

Brightling gives the solution of the mystery by adding that in 1860 the civil engineers, on directing their attention to its origin, found it to be in the Godstone stone-quarries, when they are two-thirds full, and hold about 15 million gallons of water, and that there are three channels which convey the overflow into the Wandle.

In spite, however, of all that is written, or can

be written, on the subject, to show that this phenomenon can be accounted for by natural laws the flooding of the Bourne is still regarded by the good people hereabouts as more or less a portent of evil—an idea based on the fact that when it broke out into flood some public disaster or other strange event had often happened, as stated above.



CHEAM SCHOOL. (See page 225.)

CHAPTER XXVI.

CHEAM.

"Holborn for wealth,
And Cheam for health."

Healthy Character of the Parish—Its Boundaries and Extent—Lynce's Corner—The Village and Population—Descent of the Manor—The Lunsleys—Lower Cheam Park—The Parish Church—Monuments and Crosses—Noted Rectors of Cheam—The Vicarage—St. Philip's Church—National and Sunday Schools—Cheam School—An old Manor-house—White Hall—"Bobus" Smith—Cheam Park—Lower Cheam Park.

"HOLBORN for wealth, and Cheam for health." So wrote the Lord Keeper Williams some two hundred years ago, when presenting to the rectory of this parish his friend John Hacket, afterwards Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. Hacket, at the time of accepting this preferment, was Vicar of St. Andrew's, Holborn, which living, however, he retained; he was able to illustrate the truth of the above motto by living to a good old age, seeing that he enjoyed the fruits of this benefice for a

period of thirty years, and after that was raised to the bishopric.

Like Banstead and Sutton, which bound it on the south and east, the village of Cheam lies on high ground, surrounded by scenery of a pleasant and varied character. The parish is environed on the north by Maldon, and westward it unites with what once was Cuddington. The parish contains in all about 1,900 acres of land, considerable portions of which—in the shape of commons, waste