

Warwickshire

alas ! space is not elastic ; and even when the question is in a measure disposed of, it is still pregnant with regrets for the many beautiful things, historic places, scenes, and incidents which must be sacrificed to the exigences of time for the artist and space for the writer.

There are doubtless many ways of seeing Warwickshire, but few of knowing it. The writer knows but three. The enduring impressions which come with a leisurely journey along its highways and by-ways gipsying in a caravan ; the somewhat less leisurely but marvellously convenient cycle tour ; and the still slower and perhaps in a measure more restricted method of the walking tour.

Of the first two named modes of knowing Shakespeare's land and its towns, villages, and manor-houses, the present writer has had a happy experience ; and in his memory still lingers much of the beauty which the artist's pictures will conjure up afresh for those who have tramped or cycled through Warwickshire, and have sojourned for a time, however brief, in villages and towns around which either history or romance has woven golden strands of interest. To those who know the county only as one of England's central shires, perhaps the book may give sufficient pleasure in the present to induce them to further enjoyment in the future by actual visiting of the places described.

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July 1906.