings at Peterborough, expressed a strong desire to have an excursion on Charnwood Forest, on paying Leicester another visit.

August 27th, 1855.

COMMITTEE Meeting. Mr. G. H. Nevinson, in the chair.

The secretaries reported that letters had been received permitting the society to visit Bradgate, Ulverscroft, and Rothley Temple, on their excursion day, September the 11th; and that the architects of Leicester had been informed of the wish of the committee to receive from them drawings and plans for exhibition at the annual meeting in the afternoon of the 10th, at the New Hall, Wellington Street, Leicester.

The Rev. Samuel Smith, incumbent of St. George's, Thringstone, was elected a member of the Society.

A sub-committee for making further arrangements for the annual meeting and excursion was appointed, consisting of Dr. Shaw, Messrs. T. T. Paget, J. Thompson, T. C. Browne, and the secretaries, with power to add others. The papers promised for the evening meeting are,—on Ulverscroft Abbey, by Mr. T. R. Potter; on Local Architectural Peculiarities, by the Rev. J. Denton; on Croyland Abbey, by the Rev. Dr. Stukeley; and a fourth, on the Early Heraldry of Leicestershire, by Mr. J. Thompson.

The chairman exhibited a small bronze figure, representing a man running, and supporting a cone upon his head with his right hand:

Three small copper Roman coins found in repairing the Fleet Ditch at the bottom of Holborn Hill; one of them bearing the head and name of LICINIUS, and on the reverse a fortress:

A plate or ticket of copper, about one-and-a-half inch square, found at very low water in the bed of the Thames, near the second arch of Waterloo Bridge, having on one side the inscription "*John Wheatley Citizen and Poulterer of London;*" and the other, J. W. himself smoking his pipe at his shop door.