

## SHAKESPEARE'S COUNTRY

will be seen the high road to Kineton and that village itself. It must not, however, be supposed that the present aspect of the ground, save in its main features, at all resembles that which it wore on the 23rd of October 1642. The farms were not then in existence nor was the country intersected by hedges, for all this part was then a common across which probably ran the track now known as King John's Lane. And the line of trees which crowns the crest of the hill was, as has been stated, only planted a little more than one hundred and fifty years ago. So much for that part of the scene which concerns the battle, but the distant view, which on a favourable day is most extensive, cannot fail to attract the attention of the visitor. It extends over the great midland plain bounded by the Malvern Hills on the west and the high ground of Charnwood Forest in Leicestershire on the east. The spires of Coventry, the tower of St Mary's at Warwick and the church wherein rest the remains of William Shakespeare are all parts of a panorama, which also includes, under favourable conditions, the towers of Worcester. But more will be said upon this point when speaking of the Sun Rising.

THE BATTLE OF EDGEHILL.—The object of the King, who had raised his standard at Nottingham on August 22nd, 1642, was to march on London and secure its adhesion to his cause. With this in view he left Shrewsbury, where he had been stationed for some time, on the 12th of October and arrived at Edgecote House near Cropredy,