"This castle was built by the Earl of Tanqueville, one of the followers of the fortunes of William the Bastard, Duke of Normandy, who invaded England, and slew King Harold in a battle which decided the fate of the kingdom. It is now in the possession of a descendant of the said Earl.

As the English barons are frequently embroiled in disputes and quarrels with the sovereign, and with each other, they take the precaution of building strong castles for their residence, with high towers and deep moats surrounding them, and strengthened with draw-bridges, posterns, and portcullises. And farther to enable themselves to hold out for a considerable length of time, in case they should happen to be besieged, they make a provision of victuals, arms, and whatever else is necessary for the purpose."

The foregoing is said to be from the Letters of Brunetto Latini, of a noble Florentine family. He flourished in the thirteenth century, and died in 1294. He was the tutor of Dante.

JOHN M. DAVENPORT.

ERIC MACKAY, SEVENTH LORD REAY.—It is stated in Debrett's Peerage that the late Sir W. M. Townshend Farquhar was "married to Erica Catherine, daughter of the seventh Baron Reay." Can you inform me to whom this Lord Reay was married, and when and what issue, if any, resulted from such marriage? It is generally believed that he died unmarried at Goldings in Hertfordshire, in 1847, when he was succeeded in the title by his brother Alexander, father of the present or ninth Lord Reay.

JOHN MACKAY.

COURT OR MANOR HOUSE.—What is the proper meaning of the word court as opposed to manor-house? In the West of England the manor-house is sometimes called the court, some times only the house or manor-house. In other parts of England the manor-house is generally called the hall. In the West of England it is not uncommon to hear the farmyard belonging to a house spoken of as the court; and the rent-day is called holding the court. This latter is possibly a corruption of holding the manorial court, which would very possibly be held at the same time. From the general rule being to call the manor-house house, e.g. "Blackacre House," and the exception being to call it "Whiteacre Court," I am inclined to think that there may be some difference between house and court.

G. W. M.

MELODIES TO NEWMAN'S SONGS.—Are there any melodies composed for those poems of Dr. Newman's which, in his recently-published volume, are called Songs, as "The Watchman," "The Pilgrim Queen," and several others? If there are, by whom are they written, and where can they be obtained?

F. H. K.

QUOTATIONS WANTED.—Whence the following lines, which occur on a grave (1819) in Bunhill Fields cemetery:

"Friends part;
'Tis the survivor dies."

Cyril.

"At subito se aperire solum, vastosque recessus Pandere sub pedibus, nigraque voragine fauces."

WM. PENGELLY.

REFERENCE WANTED.—

"Mr. Digby Wyatt says that 'Blanche d'Artois, wife of Edmund Earl of Lancaster, who [Blanche] died 1302, and whose body was buried at Paris and her heart at Nogent l'Arthand, is commemorated by a diminutive effigy now preserved at St. Denis.'

Where does Mr. Digby Wyatt say this? What is his authority for each of the three assertions here made, viz., that Blanche's body was buried at Paris; that her heart was interred at Nogent; and that an effigy of her is preserved at St. Denis?

In what church at Paris was Blanche buried? Is any effigy of her now at St. Denis? I saw none there in 3807, when I made a careful inspection of the cathedral and tombs.

HERMENTRUDE.

SIR THOMAS SHEFFIELD.—Mr. Newton, in his Travels and Discoveries in the Levant, vol. ii. p. 62, says that:

"Scattered about the castle are the arms of its successive captains, ranging from 1437 to 1622, when the garrison surrendered to the Turks. Among these is the name of a well-known English knight, Sir Thomas Sheffield, with the date 1514."

This person was, I believe, a member of the family of Sheffield of Butterwyk in the Isle of Axholme. Can any one point out his place in the pedigree? The head of the family was raised to the peerage in the first year of Edward VI. in the person of Sir Edmond Sheffield, created Baron Sheffield of Butterwyk.

Cornv.

VOLTAIRE'S MEDAL OF GENERAL WASHINGTON.—In the Journal and Letters of Samuel Curnen, from 1775 to 1783 (Boston, 1864), p. 204, this passage occurs:

"April 20, 1778.—A medal has lately been struck at Paris by order of Monsieur Voltaire, in honor of General Washington. On one side is the bust of the General, with this inscription: 'G. Washington, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the Continental-Army in America.' The reverse is decorated with the emblems of war and the following:

'Washington réunit par un assemblage
Les talons du guerrier et les vertus du sage.'"

Perhaps, Mr. Editor, some of your numerous contributors may know whether this medal of Washington is now in existence or not.

JOHN GORDON.

Brompton.

HORACE WALPOLE.—Where are Walpole's manuscript notes on Pennant's London deposited? I find them quoted in John Miller's Phy-Leaves, 1854.

J. YEOWELL.

68, Thornhill Road, Barnsbury.