

ton Park, however, has still some fine pollard-oaks dotted up and down it. It is about 300 acres in extent, and is bounded on the east and north by a little stream, or rivulet, a tributary of the Thames, which rises near Bedfont and Feltham. The Thames Valley branch of the South Western Railway also skirts the north side of the park. In a map of Middlesex published in 1823, Kempton House figures as the property of F. Manners, Esq., but it has since several times changed hands.

entered by a pointed and embattled gateway. The interior of the mansion is not yet finished, but many of the rooms have an air of comfort, and are of agreeable proportions." The author adds in a foot-note:—"Since the above account of Kempton House was written, the 'Gothic greenhouse,' forcing-houses, &c., have been sold by public auction. At the same time, some painted glass in the windows and doors was exposed to sale in a similar manner. It would thus appear that it is not intended to complete the mansion; but



SUNBURY CHURCH. (See Page 176.)

Kempton House, at the beginning of the present century, appears to have been a sort of rival to "Strawberry Hill." Writing in 1816, Mr. Brewer thus describes the mansion in the "Beauties of England":—"The present mansion of Kempton is an imitation of the Gothic style, different parts of which were executed under the direction of both the last-named gentlemen (Mr. Hill and Mr. Fish). Indeed, it is evident that the whole was constructed in attention to a single design. The building is extensive, but has, on the exterior, all the gloom of the ancient English style, without any of those fascinating graces which were sometimes produced by genius while revelling in entire disdain of rule. Yet ample use is made of what is termed the Gothic; even the stables and greenhouse have embattled parapets, and the garden is

we have suffered our article to remain as previously written, from a consideration that it may be the only descriptive notice extant of a costly building that will probably soon be levelled with the ground."

The present house is a good substantial mansion of the ordinary type. There are no traces visible of the ancient palace. About 400 acres of Kempton Park are enclosed within a ring fence, and set apart as a race-course. It is close by the Sunbury Station, on the Thames Valley Railway, and is much such another place as "Sandown," near Esher, in Surrey. Here steeplechases and coursing races take place, and its spring and autumn meetings are largely patronised.

Sunbury Common is a large tract of not very good or profitable land, occupying the northern