

tained energy, in what is called keeping it up, Dickens certainly distanced every competitor. Even the lighter recreations of battledore and shuttlecock were pursued with relentless activity; and at such amusements as the Petersham races, in those days rather celebrated, and which he visited

daily while they lasted, he worked much harder than the running horses did." This is probably an exaggeration; but it may be recorded that whilst residing here Charles Dickens much amused the children of the neighbourhood by starting a fire-balloon club for the benefit of the juveniles.



IN RICHMOND PARK.

## CHAPTER XXXVIII.

### RICHMOND.

"Say, shall we ascend

Thy hill, delightful Sheen? Here let us sweep  
The boundless landscape; now the raptur'd eye  
Exulting, swift to huge Augusta send;  
Now to the sister hills that skirt her plain;  
To lofty Harrow now; and now to where  
Majestic Windsor lifts its princely brow."—THOMSON.

Change of the Name from Sheen to Richmond—Situation of the Town—Its Boundaries and Extent—Beauty of its Surrounding Scenery—Descent of the Manor of Sheen—Earliest mention of the Palace—Death of Edward III.—The Palace Restored by Henry V.—Interview between Edward IV. and the "King-maker"—Camden's Account of the Palace—Vicissitudes of the Palace—A Royal Hoard—Visit of the Emperor Charles V.—The Princess Elizabeth entertained here by Queen Mary—Queen Elizabeth at Richmond—Her Death—Habits of the Queen—Her Burial at Westminster—Henry, Prince of Wales, son of James I. resident at Richmond Palace—Settlement of the Palace on Queen Henrietta Maria—A Survey of the Palace by Order of the Parliament—Decay and Demolition of the Palace—Asgill House—George III. and the Gatekeeper—The Monastery of Sheen—The Head of James IV., King of Scotland—The Convent of Observant Friars.

THE name of Richmond is suggestive of pleasant pictures, of shining green meadows and silver streams, of royal splendour and gentle poesy, of

"Star and Garter" feasts and dainty "Maids of Honour," of four-in-hands, and summer sunshine, and buoyant holiday spirits. Which of us has not