Highways and byways in Shakespeare's country

Hutton William Holden
Title: Highways and byways in Shakespeare's country

Author: Hutton William Holden

This is an exact replica of a book. The book reprint was manually improved by a team of professionals, as opposed to automatic/OCR processes used by some companies. However, the book may still have imperfections such as missing pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. that were a part of the original text. We appreciate your understanding of the imperfections which can not be improved, and hope you will enjoy reading this book.
HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS
IN
SHAKESPEARE'S COUNTRY
Highways and Byways
in
Shakespeare's Country

BY W. H. HUTTON
WITH ILLUSTRATIONS • BY
EDMUND H. NEW

MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED
ST. MARTIN'S STREET, LONDON
1914
PREFACE

The writer of this book undertook his pleasant task, with a light and happy heart, more than four years ago. He had known "Shakespeare's country" for nearly forty years, and wandered about in it, whenever he could, in many a holiday. He looked forward to setting down, very quickly, what he had seen, and should see, for the first time or again, of the heart of England, that he might, if he had good fortune, hand on to others something of the pleasure which had been his for so many years. But new work came to him unexpectedly, and only at long intervals could he take up again his travels or his pen. For a long time a bookcase has been stored with the literature of his subject, from the immortal Dugdale down, through the Rev. Thomas Cox, of 1700, to the latest voyager on the banks of Avon, and "the Warwickshire table" has been the name of a desk consecrated to his task. At last it is finished; but it is with a sigh that the pen is laid down, the books put away, the feet no longer turned towards Warwick ways.

The writer cannot hope, for all his care, for all the years he has spent in reading and travelling, to have escaped error: he will only say that he knows well that even to describe what one has seen, or to summarise one's conclusions where others have thought and written too, is no easy thing. Let him only offer what he has written to the memory of the poet who has been his greatest friend for nearly fifty years, in the hope
that “never anything can be amiss, when simpleness and duty
tender it.”

It should be added that Mr. Edmund New travelled with his
pencil before any of these impressions were set down in words,
and for the limits of “Shakespeare’s country” the writer has
almost always been content to follow the artist. Some may
have wished to see the land larger, some smaller; and there is
a great deal to be said for both views. But the truth is that
Warwickshire and its neighbours are too full of beauty and of
history for one book. The country which Shakespeare knew
must be limited when we are to write of it; and it is hoped
that these boundaries are not too strait.

Lastly, indebtedness to hundreds of books should be ad-
mitted. Many of them have been mentioned: all of them
are gratefully remembered by the writer. Yet he must say
that, much though he has read, he has studied and inves-
tigated for himself, and, pleasant though the reading has been,
the seeing has been pleasanter still. For the seeing is mingled
in remembrance with the kindness of many people. The writer
is grateful indeed to all those who have shown him their houses,
or have allowed him to see them, and especially to those who
live at Baddesley Clinton and Charlecote, Clopton and Compton
Verney, Coughton and Packwood and Umberslade; and most
of all to the Misses Knight of Henley-in-Arden, who have
helped him so much by their companionship, their knowledge
and their kindness. He has had the advantage of Mr. A. C.
Codicott’s assistance in proof-reading, which has kept him from
many errors and helped him in many facts. What Mr. Codicott
does not know about Warwickshire the author has not discovered
—nor will anyone else; but that devoted student is in no way
responsible for the writer’s errors of omission or obstinacy.

Peterborough,
March 4, 1914.
## CONTENTS

**CHAPTER I**
FROM THE FOUR SHIRES STONE TO COMPTON Wynyates AND TYSOE  

**CHAPTER II**
THE DASSETTS, EDGEHILL, RATLEY, RADWAY AND KINETON  

**CHAPTER III**
FROM SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR TO COMPTON VERNEY  

**CHAPTER IV**
BY HARBURY AND UPTON TO SOUTHAM AND LONG ITCHINGTON, TO CHESTERTON, TACHBROOK AND LEAMINGTON  

**CHAPTER V**
WARWICK  

**CHAPTER VI**
FROM WARWICK TO WELLESBORNE  

**CHAPTER VII**
ON THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BORDER  

**CHAPTER VIII**
FROM EVESHAM BY CAMDEN TO STRATFORD