

B A D S E Y M A N O R

It seems a pity that the subteranean passage, which is said to have extended from the Evesham Monastery to Badsey, should not be thoroughly explored; for even if nothing of special importance was found in connection with it it would be interesting to verify its exhistance, and trace its source. This issaid to be by way of a passage passing from the old Abbey Cellars now exhisting under the house in the corner of the Merstow Green, now known as the Abbey. From thence it is supposed to pass under the river, and has an opening into the Cellar of the Mansion House in Bengeworth, which is supposed to have been a convent for nuns connected with the Monastery, and from which the tunnel is said to be continued to Badsey, where it terminates in the cellar of a house occupied by a Mr. Wilson.

I have never heard of details of any real attempt to explore this passage, but there are rumours of persons having gone a long way in, form both the Evesham and Badsey entrances, and it said they had to turn back on account, some say, of meeting with foul air, and others report, that it was owing to their reaching a spot at which the roof had fallen in and blocked progress. But a properly organised exploring party would probably be able to overcome these obstacles, and might possibly be rewarded by discovering the hiding place of the missing peal of silver **peals** which tradition says belonged to the abbey, and were secreted somewhere previous to its demolition.

Extract T.E. Doog.
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