

Mrs. Mary Gibson, who died in 1773, left certain sums of money to the minister of Sutton for preaching of a sermon annually on the 12th of August, to the clerk of the parish, the churchwardens, and for distribution among the poor on that day, "on condition of their attending to the monument and family vault of the Gibsons, and seeing that it is kept in order by the governors and guardians of Christ's Hospital."

Among the rectors of this parish may be men-

and was restored to this parish by Mr. William Wyche, son to the said Henry, at the intercession of me, William Stephens, now rector of Sutton." Mr. Stephens distinguished himself on various occasions as a political writer against the court. "In 1707 he published a letter to the author of the 'Memorial of the Church of England,' reflecting upon Secretary Harley and the Duke of Marlborough, for which he was indicted, fined 100 marks, sentenced to stand twice in the pillory, and



BANSTEAD DOWNS. (See page 214.)

tioned Henry Wyche and William Stephens. Concerning the former, the following entry occurs in the Parish Register:—"10 June, 1636, Henry Wyche, being a Non Regent Maister of Arts in the University of Cambridge, was inducted by Thomas Pope into the Rectory of Sutton, June 10, an. dom. 1636, after a resignation made of the same rectory by Joseph Glover, who was much beloved of most, if not of all, and his departure lamented by most, if not of all." With reference to Stephens, Lysons, in his "Environs," says that in the first leaf of the old register is the following remarkable entry:—"7 May, 1703, Mem., that this register of Sutton was carried away into Lincolnshire by Mrs. Wyche, widow of Mr. Henry Wyche, rector of this parish,

find sureties for his good behaviour for twelve months. The pillory was remitted, but not till he had been taken to a public-house at Charing Cross, and seen it prepared for him."

The parish is fairly rich in endowments and local charities.

Such has been the rapid growth of Sutton within the last few years, that a new ecclesiastical district was formed in 1863, in the north-east suburb of the town, called the parish of Benhilton. The district was formerly known as Bon Hill, Been Hill, and Ben Hill, and stretches away westward, over what was once Sutton Common, but was long ago enclosed and divided. Benhill Town, or, as it is now styled, Benhilton, consists of rows of villas and