OXFORD TOPOGRAPHY: AN ESSAY

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Oxford topography: an essay by Herbert Hurst

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HERBERT HURST

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Trieste

Oxford Historical Society

VOL. XXXIX.

OXFORD TOPOGRAPHY

HURST

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PREFATORY NOTE

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MR. HERBERT HURST has been good enough to undertake, at the request of the Committee of the Oxford Historical Society, a Commentary on Agas's Plan or View of Oxford, taking for his text the Perambulation by Leonard Hutten. already printed by the Society in Mr. Plummer's edition of Tracts relating to Elizabethan Oxford (O. H. S., vol. viii, pp. 83-104). Much still remains to be done before the topography of ancient Oxford can be regarded as satisfactorily investigated, but Mr. Hurst has been able to draw on a large amount of material, gathered chiefly by Brian Twyne, which has not been made use of since the seventeenth century. It is hoped that this Commentary, taken in connexion with the Portfolio of Plans of Old Oxford (vol. xxxviii) and Mr. Clark's new edition of Wood's History of the City (vols. xv, xvii, xxxvii, with two plans), will mark a real advance in the study of the topographical antiquities of the City and University.

The contents of the two linked volumes now issued to members of the Society are as follows :---

Vol. xxxviii.

- Agas's Plan of Old Oxford, from the unique copy (imperfect) in the Bodleian Library, made in 1578 and engraved in 1588, in eight sheets.
- Whittlesey's engraving of Agas's Plan, made in 1728 from a perfect copy: with engravings of Bereblock's Views of the Colleges, made in 1566: in four sheets.
- 3. Hollar's Plan of Oxford, 1643 : in one sheet.
- 4. Loggan's Plan of Oxford, from plate II of his Oxonia Illustrata, issued in 1675: in two sheets.

Vol. xxxix.

The topographical part of Leonard Hutten's Antiquities of Oxford, written in about 1625-1630, but describing the appearance of the city in the time of Elizabeth, and so forming a companion to Agas's Plan. Each section of this forms a lemma for a dissertation by Mr. Hurst, which criticizes and greatly extends Hutten's account. A sketch-map, and small figures in the inner top margin of each page indicating the sheets of Agas corresponding to the text, facilitate the joint use of the two volumes. The Index has been compiled by Mr. George Parker, of the Bodleian Library.

[Angust, 1899.]

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