

The timorous birds from stubble rise,
 With pinions stretch'd divide the skys ;
 The scatter'd lead pursues the sight,
 And death in thunder stops their flight.
 This spaniel, of true English kind,
 Who's gratitude inflam'd his mind ;
 This servant in an honest way
 In all his actions copy'd Tray."

But the most charming relic of the past must be kept to the last. About a furlong south-west of the church, abutting on the edge of the meadows of the Colne, opposite the "Fishery" at Denham, stands a little from the road an old farm-house, some parts of the interior of which retain the ancient panelling and large fire-places, suggesting that in the olden time large logs were burnt here in winter time and hospitality was exercised. The house is now cut up into three labourers' cottages. It is still called the Moor Hall, and is the most ancient manor house in the parish. Close by it, indeed almost adjoining it, is an Early English chapel, with lancet windows, externally almost perfect, though quite "guttled" in its interior of every vestige of its once sacred uses. The timber roof stands sound and good, just as it did in the days of the Tudors and Plantagenets. Some persons consider that the building was not a chapel, but a refectory. The building and cottages are rich in red and grey tints, and have been often sketched by artists.

I may add that, lying as it does so far out of the beaten tracks, this parish is perhaps richer than any other within Middlesex in country seats. Towards the northern end are Harefield Park, the seat of Colonel Vernon ; Harefield House, of Sir John Byles. Nearer to the church, and towards the centre of the parish, is Brakespeares, of Mrs. Drake.

Nearer to Uxbridge are the modern Harefield Place, lately sold by Mr. Newdegate ; and Swakeleys, the seat of Mr. T. T. Clarke. All the game hereabouts is strictly preserved ; and in consequence as you walk along the shady lanes leading to the "Brakespeares Arms" from the church, you may see partridges and pheasants strutting about to their heart's content, and quite secure from harm.

But the autumn day soon closes in upon the most pious and devout of pilgrims ; and the walk back to Uxbridge along the towing-path of the Grand Junction Canal is rather long and tedious, though it runs side by side with the Colne, that Milton loved so well, and whose banks he doubtless haunted in the days when rivers and roads were the only highways. The pilgrim, too, must think, however pious his aspirations, about the need of refreshing the inner man, and this I was able to do just before sunset at the "Old Treaty House," close to the bridge over the Colne which gives its name to Uxbridge.

E. WALFORD.

OUR SURNAMES.



THE meaning of the word "surname" implies that it is not *the* name of a man, but an addition to it. Our actual names are the Christian names, and surnames have sprung up in consequence of the inadequacy of these to distinguish the increasing numbers of individuals. It is very interesting and instructive to trace these surnames back to their sources, for in the pursuit a strong light is thrown on many old customs and forgotten usages of the past.

Perhaps the simplest and most direct growth of surnames arose from the practice of adding the father's name to that of the person described. Thus Roger might be distinguished from other Rogers by the addition "Will's son." The Norman equivalent for son was "fitz" (fils) ; accordingly such names as Fitz Gerald, Fitz Patrick are found ; while from the Welch "ap," also meaning son, have descended Pugh—Ap Hugh ; Bevan—Ap Evan ; Pritchard—Ap Richard, and many others. The Saxon method of adding "son" is represented in countless numbers of names ; another favourite and simple form being the plain ending "s"—the possessive case. Wilson and Wills thus both indicate a son or descendant of Will. It will not be amiss to give a few of the less obvious instances ; but one or two rules affecting them ought first to be mentioned. These briefly are, that there was a tendency to form from each Christian name a

shortened form consisting of one syllable, and that forms so gained were often lengthened again by the addition of terminations, such as "kin," "et," "ot," "on," "cock," &c.

With this preface it will be at once seen that, among other more obvious names, Daws, Dawson, Dawkins spring from David ; Watts, Watson, Watkins from Walter ; Huggins, Hutchins, Hewetson from Hugh ; Tibbs, Tubbs, Tibbits, Tebbott, Tipkins, Tipson, &c., from Tib, the short form of Theobald ; Lawson, Laycock, Larkins from Lawrence ; Higgs, Higgins, Hitchins from Hick, the short for Isaac ; Ellis, Elliott, Elkins, Elcock, Ellison, Allison, &c., from Elias ; Pearson, Perkins, Parrots from Piers, the short for Peter ; and Batty, Bates, Batkins, Badcock from Bat, the short for Bartholomew. To this class belong also the following well-known names :—Gibbon, the historian, takes his name from some ancient Gilbert shortened into Gib ; and all our Gilbertsons, Gibsons, Gilpins, &c., are descended from ancestors similarly named. Addison, again, is formed from Adam ; as are also Adkins, Atkins, Adcock, and Acock. Tennyson can only be formed from Dennis. One extinct Christian name, but surviving as a surname, deserves mention. Hamon has given rise to our Hammonds, Hammets, &c., and in a lengthened form distinguishes one of the profoundest characters of imaginative literature—Hamlet.

We now come to the class of surnames which

added a distinction to the name by the mention of a place. Among nobles meeting at court some such distinction would be the most natural way of distinguishing men assembling from various parts of the country, proud of their estates, and with not too great a variety of Christian names. But among the simple folk, too, locality was a constant source of nomenclature. This and the other Roger of the same village might be, as they incessantly were, contrasted, not as the sons respectively of Will and Dickson, but Roger at the wood or atte wood, and Roger de la lane. No further explanation is therefore needed of such names as Atwood, Atwell, Atbrook, Atcliff; nor of the simpler Bridgeman, Churcher, or the Weller of Pickwickian fame; nor of the still simpler Wells, Lane, Brook, Styles, Field, Groves, Combes, Townsend. In fact any familiar feature of the country might be, and was, used to definitely name the man whose house adjoined it. We have only to think of the objects in order to find a plentiful stock of surnames attesting their twofold use. The familiar gate in the palisading which the traveller in those days found crossing almost every road and by-path, forming parks for the preservation of deer, gives us the no less familiar Gates and Yates, Woodgate, &c. The old roadside emblem called sometimes cross, sometimes rood, according to the prevalence of Norman or Saxon in the neighbourhood, served, besides its ordinary functions to pious peasants and passing pilgrims, to hand down the titles of Cross, Crouch, and Rudd. Again, our Denmans and Denyers take their names from the word "den," signifying the dale in which cattle-stalls were erected, and surviving in such village names as Horsden, Cowden, Swinden, Ogden, &c.

The next kind of surname consists in a noun added to the Christian name to explain the rank, title, office, or occupation of the named. Dividing roughly into (1) rank and (2) occupation, and beginning with the former, it is impossible to avoid seeing that rank graduates from king downwards. And we find in plenty Kings, Dukes, Popes, Barons, Bishops. The frequency of these names indeed makes it necessary to account for their possession in some other way than by actual descent from such high personages. It is probable, therefore, that they were gained, in the majority of instances, from nicknames commemorating parts played by the owners in the festal gatherings of the village wake. No such excuses are required for the frequency of names indicating offices less pretentious. The Church furnishes Vicars, Deacon,

Clerk, Sexton; the monastery, Prior, Monk or Munn, Friar and Frere; and we may add to the group Pilgrim and Palmer. War and chivalry give, besides Knight, Squire, and Swires, Bannerman, Henchman, and Hinxman. The feudal castle is the source of Porter, Usher, Butler, Carver, Page, and Napier, the last being the holder of the napkin and following the Ewer, who presented the basin for the washing of his lord's hands after dinner. The Law is answerable for such titles as Sarjent, Coroner or Corner, Sumener or Sumner, Bedel and Biddle. Municipal authority furnishes Mayor and Myers, together with Wayte, the mediæval policeman, who, like our Christmas "waits," was armed with an instrument of music capable of making night hideous, and lending him in some places the equivalent sobriquet of Tromper or Trumper. The chase is commemorated in Forester, Forster, Parker, Warrener, Warner, Ranger, &c., while Bailie and Reeves were the trusty stewards who farmed the Baron's land.


Occupations, for want of space, must be dismissed as briefly as possible. Most of the names speak for themselves. Milne, however, and Milner are the same as Miller, being formed from the older miln. Palliser was skilful in the erection of palisading; Crowther was the same as fiddler; Ledbitter hammered small vessels out of lead; Bowyer, Fletcher, and Stringer made the instruments of archery, the second-named being the same as fledger, *i.e.*, the man who affixed the feathers to the arrow; and, lastly, the familiar Walker, Tucker, and Fuller were all engaged in cloth factories, the first treading out the cloth as it issued from the mill, the second storing it, and the last professing to clean it. Chaucer is a conspicuous name in this class, and indicates the humble calling of whiting (chalker) leather breeches. Thackeray's ancestors, too, carried on the useful craft of thatching the cots of rustic householders.

Peculiarities of person, manner, and character were all turned to account in order to supply our directories with a varied stock of names. Most of this group are composed of adjectives, as Brown; the names of birds or animals, as Sparrow; or compound words, as Wagstaffe. Some noted instances are Shakespeare, Cruikshank, Daft (the cricketer), Lilywhite, Swift, Wolfe.

It is necessary perhaps to add that those who dislike the derivations of their names as given here are at perfect liberty to interpret them in another way more to their liking. Those, however, cited here are on good authority.

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BESIDE THE SEA.

 P on the hill where the odorous heather
Mingles its sweets with the breath of the sea,
Merrily singing and laughing together,
Weaving with flower-bands love's thrice-welcome
tether,
In bright summer sunshine, my true love and me.

What did we say in the bright summer weather,
With the bloom on the flower and the light on the sea?
What were the words that we murmured together,
That made her cheeks glow like the flowers in the
tether
That bound us together, my true love and me?

HENRY GEORGE MURRAY.