and everywhere his burning lips can fasten on. But in Russia it is the deliberate custom to touch with the lips portions of the body not sanctioned by our island etiquette. The shoulder is a favourite place for the labial salute. See 'Anna Karenina,' pt. ii. chap. xi., pt. v. chap. xxx.; 'War and Peace,' vol. i. pp. 306, 328, 335. The neck, hair, bosom, are all frequently mentioned as customary recipients of the sweet pressure of the lips. Tolstoi invariably notes precisely where the kiss was placed. Has it ever been customary in England, at any time, to kiss intentionally the shoulders, bosom, hair, neck, eyes? (The query does not apply to children.) George Eliot gives an example of the neck in 'Daniel Deronda':—

"One day, indeed, he had kissed not her cheek, but her neck a little below her ear; and Gwendolen, taken by surprise, had started up with a marked agitation which made him rise too and say, 'I beg your pardon—did I annoy you?' 'Oh, it was nothing,' said Gwendolen, rather afraid of herself, 'only I cannot bear—to be kissed under my ear.'"—P. 242.

Was not kissing a capital offence under one of the Cassars?

W. A. HENDERSON.

H. G. AND T. H. B. OLDIELD (8th S. iv. 447).—By a notice in the Athenæum of Oct. 15, 1893, it is intended that the life of Thomas Hinton Burley Oldfield (1755-1822), historian of Parliament, shall be given in the Dictionary of National Biography.

EVERARD HOME COLEMAN.

MRS. MARKHAM'S 'HISTORY' (8th S. iv. 449).—We have the third edition here, dated 1829. There is a passage about the "Black Death" in it, but I do not know if it is the passage wanted.

EDWARD H. MARSHALL, M.A.

The Brassey Institute, Hastings.

DR. GABEY, HEAD MASTER OF WINCHESTER COLLEGE (8th S. iv. 527).—The degree of D.D. was conferred upon the Rev. Henry Dixon Gabel by Charles Manners-Sutton, Archbishop of Canterbury, on Jan. 4, 1811.

G. F. R. B.