

A GERMAN TRAVELLER IN ENGLAND IN 1683.

THE manuscript diaries of travellers which are sometimes met with in libraries have lately begun to attract in a greater degree than formerly the attention which, from their notices of objects since lost or injured or from their mention of contemporary persons or events, or their illustration of manners, and the like, they are often found to deserve. Dr. Carl Curtius, the librarian of Lübeck, has lately printed (Lübeck, Borchers, 1890), as a contribution for the twentieth meeting of the Historical Society of the Hanse Towns, in a quarto pamphlet of forty-eight pages, a diary entitled 'Reise durch das nordwestliche Deutschland nach den Niederlanden und England im Jahre 1683,' by Jakob von Melle, a theological and historical writer of Lübeck, and the Hamburg poet Christian Heinrich Postel. They spent about five weeks in England, crossing to Dover from Calais for five shillings, and thence to London by Canterbury for sixteen shillings. In London they paid ten shillings a week for board and lodging in Warwick Lane. At Windsor, on Sunday, 14 Aug., they attended service in the chapel, where they saw the king, the Princess Anne, and the king's natural sons the dukes of Grafton and Richmond. They afterwards saw the king at dinner with the queen, the duke of York, and Prince George of Denmark. The Tower, Mint, Westminster Abbey (where they paid twopence), the Houses of Parliament, Gresham College, the Temple, Lambeth Palace, Greenwich, are among the places visited and described. Clarendon House is noticed, and the strange statement made that the chancellor was the son of a butcher, possibly by some confusion with the tradition of Wolsey's parentage. Three days were spent in Oxford, which was reached by a journey in a 'flying coach, which occupied one day and cost ten shillings. Here they lodged with one Mrs. Mountfort opposite the theatre, at whose table they met Professor Edward Bernard and Baron Sparr. The Bodleian Library is the only place described, partly from the *Notitia Oxon.*, and some of the manuscripts and curiosities (including amongst the latter the 'Joseph's coat') exhibited to visitors are enumerated. The picture gallery then contained maps as well as portraits.

W. D. MACRAY.

 CONTEMPORARY ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF LA HOGUE.

THE following contemporary account of the battle of La Hogue is copied from a manuscript formerly belonging to the Sharpe family of Little Horton, near Bradford, Yorkshire, of which family was Abraham Sharpe the astronomer. The manuscript seems defective at the beginning and bears no signature, but is evidently the work of an eye-witness.

An account of Admiral Rooke's family is supplied from another manuscript in the same collection written in 1697.

W. C. BOULTER.

On Friday y^e 20th of May 92.—Att 4 this morning we had so greatt a fogg we Could not tell whether We were Amongst English or French. At Eight itt Cleared up we found our Selves in Company of y^e Adm^l of y^e Blew and some of his Squadron, And we saw our Gen^l to y^e Westward and y^e Dutch to y^e Westward of him, and y^e French to y^e Westward of y^e Dutch, then our Generall made y^e signall for y^e whole Fleett to make all y^e Sayle we Could in pursuance of y^e French for contrary to our Expectations they Run from us, w^{ch} we did all day without getting any Advantage of them, and in y^e Evening Anchored by reason of y^e viollent tides y^e runs in those partts, but weighed again aboutt Eleven att nightt and Continued our Pursuitt.

On Saturday y^e 21st of May 92.—This morning we Anchored att y^e mouth of y^e Race of Blanchard w^{ch} runs between Cape La Hogue and y^e Island of Alderne, the French fleet being att an Anchor in y^e Race, aboutt Ten of y^e Clock this morning Sixteen Sayle of their Men of War drove from their Anchors to y^e Eastward, Seven or Eight Sayle of them being Three deck Ships, y^e Adm^l of France being one of them. Immediattly our Adm^l accompanied wth four English Flags more, And three or four of y^e Dutch Flags more Cutt and pursued Them, and left S^r John Ashby and y^e Adm^l of Holland wth two or three Dutch Flags more wth y^e Remainder of y^e Fleett to Pursue y^e rest w^{ch} He did and took a french Fireship butt Could not Come up wth y^e Men of War all day, On y^e other side y^e Gen^l Pursued y^e Adm^l of France so Close y^t for fear of being taken he run his Ship ashore in Cherbourg Bay, Two three deck Ships doeing y^e Like there also, w^{ch} y^e Gener^l seeing He ordered S^r Ralph Dallivall, wth aboutt Ten Sayle of Men of War, and ffreshps to Attempt y^e burning of them, and pursued y^e Other Thirteen sayle who stood to y^e Eastrd. In Pursuance of y^e Orders S^r Ralph had recd, he stood into y^e Bay wth Three or four fourth rates friggats & two ffreshps In Order to burn y^e Aforesaid French Men of War, butt they recd him so Warmly y^t after an Obstinate fightt on both Sides He was forced to Come out without doing Execution.

On Sunday y^e 22nd of May 92.—This morning S^r John Ashby had Lost sightt of y^t Partt of y^e French Fleett He was Left to pursue, so he Tacked and stood to y^e Eastward in order to Joyn ye Generall, And this day S^r Ralph Dellivall stood into y^e Bay again wth Four or five Sayle of Third Rates and some ffreshps in Order once more to Attempt y^e Burning of y^e aforesaid Ships W^{ch} after a very sharp dispute he effectted y^e Ships Names was y^e Roy^l Sun of a Hundred and Ten guns, y^e Admirable of ninty Six and y^e Terrible of ninty Six, and Two Privateers y^e One of twenty four and y^e other of Twenty Guns, as also a ffireship, He then stood outt of y^e Bay and made way to joyn y^e Fleett w^{ch} was then att Cape Barffleur, y^e Thirteen Sayle of French Men of War haveing run ashore in a Bay Called La Houge.

On Monday y^e 23^d of May 92.—Att Eleven this forenoon S^r John Ashby wth y^t partt of y^e Fleett under his Comand Joyned y^e Gener^l Off

of Cape Barffleur, S^r Ralph having done y^e same before. Att two this Afternoon a Consultation was held onboard y^e Adm^l and they Came to these resollutions, viz That Vice Adm^l Rooke should y^t Evening Hoistt his Flag onboard of another Ship, and take wth him seven or Eightt sayle of small Friggatts and some fireships, and also y^t all y^e Barges And Longboatts in y^e Fleett should be manned and goe wth him into La Houge bay to Attemp y^e burning of y^e Thirteen french Men of War y^t was run ashore there. So according to y^e Orders Vice Adm^l Rooke had recd, aboutt Seven in y^e Evening he stood into y^e Bay, haveing before hoistted his Flag onboard y^e Eagle and Accompanied as aforesaid. Att his Entrance In he mett wth Some Opposition from a Plattform y^t they had made to Obstructt our pafsage, where they had Plantted sever^l of y^e Ships Guns, but when he Came near he Answered them so warmly y^t they soon quitted their Guns and afterwards did us Little damage, y^e boatts Were Comanded by y^e Lord Danby and Capt. Pickard haveing all of them fire-works Onboard, being Entred into y^e Bay there was Another small Fortt w^{ch} made some Refsistance againstt us and y^e Water being Shallow y^t a Ship of force could not againstt itt y^e Larke ffriggatt was Ordered to Lye and batt^r itt w^{ch} she did wth good success, y^e Bay was Lined wth Souldiers both Horse and foott w^{ch} fired Att us Amain without Intermisison, butt notwithstanding their great Refsistance, our Ships and boatts made an Assaullt upon y^e French Ships, and by Ten att nightt sett Six Sayle of them on fire one of w^{ch} was y^e S^t Phillip of a Hundred and odd Guns onboard of w^{ch} y^e Late King James this day dined w^{ch} when they had Accomplished they Came outt and Anchored att y^e mouth of y^e bay all Nightt, by reason there was no more Ships in this Bay y^e other seven Sayle haveing run ashore in a Little bay to y^e Eastward of this; The Magazine in w^{ch} was all y^e Powder y^t Came outt of y^e Thirteen french Men of War blew up this night butt y^e Cause we Cannot tell

On Tuesday y^e 24th of May 92.—This morning our Ships and boatts made an Assaullt upon y^e residue of y^e french Men of War that was Left, being Seven sayle and Was very Hottly recd by y^e forces y^t Lined y^e Shore, however by ten of y^e Clock in y^e morning we sett them all on fire together wth Seven sayle of Merchantt men, and one more we broughtt off and then stood outt of y^e Bay, most of ye boatts Came off to y^e Fleett wth french Flags in their bowes and good plunder, Att noon y^e Fleett Came to sayle and stood for S^t Hellens

FINIS

Of the Family of y^e Rooks in Kent there were two B^{rs} Laurence & William: Laurence had a fair Estate of 700^l a year, married S^r Peter Hammond's Daughter, by whom he had Hamond Rook who prov'd an Atheistical swearing Man & a great Spender, married a Coffee-man's Daughter wth whom he liv'd uneasily & discontentedly, so he or his father rather begun to sell y^e Joynture he had by his Grandmother to one M^r Morris (of whom afterwards). Hammond Rook then goes to

VOL. VII.—NO. XXV.

Tangier, comes back, is now in y^e Regiment of S^r Jonathan Trelawny in Flanders; hath made love whether in reality or sport I know not to other women, who asking him w^t he meant to do wth y^e Wife he had, Answered make minc'd Pies of her or a Fricasy; he hath however got money, & would gladly buy back his Estate, but Morris y^e Proprietor will not sell.

William y^e other B^r sometimes calld Collⁱ Rook was in favour wth y^e Duke of York, had but a small Estate saving w^t he got from y^e Court, he was Knighted by King James 2^d had 3 sons Georg Thomas & Finch. Georg was a very unlucky Boy & much given to stealing; his Father would have placd him wth an Attorney but he durst not trust him: At last he resolvd to send him to Sea & being ask'd y^e reason said he had rather hear of his being drown'd at Sea yⁿ have him hang'd at Land, so he was placd whilst a boy with S^r Edward Sprag, &c: This is he who was first a Captⁿ of a Ship under K. James, then Rear Admiral, Vice Admiral, & now S^r Georg Rook Admiral of y^e Grand Fleet under King William 1697.

Mr Morris who bought part of y^e Rooks Estate (as before noted) was a poor fellow, I think a Journey-man out of employment & was dejectedly sitting in an Inne whither Aldermⁿ Blackwell came accidentally & asking him who he was & whither going, He answered, into y^e Countrey to my Freinds for here I can get no employment: Can yⁿ write & keep a Book (said y^e Alderman) Yes (said he) very well; hereupon he took Morris to his house wⁿ he had but one poor shilling left in his Pocket. He staid wth y^e Alderman till he was able by piecemeal to by y^e whole Estate of Laurence & Hammond Rook; & now he is said to be worth a thousand pound a Year; tho some think he overreach'd & rook'd y^e Rooks before he got into their Nest, his Son proves prodigall his two Daughters foolish.

A NONJUROR'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND.

THE revival of a sentimental attachment to the house of Stuart, and of an inclination to the doctrine of the divine right of kings, so soon as one and the other had ceased to be dangerous to the liberties and religion of the country, is among the phenomena of the second half of the eighteenth century. Among their causes may be enumerated the inevitable law of reaction; that tenderness towards a defeated party which invariably sets in when the practical issues of the struggle are at rest, which inspires Homer with romantic compassion towards Troy, and softens Virgil towards Carthage, and is now raising up panegyrists of Lee and Jefferson Davis to the north of the Potomac; above all the discovery that the maxims of the vanquished were exceedingly convenient for those by whom their champions had been displaced and dethroned. To the latter cause must be attributed the discouragement of Bishop Hayter's honest remonstrance (1752) against Jacobite books being offered for the perusal of his princely pupil. The protest which