

Banwell Charters.

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IT has been pointed out to me by Mr. Simmons, of Langford, that Churchill, as well as Puxton, was anciently part of Banwell, and still forms part of the manor, and that Calewa is

NOTE.

As supplying an additional illustration of the prevalence of this view of the derivation of the word "Silver," and furnishing at the same time an example which possesses a local interest, I may mention that since the foregoing paper was in type I have met with the following :—" Silver, when a suffix, is a corruption of *sylva*. Ex : Monk-silver (Som :), the monks' wood." (*Traces of History in the Names of Places, with a vocabulary of the roots out of which the names of places in England and Wales are formed*, by Flavell Edmunds, new edition, Longman, 1872, p. 283.)

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found nothing which controverted and nothing that decidedly proved the guesses I have made in that quarter. From the lower part of the Wrinn the boundary went round Congresbury to what I read as the eastward stream of the Wrinn, and from thence up Hill brook to the source. This is all right, and the only difficulty is the very small size of Congresbury compared

with what is said of it in Domesday. With regard to Calewa, Mr. Earle was quite right, and I wrong in my guesses. Calewa or Callow is the eastern end of the north boundary of Compton Bishop, which goes for several miles along the road and the down. It is mentioned also in the boundaries of Mendip Forest.¹ In or near the valley of the turnpike road and the railway tunnel, the boundary crosses the northern way—that from Axbridge and Cross to the western end of Sandford hill, at the *stile*. That there should have been a gate here is likely enough—between Compton Bishop and Winscombe, between the King and the Abbot of Glastonbury, and, if Mr. Horner's map is right in putting Compton Bishop into the forest of Mendip, on the border of that district; but that there should be a stile, in the modern sense of the word, is inconceivable; and I venture to suggest that anciently stile may have had a less definite meaning, and with Lipiat² may have been simply gate.

From the stile the boundary went along the way, where there is none now, to Cearce rode, and then up to Callow. Mr. Simmons points out that the cross, from which the village of Cross is named, probably stood half way down the valley, at the place where the roads to Axbridge and Cross separate. He says that the mile stone which stood there was the point from which distances north and south from Cross were measured, and not from the village itself, half a mile or more below. If he is right—as I incline to think he is—I do not see how this Cross will help us about Cearce rode, more than a quarter of a mile higher up, or why, if it did, the place should be called Church Cross; and, I am disposed to query whether, as the northern way is plainly the present road to Sandford, these words may not mean the road to Churchill, viz., the late Bristol turnpike road.

There are some things that can hardly be done at all, except imperfectly, for if one waits for perfection one waits too long, and that which is imperfect at first is corrected afterwards by the help of others. This must be my excuse for the mistakes I have made.

(1). Collinson, vol. 3, p. 59.

(2). A word often found in the boundaries, and usually interpreted a stile, and which is the name of several places in the West of England.
