

Ans'd. 18/96.  
Aug.

Salisbury,  
Aug 11/96.

Dear Sir,

(L1822)

May I have the honour of  
adding your name to the  
list of subscribers to the "Popular  
History of Old & New Sarum,"  
of the particulars are given in the  
enclosed prospectus?

I have the honour to  
remain, Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

J. Norman,

Lieut-General Pitt-Rivers,  
F.R.S.

TO ALL INTERESTED IN SALISBURY AND ITS HISTORY.

# "THE POPULAR HISTORY OF OLD & NEW SARUM,"

By T. J. NORTHY,

(Author of "The Popular History of Exeter" and other Historical Works.)

THE above has been received with great favour by the readers of the *Wilts County Mirror and Express*, where it has been appearing serially for some time past, and is now being

REPRINTED WITH MANY IMPORTANT ADDITIONS

and will be shortly ready for issue. "THE POPULAR HISTORY OF OLD AND NEW SARUM" deals with all events of interest and importance concerning the City,

**From the Earliest Times right up to the Date of Publication.**

It treats of all occurrences, Civil, Religious, Political, Social, &c., whilst facts concerning  
SALISBURY'S CONNECTION WITH GENERAL HISTORY

have been carefully compiled from authentic sources. The author does not lose sight of the valuable work, historical, archaeological, and topographical, that has already been done for Salisbury. He claims, however, that "THE POPULAR HISTORY OF OLD AND NEW SARUM" is

## **THE ONLY COMPLETE AND COMPREHENSIVE WORK**

dealing with the history of Sarum which is published in a form and at a price within the reach of all.

Accuracy has been aimed at in every particular, whilst an endeavour has also been made to present the History in AN INTERESTING STYLE.

In addition to the features mentioned, there are special chapters dealing with the local history of the

YEOMANRY AND VOLUNTEERS,  
and a special chapter on

THE MUNICIPAL HISTORY OF SALISBURY  
is added. Further appendices contain the names of local

MAGISTRATES, MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, MAYORS, AND MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION, SCHOOL BOARD, AND OTHER BODIES AND INSTITUTIONS, as well as short accounts of PLACES OF INTEREST in the Neighbourhood. The work will thus be

*A HISTORY, GUIDE, AND BOOK OF REFERENCE.*

The Price is HALF-A-CROWN, and a List of Subscribers whose names are received before the date of issue will be published.

Intending Subscribers are invited to fill up the enclosed form, and send it to

**MR. T. J. NORTHY,**

CARE OF THE PUBLISHERS, MESSRS. EDWARD ROE & CO.,

CANAL, SALISBURY.

thus describes the Highfield settlement in "Flint Chips:"—"The pits are single or in groups communicating with each other. They are of a bee-hive form, ranging in diameter at the base from 5 feet 6 inches to 7 feet, although in some exceptional cases they measure as much as 14 feet. The entrance to each pit or group of pits, appears to have been by a shaft of about 3 feet in diameter." The animal remains found in the Highfield Pits belong to *Bos longifrons* (the small long fronted ox), red deer, roe deer, goat (a small variety), sheep, dog, fox, pig, horse, rabbit, water rat, field vole, field mouse, house mouse, weasal, hedgehog, shrew, birds (several kinds), toad, frog, and fish (probably salmon). "The circular form of habitation exhibited in these pit dwellings appears to be that most universally adopted by savages." The trenches seen at Highfield probably served as a protection to the settlement. "These trenches in places," says the author of "Flint Chips," "are too shallow alone to have served as a barrier to foes. The Mandans surrounded their village with a palisade, having a trench only three or four feet deep *inside* it; the object of this trench was to screen the bodies of the defenders while they discharged their weapons through the palisade. Perhaps the trenches at Highfield served a similar purpose."

Of the Celts there are reminders in the nomenclature of the district. Whilst the Teutons in later times left traces of their identity in the names of towns and villages along the banks, the flowing stream and the adjacent hill still have the Celtic designation, and thus testify to that very early occupation of the district. The late Mr. Stevens finds the Celtic origination in the name of the Avon (which literally means a river), the word Durnford (formerly Dur-en-ford) which means the water-ford; the Wylve, which signifies a "flow or flood," &c.

The next hordes attracted to this island in whom we are most interested locally were the Belgæ, who, three and

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a half centuries before Christ, inhabited parts which included the modern counties of Wilts, Hants, and Dorset, and part of Somerset. Celtic scholars differ very widely as to the identity of these people, but a very general view is that they belonged to the Gallic branch of the Celtic stock, and had migrated to Britain from north-eastern Gaul. In several places in this part of the county remains are to be traced of certain dykes or ditches, and according to the late Dr. Guest, they are supposed to have been constructed by the Belgæ as they gradually expelled the British tribes who had preceded them. In his "Early English Settlements in South Britain" (a valuable paper read at the meeting of the Archæological Institute of Great Britain, in 1849, at the Salisbury meeting), Dr. Guest alludes to Bokerley Ditch, situated south of Salisbury; the Old Ditch, north of Amesbury; and Wansdyke, "portions of which may yet be traced across the Island from Berks to the Bristol Channel."

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Dr. Guest was an illustrious scholar to whom Professor Freeman, in his well-known work, "The Norman Conquest," more than once pays the very highest tribute as a reliable authority, and he was an author whose statements have always been received with the greatest respect. But no writer is infallible, and even Dr. Guest may have been in error in what he wrote concerning those dykes. Lieut.-General Pitt-Rivers, whose great and practical services in the matter of research render all his statements worthy of every consideration, certainly thinks the distinguished scholar was wrong, and ascribes a much later date to the dykes, viz., Roman or Post Roman. On this point much interesting evidence may be read in the General's paper "Excavations in Wansdyke, 1881-91," which appears in volume xxvi. of the *Wiltshire Archæological Magazine*. South of Salisbury there is an earthwork called Grimsditch, and for the construction of this Dr. Guest fixed a date long prior to the arrival of the Saxons. In his opinion the word "Grimsdyke" or "Grimsditch"