

site which was also his gift, aided to some extent by two anonymous donors. The church, which is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and is built in the Early English style, was consecrated in 1867, and the new district chapel of Wallington, embracing large part of the hamlet, being constituted a parish by an Order in Council, for all ecclesiastical purposes. Shortly afterwards Mr. Bridges built the parsonage-house, and endowed the living.

In 1882 some little dissatisfaction was caused to the inhabitants by an attempt of the lord of the manor to dispose of some eight acres of common land at Beddington Corner, which had hitherto been used from time immemorial as pasture and recreation ground, for building purposes. This has been disputed ground for the last two centuries between the inhabitants and the lord of the manor.

"Wallington Green," as we learn from the "Handbook to the North Downs," still happily "remains unspoiled, with its old-fashioned hostelry and its venerable trees, and on the other side of the road, the ancient oaks of Queen Elizabeth's Walk, in the shade of which royal Bess had her favourite walk during her stay at Beddington House, and beneath which Sir Walter Raleigh may be supposed

to have meditated, and to have smoked his pipe with Sir Thomas Carew."

The geology of the Wallington district is very interesting, though we are here on a part of the chalk where fossiliferous discoveries are not very common. We are at the very edge of the London basin. Occasionally bivalve shells are found, and some time ago a fossil fish's head was discovered on Riddlesdown. Geologists are of opinion that these great beds of chalk were originally the bottom, not of a large river, but of an inland sea; and that they are built up of matter which is of animal origin—that is, of decomposed zoophytes and matter which the microscope resolves into fragments of corals, sponges, fishes, and other marine remains, thus verifying the words of Byron,

"The dust we tread upon was once alive."

Grand must have been the disturbances which raised these beds above the level of the sea, and those other subsequent disturbances which again depressed them so as to allow the accumulations of sand, clay, and gravel, in which have been found the remains of animals stranded or floating on the spot which now is terra firma.

CHAPTER XXIII

CARSHALTON.

"Fert ager hic vobis, dulcia dona, mucus."

Situation and Boundaries of Carshalton—Derivation of the Name—History of the Manor—A Weekly Market once held here—Market Gardens and Fish Culture—Fuller's Remarks concerning the Natural Products of the Parish—A "Poetic" Description of the Village—The River Wandle—Anne Boleyn's Well—All Saints' Church—Extracts from the Parish Register—Recent Growth of the Village—Stone Court—Carshalton House—The Celebrated Dr. Radcliffe—Culvers—Carshalton Park—Leicester House—May-Day Customs at Carshalton.

THE village of Carshalton—one of the most pleasantly situated in Surrey—adjoins Wallington on the west, and is bounded on the north by Mitcham, on the south by Banstead and Woodmansterne, and on the west by Sutton. The road thither from Croydon passes by Beddington and Wallington; it is, though straight on the whole, sufficiently winding and wooded to be pretty; and to attract the attention of artists who are fond of quiet rural scenery.

Carshalton—a name which hitherto has been generally pronounced in the neighbourhood "Casehorton," and "Casehalton"—is said to mean only the "Old, or Auld, Town," the syllable prefixed to it, "Case," being a variety of Cross. Be this, however, as it may, no signs or traces of a village cross now remain, nor are any mentioned by early topographers. In "Domesday Book" the name of

the place is written Aultone. About the end of the twelfth it was called Crossalton, and since then the name has been variously written Kresalton, Kersalton, Cresalton, Case-Horton, and Carshalton. For the last two centuries it has been uniformly written Carshalton.

With reference to the derivation of the name, Mr. Brightling, in his history of the parish, says:—"Aulton, or Old Town, according to the probable conjectures of Manning, Salmon, and others, acquired the addition of cross (Cross-Aulton) from some cross in the neighbourhood, such being frequently to be met with at the intersection of the great roads; and the rather as there are lands in this parish, and partly in Beddington and Wallington, which were known by the name of Cross-lands."

Mr. Martin Tupper solves the mystery of its