

wife and niece up by water to Barn Elms, where we walked by moonshine;" and again on the 15th September (another "Lord's Day"), he tells us how he "walked from Putney to Barn Elms, reading of Boyle's Hydrostat, which are of infinite delight. Walked in the Elms a good while; then to boat, and leisurely home, with great pleasure to myself."

On the 23rd March he writes:—"At noon came Mrs. Pierce and Mrs. Manuel (the Jew's wife), and Mr. Corbett, and Mrs. Pierce's boy and girl. After dinner I had a barge ready at Tower Wharfe to take us in. So we went all of us up as high as Barn Elms; a very fine day, and all the way sang. Mrs. Manuel sings very finely, and is a highly discreet, sober-carriaged woman, that both my wife and I are highly taken with her. At Barn Elms we walked round, then to the barge again, and had much merry talk and good singing." And again on Lord's Day, May 9th, he writes:—"Took boat, and up all alone as high as Barn Elms."

Hereabouts, though the exact spot is not known, was fought, on January 16th, 1667-8, the celebrated duel to which Macaulay alludes between the Duke of Buckingham and the Earl of Shrewsbury, when the wife of the latter stood by dressed in the habit of a page, holding the duke's horse. This lady was Anna Maria, a daughter of Robert Brudenell, Earl of Cardigan, and had married firstly, Francis, Earl of Shrewsbury. She afterwards married George Rodney Bridges, Esq., of Keynsham, Somerset, and died in 1702. Her son by her second husband lived till 1751. "This woman," says the Count de Grammont, "is said to have been so abandoned as to have held, in the habit of a page, the horse of her gallant the duke, while he fought and killed her husband, after which she went off with him to his house, stained with her husband's blood."

Pepys refers to this infamous transaction in terms rather of contempt than of censure; he writes in his "Diary," under date January 17th, 1667-8:—

"Much discourse of the duell yesterday between the Duke of Buckingham, Holmes, and Jenkins, on one side, and my Lord of Shrewsbury, Sir John Talbot, and one Bernard Howard, on the other side: and all about my Lady Shrewsbury, who is at this time, and hath for a great while been, a mistress to the Duke of Buckingham. And so her husband challenged him; and they met yesterday in a close near Barne-Elmes, and there fought; and my Lord Shrewsbury is run through the body, from the right breast through the shoulder; and Sir John Talbot all along up one of his armes; and

Jenkins killed upon the place, and the rest, all in a little measure, wounded. This will make the world think that the King hath good councillors about him when the Duke of Buckingham, the greatest man about him, is a fellow of no more sobriety than to fight about a mistress. And this may prove a very bad accident to the Duke of Buckingham, but that my Lady Castlemaine do rule all at this time as much as ever she did, and she will, it is believed, keep all matters well with the Duke of Buckingham; though this is the time that the King will be very backward, I suppose, to appear in such a business. And it is pretty to hear how the king had some notice of this challenge a week or two ago, and did give it to my lord General to confine the Duke, or take security that he should not do any such thing as fight; and the General trusted to the King, that he, sending for him, would do it, and the King trusted to the General; and it is said that my Lord Shrewsbury's case is to be feared that he may die too, and that may make it much the worse for the Duke of Buckingham: and I shall not be much sorry for it, that we may have some sober man come in his room to assist in the Government."

The earl died from the effects of his wounds on the 16th of the following March. The Sir John Talbot and the Bernard Howard, who are mentioned as seconds in the duel, were respectively—the former M.P. for Knaresborough and a gentleman of the King's Privy Chamber, and the latter a younger son of Henry Frederick, Earl of Arundel, father of Thomas, who was restored by Charles I. in blood as Duke of Norfolk.

The old chatterbox Pepys recurs to the subject in his "Diary" on the 15th of May:—"I am told . . . that the Countesse of Shrewsbury is brought home by the Duke of Buckingham to his house, where his Duchesse saying that it was not for her and the other to live together in a house, he answered, 'Why, Madam, I did think so, and, therefore, have ordered your coach to be ready to carry you to your father's,' which was a devilish speech, but, they say, true; and my Lady Shrewsbury is there, it seems."

In the reign of Charles I. a man named Shipman, gardener to the king, planted and cured madder on a large scale at Barn Elms, and so far succeeded with his works as to find a large market among the London dyers. He failed, however, to reap a fortune by his enterprise, owing to the troubles of the times. It was again attempted by the patriotic Sir Nicholas Crispe, of Hammersmith.*

* See "Old and New London," Vol. VI., p. 537