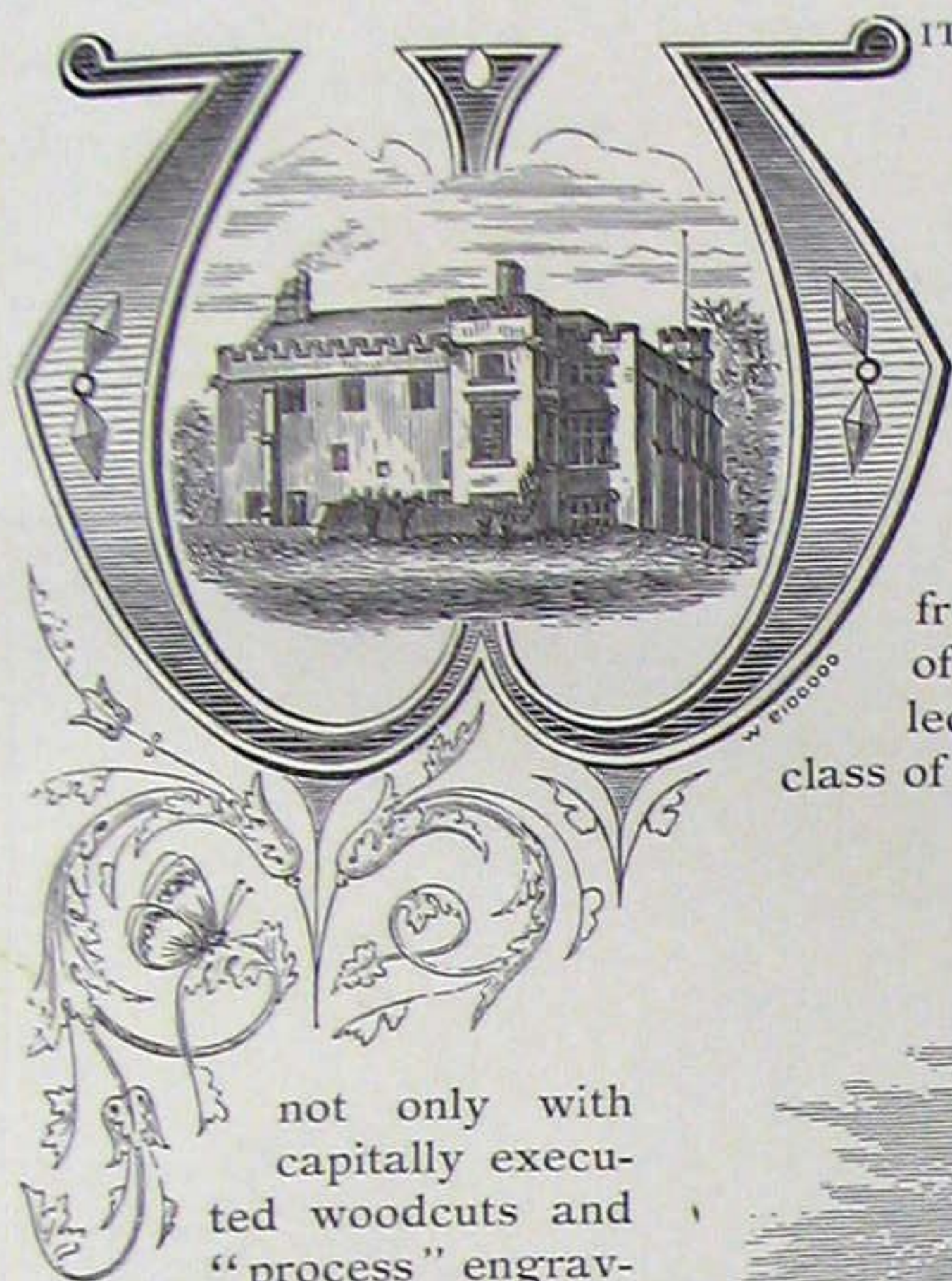


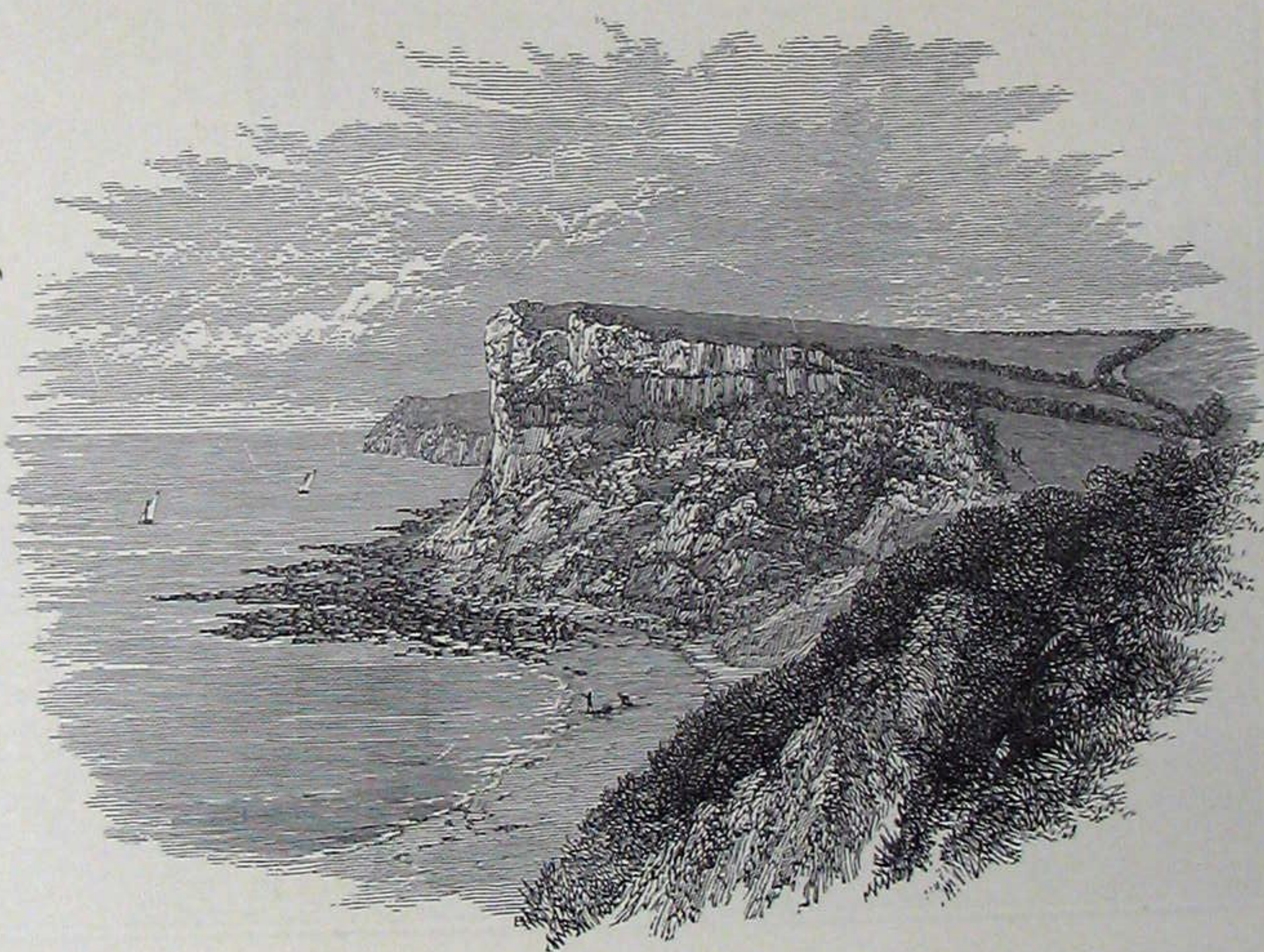
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Book Notes.

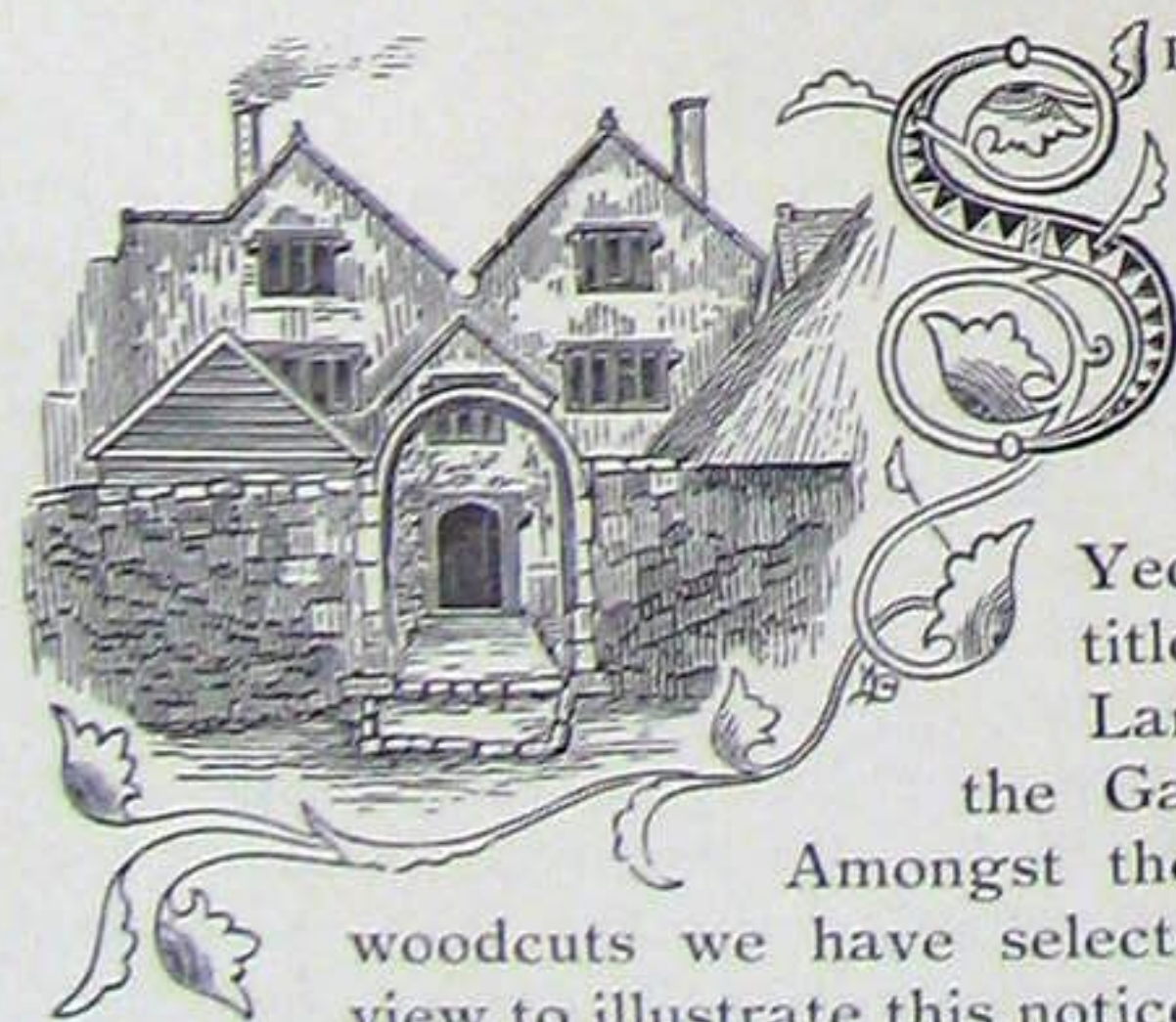


WITHIN the past decade the humble unassuming guide book has blossomed into unwonted freshness and considerable artistic taste has been bestowed on its get-up and embellishment. In the old days a bare itinerary, which as often lead the traveller astray as directed him aright, and a few meagre historical details of the leading local families, formed almost its entire contents, while in the way of illustration a vignette on the title page and possibly a view of the most prominent ruins in the vicinity were thought amply sufficient. Now, with the recent improvements in printing—new faces of type, finer paper, “art tints” in printing inks, and the great advances perfected in engraving processes, the guide books of the day are frequently veritable *editions de luxe* in a small way, and well worthy of preservation after they have served their immediate purpose. We are led to these remarks by the receipt of three excellent examples of this class of bookmaking. All three are octavos and all are profusely illustrated,

not only with capitally executed woodcuts and “process” engravings, but in two instances with specially designed and very attractive initials appropriate to the subject of the book. In the same way, the paper is in each case of a fine quality, the type clear cut and sharp in impression, and the pictorial embellishments not only numerous and admirably executed, but excellently “made-ready,” and excellently printed. The fine pictorial initial commencing this notice and the one following is from a guide to



THE WESTERN RANGE OF CLIFFS, DEVON.



EATON, BEER, AND NEIGHBOURHOOD, by G. F. Munford, printed by the *Western Gazette* Company, Yeovil. Its second title is “Across the Landslip and out of the Gates of Devon.”

Amongst the numerous fine woodcuts we have selected the annexed view to illustrate this notice. Mr. F. Plank, the manager, who has superintended the production of the book—which, by the way, is worked throughout in a pretty blue tint—is a tasteful and skilful printer.



OUR second example is a Guide to Ripon, Fountains Abbey, and places of interest in their vicinity, by the late well-known antiquarian and archæologist, J. R. Walbran, F.S.A. It is the seventeenth edition, has been revised by Rev. J. T. Fowler, M.A., F.S.A., and is printed (in an entire new dress) and published by Mr. Wm. Harrison, Market-place, Ripon. It is illustrated with full-page “process” views (of which one is here presented) and woodcuts of bits of old buildings, views, etc., while the various chapters are commenced with the quaint initials used in this notice. The three large initials are drawn by Mr.

