

REPTON PRIORY, DERBYSHIRE.¹

By W. H. Sr. JOHN HOPE, M.A., F.S.A.

Until a year and a half ago the site of the monastery at Repton was a confused mass of buildings, outhouses, and gardens, and such of the remains of the priory as existed above ground were so obscured, that it was almost impossible to say what the arrangement of the buildings really had been. The discovery, some seventy years ago, of certain walls and responds, had enabled the site of the nave of the church to be pointed out, and more recent excavations had laid bare the south east pier of a central tower. Further explorations on the spot were difficult owing to the existence of a flourishing kitchen garden. A short time ago a proposal was made to erect an additional schoolroom, as a memorial to the late Dr. Pears, formerly head master of Repton School. This building was planned to occupy part of the site of the conventual church. As it was impossible to forecast what would be preserved or destroyed during the necessary excavations for foundations, steps were taken by the Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History Society to explore the area of the priory church, before the walls for the new buildings were begun. The excavations were commenced under my direction and supervision on August 30th 1883, and during the first day's work we uncovered the greater part of the base of the *pulpitum* at the entrance to the choir; the north west pier of the crossing; part of the west wall of the nave, with the respond of the south arcade and a jamb

¹ Read at the monthly meeting of the Institute, December 4th, 1884.

The substance of the first half of this paper, with much of the description of the conventual buildings, and the inventory given in the appendix, originally appeared as a separate article in the

Journal of the Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History Society for 1884. It has, however, been entirely re-cast, and the description of the whole building, as laid bare by subsequent excavations, is here given as a distinct and separate monograph.

of the west door. During succeeding days we were able to fix the limits of the nave and transepts; and a fine base found *in situ* to the south of the *pulpitum* proved the existence of a double aisle, or south chapel, on the south of the choir. The explorations were subsequently carried on by the Rev. W. Furneaux, the present head master of Repton School, in a more complete manner, the debris accumulated on the floor level being removed from the area of the whole church, and the entire ground plan thus laid bare.

Before describing the buildings a few words are necessary concerning the history of the priory.

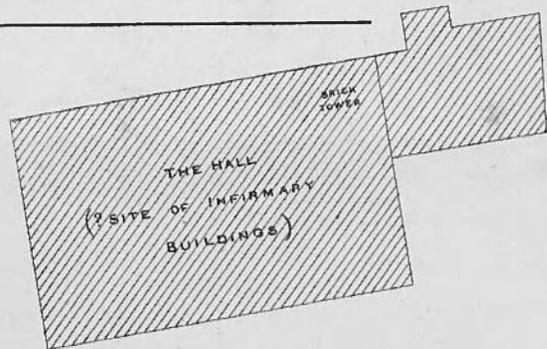
Towards the close of the eleventh century a priory of black canons, or canons regular of the Augustinian Order, was founded at Calke, and dedicated to SS. Mary and Giles. Who the founder was is doubtful, and the year of the foundation is not known, but the Priory of Calke enjoyed an independent existence for nearly a century.

About the middle of the twelfth century, during the episcopate of Walter de Durdant, bishop of Coventry, (1149-1161), Matilda, countess of Chester, by consent of Earl Hugh her son, granted to God and St. Mary and the canons of Calke—

the working of the quarry of Repton beside the Trent, together with the advowson of the church of St. Wystan of Repton, with all its appurtenances, on condition that the convent continue there for its head, when a suitable opportunity shall have demanded it, to which Calke should be a subject member.

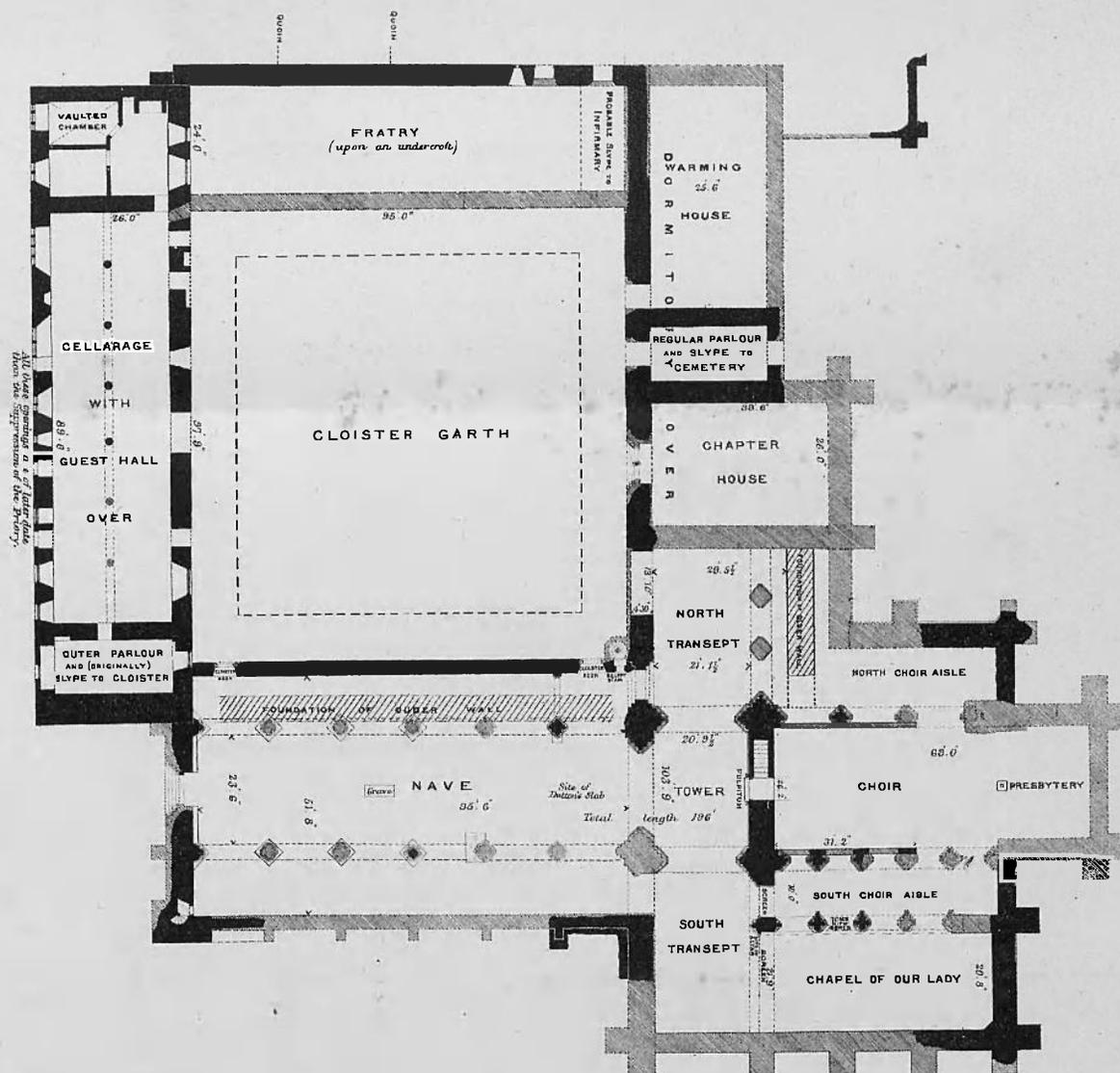
The desired removal seems to have occurred shortly after the countess Matilda's charter, and thenceforth Repton became the chief house and Calke its dependent cell. It is to be noted that the parish church of St. Wystan, though served by the canons of the priory, maintained a separate existence from the priory church throughout—being an entirely distinct building, the east end of which was some yards distant from the west front of the priory church—and while the latter is now an utter ruin, of which only the foundations and bases of pillars remain, the parish church, so well-known for its old-English chancel and crypt, is still intact. The priory church was therefore purely conventual.

The later history of the priory is remarkably fragmen-



REPTON PRIORY

DERBYSHIRE.



Scale of _____ Feet

tary, and no chartulary or collection of documents relating to it is at present known.

The *Valor Ecclesiasticus* (27 Hen. VIII) gives the gross annual value of the temporalities and spiritualities as £167 18s. 2½d. Legh and Layton, however, state the annual rental was £180. The same worthies report :

“Superstitio. Huc fit peregrinatio ad Sanctum Guthlacum et ad eius campanam quam solent capitibus imponere ad restinguendum dolorem capitis.”

The Priory was suppressed in 1538, and the whole of its buildings and possessions were assigned to Thomas Thacker of Heage, steward to Thomas, lord Cromwell.

A very full inventory of the goods and possessions then in the priory exists in the Public Record Office, a transcript of which is given in the appendix.

The buildings were not destroyed immediately after the suppression, but, if we may credit Fuller, appear to have remained fairly intact until fourteen years later.

Thomas Thacker, the grantee, died in 1548, leaving his property of the late priory of Repton to his son and heir Gilbert. This person, according to Fuller—

“Being alarmed with the news that Queen Mary had set up the abbeys again (and fearing how large a reach such a precedent might have), upon a Sunday (belike the better day, the better deed) called together the carpenters and masons of that county, and plucked down in one day (church-work is a cripple in going up, but rides post in coming down) a most beautiful church belonging thereto, saying ‘he would destroy the nest, for fear the birds should build therein again.’”¹

How far Fuller’s account be true is not evident, for there are no other traces of the building having been hastily and violently demolished than may be seen in any ruined monastery, and even several of the gravestones were found undisturbed.

In addition to the church, the whole of the conventual buildings were eventually demolished, except the block pertaining to the cellarer, and the slype adjoining the chapter-house. The former escaped owing to its purchase by Sir John Porte for a habitation for the grammar school he founded at Repton in 1556. The gatehouse was also spared, and the whole of a building on the (old) bank of the Trent, which I suppose to have been the *infirmitorium*.

The parish church stands at the extremity of a lofty

¹ Fuller’s *Church History*, book vi, 358.

ridge, which once overlooked and formed the right bank of the river Trent. The stream has, however, been diverted since the suppression of the priory, and the "Old Trent," as it is now called, is reduced to a mere sedgy pool. On the same ridge, but a few yards east of the parish church, the monastery was placed. The site was an excellent one, for its height above the alluvial flat through which the Trent flows rendered it safe from floods, and the river supplied the necessary water course for sanitary and domestic purposes. Eastward of the priory the ground slopes down to the level of the river valley.

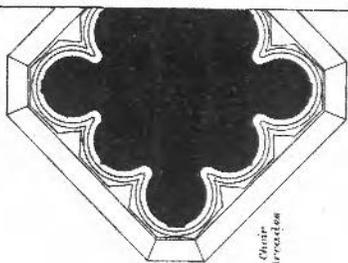
The ground plan of the Priory was fairly normal, but owing to the water being on the north, the cloister with its surrounding buildings was placed on that side of the conventual church.

Of the original buildings of the twelfth century the much patched and altered *cellarium*, and perhaps some fragments of the eastern range, are all that exist.

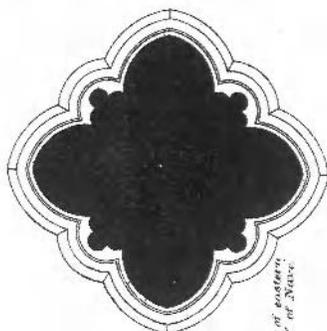
The church appears to have been at first aisleless and cruciform, but at its destruction in the sixteenth century it consisted of a nave with aisles; north and south transepts; a central tower; and choir with north and south aisles, and a large south chapel almost of equal size to the choir. The choir was prolonged beyond its aisles to form a presbytery.

The evidence of the plan of the first church is but scanty. On referring to the plan it will be seen that the west end of the nave abuts very awkwardly against the cellarer's range, which it evidently did not originally, for a monastery was generally first planned with some regard to symmetry, unless the site necessitated the contrary. With the aid of a pick and shovel, however, I succeeded in finding, at a distance of 4 ft. 3 in. from the north aisle wall, a foundation of a wall 6 ft. thick, which is exactly in line with the south wall of the *cellarium*, and is evidently the original north wall of an aisleless nave. The corresponding south wall could not be found. At a distance of 29 ft. 5½ in. from the west wall of the north transept is the foundation of a wall 5 ft. 9¾ in. thick, running north and south, which from its close proximity to the pillars on the east side of the transept must be of anterior date to them. This may belong

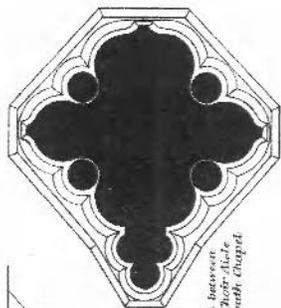
REPTON PRIORY - PLANS OF BASES.



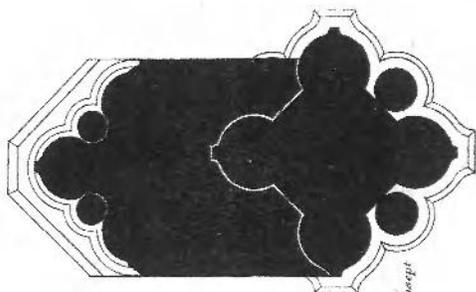
Choir
Arcade



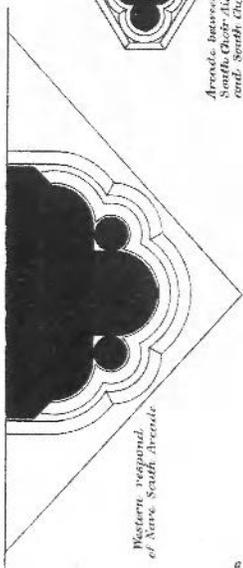
Base of eastern
half of Nave.



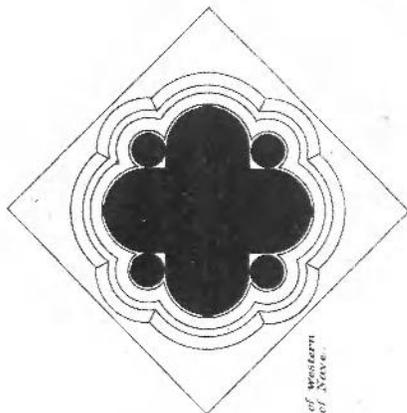
Arcade between
South Choir Aisle
and South Chapel



Base in
South Transept



Western portion
of base South Arcade



Base of western
half of Nave.

Scale of Feet.



REPTON PRIORY—SECTIONS OF BASE MOLDINGS.

Scale of Inches.

↑ Circular
↓ Octagonal

Nave.— two eastern bays of arcades
shown in some sections.
The north-west respond has the same moldings
on a slightly larger scale, with the hollow
chanfer and roll of the south-west respond.

Nave.— north-west
respond.—(upper
members only.)

Nave.— south-west respond, and three
western piers of south arcade.

Tower bases and choir arcades

Pier in south transept.

*Arcade between south choir aisle
and south transept*

to the original church. The evidence of an aisleless choir will be given further on.

So completely has the church been demolished that no part of it now exceeds 3ft. in height above the pavement level, except the angle at the junction of the north transept and nave north aisle. It is, therefore, a somewhat difficult task to trace how the church grew from a simple cruciform one into that shewn on the plan. The west wall of the north transept, with the arch opening into the nave north aisle, seems to be the oldest remaining portions. It is apparently of late Transitional date. It is possible that the thick foundation to the east is contemporary. The next work in point of date is the respond at the east end of each arcade of the nave. Then follow the nave and its aisles—which are, however, not all of one period; the south transept; the south chapel; and lastly the tower, choir, and alterations to the east side of the north transept.

The nave was 95 ft. 6 in. long, and 23 ft. 6 in. wide. It had an arcade of six arches on each side supported by clustered pillars of good design. The first two¹ pair of pillars, however, differ in design from the other three pair and the western responds. Both sets of pillars are quatrefoil in plan with nook shafts, but the former have a keel shaped principal, and triple nook shafts; while the latter have a fillet on each principal, and circular shafts in the angles. Again, the bases of the former rise straight from the floor, while those of the latter stand on a square edged footstall set lozengewise. Nevertheless a reference to the sections of the base moldings on Plate III, shews that there is very little difference in date between the two designs. Moreover the following facts may be noticed: the moldings of the first pair of pillars are repeated on a somewhat larger scale in the north west respond; but the latter, though different in section from the south west respond, has the same roll molding below, which is not found upon the first pair of pillars. The three western bases of the south arcade have lost the upper courses, but have the same section as the south west respond in the portions that are left. The second base on the south side resembles the first northern one, but each of them has lost

¹ In this case and elsewhere all the bays are counted from east to west.

its opposite fellow. The third and fourth north bases have also disappeared and only the square footstall of the fifth remains. An altar appears to have stood against the second pillar of the south arcade. Against the west wall of the nave, but not of the aisles, is a stone bench table. The north jamb of the west door remains, but the south one has been cut away. A modern wall built upon the base of the west end prevents any present attempt to recover the details of the doorway.

Of the south aisle, which was twelve feet in width, nothing is left but the west end and a few yards of its south wall. The rubble core of the bay adjoining the transept also remains. In the west wall is the base of a doorway and the lowest steps of a circular vice 2 ft. 3 in. wide. Near the south-west angle of the fifth pillar is a piece of solid foundation, level with the pavement, as if a font or other object had stood upon it. The whole of the north aisle walls are perfect to a height of two feet. It had the two usual doors at either end communicating with the cloister, but the eastern one was considerably wider than the other. In the north wall opposite the first pillar is a small semi-octagonal respond, showing there was an arch across the aisle at this point. It is contemporary with both wall and pillar, and not a later insertion, but why an arch was built here is not apparent, as there could have been no lateral thrust. Another remarkable feature occurs in this first bay. Immediately to the east of the cloister door is a low but acutely pointed arch, only 1 ft. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide, which opens into a small recess. It is difficult to speak positively as to the use of this, as the inside has been almost entirely destroyed, but since the tower piers are not massive enough to contain a stair, we perhaps have here the entrance to a circular vice leading on to the aisle or transept roof, whence there could be another up the tower. The stair would of course stand in the angle of the cloister, as I have conjecturally shown on the plan.

To the east of the narrow arch mentioned above the wall suddenly bends northwards at a small angle to a straight joint in the wall. This may, I think, be thus explained:—when the arch opening into the aisle from the transept was built, an aisle of greater width than the

present one was projected; but the latter was subsequently set out on narrower lines, and the junction with the jamb of the arch made as we now see it.

The whole of the nave seems to be the work of the latter end of the Early English period; except the eastern responds, which pertain to a previous building, either planned and never completed, or removed.

The north transept is 33 ft. 9 in. long and about 21 ft. wide. The north jamb of the arch opening from it into the nave aisle is partly complete to its full height. It has re-entering angles of the Transitional period. Only the base is left of the south jamb. In the west wall of this transept is a recess, 13 ft. 10 in. broad, and at least 4 ft. 10 in. deep. What its use was is not apparent. Perhaps it contained a large *armarium* or cupboard, for the vestments and other ornaments. The north wall of the transept has been utterly destroyed, but its bond with the west wall is visible in the ashlar. On the east side was an arcade of three arches opening into an aisle whose width is unknown; only the plinths of the pillars remain, and these are contemporary with those of the tower and choir. It is possible therefore that the eastern aisle was erected when these were reconstructed. There are no traces of the usual night stairs.

Of the south transept, which was equal in size to its fellow, hardly anything is left. Part of the core of the west wall remains, and that of the south wall was found during the excavations, but has since been removed. On its eastern side, instead of an aisle, was a large south chapel. The arcade opening into this and into the choir aisle would probably consist of three arches, but we have only *positive* evidence of two—the second base having been completely removed, if it ever existed. This arcade seems to be a little later in date than the nave. From the holes chopped in the ashlar, it was evidently filled by wooden screens, and there are indications on the remaining pillar, which seem to prove that an altar stood immediately to the south of it.

The south chapel, which is next in point of date, was 47½ ft. long by about 21 ft. wide. Its south wall was uncovered during the excavations, but had been removed before I had an opportunity of seeing it. At a distance

of 33 ft. from the east wall was a small semi-octagonal base, but as it did not range with anything, it is difficult to say what it was for. Its position in front of a buttress points to some constructional use. When I made my preliminary diggings in 1883, I uncovered a piece of solid wall at the east end of this chapel, which was of the proper width to range with the pillar at the west end. This is now removed, though shewn on plan, and the notes and measurements I took at the time of its discovery are the only record of its existence. It will be noticed that it is not in line with the arcade between the choir aisle and the chapel, and we are driven to the conclusion that the arcade replaces either an earlier one or a solid wall. Perhaps the first bay was left solid to hold the sedilia and piscina of the altar in the choir aisle, or it may have had a tomb on the south side. The later arcade is evidently an addition of later date than the pillar next the transept, as a respond has been added on the east face of the latter, from which it differs in plan and section. The bases of the two next pillars remain in a perfect condition; they have a somewhat singular plan, and on the north side is attached a triple vaulting shaft.

Of the tower, three pier-bases are left, but the south-west one retains the plinth only. As will be seen from the plan, all four piers vary somewhat, but they are all of one date. The area of the tower inside the walls, which were 5 ft. thick, measured about 25 ft. by 21 ft. 8 in. Under the eastern arch stood the *pulpitum*, which was a solid stone screen, 5 ft. 4½ in. thick. It had a central door 4 ft. 4½ in. wide, with molded jambs, with a flanking buttress on either side. The face of the screen was perfectly free from ornament or colour of any description, but when I first uncovered it the moldings of the doorway were brightly painted with red and black. In the north half of the screen was a straight stair, 3 ft. 2½ in. wide, leading to the loft above, but is somewhat puzzling to say how a person would **manage** to clear such a stair when he reached the top of it. The step from the nave still lies *in situ* before the door, but, curiously enough, there is a step of *descent* into the choir itself, much worn, as is the passage through the screen, by the constant tread of feet. The *pulpitum* is an integral work with the tower

piers and has the same hollow-chamfered plinth. The fragments of some huge gargoyles and massive red sandstone pinnacles have been unearthed, which probably surmounted the tower.

The choir was 26 ft. 2 in. wide, but the arrangement of the arcades dividing off the aisles is somewhat eccentric, a fact the more singular, since both are contemporary, and the plans and sections of the pillars identical. On the south side the bases of three of the pillars remain, but on the north only one; moreover, these show that there was a solid wall 1 ft. thick in front of them, against which the canons' stalls stood. This wall extended eastward from the *pulpitum* 31 ft. 2 in., and on each side terminates at a pillar. But, owing to unequal spacing, there were only two arches behind the north stalls, while behind the south ones there were three. Owing to lack of evidence it cannot be positively said how the arcades continued eastward. If there were two more arches on the south, we should have a regular arcade of five bays; but an additional arch to the north arcade will not cause the two sides to be of equal length, and if the responds stood on the same line the third north arch must have exceeded the others in span.

The reason for this unsymmetrical setting out seems to be this: as the south chapel, and the arcade between it and the south choir aisle, were built before the choir, the south arcade of the latter was set out to range with that of the aisle—probably with a view to the construction of the vaulting. This will explain the narrow span of the arch nearest the tower, as its pillar had to be placed opposite the aisle pillar.

The aisle was evidently intended to be vaulted, from the vaulting shafts in front of the pillars, and therefore the choir arches opposite cannot well have exceeded the aisle arches in height—this is proved by their width. Also, as the breadth of the south chapel rendered its windows perfectly useless for lighting the choir, the latter must have received its south light from above. The case could of course be met by a clerestory, but owing to the small height of the south arcade, there must either have been a double clerestory, like that in the presbytery at Ely, or the clerestory windows on this side considerably

exceeded the north ones in length; the greater width of the north arches would allow them to be carried up higher than those opposite, and there were no difficulties to be allowed for as on the south side.

Though no remains of the foundations for the stalls exist, the length of the wall behind them gives room for thirteen stalls a side, and there is space on either side the choir door for four returned stalls, making a total of thirty-four in all. From the *pulpitum* to the east wall was about 69 ft., so that the presbytery projected a bay beyond the aisles. Its south wall was of earlier date than the south aisle wall, for though the presbytery walls have been entirely removed—only the rough core was found—the aisle wall ends in such a manner, as to shew that it was built up with a straight joint against an older wall, which, moreover, had a plinth running along it. It seems, therefore, that the western part of this portion of the church was of later date than the eastern, and that the original east arm was destitute of aisles, for the east of the plinth runs through the thickness of the aisle wall. As the older work was not in the line of the new arcade, the junction must have been somewhat awkward.

Of the north choir aisle, only the east, and part of the north walls remain. These shew that it was of equal length with the south aisle, but the width was somewhat greater—probably 12 ft. 6 in. There is nothing to enable us to fix the date. The junction with the north transept aisle, and the position of the east wall of the latter, are shewn conjecturally on the plan.

The total length of the church inside the walls was 196 feet.

Before leaving the church, a few words must be said as to its arrangements and furniture. The inventory of 1538 mentions the High Altar; St. John's chapel, with an altar and "a partition of wode;" Our Lady's chapel, with an altar, a grate of iron, and "j partition of tymber;" and St. Nicholas' chapel, with an altar described as "j table of alabaster in (a) partition of tymber." The next two or three lines of the inventory are somewhat difficult to explain, but we learn further that there were in the body of the church (*i.e.* the nave) "vij peces of tymber and (a) lyttell ould house of tymber;" also a chapel and altar of

Our Lady of Pity. There was also in the church a chapel of St. Thomas, with an altar, a "partition of tymber," and "j partition of tymber seled ouer."

The visitors seem to have made the inventory in the following order—presbytery, choir, south choir aisle, south chapel, south transept, nave, north transept and north choir aisle; from whence they passed to the cloister and surrounding buildings.

Owing to the lowering of the ground since the excavations, the site of the presbytery now partly hangs in the air, but nothing was found to shew the position of the high altar. Exactly at the point where a line drawn through the east walls of the aisles, and down the centre of the choir, would intersect, is a block of stone, about 2 ft. square and 2 ft. high, roughly shaped, with a socket on the top 7 in. deep and $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. square. What it was for is not apparent, and its exactness of position is curious if accidental. It must at any rate have been below the pavement level, or just flush with it. Was it for a heart burial?

On the theory of the visitors' route, the south choir aisle would be St. John's chapel. There are the holes for a "partition of wode" in the arch at its west end. The south chapel was doubtless that of Our Lady; the grate of iron perhaps stood in front of a tomb in the wall to the north of the altar; and the "partition of tymber" filled the arch or arches between the chapel and the transept, as the mutilation of the pier shews. I have already stated that there are traces of masonry having been built against this pier. Probably this was the altar of St. Nicholas. The "j Roodde & a Image of Saint Nicholas, j table of alabaster (and) the partitions of tymber" may refer to the Rood screen with its altar and flanking screens;¹ but the "vij peces of tymber and & lyttell oulde house of tymber, the xij Apostells" it is not easy to assign places to. The chapel of "o' lady of pety" was probably against the second south pillar, where there are the foundations of an altar. It is doubtful which part of the church was the chapel of St. Thomas. The "vestry" I have already assumed to have been in the north transept.

¹ No traces of a screen are visible on the nave pillars, unless the projection from the

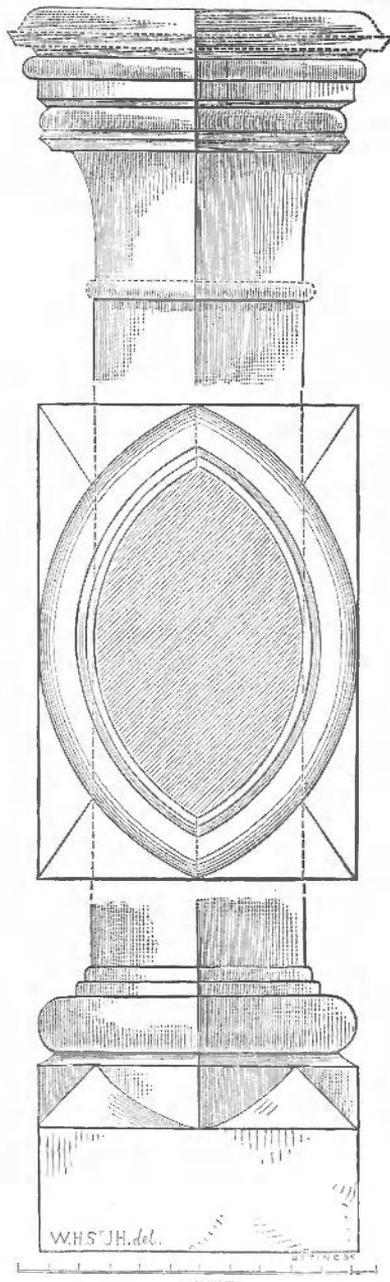
south side of the first north base be a remnant of a stone screen.

Numerous tiles, carved heads and pieces of foliage, and molded stones of every description were found among the debris. These have all been carefully preserved. Most of the moldings bear traces of repeated coats of whitewash, which in some cases has covered earlier bright colouring and imitation marbling. The use of whitewash in pre-reformation times was undoubtedly more universal than is generally supposed. I have found proofs of it in every monastery I have excavated, and that too, in different parts of England, and so widely separated as Kent and Northumberland. Several sumptuous pieces of canopies of the best fourteenth century work were found in the north transept and on the north side of the choir. These may have belonged to the sedilia of the high altar; or perhaps they formed part of the shrine of St. Guthlac, to whom pilgrimages were hither made, his bell being in special request for alleviating the toothache and other pains in the head when applied to the spot. In that case the shrine may have stood in the north transept as that of St. William of Perth did at Rochester.

Various interments and gravestones were also found. One plain stone still covers a grave in the middle of the nave, and a slab was removed from the east end of the nave bearing a cross fleury on steps with the marginal inscription:

[+ Orate pro] anima magistri edmundi dutton quondam
can[onici huius ecclesie] qui obiit januarii
anno d'ni mcccc^o cui a'ie ppit' [deus . Amen]

Of the cloister and its surrounding buildings not much can be said. The parts which escaped destruction at the suppression were subsequently used for scholastic purposes, and the sites of the destroyed buildings have been encumbered by all kinds of structures. The cloister area in particular has been divided by a wall, and so encroached upon by additions to the school block and the erection of outbuildings, that its square form can only be seen on plan. It measured 97 ft. 9 in. from north to south and 95 ft. from east to west. Nothing is left of any of its arrangements, but it must have been made fairly comfortable in later times, for the inventory speaks of the Canons' seats (or carrels), and glazed windows and a



Repton Priory.—Capital, Base, and Section of shaft of a pillar.

pavement. The east, west and north walls remain *in situ*, but the various doorways have been obliterated by modern alterations.

Of the claustral buildings, beginning on the east, we have first the chapter-house. It immediately adjoins the north transept. The south wall is completely gone, but its bond with the transept wall at the west end is easily seen. Only the base of the west wall remains, and that much mutilated. The north wall is left to about its full height, but all the ashlar has been stripped off except the lowermost courses. This, however, enables us to recover the width, which was 26 ft. 9 in. The length cannot be ascertained owing to the entire removal of the east wall. Part of the jamb of one of the window openings flanking the doorway was until lately to be seen on the west side of the wall, but it is now concealed by an outbuilding. Part of a very remarkable shaft, in section a pointed oval, has been found, with its base and cap, which may have belonged to the doorway of the chapter-house. (See cut on Plate IV). The area has not yet been disencumbered of the debris, here five feet deep. As no seats are given in the inventory as being in the chapter-house, there may have been a stone bench table round it.

On the north of the chapter-house is the slype, or covered passage from the cloister to the cemetery. It was probably also used as the *auditorium* or regular parlour, where conversation might be carried on. It is 11 ft. 9 in. wide and 25 ft. 6 in. long, and still retains its roof, a plain barrel vault without ribs, springing from a chamfered string. There are indications of a bench table along each side. The segmental rear arch of the west doorway remains, but the doorway itself is blocked. The east doorway has been destroyed.

Next to the slype was the *calefactorium* or warming house, being the only apartment where the brethren might have a fire. It has been utterly demolished, save its west wall, which shows traces of vaulting. This was doubtless carried by a central row of columns. In the south west angle is the segmental rear-arch of a door into the cloister. Probably the dormitory day-stairs were placed in the south end.

Above the chapter house, slype, and warming-house,

was the dormer or dormitory. It would be 25ft. 6in. wide, and perhaps about 96ft. long. All trace of it has, however, long been removed, and the only fact we know about it is that it was divided into cubicles for the canons, as was usual.

At a short distance from the north end of the dormer, has been uncovered part of a building which evidently belongs to the *necessarium*. It was 26ft. long, but its width is uncertain, as it may extend further north than is shewn on the plan.

On the north side of the cloister, parallel with the nave of the church, was the fraternity or dining hall. It appears to have been built, as was often the case amongst canons, upon an undercroft or cellar. The south wall has been removed, but the lower part of the north side is left, which shews towards its east end two blocked doorways and a window. This window can only have lighted an undercroft. It is a narrow lancet with a square aperture, though a trefoiled head is worked out above, but not pierced. The eastern doorway must have opened into a slype from the cloister. At the points indicated on the plan by dotted lines there is a kind of incipient projection, with ashlar quoins, which seems to indicate the position of the reading pulpit. The fraternity itself was 95ft. long by 24ft. wide. Its north wall does not range with the north end of the *cellarium*.

The western side of the claustral buildings consisted of the block under the charge of the cellarer, called the *cellarium*. It is structurally complete to the roof, but the original round-headed windows have been superseded by larger ones, and its ancient arrangements are quite destroyed. The ground floor consists of a large hall about 90ft. long by 26ft. 3in. wide, divided into two alleys by a row of six massive circular columns with scalloped capitals. The two southernmost have, however, been removed. At the south end of the hall is a chamber 11ft. 6in. wide, which originally perhaps served a two-fold purpose as the slype to the cloister and the outer parlour, where conversation was carried on with secular persons, and the ordinary business transacted. But its use as a passage must have ceased when the north aisle was rebuilt, as the new wall blocked up the doorway. In the

north end of the *cellarium* is a space 21ft. long by 26ft. 3in. wide; originally one room, but afterwards divided irregularly into three, so that the eastern half forms one room and the western half two. The northern of the latter has a groined roof, the ribs of which were intended to be ornamented with the dog-tooth molding, but the work was begun and never finished. The three apartments may have been the kitchen and larder. The main hall was probably used for stores. The first floor consists, like the undercroft, of a long hall, with a large square chamber at the north end, and a narrower one at the south end. Here the cellarer lodged guests of the better sort, and we may suppose the hall originally to have had a row of pillars down the middle, forming two alleys, one of which was divided into cubicles, perhaps forming the various chambers enumerated in the 1538 Inventory. The *cellarium* appears to be the only remaining part of the original monastery, built when the canons migrated here from Calke.

The block of buildings now called the Hall has been completely rebuilt, with the exception of Prior Overton's brick tower at its east end; it would be useless therefore to discuss its arrangements. Since the prior had a chamber in the monastery, this cannot have been his house, and probably the original building on this site was the *infirmitorium*, or abode of sick and infirm monks.

The priory was approached by a gatehouse on the south-west, the outer arch of which still forms the entrance to the precinct. Originally it had a gatehouse hall with upper chamber, and a room for the porter. There seems also to have been a long building extending from it northwards along the edge of the churchyard, perhaps the almonry and lodgings for tramps and paupers.

The precinct of the monastery was enclosed on three sides by a high stone wall with buttresses at intervals, much of which remains.

APPENDIX.

A very full inventory of the goods and possessions of Repton Priory remains in the Public Record Office,¹ of which a transcript is here given :

The late Priory of Repton in the Countye of Derby herafter foloweth all suche parcells of Implements or houshould stuffe corne catell Ornaments of the Churche & such otherlyke found wythin the seid late p'ory at the tyme of the dyssolucon therof sould by the Kyngs Commissioners to Thacker the xxvj day of October in the xxx yere of o^r sov'agn lorde Kyng henry the viijth

That ys to saye

The
Churche

ffirst at the hye aulter v great Images . j . table of alebast^r wth lytell Images . iiij . lytle Candlestyks of latten . j . ould payr of Organs one laumpe of latenn the Stalles in the quere certain ould bokes . j . rode / In seint Johns Chapell . j . Imag of saint John . j . table of alebaster . j . partition of wode / in o^r lady Chapell . j . Image of o^r lady & . j . table of alebaster . j . table of wode befor the alter . j . hercloth upon the same alt^r . j . laumpe of latenn . j . grate of Ieron ould stoles . j . partition of tymber / in saint Nicholas Chapell . j . Immag of seint John & . j . Image of seint Syth . j . table of alebaster in partition of tymber . j . Roode & a Image of seint Nicholas . j . table of alebaster the partitions of tymber & in the body of the Churche vij peces of tymber & lytell ould house of tymber the xij Apostells . j . Image of o^r lady in o^r lady of petys chapell / . j . table of of (*sic*) wood gylte . j . sacryng bell & . j . partition of tymber seled ouer in seint Thom^as Chapell . j . table of wode the partition of tymber & . j . sacryng bell . j . longe lader . j . lytell table of alebaster sould to Thacker for

It' the Roffe glasse Ieronn the pavemet & rem' gravestones in the seid Churche } unscould

¹ Augmentation Office Book, 172.

- The bestry { It' ther . j . Crosse of Coper too tynacles of baudkynn . ij . albes . j . sute of blake baudkynn . j . sute of ould baudekynn wth Conys on them . ij . Copes of velvet . j . of tauny baudkyn . ij . of grene baudekynn . ij . of counterfeit baudkynn . j . Cope of Reysed velvet iiij towels & iiij alterclothes ij payented alterclothes . j . great presse of woode one ould cheste ij Ieron stoles . j . ould tynacle ij holy water stokes . j . of brasse the other of leade sould for } iiij li
- The Cloyst' { It' the Chanons seats the glasse Ieron & the pavement & a laver of lead ar sould for } xxv
- The Chapter house { It' the glasse and pavement & a lectron of woode are sould for } vs
- The Porter { It' the Chanons Sells & . j . bell ar sould for } xxv
- The frater { It' v tables . j . beii sould for } vjs
- The halle { It' ther iij tables iij formes . j . Cupborde . j . ould banker & . j . payented clothe } ijs
- The Battery { It' ther vj ould tableclothes vj ould towells } iiij Coberclothes xij napkyns . v . aletubbes } xxv
{ ij ould Chestes vj Candlestyks of laten & }
{ . j . bason and an ewyar sould for }
- The priors Chamber { It' ther . j . Bedstedd . j . fetherbedd . j . blankett . j . quilte . j . Cov'lett . j . boulst' . j . pyllowe . j . tester of payented clothe ij Cov'letts of Blewe lynyon clothe the hengyngs of grene saye ij fouldyng tables ij chayers iij formes ij Coffers . j . payre of tonges & . j . aundyronn sould for } xxxv
- The inner Chamber { It' ther . j . matres . j . Cov'lett & . j . boulster } ijs
{ sould for }
- The garden Chamber { It' ther . j . fetherbedd . j . boulster . j . pyllowe } . j . cov'lett ij blanketts . j . tester of dornyx } xv
{ the payented hengyngs . j . ionyd Chayr j }
{ Cupborde . j . forme sould for }
- The next Chamber ther { It' ther . j . matres . j . boulster ij Cov'letts } xxd
{ sould for }

The halle Chamber	{ It' ther . j . fetherbedd . j . boulster ij Cov'letts } { . j . tester of lynyann clothe . j . oulde table & } { . j . forme soulede for }	xs
The hygh Chamber	{ It' . j . fetherbedd ij matresis ij boulters iiij } { Cov'letts very oulde. hengyngs of redd saye & } { . j . Chayre soulede for }	vijjs
The Rychenn	{ It' ther . v . brasse potts ij spyttis ij pannes } { . j . dryppung pann . j . fryeng panne . j . barre } { of Ieronn . iiij . henches to heng potts upon } { . j . payr of Rostyng Ieronns . j . gridiron . j . } { Skymer . j . ladle . xvj . peces of peuter vessel } { oulde bordes & . j . ladder soulede for }	xls
The larder	{ It' ther . j . oulde borde & . j . oulde table } { soulede for }	viijd
The Bruhouse	{ It' ther . ij . bruyng leaddes . j . mashfatte . j . } { buckett & a chene . ij . oulde bordes . ij . } { tubbes . ij . Cowles & ij Skyppes soulede for }	lxvjs viijd
The yelyng house	{ It' ther xvj Kelyngleades and ij mashfattes } { soulede for }	xls
The Boultung house	{ It' ther ij troffes . j . boultung huche & . j . } { Syve soulede for }	xxd
The Kyll-house	{ It' . j . heyr upon the kyll & . j . Sestiron of } { lead soulede for }	xxjs viijd
Grayne at the p'ory	{ It' . j . q ^{art} ' of Whete—viijs, It' ij q ^{art} ' of Rye } { at vijjs the q ^{art} '—xiiijs It' xv q ^{art} ' of barley } { at iiijjs the q ^{art} '—lxjs, It' iiij q ^{art} ' maulte—xxs } { It' vj q ^{art} ' of pese at iiijjs the q ^{art} ' — xxiiijs, } { It' x lodes of haye at ijs viijd the lode } { amuntung to the summe of—xxvjs viijd }	v. j. li xijjs viijd
Catell	{ It' ther founde . iiij . kye — xxs It' x horssys & ij oulde } { Cartes s. f. — iiiili }	
Pese sould at Nutonn	{ It' . j . Reke of pese at Nutonn soulede for } { viijli }	
It' Recevyd of John Smyth & Rychard haye for money by them Imbesulyd from the seid late p'ory cxxijli xvijjs vjd		
The summe tol of all the guddes } soulede late app'teynyng to the seid } late p'ory w th cxxij li xvijjs vjd Rec' } clvijli xixs vjd for money imbesulyd from the seid } p'ory }		

Rewardes
gyven to the
Covent of
the seid late
p'ory at y^e
dissolution
th'of

ffyrst to S^r Rauffe Cleroke
subp'or.....xls
It' to John Woodxls
It' to Thomas String'xls
It' to Jamis yongxls
It' to John Asshby.....xls } xvij li
It' to Thomas pratt.....xls
It' to Thomas Webst'xls
It' to Robert Wardexls
It' to Thomas Brainstonxls

Rewardes
gyven to the
s'vants ther
at the same
tyme like-
wyse

ffyrst to Rauffe lathbury vjs viij*d*
It' to v men that founde
certein plate.....xxvs } xxxiiij li
It' to the Sheperdxvs } viijs xd
It' to Richard yusexijs iiij*d*
It' to Robert Clerkexs
It' to Kyntonxijs iiij*d*¹/₂
It' to John Brownexxs
It' to Thomas Gysborne ...xxs
It' to Robert Stephinson...xijs iiij*d*
It' to William Kynton ...vijs v*d* } xvli
It' to John Kynghesse ...xxs } viijs
It' to Thomas byrchvijs v*d* } xd
It' to hugh Kyntonxijs iiij*d*
It' to John Webstervijs v*d*
It' to Robert Rutter.....vijs vi*d*
It' to Robert Eynsworth xvs
It' to Robert hudsonxxs
It' to Robert at Ovenxijs iiij*d*
It' to Thomas Mitchell ...xvijs v*d*
It' to John Richardson ...xijs
It' to William Abneyxijs iiij*d*
It' to John Websterxijs
It' to ij boyez plowdryvers iijs
It' a guyde from Repton to
Gracediewexx*d*

Cates
bought

It' in Cates bought & spent at the
tyme of the Commissiono's being
ther for to dyssolve the seid p'ory } cvijs
and for the saffe kepyng of the } viij*d*
guddes and Catell to the seid mon'
late apperteynyng duryng the tyme

The summe of
the paymentes aforseid } xxxviiij li xvjs v*d*

And ther remayneth a speciality of
xli upon Thaker for money by hym
 due for the guddes & Catell of the
 forseid p'ory by hym bought payable } *xli*
 at the fest of the nativite of Seint
 John the baptist whyche shalbe in
 the yere of o^r lorde god mⁱ d xxxix,

and so remayneth in the seid)
 Commissiono^rs handes of the money } *cxiiiij^{li} iijs*
 Rec' for the guddes before soule)

Certejn guddes or stufte late
 belongyng to the seid late p'ory
 whyche rem' unsoulde

White plate } ffyrst ij chalesis x spones all whyte
 (wayeng—*xlij* oz

Belles remaynyng unsould } (It' ther Remayneth unsould *iiij* belles)
 (wayeng *xxiiiij* hundredth at
 the C valued at)

leade remaynyng unsoulde } (It' ther ys esteemed to be *xxxix*)
 (fothers of lead at *iiij^{li}* the fother ...)

And ther remayneth unsoulde all
 the housys edyfyed upon the scite of
 the seid late p'ory the glass Ieron
 & pavement in the Cloyst' the glasse
 Ieron & pavement in the Chapt'
 house sould & only exceptid

And that Thacker was put in possession of the scite of the seid
 late p'ory & all the demaynes to y^t apperteynyng to o^r sov'aigne lorde the
 Kynges use the xxvj day of October in the xxx yere of o^r seid sov'aigne
 lorde Kyng henry the vijth

Hencions appoynted & allottyd to the Covent of the seid late p'ory

ffyrst to Rauffe Clarke	<i>vj^{li}</i>	
It' to John Wood	<i>Cvjs</i>	<i>vij^{jd}</i>
It' to Thomas Stringar	<i>Cvjs</i>	<i>vij^{jd}</i>
It' to Jamis yonge	<i>Cvjs</i>	<i>vij^{jd}</i>
It' to John Ashby	<i>Cs</i>	
It' to Thomas pratt	<i>Cs</i>	
It' to Thom ^s Webster	<i>Cs</i>	
It' to Robert Warde	<i>iiij^{li}</i>	
It' to Thomas Brauncetonn	<i>iiij^{li}</i>	
It' to Thomas Cordall	<i>Cvjs</i>	<i>vij^{jd}</i>
Sm ^a	<i>li</i>	<i>vjs vij^{jd}</i>

fetes and Annuities grauntyd out by Covent Seale before the dyssolucon of the seid p'ory.

ffyrst to Thomas Bradshawe.....	xxvjs	viijd
It' to Mr bolles	xls	
It' to henry Audley	liijs	iiijd
It' to s ^r John Stelys pryst	xls	
It' to the Deacons offyce of the parysshe Church of Rypyingdon	lviijs	viijd
It' to Robert lago vycar of Wyllyngton	liijs	iiijd
It' to John Smyth.....	xls	
It' to Richard haye	xls	
It' to Robert Sachev'ell.....	xxvjs	viijd
It' to humfrey quarneby	iiij ^{li}	
It' to Robert hudsonn for hys Corody.....	ij	Chanons ryghtes
It' to Margaret Croftes for her Corody	i	Chanons ryght
Sm ^a	xxij ^{li}	xviijs viijd

Hettes owyng to the seid late Monastery by dyvers persons

ffyrst Thomas leason parson of Castell Ashby	lxv ^{li}	
It' the seid parsonn for mares & folys	iiij ^{li}	
It' the seid parsonn for ij q ^{rt} ' of Maulte	xs	
It' Thomas Morly	vj ^{li}	
It' Rychard Wakelyn	xiijs	iiijd
Sm ^a	lxxxj ^{li}	ijs iiijd

Hettes owyng to dyvers persons by the seid late p'ory

ffyrst to Isabel Rowe	xiiij ^{li}	vjs viijd
It' to Robert baynbrygge	xj ^{li}	
It' to to (<i>sic</i>) John Damperd p'ste	xiiij ^{li}	xvs xd ob
It' to John lawrenson p'ste.....	liijs	iiij ^l
It' to John Debanke p'ste	lxxiiijs	iiijd
It' to Thom ^a s Bagnall p'ste.....	lvs	
It' to Thom ^a s Walker of Burton	xxvjs	
It' to John hyde of potlake	xvijs	
It' to Robert bakewell	xls	
It' to Rychard pusy for hys lyv'y	xs	
It' to John Symth	lxiijs	
It' to Rychard haye	xvjs	viijd
It' to Robert Stephyn.....	xs	
It' to Thom ^a s Guysbo'ne.....	xs	
It' to John Kynton	xs	
It' to Thomas Mychell	xxvijs	
It' to John Broune	lvs	iiijd
It' to William Kynton	xs	
Sm ^a	lxiiij ^{li}	xiiijd ob