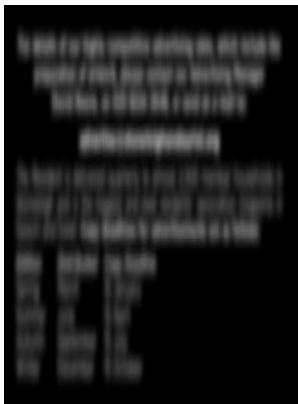


# Few notes on Banstead downs - with some remarks on the Epsom races in olden times, and a short descriptionof Nonsuch Palace.

Pile - Banstead Downs (The Diary of Samuel Pepys)



Description: -

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**The Project Gutenberg eBook of Surrey, by A. R. HOPE MONCRIEFF.**

Belloc suggests, may have owed its privilege to former importance as crossing-place of roads north and south. The Surrey hills are to the south and west; farthest on the horizon is the faint blue of the Sussex downs.

**Full text of**

At Leatherhead the incursions of villadom are lost in the intricacies of the old-fashioned little town and in the embowering foliage that owes its density to that beautiful stream, the Mole.

**alert**

Another alteration was made in 1845, when the day was changed to Wednesday, and it has con- tinued to he run on that day ever since. Thornton was to ride a mare, Louisa, against Buckle, the well-known Newmarket jockey, on Allegro — distance two miles, Mrs.

**Full text of**

The Ro- mans must have been exceedingly fond of the diversion, for their racing contests were not confined to the horse, but even asses were used as coursers, and ostriches also were made competitors! Four-fifths of the race, you must candidly own. In 1759, a match against time was performed on! John Day, one of the most celebrated and experienced trainers of the present period, has to say with respect to the effects of horse- racing, in connexion with the improvement of the horse, in his evidence as given before a Committee of the House of Commons, in 1844, upon the subject of Gaming and Horse Racing — Question, — Do you consider that the breed of horses has been much improved in the last twenty or twenty-five years! For instance, at Chester, those to be found on the course are principally its own citizens — always a goodly number — the re- mainder being drawn from near localities, and the pro- fessional sporting man from all parts, to whom distance is no object compared

with his interests. Chester Races : their early institution.

**Full text of**

With the accomplishment of an object, the means whereby it had been attained is, in many instances, and, in some cases, at once dispensed with; and many persons who are opposed to the pastime of horse- racing, and look upon its indulgence with an evil eye, use this as an argument for its total abolition. In this object he was also successful ; and as another stroke of policy, he ultimately got the lease of the old well into his own hands, and at once locked up the place, thus effectually shutting up the opposition shop. But most of their track passes along the face of the Downs, commonly keeping on the sunny and dry south side, and some little way above the bottom, into which it may drop to seek a ford or other convenience, or again, with less apparent reason, ascends to the {114} top, even crossing here and there to the other side.

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