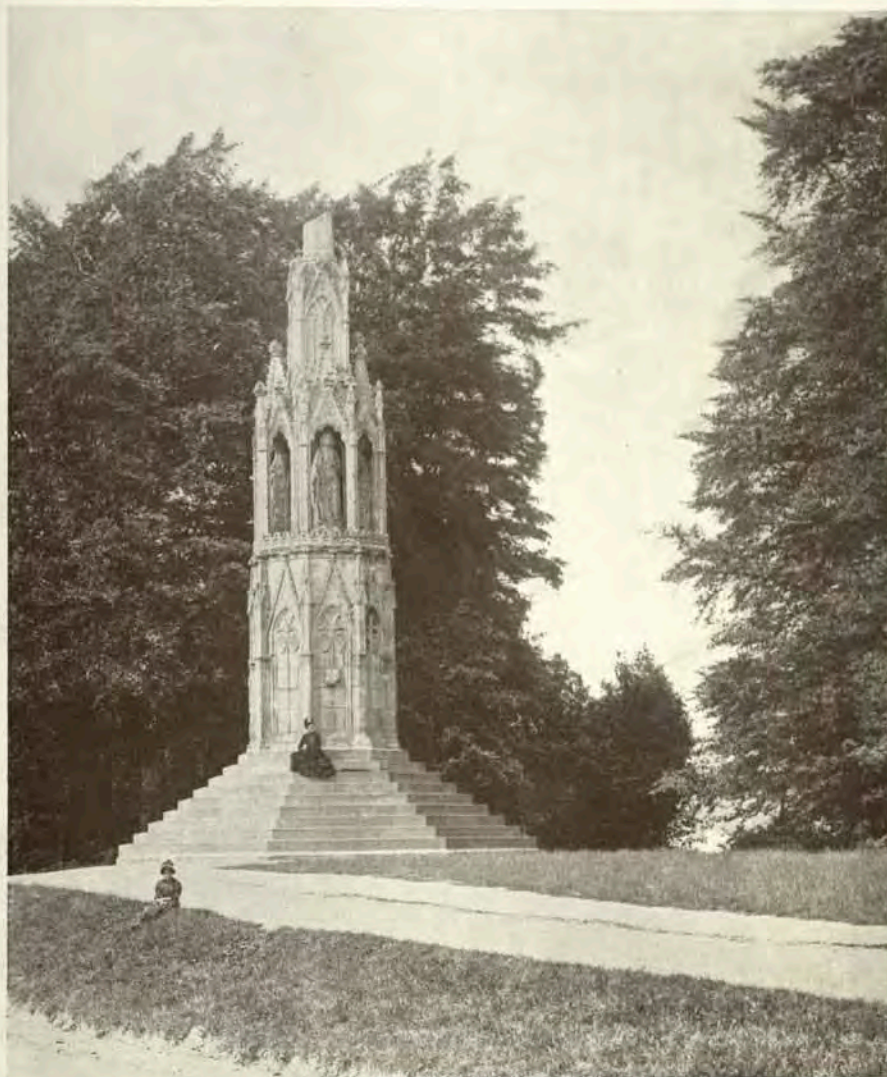


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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PAST & PRESENT



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Published by
THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY
LAMPART HALL, NORTHAMPTON
ENGLAND
1952



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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PAST & PRESENT

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THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY

(FOUNDED IN 1920)

LAMPOR T HALL, NORTHAMPTON

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The Marquess of Exeter, K.G.

Vice-Presidents :

The Lord Brassey of Apethorpe.
His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and
Queensberry, K.T., G.C.V.O.
The Earl Fitzwilliam.
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Hon. Treasurer :

Charles E. Burton, Esq., 3 Spencer Parade, Northampton.

Hon. Auditor :

John Waters, Esq., 31 St. Giles' Street, Northampton.

Bankers :

National Provincial Bank, Ltd., Northampton.
Barclay's Bank, Northampton (Endowment Fund).
Northampton and County Trustee Savings Bank.

AIMS AND OBJECTS.

The objects of the Society are the furtherance of the science of history and of historical literature by the publication of historical records relating to Northamptonshire, and the stimulation of interest in historical studies.

Exhibitions and Lectures on local history are arranged from time to time.

MEMBERSHIP.

We have now over six hundred members, and aim at a membership of a thousand.

THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION, which has not been raised in thirty-two years, is ONE GUINEA only. This entitles members to free copies of publications issued for the period in respect of which they have subscribed. A List of our publications, with prices to members and non-members, will be found below on page iv. Forms of membership may be had from the Hon. Secretary.

NOTE.

The custody of historical manuscripts, formerly a function of the Record Society, has now been taken over by the Northamptonshire Archives Committee. All enquiries about the records and access thereto should now be addressed to the Archivist, Northamptonshire Record Office, Lamport Hall, Northampton and *NOT* to the Record Society.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY

- Alexander-Turnbull Library, Wellington, N.Z.
All Souls' College, Oxford.
The Society of Antiquaries of London.
Ashby, E. J. & R. S., F.V.I., Northampton.
Commonwealth of Australia National Library.
Banbury Public Library.
Barker, A., & Sons, Ltd., Earls Barton.
Bedfordshire County Library.
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Birkbeck College, University of London.
Birmingham Library, Margaret Street.
Birmingham Public Libraries.
Birmingham University Library.
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Bristol & Gloucestershire Archæological Society.
Bristol University Library.
Brown University Library, U.S.A.
Buckinghamshire County Library.
Burnham Son and Lewin, Messrs., Kettering.
California University General Library, U.S.A.
Chamberlain, W. W., & Sons, Higham Ferrers.
Chicago University Library, U.S.A.
The City Press, Northampton.
Cleveland Public Library, U.S.A.
Columbia University Library, U.S.A.
The Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.
The Royal Library of Copenhagen.
Cornell University Library, U.S.A.
Duke University Library, U.S.A.
Edinburgh University Library.
The Society of Genealogists.
Glasgow University Library.
The Guildhall Library, London.
Hammersmith Public Libraries.
The Library of Harvard College, U.S.A.
Harvard University Law School Library, U.S.A.
Haverford College Library, U.S.A.
The Henry E. Huntington Library, U.S.A.
Higham Ferrers and District History Society.
Huntingdon County Library.
Illinois University Library, U.S.A.
Inner Temple Library, London.
The Institute of Historical Research (University of London).
Iowa State University, U.S.A.
The John Rylands Library, Manchester.
The Library of Johns Hopkins University, U.S.A.
Kettering High School.
Kettering Public Library.
King's School, Peterborough.
Leeds University Library.
Leicester City Libraries.
Leicester County Archives Department.
Leicester University College Library.
Lincoln City Public Library.
Parts of Lindsey County Library.
Liverpool City Public Libraries.
Liverpool University Library.
The London Library.
London School of Economics and Political Science.
Library of the University of London.
Public Library of the City of Los Angeles, U.S.A.
Lund University Library, Sweden.
Magdalen College School, Brackley.
Manchester Public Libraries.
Manchester University.
Manfield & Sons, Ltd., Northampton.
Merchant Venturers, The Society of
The Library of the University of Michigan, U.S.A.
The Library of the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, U.S.A.
Missouri University Library, U.S.A.
Newberry Library, Chicago, U.S.A.
New College, Oxford.
The New England Historical and Genealogical Society, U.S.A.
The New Hampshire State Library, U.S.A.
The New York Historical Society, U.S.A.
The New York Public Library, U.S.A.
Northampton Business and Professional Women's Club.
Northampton Central Townswomen's Guild.
Northampton Grammar School for Girls.
Northampton Grammar School.
Northampton High School.
Northampton Public Library.
Northamptonshire County Council.
Northamptonshire County Library.
Northamptonshire Printing and Publishing Co.
Notre Dame University Library, Indiana, U.S.A.
Nottingham Central Public Library.
Nottingham University Library.
Oundle School.
Overstone School.
Oxford City Libraries.
Oxfordshire County Library.
Pennsylvania University Library, U.S.A.
The Dean and Chapter of Peterborough.
Peterborough Museum Society.
Peterborough Public Library.
The Public Record Office, London.
Raunds History Society.
Reading University Library.
The Royal Historical Society.
Rugby Public Library.
Rushden Public Library.
The Soroptimist Club of Northampton.
Smethwick Public Libraries.
Stanford University Library, U.S.A.
Sydney University Law School Library, N.S.W.
Texas University Library, U.S.A.
Toronto University Library Canada.
University College, London, Library.
The Genealogical Society of Utah.
Victoria Public Library, Melbourne, Australia.
Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, U.S.A.
Washington University Library, U.S.A.
Wellingborough Grammar School.
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Wellingborough Public Library.
Wilson & Wilson, Kettering.
Wisconsin University Library, U.S.A.
Yale University Library, U.S.A.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

With prices to members and non-members.

- Vol. I "QUARTER SESSIONS RECORDS OF THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON, A.D. 1630, 1657, 1657-8." Edited by Joan Wake. Introduction by S. A. Peyton. £ 1 1 0, £1 5 0. (*Out of Print*).
- Vol. II "THE BOOK OF FEES OF HENRY OF PYTCHLEY." (1086—1415). Edited by W. T. Mellows. £1 10 0, £1 17 6.
- Vol. III "MUSTERS, BEACONS, SUBSIDIES, ETC., IN THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON, 1586—1623." Edited by Joan Wake. Introduction by John E. Morris. £1 1 0, £1 5 0. (*Out of print*).
- Vol. IV "FACSIMILES OF EARLY CHARTERS FROM NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COLLECTIONS." Edited by F. M. Stenton. £1 10 0, £1 17 6.
- Vol. V "THE EARLIEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSIZE ROLLS, A.D. 1202 and 1203." Edited by Doris M. Stenton. £1 1 0, £1 5 0.
- Vol. VI "KETTERING VESTRY MINUTES." Edited by S. A. Peyton. £1 1 0, £1 5 0.
- Vol. VII "THE MONTAGU MUSTERS BOOK, A.D. 1602—1623." Edited by Joan Wake. £1 1 0, £1 5 0.
- Vol. VIII "WELLINGBOROUGH MANORIAL ACCOUNTS, A.D. 1258—1323." Edited by Frances M. Page. £1 1 0, £1 5 0. (*Out of Print*).
- Vol. IX "PETERBOROUGH LOCAL ADMINISTRATION. GUILD CHARTERS AND CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, A.D. 1100—1572." Edited by W. T. Mellows. £ 1 1 0, £1 5 0.
- Vol. X "PETERBOROUGH LOCAL ADMINISTRATION. FEOFFES' ACCOUNTS, A.D. 1614—1674." Edited by W. T. Mellows. £1 1 0, £1 5 0.
- Vol. XI "SESSIONS ROLLS OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SUPERVISORS AND KEEPERS OF THE PEACE, A.D. 1314—1320." Edited by Marguerite Gollancz. £1 1 0, £1 5 0.
- Vol. XII "THE LAST DAYS OF PETERBOROUGH MONASTERY." Edited by W. T. Mellows. £1 1 0, £1 5 0.
- Vol. XIII "THE FOUNDATION OF PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL, A.D. 1541." Edited by W. T. Mellows. £1 1 0, £1 5 0. (*Out of Print*).
- Vol. XIV "A DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF THE PRINTED MAPS OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, A.D. 1576—1900." By Harold Whitaker. £1 1 0, £1 5 0.
- Vol. XV. "SIR CHRISTOPHER HATTON'S BOOK OF SEALS." Edited by Lewis C. Loyd and Doris Mary Stenton. A few copies of this important book are on sale to members only, at the special price of £3 3 0.

Note.—It is possible in some cases to supply second-hand copies of out-of-print volumes.

NOTES AND NEWS

Once again greetings to our friends and readers all over the world, and we hope they will accept our apologies for the late appearance of this our *Journal* for 1952.

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE. On January 1st, 1952 there came into force the Agreements setting up the Northamptonshire Archives Committee and providing for the assumption by the Committee of certain functions hitherto exercised by the Record Society. In consequence, what were formerly known as "The Record Rooms of the Society" at Lamport Hall have now become **THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE**. Here the records are stored and research work is carried on as before, but now under public control and management. The Archivist is Mr. P. I. King, M.A. (Oxon), who was for over three years Assistant-Secretary to the Record Society. He is assisted by Miss S. Lewis, M.A. (Cantab.), Mr. P. A. Kennedy, M.A. (Oxon.), and Miss Monica Kirby, all of whom were also on the staff of the Society. We have parted from them with gratitude for their services and best wishes for their future careers.

The Archives Committee is an independent body of twelve members appointed respectively by the County Council of the County of Northampton (six), Northampton Borough Council (four), and the County Council of the Soke of Peterborough (two). There is also a Technical and Advisory Sub-Committee on which the Record Society is well represented. The Church of England, the Law Society, and the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London, and Nottingham also have representation.

THE RECORD SOCIETY will now be able to devote all its energies to the publication of texts (see p. 54 below), and the general stimulation of interest in history by the provision of lectures, exhibitions, etc., with the aim of bringing many local students to dig for themselves in the treasure stored in the Northamptonshire Record Office. We have, in fact, a heavy programme of work ahead for which we shall need the continued support of every member. The Hon. Secretary would be glad to hear of someone living in or near Northampton, who would help her on a voluntary basis with the secretarial work.

EMINENT HISTORIANS. Several well-known historians came to work at Lamport during the last year of the Society's control of the Record Rooms, including Professor Sir Lewis Namier, Professor J. E. Neale, and Professor Conyers Read.

ACCESSIONS. Among a long list of accessions during the same period may be mentioned the muniments of the English estates of the Marquess of Ormonde; and the Higham Ferrers and Great Harrowden estate records deposited by the Trustees of the late Earl Fitzwilliam. The most important single manuscript received during 1951 was the 15th century cartulary of a Tresham of Rushton, presented to the Society by R. Maylam, Esq., of Canterbury. This cartulary throws much light on the early topography of the Borough of Northampton. It was compiled with reference to the estates of that William Tresham who was M.P. for Northamptonshire and Speaker of the House of Commons, and who was murdered at Thorplands on the Kettering Road when riding back to Rushton from Northampton in 1450. The manuscript contains copies of charters from the late 12th century, and is of particular interest as relating to the property of a layman.

COLONEL G. E. MALET. We record with much regret the death of Colonel Malet of the National Register of Archives. He was a good friend to our Society and was instrumental in securing many Northamptonshire records for our collection. He used his persuasive powers to great effect in securing the deposit in local record repositories of private collections all over the country and historians of the future will have reason to remember him with gratitude.

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE LIEUTENANCY. On September 20th, 1952, by kind permission of the Archives Committee and Sir Gyles Isham, the Annual Meeting of the Society was held at Lamport Hall, Lord Exeter presiding. There was a very large attendance and we were delighted to see several members of the Archives Committee among the guests. As Lord Exeter recently resigned the Lord Lieutenancy of the Shire after holding it with great distinction for nearly thirty years, that office was chosen as the topic on this occasion. Those present listened with eager attention to a fascinating lecture by Miss Gladys Scott-Thompson on "The Tudor Monarchs and their Lord Lieutenants." There was an exhibition of original records and photographs and engravings of portraits relating to the Northamptonshire Lieutenancy from Elizabeth I to Elizabeth II. Sir Christopher Hatton's own copy of his Commission from Queen Elizabeth I was on view, as was also Lord Spencer's (our present Lord Lieutenant's) original Commission from Her present Majesty, which he had most kindly brought over with him from Althorp.

At the business meeting a Report of the Council setting out a Review of receipts, expenditure and activities during the past thirty-one years and plans for future work was adopted unanimously. (The Hon. Secretary will be pleased to supply copies of this Report free of charge). Tea was partaken of in the village hall; the weather was fine and a member subsequently remarked that the meeting had been "even more riotously happy than usual." It was certainly a gay and memorable afternoon.

THANKS. In last year's issue we printed under "Desiderata" a list of books of which we were in need, and we now have the pleasure of thanking the kind and generous donors of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, and of several volumes of our own back publications. The latter are always most acceptable as some are out of print, and there is a continual demand from students.

We are much indebted to the Trustees of the British Museum for permission to reproduce Thomas Eayre's signed plan of Peterborough, to the Northants. Natural History Society for the loan of blocks and to *Country Life* for allowing us to publish their fine photograph of Sir George Fermor's tomb. And we are of course again under the deepest obligation to our contributors.

We also desire to acknowledge with gratitude those who wrote some very kind and encouraging letters of appreciation of our 1951 *Journal*. That we are able to continue publication is entirely due to our good friends the advertisers. We thank them most sincerely for their continued support, which enables our Northamptonshire history and traditions to be carried with the news of their unrivalled industrial products into the four corners of the globe. And we are grateful to our printers for the infinite trouble they take in the production of this *Journal*.

The photograph of Queen Eleanor's Cross on the cover was taken about fifty years ago by Mr. Henry Cooper and is now reproduced by courtesy of Messrs. H. Cooper and Son, Photographers, of Northampton. This beautiful relic of the Middle Ages, as pointed out in our last number by Miss Deanesly, is a late example of a "stational" cross, erected to mark one of the resting places of the Queen's body on its journey from Harby in Nottinghamshire to Westminster Abbey, in 1290.

Anyone who wishes to help on our work may best do so by joining the Society. Particulars of membership will be found on page *ii*, and new members will be most welcome from anywhere in the world.