SIR JOHN HAWKWOOD: HIS BURIAL-PLACE (clxix. 459).—The ‘D.N.B.’ says his body was probably buried at Hedingham Sible when transferred to England at the request of King Richard II.

EDWARD J. G. FORSE.

The actual burial-place of this renowned mercenary appears still to be a matter of very great doubt. Cox, in his ‘Little Guide to Essex, fourth edition, 1906, when giving an account of Hedingham Sible, says very little about it, except for the reference to an effigy of Sir John Hawkwood said to have been at one time in the wall of the south aisle of the church, where there are the remains of a sepulchral or founder’s recess. Cox also says there is a monument to his memory in the cathedral at Florence. Is this correct?

The biographical notice of Sir John Hawkwood in the ‘Encyclopaedia Britannica,’ 11th edition, says that on his death the republic of Florence decreed the erection of a marble monument in the cathedral, but that this was never executed. Paolo Uccelli, however, painted his portrait in terre-verte on the inner façade of the building, where it still remains, though damaged by removal from the plaster to canvas.

Concerning his supposed burial at Hedingham Sible, the Encyclopaedia merely informs us that at the instigation of Hawkwood’s sons, Richard II requested the Florentine Government to let him remove the Knight’s bones, and the Florentines signified their consent. Whether the removal was actually brought about, there is no indication except for the statement that John Hawkwood, the knight’s son, returned to England; it is supposed that Sir John Hawkwood was buried at Hedingham Sible, the place where the son settled.

There also appears some doubt about this knighthood. The ‘Encyclopaedia Britannica’ notice says there is no evidence as to the time and place at which he won it. Cox, however, asserts that he was knighted at the battle of Poitiers in 1356.

H. ASKEW.

CAPTAIN THOMASNAIRN (clxix. 390).—I do not know his military record or particulars, but I think it will be of interest to your correspondent to know he was not the “John Nairn” mentioned who was killed in action and buried on the field.

That “John Nairn” was only son of Colonel John Nairn, of the Manor House, Murray Bay (Charlvoix County) in the Province of Quebec.

Colonel John Nairn was a native of Scotland and an officer of the Frazer Highlanders who turned the scale of action when General Wolfe captured the city of Quebec for the British Crown. Afterwards, the regiment was disbanded: and Murray, another officer, and Nairn, settled permanently with their men at Murray Bay. These Highlanders married French-Canadian women, so to-day there are many natives of Quebec with well-known Highland names, who only speak French.

Professor Wrong, of Toronto University, on a visit to Murray Bay on a holiday, found the Nairn papers in an old trunk: and wrote a book giving Nairn’s picture in uniform and all about him. He was, I think, a native of Kilmarnock, and given the freedom when he re-visited Scotland. This book is entitled ‘Manor House,’ and is available at the British Museum Reading Room.

CHARLES STUART NAIRN.


UNUSUAL CHRISTIAN NAMES (clxvii. 177, 213, 244; clxviii. 86, 233, 267).—Clergymen often have curious or unusual names. I have just finished indexing the clergy lists of the different parishes in the county of Huntingdon—over five thousand names—and note amongst them the following that are more or less uncommon:

Eusebius Hunt, Rector of Botolph Bridge, 1637-1642; Rector of Chesterton 1660-1696; died in 1696.

Huannus Quick, Rector of Buckworth, 1542-1559.

Olliwell Tennant, M.A., Rector of Caldecot, 1814-1822; Rector of Coppingford, 1821-1863; died in 1863.

Ferdinando Poole, Rector of Great Cature, 1643-1660.

Seth Holywell, Rector of Chesterton, 1543-1557; died in 1557.

Paoilin Phelips, Rector of Conington, 1771-1782; died in 1782.

Cesar Walpole, M.A., Rector of Covington, 1608-1613.


Stucleus Blickarde, M.A., Vicar of Diddington, 1609-1611.

Mikepher Alphrey, Curate of Easton, 1650-1657; Rector of Woolley, 1618-1643, and 1660-1668.

Paschal Lamb, M.A., Rector of Ellington, 1885-1897.