

Park in January, 1874, and a bittern was taken on the banks of the Lea, not far from Ponder's End, in 1847.

The officers belonging to the Chase were—besides the Chancellor, the Receiver General, and the Attorney General of the Duchy of Lancaster—a Master of the Game, a Forester, a Ranger, Keepers, a Woodward, a Steward, a Bailiff, and Verderers, who were annually chosen in the King's Court of the Manor of Enfield, a sort of Supervisor of the Wood. The name of Verderers is still kept up in connection with Epping Forest, as we shall see presently.

There were on the Chase four ancient lodges, called respectively the East, the West, the North, and the South Bailies. These lodges were the official residences of the persons who were connected with the government of the Duchy of Lancaster, some of whom were Chancellors of the Court. These lodges were also used as hunting-seats during the time of Queen Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I.

In the preceding chapter we have spoken of Camlet Moat, now within the bounds of Trent Park, and almost in the centre of the Chase, as having been the subject of much antiquarian speculation. Camden says:—"Almost in the

middle of the Chase there are the ruins and rubbish of an ancient house, which the common people from tradition affirm to have belonged to the Mandevilles, Earls of Essex." Lysons, however, considered the tradition to be destitute of any foundation, and suggested that the spot was merely "the site of the principal lodge, and the residence of the chief forester."

Trent Park, the seat of Mr. Bevan, consists of upwards of a thousand acres, and is still covered with such an abundance of timber as to give some idea of what the Chase must have been in early ages. Its charming vistas and forest scenery have been thus graphically described by Sir Walter Scott in the "Fortunes of Nigel":—"The sun was high upon the glades of Enfield Chase, and the deer with which it abounded were seen sporting in picturesque groups among the ancient oaks of the forest, when a cavalier and a lady sauntered slowly up one of the long alleys which were cut through the park for the convenience of the hunters. . . . The place at which he stopped was at that time little more than a mound, partly surrounded by a ditch, from which it derived the name of Camlet Moat. A few hewn stones were there which had escaped the fate of many others that had been used in building different lodges in the forest for the



IN BERCH HILL PARK. (See page 368.)