

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1899.

CONTENTS. — No. 83.

NOTES.—Bows and Arrows as Early Ordnance, 81—Shake speariana—Prof. Ramsay and the Date of the Nativity, 82—Horse-bread, 83—Law and his Mississippi Scheme, 84—Novel Baptism—Rosendale Hall—Cowley and Mrs. Browning—Remarks on *Asop*—Lord Crewe, Bp. of Durham, 85—Vanishing London—Ethics of Quotation Marks—Holy Well, Strand—8 Kirkce colour—Robie Uncle's Wraith, 86.

QUERIES.—Two Quartos of Ben Jonson—"Grain"—to the Throttle—"Granable"—More: Middleton: Arden: Kytlinbeck, 87—Harlequin—Customs Rolls of the Pipe—Family of Bourchier—Jean Bart's Descent on the Northumberland Coast, 88—J. Dillon, First Earl of Roscommon—Harboun—"Theophilus Insulanus"—Owners of Books Wanted—"Common or garden"—Pig and Wheatsheaf on China—Heraldic China, 89—Title of a Play, 90.

REFLIES.—National Nicknames—Stonard—Vincent: Newcombe, 90—"Girst"—Stowe Sale of Pictures—The Bottle-Comjurer, &c.—Cromwells of Henbury—Easter Egg and Rabbit—Gaunt Family, 91—Dead Fold—New Theatre, King Street—F. A. Kortright—"To hele," 92—Brick dated 1393—General J. Armstrong—King Charles I.—Meaning of "Lurid"—Stone Ale—"Howl," 93—Imprisoned Debtors' Discharge Society—Hereditary Odour—Spirits at Hampton Court—Anglo-Saxon Speech, 94—Fecular Use of "British"—*Book-World*—Lowell and 'Aurora Leigh'—Blessing Cattle—Pens: "Nibs" and "Neb"—Gate: Sign of Inn, 95—Silver Ladle—Dewalers—Tonghes—Names of Teas—Obi: Obeah—L'Ordre—Du Devoir—Scarlet in the Hunting Field—Tobacco—Fleetwood Family—"Lucy's Flitting," 96—Remington & Co.—Three Most Famous Prefaces—Waller—Nouns of Singularity—Bligh—Epitaph, 97—Scabious or Devil's-bit—A Notable Old London Tavern—Authors Wanted, 98.

NOTES ON BOOKS.—Hyde's 'A Literary History of Ireland'—Climenson's 'Diaries of Mrs. Powys'—Ashton's 'Florizel's Folly'—'New English Dictionary'—Leonard's 'Sacred Songs of the World'—'Alleged Haunting of B-House'—'Shueypingsin.'

Notes.

BOWS AND ARROWS AS ARTILLERY AND EARLY ORDNANCE.

The note of MR. RONALD SMITH (9th S. iii. 383) is decidedly interesting, and many to whom has occurred the question of the time of disuse of bows and arrows as English weapons of war will be glad to have set before them the Order in Council of 26 Oct., 1595, by which the bows of the trained bands were exchanged for calivers and muskets.

In the very interesting accounts which have been preserved of the building of Sandgate Castle, Kent, in 1539 and 1540 (Harl. MSS. 1647 and 1651), attention is arrested by the item: "For repaying of the King's Artylary, that is to say 24 sheff of Arrows, at 12d. the sheff." The arrows, though repaired in 1540, were probably never used, and the same weapons are mentioned in a report of the munitions rendered in 1593 ('State Papers, Dom.,' vol. ccxlv. f. 43). In the list are one culverin, two demi-culverins, three sakers, and one minion, corn-powder, common powder, muskets, bows, arrows, lead, &c. A more perfect inventory of 1623 (Harl. MS. 1326, f. 34b) shows that the bows and arrows were still in stock, and I give the list in its entirety, omitting numbers and quantities:—

1 Culverin.
4 Demi-Culverins.
4 Sakers.
1 Minion.
Ladles [for charging the guns with powder].*
Round Shot of iron [for each class of gun].
Powder.
Match.
Long Pikes.
Plain-White-Halberds.
Blackbills.
Crowes of iron.
Field Oxtrees.
Gins [for raising the guns]
Lead for Shot.
Pickaxes.
Tanned Hides.
Bondy-Barrels [? Budge-Barrels for Powder†].
Lanthorns.
Muskets.
Bandoleers.
Moulds.
12 Long Bows.
12 Sheaves of Long-Bow Arrows.
Cressets.
Cresset-Lights.
Hand and Draught Ropes.
Shovels.
Spades.
Sheepskins.‡

In a later inventory of 1638 the bows and arrows are not included, so we may suppose they were then considered useless and obsolete.

In regard to the guns the following information is found in Smyth's 'Sailor's Word-Book' (1867):—

Culverin, length 9 to 12 feet, bore $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches, ball 18 lbs.
Demi-Culverin, length 9 feet, bore 4 inches, ball 9 lbs.
Saker, length 8 or 9 feet, bore $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, ball 5 lbs.
Minion, length 7 feet, bore 3 inches, ball $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Four smaller guns are described in the now quaint old book 'The Seaman's Grammar and Dictionary,' by Capt. John Smith, sometime Governor of Virginia and Admiral of New England, London, 1691, viz.:—

Faucon, length 7 feet, bore $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, ball $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Fauconet, length 6 feet, bore $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, ball $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Rabonet, length $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet, bore $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, ball $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Base, length $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet, bore $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, ball $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. [75 oz.].

It is remarkable that the intelligent old sailor gives his fractions in decimals, which, however, for uniformity's sake, I have not copied.

W. L. RUTTON.

* "A Ladle is a long staff with a piece of thin copper at the end like a half cartridge, in breadth and length so much as will hold no more powder than the due charge for the Piece it belongs to."

† "Budge-Barrel, to carry powder.....made of latten, filled with powder to carry from place to place for fear of fire: in the cover it hath a long neck to fill the Ladles withal without opening."

‡ "Sheepskins to make sponges."—Capt. John Smith, 'Seaman's Grammar and Dictionary,' 1691.