



# Rambles in South Wilts

## Upton Lovell

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*By the Author of "Sketches of Hampshire" Etc.*

No. 14

*[Written expressly for the Hampshire Advertiser and Salisbury Guardian]*

The cottage homes of England,  
By thousands on her plains,  
They are smiling o'er the silvery brooks,  
And round the hamlet fanes.  
Through glowing orchards forth they peep,  
Each from its nook of leaves;  
And fearless there the lowly sleep  
As the birds beneath their eaves.

Mrs Hemans.

**THE BOURN OF THE WILY** – We return to the main stream of the Wily, and in ascending its margin from Stapleford arrive first at the parish of Little Langford, so called to distinguish it from the adjoining parish of Steeple, otherwise Great Langford.....

The next parish in our route is Upton Lovell, comprising 1,399 acres and containing 235 inhabitants. The living is a rectory in the patronage of the crown, the tythes of which have been commuted at £329, and the glebe which consists of 30 acres has been valued at £70. In the chancel of the church is the recumbent figure of Lord Lovell from which the parish derives its distinguishing appellation. A manufacture of fine broad cloth is here carried on, and affords employment to about 400 persons of this and the neighbouring villages. Here is a

school founded under the will of the Rev. J. Crouch, in 1794, who bequeathed £500 for the purpose, now invested, and £15 per annum, in respect of which six poor children of the parish are instructed in reading, writing, and the church catechism. Upon Upton Lovell Down now is a simple entrenchment called Knook castle, including about two acres, and in its vicinity are two other entrenchments, one which is almost obliterated by the operations of the plough, but the other is entire and of very singular construction, and on the summit of a hill to the north east is a large tumulus called Bowls Barrow, measuring one hundred and fifty feet in length, ninety four in breadth, and ten and a half in height. It was twice opened by the late Mr Cunningham, who found that its interior parts were composed entirely of white marl-stone to the depth of four feet and a half, below which was a large ridge of stones and flints, extending wider towards the base of the barrow. Then came a floor of flints regularly laid, on which were deposited the remains of fourteen hundred bodies, thrown together promiscuously within the space of ten feet by six. Near the skeletons were a large cist, and to the east and west ends of the barrow were discovered several heads of oxen, but no charred wood or pottery. Nearer the river is another large barrow, which from the richness of its contents has been denominated the golden barrow. It was first opened in 1803, when a variety of large beads, shaped like a drum, and two articles resembling boxes, about an inch in diameter, with a conical top or lid. There were also found at this time a curious cup of amber studded over with projecting knobs. The barrow was again opened in 1807 by the late Sir Richard Hoare, who discovered arch-ornamented with zigzag indentations and other ornaments, and also the primary deposit at the bottom of the tumulus.

The next parish above Upton Lovell on the Wily is Knook, comprising 1440 acres and 255 inhabitants.

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