

affecting the mental formation of the pupil by constantly calling all his powers into exercise." Pestalozzi commenced his career of instruction by the admission of the children of the poor into his house; and in 1798 the Directory of Switzerland invited him to establish a home at Stanz, where he became the instructor of eighty poor children. War destroyed this establishment, and Pestalozzi then took charge of a school at Burgdorf. This institution flourished, and in 1804 he removed to Yverdon, in the Canton of Vaud, where he occupied the castle given to him by the Government, and renewed his labours for the instruction of the higher and middle classes of society. He died in 1827.

Dr. Mayo was for some time head master of the grammar-school at Bridgnorth, but having heard of Pestalozzi's system, resigned his school, and joined Pestalozzi's establishment at Yverdon as English chaplain, having brought with him some English pupils, who were under his immediate care, and received their English and classical education from him. Dr. Mayo remained at Yverdon for nearly three years, mastering the principles of Pestalozzi; and on his return to England, in 1822, established a school at Epsom for the purpose of showing their application to the education of the upper classes. In 1826 he removed to Cheam, where he continued to carry on his school until his death, which occurred in 1846. We have already been introduced to the Mayo family at Cheshunt.* It may be added that a view of the school which we have given on page 222 is copied from a privately-printed genealogical account of the family.

William Mitford, the Tory historian of Greece, was here as a boy; so also was Henry Addington, afterwards Viscount Sidmouth, before he was sent to Winchester; and whilst Prime Minister he visited the school, and dined with the boys in what is now the entrance-hall of the house. Under Dr. Mayo, and subsequently under his brother-in-law, Mr. Shephard, the school numbered some distinguished pupils, such as Dr. Waldegrave, Bishop of Carlisle, the Right Hon. Hugh Childers, the late Lord Hobart, Governor of Madras, Sir James Fergusson, Governor of South Australia, the Marquis of Bath, the Earl of Donoughmore, Lord Dundonald, the Earl of Carrick, Canon Fremantle, and the late Earl of Leven. The connection has not fallen off, under its present head master, the Rev. Robert Tabor, who has had here Lord Aberdeen, Lord Russell, and many members of the Grosvenor

Childers, and other families. The school is a fine red-brick mansion, standing in its own grounds at the north-east end of the village. The house has lately been raised a storey, and has had the addition of a chapel, built in 1867 from the designs of Messrs. Carpenter, and which is used daily during term, under license from the bishop.

It is said that the Cheam school is nearly three hundred years old; and if this be true, the probability is that it is the oldest private school in the kingdom. The tradition is that it existed in or near London at the Restoration, and that on the appearance of the Great Plague of 1665, it was brought down to this healthy country place. It has had for its masters some eminent men, including the Rev. William Gilpin, the author of "Forest Scenery," and his son. He was master here at the time when the Benningtons owned Collier's Water, at Croydon, and he was acquainted with Cowper's "Mary Unwin," who probably communicated the name of John Gilpin to the poet, either in jest or in earnest.

To the south of the church stood, inside high red brick walls, which seem to have been a fashion all through this parish, the manor-house of the Earls of Bedford. It was a large red-brick mansion, and it was dismantled and pulled down towards the end of the last century, when a paper factory was set up on its site. The factory, however, failed to answer, and was discontinued. The lofty walls, which still stand, though their fine iron gates are gone, still bear in the village the name of "the factory walls," the commercial element having evidently superseded all memory of its aristocratic owners.

Not far from the rectory is a house of wood painted white, and known as "White Hall." It has been for several generations the seat of a family named Killick, who take a worthy pride in its antiquity. It dates from the earliest of our Tudor kings, and with its overhanging storeys and projecting porch and pointed doorway, reminds the travelled visitor of Cowley's old house at Chertsey. The wealth of timber in its roof and in the beams which run across its lower rooms is prodigious. One room, now used as a drawing-room, is said to have been occupied by Queen Elizabeth, when she was at Nonsuch, as a council chamber for state purposes. Its walls, till lately, were covered with tapestry; but some Goths and Vandals, to whom the house was let for a year, pulled this down and destroyed it. The tapestry represented a series of sporting subjects, and also a quaint elopement, in which one of the earliest of post-chaises figured.

In the rear of a cottage hard by is a cellar, to

* See Vol. I., pp. 367, 368.