

**BUNYAN'S COUNTRY:
STUDIES IN THE
BEDFORDSHIRE TOPOGRAPHY
OF THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS**

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Bunyan's Country: Studies in the Bedfordshire Topography of The Pilgrim's Progress by Albert J. Foster

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ALBERT J. FOSTER

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BUNYAN'S COUNTRY



The Ivy-clad Ruins of Houghton House.
(“The House Beautiful.”)

BUNYAN'S COUNTRY

*Studies in the Bedfordshire Topography
of the Pilgrim's Progress*

BY

ALBERT J. FOSTER, M.A.

Vicar of Wootton, Bedfordshire

AUTHOR OF "TOURIST'S GUIDE TO BEDFORDSHIRE," "TOURIST'S GUIDE TO HERTFORDSHIRE," "THE OUSE," "LEGENDS ABOUT THE CROOKED SPIRE," "THE CHILDREN HUNDREDS," "THE ROBBER BARRON OF BEDFORD CASTLE," "AMPTHILL TOWER," ETC.

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Dedication.

DEAR DR. BROWN,

As you are undoubtedly Bunyan's chief biographer, I thank you for kindly allowing me to dedicate this little book to yourself, and I gladly do so in the hope that it may to some extent prove a useful companion to your "John Bunyan, His Life, Times, and Work."

I am,

Yours truly,

A. J. FOSTER.

WOOTTON VICARAGE,
BEDFORDSHIRE, 1901.

"In every nursery 'The Pilgrim's Progress' is a greater favourite than 'Jack the Giant Killer.' Every reader knows the straight and narrow path as well as he knows a road in which he has gone backward and forward a hundred times. This is the highest miracle of genius—that things which are not should be as though they were,—that the imagination of one mind should become the personal recollections of another. And this miracle the tinker has wrought. There is no ascent, no declivity, no resting-place, no turnstile, with which we are not perfectly acquainted."—*Macaulay's Essays*.

PREFACE.

MUCH has been written of and concerning *John Bunyan*, and the present little sketch is only proposed as a sort of supplement to the many biographies of this remarkable man which have appeared from time to time during the last two hundred years. It does not profess to tell anything new about Bunyan. It is simply an attempt to show that he reproduced, in the first part of "*The Pilgrim's Progress*," scenes and localities which were familiar to him, and as such it is offered as a small contribution to Bunyanistic literature.

A. J. F.

WOOTTON VICARAGE.