

be described. It opens to the nave by an obtusely-pointed arch, which was thought to be of Transitional Norman date; but, on the removal of the yellow wash, it was found that the upper part of the arch was of wood, and a brick arch had been thrown across the wall above it to support the roofs. The jambs and the lower portion of the arch remained, and have been carefully preserved, and are probably of late thirteenth century date, and of the same period as the rest of the chapel. It is traditionally reported that some years ago this arch fell down, seriously injuring the beautiful monument erected below it. The arch has been restored in stone in the style of the lower portion, which remains *in situ*.

The chapel has a nice two-light south window of good Early Decorated character, and a single trefoil-headed lancet in the east and west walls. That on the west has been filled in with the armorial bearings of the owners of the Aldermaston Estate, Achard, Delamare, Forster, Stawell, Congreve, Higford Burr and Keyser. The Forster and Achard shields were presented by Mr. Walter Money, F.S.A. The latter was originally in the old house, and shows the effect of the fire in 1843. There is a large niche for an image in the east wall near the south side, and a trefoil-headed piscina in the south wall of the same date as the rest of the chapel. The roof is of the same date as that over the eastern portion of the nave, and has been treated at the restoration in the same way.

*(To be continued.)*

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THE SYKES FAMILY.—Mr. Monypenny, in his "Life of Disraeli," says that Henrietta was the daughter of the fifth Earl of Berkeley and Mary Cole, the question of whose marriages constitutes one of the most interesting peerage cases on record. But Mr. K. Tulkinghorn, of Lincoln's-inn-fields, writes to "Notes and Queries" to say that Disraeli's Henrietta was the Henrietta Villeboise who was married in 1846 to Sir Francis William Sykes, of Basildon, and who died in 1861. This Henrietta was the daughter of Mr. Henry Villeboise of Marham Hall, Norfolk, and she was the mother of the fourth, fifth, and sixth (present) baronets of Basildon. The Sykes family of Sledmere are a younger branch of this ancient house, whose possession of lands in Yorkshire can be traced back to 1200. There must be many people still living who remember this Lady Sykes. The present Sir Henry Sykes is still alive; and the widow of the late Baronet (Sir Frederick Sykes), resides at Purley. The Basildon estate was some time ago sold by the family to the late Mr. Charles Morrison. The mansion was built by one of the family in imitation of one of the Indian Government houses, and one of its (not too comfortable) features is that the main stairway from the ground to the first floor is outside the house.