

PR Box 2/MISC 7
Gundulph's Tower Malling



Boxley Abbey,
Sandling nr Maidstone,
Kent.

August 11. 1886.

Dear General Pitt Rivers.

Kindly permit me to request that
should you find it desirable to visit
this part of my land with reference to
your inspection of "Ancient Monuments"
you will do me the pleasure of putting
up at this unpretentious but curious old
residence, when I should feel honored and
gratified by your visit, but it would be
necessary to give

has a week or ten days notice, as I am
often away from home.

My late wife & daughter of the M. & Mrs. Thacker
Drexler was a great cousin of yours, and
I had the honor formerly of being very
well acquainted with the late Lady
Caroline Lamb Fox.

Not far from here at Melting is a
Norman keep which my late friend
the Parker of Oxford found the oldest
Norman keep in England. It belongs to
his maiden ladies the Priores & nuns, which

if you have never seen would be worth your
inspecting. It is believed to be Saxon work, and there are some reasons for
thinking that it is so. In his use of Saxon
it material he much affected. And Merton.
I will venture to send you a copy of a
list of names upon it - some have you
perhaps for their information.

I am very faithfully yours,
Frederic R. Prothero.

Secret Genl. A Pitt Rivers
Oxford Mrs. Sedgwick.

ANCIENT MONUMENTS.

To the Editor of the Maidstone and Kentish Journal.

SIR,—May I request you to be so good as to publish in your columns the enclosed letter to me, written under the direction of the Council of the British Archaeological Association, with reference to "The Ancient Monuments Protection Act," (1882):—

The subject speaks for itself, but it is to be regretted that the Act should not have contained in its own clauses those more extended powers of operation which can be obtained by Order in Council. The Act, however, when it passed was novel in its character and tentative, while its object from being misapprehended, was at one time viewed with needless distrust.

Archaeologists will rejoice that Kits Colly has been placed under its protection.

Yours truly,

F. R. SURTEES.

Boxley Abbey,

June, 1886.

P.S.—When I state that the Act at the time of passing was novel in character, it should be remembered that so far back as the time of Queen Elizabeth [anno. 1568] a proclamation was issued prohibiting the defacing of ancient monuments, &c.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION,
22, Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.

June 21st, 1886.

DEAR MR. SURTEES,

At the Council Meeting of the British Archaeological Association, held on June 2nd, a communication from Lieutenant-General Pitt Rivers, F. R. S., Inspector of Ancient Monuments in Great Britain, was discussed, relating to the advantages afforded by the Ancient Monuments Act for the permanent preservation of any ancient work which may be scheduled.

The Council considered that these advantages are not generally known, and for the purpose of drawing your attention to them, we beg to send you overleaf an extract of the clauses bearing on the subject. No surrender of ownership takes place, but the present proprietor pledges himself and his successors not to damage or destroy.

By this wise provision, the Act ensures the preservation for all time; the repairs, if needed, being effected by the Government.

We shall be much obliged if you will make known these advantages of the Act as much as possible; and if you can induce the owner of any monument to place it under the care of the State in the way indicated, the last of the undersigned will be happy to be put in communication with the owner. He will gladly render all preliminary information for its accomplishment free of any charge.

All the monuments at present scheduled are of the class known as Prehistoric, and consist of tumuli, stone circles, camps, and earthworks. For the present at least, any others to be added to the existing schedule must be of similar class.

We are, yours faithfully,

W. DE GRAY BIRCH, } Hon.

E. P. LOFTUS BROCK, } Secs.

Please address any reply to Mr. E. P. Loftus Brock, 35, Great Russell Street, W.C.

Fred R. Surtees, Esq.,

Local Member of Council for Kent.

THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS PROTECTION ACT, 1882.

Extract, Paragraph 2

"The owner of any ancient monument to which this Act applies may, by deed under his hand, constitute the Commissioners of Works in this Act mentioned the guardians of such monument.

"Where the Commissioners of Works have been constituted guardians of a monument they shall thenceforth, until they shall receive notice in writing to the contrary from any succeeding owner not bound by such deed as aforesaid, maintain such monument; and shall, for the purpose of such maintenance, at all reasonable times, by themselves and their workmen, have access to such monument for the purpose of inspecting it, and of bringing such

materials and doing such acts and things as may be required for the maintenance thereof.

"The owner of an ancient monument of which the Commissioners of Works are guardians shall, save as in this Act expressly provided, have the same estate, right, title, and interest in and to such monument in all respects as if the Commissioners had not been constituted guardians thereof.

"The expressions 'maintain' and 'maintenance' include the fencing, repairing, cleansing, covering in, or doing any other act or thing which may be required for the purpose of repairing any monument or protecting the same from decay or injury. The cost of maintenance shall, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Treasury, be defrayed from moneys to be provided by Parliament."

Extract, Paragraph 10.

"Her Majesty may, from time to time by Order in Council, declare that any monument of a like character to the monuments described in the Schedule hereto shall be deemed to be an ancient monument to which this Act applies, and thereupon this Act shall apply to such monument in the same manner in all respects as if it had been described in the Schedule hereto."