ARCHITECTURAL NOTICES RELATING CHIEFLY TO ECCLE-SIASTICAL STRUCTURES IN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, BY THE REV. J. L. PETIT, M.A.¹

In resuming my architectural notices, it is as well to remind the reader that I do not profess to call his attention to all the remarkable objects of any district from which I may select my specimens. I shall often pass by some building of great beauty and interest, while I take note of a comparatively insignificant one in its immediate neighbourhood. And it may not always be easy to give a reason for my choice, unless it be that the finest specimens are generally pretty well known, and that in the study of those of less note we may occasionally meet with new and characteristic features, and discover combinations interesting both to the antiquary and the practical architect. Many of the more important structures which I have visited would require a much fuller description than is suitable for such a memoir as the present ; for instance, the magnificent remains of Pershore Church, of which I shall therefore say nothing beyond remarking that the visitor ought by no means to neglect going up into the story of the tower above the present roof, originally, without doubt, opened as a lantern, which forms a rare and beautiful composition of decorated work.

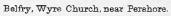
And again, smaller churches are more liable to the danger of restoration. Many precious objects have been irreparably lost to the antiquary by the zeal of persons who consider the neat and perfect appearance of new work to be more suitable to a church, than the dignity resulting from the gradual impression of ages, and the force of long associations.

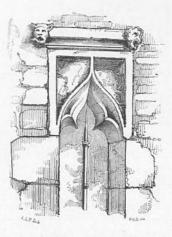
About six miles to the north of Cheltenham, near a remarkable eminence distinguished from the rest of the range by its insulated position and a single tree upon its summit, is the village (if the term can be applied to so small a group) of Stanley-Pontlarge. Here we find that combination which is so common in Gloucestershire; viz., the large farm-house, originally perhaps a manor-house of some importance, and

¹ We are desirous to express here the cordial acknowledgment of the liberal kindness of Mr. Petit, in addition to many valuable donations of a similar nature on previous occasions. The whole of the illustrations, accompanying this memoir, have been generously presented by him to the Institute.









Window, Manor House, Stanley Pontlarge

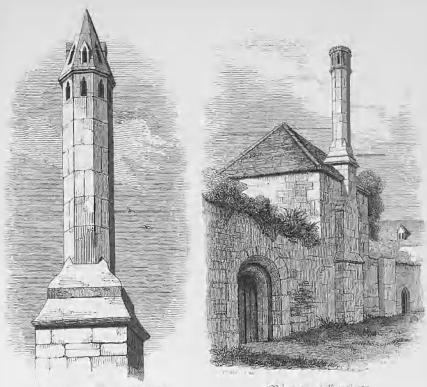
the chapel adjoining. The first of these has been much rebuilt and modernised, but still contains some medieval work; of which the most striking specimen is a window of a single light with an ogee trefoiled arch under a square head, having a horizontal label, the corbels of which are heads of animals with open mouths, forming waterspouts. I should say its character is late Decorated, or early Perpendicular. The chapel, situated but a few yards to the north of this, is Norman, with later insertions. It consists of a nave and chancel, and has over the chancel arch a bell-turret of two pointed arches under a gable of good pitch. As such gables are very frequently devoid of any mouldings characteristic of style, the plainness of the present one does not prove it to belong to an early date, though I am much inclined to believe it does so, more especially as one of a similar description on a small church near Pershore has very decidedly early characteristics. The chancel arch at Stanley-Pontlarge is semicircular, of two orders, the inferior, plain without a chamfer; the superior, with chevrons on the western face, a label, and a shaft at the edge of its impost. The eastern face of the arch is comparatively plain. There is no east window. On the south side of the chancel is a piscina of later date, projecting from the wall, and of the sedilia, a standard or elbow remains, probably one of a pair between which the bench was placed. This is of stone-work. The north and south door of the nave are Norman, the former has a transom with an ornamented border. The arch has two orders, with shafted imposts, and a label. Both the orders have the chevron in the soffit, and the label has billets at a distance from each other. This chapel, though small, is a most picturesque and interesting edifice. The Norman work is good and very pure; I should say of an early date.

At a short distance to the north-west of the chapel is a farm-house in the Tudor style. The south end, which is a gable, has a good chimney, tapering in stages from the ground, and square at the top, where it is finished with a cornice of shallow projection, crowned with a row of small battlements or knobs. The windows have square-headed labels, the lights being arched, scarcely, if at all, pointed, and without foliation. This house, in its present state, is of a simple oblong plan, with a gable at each end.

Near Bishops Cleeve, on the Evesham road, is a farmvol. vi. G house, in which some old work yet remains. Here is a very beautiful chimney; whatever may be its date, its character is rather Decorated than Perpendicular. It is octagonal, springing from a rectangular base, and is crowned with an obtuse spire, of which the alternate sides have projecting spire-lights, with open trefoiled arches, the four intermediate sides having open trefoiled arches on the slope. In the shaft, also, below the string under the spire, is an open trefoiled arch on each face. I should think this must be a really good and useful chimney, as well as a very ornamental one.

Among the beautiful remains at Evesham, I will only call attention to another specimen of a chimney, probably of a later date than the last. This also is octagonal, upon a square or rectangular base. Its upper stage rests on a string, and has an open trefoiled arch in each face. The capping is embattled. It belongs to a building engaged in the south wall of the church-yard, which is the old north wall of the abbey.

About four miles from Evesham, to the left of the road leading to Cheltenham, is Sedgeberrow, the church of which deserves attention, both as a beautiful and somewhat unique specimen of old work, and as a very available model in the present day. It is of a simple oblong plan, with no architectural division or distinction between the nave and chancel, except that the windows of the latter, though with the same number of lights, are somewhat narrower. There has been, however, a rood-screen, of which part remains. The belfry is an octagonal turret at the west end, five sides being carried down to the ground, and projecting boldly in the plan. It is divided into four stages by string-courses, and crowned with a spire, of which the angles are ribbed. The windows of the turret are tall square-headed openings. The style of the church is Decorated, apparently late, though the side-windows (of two lights) have tracery of rather a geometrical than flowing character. The east window has five lights, and, although perpendicular lines occur in its tracery, is such as might have been very well constructed at a late period of the Decorated style. The piscina has a handsome crocketted canopy with a projecting ogee, and is supported by an engaged octagonal shaft. The sedilia consist of a stone bench between two projecting elbows. There are a few remains of Decorated glass in situ. The roof is an arched timber one, like the frame-work of a ship ; such is not uncom-

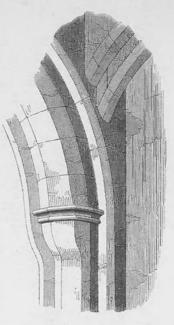


Chimney at Bishop's Cleeve.

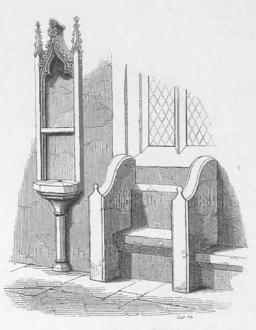
Chimney at Evosion



Chapel over Well, near Hempstead.



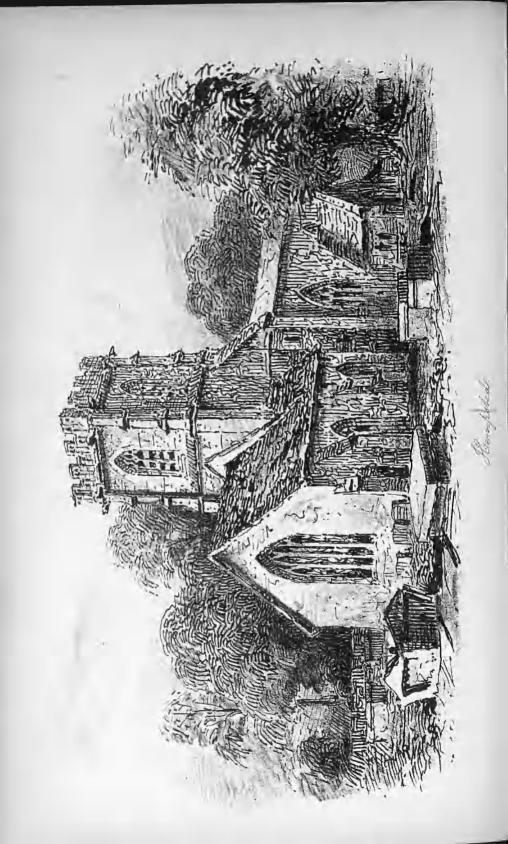
Construction of Tower Arches, Hempstead.



Piscina and Sedilia, Sedgeberrow.



Sedĝeberrow Church.- See page 42.



mon in some parts of Gloucestershire; and there are remains of good wood-work in the pewing. There is a north and south door, the former of which has a porch. The masonry on the whole is good and regular, though, as in many churches in the neighbourhood, the lias of the district is too freely used to be consistent with dryness.

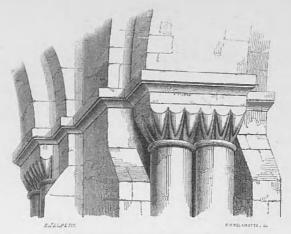
Hempstead Church, near Gloucester, is a picturesque object both in its form and position. But I notice it as furnishing a peculiar example of construction. The tower, which is central, is not so wide as the chancel or nave; but that the imposts of the transverse arches may not project inconveniently into the body of the church, a span is given them nearly corresponding to the full width of the building; the north and south arches, however, supporting the tower, spring from points in the face of the transverse ones considerably above, and overhanging the capitals of the imposts, so that the internal area of the tower falls considerably within the corresponding area on the floor of the church. The weight of the walls above, and the thickness of the transverse arches, form sufficient abutment. The tower is Perpendicular, with rather heavy string-courses and mouldings. The belfry window is large, but the panelling of the embattled parapet, and the projection of the gurgoyles, give it a rich and bold effect. The chancel is chiefly Decorated; the nave appears to have been much modernised.

In crossing the fields between this church and Gloucester, we come upon a relic of rather an uncommon description in this country. It is a small cell or chapel erected over a well, probably belonging to Llantony Abbey, on the south side of Gloucester. The entrance to the building is bricked up, so that it is impossible to say what the interior may be. The plan is nearly a square of seven feet, on a wider basement. The east and west ends are gabled; in the latter is an ogee door, and a narrow ogee window of one light. On the east end is some sculpture, which seems to have been a rood. The covered roof is of stone, and the ridge is finished with a rib. The whole is of good ashlar masonry. This little building stands on the side of rather an abrupt slope, overlooking the valley of the Severn. A fine thorn tree which overhangs it, adds much to its picturesque beauty.

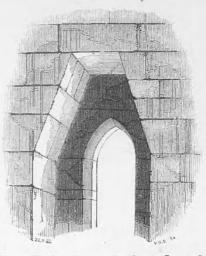
The next object we will consider, though from its retired

position, it may have attracted little notice, appears to have been a conventual church of some importance. On arriving at the Frocester station, on the Gloucester and Bristol railroad, a walk of a mile and a half brings us to Leonard Stanley. The church is in the form of a cross, with a central tower, and no aisles; its style principally Norman, of a pure and early character; with later additions and insertions. The nave has a fine western Norman door, enriched with chevrons both on the face and soffit of the arch, and a billetted label. The side windows are mostly inserted, being Decorated and Perpendicular, though some with semicircular heads still remain. The arches under the tower are semicircular, of two plain orders without any chamfer. The inner is supported by a couplet of large engaged shafts, (a mark of early Norman.) and the imposts of the outer ones have buttresses. whether original, or added for strength. These occur in all the arches. The north transept has a Perpendicular window inserted in its front, but the south transept retains its own Norman one, with a deep splay. The Norman buttresses at the angles of the transepts are also retained. The south transept has a round arch on the east side, as if there had been an apsidal recess, as at Tewkesbury, Gloucester, &c. The chancel appears to have been constructed for vaulting in two bays on Norman shafts, which still remain, though decorated windows have been inserted both in the sides, and at the east end. The east window retains some painted glass in the tracery lights, one of which has a figure surrounded with quarries. The piscina is a trefoiled opening-near it is an elegant and interesting piece of sculpture, of which a cut is annexed. This is evidently of a Norman period, if not earlier. There seem to be some early English remains in the chancel. The length of the church internally is 131 feet, of which the nave, from the west wall to the west arch of the tower is 73 feet 9 inches. The total width internally, from north to south wall of transepts, is 67 feet 7 inches. The length of the chancel, from the east wall to the eastern arch of the tower, is 32 feet 9 inches. The width of the nave is 23 feet 3 inches; the width of the chancel 20 feet 7 inches. The area of the tower is oblong; its measurement from east to west, including the thickness of the tower arches, being 25 feet 7 inches. From north to south, 33 feet 2 inches. Externally, the tower is low and

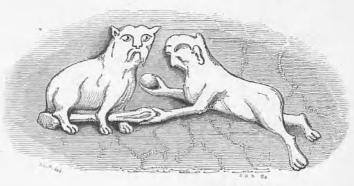




spring of Tower Arches, Stanley St. Leonard.



Beliry Window Interior, Stanley St. Leonard.



Sculpture in Chancel, Stanley St. Leonard.

massive; its parapet is embattled; the belfry windows are plain pointed ones without foliation. There is a bold northwestern turret to the tower, wholly disengaged ; that is, its eastern wall being a continuation of the western wall, and its southern of the northern wall, of the tower. This arrangement always gives great effect to the outline, though it involves somewhat narrow passages in obtaining access to the belfry. The porch to the nave is on the north side. There is no chancel door. The orientation is east-south-east magnetically. On the north side of the church-yard is a lichgate; picturesque, but of no special architectural character. On the south side of the church, parallel with the nave, is a barn, (or building now used as such,) with a decorated window of three lights at the east end; and a little to the south-west, its walls being inclined in a south-westerly direction, is another barn with a decorated window of two lights in its north-east end, and the remains of a good finial on the gable. I had not time to give sufficient attention to these buildings; but the mere mention of them will tend to establish the conventual character of the church. Supposing it to have retained its Norman work unmixed, it perhaps would not have differed very much either in magnitude or general appearance, from the conventual church within the walls of Porchester Castle in Hampshire.

I. L. PETIT.

(To be continued.)

ANCIENT SEPULCHRAL STONE CISTS DISCOVERED IN YORKSHIRE.

At the monthly meeting of the Institute in December last, there were exhibited drawings of two remarkable Stone Cists or Coffins, of considerable antiquity, now preserved in the pleasure grounds at Swinton Park, Yorkshire. No. 1 was discovered in the year 1835 by workmen who were digging gravel from an extensive ridge or hill of that material, lying about 200 yards distant from the right bank of the present course of the stream of the river Eure, in the parish of Masham, in the North Riding of Yorkshire. The ridge is raised ten or twelve feet above the level of the adjacent soil, in an extensive open field called the Mar or Mere Field, and is now grown over with brush-wood, forming

ARCHITECTURAL NOTICES, RELATING CHIEFLY TO CHURCHES IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, BY THE REV J. L. PETIT, M.A.¹

(Continued from page 45.)

WE will now altogether change our locality, and glance at a few churches in Sussex. As might be expected, the difference in geological structure between two distant counties involves considerable architectural differences, besides which we generally find a certain local character independent of the nature of material. For instance, a part of Somersetshire abounds in lofty towers, with enriched belfry stories and beautiful pierced parapets; there is also a peculiar kind of Perpendicular window which I have noticed in most churches in the same district. In Warwickshire, Shropshire, and Staffordshire, are towers of a much plainer description, but wellbuilt, massive, and of good proportion; and a band of panelling beneath the string of the parapet (which is usually embattled) is very common. In some parts of Kent a bold staircase turret is almost universal. In Northamptonshire this is less common, and the upper stage of the tower, as also in Bedfordshire, occasionally tapers upwards. We might also notice peculiarities in the plan of the building itself; in the tracery of the windows; in the mouldings; in the predominance of a particular style, as the Early English in Kent and Sussex, the Decorated in Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire, and the Perpendicular in Somersetshire and Devonshire. No architectural student ought to confine himself altogether to one locality, however rich in specimens, lest he should run the risk of mistaking local peculiarities for general rules.

From the predominance of flint and chalk in Sussex, at least in the district we are about to consider, we shall not expect to meet with much ashlar masonry, nor with the external enrichment which is attainable where good freestone can be used in abundance. And I do not remember to have noticed the flint panelling common in Norfolk, and which frequently produces so good an effect, in the fine and lofty towers of that county. I have, however, observed a few

¹ The illustrations of this Memoir, engraved from drawings by Mr. Petit, have been liberally presented by him to the

Institute. The Committee desire to express their cordial thanks for this generous assistance.

instances of flint and stone-work in alternate squares, which occur in the tower of Steyning Church. The stone spire is very rare; but a wooden one, covered with shingles, prevails throughout. This is sometimes a broach spire, sometimes it springs from within the parapet, and it is occasionally quadrilateral. The external wooden shingle which now exists, I should say, is in many cases the original covering, and appears generally sound and in good condition. The pale grey tint which it acquires from the weather is very pleasing to the eye, and harmonises well with the building, which generally presents a surface of flint or old plaster.

The Church of Newhaven (originally Meeching) is almost,



Newhaven Church, Sussex.

if not quite, unique as an English specimen of a tower with an Eastern apse immediately annexed to it, without the intervention of any other chancel. The arrangement is common enough on the Continent. The tower is extremely massive, in two stages, of which the upper appears to be an addition, though both are Norman. The upper stage has a double belfry window in each face, with a banded shaft ; the capital seems to have been enriched with foliage, and has a square



To face p. 138.



abacus; the arches have a torus, forming a continuous impost where they are not stopped by the capital of the dividing shaft, there being no corresponding shafts in the jambs. The angles of this stage, and the upper half of the stage beneath it, have a torus. The tower is finished with a course of Norman corbels or brackets, and is roofed with a low shingled broach spire. The interior of the tower, above the arches which support it, is quite plain, and appears never to have been open as a lantern. The arch of the belfry window internally does not correspond with that of the window in the lower stage, from which it seems reasonable to suspect that they are of different dates. The western arch of the tower is of one order, square, but having a torus on its western edge, which is also carried down, though not in quite a direct line, below the abacus of the impost. The eastern face of the same arch has a label and two plain orders without the torus, the impost having Norman shafts at the edges. The western face of the chancel is similar to this, with the addition of a torus on the outer edge of each order. The eastern face of the chancel arch has only one order, square and plain, and without a label, but the impost has a torus on the edge. It is evident there have never been transepts, but north and south windows with large splays. The apse is nearly semi-It had originally three small Norman windows, circular. which are now stopped up; two pointed side windows are now inserted in different positions from the old ones, and breaking through the old string-course; at present there is no east window open. This apse, and the lower part of the tower, with its arches, may, I should think, be assigned to an early Norman period. The nave is modern, though a part of its south wall, retaining no architectural features, may be original. Between Newhaven and Lewes (a distance of less than eight miles) are two churches with the round western tower; there is one also in the town of Lewes. And I am not aware if this feature, so common among the flint churches of Norfolk and Suffolk, occurs elsewhere in Sussex. The convenience of such a form to the builder, in a flint county, as dispensing with angular dressings of stone, is evident.

The tower of Piddinghoe Church, little more than a mile from Newhaven, is Norman; it is not divided by string-courses into stages, but tapers slightly. Two small round-headed windows, one above the other, face westward; the belfry

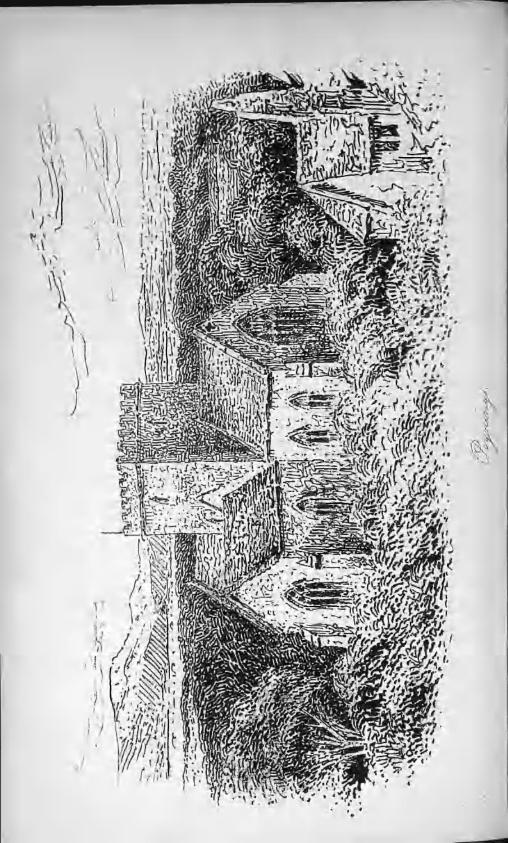
windows, also small Norman ones of one light, face diagonally. The tower has an octagonal shingled spire. The nave has had aisles, of which the northern one remains. The pier arches are round, plain, of one order, without a chamfer. The imposts square, with an abacus. The arches on the south side, which are built up, seem very Early pointed. The chancel arch is a beautiful Early English one, with clustered imposts. and richly moulded architrave; the western face being richer The chancel has had north and south aisles than the eastern. of two bays divided by a cylindrical column. The arch between the north aisle of the nave and that of the chancel has been a round one. The east end has a triplet of small lancet windows with wide splays, the edge of which has a torus. In the gable is a plain depressed round window. The piscina is in the east wall, which has also brackets and a credence.

Iford Church, also between Newhaven and Lewes, has a



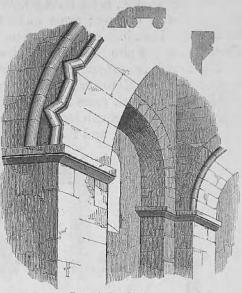
Iford Church, Sussex.

square central tower, very plain, and crowned with a square shingled spire. There are no transepts, nor aisles to the nave, but the chancel has had a north chapel or vestry, entered from within by a segmental pointed arch on Early English imposts with square abacus. The present vestry, on the same site, is modern. There is no east window. The tower arches suggest the intention of transepts, those on the north and south sides being deep, and apparently constructed for support. Exter-



nally, the plaster prevents our forming any judgment from

the masonry. The arches are round, of one order, without chamfer. The western face of the chancel arch has a torus at the edge; that of the nave arch has a similar torus, and another broken by chevrons. The capital of the impost is an abacus, and there are no shafts. Both the nave and chancel have some foliated windows of one light, belonging to the De-



Tower Arches, Iford.

corated and Perpendicular styles. The font is Early English, and consists of a bowl supported on a large central shaft, surrounded by four smaller detached ones. Its mouldings are bold and decided, but it has no other sculpture.

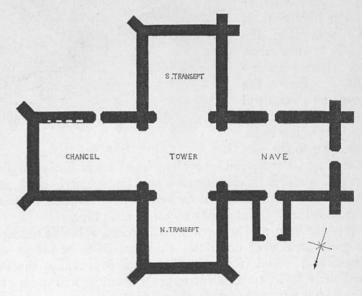
We will next notice Poynings Church, a valuable example, as being mostly of one date, which seems to be pretty well ascertained. And if this is the case, it proves that the Perpendicular style, to which it entirely belongs, was used, even in secluded villages, considerably before the close of the fourteenth century.²

Michael, the second Baron Poynings, who attended King Edward the Third in his foreign wars, and was present at Crecy, at the surrender of Calais, and at Poictiers, died in 1369, and bequeathed by his will 200 marks towards rebuilding the parish church of Poynings, and desired to be buried near the altar in the south transept, by the side of his mother. His widow, Joan, died a few months after, also bequeathing 200 marks for the same purpose. It is supposed that the new church was begun in 1370, or soon afterwards, and completed for the 400 marks. The south transept is called the Poynings'

 $^{^2\,}$ I am indebted for my information to a concise account of Poynings Church, drawn up by the late rector, Dr. Holland.

Chapel, and contains the few relics that exist of the monuments of that family, viz., some slabs which have had brasses, one with a double canopy; some incised crosses, and a raised coffin-shaped tomb. A few encaustic tiles, collected from different parts, are also preserved in this transept.

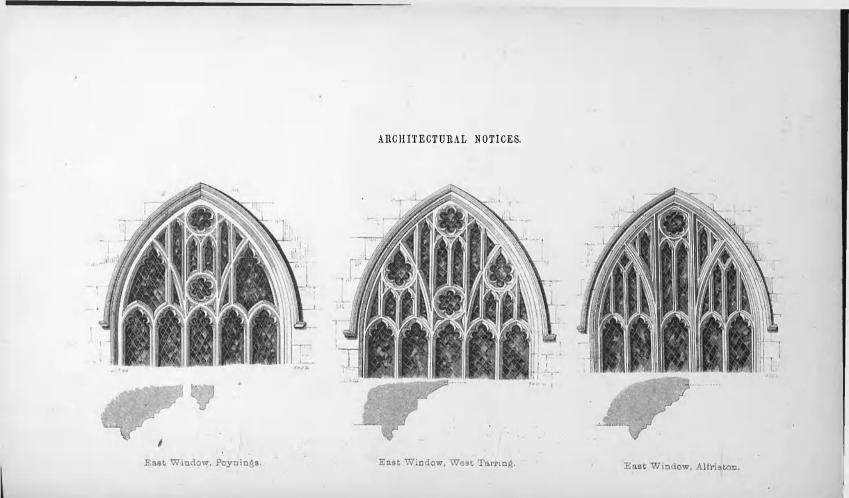
The church consists of nave, chancel, north and south transepts, and central tower; and approaches more nearly to the form of a Greek cross than any English mediæval church with which I am acquainted, the total length being 89 feet $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches internally, and the breadth at the transept 69 feet



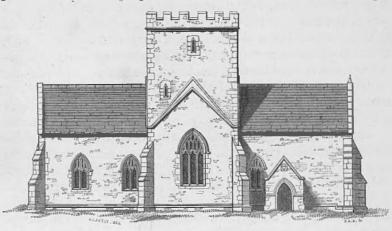
Ground Plan of Poynings Church.

9 inches. The length of the nave exceeds that of the chancel by little more than a foot. The tower arches are pointed, of two chamfered orders, but their imposts are simple octagonal piers engaged. There are no aisles, and the porch is on the north side of the nave. In the chancel are sedilia and piscina; the former consisting of three ogee trefoiled arches under a square label, the latter of a single ogee trefoiled arch with a similar label. The north window of the transept and the western window are of three lights; the side windows of nave, chancel, and transepts, of two lights, all decidedly Perpendicular. The south transept window is an insertion. The east window is one of five lights, with two foliated circles curiously introduced in the tracery above the central light.

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The tracery above the outer lights appears imperfect. It may be remarked that these small foliated circles not unfrequently appear in Perpendicular tracery in this county. A comparison between the east windows of Poynings, West Tarring (near Worthing), and Alfriston (a church which we will presently notice), will be interesting. In the point of the east gable is a quatrefoiled circle. The central tower is plain and massive; the parapet embattled; the belfry window is narrow, of one light, ogeed and trefoiled, without any label. A similar light occurs in the north and south faces a little below the level of the point of the transept gables, to the east of the north transept,



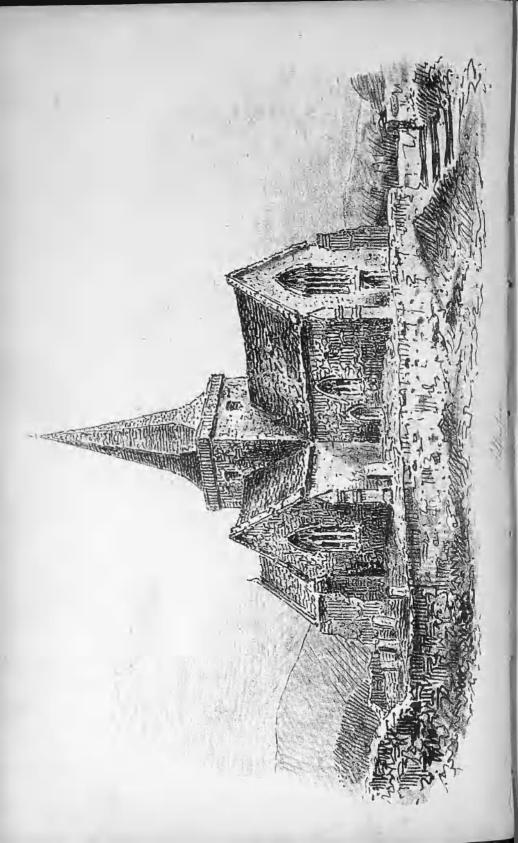
Poynings Church, North Elevation.

and west of the south transept roof. The masonry is flintwork, the angles both salient and re-entering, the edges of the windows, parapet, &c., being dressed with stone. The flints in general are chipped, so as to present a smooth front, but they are not squared, though they are disposed in tolerably regular layers. The exceptions are, the east side of the south transept, and the north porch. In the former the work is much more irregular, and the base-moulding, which runs round the rest of the church, altogether disappears. In the latter the flints are squared and fitted close together. This porch I therefore look upon as a later addition, as the mouldings of the door have a different character from the other doors of the church, and the angles which it forms with the wall of the nave are not dressed, like all the other similar angles, with stone.

With regard to the east wall of the south transept, it may be observed, that however completely a church was rebuilt, if it occupied the same site, some portion of the older building seems generally to have been retained. Thus, in the very late Perpendicular church of Bath Abbey, we find Norman portions at the east end. In Tong Church, in Shropshire, which I have in a former volume³ described as an early Perpendicular church of one date, are some features in the south aisle of an Early English or early Decorated character, which I omitted to notice in my description, and which lead me to believe that the nave of the original church stood on the ground occupied by the present south aisle. In the case before us, we learn that Michael, Baron Poynings, desired to be buried near the altar in the south transept, by the side of his mother. Now, it is very probable that, in the rebuilding of the church, the site of this altar and the burial-place of the family would be disturbed as little as possible, and hence the preservation of the old wall, or a considerable part of it, would be accounted for. Otherwise, it would have been desirable, on the score of convenience, to have moved the site of the church several yards to the eastward, by which might have been avoided the steep bank which rises, even now, abruptly to the west door of the nave.

The font is octagonal, without any shaft, each of its sides having a trefoiled ogee arch. It has been engraved, and classed as a Decorated specimen. I should say it is about the same date as the building. This beautiful church forms a prominent object in the view from the high ground above the Devil's Dyke, about six miles from Brighton; and deserves careful examination from its striking outline, its simplicity of design, and its architectural excellence.

Alfriston Church, between Lewes and Seaford, is in many respects very similar to the last I have mentioned; and although the work belongs more decidedly to the Decorated style, there is probably but little difference between the two in date. This is also a cross church, without aisles, having a low massive central tower with a shingled spire. In dimensions it slightly exceeds Poynings Church, and in its masonry is more elaborate, all the fints being squared and fitted to each other. The dressings are of stone. The chancel here is somewhat longer than the nave, as in Shottesbrooke Church, a building very similar to this in character and the period of its erection. The four fronts have an extremely fine elevation, owing to their great width, the pitch of their gables, and the projection of their diagonal buttresses, which are finished at the top with a covered coping instead of a sloping set-off. The



transepts are not so long in proportion to the rest of the building as at Poynings. The east window, of five lights, has already been noticed. Its two central mullions, together with the arches which they throw into the jambs of the window. are of the first order, the other mullions of the second. The chancel has a lychnoscope (if that is the recognised term) on both the north and south side. All the front windows have Perpendicular lines; the side ones have flowing tracery, evidently late. The nave has doors on the north, south, and west, the latter having square spandrils. The south door has a porch, and there is a south chancel door. The tower arches have three orders. Some of the mouldings exhibit convex The faces of their piers are concave. The sedilia have faces octagonal shafts and round arches with ogee canopies, which break through a horizontal line of spandrils. The piscina is of similar character. Though the details are of pure late Decorated, the composition of the sedilia has almost the effect of Cinque-cento. Perhaps this is owing to the shape of the arches. In the chancel, on the north side, is a flat-arched monumental recess. The font is plain and square. Its pedestal has at the angles engaged octagonal shafts. There are some remains of painted glass in the north transept, among which may be noticed a figure of St. Alphege in one of the tracery lights. A careful comparison of this church with those of Poynings and Shottesbrooke would be found interesting.

The county of Sussex affords some good specimens of transition from Norman to Early English. In Steyning Church the arches continue semicircular, and the change of style shows itself in varied and multiplied mouldings. At Broadwater, New Shoreham, and Southwick, the mouldings are simpler, but the pointed arch makes its appearance, and is frequently enriched with pure Norman ornaments. This is the case with the tower arches at Broadwater. There are probably many Saxon specimens in the county besides the wellknown one at Sompting ; and still more numerous instances where plainness of work and roughness of masonry would tempt one to assign an ante-Norman date to the building.

On the whole, little as the hasty traveller may be struck by the ecclesiastical features of this county, the careful observer will find as much to reward his trouble as in districts more renowned for the beauty and magnificence of their structures.