

plan of the Mansion House 'in the bottom of the park', though some 400-500 yards from the stables and village. Young Crabbe (*loc. cit.*) describes the site of his home in some detail: apart from 'lying in the lowest part . . . of the small park,' that description does not exactly fit either of the above, nor indeed any other possible site in Gt. Glemham Park, but it was written some 35 years later of boyhood's memories—the biographer having been born in 1785. Mitford's account too was written in 1834.

The problem has however recently been determined by the plough. About 6 acres of the eastern end of the park was, with the present house, under military occupation during the recent war: the 6 acres of parkland are indeed still requisitioned and have presumably been lost in the jungle of files at Whitehall. In these circumstances this small area remained under grass—and Nissen Huts—during the war and until the impending disappearance of the £4 an acre subsidy settled its fate: it was ploughed up in December 1949. Under the turf, where the Mansion House is shown on the 1796 map, is an indeterminate but roughly L-shaped area of small stones and rubble on a spot which fortunately had no Nissen Hut.

There remains the problem of the house of the Edgar pedigree and the Crabbe Celebration Souvenir. This must I think be an earlier Great Glemham Hall on or near the site of the present Hall Farm, which has always been called Gt. Glemham Hall on the maps of the Ordnance Survey. The Hall Farm, a mid 19th Century farmhouse, also of Woolpit brick, is on the highest ground in the parish, has nothing resembling a park, but has nearby a moat and the obvious foundations of a former house, the home, one must presume, of the Edgars.

CRANBROOK.

Thomas Bostock (? of Hoxne). In the autumn of 1943, when a pond situated within fifty yards of Hoxne church was being cleaned out, a piece of brass inscription, measuring about 13 by 4½ ins., was found; unfortunately it was not quite complete and the break ran through part of the name and date. It was cleaned by Mr. R. H. Pearson, F.S.A., honorary secretary of the Monumental Brass Society, in whose *Transactions*, vol. viii, p. 147, a short note will be found, accompanied by a photograph, facing p. 152.

Miraculous to relate, in October 1949, near the same pond, the missing fragment, 5 by 4½ ins., was discovered. The two pieces have now been joined together by Mr. Pearson, and have been fixed to the wall of Hoxne church; a photograph accompanies this note (see Plate XXIII).

It is now clear that the complete inscription, which is badly

corroded but perfectly legible, reads as follows:—

**Prep for the Soules of Thomas Bostok and Maute
hys wyf and for the soules of ther ffather & mother the whych
Thomas & Maute dyed upon seynt Edmundys day last past
in the yer of our lord god m^occcc^oviii^o**

The problem now is to identify this Thomas Bostock, who died in 1508 and to elucidate his connection, if any, with the parish of Hoxne. There appears to be no suitable *matrix* in the church, but this is not surprising after several 'restorations'; nor does the name occur in the registers, which begin in 1548, or in other parish documents.¹ No will can be found at Norwich or Ipswich. No family of this name is known, at that period, in Suffolk or Norfolk, although it occurs sporadically in other parts of Suffolk (*see* Subsidy Return, 1524; Boyd's Marriage Index). A Thomas Bostock was parson at Egmere, in north Norfolk, nearly a century later, in 1602 (*East Anglian*, vol. ii, o.s., p. 225). The family flourished in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Cheshire and it is, I suppose, within the bounds of possibility that the brass was for some reason brought from one of those counties to Hoxne and there thrown away, but this seems most unlikely.

Here, then, is a conundrum awaiting solution by Suffolk antiquaries.

L. Dow.

Fifteenth Century Churchwardens' Accounts. Fifty years ago, three volumes of accounts were removed from Walberswick and, after travelling to various parts of the country, were deposited at Ipswich Public Library in 1940. The first volume, 1451 to 1499, has been transcribed by our member, the Rev. R. W. M. Lewis, M.A., F.S.A. and some printed copies are still available.

Walberswick was at that time the centre of a large fishing industry extending as far as Iceland, so the entries are of particular interest. They also cover the building of the present church after the demolition of the old thatched one in 1473.

The book is crown 4to. in size, 280 pages, with an introduction and short glossary and is bound in buckram. Copies can be obtained, at 2 guineas each, from:—The Rev. A. D. Thompson, Walberswick Vicarage, Southwold.

¹ I am indebted to Major Palgrave Raven for particulars of the finding of the pieces and also for searching Hoxne parish records.