

A "Journey ring", a real ring to be suspended from the thumb, from a specimen in the collection of Mr. Charles Knight, is engraved by that Gentleman, as an illustration of the well-known passage in "As you like it," in the Pictorial Edition of Shakspeare.—H. C. P.

By W. Middleton, Esq.—I. An ancient volume containing the Autograph of Edmund Waller.

II. A curious volume illustrative of the Armour of the latter end of the 17th century.

Mr. Pidgeon read some extracts from the MS. volume presented by Dr. Kendrick, illustrating some curious points connected with the ordinances for the government of the town of Warrington.

J. Robson, Esq., of Warrington, read various curious particulars from the Book of Hale relating to the Manor of Hale, its customs and regulations, from the time of Richard II. to Edward IV. Mr. Robson is preparing an abstract of this curious Volume, for a future number of the Proceedings.

Dr. Hume mentioned the custom now observed in Wales, of holding what is vulgarly called "the plugging" (from the Welsh "*plegain*" or cock crow,) viz., an early service in the Church on Christmas morning. At five or six o'clock the Church is brilliantly illuminated, the service is read, and occasionally carols are sung.

Mr. Pidgeon mentioned the establishment of the Chester Architectural, Archæological, and Historic Society, and hoped that the Society would cordially co-operate with the Historic Society in the great objects for which they are both established.

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ON HANDFORD OLD HALL, IN CHESHIRE, FORMERLY THE RESIDENCE OF THE ANCIENT FAMILY OF BRERETON, WITH AN ACCOUNT OF CHEADLE CHURCH, IN THAT COUNTY, AND OF THE MONUMENTS OF THE BRERETONS IN IT.

*By Richard Brooke, Esq., F.S.A.*

Handford is a Township of the Parish of Cheadle, in Cheshire, in the Hundred of Macclesfield, intersected by the Manchester and Birmingham Railway, and situated eleven miles from Manchester, and five miles south-west by south from Stockport.

The village of Handford is agreeably situated in a very pleasant part of Cheshire, upon the Turnpike-road leading from Manchester, to Wilmslow and Congleton. On entering the village from the northward, a pretty looking small country Church, of brick, which is a Chapel of ease under Cheadle, lying on the left side of the road, and a well-built, and rather handsome National School, on the right, are conspicuous objects. The