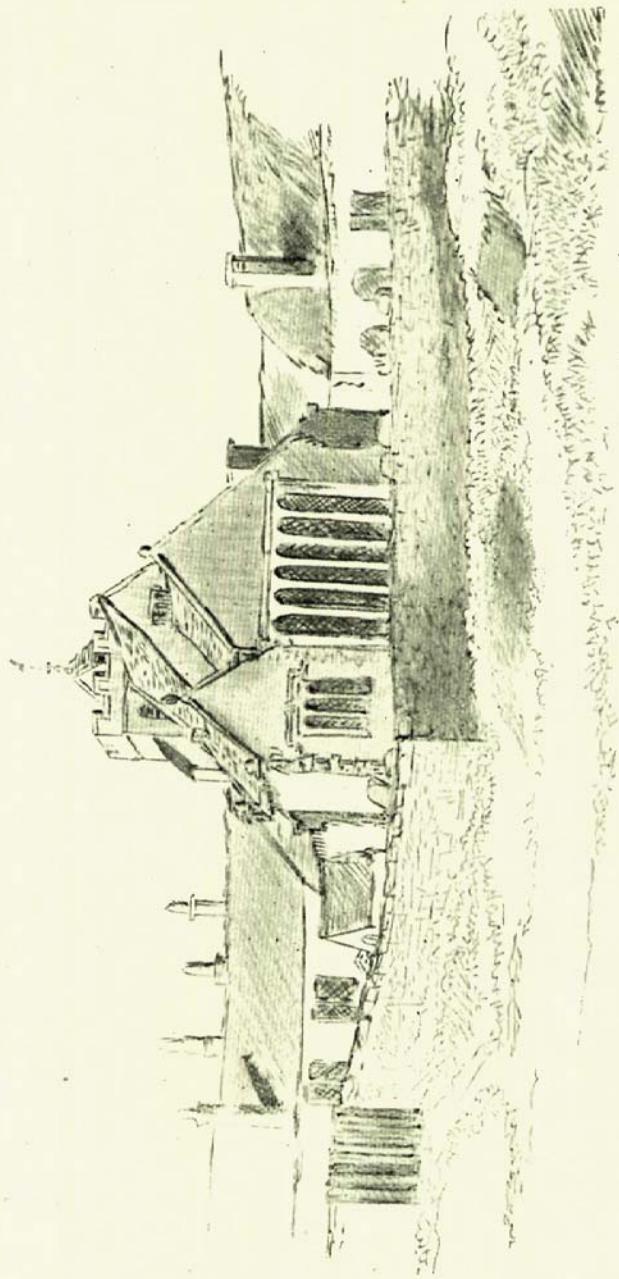




BRADING HARBOUR FROM BEMBRIDGE, I.W.—JUNE, 1832
By Emma Bacon (Mrs. Thoyts).



BEMBRIDGE AND BRADING I.W.—JUNE, 1832.
By Emma Bacon (Mrs. Thoyts).



Germania Church
T. M. Aug. 1825-

By Emma Bacon (Mrs. Thoyts).

THREE OLD SKETCHES.

BY MRS. COPE.

As a rule old sketches are more or less valueless on account of the poetic licence which replaced accuracy, but in the case of my grandmother I have proved how correct she was, only drawing what she actually saw. Emma Bacon was one of a large family of daughters of Thomas Bacon, of Aberamou, South Wales. He rented various houses in Berkshire and Hampshire—Padworth, Donnington, Frensham, Yaverland—hence the sketches are done in many places. For drawing-master the sisters had De la Motte, who was drawing-master at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. He had many of his studies engraved.

The two small pictures show Brading as it was in 1832. The first attempt at reclaiming the land was said to be in the thirteenth century, when William Russell made a causeway over the marsh. Further work went on during the centuries, the most celebrated effort being that of Sir Bevis Thelwell, assisted by Sir Hugh Middleton, both members of North Welsh border families, and associated together over the New River scheme to supply London with water. The present embankment was made in 1877, completed in 1880. The railway was opened in 1882.

Yarmouth, I.W., is, according to the "Victoria County History," an "uninteresting structure." The old church originally was in a different position, and apparently twice rebuilt before the church consecrated in 1626. It was "restored" at various periods later, apparently in 1873 for the last time. The tower was raised in 1832 about 30 feet, at the cost of £1,000, by Mr. Daniel Alexander, a Dissenter.