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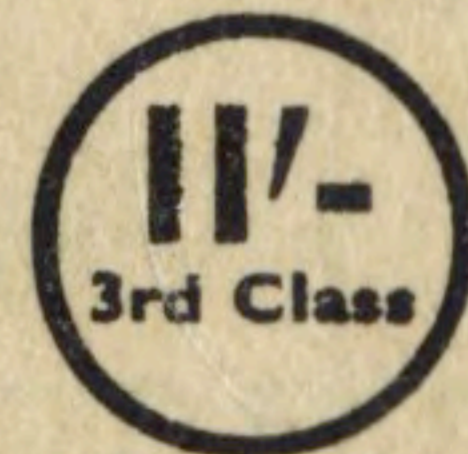
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Official Guide

to

BIDEFORD AND DISTRICT

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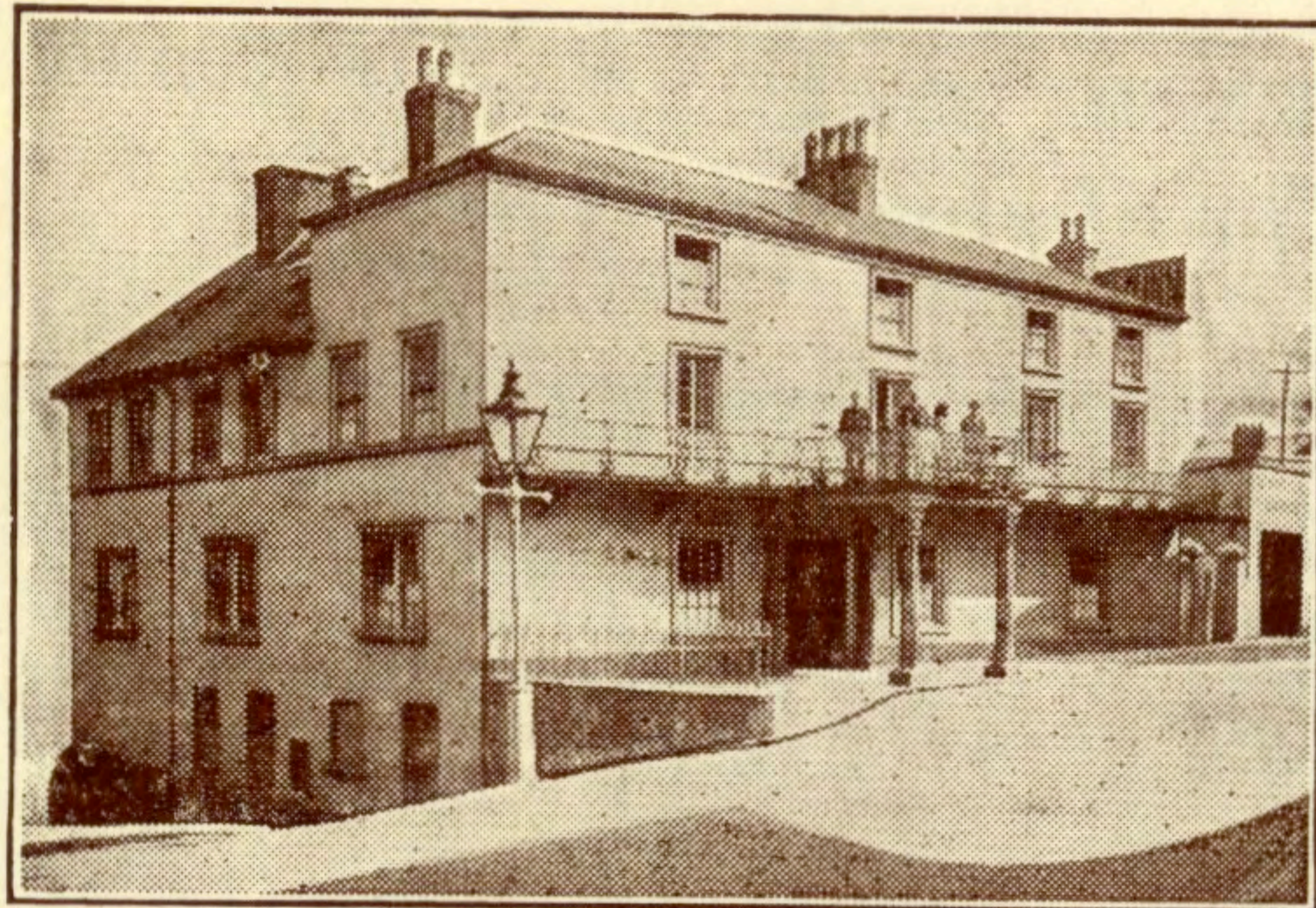
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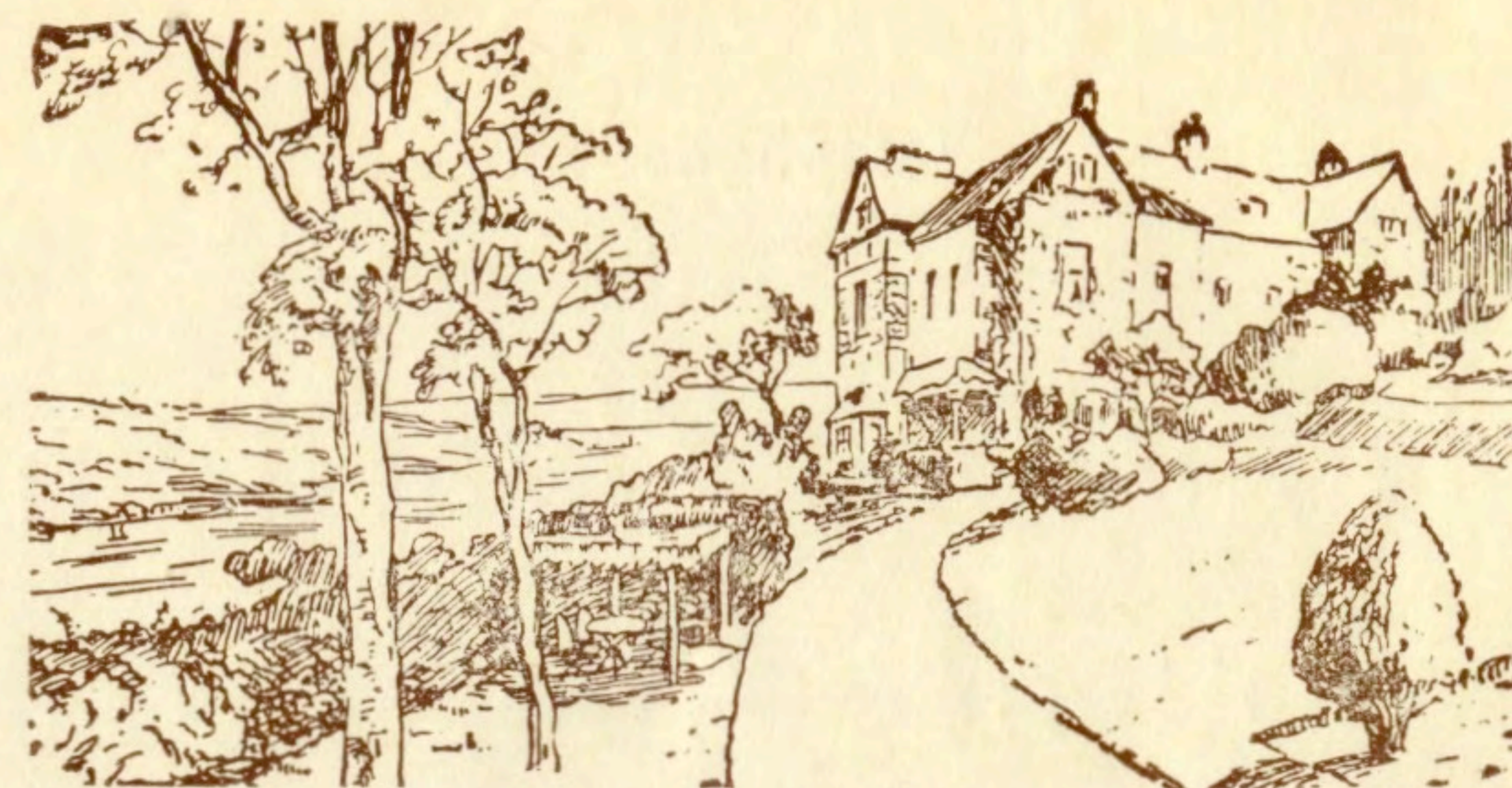
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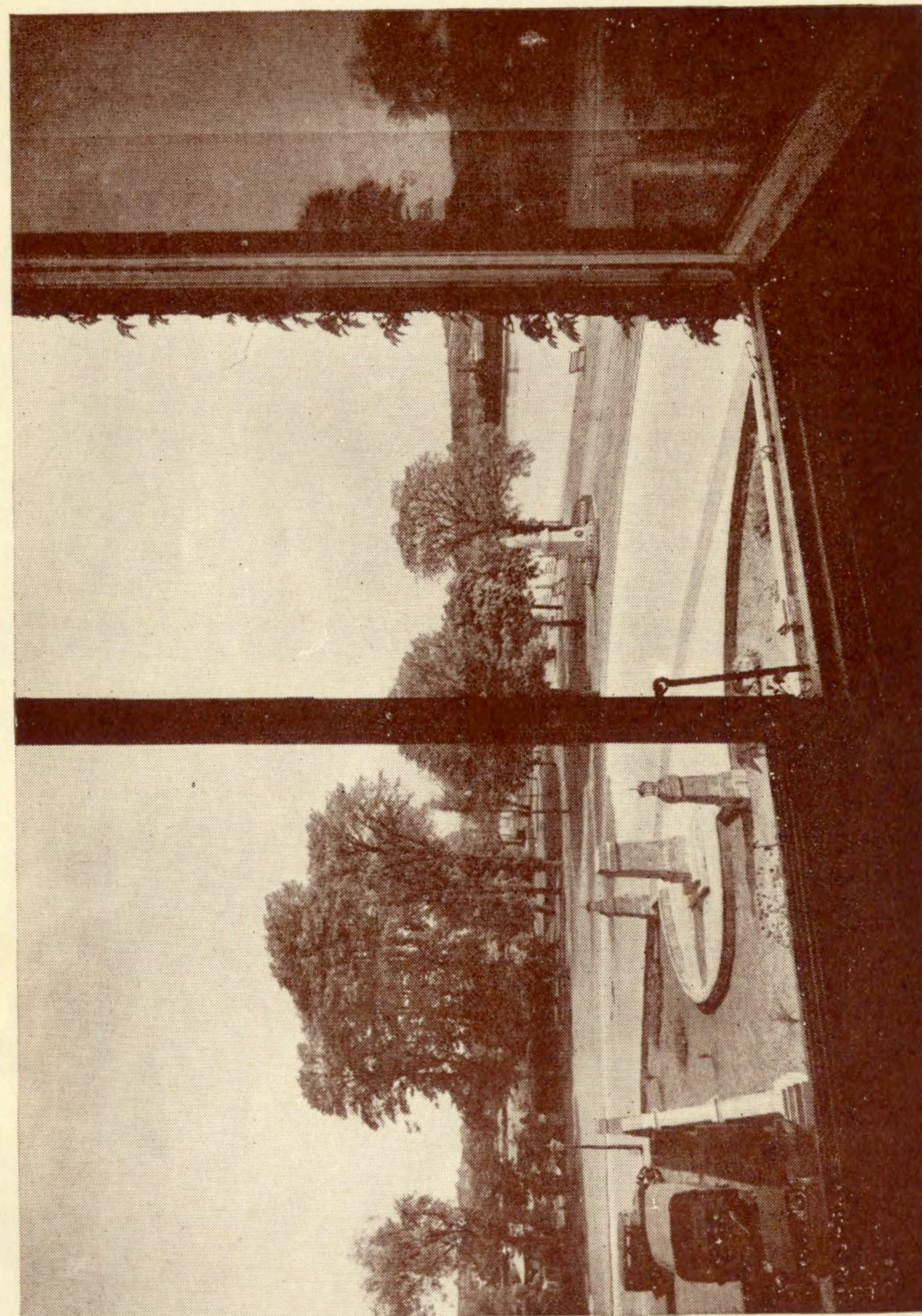
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BIDEFORD'S PROMENADE FROM AN UNUSUAL ANGLE.
(By Courtesy of Paul Fripp, Esq.)

Kingsley's Country

Charles Kingsley.

Man of the tender heart, and subtle
brain ;
Hater of wrong ; dreamer of golden
dreams ;
'Tis fitting he should stand where
Torridge gleams ;
Where can be heard the moaning
harbour-bar ;
His steadfast gaze sweeping the ship-
fringed quay
To where the long grey bridge sleeps
lazily ;
Around him, swelling uplands, stretch-
ing far ;
Above, the blue of the Italian sky.
As red sailed fishing boats creep
slowly by,
Glad of their respite from the storm-
tossed main,
The fishers breathe his name ; on
land and sea,
All Devon men revere his memory.
Hail ! Poet, Prophet, Preacher,
Patriot—when
Shall the world see so great a soul
again ?

ANON.



Photo]

[Heys

BIDEFORD PROMENADE
STATUE

of this beautiful corner of the world, and to none are they more indebted than to the memory of *Charles Kingsley*, whose adventurous and descriptive "*Westward Ho!*" for all time made the Kingsley Country famous.



SALMON FISHING IN BRIDGE POOL

This Guide is written and compiled with the main idea of bringing this attractive district briefly before the eyes of those who are settling two rather important questions—"Where shall we spend our holidays?" or "Where can we find a really pleasant residential neighbourhood?" Essential information as well as descriptive and historical paragraphs is incorporated, and the photographs have been chosen with the hope of confronting the reader with the local atmosphere and personality of a town and district so famed.

"Kingsley's Country" has been roughly described as the tract lying west and south-west of Bideford in North Devon. The winding Torridge stream with its wide sandy estuary, by the beautiful combes of Bideford Bay, circling round by

**Kingsley
Country
Described.**

Portledge and Peppercombe to quaint Clovelly, the rugged heights of Hartland Point, and the wild West Countree to the borders of Cornwall, these form the boundaries of the country over which Kingsley has cast the fascinating spell of his imagination. Even if it had not intrinsic beauty, which it possesses to the full, this district would be endeared to all manly men and womanly women as the training ground of the great Sir Richard Grenville, the Spaniards' terror, and of those brave youths who formed the immortal Brotherhood of the Rose, and as the home of stately Ladie Mary Grenville, and gentle Mrs. Leigh, of Burrough, and ill-fated Rose Salterne.

Thousands of visitors are attracted every year from at home and from abroad, large numbers to enjoy its many holiday amenities; others to explore the beautiful neighbourhood, full of potential housing sites, to decide on a permanent residence, and still others who love to walk the historic spots, seeing what there is to be seen, and even, perhaps, feeling some of the spirit expressed by Capern, the Postman-Poet of



Photo]

RACING OFF BIDEFORD QUAY

[Holman, Ham & Co., Ltd.

more than local fame, who wrote :

“ Whene’er I tread old By-the-Ford,
 And conjure up the thought
 ’Twas here a Grenville trod,
 And here a Raleigh wrought.”

Numerous books of fiction, biography, history, topography, poetry have been written of the charms and qualities of the neighbourhood which will reward the holiday reader who opens their pages. A list of those obtainable at the Bideford Free Library is given on page 49.

Realising modern needs, local public authorities and business men have kept pace with the times. On every

side can be seen the results of a well-conducted town and district. Public services, water supplies, gas, electricity, motor ’bus and train services, have all been brought to the highest efficiency. Up-to-date hotel and boarding house accommodation, and excellent shopping facilities also add to the attractiveness of the resort. Bideford and the Northam Urban District (which includes Westward Ho ! and Appledore) are very much intertwined geographically and in other ways, and together have a population of about 16,000 inhabitants.

Bideford has a climate both mild and bracing, and forms an ideal holiday centre for North Devon.

Pleasantly situated, it has good roads linking up with every resort and beauty spot East, West or South. For the sportsman and the man of leisure there is everything to attract him. There is golf on the famous Westward Ho! Links with the Royal North Devon Golf Club, fox-hunting with the Stevenstone Hounds, otter-hunting with the Cheriton hounds, and not far away stag-hunting with the Devon and Somerset Hounds. Good river and sea fishing is obtainable, as well as shooting ; while bowls, cricket, croquet and lawn tennis, swimming, sailing, boating, and other sports and pastimes are all amply catered for.



Photo] **HIGH WATER AT BIDEFORD QUAY.** [R. L. Knight

Bideford.

“All who have travelled through the delicious scenery of North Devon,” writes Kingsley, “must needs know the little white town of

The Little White Town. Bideford, which slopes upwards from its broad tide-river, paved with yellow sands and many arched old bridge, where salmon wait for autumn floods, toward the pleasant upland on the west. Above the town the hills close in, cushioned with deep oak woods, through which juts here and there a crag of fern-fringed slate; below they lower and open more and more in softly-rounded knolls and fertile expanses of hazy flats, rich salt marshes, and rolling sandhills, where Torridge joins her sister Taw, and both together flow quietly toward the broad surges of the Bar and the everlasting thunder of the long Atlantic swell. Pleasantly the old town stands there, beneath its soft Italian sky, fanned day and night by the fresh ocean breeze, which forbids alike the keen winter frosts and the fierce thunder heats of the midland . . .”

Bideford's character has not changed while keeping pace with the times. The same unique charm that captivated Kingsley and many another

Character Unchanged. celebrity still remains. Many improvements and additions have been made to the town's amenities. Its central position in the North Devon holiday district is becoming every year more widely recognised. It is easy of access from all parts of the country. In a few minutes over the five hours the Atlantic Coast express from Waterloo reaches Bideford Railway Station, and other routes connect as expeditiously. Special trains run from the North and Midlands, via Crewe, Birmingham, Shrewsbury, Bristol, Taunton and Exeter, and for motor tourists up-to-date and well-kept main roads

make the journey an all-too-short pleasure during the glorious summer months.

To the intending resident Bideford offers many advantages, for not only is it situated in the most delightful residential district, not so many hours, by train, from London; but also it possesses an almost unlimited water supply, and is served by gas and electric light companies. House-rents and rates are reasonably low in comparison with other places with fewer public services and amenities.



Photo] ON THE TORRIDGE. [C Stuart

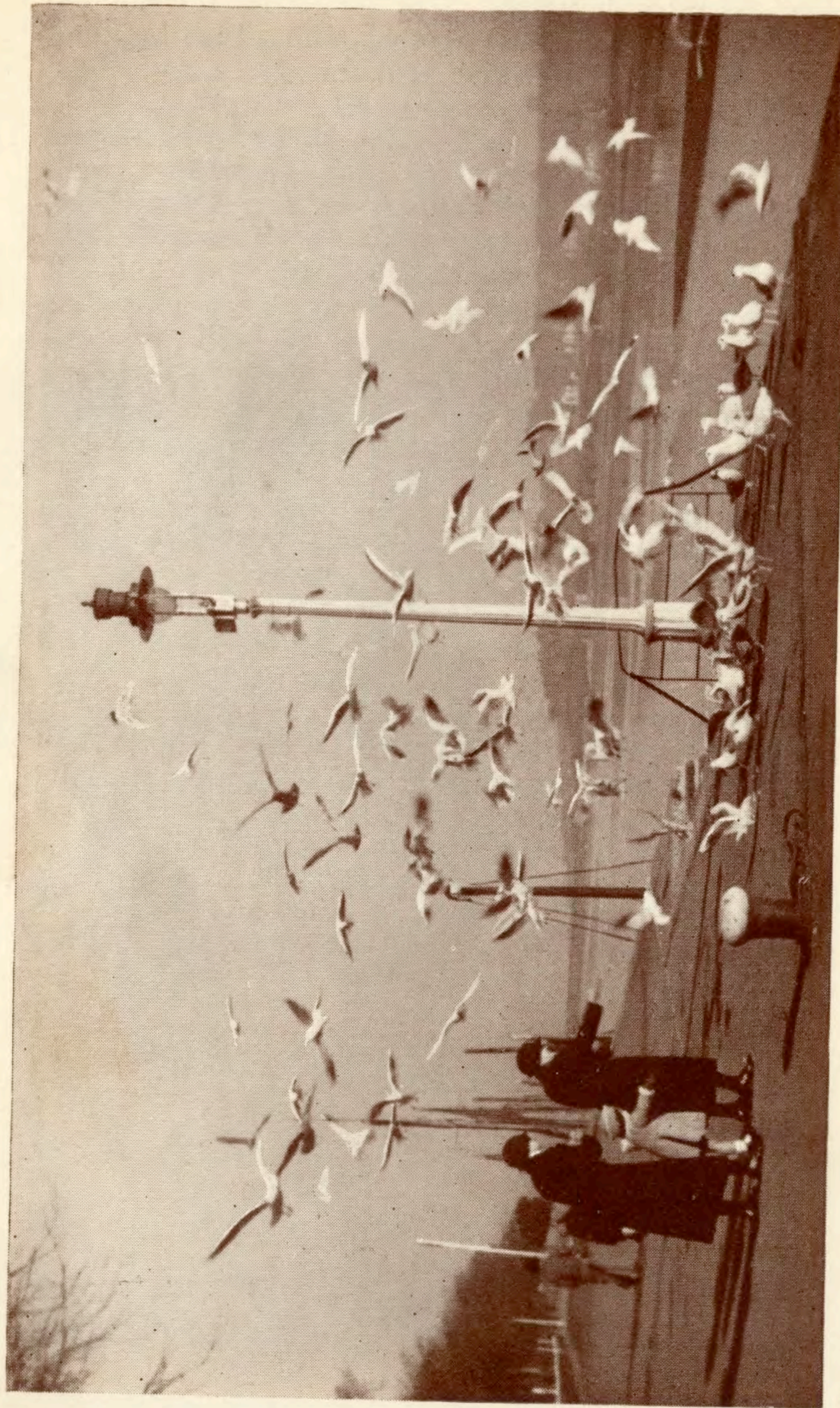
The Municipality owns the Waterworks, Markets and Cattle Market, Quay and Harbour and Weigh-bridge; Slaughterhouse, Allotments, the Manor properties and Manorial rights, Cemetery, Parks and Pleasure Grounds; Free Library and Municipal Buildings, Housing Estates and other properties. Although there is now an outstanding debt of £93,200, £91,000 of that is revenue producing. The rateable value is £64,146, and a penny rate produces £248. The last half-year General Rate was 5/3, and water rate is 5 per cent. per half year,

based on rateable value. The industries include two glove factories, a blouse factory, and a boat-building yard. The population is approximately 10,000.

Bideford has excellent educational advantages. For girls there is the large and remarkably well-equipped boarding and day school, Edgehill College, which stands in beautiful grounds. There are also West Bank private school and the Stella Maris Convent school. For boys there is the newly-built Grammar School, and North Bank School as well as good preparatory schools. The Municipal Art and Technical Schools, the Free Library and University Extension Society are other popular aids to greater education.

Bideford is a healthy residential town, standing high above the River Torridge on a subsoil of shale. The climate is mild and more bracing than that of the South of the County. It has an excellent and constant water supply and is particularly free from epidemics of infectious disease. The death rate is low. Its equable temperature all the year round makes it a popular district for residents returning from the warmer zones in the East. As Kingsley writes, it has not the keen frosts and thunder heats of the Midlands, and residents and visitors are able to begin their summer pleasures earlier and end them later than in other parts of the country, East or North.

At Bideford can be found both excellent and reasonably-priced accommodation at well-situated hotels, boarding houses and private houses to suit all manner of needs. From this delightful centre, it is easy and pleasurable to visit the well-known North Devon, North Cornwall and North Somerset beauty spots by train, motor-coach or private car, and longer trips to Dartmoor and South Devon, with modern means of travel, are arranged daily.



Photo]

SUN AND SEAGULLS

[H. & J. M. Johnstone

For well over three centuries Bideford has been the market town for the district and the port for the entire

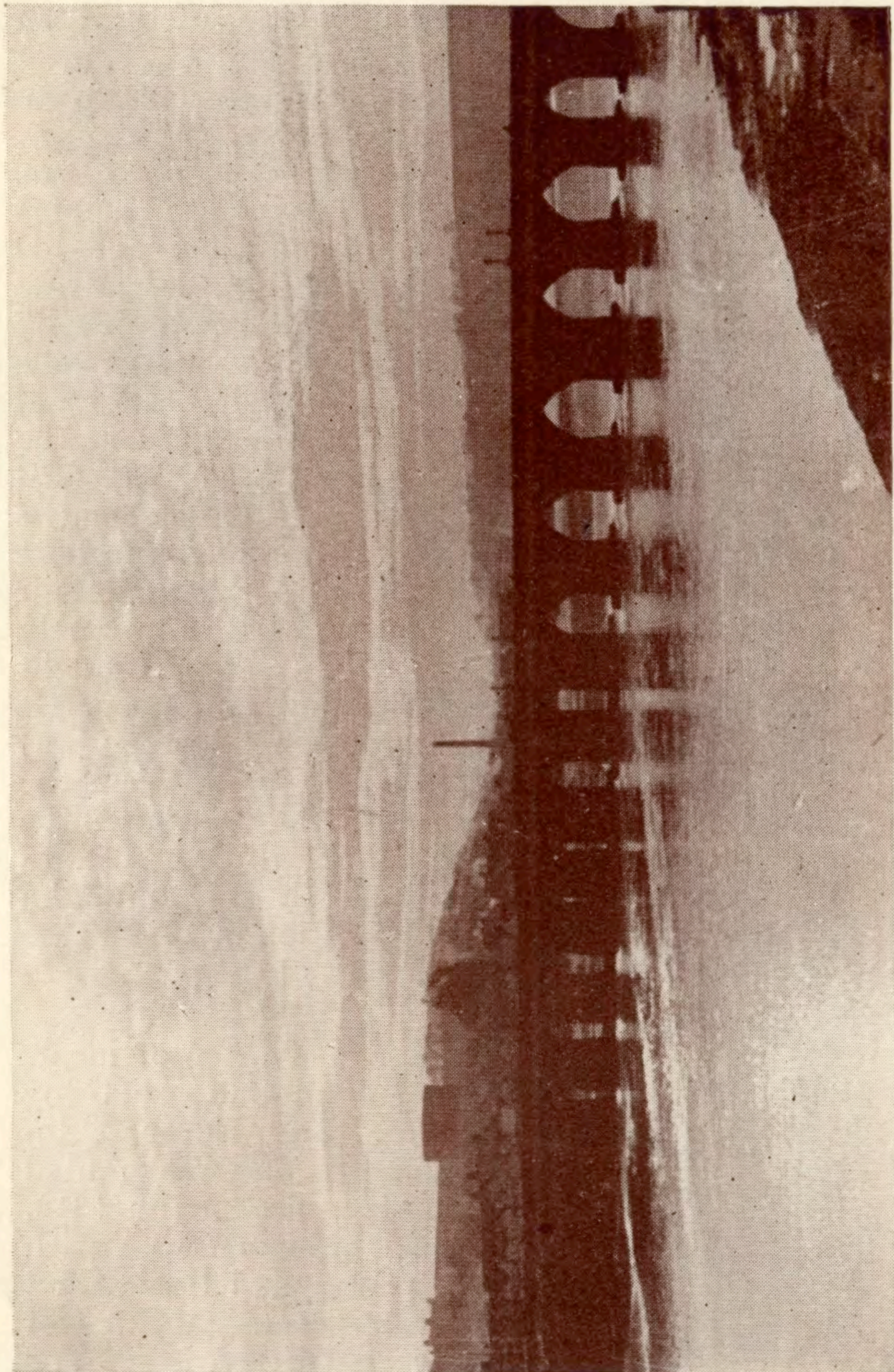
West Country, and in 1928 re-gained its ancient title of Port of **Old Market Town.** Bideford, as is befitting a town of

naval traditions. An ancient town, its origin is lost in the mists of antiquity. The name, Bideford, a contraction of By-de-ford is, of course, derived from its position by the ford across the Torridge which has from earliest times been much frequented by travellers between Cornwall and Somerset and the North. In the early centuries this "little white town," as it later became, entertained many unwelcome strangers, the marauding Danes, to wit, who paid several foraging visits to the Torridge estuary in the tenth century. In the reign of King John, Bideford had grown sufficiently to require a market, and a charter was granted to Sir Richard Granville, a forbear of the great Sir Richard, to hold a Market and Fair at Lady-day and Michaelmas. The fairs are now barely dates in the local calendar, their decay being brought about by the introduction of the now familiar cattle auctions. No striking part in national history was played until the years of Queen Elizabeth, when the town blossomed into splendour, mainly through the enterprise and interest of Sir Richard Grenville, of Azores fame, Vice-Admiral of England. He and John Strange, the hero of the plague visitation in 1645-6, are the most famous of Bideford's heroes of the past.

Sir Richard Grenville obtained a charter of incorporation for Bideford in 1574, John Salterne being the first Mayor. The Borough in-

Charter of Incorporation. increased in importance, and was granted a more favourable charter in 1610.

There was a large shipping trade with the Americas, with Holland, France and Spain, and a tradition lingers that the first consignments of tobacco were stored in a house East-the-Water. The fitting-out and owning of privateers was also a source of profit to the residents of the Borough during this adventurous period.



[R. W. Smith

BIDEFORD BRIDGE BY NIGHT

Photo]

Bideford did not play any great part in the Civil War between King and Parliament, although one of the first towns to declare for the Roundheads. The battlement with old guns, East-the-Water, known as Chudleigh Fort, from which a magnificent panoramic view of Bideford can be had, is the last relic of fortifications set up by Major-General Chudleigh, a Parliamentarian, to command the River Torridge and town, which was honourably surrendered in 1643 to the Royalists. Following the Great War, this fort and neighbouring ground were acquired by the town as a Memorial, being laid out as a park, with a rugged granite cross at the hill's summit.

At the close of the seventeenth century Bideford ranked as the third or fourth port of the kingdom. In early years of the eighteenth century, French Privateers played such havoc with Bideford shipping in what they named the "Golden Bay," that trade was diverted, and the port steadily declined. For more than half a century, however, until 1755, Bideford imported more tobacco than any other port in England except London, and in some years it even surpassed that port. The shipbuilding industry continued until fairly recent years; a short-lived steel shipbuilding industry occurring during the post-War boom.

The old residential part of Bideford was High Street and Mill Street, and here lived the merchant adventurers who sent ships, half trading, half fighting, into the Spanish Main, and to the newly-founded colonies of North America. Bridgeland Street as it is known to-day, did not exist until after 1684, although there is a popular myth that the Freemason's Hall, just below the Lavington Chapel, in this street, was the home of Rose Salterne. All-halland Street, interestingly enough, at one time formed the Quay, the Quay-front of to-day and Promenade having been gradually extended into the river basin.



[R. L. Knight

VICTORIA PARK, BIDEFORD.

Photo]

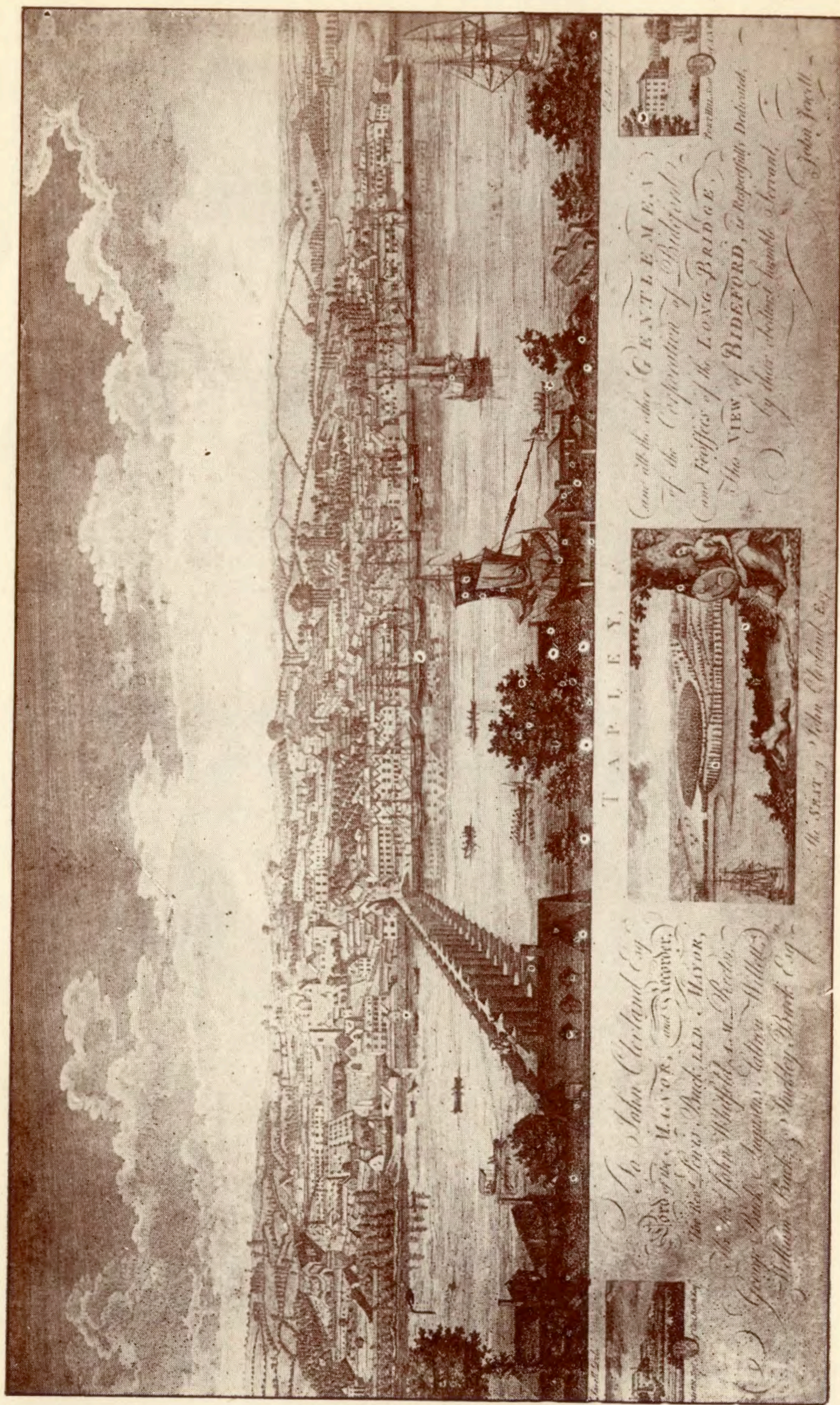
Many of the present buildings were built on the site of old inns. Of the old inns on the Quay, most of which have disappeared, one of the last to go was the Ship Inn, supposed to be on the site of the original "Ship," where the lovers of Rose Salterne dined together, one market day, and then formed the Brotherhood of the Rose. In the old days it had a gabled roof, and in course of time its titles included "The Blue Anchor," as well as the "Newfoundland Inn."

"Every one who knows Bideford," says Kingsley, "cannot but know Bideford Bridge, for it is the very omphalos, cynosure and soul around which the town, as a body, has organised itself . . . being first an inspired bridge; a soul-saving bridge; an alms-giving bridge; an educational bridge; a sentient bridge;



THE BRIDGE SEAL.

and last, but not least, a dinner-giving bridge." It has a length of 677 feet, and was built about six centuries ago. More than one attempt was made to erect the bridge, but without success, until, according



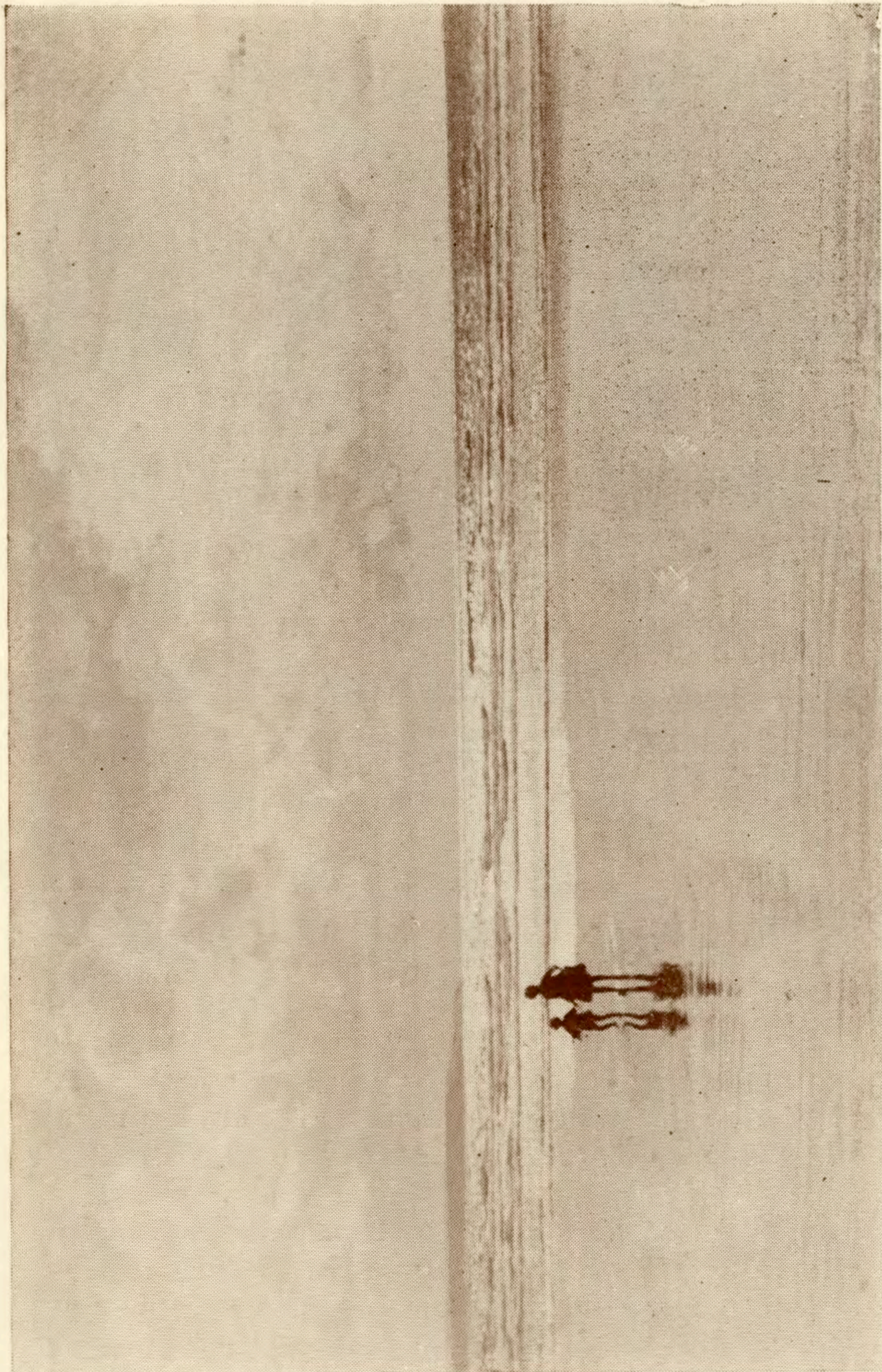
BIDEFORD FROM AN OLD PRINT.

to ancient legend, Sir Richard Gurney, the parish priest at the time, was shown where to build in a dream. A remarkable fact is that its twenty-four arches are of different size, due, it is popularly believed, to some having been given by poor folk and others by the more wealthy. The present imposing appearance of the Bridge resulted from renovation and widening in 1925. In the early fourteenth century, angles were provided at each pillar into which any pedestrians might step for shelter from horses or other animals passing over. At the eastern end of the Bridge there was a chapel dedicated to St. Thomas the Martyr, and those who passed over it were wont to leave a gift for the maintenance of the structure, and in course of time the endowments yielded large revenues, which were administered by Bridge Feoffees or Bridge Trustees, who in the past have been famous for their dinners, not now held, and Kingsley wrote that the Bridge formerly kept the "best stocked cellar of wine in all Devon." Educational, charitable, and other grants are made from time to time as funds accumulate.

Visitors approaching Bideford for the first time from the East are at once charmed with the delightful setting of the town. The railway and

**Bideford's
Delightful
Setting.**

the main road reach it up the banks of the broad, ribbon-like River Torridge, which is crossed here by the famous Long Bridge already referred to. On either side are wooded hills. On all the vantage points around can be seen private residences, here nestling in a thickly wooded patch, and there standing out more boldly, commanding extensive views of the river, estuary and surrounding country-side. Crossing the old Bridge can be a thrill to those whose imagination will take some flight of fancy in history or tradition. Down the river will be seen the shipping at Appledore; and Instow's pleasure sailing boats; while in the opposite direction, towards Weare Giffard and Torrington the river curls away to hidden spots where boating picnics and good fishing can be obtained.



[R. W. Smith

THE SANDS OF WESTWARD HO!

Photo]

Facing one, at the west end of the Bridge, are the Municipal Buildings, Free Library and Museum, and the Bridge Buildings, and in between

Municipal Buildings. is the beginning of Bridge Street, a steep and narrow ascent that used to be the old coach route. The Free Library and Municipal Buildings were erected in 1906, and together form an imposing block of town buildings. Bideford adopted the Public Libraries Act in 1872, being one of the first towns in the West to rate itself for this extra-educational purpose, and it has now a very fine selection of books of fiction and reference, especially of those dealing with Bideford and district. In the Library also there are autographed letters of Kingsley, portraits of Capern, and the original of one of his poems, and many other relics of historic interest, including the most recent, a silver ship of the Armada period, given by Sir Basil E. Peto, Bt., to commemorate the restoration to Bideford of the title of "Port." Several old prints of local views and photographs of "old Bideford" are to be found in the same buildings, and in the museum there is an interesting collection of local "finds," including flint implements, old Armada chest, and specimens from the Westward Ho! submerged forest.

Another imposing building at the Bridge End is the Bridge Hall, which was erected in 1882 at a cost of £4,200, to replace the quaint old

Bridge Hall and Parish Church. structure which did duty for so many generations, with its sombre chamber and school house adjoining. On the

outside of the building the visitor will note an ancient sun-dial with its legend "Sol Tibi Signa Dabit," a reminder of the older building. Within a stone's throw is the *Parish Church of St. Mary, built in 1864-5 upon the site of a much older edifice which retains the Norman tower, font and screen. An interesting account of its history is set out at length by a former Rector of the parish, the Rev. Preb. Roger Granville, in his "History of Bideford." There are several monuments of much historical interest here, including those of the Grenvilles and the famous Sir Richard

* See Page 54.

Grenville, of Azores fame, and John Strange, the hero of the Plague in 1666. At East-the-Water is St. Peter's Church, the Chapel-of-Ease. Other places of worship in the town include Lavington Chapel, in Bridgeland Street, the home of the early "Independents," whose first minister was the parish priest at the time; Methodist Chapels in Bridge Street and High Street; Baptist Chapel, Lower Gunstone; the Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart; the Salvation Army Headquarters; Bethel Church (East the Water); Plymouth Brethren Meeting Hall, North Road; the Bideford Town Mission Hall, Lime Grove; and the Christian Science Meeting Room, Coldharbour.

Many people are enchanted by their first impression of Bideford Quay and Promenade, which wide and imposing thoroughfare, with its tree-shaded walks, extends for a considerable distance until it becomes the River Bank Walk. The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of Bideford, being the Lords of the Manor, are owners of the Quay, and receive the wharfage dues thereof.

The first Lord of the Manor was Sir Richard Grenville, who, in the reign of William Rufus, was the most renowned for his valour, and who conquered Glamorganshire. This Sir Richard was descended from the Norman house of Clare, famous for their nobility and antiquity; many persons of great eminence have descended from them, viz., another Sir Richard, who in the reign of Queen Elizabeth maintained the greatest sea-fight ever fought by an Englishman. Having on board but 180 men, as Tennyson has so vividly written, he fought twenty-four hours with a host of Spanish ships, with his "Men of Bideford in Devon." Then Sir Theobald Grenville, who was a benefactor of the ancient Bridge. Sir Beville Grenville, who by his heroic action repelled the Parliamentary Forces at Lansdowne and thereby preserved the army of King Charles I., though he lost his own life in this action. His son and heir was Sir John Grenville who, following in his father's footsteps, and being very serviceable to King Charles II., was immediately created Earl of

Bath, Viscount Lansdowne and Baron of Bideford and Kilkhampton.

Along the picturesque River Bank, boating, swimming and the movement on the water and riversides retain one's interest. On the landward side is Victoria Park, including an extensive recreation ground. It is claimed that flowers are blooming here every day in the year. Around the Bandstand are the old *Armada Guns, about which there has been much controversy. These are undoubtedly eight of the finest specimens of the old guns

Park and Armada Guns.



BIDEFORD'S ARMADA CHEST (A.D. 1588).

of the type used by the Spaniards during their projected invasion of Great Britain. The Armada Guns and the Treasure Chest are similar to those at Inverawe Castle, the residence of the Duke of Argyle, which were dredged up at Tobermory. Like many other historic relics, these guns have had a chequered career, and for many years served as mooring posts on Bideford Quay.

* See Page 51.

To the West of Kingsley Statue, just outside the main entrance to the Park, a fine new roadway, Kingsley Road, leads away to West-

Recreative. ward Ho! passing Bideford's fine Sports Ground, where there is every provision for tennis, hard and grass courts, golf putting, etc., and where are staged pageants, horse shows, fetes, besides football and cricket matches. Adjoining is the Bideford Bowling Club, whose annual open tournament in August always attracts a large entry. Not far away are the lawn tennis and croquet courts of the Torridge Vale Tennis Club, whose annual tournament is held about the same time, being followed later in the month by a juveniles' tournament. There are two cinemas and a playhouse.

Shopping has every attraction to offer at Bideford, for its traders are of the most enterprising variety, and uniformly handsome front windows and arcades surprise and please those who do not expect to find so completely up-to-date and well-stocked departments.

Among the many interesting things to see in Bideford besides those already mentioned is the Kingsley oak-panelled room at the **Interesting** Royal Hotel, where the famous author **Items.** is believed to have written part of "Westward Ho!" although most of it would probably have been written at North Down House, now a convent school, where he lived. The hotel is the "Colonial House" of 1688, but has been considerably re-built.

Every visitor "goes to market" in the spacious Pannier Market Hall, reached via High Street and Grenville Street. Here, on Tuesdays and Saturdays, the farmers' wives from the West Country attend their stalls and sell the produce—butter, cream and eggs—for which the district is justly famed. Under the same roof is also the Butcher's Row and Fish Market.

In Old Town, at the top of High Street, can be seen the cottages where lived the last of the Devon witches to be burned. Exactly opposite, interestingly enough, is now the Fire Station, containing an up-to-date motor-engine. In the premises now occupied by the Church Lads' Brigade, in Allhalland Street, formerly the

"Castle Inn," is where Sir Richard Granville is said to have resided after returning from his colonisation expedition to Virginia.

For fishing in two Reservoirs, tickets can be obtained from the Town Clerk at 15s. 0d. per month, or £2 2s.

**Useful
Sports
Notes.**

for the season for Gammaton Reservoir or for Jennetts Reservoir (or £3 3s. per season inclusive of both reservoirs). Day tickets are obtainable from the caretakers at 3/6 per day. Trout fishing in the Torridge 2s. 6d. per week (7s. 6d. per season), and salmon fishing, 7s. 6d. per day, £1 1s. per week (£2 2s. per season) per Mr. F. L. Pearse, Allhalland St.

Visitors can become temporary members of Torridge Vale Lawn Tennis Club for 2s. per day and 7s. 6d. per week on introduction or of the Kingsley Road Hard Court Tennis Club on introduction; and can avail themselves of the facilities of Bideford Bowling Club at 1s. 0d. per game; 1s. 6d. per day; 7s. 6d. per week; or 12s. 6d. per fortnight. There are open bowling and tennis tournaments during the first week of August. For particulars of other clubs, see page 71.



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[R. W. Smith

WESTWARD HO! SURF BATHERS

Photo]



Photo]

THE GOLF LINKS [Dr. A. E. Bodington

Westward Ho! & Northam

To reach the sea from Bideford is only a matter of minutes. By car the run to Westward Ho! takes about five or six minutes. Less fortunate folk take fifteen minutes by 'bus. Not to be pitied in any way are those who walk, for the way is very pleasant, being partly through field paths.

Westward Ho! is a fine place. There are two miles of perfect sands, washed clean twice daily by the Atlantic. All traces of a Bank Holiday crowd are wiped out overnight, and the receding tide leaves a brand new level playground for the children to dig over again. It leaves, too, thousands of fascinating pools in the rocks along the shore of the bay, teeming with sea-life of all descriptions. All day long, at any state of the tide, there is the most exhilarating bathing. The long ocean rollers come pounding in, sweeping along the surf board experts and creaming around the other bathers before dying away to nothing round the toddlers on the fringe. Bathing at Westward Ho! is as safe as it possibly

can be. For swimmers there are two large pools hewn out of the rocks, and the Patio open air baths, which are also a veritable sun trap.

A natural feature of great interest at Westward Ho!

Natural Advantages. is the long Pebble Ridge which forms a breakwater behind the whole length of the sands, and a valuable protection for the world-famous golf course on the Burrows. The corner of the Burrows in the angle between the sea and the river is a wilderness of Sand-hills, covered for the most part with the springiest turf and a paradise for games and picnics. Shielding the village from cold winds is a line of hills which at the western end are known as Kipling Tors, scene of school-boy exploits of "Stalky & Co." The views from the top are magnificent and the Tors have now been acquired by the National Trust. The old United Services College where Kipling went to school still stands, converted to flats, and the gymnasium makes a fine hall for badminton and dances.

The village itself comprises a central core of shops and cafes, church, chapel, hotels and boarding houses, and a scattered fringe of large residences and summer bungalows, whose occupants are well satisfied with the amenities of water, drainage, light, heat and transport provided for them. Rates and assessments are quite reasonable.

The present vogue for camping is well catered for at Westward Ho! Many tourists pull up there for the night and stay a week.

Perhaps the most striking feature of Westward Ho! is its spaciousness. The thousands of acres of sands, Burrows, rocks and hillsides give ample room for everybody, and even on a Bank Holiday one need only move away from the centre of activity to find peace and quiet, in surroundings of unsurpassed beauty.

Golf at Westward Ho! is too big a subject to deal with here. A further article will be found on page 60. Suffice to say that, though a championship course (the 'Varsity match was played here in March, 1938), the handicap man can enjoy it as well as the scratch player. Westward Ho! is subtle. While the tiger is finding it difficult to get his 3's and 4's, the

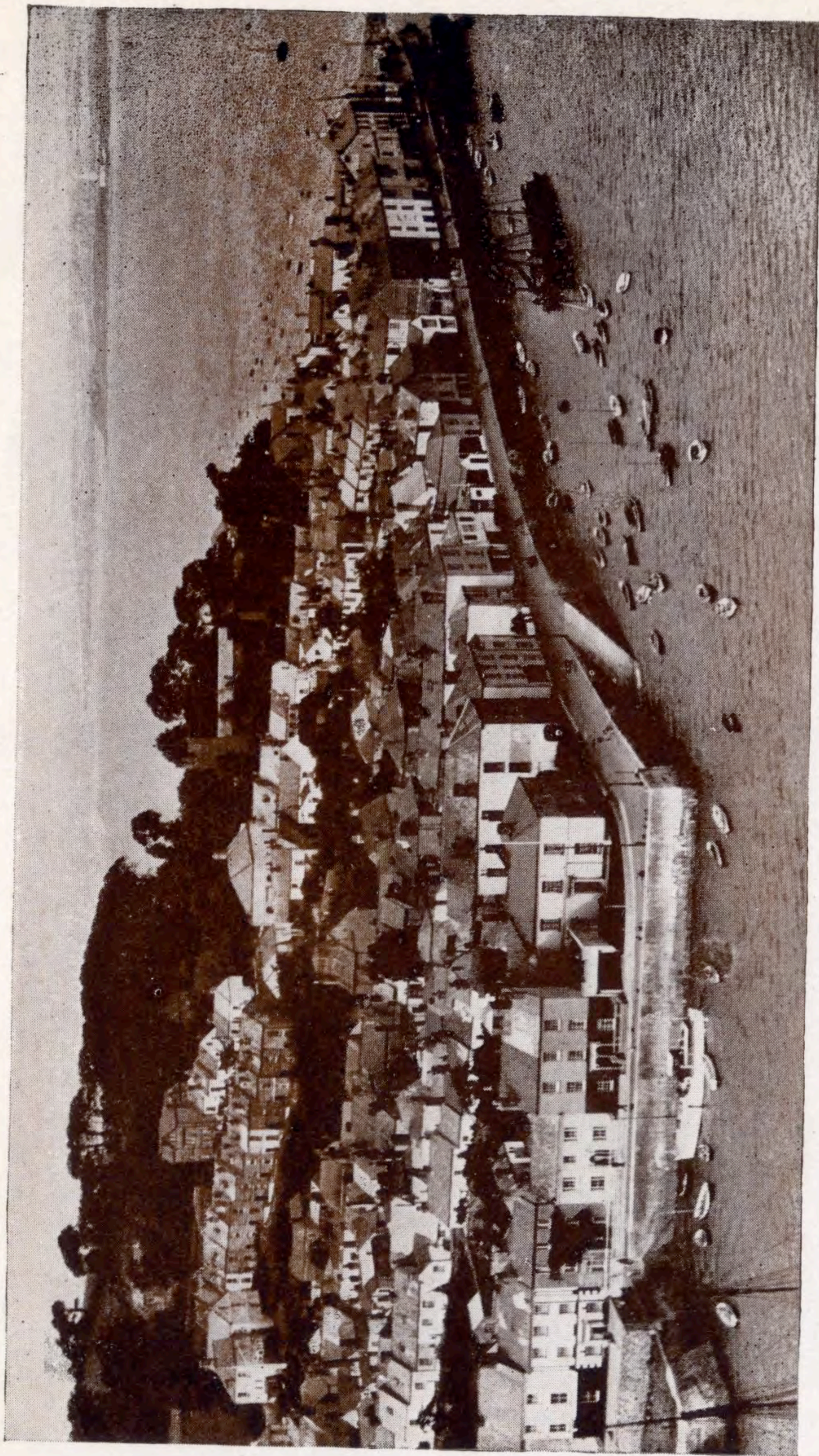
ordinary player can go along quite happily with his 5's and 6's with an occasional 8 or 10 to remind him of where he is. (The new Dormy House alongside the Royal North Devon Golf Club House provides a crowning amenity which for a golfer and family makes Westward Ho! the ideal place for a holiday.)

Overlooking the links is the village of **Northam**, whose "tall, grey, wind-swept tower" gives the line for playing the 18th hole. Northam is a golfing village, and at the present time over eighty of its people are filling posts as professionals in different parts of the world, J. H. Taylor, many times Open Champion, being the most famous of them all.

Readers of "Westward Ho!" will find in Northam the home of Amyas Leigh at Burrough Farm, and will perhaps search the churchyard for the grave of Salvation Yeo, buried where "—perhaps the old man might like to look at the sea, and see the ships come in and out across the harbour bar." Even if they fail to find it, they will read a tale of the sea, more recent than Kingsley's on the headstone of the grave of the "Thistlemore" sailors; and enjoy from yet another viewpoint the magnificent panorama of the coast line of Kingsley's Country before returning to Bideford where a good deal of the book was written.



SAILING IN THE ESTUARY



Photo]

[By courtesy Northam Advertising Committee
APPLEDORE FROM AN AEROPLANE.

Appledore & Instow

Appledore is a township of about 3,000 inhabitants, three and a half miles from Bideford, with quite a

**Quaint
and
Picturesque.**

different character to any of its neighbours, and its association with Instow is that it faces the latter across the Torridge as it meets the waters of the Taw. Appledorians have for years lived by the sea, and no doubt will for generations to come, although the advent of steam has somewhat diverted shipping. Shipbuilding and repairing and kindred trades are carried on, there being two dry docks. Appledore's very character is the reason for its growing popularity with visitors. There is always something of interest: long and quaintly narrow streets, old-fashioned houses, and ship-lined quay, different craft coming in over the bar to drop anchor in Appledore "Pool"; blue-jerseyed watermen beckoning likely patrons for a row or a sail in the estuary. It is no wonder that artists are attracted in growing numbers—when there is a fresh picture at almost every turn.

Fine views are obtained from the neighbourhood of Chanter's Folly, a picturesque landmark on the edge of a large quarry built many years ago by a merchant named Chanter, to catch first sight of his vessels arriving at the Bar, and signal the news to Bideford. This can be reached via Pitt Hill. Across the river on a hill to the right of Instow can be seen Tapley House and the remains of an obelisk erected in memory of a Cleveland who lost his life in the Crimean war. The obelisk was shattered by lightning in June, 1932.

Appledore is a remarkably healthy quarter, being sheltered from the prevailing winds, West and South-West, and has a humid air, in which snow seldom lies. It has also a reputation as an excellent spot for chronic bronchitis patients. For water requirements it shares the supply of Northam, being part of the

**A Healthy
Quarter.**

Urban District of Northam. Among the places of interest* are the Parish Church of St. Mary's, erected in 1838, and the up-to-date motor lifeboat and lifeboat house at the extreme limit of West Appledore. Places of worship include Baptist, Congregational, Methodist, Plymouth Brethren, and Sailors' Mission.

The ferry takes one from Appledore to Instow, where, if the tide is in, a landing is made by the pier. Instow is a pleasant residential resort full of charms for the artist and holiday-maker. It is three miles from Bideford, and can be reached by railway or motor-bus in a few minutes. From

Instow's Pleasant Charms.

here one obtains a fine, sweeping view of the confluence of Taw and Torridge and the surf-lined Bar outside, of Braunton lighthouse on the right, and beyond, on the skyline, the dim outline of Lundy Island; while to the left can be seen the distant coast-line by Clovelly and Gallantry Bower to Hartland Point, with the lighthouse at the foot. At evening the flashes of three lighthouses can be seen.

Instow's amenities as a residential and holiday centre include good gas, electricity, water and other public services; reasonably-priced hotel and boarding house accommodation, equable climate suitable for convalescents. For children there are some of the finest sands in Devon, and bathing is safe except when the tide is right out. The North Devon cricket ground is here, and during the season there is an attractive fixture list. Sailing is popular, and facilities are offered by the Taw and Torridge Sailing Club, and there is also a tennis and croquet club where visitors can play on introduction. From Appledore and Instow it is possible to get at least four hours' sailing each tide, and there is every opportunity for fishing.

*Local history begins with the defeat of Hubba, the Dane, in his attack on Kenwith Castle. Watkins introduces the story: "In the year 879 the Danish invader Hubba, after having ravaged South Wales, embarked in thirty-three ships for Devonshire, and being landed on Northam Burrows, proceeded to attack the castle of Kenwith, in which was Odun (sic) Earl of Devon, with a small garrison—and after a bloody conquest the Danes were routed." An inscribed stone tablet, with the heading "Stop! stranger, stop!" at Bloody Corner, on the main road from Appledore to Northam, commemorates the event.

CLOVELLY and BUCKS MILLS

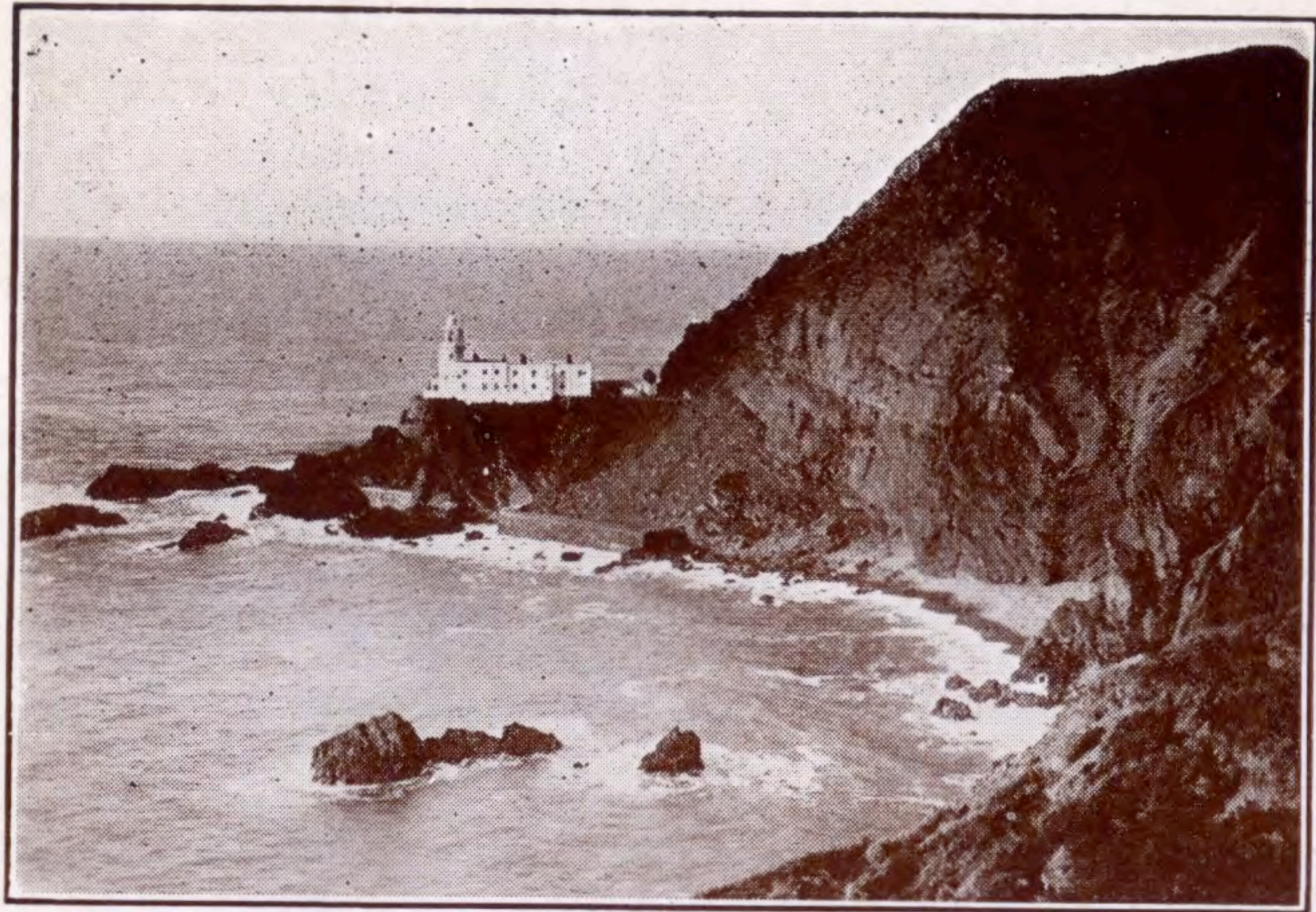
No holiday at Bideford would be complete without a visit to Clovelly and Bucks Mill, and their charm is such that free agents will be tempted to prolong their stay to spend a few days in these delightful villages.

Bucks Mills is approached by a good motor road from the main road at Bucks Cross, between wooded slopes which are a paradise of flowers and ferns. There is excellent and safe bathing on sand and the whole village is quite unspoilt and forms a good centre for walking, everywhere being free to the public. The inhabitants are nearly all "Braunds," said to be descendants of shipwrecked survivors of the Spanish Armada.

Clovelly, of course, is world famous. No need here for the writer to attempt to "gild the lily." It is sufficient to say that **Clovelly's old world charm** has been carefully preserved by its owners, and the steepness of its single cobbled street keeps it free for all time from the taint of petrol fumes. Sure-footed donkeys the only means of transport; front doors on a level with nearby roof-tops; fuschias mounting up to meet creepers trailing down; these are the imperishable features of Clovelly which make it the unique cliff village. Lots of people go to Clovelly so naturally there are two good hotels. One nestles in its place half way down, and the other is right down by the sea at the end of the boulder-built jetty. The walks round Clovelly to **Gallantry Bower**, and through the **Hobby Drive** combine sylvan beauty with cliff grandeur to an extent hardly found elsewhere in the whole world.

Clovelly Dykes are situated near the main road before turning off to the village. Three distinct encampments each with its own vallum and ditch make up this ancient fortification, the whole covering about 30 acres. Situated on high ground, there is a view of about 40 miles in every direction, from Lundy Island and Exmoor to the North, to Dartmoor and the Cornish Heights in the South.

Hartland Point is about 6 miles from Clovelly, and **Hartland Quay** about two miles farther. The Point rises some 350 feet from the sea. The lighthouse on the lower jutting ledge was built in 1874. Hartland, or Harton parish, extends for 16,700 acres, and is perhaps the largest and wildest parish in the whole West Country. The Parish Church is dedicated to St. Nectan, and was connected with a college of secular canons, founded by Gytha wife of Earl Godwin. Out of this college grew Hartland Abbey.



Photo] **HARTLAND LIGHTHOUSE** [F. E. Whiting

Telephone, Hartland 24. Telegrams, "Quay Hotel," Hartland.
Station, Bideford S.R.

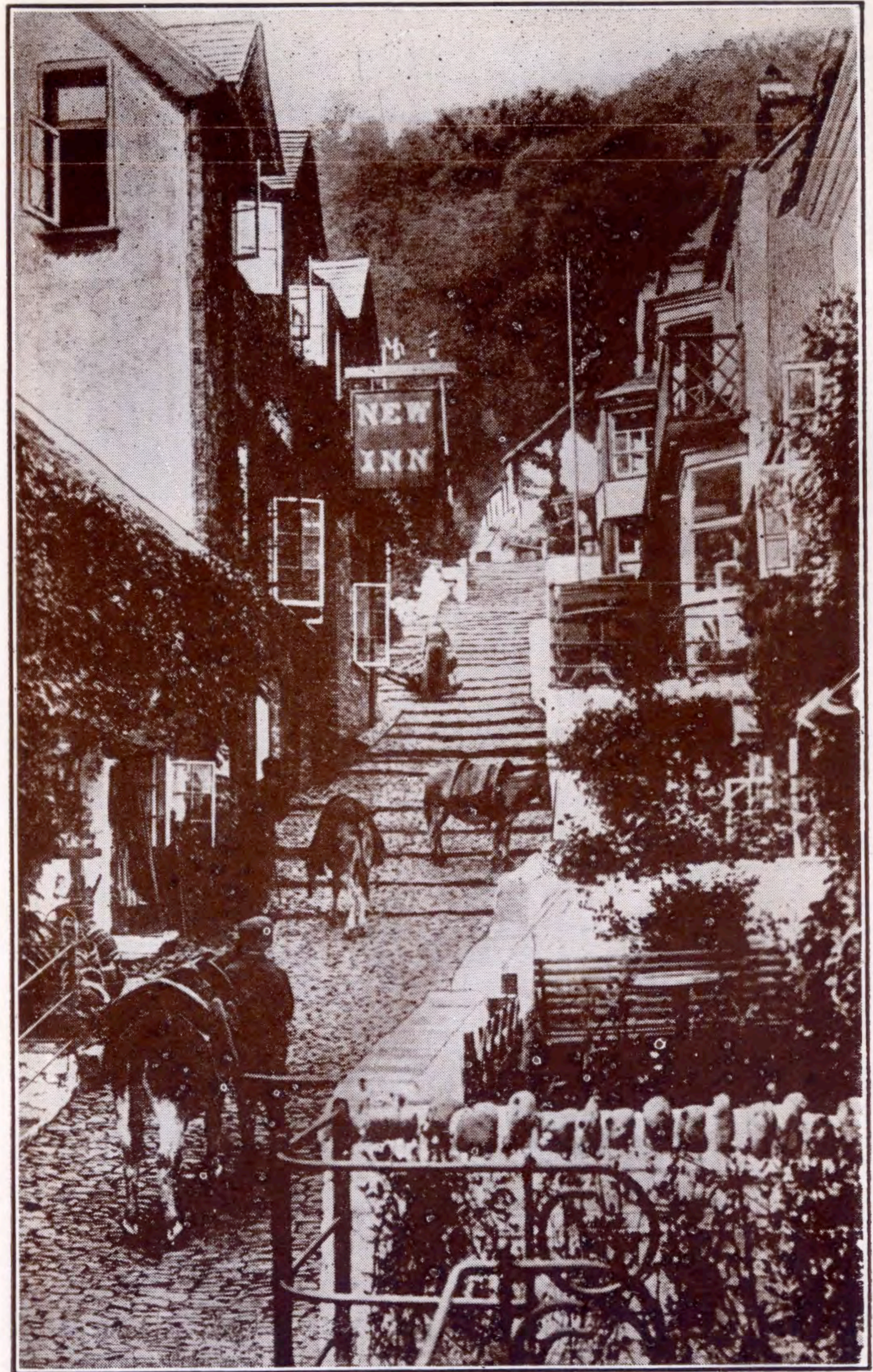
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Photo] **HIGH STREET, CLOVELLY** [Photochrom Co.



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Round Kingsley District

Radiating from Bideford are numerous places of interest, brief mention of which only can be made here. Within a few miles of Bideford there are several pleasant excursions, including :

- (1) Along the riverside to Appledore, and return via Northam.
- (2) By train or 'bus to Instow, ferry to Appledore, walk to Westward Ho! over the Burrows, and either travel by 'bus or walk to Bideford via Buckleigh.
- (3) The old Barnstaple road to Eastleigh, turn off for Westleigh, and return along the main road.
- (4) To Littleham via Ashridge, beautiful views of the river being obtained, and return via Yeo Vale and Torrington main road.
- (5) To the Reservoirs at Gammaton, East-the-Water.
- (6) To Jennetts' Reservoir, branching off from the Torrington main road.
- (7) To Abbotsham or Cornborough Cliffs, getting a glimpse of Kenwith Castle, and make a circular tour via the coast to Westward Ho!
- (8) By train to Torrington, and walk the seven miles back via Weare Giffard, enjoying to the full the supreme and quiescent beauty of the Torridge Valley.
- (9) Take the main Clovelly road and branch off to the right after passing Abbotsham Cross for Cockington Cliffs, return same route or via coast to Westward Ho!
- (10) By 'bus to Horns Cross and walk to Peppercombe, returning by 'bus or walking.
- (11) An easy walk to Kenwith Woods, then following the Westward Ho! road to the first cross-roads, returning by Silford Farm and Raleigh.

'Bus routes intersect most of the walks given above, enabling those who wish to cover part of the ground more quickly. For motorists there is a wide range of localities, and useful help in selecting short trips can be obtained from the road map in the centre of this Guide.

Port and Industrial Development

Two Slate Slabs on the Quay footpath mark the length of Bideford Quay in the year 1663.

This was the site on which one can visualise the meetings of the merchant adventurers of Elizabethan days—from which they set out on their voyages of discovery and adventure and to which they returned so often with their rich cargoes from the Spanish Main, their unusual-in-those-days cargoes of Tobacco, Potatoes, &c., and later the centre of the Newfoundland Fish Industry.

With the progress of the town the Quay has been extended and a retaining wall built until today one sees the broad, imposing Quay with its avenue of trees—busy with shipping. (As on Page 47.)

The many advantages the Port of Bideford offers for sea-borne traffic is becoming more and more recognised—its proximity to the coal fields and industry of South Wales—the fact that vessels of over 1,200 tons have berthed with ease makes it the most important Port on the southern shore of the Bristol Channel.

New Industries in the neighbourhood to provide export cargoes would be of great value and the Council (as Lords of the Manor) realising the need and importance of new Light Industries, has recently formed an Industrial Development Committee to further this need and intend to spare no efforts to ensure that the proud history of the port shall be preserved and its facilities increased.

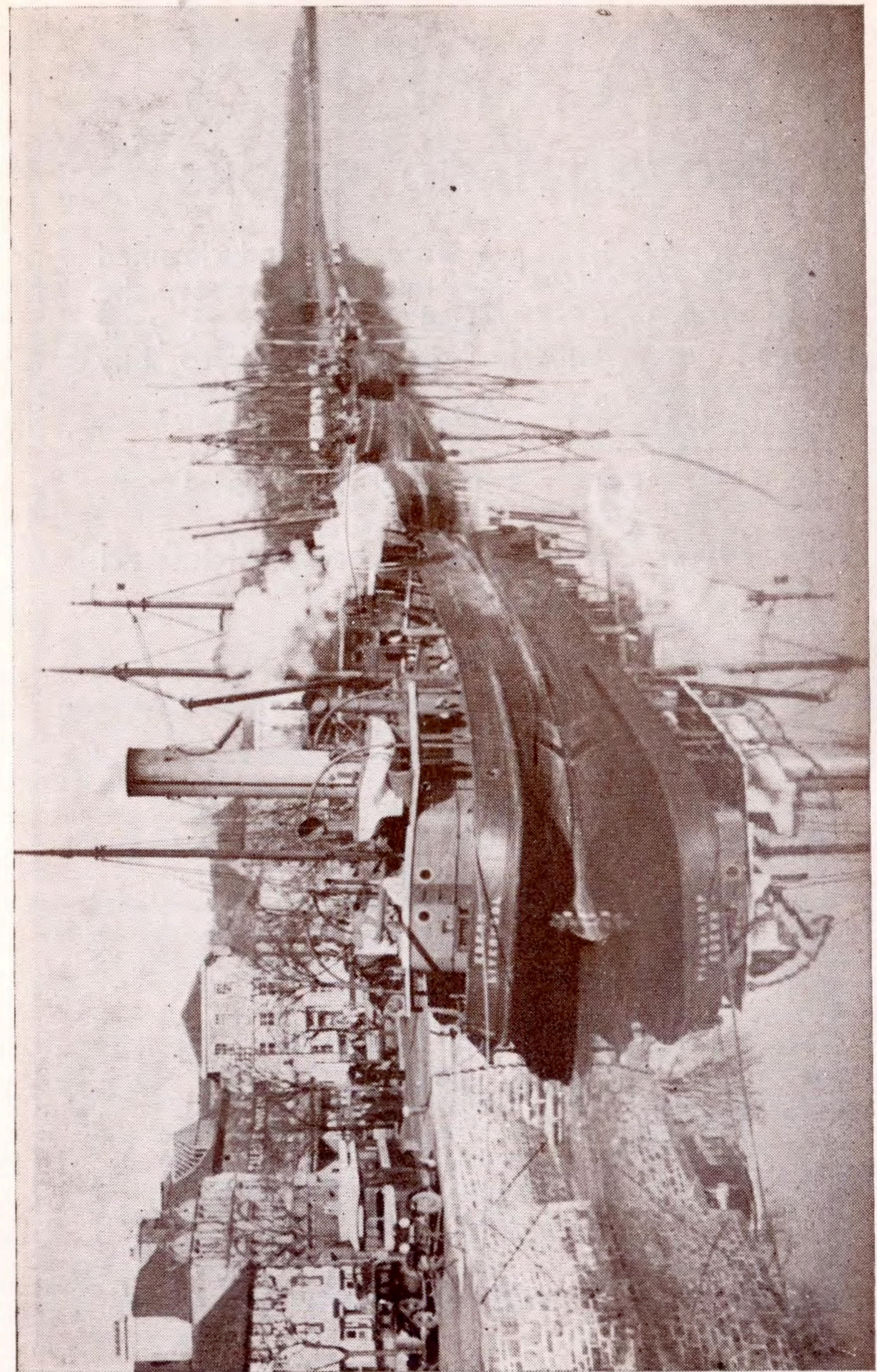
With such a maritime history and record of Shipbuilding one would expect to find more reference to Shipyards. The past history in this direction are told in other pages and it is with pleasure we note the re-establishment in recent years of a shipyard above the bridge, turning out the modern popular motor boats and pinnaces for His Majesty's Navy.

Glovemaking is still the main industry and the factory may be visited by special application.

Being the centre of a district in which Agriculture is the main industry it is hoped to develop the already busy marketing of produce. The improved Cattle Market makes it possible to deal with the increasing business in Cattle, Sheep, &c.—but the Industrial Committee is stressing the great possibilities of developing increased food production and the storage of the same and it is felt that in a district in which strawberries, fruit, flowers grow in such abundance this section may be turned to even greater advantage by wise planning, marketing and development.

The situation of Bideford, the climatic advantages, its facilities of power, transit, give great promise of future development, advantageous to the town, port and district.

Enquiries concerning Industrial Development should be addressed to the Town Clerk, Bideford.



[H. M. Johnstone

QUAYSIDE SHIPPING REFLECTIONS.

Photo]

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Books of Local Interest

Obtainable at Bideford Free Library

FICTION.—“Westward Ho!” (C. Kingsley); “Lorna Doone” (R. D. Blackmore); “Tarka, the Otter” and “The Pathway” (H. Williamson); “The Maid of Sker” (R. D. Blackmore); “Sir Bevil” (A. C. Thynne); “Laramys” (G. Ford); “Postle Farm” (George Ford); “Wilderness of Monkeys” (Frederick Niven); “Island Providence” (Frederick Niven); “Asenath of the Ford” (Rita); “Stalky and Co.” (Rudyard Kipling); “Orange Street” (S. P. B. Mais); “Katerfelto” (Whyte Melville); “Set in Silver” (C and A. N. Williamson); “Ivor” (G. H. Russell); “The Mighty Atom” (Marie Corelli); “The Man of Genius” (M. P. Willcocks); “The Happy Elopement” (E. H. Lacon Watson); “The Golden Bay” (J. Weare Giffard); “Lure of Contraband” (J. Weare Giffard); “Riddle of the River” (J. Weare Giffard); “Shifting Sand” (Alice Birkhead); “The Last of the Grenvilles” (Bennet Copplestone); “Henry Elizabeth” (Justin Huntly McCarthy); “The Edge of Circumstance” (E. Noble); “The Man at Odds” (Ernest Rhys); “Two Years Ago” (Charles Kingsley); “Ravenshoe” (Henry Kingsley); “The Wages of Sin” (Lucas Malet); “A Message from the Sea” (Charles Dickens); “My Lady of Shadows” (John Oxenham); “My Devonshire Book” (J. M. Harris); “The Murder on the Burrows” (E. C. R. Lorac); “Rip Van Bideford” (Vernon C. Boyle); “The Village Book” (Henry Williamson); “The Neighbours” (John Galsworthy); “Bellows to Mend” (Esther Graham); “Salar the Salmon” (Henry Williamson); “The Terror of the Tideway” (Rev. P. J. Somers Cocks); “The House will come Down” (Miss E. F. Stucley); “Story of a Red Deer” (Hon. John Fortescue).

BIOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.—“Vicar of Morwenstow” (S. Baring-Gould); “Worthies of Devon” (J. Prince); “Devonshire Characters and Strange Events” (S. Baring-Gould); “Charles Kingsley’s Life and Letters (by his Wife)”; “History of Bideford” (Watkins); “History of Bideford” (Roger Granville); “Devonshire” (D. Lyson); “Survey of Devon” (T. Risdon); “The Portledge Papers” (edited by R. J. Kerr and Ida Coffin Duncan); “Stalky’s Adventures” (L. C. Dunsterville); “Literary Landmarks of Devon and Cornwall” (R. T. Hopkins); “The Peepshow” (Walter Wilkinson); “Something of Myself” (Rudyard Kipling); “Sir Richard Grenville” (G. H. Bushnell); “Schooldays with Kipling” (G. C. Beresford); “Goodbye West Country” (Henry Williamson); “Sir Richard Grenville of the Revenge” (A. L. Rowse); “Buckland Brewer” (W. H. Rogers).

TOPOGRAPHY, ETC.—“Highways and By-ways in Devon and Cornwall” (A. H. Norway); “The North Devon Coast” (C. G. Harper); “North Devon” (F. J. Snell); “Lundy Island” (J. R. Chanter); “Lundy” (L. R. W. Loyd); “The Coasts of

Devon and Lundy" (J. Ll. W. Page); "The History of Devonshire Scenery" (A. W. Clayden); "The Coast Scenery of North Devon" (E. N. Arber); "Unknown Devon" (L. du Garde Peach); "The Path through the Wood" (J. L. May); "Devon," a Regional Survey (W. Harding Thompson, F.R.I.B.A.); "On Foot in Devon" (Henry Williamson); "Lundy" (Joan Watt-Smyrk); "Everymans England" (Victor Canning); "Flower and Thorn" (J. L. May); "Rambles in Devon" (J. H. Wade); "Heritage of the West" (E. W. Martin); "Devon Holiday" (Henry Williamson); "My Native Devon" (Hon. John Fortescue); "Under Sail through Red Devon" (Raymond Cattell).

POETRY.—Many volumes by Edward Capern; "The Revenge" (Tennyson); "The Chanty of the Nona" (Hilaire Belloc); "Songs and Verses" (Vernon Boyle); "The Cruise of the Nona" (Hilaire Belloc); "Kenwith" (Eliza Down); Poems of John Gay.

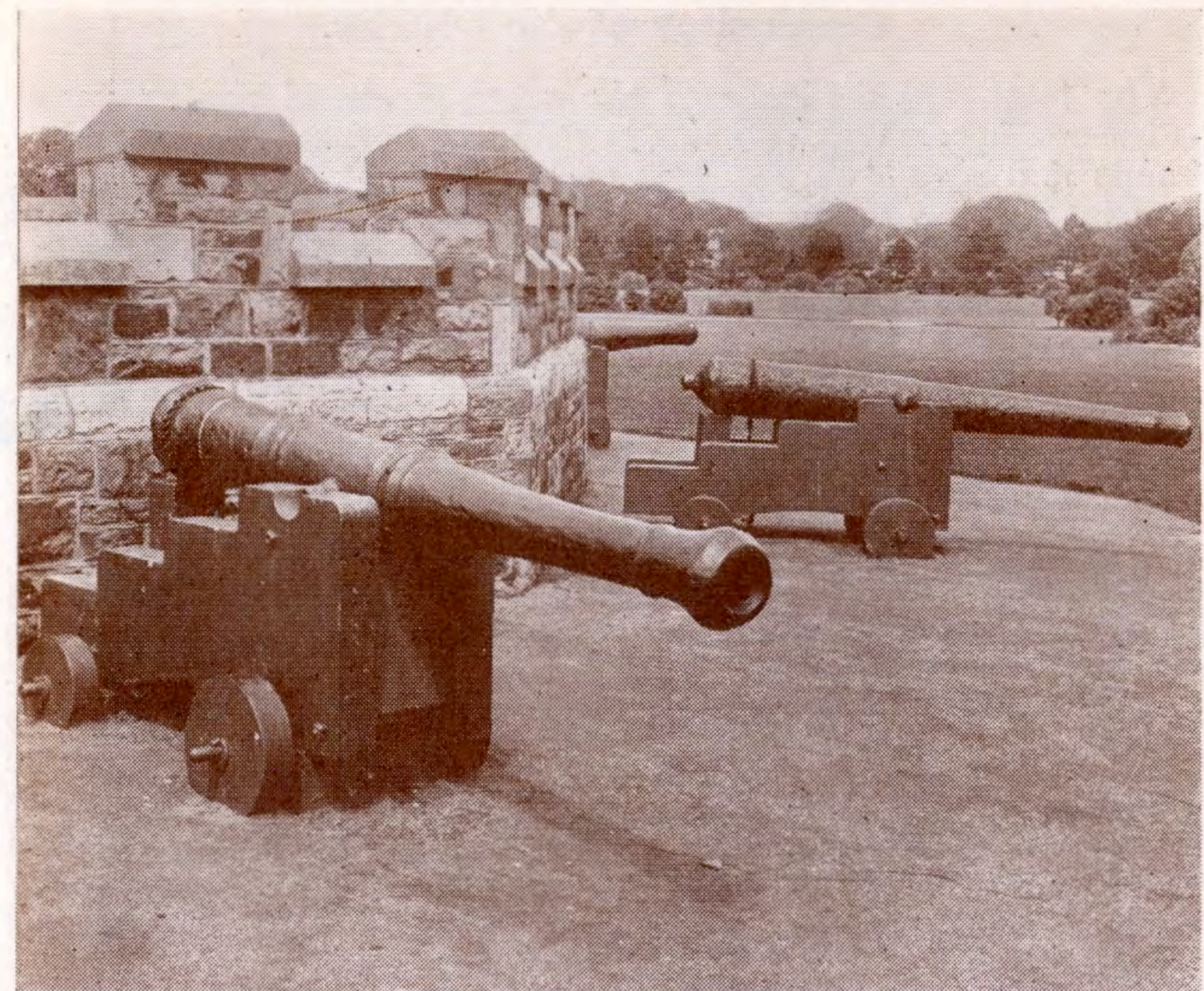
In 1938 some 1,100 volumes were bequeathed to the Library by the late Mr. R. Pearse Chope, of Hartland. These volumes deal with Devonshire and the West Country generally and are all available for reference.

Charles Kingsley Residence and Work at Bideford

Charles Kingsley as a child, lived with his father, the Rector, at Clovelly (the Aberalva of "Two Years Ago") and in 1854 he renewed his North Devon associations by coming to reside at Bideford. The winter and spring of that year were passed at Torquay, and Torbay gave him his first impression for "Westward Ho!" In June, on his wife's account, he took North Down House—now, by a strange irony of fate, in the occupation of a Roman Catholic sisterhood—where he wrote his famous "Westward Ho!," which was published in January 1855. Having little parish work at Bideford, he lectured on the Fine Arts, and held a drawing class for young men, which may be regarded as the nucleus of Bideford Science and Art School. He first endeavoured to establish a Government School of Art. This, however, failed. He then offered to teach a drawing-class, gratuitously. A meeting was held, and a room was hired at 28, Mill Street, the house of the Postman Poet, Edward Capern, who, although a married man and much older than the rest, was a most hard-working pupil.

Capern, the Postman Poet.

One of the most interesting figures connected with Bideford was Edward Capern, the Postman Poet, or (as he was often styled) the "Devonshire Burns." Capern (who came of a Huguenot stock) was born at Tiverton in 1819. At Bideford, in 1847, he was appointed a letter carrier between Bideford and Buckland Brewer, at a salary of 10s. 6d. per week. The Postman Poet was well known in the Midlands, both as a lecturer and as a reciter of his own poems. A portrait of Capern, presented to the town by his son, now hangs in the Bideford Free Library.



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Ornithology of the District.

The feathered denizens of the neighbourhood are as varied as the scenery. Within a small area are moorlands and marshes, woods and meadows, streams and tidal rivers, exposing large mudflats at low water, belts of sandy seashore and precipitous cliffs, and, though one cannot lay down hard and fast rules for bird-life, each of these localities may claim its distinctive species.

The River Torridge, indeed, is a connecting link between the varied features of the scenery. No farther up than Torrington it has sufficient of the character of a mountain torrent to be the haunt of the Dipper and the Grey Wagtail; by Weare Gifford it runs between meadow-lands, bounded in places by high banks, where the Sand Martins bore their nesting tunnels. Lower down it winds among well-wooded hills—a stretch sacred to Herons and Kingfishers. Near Bideford it is joined by small tributaries which drain marshy valleys, where Coot and Moorhen, Water Rail, Wild Duck, Teal and Snipe are generally to be found; while the Estuary below Appledore provides ample feeding-ground for shore-loving birds. There are mudflats for Curlew, Redshank, Sandpiper and Dunlin; weed-covered rocks for the Oystercatcher (or Sea-pie as the bird is locally called); sandy stretches for the Ringed Plover; and fishing preserves for the Cormorants.

Of Botanical and Geographical Interest.

Botanists and geologists will find a great deal to interest them in the neighbourhood. The district abounds with happy hunting grounds for the genuine student. The "field geology" round Bideford is very perplexing, the strata being contorted and dislocated to an exceptional extent. There is hardly a rock-cutting, quarry or cliff-face but supplies ample evidence of this. There are culm deposits, and at Bideford a new works has been built for the production of Bideford Black, a paint used largely for ships. It is a scientific fact and not a mere fantastic ill-informed local myth, that the far-famed Pebble-ridge at Westward Ho! is almost exclusively of rolled fragments from the cliffs round the Bay. The famous Raised Beaches and submerged forest at Westward Ho! are allied topics with a large literature of their own. Antiquarians will find in the district much that is of absorbing interest, especially in the carvings of the churches.

Bideford's Medieval Bridge.

Regarding Bideford's famous Long Bridge, built about the year 1350, Prince, the chronicler of the "Worthies of Devon," wrote: "The famous Bridge of Bytheford for length and number of arches equalleth, if not excelleth, any other in England, a very stately piece and remarkable in many respects, to name a few: First.—It standeth out of and far from any public road,



Photo]

LUNDY ISLAND SHOWING LANDING SLIP AND RAT ISLAND.

[Sir Fredk. Renshawe

in a corner of the county, and so intended chiefly for the convenience of the Town. Secondly.—It is very long, consisting of twenty-four piers. It is so high that a bark of sixty or seventy tons may pass and repass under the arches and between the piers thereof. The erection of this famous Bridge was certainly due to the enterprise of Sir Theobald Granville, Knight Lord of the Land, the Goldeneyns (or Gurneys) and the Oketents, persons of great credit in these parts. Prior to the erection of this Bridge the only passage across the river was by boat."

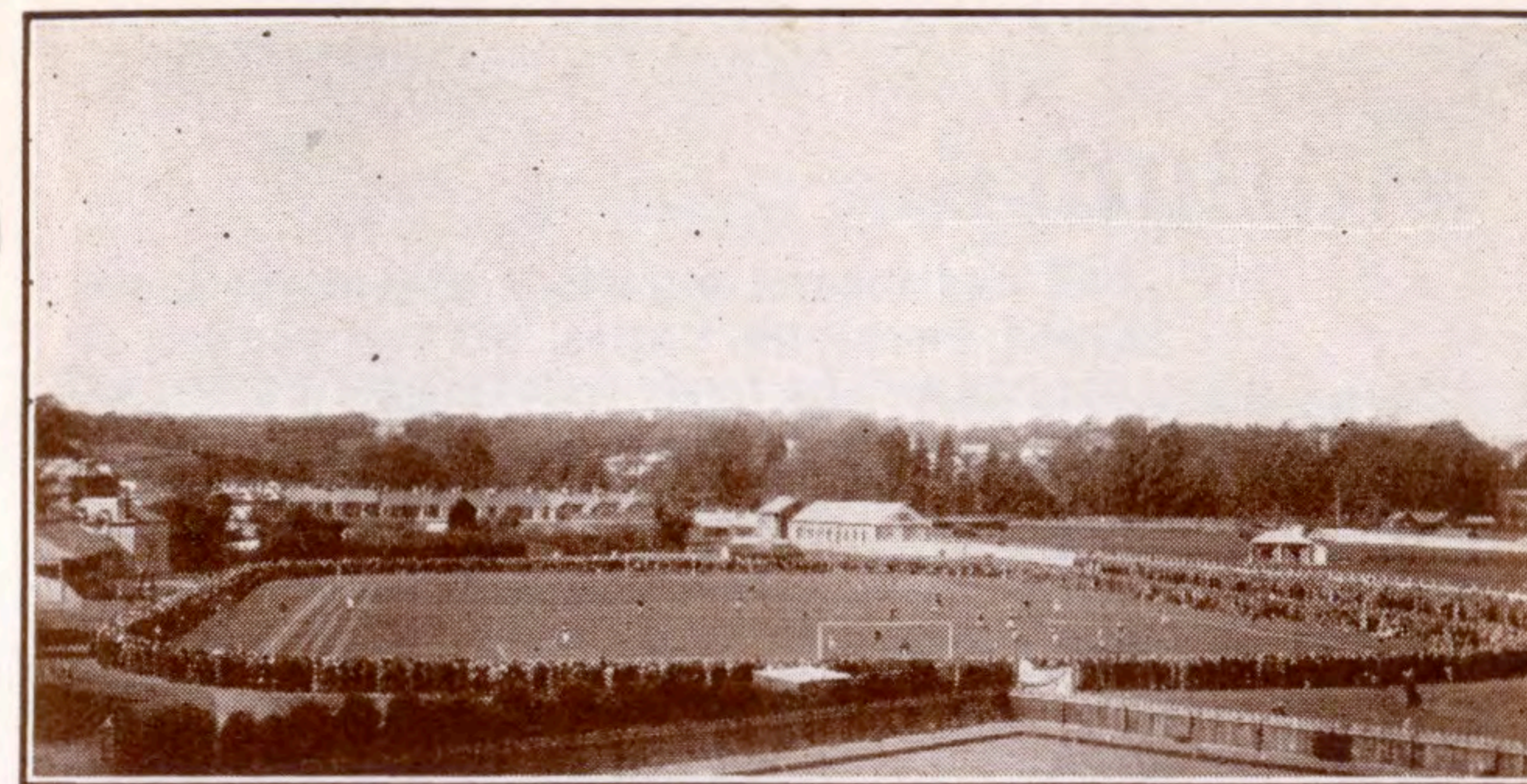
The Bridge has been improved and widened on several occasions. In 1795 six arches were widened, and in 1807 four more; later in the same year five more nearer the Western side were widened, leaving about half of the Bridge in its original state. In 1810 a contract was arranged for the whole of the Bridge to be overhauled, when the parapets were rebuilt with Penarth ashler stone improving the recesses, for the protection of the foot-passengers. It was in 1867 that the Bridge was widened and the recesses done away with, the whole of the expenses incurred in the various improvements being borne by the Bridge Feoffees. In 1925 the Bridge as now seen was again widened, and the approaches East and West of the river were greatly improved.

An old print of this ancient Bridge can be seen in the Public Library. See page 26.

Bideford: St. Mary the Virgin de Bydeford.

Originally a Saxon Church replaced by Norman, Bideford Parish Church was dedicated by Bishop Branscombe in the year 1259, the second year of his episcopate, the Church being then in the form of a cross. There remains, after the rebuilding of the Church in 1864, the Norman Tower, 70 feet high, together with the Norman font, a circular bowl divided into eight panels framed in cable twist; three panels facing East, filled with ornament, in centre a Maltese Cross, surrounded by a circular cable, to the left and interlaced Cross, on the right four divergent loops of three concentric cables. The arrangement of the ornament is unique.

Other points of interest: Grenville Chantry in south transept with tomb of founder, Sir Thomas Grenville, ob. 18th March, 1513; interesting example of mediæval armour; arms of Grenville—3 horsemen's rests, impaling Gilbert of Compton Marldon; on a chevron three roses. Tower Screen, composed of portions of the old bench ends, showing the Grenville and other bearings. Monument of John Strange, who died of the plague, 1646, after courageously accepting the mayoralty for the fourth time, when all others had fled. Bells—Ring of eight, five by Rudhall of Gloucester. 1722; one by Mears, of Whitechapel, 1810;



Photo]

[W. H. Puddicombe

SPORTS GROUND, BIDEFORD. (with corner of Bowling Green in Foreground)

two by Abbott, of Bideford, 1876. Recast May, 1929, by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, one bell being provided by the Free Churches of the Borough. Registers, date from 1561:— "Raleigh, a Wiganditorian, baptised March 26th, 1587-8; buried April, 1589." (See Kingsley's "Westward Ho!")

The North Devon Armada Fleet.

The story of "The Last Fight of the Revenge" is well known. As Bacon says, "memorable even beyond credit, and to the Height of some Heroicall Fable." It has been told in stately prose by Sir Walter Raleigh, and in immortal verse by Lord Tennyson; and Campbell's famous ode, "Ye Mariners of England," originally contained the lines:

"Where Granville, boast of freedom, fell,
Your manly hearts shall glow."

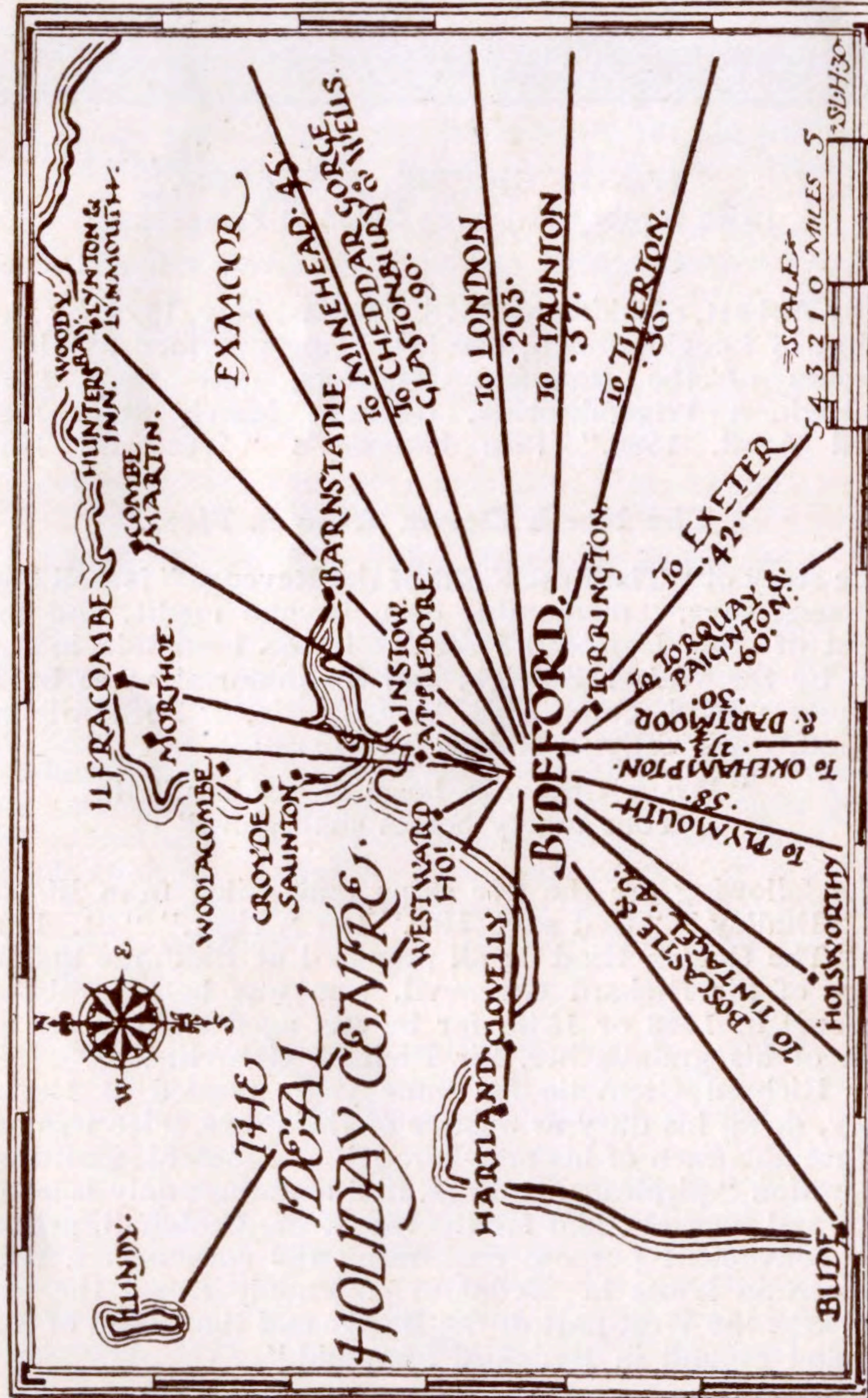
The following are the five ships that sailed from Bideford: The "Dudley," "God save Her," the "Tiger," "St. Leger," and "The Golden Hind"; all prepared at Bidiforde under the charge of Sir Richard Grenevil, who was born (probably at Bideford) in 1542 or 1543, for he was aged eight years at the death of his grandfather, Sir Richard Grenville.

Sir Richard Grenville for some years resided at Buckland Abbey, doing his duty as Justice of the Peace. He was one of the first aldermen of his new-borough of Bideford, granting the corporation "pirpicage, stallage, and standings only concerning fayres and markets, and for the use of the Guildhall, prison, or other convenient purpose concerning the corporation, the use of a certain house in Bydeford commonly called the Chapel being near the West part of the Bridge end there, and of certain land and ground in Bydeford aforesaid."

Antiques

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Rivers Taw and Torridge.

(Nautical Information).

APPLEDORE, BIDEFORD AND BARNSTAPLE AND INSTOW.

H.W. Appledore 5 hours before H.W. Dover.
Rise 23 feet springs, 11 neaps.

The Taw and Torridge unite at Appledore and enter the Bristol Channel over Bideford Bar as a combined stream. The Bar is well buoyed as is the channel to Appledore where the pool in which vessels may anchor is marked by a small conical red buoy. When anchoring in the pool, buoy the anchor as the bottom is fouled by old cables.

The river should be entered on the flood and if it is intended to proceed up the Torridge to Bideford it is advisable to take a pilot at Appledore. At Bideford a vessel can lie (aground at low water) comfortably alongside the quay. The tides in the river and estuary are very strong and except in Appledore Pool there is no anchorage to be found—the Pool has a depth of $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms. From the Bideford Bar fairway Bell Buoy proceed with the upper and lower lighthouses on the east side of the estuary in line, leaving the next two black conical buoys to starboard, from the second of these buoys (Middle Ridge) steer to pass the Pulley buoy (black conical) to Starboard, at first S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. until the Pulley Buoy bears South. The next buoy—the Sprat, black and white vertical stripes, should be left to port. Passing the latter alter course eastward to bring the bungalow on the foreshore at Instow in line with and under Worlington houses on the hill top. With this mark on proceed to the Pool.

The River Taw may be explored as far as Barnstaple in a dinghy and the Torridge as far as Weare Gifford. There is bass fishing near Sprat buoy on the latter part of the ebb, the bait used being soft shelled green crabs which can be got from small boys of Appledore. All supplies available at Bideford and Appledore, and repairs at Appledore. In former days the estuary was largely used by shipping and was an important sea-port in the 16th century as is commemorated in Charles Kingsley's Westward Ho! The estuary is well worth a visit and is a convenient port of call en route to Tenby or up the Bristol Channel. The depth on the bar is 27 feet H.W. Springs, 21 feet H.W. Neaps—a black ball is hoisted at the lighthouse when there is 15 feet of water over the Bar. There is often a dangerous sea on the bar in even moderate weather and a short steep sea in the channel on the ebb with a strong nor-westerly wind. A stranger should not attempt to enter at night without a pilot.

BIDEFORD—A Golfing Centre

Visitors will find Bideford an ideal golfing centre, for within easy motoring distance are three famous golf links, those of the Royal North Devon Club at Westward Ho! the Saunton links, and the North Cornwall links at Bude, and of the greatest of these—Westward Ho!—H.M. King George VI. is Patron. H.M. King Edward VIII. when Prince of Wales—keenest of sportsmen—was President of the Royal North Devon in 1932—1933. It is about two miles from Bideford and beautifully situated, being surrounded by sea, estuary, and tree-dotted hills. The eye can take in miles of glorious landscape and seascape. This 18-hole course is the oldest sea-side course in England and has been on the Championship rota since 1912. Westward Ho! it is claimed, is essentially "Big Golf," and has pre-eminent virtue in that its difficulties are subtle rather than glaringly obvious, and the varied sea breezes provide a wealth of hazard, but at the same time a round can be thoroughly enjoyed by those who play "small" golf as well as by those who play "big."

The Green Fee is 5s. a day, including Saturdays and Sundays, although it is customary with most Clubs to charge more at the week-end, 25s. a week and £3 10s. a month, and visitors are welcomed. Ladies are allowed to play, the Green Fee in their case being 3s. 6d. a day.

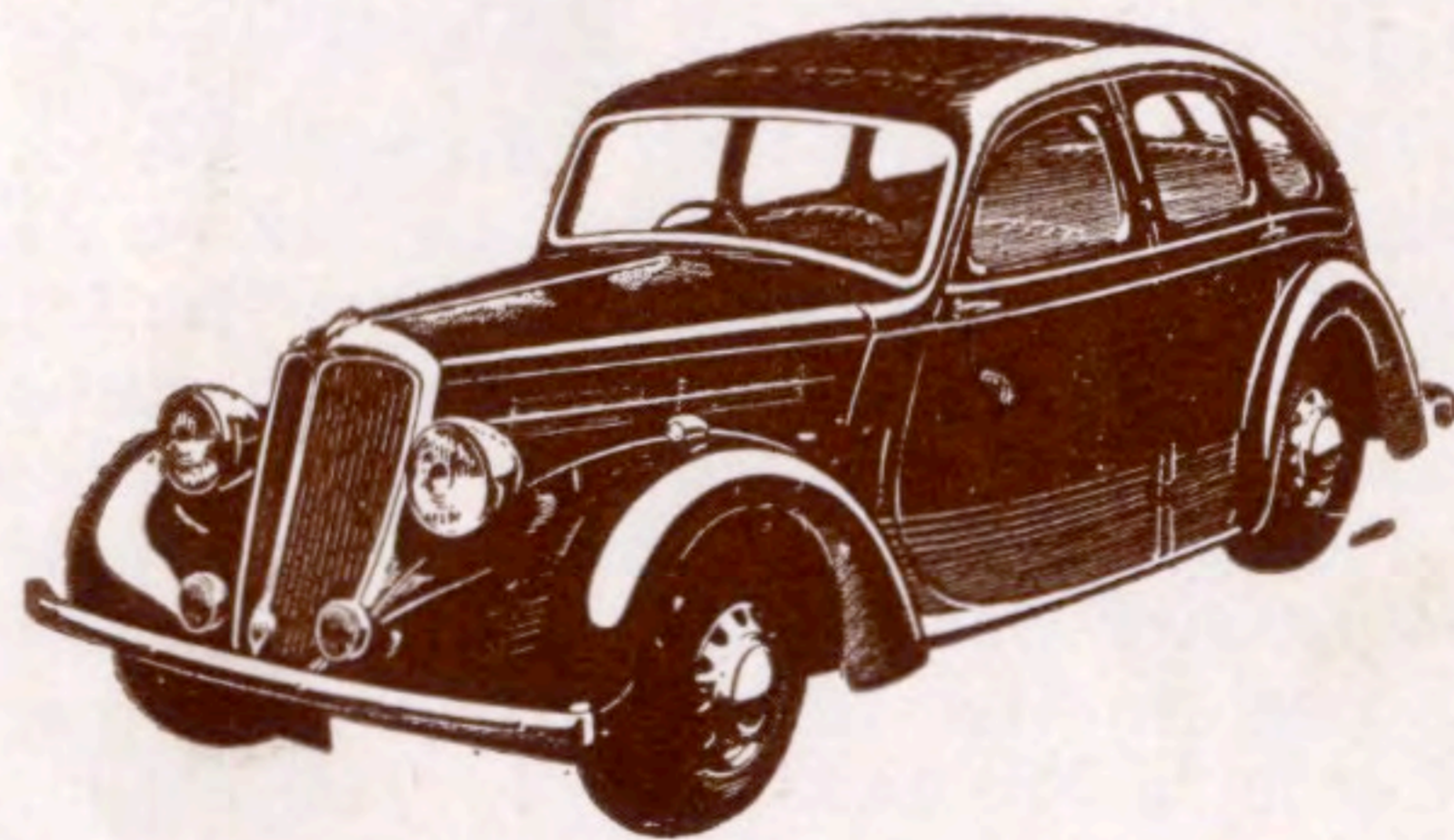
Terms of Membership.—For those residing within a twenty-five mile radius of the Club House: Entrance Fee, £10 10s.; annual subscription, £6 6s. For those outside above radius: Entrance fee, £2 2s.; annual subscription, £4 4s.

Overseas Membership.—Members living abroad: Entrance fee, £2 2s.; annual subscription, £4 4s., when in the United Kingdom: 10s. 6d. when abroad.

Charges for Caddies.—The usual charge inclusive of tip, is 3/- per round. The Westward Ho! Ladies' Golf Club is associated with the Royal North Devon Club. During the war there are special terms for members of H.M. Forces and their wives.

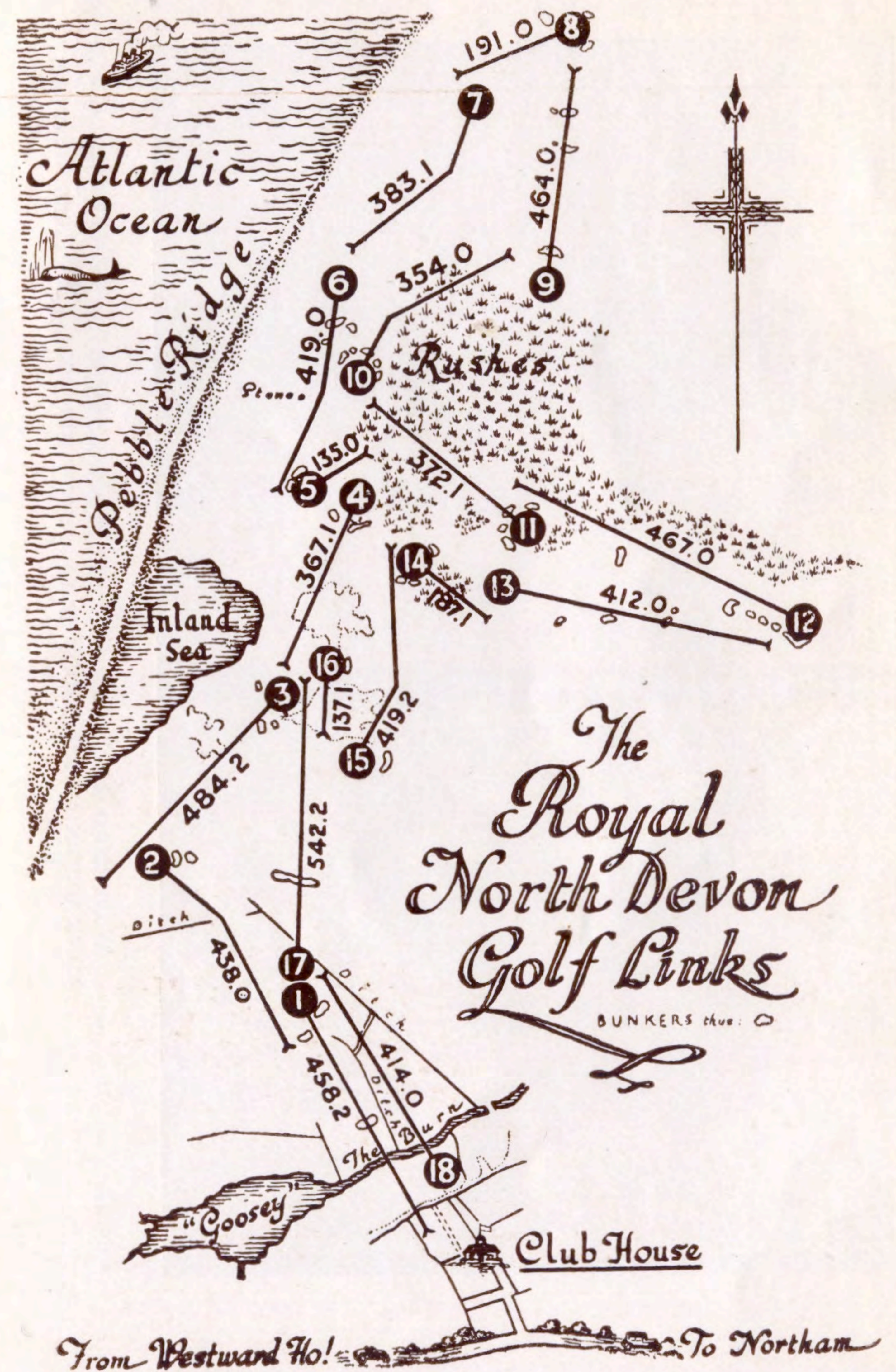
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Photo]

WESTWARD HO! — S. ROPER PUTTING ON THE
FIFTH GREEN AT THE AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP, 1931

[By courtesy of
Northam Advertising
Committee

LIST OF APARTMENTS AND BOARDING HOUSES.

BIDEFORD.

- Mrs. BAILEY, Bondlea, Chudleigh Avenue, Bideford. Board res., B. & B., overlooking town and river. Bath, h. & c., garage.
- Mrs. BURROW, Woodville, Clovelly Road. Comfortable board residence. Aparts. B. & B. Bath h. & c. Convenient for 'buses. Garage. Terms Moderate.
- Mrs. S. BURROW, Kilmaurs, Park Lane. Aparts. Board res. Bath, h. & c. Facing river and park.
- MISS CARTER, Lindthorpe, Bridgeland Street. Aparts. B. & B. In centre of town. Close to river and Park.
- Mrs. M. A. COPP, 8, Southview, North Down Road. Aparts. Board res. B. & B. Bath, h. & c. Facing South. 5 minutes shopping centre. College and Schools.
- Accommodation offered in Detached House with Garden. Every Convenience (3 mins. to 'buses).
- Mrs. ELLIOTT, Owlpen, Bideford, E.
- MISS FOGATY, 11, Westcroft Terrace, Clovelly Road. Board res. Aparts. B. & B. Bath, h. & c. Garage. Terms moderate.
- Mrs. GLOVER, 2, Landsdowne, Bideford. Aparts. Board res. B. & B. Bath, h. & c. Convenient for 'buses. Terms moderate.
- Mrs. HARKNETT, Orchard Hill, Bideford. Board res. B. & B. Own dairy. Terms moderate.
- Mrs. HAWKE, 4, Park Lane, Bideford. Aparts. B. & B. Bath, h. & c. Overlooking Park.
- Mrs. C. HIPPISEY, Abbotsbury, Kingsley Road. Aparts. Board res. B. & B. Bath, h. & c. E. Light. 5 minutes town and River Bank.
- Mrs. B. D. HOCKADAY, Camden House, North Road. Aparts. Board res. B. & B. 3 mins. from centre of town.
- Mrs. LEY, 47, Elm Grove. Board res. B. & B. 5 mins. from River Front
- Mrs. LINDSAY, 16, Elmdale Terrace, Bideford. Aparts. Board res. B. & B. Bath, h. & c. Terms Moderate.
- MISS MULES, 12, Westcroft Terrace, Clovelly Road. Aparts. B. & B. Bath, h. & c. Garage. Terms Moderate.

BIDEFORD—continued.

- Mrs. SELDON, 46, Torrington Street. Apart. Board res. Terms Moderate.
Mrs. F. SHUTT, 33, Myrtle Grove, Bideford. Board res. Apart. B. & B. Bath, h. & c. E. Light.
THE MOUNT, Guest House, North Down Road. Board res. B. & B. E. Light
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& B. Bath, h. & c. Splendid view of Links and sea. 'Buses pass the door. Terms
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Misses HILL, London Lodge, Clovelly. Guest House situated at private entrance to Hobby Drive.
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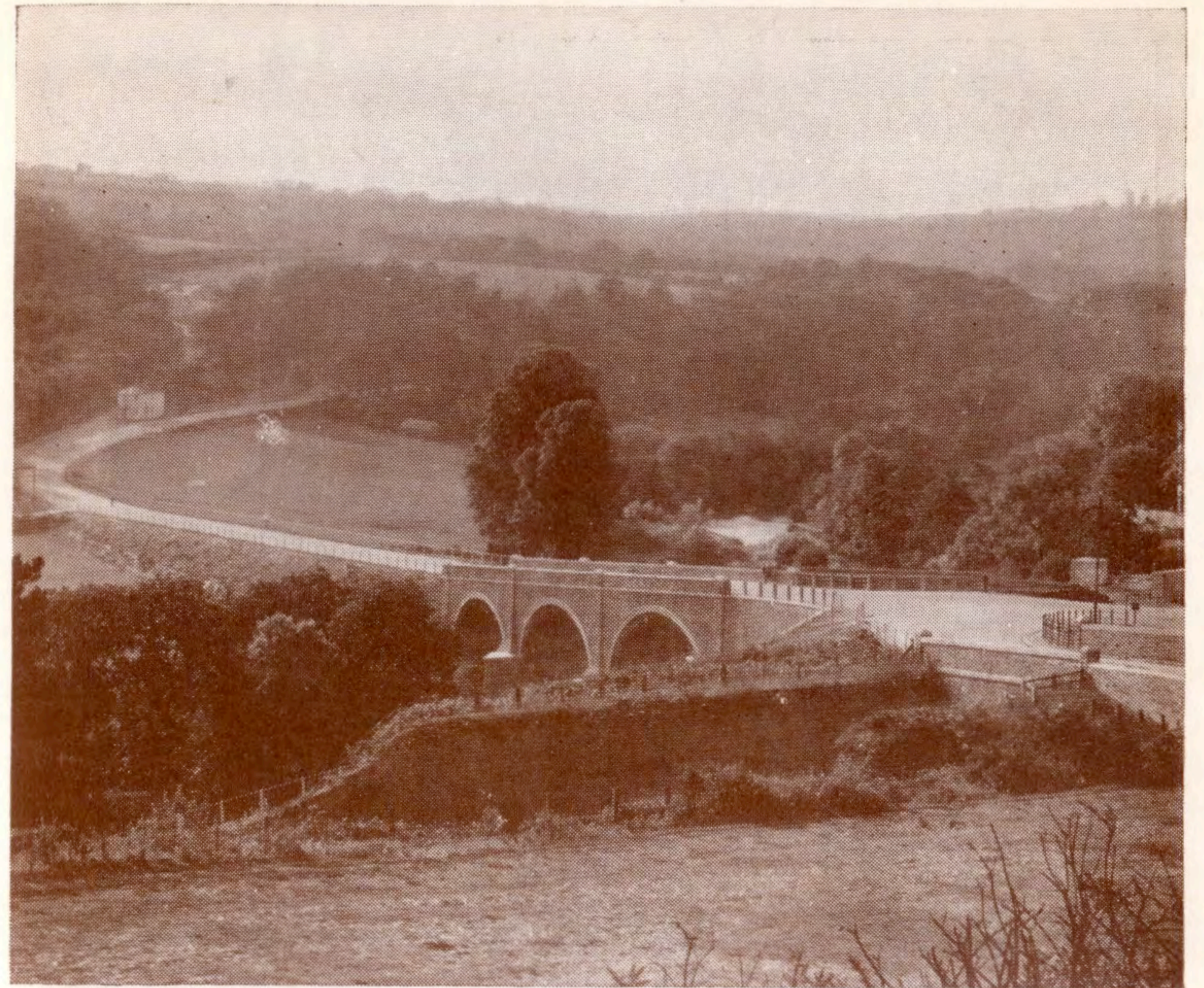
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TORRINGTON

Seven miles, all too short, through some of the loveliest scenery in Devonshire, past the strawberry-growing village of Weare Giffard, with its Hall which is recorded in Domesday Book, past the bridge beneath which "Tarka the Otter" was born, with the Torridge river now dwindling to a meadow-stream, deep, dark salmon pools separated by bright, rushing rapids; seven short miles bring one to Torrington.

Torrington sits atop a hill. Torridge winds placidly now round the foot. The men of Torrington have only to walk 100 yards from their main street to their bowling green, whence they can scan as peaceful and as satisfying a panorama as may be seen in this fair county.

St. Michael's Church was blown up in the Civil War. Cardinal Wolsey once held the living of Torrington. In the days of the three Edwards, Torrington sent two members to Parliament. Nowadays Torrington busies itself with its glove-making and country town trade, and welcomes visitors to enjoy its lovely views from its gorse-scented hills.

The ruins of Frithelstock Priory dating from 1220, on the Bideford side of Torrington should also be visited.



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Port of Bideford Regatta

Bideford Regatta is considered by Bidefordians and Visitors to be the great day of the year. It is usually held during the first week in September and is visited by people from far and wide.

The actual Regatta is divided into four parts, one day being set aside for rowing, another day for sailing racing, a third day for fire-works display and a fourth for land sports.

The broad surface of the River Torridge looks its best on this occasion reflecting the azure blue of the sky and the verdant green of the surrounding hills.

The surface of the water is animated with the movement of the multi-coloured club favours of the competing crews and of white and brown sails of the sailing craft.

The Regatta day proper is confined to Rowing Racing and here the local competitors are challenged by crews from Dartmouth, Exeter, Torquay, Paignton, Totnes, Poole and Southampton. The local colours are worthily carried by two local crews, Bideford Amateur Athletic Club and the Bideford Amateur Rowing Club both of whom have been established for many years and their rowing prowess is renowned in the West of England.

Competing also we find Ladies' Crews from Torquay, The Thames and elsewhere and the local Ladies Club row well in opposition to these visitors.

The races are mainly four-oared and pair-oared and are rowed in out-rigged shell boats of the best type.

The Regatta itself is of very ancient origin and its earliest records are lost in antiquity.

The sailing races are a new innovation and create a most beautiful sight with the innumerable white sails tacking gracefully over the water.

The fire-work display, which is presented in the Bideford Sports Ground is one of the best of its kind given in the West of England, every effort being made for the visitors to see the display in comfortable circumstances and no expense being spared to make the spectacular items a success.

Bideford Sports are held in connection with the Regatta and have a reputation unparalleled in the district and runners, cyclists and other athletes make special efforts to attend these sports annually.

The cycling events in these sports are worth special mention and international riders are frequent competitors.

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BIDEFORD BOWLING CLUB

Visitors to Bideford and district will be welcomed to the Bowling Green, which is situated on the Strand, just outside the shopping centre of the town, amidst ideal surroundings. The Bowling Club possesses one of the best six rinks Cumberland Grass greens in the county. Visitors can avail themselves of the facilities on any week day (during the playing season) from 2 p.m. the following fees applying:

1/- per game

1/6 per day

7/6 per week

12/6 per fortnight.

The Bowling Club holds an annual tournament week each year commencing August Bank Holiday. For further particulars please apply to:—The Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. P. Ashton, "Burwood," Bideford, Devon.

This annual event attracts a large entry from a very wide area. The approach to the Bowling Green is made by way of the Kingsley Road.

Summer Holiday Features

During August and early September are also held: Bideford Horse Show, the Open Bideford Tennis Tournament and Juvenile Tennis Tournament, Bideford Hospital and other Charities Carnival, and the Golf Meetings at Westward Ho! and many other local sports and events.

LOCAL SOCIETIES include:

Bideford and District Chamber of Trade.—President: Mr. L. G. Braddick, The Mount, Westward Ho! Road, Northam (Tel.: Northam 259). President-elect, Mr. A. K. Chope, Curracloe, Chanters Lane (Tel.: 423). Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. Roy Ellis, 6, South View Terrace, North Down Road, Bideford.

Conservative Club, 23, Bridgeland Street.—Hon. Secretary: Mr. W. Cox, 24, Old Town. Steward and Stewardess: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Butler.

Freemasons, Order of.—"Lodge of Benevolence," No. 489, 12, Bridgeland Street. Hon. Secretary: Mr. F. E. Routley, Aytwyns, E. (Tel. 117).

Liberal and Radical Club, 24, High Street.—Hon. Secretary: Mr. F. R. Garnsey, 19, Alexandra Terrace, Chanter's Lane. Steward: Mr. W. J. Vodden.

Rotary Club.—Secretary: Mr. W. T. Braddick, 2, Queen Anne's, High Street, Bideford (Tel. Bideford 130). Hon. Treasurer: Mr. E. H. Gaud. Meets Thursdays, Tanton's Hotel, 1 p.m.

Toc H.—Secretary: Mr. H. Phillips, 21, Wimbourne Terrace. Every Tuesday at Honestone Street.

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RECREATION CLUBS, Etc., include:—

Amateur Athletic Club.—The Pill. Hon. General Secretary, Mr. Fred Davey, The Gymnasium.

Amateur Rowing Club.—Boathouse, The Pill. Club House: Rope Walk. Acting Hon. Secretary: Mr. E. F. Day, Sunny Bank, Chanters Road.

Bideford and District Flower Show (held in November).—Hon. Secretary: Mr. H. Page, 18, Alexandra Terrace.

Bideford Cricket Club.—Playing ground: Westward Ho! Hon. Sec.: Mr. R. L. Kenyon, Glendale, Elm Grove, Bideford.

Bideford Rugby Club.—Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. K. Chope, 13, High Street, Bideford.

Bideford United Association Football Club.—Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. W. Morrison, Quayside Café, Bideford. (Tel. 147).

Kingsley Road Tennis Club.—Joint Hon. Secs.: Miss Meredith, 6, South View Terrace, Bideford, and Miss J. Rees, Glen Tor, Torrington. (Merged for duration of war with Torridge Vale Club).

Torridge Vale Lawn Tennis Club, Chanter's Lane. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Lt.-Col. J. E. Cruickshank, Little Meadow, Limers Lane, Northam.

Westward Ho! Arts Club.—Bridge Hall, Bideford. President: Major T. R. Morse, O.B.E. Acting Hon. Secretary: Mr. C. F. Hucklesby, West View Avenue, Old Barnstaple Road, Bideford.

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VIEW OF INSTOW PIER
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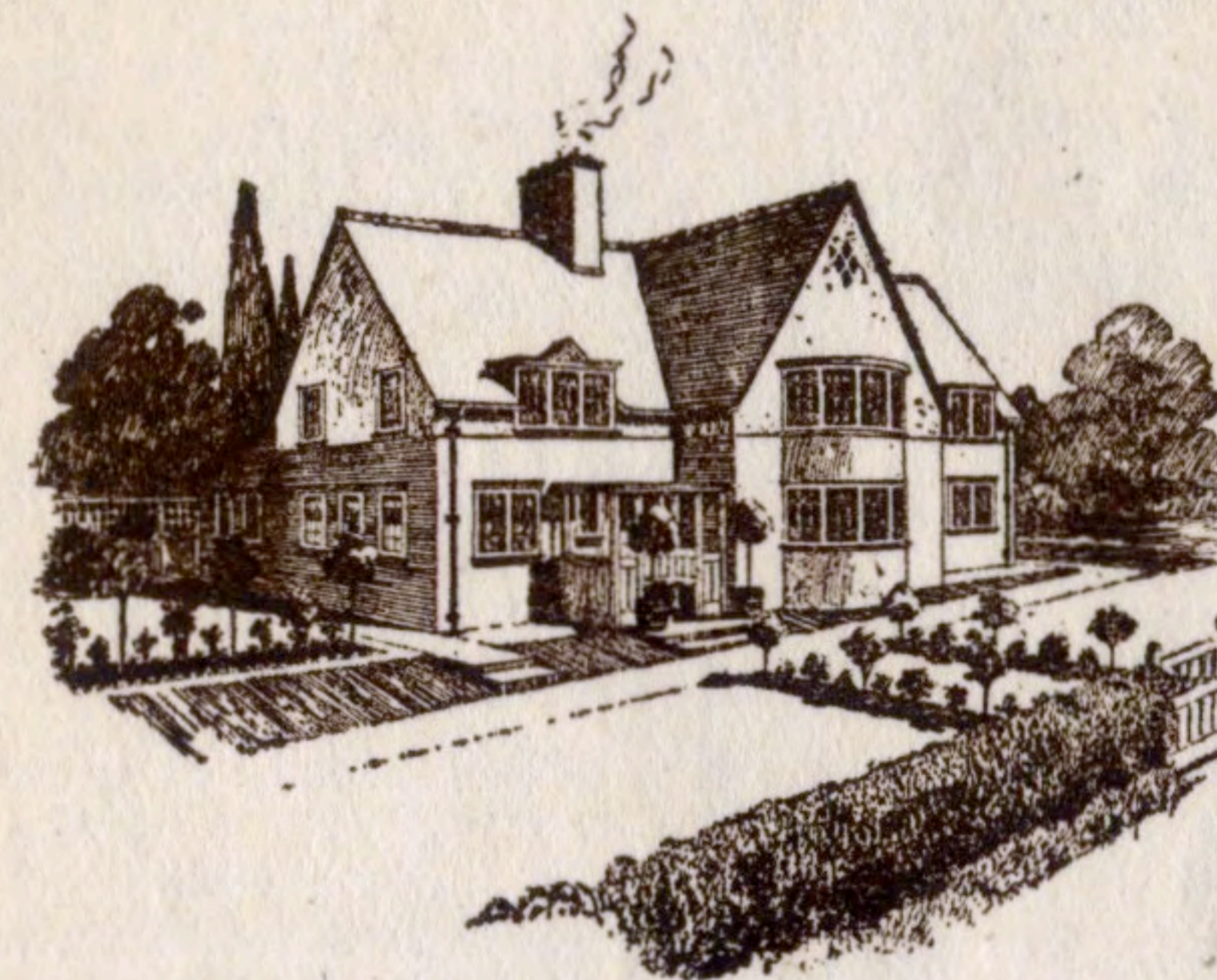
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