APPENDIX 13:

1888 Brooker's Guide Directory

time of my visit. In one of the vertical cliffs some fine young birch trees had taken root between the thin layers that separate the stata, and in almost every fissure of the rocks numerous plants had insinuated themselves, and by the beauty and variety of their foliage relieved the monotonous and sombre appearance of the smooth grey sandstone. On the less elevated masses, lichens, mosses, and heaths were growing in great profusion and luxuriance. The strata are nearly horizontal, from three to six feet thick, and are separated from each other by thin layers of soft sandstone shale." There is a legend connected with this romantic spot, also noticed by Dr. Mantell, which has been very prettily recorded in the following lines by the late Thomas Pentecost, known as the Uckfield poet.

"Know you this lake was Fanny's tomb?
Sweet girl, when last she came to meet
Her Edwin in the twilight's gloom,
(Where oft they'd met in this retreat,)
'Twas from yon rock, where high she stood
To watch her Edwin pace the shore,
Her footstep slid, deep in the flood
She fell beneath, to rise no more!

"To mourn her fate, lone in this shade
In silent sorrow Edwin came,—
And where their mutual vows were made,
On every birch carv'd Fanny's name;
But oh, sad tale!—no longer sane,
Here, self-destroy'd, was Edwin found;
And buried was his cold remain—
His grave yon little island mound—

Where, long (with ivy seen to twine)
The pale-white rose her graces lent,—
O'ershading Edwin's little shrine,
The weeping cypress o'er it bent!

But time has here dissolved the spell,
No pale-white rose, no weeping pine
Is longer seen! nor lovers tell,
Nor point the spot where Fanny fell—
Where Edwin plunged beneath the wave—
His shrine—the little island grave!

PENTECOST.

It must be understood, however, that these grounds are private, and can only be viewed by permission of the owner.

Adjoining The Rocks, to the west, is the Copwood

From the time when the living of Uckfield was separated from Buxted, in 1846, till 1883 no suitable residence had been provided for the minister of the parish church. The result of an earnest endeavour to supply this need was the erection of the Rectory, a red brick building to the south of Belmont, approached by a short carriage drive. It is pleasantly situated, and was erected from plans by Ewan Christian, Esq., at a total cost (including site and conveyance) of £3578, which sum was raised by voluntary contributions, with the exception of a loan of £1,000 secured on the income of the benefice. It has a large room used for meetings in connection with church work. The interior of the Rectory is admirably arranged for comfort.

The Rocks is the handsome seat of Richard James Streatfeild, Esq., J.P. On the estate is one of the completest collections of coniferous trees to be found in Great Britain. One of the lions of Uckfield is the very picturesque lake on the Rocks estate, surrounded with varied and luxurious foliage, and having on its margin caverns, natural and artificial, in the sand rocks which form so remarkable a feature of the locality. Respecting this favoured nook, Dr. Mantell says, in his *Geology of Sussex*—"Near The Rocks, about half-a-mile west of Uckfield, a group of sandstone rocks occurs, under circumstances of considerable beauty and picturesque effect. The path that leads to this interesting spot lies to the right of the road, and by a circuitous route conducts the spectator to the centre of a wood, where a beautiful lake, nearly surrounded by rocks, suddenly opens to the view. The cliffs overhanging the water are from twenty to thirty feet high, and are surmounted by forest trees and underwood. In some places the rocks are nearly perpendicular, in others they descend with a gentle slope to the water's edge, the declivity being covered by a luxuriant vegetation. On the northern margin, a projecting point of high rock is perforated by a natural archway that has been enlarged by art, and this leads to a recess in the sandstone on a level with the bosom of the lake. From this point the picturesque beauty of the scene is exhibited to peculiar advantage. On the opposite shore, the base of a rock that juts into the water is in like manner excavated into an arch, beneath which a little shallop was moored at the