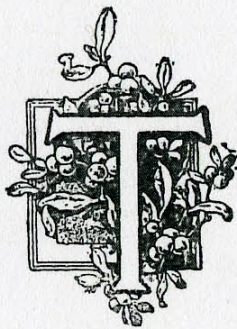


*For the*  
**RED CROSS.**

Price 1d.

# Kings Weston.

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HIS is a humble little guide to make your visit to Kings Weston as interesting as possible.

You are now standing upon ground that in the days of the Norman Conqueror was part of the Royal Demesne—hence the name, King's Weston.

Entering by the Sunk-fence, and turning to the right, a shady path will lead you to a charming spot overlooking the Avon Valley and the Leigh Woods. Leigh Court was built by the Grandfather of Mr. Napier Miles, who



also bought the Kings Weston estate from Lord de Clifford.

A sharp turn brings you to the head of the long walk that slopes down beneath the trees to the grand old house. From here on a calm day there is a wonderful echo.

The present house was completed in 1711, taking the place of a much older building, a picture of which may be seen in Sir Robert Atkyns' famous book on Gloucestershire, published in 1712. Sir Robert Southwell, of Kinsale, belonging to a very ancient family, bought the property, and probably planned the building of the new house, but dying in 1702—the year that Queen Anne came to the throne—it was carried out in his son Edward's time. The architect was Sir John Vanbrugh, who designed many noble English homes, of which Blenheim Palace and Castle Howard are the most famous.

Passing down the broad pathway, and entering the Park again on the left, standing on the terrace you will enjoy the glorious view over the green meadows towards the Severn Sea and Welsh Hills.



Notice the fine sweep of steps to the Entrance Hall, which Mr. Miles had proposed to throw open to the public but for a large influx of wounded soldiers to the Hospital.

Facing the Severn, the big library, now the chief ward of the Hospital, is a delightful room, in which our wounded soldiers are finding rest and, in a large measure, restoration to health.

Obtain a pass on leaving the Lodge Gate, so that you may visit Mr. Edward Chetwood-Aiken's Exhibition of Pastels and Water-colours in the Racquet Court just opposite.

Having admired these—and perhaps bought the one that charms you most—half a dozen steps will bring you to the View Garden on the left. This is the gem of the whole garden. You will enjoy the vista looking towards Kingroad and Avonmouth—and see the ancient Bewys Cross, which, two hundred years ago, stood by the Severn side, and before which, in ancient days, seamen loved to pay their devotions after a safe voyage. Here perhaps, if you have a Sailor or Soldier son, you will murmur softly :



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*"Holy Father, in Thy mercy  
Hear our anxious prayer,  
Keep our loved ones, now far absent,  
'Neath Thy care."*

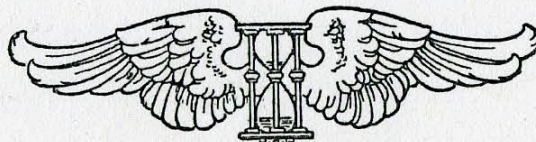
A door opposite admits to the Square Garden, with its huge fig tree and rare shrubs and so to the Kitchen Gardens.

Some day, when passing through Henbury, look into the Church and examine the Southwell monument in the Baptistery. Sir Robert's lament over his wife and son will, I think, draw tears to your eyes :

*"Such a Sonne and such a Wife deserve something more durable than marble to the memory of their virtues."*

C. P. W.

August 2nd, 1916.



*Taylor Bros., Bristol.*

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