

fasting days. They now grow abundance of wild flowers.

Near the Abbey Mill, which is still occupied for grinding corn, is a wide space of ground, surrounded by small dwellings, called the Bramblings, but formerly Rome-land (as at St. Albans and at Norwich), which is conjectured to have been so called from its rents being in former times appropriated to the use of the Holy See. The weekly market is held here on Tuesdays; on one side of

rest on corbels, formed by two demi-angels supporting shields, on which were engraved the royal arms of the time of Edward III.: viz., France and England, quarterly.

The various streams of the Lea in this neighbourhood are said by tradition to flow in the very same channels which were cut by the great Alfred when he turned aside the course of the river, and left the Danish fleet aground.

“Fragments of sculpture, figured tiles, metal



AMBRESBURY BANKS. (See page 418.)

the spot still stands a stack of chimneys, which formed a portion of King Henry's hunting-box. It was probably here that the conversation (related above) was held which affected so deeply the course of the Reformation in this country. If so, this chimney-stack is an historic landmark.

The gateway and bridge shown in the illustration on page 409 stand a little to the north of the abbey, close above the Abbey Mill. The gateway is of stone; but it has been repaired from time to time with bricks of various sizes and hues, which lend it a great variety of colour, and render it a great favourite for the water-colour painter. It consists of two Pointed arches, one larger than the other. The outer mouldings of the larger arch

work, &c.," writes Mr. Thorne, in his "Environs of London," "are occasionally exhumed on the site or in the neighbourhood of the abbey. Considerable quantities of pilgrims' jettons, or groats, have been found in the town. The 'Holy Cross' itself doubtless attracted numerous pilgrims to Waltham. A few years ago a stone mould was dug up in Coleman Street, London, from which metal casts were taken, to be worn by Waltham pilgrims as the badge or insignia of their pilgrimage. The mould was cruciform, with a figure of a cross in the centre, surrounded by the legend, 'Signum Sancte Crucis de Waltham.'"

Among the worthies connected with this place whose names we have not already mentioned was