

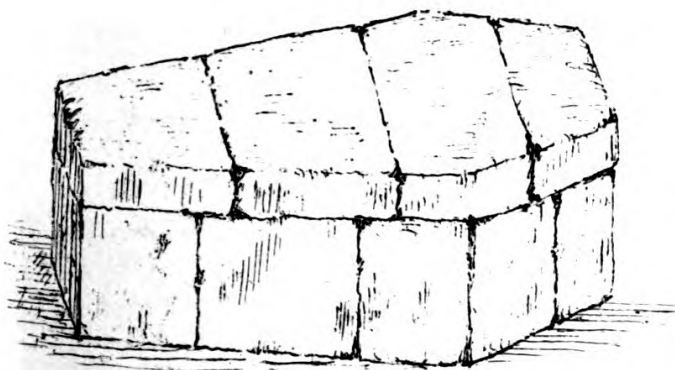
## STATE CHAIR OF SIR JOHN FORTESCUE, OF SALDEN.

The Rev. Dr. F. G. LEE writes to us as follows:—  
“Being at Aylesbury for a few hours last year, and looking over two or three old china and curiosity-shops in that town, as is my wont, I found, at a shop in Walton, the very handsome and perfect state chair of Sir John Fortescue, of Salden. I at once communicated the fact to Lord Clermont (a living representative of the Fortescues), and in May last received from him the following letter:—‘35, Hill Street, W., May 6th, 1873.—My dear Dr. Lee,—As we are not to have the pleasure of seeing you at present, I must tell you of the result of your kind notice of the old chair. I wrote to Mr. Quainton and secured it, and it has been at this house since February last. I am much pleased to have such a good old relic of Salden, and one well identified as to date by the arms, which are, as you know, those of Fortescue; but perhaps you do not know that the escutcheon of pretence bears the Ashfield arms, and that Sir Thomas Fortescue, who built Salden, married a co-heiress of Ashfield. This is satisfactory. The chair is very handsome . . . .  
Very truly yours, CLERMONT.’”

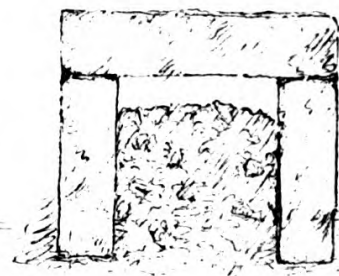
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## CHALK COFFIN IN HITCHAM CHURCHYARD.

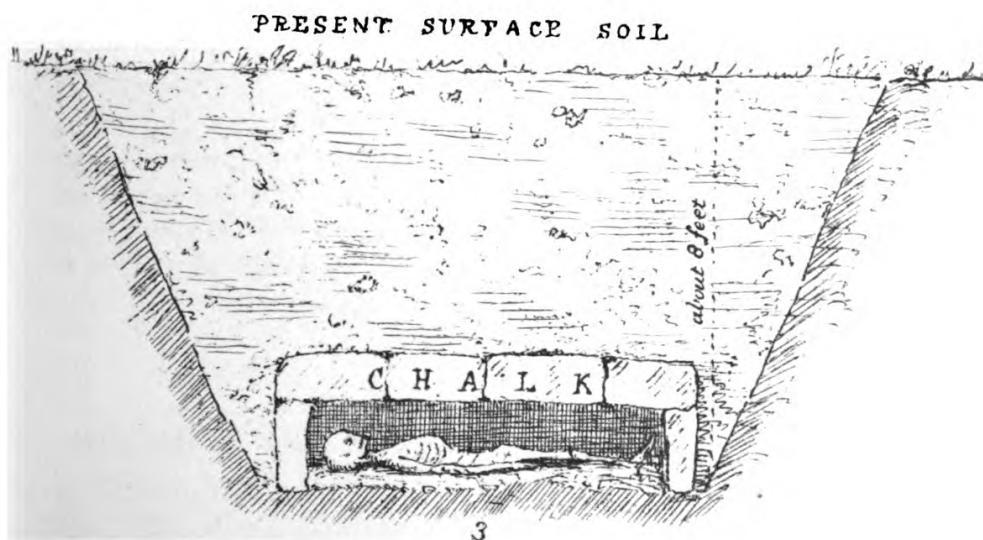
A short time since, when a vault was being made in the graveyard of St. Mary's, Hitcham, a chalk coffin was discovered, 3 feet 6 inches below the surface. It was composed of chalk slabs; the body appeared to have been placed on the earth at the bottom of the grave, and the coffin built over it. Several iron rings and nails were found with the bones. The sides of two other chalk coffins were seen, but these were not disturbed. In the year 1866, when the porch of the church was rebuilt, a chalk coffin was discovered.



1



2



3

1. Chalk coffin found at Hitcham
2. Section of ditto
3. Section of the grave