

Fourth Day's Proceedings.

The members of the Society, to the number of about sixty, concluded the programme of excursions by paying a visit to the "Pitt-Rivers Country," under the guidance of Mr. H. St. George Gray, who was assistant and secretary to the late General Pitt-Rivers, D.C.L., F.R.S., for nearly eleven years. The drive was taken *viâ* Shaftesbury, Charlton and Ferne Hollow, to a point where a fine view of

Winkelbury Camp

was obtained. Here Mr. GRAY gave an interesting account of the results of General Pitt-Rivers's excavations into the camp in 1881-2. He said that the camp was thirteen miles w.s.w. from Salisbury and one-and-a-half mile n. of the Romano-British village of Woodcuts. It stood 850ft. above sea-level, but Win Green, nearer Shaftesbury (under which they had passed), was 914ft. above the sea. The camp was a large one, covering twelve-and-a-half acres, and commanded the valley on three sides, overlooking the village of Berwick St. John. The existence of a pre-Roman camp was proved; the excavation of six barrows of the same period was carried out; and the uncovering of thirty-one Anglo-Saxon graves was completed. Unlike the barrows in Small Down Camp, Evercreech, the six tumuli at Winkelbury were not *within* the the camp proper, but occurred at the southern end of the

1. Meyrick Bankes' mother was a Miss Meyrick.

promontory. (The relics from Winkelbury are preserved in Farnham Museum, and a full account of the diggings is given in *Excavations in Cranborne Chase*, Vol. II).

Continuing the drive over chalk downland the party proceeded through Rushmore Park (through the kindness of the tenant, Capt. A. Glen Kidston), passing the Temple of Vesta, a copy of the original building at Rome. The next halt was made at the

Romano-British Village of Woodcuts.

Mr. H. ST. G. GRAY gave a full description of Woodcuts, in the course of which he said that this ancient habitation was thoroughly excavated by General Pitt-Rivers in 1884-5, and had produced innumerable relics, all of which would be viewed presently at Farnham. There was a similar village of the Roman period at Rotherley, one-and-a-quarter mile N.W. of Woodcuts, which had also been excavated. Both villages were occupied chiefly by Britons, and both were alike in their general arrangements. The pits in these villages were very numerous, measuring from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 10ft. in diameter, and from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 9ft. deep. There were ninety-five pits in Woodcuts and ninety-two in Rotherley. He proceeded to show that the water supply was larger in the olden times than at the present day, at these places. Woodcuts was surrounded by an entrenchment and a ditch, and the huts were built of daub-and-wattle work. The pits were used for the interment of the dead, and it was a custom highly favourable to anthropological research. The inhabitants were of smaller stature than ourselves, averaging 5ft. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins. for the males, and 5ft. for the females; and judging from the relics discovered they were not hunters, but led a peaceful agricultural life, and lived in a poor way. On the other hand there were indications of refinement; fragments of red Samian pottery of the finest quality were found, and the rare glazed Roman ware; they had ves-

sels of glass ; they used tweezers, earpicks, styli, ornamental bosses and metal spoons ; they wore fibulæ, brooches, finger-rings, bangles, etc. They ate oysters, which, considering the distance from the coast, implied luxury. The majority of the inhabitants were probably of British origin ; and Woodcuts was certainly occupied up to the time of Magnentius, A.D. 350-353. (A full account of these excavations occupies the greater part of Vol. I of *Excavations in Cranborne Chase*).

A short drive through the large park brought the party to the

South Lodge Camp and a Group of Round Barrows,

excavated in 1880, 1884 and 1893. These were briefly described¹ by Mr. GRAY, who showed them all to have been of Bronze Age origin. He said that the group of tumuli was probably the burial-place of the chiefs who inhabited the camp.

Luncheon at the Larmer Grounds.

Luncheon was served in the Oriental Room on the East Lawn, after which Mr. ALFRED E. HUDD, F.S.A., heartily thanked Mr. Bailward for his kindness in presiding at the meetings. He had known Mr. Bailward for a good many years, and he had had the pleasure of meeting a good many of the Society's Presidents, but on no previous occasion had the President been with the members so much. Mr. Bailward had not only been with them every day, but nearly all day.

Mr. TITE, in seconding, said he was sure that it was the wish of those present that they should also ask Mrs. Bailward

1. Full accounts will be found in *Excavations in Cranborne Chase*, Vols. II and IV.

to accept their best thanks for her kindness and courtesy during the whole of the meeting.

The **PRESIDENT**, in reply, said that he had enjoyed the excursions exceedingly; and expressed the pleasure that the meetings had given him.

The **Rev. F. W. WEAVER** proposed votes of thanks to all those who had helped to make the meeting a success. First must come the Vicar of Gillingham and Mrs. Heygate who gave them the use of the Vicarage grounds, and invited them to that enjoyable party on Wednesday evening when the gardens were illuminated. He should mention Mr. R. H. Symons in this connection. He must also mention the Mayor of Shaftesbury, Sir H. H. A. Hoare, Bt., and Mr. A. E. Pitt-Rivers; Dr. Allen, Mr. R. P. Brereton, and Mr. H. St. G. Gray for their papers on Tuesday evening; Mr. E. Doran Webb, F.S.A., Mr. F. Bligh Bond, the Rev. E. H. Bates, Major Troyte-Bullock, the Rev. J. A. Lloyd, F.S.A., and the Rev. D. Ll. Hayward, for describing churches and other buildings; to the Rev. N. Parsons and Mr. J. Scanes for acting as guides at the Pen Pits; and to others who had assisted in various ways.

Colonel **CARY BATTEN** proposed votes of thanks to the Rev. F. W. Weaver, one of the hon. secretaries, and to Mr. H. St. G. Gray, the assistant-secretary and curator, for the admirable manner in which they had carried out the arduous task of conducting the arrangements for the meeting.

The **PRESIDENT** said that he should wish to second that proposal. He thought Mr. Weaver had been most successful, and his power of organizing and his knowledge of archæology were such as the Society greatly benefited by. With regard to Mr. Gray they all knew what an admirable curator he was and what he had already done at Taunton Castle; and they were very grateful to him for the way in which he had conducted the party that day.

The **Rev. F. W. WEAVER** returned thanks, and expressed

his gratification that several of the members had come to him and said how successful the meeting had proved.

Mr. GRAY also responded, and said that with regard to the Museum he felt that if the work was worth doing at all it should be done well; and with regard to that day he had but one regret, viz., that General Pitt-Rivers¹ had not been alive to be able to conduct them over his museum and excavations.

The Larmer Tree.

After luncheon the party assembled under the Larmer Tree, where Mr. GRAY said that it was originally a wych elm, a fragment of the rind of which was standing until it was blown down in the winter of 1894. An oak tree had been planted to take its place. Under the elm the Chase courts used to be held for the settlement of all matters relating to Cranborne Chase. The point at which they were assembled marked not only the boundary-bank dividing Wilts from Dorset, but also the junction (at the triangular stone) of three parishes, viz., Tollard Royal, Tollard Farnham and Farnham.²

Mr. Gray afterwards read a short paper on "Cranborne Chase, Rushmore Park, and the private Menagerie kept by General Pitt-Rivers."

The beautiful grounds having been hurriedly inspected the party left for the

Pitt-Rivers Museum at Farnham,

where an hour was spent in taking but a cursory glance at the thousands of exhibits contained in the nine rooms and galleries, three of which are 87, 85 and 80 feet long respectively. The huge collection is representative of nearly every branch

1. See "A Memoir of General Pitt-Rivers," *Proceedings*, XLVII, ii, 123-137.

2. See *Guide to the Larmer Grounds*; and *King John's House* by General Pitt-Rivers. With regard to the etymology of the word "Larmer," opinions differ. (See *K. John's Ho.*, pp. 3-4).

of the arts and productions of mankind, but the most famed series consists of the models of archæological excavations carried out by General Pitt-Rivers.

Driving back to the Larmer Grounds, tea was served in one of the Indian summer-houses, after which the party walked to

King John's House, Collard Royal.

Mr. H. ST. G. GRAY said that the parish was denominated "Royal," because John, Earl of Gloucester (afterwards King John) in right of Isabella his wife, held a knight's fee here. From 1200 to 1213 King John was frequently at Cranborne, Clarendon, Gillingham, Bere Regis, Marlborough and Dorchester.

For some years after General Pitt-Rivers succeeded to the Rivers property, King John's House was occupied as a farmhouse, but when it fell vacant in 1889, the General resolved to confirm, if possible, the traditions of its great antiquity, and not only remove some additions made to the house by Lord Rivers some sixty years ago, but also make excavations round about the house. The rooms at the N.E. end were of Late Tudor construction. The thick walls (4ft.) that remained were XIII Century; and in the first room entered, the XIII Century window was discovered by the General totally built up. The larger window with mullions was Elizabethan; the doorway also, but not the porch, which was later. The next room on the ground floor had another XIII Century window in the S.E. wall. The window in the S.W. wall had been altered in Elizabethan times; close to it was an aumbry, where the King's valuables would be kept. The oak staircase was an excellent specimen of Elizabethan work and is well preserved. At the top of the stairway was a XIII Century archway, and the room on the right (W.) was Elizabethan and now contained the relics found in and about King John's House. In the King's Chamber on the first floor two Early XIII Century windows with seats were discovered, one of which had been totally built up, the other being transformed into an Elizabethan window. The

door in the s. corner of the room for obtaining access to the original tower was also found built up. The doorway on the n.e. side of the King's Chamber, communicating with two rooms of Late Tudor date, was originally a XIII Century window, a pointed arch having been discovered above it.

He had very good reason for saying that he believed that another XIII Century window existed in a built-up condition on the n.n.w. side of the chamber. This room had been stripped of its oak panelling since the General's death. The house was furnished in keeping with the old building, and the walls were covered with a series of pictures illustrating the history of painting from the earliest times to the present day.

Tollard Royal Church.

Mr. GRAY remarked that the most interesting feature about the church was the remarkable effigy of Sir William Payne. In a beautifully-decorated niche in the s. wall was a black marble sarcophagus containing the cremated remains of the late General Pitt-Rivers, F.R.S., with a suitable inscription. The E. window was placed there in memory of Lord and Lady Rivers who died, on the same day, in 1866. The E. window of the N. aisle was of interest as it commemorated the death of Mrs. Arbuthnot, who was killed by lightning in Switzerland on her wedding tour within a few weeks of her marriage in Tollard Church: close to, was the simple wooden cross which the peasants had erected on the spot where the catastrophe occurred: it was brought home from the Alps when it was replaced by another cross in marble.

Mr. E. A. FRY gave some interesting particulars¹ of the effigy of Sir William Payne (died 1388), which is one of the few specimens of "banded mail" known to exist.²

The party then left for Gillingham, and dispersed to their homes after a most enjoyable meeting.

1. Mr. Fry's Notes are printed in *S. & D. N. & Q.*, Dec., 1904.

2. *King John's House* by General Pitt-Rivers, p. 5-6.