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Kingswood Abbey Charters

by R. Austin
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NOTES

KINGSWOOD ABBEY CHARTERS

An important sale at Sotheby's in June 1945 is of interest to the Society, it having been the last portion of the Library of Francis F. Fox, of Yate House, Yate, who was a prominent Member, Chairman of Council for some years, and President of the Society. He had formed a large library of books and original records relating to Bristol and Gloucestershire, and contributed some valuable articles to *Transactions*, and in every way was a great supporter of the Society. In the sale mentioned lot 748 was a collection of the charters of Kingswood Abbey, there being 48 of great importance as records of the Abbey from 1225 to 1444. They were added to Mr Fox's Library in 1898 and Mr Vincent Perkins, of Wotton under Edge, another strong member of the Society, undertook to transcribe them for *Transactions* (xxii, pp. 178-256). Mr Perkins mentions that the charters were offered at Sotheby's in 1895 as part of the Cholmondeley collections (which contained many important papers concerning Gloucestershire), when they fetched £45. At the sale in 1945 a strong effort was made to secure them for the County Records and bidding was taken to considerably more than the earlier sum mentioned, and reluctantly the chase had to stop. The documents are calendared in the fifth volume of the Historical Manuscripts Commission.

ROLAND AUSTIN

COAL-OWNERSHIP IN THE FOREST OF DEAN

In 1889 Sir John Maclean contributed to *Transactions* vol. 14, pp. 356-69, some extracts from a Regard of the Forest of Dean made in 1282. The correct reference to the document, which is in the Public Record Office, is For. Proc. Tr. of Rec. No. 31 (E.32). Sir John gave in