EARLY DATED BOOK-PLATE.—I have a bookplate with the inscription, "William Vndrill his Booke : 1633," surrounded by a border. I am told this is the earliest English dated book-plate known, and I shall be very glad to know if this is really the case. F. R. Ellis, M.A.

Wenlock Vicarage.

"Wonder."—Was wonder used as an adverb by English writers in the sixteenth century as wonder is in modern German? I believe Leland so uses it. E. S. Dodgson.

Pitney House, Yeovil.

ROBERT LETTICE HOOPER, LORD CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW YORK.—Is anything known of his personal history? He died (where?) in 1739. To what branch of the Hooper family did he belong? R. P. II.

PUNISHMENT FOR HIGH TREASON TEMP. OLIVER CROMWELL.—It is said, and I believe truly, that during the time that Oliver Cromwell was supreme ruler of these nations the horrible high treason punishment was never put in force, but that culprits were hanged or beheaded without torture. Is there positive evidence of this?

Anon.

BARNABAS OLEY.—I shall be glad to receive any information as to the family of Barnabas Oley and his benefactions, in addition to the ordinary references.

Bishop Hatfield's Hall, Durham.

The Game of "Platere."—In Hilary Term, 7 Edw. I., a boy of ten years of age, William son of Peter the mason, playing with Robert son of William Russel, in the town of Newcastle-on-Tyne, at this game, in throwing his stone at the mark hit William Russel (the father) on the head and killed him. What sort of game was this? A boy of ten could not throw a very large stone, one would think. People seem to have been very easily killed in those days, perhaps from being insufficiently fed. Many instances could be given from the Assize Rolls, from which the above record is taken.

J. Bain.

The Rouffignac Family.—Can any one tell me about the Rouffignac family of Languedoc? They were, I believe, Huguenots, and a section of them, after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, fled to England, when some of them ultimately settled in Cornwall. At the same time, it seems, a portion of the family of the Kings of Yvetot fled to England, some of them also going to Geneva, I believe. The Vautier family, I understand, claim to be descendants of these titular kings. Also, can any one tell me of an English verse translation of Béranger's famous song "Le Roi d'Yvetot." W. S. L. S.

"Was crucified, dead, and buried."—Can another example be given of a similar use of the words was dead in the sense of expired? It can hardly be an adjective="was a dead man," as this would be far too equivocal for an article of faith; nor can it be="being dead," as this would require the transposition of the conjunction, thus: "was crucified, and being dead was buried." Similarly it cannot mean, "till he was dead," as this would need the use of the adverb then in the last clause, "He was crucified till he was dead, and then he was buried." It must mean, "He was crucified, [actually] died, and was buried," so that the adjective dead is used as a verb="was dead," was made dead," "He was crucified, was deprived of life, and was buried." Your readers, no doubt, know that the word dead does not stand in the early forms of the creed, nor in the Oriental form. It is an innovation, and, as it appears to me, is a most objectionable way of stating an important fact.

E. Cobham Brewer.

KING CANUTE.—Is there any historical or traditional authority for considering Canute the Great a parricide?

Accuracy.

NUMISMATIC.—I have a sixpence of Victoria, 1840, which on the obverse is countermarked upon the neck of the bust with a circular stamp; lion walking, showing left cheek. Legend encircling it, "R. S. Litada-Por-El-Gobierno." Wanted, an explanation of this stamp.

W. Stavenhagen Jones.

79, Carlton Hill, N.W.

BIRNIE OF BROOMHILL.—On the title-page of a book dated 1553, in my library, is a book-plate of the above family, viz., Gu., a fesse arg. between 3 lions passant guardant gu.; motto, "Sapere aude incipe," and supported by two priests. "Burden sculp." Underneath is the autograph of R. Birnie, in an sixteenth century hand. Can any collector give me about the date of the book-plate? I could send the title-page for inspection, with other autographs of the family thereon, as it is quite loose.

Edward J. Taylor.

Bishopwearmouth.

Fonts of the Restoration Period.—How is it that so many country church fonts bear dates of the early period of Charles II.'s reign? We meet with accounts of the old font stone being sold and replaced by a new one. Were the former ones damaged in the turmoil of the Civil Wars or during the Cromwellian régime, or were they afterwards considered desecrated on account of having been used by unordained ministers, and thereby unfitted for sacred uses?

Curiosity.