

LITERARY BY-PATHS

men, in their quiet contrast with the transitional characters of all things, in the strength which, through the lapse of seasons and times, and the decline and birth of dynasties, and the changing of the face of the earth, and of the limits of the sea, maintains its sculptured shapeliness for a time insuperable, connects forgotten and following ages with each other, and half constitutes the identity, as it concentrates the sympathy, of nations: it is in that golden stain of time that we are to look for the real light and colour and preciousness of architecture; and it is not until a building has assumed this character, till it has been entrusted with the fame and hallowed by the deed of men, till its walls have been witness of suffering and its pillars rise out of the shadows of death, that its existence, more lasting as it is than that of natural objects of the world around it, can be gifted with even so much as these possess of language and of life."

Having wandered afield from Winchester to visit St. Cross, the pilgrim will not begrudge another hour or so that he may gaze upon the old schoolhouse in which Pope received the beginnings of his education, especially as the road thither will take him past the mansion in which Benjamin Franklin wrote the early chapters of