

**A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE
CHURCH, EPISCOPAL MANOR,
AND OTHER OBJECTS OF
INTEREST IN BOSBURY**

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A short account of the church, episcopal manor, and other objects of interest in Bosbury by
Samuel Bentley

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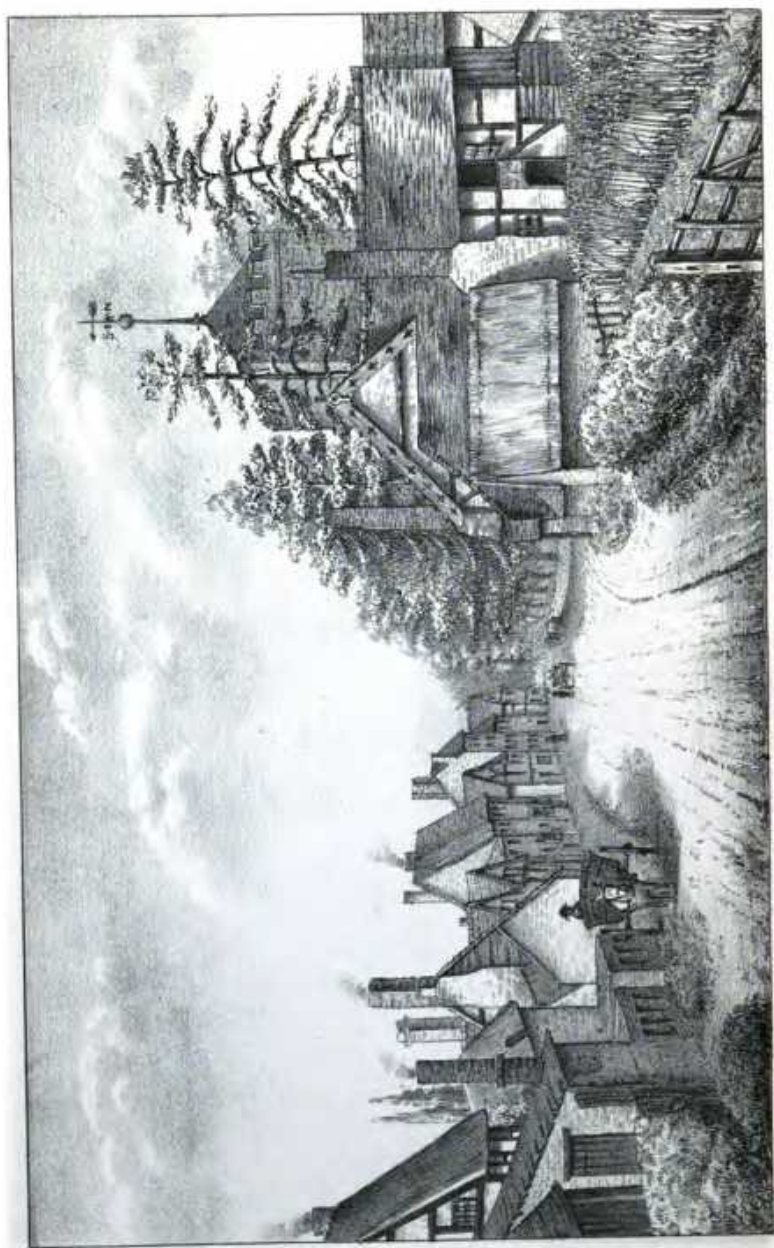
SAMUEL BENTLEY

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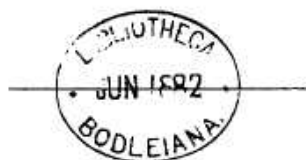
BOSBURY.



THE VILLAGE, BOSBURY.

A SHORT ACCOUNT
OF THE
CHURCH,
EPISCOPAL MANOR,
And other Objects of Interest
IN
BOSBURY,
HEREFORDSHIRE.

BY
SAMUEL BENTLEY, M.A.,
VICAR.



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Preface.

THE following pages are the substance of a paper read to the Members of the British Archæological Association on their visit to Bosbury in August last. It was thought that the particulars respecting the parish, which I have been enabled from various sources to obtain, would not only interest the inhabitants, but serve as a kind of guide to any who might visit the place.

To the Rev. Edward Higgins, of Bosbury House, I am indebted for much valuable information, and for the readiness with which at all times he has aided me in my researches.

Nor must I omit to express my obligations to a talented young artist, Mr. Arthur Harrison, who has supplied me with the illustrations. On hearing of my intention to print, he kindly offered the use of his pencil, and sent me the drawings which are so acceptable an addition to my paper.



Bosbury.

FROM one of the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum, we learn that the village of Bosbury, in Herefordshire, derives its Saxon name of Bosanberrig, or Bosa's town, from one Bosa, who was the owner of land in the place, and held office in the household of Witlaf, King of Mercia, A.D. 833. Bosa's name appears as a witness to the "Charter of Confirmation to the Abbey of Croyland, in Lincolnshire," in which document he describes himself as "the king's scribe," and as having written it with his own hand. Bosbury at that time was endowed with one or two privileges; a market was held there, and the tenants of the manor were toll free. It has been thought probable that Bosa's influence with the king procured for the inhabitants the advantages they possessed, and that they would be not unlikely to show their gratitude to their benefactor by calling their town, for so it was then termed, after his name. There can be no doubt that the place is of great antiquity, and that the old saying, "Bosbury was a town ere Hereford was a city," rests on a basis of truth.

Name of
Village.

In another MS. we read that Bosbury, before the Norman 'Conquest, "appertained to the Bishops of Hereford, and was their See (or Seat)," until the