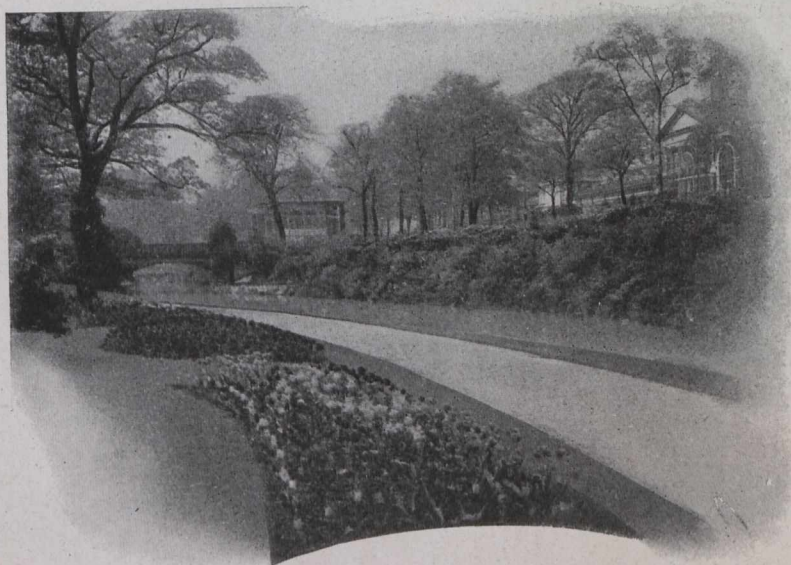


Saxon period. Castleton carries back the imagination to the days of William the Conqueror. His son, Peveril, erected a strong castle to secure Norman ascendancy in the neighbourhood. In Plantagenet and Tudor times, Buxton was much frequented by sufferers from rheumatism and similar affections, although for a brief period immediately after the Reformation days, the springs and fountains by reason of the medicinal effect of the water, were dedicated to St. Ann, who "gives health and living great, to those who love her most," and the walls of a chapel dedicated to her were decorated from time immemorial with the crutches of cured cripples.

On the introduction of the reformed religion these interesting tokens of gratitude were destroyed, and the use of the waters was prohibited by Sir William



Basset, at the instance of Oliver Cromwell. The closing of the baths and wells however cannot have been of long duration, for Mary Queen of Scots visited Buxton at least four times while in the custody of the Earl of Shrewsbury, at Tutbury, to obtain relief from rheumatism contracted during her imprisonment in the cold and damp cells.

As years passed the waters became more and more appreciated, but still Buxton remained a village, and even sixty years ago was but part of the parish of Bakewell. Almost incredible is the change that has come over it in the short space of some two generations. By modern energy the small village has been converted into a flourishing and fashionable health resort, ranking with the most important watering places of the Continent. In this picturesque little town, with its wealth of natural scenery, its wonderful health properties, and abounding in historical interest, the Canadian Discharge Depot has made its home, concerning which we will deal with in another chapter.