

each time; and whoever took the beasts to the Lord's grounds was to have and of such 4d.

"In 1565 I find the Lord's waste ground styled Tooting Graveney Common.

"In 1569 one Robert Lewesey enclosed one-fifth part of the two commons, called Tooting Common, belonging as well to the Manor of Tooting Graveney as to Tooting Bec. It was commanded that hereafter he do it not. In 1574 all persons having lands adjoining the common were to fence them, at a penalty of 12d. for every yard.

"In 1589 it was ordered that the little lane on the south-west part of the church be enclosed by the inhabitants with a gate, at their charges. There was a presentment that four elms cut in the ditch of the hedge, over against the churchyard, belonged to the lord of the manor, and not to the Rector of Tooting.

"In 1590, Robert Wymple, of Stretcham, unjustly and without right, entered into the Lord's lands called Tooting Heath, and took and carried away fishes—to wit, eels—being in the ponds there."

Towards the close of the sixteenth century the lordship of the manor of Tooting was conveyed to Sir Henry Maynard, who was secretary to the famous minister, William, Lord Burghley; and it was probably to this Sir Henry that Queen Elizabeth paid her visit when she was at Tooting in 1600, not very long before her death.

William, the eldest son of Sir Henry Maynard, was raised to the peerage, with the title of Lord Maynard; but this estate was held possibly under a marriage settlement, as we learn from Brayley, by Sir John Maynard, his second son, who was made a Knight of the Bath at the coronation of Charles I. He sat in several Parliaments for Lostwithiel, in Cornwall, and in 1647, together with Mr. Denzil Holle, Sir William Waller, and other leaders of the Presbyterian party, was impeached for high treason, on account of his strong dislike to the proceedings of the army and his efforts to get it disbanded. Maynard was committed to the Tower, but the prosecution was eventually abandoned. On his decease, in 1658, the manor of Tooting Graveney descended to his son and heir, John, who died in 1664, leaving a daughter, Mary, wife of Sir Edward Honeywood, Bart., of Kent.

The manor was subsequently owned by the Wichcootes. In 1695 Sir Paul Wichcote obtained an Act of Parliament enabling him to grant "leases for ninety-nine years of the manor of Tooting-Graveney, and any of his messuages, lands, and hereditaments in Tooting-Graveney, Tooting-

Becke, and Streatham, in the county of Surrey, for the better improvement thereof." Shortly after we find the property in the hands of Mr. James Bateman, who was afterwards knighted, and became an alderman of London. He was Lord Mayor in 1717, and died in the following year. His funeral must have been a very sumptuous affair. He was buried by night with great pomp in Tooting Church, the *cortège* comprising twenty coaches, each drawn by six horses, a large number of mourners on horseback, and one hundred torch-bearers. His son, Mr. John Bateman, sold this manor, with his other property in Surrey, under the authority of an Act of Parliament in 1725, to Mr. Percival Lewis, of Putney, and about forty years later it was bought by Mr. Morgan Rice, a wealthy distiller, who was high sheriff of the county in 1772, and who also built the mansion called Hill House, on the rising ground above the church.

The old parish church, which is dedicated to St. Nicholas, was pulled down in 1832, when the new one was built; it had a round tower, which was said to be the only example of a tower of that description in Surrey. The church is said to have been situated at an inconvenient distance from the population, and therefore its removal was the less regretted. But this can scarcely have been the case, the former structure having stood about the middle of the churchyard, by the present apse, where are to be seen some flat memorial stones which once lay in the principal aisle. It was a fine specimen of architecture, partly Roman and partly Saxon, with walls from four to six feet thick. The entrance to the churchyard was by a lych-gate—not unlike those which we have seen at the district of the Crays\*—which led to a fine old porch. The old church was described by Lewis, in his "Topography of Surrey," published about the time of its demolition, as "an ancient structure with a circular tower and wooden spire, now much dilapidated." In former times it is said to have contained three bells, but latterly it had only one—and that the one still in use—the other two having been stolen.

The new church, dedicated, like the former, to St. Nicholas, the patron of fishermen, was consecrated in 1833, and it has been twice further enlarged. It is not a bad specimen of the Pointed style, considering the date of its erection, and has a lofty tower of four storeys, terminating in an open parapet and pinnacles. In 1873-5 an apsidal chancel, with organ chamber on the north and

\* See ante, p. 66.