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Archæological Society.

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*Founder of the Society and Honorary Secretary.*

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Contents of Part 1., Vol. 2. (pp. 104).

Papers.

	PAGE
I. BRAMPTON, HUNTS., by <i>S. Inskip Ladds</i> , A.R.I.B.A.	I
II. THE PRIORY AND CHURCH OF ST. NEOTS, HUNTINGDONSHIRE, by <i>Wm. Emery</i> , (illustrated) .....	16
III. STOW LONGA (St. Botolph), HUNTS., by <i>the Rev. G. E. Sharland</i> , R.D., (illustrated) .....	25
IV. EYNESBURY AND ITS CHURCH, by <i>Wm. Emery</i> , (illustrated) .....	29
V. GREAT PAXTON, HUNTINGDONSHIRE, by <i>the Rev. A. G. Cane</i> , M.A.....	33
VI. THE CARVED BENCH-ENDS IN EYNESBURY CHURCH, HUNTINGDONSHIRE, by <i>the Rev. C. H. Evelyn White</i> , F.S.A., <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , (illustrated) .....	46
VII. THE STORY OF COTTENHAM, CO. CAMBRIDGE, by <i>the Rev. C. H. Evelyn-White</i> , F.S.A., <i>Hon. Sec.</i> .....	55
VIII. SOME NORMAN DOORWAYS IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE, DISPLAYING <i>TYMPANA</i> , by <i>the Rev. C. H. Evelyn-White</i> , F.S.A., <i>Hon. Sec.</i> , (illustrated).....	98

Illustrations.

	PAGE
ST. NEOT'S CHURCH (St. Mary), Hunts., Exterior ..to face	21
ST. NEOT'S CHURCH (St. Mary), Hunts., Interior ..to face	22
STOW LONGA CHURCH (St. Botolph) Hunts., (1) Exterior, (2) Interior.....to face	25
Silver Paten (15th Century) and <i>facsimile</i> of Hall Mark ..	27
EYNESBURY CHURCH (St. Mary), Hunts., Ground Plan to face	30
Plan of Nave Arches and Columns .....	31
GREAT PAXTON CHURCH (Holy Trinity), Hunts., Saxon work ( <i>conjectural</i> ) in Nave .....	40
EYNESBURY CHURCH, CARVED BENCHES in, Plan .....	46
Some details .....	48
NORMAN <i>TYMPANA</i> :	
Pampisford, Cambs., .....	99
Stow Longa, Hunts., .....	100
Little Paxton, Hunts., .....	101

Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire  
Archæological Society.

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TRANSACTIONS. VOL. II.

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BRAMPTON, HUNTS.

Brampton may not inaptly be called the 'happy hunting ground of kings', for within its boundaries was the royal forest of Herthey, and, in the glorious days of old, most of the kings of England came here to enjoy the hunting it afforded.

Brampton was demesne land of King Edward the Confessor and also of William the Norman, and is mentioned in Domesday Book in the following words:—

THE LAND OF THE KING. LEIGHTONSTONE HUNDRED.

*A Manor.* In BRAMPTON King Edward had 15 hides paying geld. There is land for 15 ploughs. There are now 3 ploughs, and 36 villeins and 2 borderers having 12 ploughs. There is a Church and a priest, and 100 acres of meadow. Pannage in woods half a mile long and 2 furlongs broad, and 2 mills worth 100 shillings yearly. In the time of King Edward and now worth £20. Ranulf brother of Ilger has charge of it.

THE LAND OF THE KING'S THANES. In BRAMPTON Elric had 1 hide and 1 virgate of land paying geld. There is land for 10 oxen. There are 3 borderers and 1 plough. Worth 30 shillings.

CLAIMS. Of the thirty-six hides of land in BRAMPTON which Richard Engaine claims as belonging to the forest, they [*the jurors*] say they belong to the demesne of the king's farm [*firme*] and not to the forest.

Several Charters of king Henry I., are dated from here, and our own historian, Henry of Huntingdon, tells us that king Stephen, in 1136, elated by his successes over Baldwin de Rivers and others, "went to hunt at Brampton, which is about a mile from Huntingdon, and there he held pleas of the forests with his barons, that is, concerning their woods and hunting, in violation of his promise and vow to God and the people." That Henry II., was at Brampton we know from the Cartulary of Ramsey Abbey which tells us that Abbot Walter obtained a charter from this King while he was here. King John gave the Manor to David, Prince of Scotland, and Earl of Huntingdon, in 1202, at the siege of Mirabeau, or Mirabel, in Poitou, but he is recorded to have visited Brampton, and stayed there, probably for the sake of the hunting, on the 4th and 5th January 1213, when on his way from Cambridge to Kimbolton. Earl David died in 1219, and Brampton passed to John le Scot, his son, Earl of Huntingdon, and (after 1232) 7th Earl of Chester. John died in 1237, his three sisters being his heirs, and at the division of the property which then ensued, Brampton fell to Ada, the wife of Henry de Hastings. Their son Henry died in 1268, leaving by his wife Jane, daughter of William de Cantilupe, a son John, who, on the death of his maternal uncle George de Cantilupe, in 1273, became Lord of Abergavenny. In 1290, he was one of the competitors for the Crown of Scotland, and from 1295 to 1313 (in which year he died) he had seat in Parliament as Baron Hastings. He had two wives, the first Isabel, daughter of Wm. de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, and the second Isabel, daughter of Hugh le Dispenser, Earl of Winchester.

He was succeeded by his son John, who married Juliana de Leybourne, and dying in 1325, left Laurence his son and heir, a minor six years old. Laurence was created Earl of Pembroke on 13th October, 1339. He married Agnes daughter of Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, by whom he left an only son and heir, John, second Earl of Pembroke. John died in 1375, leaving an only son and heir, also named John; his widow Anna, died, seized of the Manor of Brampton, in 1384, and her son John died a minor and unmarried in 1389, being killed at a tournament, when Brampton came to Reginald Gray, third Lord Gray de Ruthin, by right of his grandmother, Elizabeth, wife of Roger, first Lord Gray de Ruthin, and sister of the whole blood of John, second Lord Hastings. Reginald was found seized of the Manor of Brampton at an inquisition made in 1391. In 1465 his grandson Edmund Gray, fourth Lord Gray de Ruthin, was created Earl of Kent. In this family the estate continued until the time of Richard, the third Earl (1503-1524), who wasted his estates; and dying, without issue, in the latter year, his titles fell into abeyance, his half brother and heir being too poor to uphold the dignity. This Manor was frequently called Brampton Houtton, but it seems to have been the principal Manor in Brampton.

Probably Richard, Earl of Kent, sold Brampton to the Cromwells, for in February, 1542, Sir Richard Cromwell transferred the Manors of Brampton and Hemingford Gray, &c., to the king, in exchange for the site of St. Neot's Priory and other property,\* and some eighty years later, viz. in 1627, Sir Oliver Cromwell of Hinchingbrooke sold all his lands in Brampton to Sir Sydney Montague, father of the first Earl of Sandwich, whose descendant, the present Earl, now owns it, and is Lord of the Manor.

Part of Brampton was held in fee of the Honour of Huntingdon, which was given by king Henry III., in 1267, to Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, his second son.

\* See the deed of Exchange in the Augmentation Office Papers, 18th Feb., 33, Hen. VIII.

Edmund's eldest son and heir, Thomas, was attainted and beheaded in 1322, but his brother Henry, Earl of Derby, obtained his estates, and, a few years later, his titles.

In the Patent Rolls it is recorded that a Commission of Oyer and terminer was appointed, 3rd August, 1338, on complaint by the king's kinsman Henry de Lancaster, Earl of Derby, that whereas the king took him and his possessions into his protection when he was going beyond the seas on his service, and he had caused certain beasts to be taken in his fee at Brampton by Huntingdon by John de Hambury and Wm. de Blaby, his servants, to be impounded for customs and services due. Master John Dyke, John Nolly and some fifty other men of Brampton broke that pound and the gates, doors and windows of his houses while he was under the king's protection as aforesaid, took away the beasts, carried away £40 in money, assaulted his men and servants, and detained them in prison until these by writing released all manner of action against them for their trespasses. From this Henry the property descended to the Dukes of Lancaster and so to the Crown, forming, in the reign of Edward IV., part of the Duchy of Lancaster.

The return of the Assessors of the ninth (1341) I give in full, as I am not aware that it has been printed before in English, and most of the jurors named in it were defendants in the above mentioned action.

BRAMPTON. Taxed at £40. They return £16 for the ninth of the sheaves, fleeces and lambs of the said parish by inquest of John Dike, Peter Boteller, John de Wymondle, Rob. Rokeby and others, men of the said town, of which the Church with the Vicarage is taxed at £40. And so the said ninth does not amount to the tax by £24, nor can it amount to it because the greater part of the said tax arises out of 80 acres of arable land, 16 acres of meadow, rent of assize, perquisites of the court of capital punishments, which are the endowment of the Church and are valued at £7. 6s. 8d. per year, and reckoned in the aforesaid tax, and arises also from tithe hay which is valued at £10 per year, and arises also from oblations,

offerings, tithes, a mill, hay, milk and other commodities reckoned in the tax of the Church and which are worth £6 13s. 4d., as is computed by the oath of John Dike, Peter Boteller, John Wymundle, Rob. Rokeby, John de Wolaston, John Outy, Richard Wapp', David de Grendale, John Rokeby, Wni. Aleyn and John son of Robert, sworn before the said Assessors.

The boundaries of the forest of Herthey are given as follows in a Perambulation of Forests, taken in 1301:—"In the first place from 'Houtoneslinche between the field of Houghton and the cover of the same wood, along to Brampton wood and so by the division of Brampton and Herttheye woods along to the fields of Sibthorpe, and so between the same fields and the cover of Herttheye along to Rokespole, and thus descending by the brook along to Wykenelonde." Here we again meet with the name 'Houghton' or 'Houtton.'

It is generally said that king Henry II., gave the Church of Brampton and all that appertained to it to the Cathedral Church of Lincoln, who formed it into a Prebend, but there is at Lincoln a charter of king Stephen, endowing Brampton Prebend and confirming all the rights that "William my grandfather and my ancestors, Kings of England, gave to the said Church." It is perfectly true, however, that king Henry II., gave a charter of endowment. "The corpse of this Prebend" says Brown Willis, "was the Rectory and Advowson of the Church of Brampton."

In the taxation of 1291, the Prebendal Church of Brampton was valued at £35. 6s. 8d., and the Vicarage of the same at £4. 13s. 4d. In 1534 the clear value of the Prebend was £26. 7s. 4d. (increased by Brown Willis' time to £34) and that of the Vicarage £8. 1s. 4d. In 1556 Cardinal Pole made a visitation of his diocese of Lincoln, whereat, on 27th of April Laurence Burnaby of Brampton was detected and convicted of the following charge, viz.:—that on Palm Sunday, when the Vicar was opening the windows of the Church with the staff of a cross, the said Laurence said in mockery 'What a sport have we towards, will our Vicar runne at the

quintine with God 'Almighty?' He submitted himself and was ordered to do public penance. Probably the Vicar used a crucifix to open an upper window for ventilation, or it may have been that the window contained a picture of God in stained glass. At the same visitation the Parish of Brampton was ordered to re-erect the rood-loft and four stone crosses in the parish, before Christmas next.

The Burnaby family have occupied the Manor house for some three hundred years or more; there seem to have been a connection in the seventeenth century, between them and the Hetleys. The Manor house was rebuilt in 1877, previous to which it was a fine old plaster house; some views of which appeared in *The Building News* of 18 Oct. 1887. It is said to be mentioned by Dickens in one of his works.

Of the birthplace of Samuel Pepys, in this parish, I can say but little. He mentions it once or twice in his Diary and gives an amusing account of a midnight search for some money he had buried in the garden.

An escheat of 1 Edw. 3 (1327) says that Robert Daules of Brampton, on the day that he died, held 1 messuage (ruined), 80 acres of land, 15 acres of meadow and 24 shillings rent in Brampton, of the King 'in capite'. Robert Daules, of Brampton, occurs as witness to a deed dated 29 Nov. 1307, in the Cartulary of Ramsey Abbey.

On the Patent Rolls, under date 22nd April 1340, is a license to John de Farendon to enfeoff John de la Wyke, parson of Spaldwick, of a messuage, 86 acres of land, 15 acres of meadow and 24 shillings rent in Brampton by Huntingdon, said to be held in chief, and for the latter to regrant the same to him for life with remainder to John son of John Faron of Newbury, in fee. This, no doubt, is the land held by Robert Daules, and we hear of it again in 7 Ric. 2 (1384) when Amice, daughter of Richard Faron is said to hold a third of two parts of 1 messuage, 87 acres of land, 14 acres of meadow and 21 shillings rent. In 3 Hen. 6 (1424) John Palmer son of Isabella Faron held  $\frac{1}{2}$  a messuage,

43½ acres of land, 7 acres of meadow, 12 shillings and 3 capons and a half of rent, of the King 'in capite,' by service and a rent of 3 shillings, and somewhat similar entries occur in 5 and 6 Hen. 6. Under the latter year we get an interesting explanation of the matter, for we are told that in that year Margaret Francis wife of Ade [i.e. Adam] Francis, and Isabel wife of John Palmer, daughters and coheirs of Richard Farron and Amice his wife, are heirs of John Palmer son of the said John Palmer, and hold ½ a messuage, 40½ acres of land, 7 acres of meadow and 10 shillings and 3 capons and a half of rent in Brampton, of the King 'in capite' by service and a rent of 3 shillings. From this I take it that Richard Farron died in 1384, leaving a widow and three daughters; the widow had half of his estate, and the three daughters each had a third of the remaining half. Amicia, one of the daughters probably died young and unmarried, so that when the widow also died the other two sisters had a half of the property each. John Palmer, husband of one of them, died, and his share went to his son John, who died in 1427 without heirs of his body, when his mother together with her sister again became coheirs. I suspect that at Isabel Palmer's death her share went to her sister, who thus obtained the whole property; and I should not be surprised if the name Francis is an error of transcription, (although Francis is a well known name in the neighbourhood to this day), for by an escheat of 18 Henry 6 (1440) we find that Gerard Foster son of Adam held 1 messuage, 80 acres of land, 20 acres of meadow and 24 shillings rent in Brampton of the King 'in capite' at a rent of 6 shillings. This looks remarkably like the same property, with a little added and an increase of rent. John Foster seems to have held it in 4 Hen. 8 and again in 8 Hen. 8, but it is a rather curious fact that in 2 Hen. 8 Robert Druell, son of Christopher Druell held, in Brampton, 1 messuage, 80 acres of land with certain tenements, meadow and pasture belonging to the same, of Richard, Earl of Kent, and the coincidence is more striking from the fact that the endowment of

the Rectory consisted of 80 acres of land, 16 acres of meadow, &c., as has been said in quoting the returns for the ninth; but I believe these may safely be considered as three separate properties.

In the 4th year of King Edward VI., William Betts, gent., and Margaret his wife, Gerard Foster and Agnes his wife, and John Newton and Elizabeth his wife sold the Manor of Fosters with 6 messuages, 6 curtilages, 100 acres of land, 40 acres of pasture, 6 acres of wood, 20 shillings of rent, and its appurtenances in Brampton, to Simon Throckmorton for £100. There is a record that Simon sold it, in the first year of Queen Elizabeth, to Roger Woodhous, mil., for 160 marks of silver; but, on the 13th July 1612, he married Anna, daughter of Edmund Mordaunt, arm., and settled this Manor of Fosters on her, 19th January, 10 James I., and it is mentioned as his property in an *Inq. post mortem.*, dated 12 January, 11 James I. The property came into the possession of the Hetley family, and is stated by the Lansdowne MSS., 921, to have been purchased from William Hetley by Sir Robert Bernard, at which time the name of Foster's or School-Hold, alias Jarrett's or Gerrard's freehold Manor seems to have been used for it. Presumably this is the property now called Brampton Park: the house, although nearly rebuilt in 1820, is said to date in part from the 16th century. It was owned in 1634 by Sir Thomas Hetley of Huntingdon, Kt., Serjeant-at-law, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Gore: their son, William Hetley, married Carina, daughter of Henry Williams *alias* Cromwell, and sold Brampton, in 1657, to Robert Bernard, Esq., of Huntingdon, Serjeant-at-law, who was created a Baronet in 1662, and died 1666, leaving John his son and heir and two daughters,—Lucy married to Sir Nicholas Pedley, and Mary married to Laurence Torkington. Sir John Bernard had two wives, 1st Elizabeth daughter of Oliver St. John, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, (grandson of Thomas, brother of the second and third Barons St. John of Bletsoe), and secondly Grace, daughter of Sir Richard Shuckburgh. He died in 1679, and was

succeeded by Sir Robert, his son by his first wife. He died in 1703, and his son and successor, Sir John Bernard married Mary, daughter of Sir Francis St. John of Longthorpe, Bart., (grandson of the Lord Chief Justice), by whom he left Sir Robert, the last baronet, who died unmarried, 1789, and Brampton passed to his sister Mary, wife of Robert Sparrow, Esq., of Worlingham, Suffolk. Their son, Brigadier-General Robert Bernard Sparrow (who died in 1805, aged 32), married Lady Olivia Acheson daughter of the first Earl Gosford, and had two children, —Robert Acheson Bernard St. John Sparrow, who died unmarried in 1818, and Millicent, (wife of George 6th Duke of Manchester), who died in 1848. Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow whose name is so well known, not only in Brampton but throughout the whole of Huntingdonshire, survived until February, 1863, when her estates passed to the Duke of Manchester, whose descendant, the present Duke, still owns them.

Since Lady Sparrow's death, the house was occupied for a time by John and George Morgan, Esquires, and has more recently become the home of Benjamin Beasley, Esq., who conducts, here, his well-known establishment for the cure of stammering.

From the Lansdowne MS., 921, I extract the following note relating to heraldic glass in the windows, about the year 1660—

In ye windows in ye chamber over ye Hall of Sir John Bernard's are these coats:—G. a chevron between 3 combes Arg. impaled with lozengy Arg. and Gu. (*Fitz William.*)

Arg. on a fesse bet. 3 cinquefoils pierced Gules, a greyhound Or. (*Albany.*) impaled with Gu. a chevron bet. 3 combes Arg. (*Plat.*)

Gu. on a chevron between 3 falcons Arg. bills and legs Or. a cross croslett fitchée Sa. (*Hetley.*) impaled with Gu. a fesse bet. 3 cross crosslets fitchée Or. (*Gore.*)

Hetley, as before, impaled with B. on a cross Arg. 5 mullets of the field.

The Visitation of the Herald in 1613, says that Jasper, son of Thomas Tryce of Godmanchester, was of Brampton in that year, and we learn from an escheat of 12 James I. (1615) that Richard, son of Jasper Price [or more correctly Tryce], held one messuage, twenty acres of land, meadow and pasture in Brampton, which was Anton's, of the Honour of Huntingdon Castle. In 5 Chas. I. (1630) his son Jasper held the same, and he is probably the man who died in 1675, and whose epitath is recorded in the Lansdowne MS., 921.

Robert Heron of Godmanchester had three wives, the first of whom was Elizabeth, daughter of the above mentioned Thomas Tryce; he gave his lands in Brampton to William his second son.

I have not forgotten that Portholm lies in this Parish, but I cannot stop to describe it.

The Church is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, and consists of Chancel with modern Vestry on North, Nave with clerestory and two Aisles, North and South Porches, and a West Tower. The Chancel is of Early Decorated date and has fine wall arcading, two tall arches on the north, and three and a smaller one on the south. The windows are two-lights with varied tracery. The East window is a five-light, the tracery and mullions modern, well designed in character with the rest of the work. When Caveler wrote, in 1851, he spoke of this window as "late and poor P."

In the south wall is a low-side window and a good Decorated piscina with crocketed canopy, and there is also a plain door.

The north wall has a plain piscina with a wooden shelf, and a plain door into vestry. The roof is modern.

The Chancel arch is Perpendicular; under it is the remnant of a late Decorated oak screen. The rood stairs are on the north, where is also a plain hagioscope.

The nave arcade is of five bays with lofty arches, over each of which is a two-light clerestory window, all of early Perpendicular date.

The north aisle has four Perpendicular three-lights in the north wall, another in the west wall, and a five-

light at the east end. This aisle has a plain Perpendicular north door. The eastern end of the aisle has formed a chantry, and has a piscina in south and an aumbry in north wall.

The south aisle is similar to the north, but the doorway is good Perpendicular and the wooden door has splendid tracery of late Decorated design.

The roofs of Nave and both aisles are good, having very fine spandrils of pierced tracery.

The font is small, only 2 ft.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ins. dia.; octagonal, panelled, and of Perpendicular date: the stem and base are modern.

The tower bears the date 1635, and is, for that period, a very creditable attempt at gothic. It is of four stages, has a west door, apparently of Decorated date, a three-light window over, belfry windows of two-lights, and embattled parapets with angle pinnacles. The stairs are in the S.W. angle; a small Decorated window with crockets and finial to the hood-mould gives light to them, and, together with the west door, is probably a portion of the earlier tower.

There are five bells and a priest's bell; the latter is  $18\frac{1}{2}$  ins. dia.: but is devoid of inscription, the others are inscribed:—

1. PRAISE THE LORDE. 1600. ( $31\frac{1}{2}$  ins. dia. :)
2. THOMAS NORRIS MADE ME. 1619. ( $33\frac{1}{2}$  ins. dia. :)
3. AMBROSE. ( $34\frac{1}{2}$  ins. dia. :)
4. THOMAS RUSSELL OF WOOTTON MADE ME, 1741. ( $38\frac{1}{2}$  ins. dia. :)
5. ALL GLORI BE TO GOD ONE HI. 1630. I. K. (42 ins. dia. :)

In 1552 there were at Brampton, "5 great belles in the Steaple and on littell bell."

The Rev. T. M. N. Owen, to whose book, *The Church Bells of Huntingdonshire*, I am indebted for the above account of the bells, thinks that the priest's bell has been recast since the date of the Edwardian record, but he says that it has always been known as "the old Roman Catholic Priest's Bell";—its tone is very shrill and

peculiar, but it is only roped and rung in the event of a fire breaking out in the parish. These bells were rehung in 1902.

The South Porch is of Perpendicular design; the finial over the arch has the lily-pot, emblematical of the Blessed Virgin Mary to whom the Church is dedicated. This porch is said to have been so much dilapidated in 1828, that it was found necessary to entirely rebuilt it, a necessity which seems to have arisen again at a later period. The finial above mentioned, and fragments of two niches belonged to the older porch.

The north porch is modern and very shallow.

The side aisles have good bold buttresses of rather unusual design: both nave and aisles have plain parapets and lead roofs. The roof of the Chancel is slated.

The western bay of the clerestory on north looks as if it had been rebuilt at the same time as the tower, and if so it would point to the earlier tower having been blown down.\*

The church was repewed in 1835, and thoroughly restored in 1878. Previously to the latter date, I am told that the church had six fireplaces, viz:—one in each corner, one in the Vestry and one in Lady Sparrow's pew. The west end of nave had also a large painted gallery blocking up the tower arch; the position of the stairs to this gallery may still be seen on the south wall of tower.

The whole of the furniture in the Church is modern. The reredos is a memorial to John William, 7th Earl of Sandwich, erected by his widow, Blanch, Countess of Sandwich, in December, 1884.

The pulpit is of stone, and stands on the south side of the Chancel arch. A modern organ occupies the chapel at east end of the south aisle.

The following stained glass and monuments, recorded in the *Lansdowne MS.*, 921, are not now to be found, with the exception of that to Constant Sylvester.

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\* Can anyone give proof of a violent storm in this district in or about 1635?

In ye window at ye chancel end :—

B. a fesse Arg. fretty G. bet. 3 . . . . . crowns  
Or. (*Meller.*) impaled with Ermine, a chevron G.  
bet. 3 cocks' heads erased B. crested and gilled of  
the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

B. a fesse Arg. fretty G. 3 crowns Or. (*Ric. Meller  
Esq.*) impaled with Sa. a fesse bet. 3 asses pass.  
Arg. (*Askwith.*)  
(*Meller.*) impaled with Quarterly Arg. & Sa. 3  
pallets erm. (*Humfry.*)

In a North Window :—

(Checky . . . . & Gu. a fesse) or G. billetty  
Or, a fesse. (*Lovain.*) quartered with A cross Gu.  
between 4 plummets or water bougets. (*Bourchier.*)

In the East window of the North Aisle of the Church :—

Barry of . . . . Arg. & B. 3 torteaux in chief ;—  
quartered with *Hastings & Valence* quarterly. (*Grey.*)  
B. 3 crowns Or.

In the North aisle of the Church, upon a flat grey  
(marble) stone :—

“CHRISTO S.S.

“Judithæ nuper charissima uxori Ludovici Phillips

“gen. et uni filiarum Gabrielis Throckmorton. Ar.

“Idem Ludovicus hoc monumentum posuit non sine

“lachrimis. Obüt 21 die Xbris Anno Dni 1665.

“et ætatis suæ 57.

“R.P. 1657.

A.P. ux. J.P. 1640.”

In the Church :—

“ffællicem expectans resurectionem

“Hic jacet corpus Gulielmi Nevill gen : qui obiit 6°

“7 bris. 1664.

“Annoq : ætatis suæ (fere) 70°.

“Thomas Appleyard gen : Nepos dicti Gulielmi

“Nevill hoc monumentum memoriæ sacrum D.D.”

“Tho. Appleyard. gent. departed this life on ye 30<sup>th</sup>

“of December 1671.”

“CHRISTO S.S. Hic jacet Ludovicus Phillips sumi

“peccatorum gradus et ac non sine spe fidelissima

“beatæ resurrectionis per Jesum nos eruentum ab  
“ira illa ventura. Amen.

“Hoc vivens composuit—obiit 10 die mensis Feb’  
“Ano Dni. 1669.”

In the Chancel:—

“Constant Sylvester Esq dep’ted this life, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
“Septemb. 1671.”

Per pale indented. Crest, 3 ostrich feathers.

“Here lyeth Lucy Hanbury who dyed 8 Janu:  
“1674. 18 years of age.”

In the Chancel:—

“Here lyeth the body of Jasper Trice gent: who  
“dep’ted this life ye 27<sup>th</sup> day of Octob. An<sup>o</sup> Dom.  
“1675.”

The memorial inscriptions now in the Church, are to  
the following:—

Chancel:—Miss Catherine Palmer (daughter of William  
Palmer), born 16. Jan. 1783, died 18. Jan. 1845. Rev.  
William Bunbury, Vicar, died 17. Jan. 1754, aged 36.  
Eliezer Heywood, gent., (sole surviving son of Samuel  
Heywood, Esq. Solicitor, of Nottingham,) died 18. April  
1839, aged 51.

Jane, wife of Samuel Wells, of Huntingdon, gent.,  
died 23. Nov. 1822, aged 27. niece of John Richards and  
Elizabeth [née Palmer] his wife.

Constant Sylvester Esq. died 2. Sep. 1671.

Henry Burneby, gent., died 17. March 1716, aged [?50].

Rev. Benjamin Burneby, Rector of Whitwell, died  
24. May 1716, aged (- - -)

Nave:—A brass records the fact that the west window  
was put in to the memory of Lt. Gen: Philip Smith,  
C.B. (born 10 Jan. 1837, died at Hinchingsbrooke on All  
Saints Day 1894.) by his friend and comrade, Edward,  
Earl of Sandwich.

Another brass records the erection of the reredos, as  
has been before described.

Tower:—Tho. Jay Esq, died 13 May 1817. aged 51.

Edward Martin, gent, died 4. Feb. 1839, aged 58, and  
Judith Susanna, his wife, died 13. Jan. 1863. aged 76.

John Miller, gent., died 11. Nov. 1781. and Thomas Miller, his son, barrister-at-law, died 12. Nov. 1783.

William Palmer Esq. born 29. Jan. 1734, died 6. Sep. 1824, aged 89 (monument erected by Catherine & Thomas Palmer, his children). Mary Burneby Palmer, died 13 June 1795, aged 58.

Over the North door is a tablet inscribed as follows :—

In the Middle Isle  
are interred

James Lovesey, Gent, and Mary, his Wife  
Two virtuous and exemplary Parishioners  
who constantly attended the Service of  
this Church and Holy Communion,  
were friendly to their Neighbours  
and kind to their Relations.

He died Dec<sup>r</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> 1743 Aged 80, and gave a large  
SILVER FLAGGON for the use of the H. Table.

She died Aug<sup>t</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 1752 aged 65, and left by Will  
to the Vicar of Brampton as an Incouragement for  
Residence Two Hundred Pounds for improving  
the Vicarage House or otherwise for his Benefit  
at the Discretion of the Bishop of the Diocese.

In Affection and Gratitude to whose Memory  
her brother F. Tew, D.D. erected  
this monument.

In the North Aisle there are also inscriptions to :—

Etheldred Harriet (wife of Charles Seawell Esq.) she  
died 22. Nov. 1831 aged 55.

Charlotte Want, died 7. Nov. 1802, aged 12.

Mrs. Eden Want, died 6. March 1781, aged 37.

Charlotte Maltilda (wife of Basil Montagu,) died (- -)  
Jan. 179(-) aged 23.

South Aisle :—John Bernard, Bart. (son of Robert),  
lived 48 years 7 months, born Nov. 1730, died June  
1779 ;—married Eliz. daughter of Oliver St John, and  
secondly, Grace, daughter of Richard Shukburgh.

B.-Gen : Robert Bernard Sparrow, died 25. Aug. 1805,  
aged 32. Robert Acheson Bernard St John Sparrow,

died 3. March 1818, aged 19. Millicent, Duchess of Manchester, died 21. Nov. 1848. Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow, died 12. Feb. 1863.

In addition to the west window already mentioned, there are windows to the following:—

Chancel:—Isabella Susan (wife of Henry Simcoe Budge, Rector), born 20. Jan., 1834, died 12. July, 1888.

South Aisle:—Mary, Countess of Sandwich (erected by Edward, 8th Earl, her son).

The Hon. Sydney Montagu (erected by his brother Edward, 8th Earl).

Col. the Hon. Oliver Montagu, died 24. Jan. 1893 (erected by his sisters, Emily Duke and Florence Duncombe).

There is an old stone coffin in the church yard, close to the south aisle.

Three fragments of the Choir Stalls from this Church are now in the Museum at Cambridge.\*

S. INSKIP LADDS.

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\* See *Proceedings of Cambridge Antiquarian Society*, VII., 28.-30. Also *Proceedings Cambs., and Hunts., Archaeological Society* in this Volume.

## THE PRIORY AND CHURCH OF ST. NEOTS, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

It may be of interest before speaking of the Church (which is dedicated to St. Mary) to refer briefly to the Priory, the history of the two being closely connected.\*

In the reign of King Edgar, one Earl Alric or Leofric, and his wife Ethelfleda, founded a Priory at Eynesbury, which place is supposed to derive its name from Ernulf or Eynulf, a Saxon hermit, or according to Professor Skeat from the Saxon Ægenwulf. A patron Saint however was wanting to give popularity to the new monastery, the choice was directed to Neot, and a plan was devised for carrying off his remains. The interest of Brithnod, Abbot of Ely, and the influence of Ethelwolde, Bishop of Winchester, having been obtained, the king's sanction followed. The arrangement was entrusted to the official Warden of the Shrine, who decamped with the sacred relic from Neot-Stoke in Cornwall, and reached Eynesbury in safety. Here he was received at the Mansion of Earl Alric, under whose roof the treasure remained for a short time. A Chapel was soon built, and the mansion converted into a Monastery which was dedicated to the Saint, in whose honour the name of the place was changed to Neotsbury. At the dedication of the Conventual Chapel about A.D. 974, Ethelwolde, Æscwin, Bishop of Lincoln, Abbot Brithnod, and many others were present. It was agreed that the Monastery should be subject to the Benedictine

\* This information is in the main derived from "*The History and Antiquities of Eynesbury and St. Neots*," (1820 and 1824) by Rev. Geo. C. Gorham, a native of St. Neots, and for 18 years Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge, and Vicar of St. Just-in-Penwith, Cornwall, 1847. Mr. Gorham was afterwards presented to the Vicarage of Bramford Speke, Devon, but was refused institution by Dr. Phillpots, Bishop of Exeter. Hence arose the famous Gorham controversy. He died 19th June, 1857, aged 69. "*Notes on the Priory of St. Neot*" by Rev. H. Fowler; a paper read at a Meeting of the St. Albans Architectural Society at St. Neots in 1886 has also been consulted.

House of Ely, and that the Priors should always be sent from Ely, unless a person could be found among the Brethren at Neotsbury fit for the office. The site of the Priory was on the north side of the Market Place, and bounded on the west by the river Ouse. The endowment by Earl Alric consisted of two hides of land in Eynesbury, six in Waresley, and nine in Gamlingay. Ailwyn, Alderman of East Anglia was the Patron.

After about thirty years the Monastery was threatened by the Danes; and Lady Lewina of Eynesbury, a lady of property took the precaution to remove the remains of Neot to her house at Whittlesea, and besought her brother Osketul, Abbot of Crowland to receive it into his Abbey. He, with some of the brethren repaired to Whittlesea, and the relics were taken to Crowland with the chanting of psalms.

When the state of the country became more settled, these relics were restored to Neotsbury, although Ingulf, Abbot of Crowland boasted that his Abbey still possessed them. From an Anglo-Saxon MS., in the British Museum, date about 1020, giving a list of the Saints of England and the places favoured with the custody of their mortal remains, *inter alia* it states "*thonne resteth Sanct Neot masse preost on Eanulfesbyrig,*" (one resteth Saint Neot Mass priest at Eynesbury). In 1213 the bones of the Saint are said to have been removed by Abbot Henry de Longchamp and placed by an altar erected to his honour.

The Priory of Neotsbury was probably burnt by the Danes in 1010. It was either only partly destroyed, or was rebuilt, for it still supported some monks at the Norman Conquest; at that time it was seized by Gilbert, Earl of Owe, and three of the Ely brethren who would not surrender were at last ejected and sent to Normandy, the Abbot of Bec being charged to keep them prisoners there.

The House now became an alien Priory, subject to the Abbey of Bec in Normandy.\* In 1078, Richard Fitz

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\* The Abbey of Bec-Hellouin near Bri ne was founded in 1060. The establishment was subverted in the French Revolution; the Abbey is now in ruins.

Gilbert de Clare and his wife Rohais sent a request to Anselm, (who in August of that year had become Abbot of Bec) for monks to replenish the Convent at Neotsbury, which was to be made a cell to the Norman House. Anselm at once acceded by sending over white monks, who may have been Cistercians; but whatever the precise order, their habit was subsequently changed for a black dress, for the Priory (like the Mother Abbey) became a Benedictine House. Anselm came to Neotsbury, and examined the relics, which he pronounced to be the bones of "the precious Confessor Neot." One arm was missing, this is supposed to have been left in Cornwall. The shrine was locked, and the key of the feretory taken by the Abbot to France to be carefully preserved there. Anselm afterwards on being promoted to the See of Canterbury, sent a testimonial of this inspection to Oliver Sutton, Bishop of Lincoln, at the same time exhorting the pious to contribute liberally towards the erection of the conventual building. The tower of this Church fell in 1265, when some of the charters were lost in the ruins. Nothing more appears to be known of this Church.

The earliest benefaction occurs in 1100, when Matilda, daughter of Simon first Earl of Huntingdon, gave to the Convent one-third of her Manor of Cratefield, in Suffolk. Rohais the wife of Richard de Clare who held the Manor of St. Neots in 1113, granted the whole of her Manor to St. Mary of Bec and to St. Neot of Eynesbury, and was considered the second foundress. The annual income of the Monastery in 1291 was £225 19s. 2d., and at a later period the site of the Priory occupied forty-nine acres.

Henry I., granted the privilege of a Market and four Fairs, one on the Festival of (probably) the translation of the Saint, formerly held on 8th December, afterwards changed to 17th, and which in recent years has been held on the Thursday preceding the 17th December.

The town was probably growing up near the Monastery, and this being near the great North Road would be easily reached by travellers, who would enter by the gate which was near the Bridge, and to whom the monks by

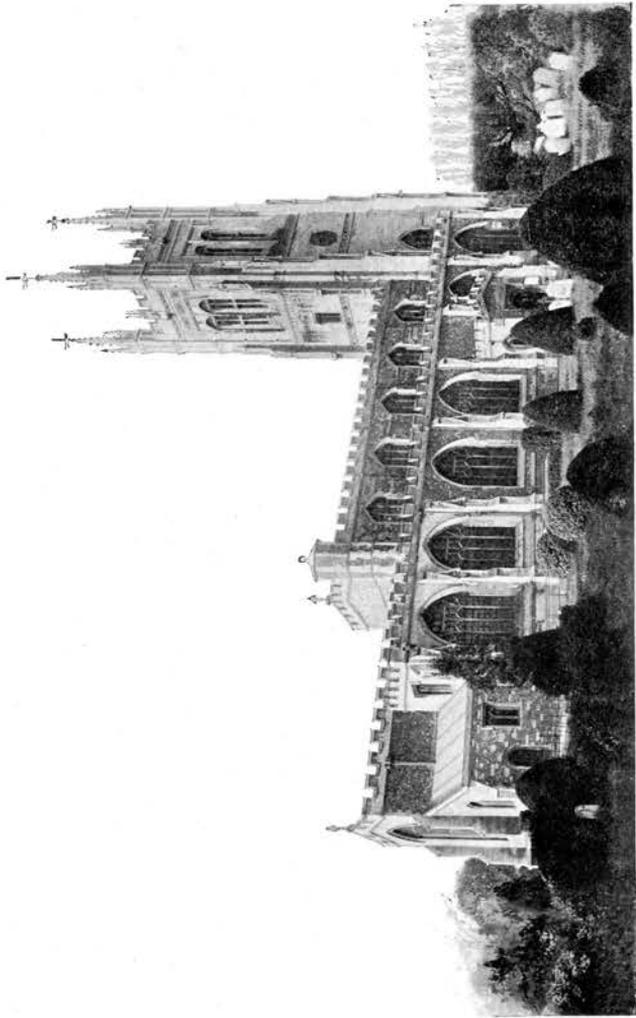
a Bull of Celestine III., were to "give meat and drink, for the love of God, to all who should ask them." The last vestige of the entrance was taken down in 1814, and no portion of the buildings remains. John Rawnds who was the last Prior, was presented to the Vicarage in 1512, and instituted on 28th September of that year; the attestation of the Will of Christiana Crouker of Seynt Neots, probate of which is dated 1527, is as follows:— "thes beyng witnesses John Rawnds Prior off the House off Seynt Neots and Vicar off the seid towne." . . . . Rawnds died in 1540, the year following the surrender of the Monastery. Probably about 1589 the materials of the lately dissolved Priory were in part used for building the present stone bridge.

The existing town is an extension of the village of Eynesbury, and it is thought the name St. Neots was given to it when the parish was separated from Eynesbury in the reign of Henry II. (1179).

The first parish Church here was erected about 1183 when the Rectory was appropriated to the Monastery by a Bull of Lucius III. A grant of Hugh de Wells, Bishop of Lincoln, between 1209 and 1234, confirms to the Prior and Convent "The Parochial Church of St. Mary, in the town of St. Neots, with all its appurtenances." We have no record of this early structure, but a window in the wall of the vestry of the present Church in all probability belonged to that mentioned in the grant of Hugh de Wells. It has been suggested that the shaft and lower portion of the bowl of the existing font may have also belonged to it and have been made by some unskilful person in the 12th Century. There are no other indications of a building earlier than the end of the 12th century. A slab of dark blue marble of the 14th Century exists in the floor of Jesus Chapel. On the face is a dog supporting a floriated cross, the stem of which is represented as budding, and the transverse beams as branching into trefoils. (It is engraved in Gough's *Sepulchral Monuments* Vol. II., p. ccxlvii, pl. xviii., fig. 5).

From extracts of Wills for which probate was granted between 1485 and 1535, it is probable that the body of





FROM PHOTO BY A. E. JENNINGS.

EXTERIOR OF ST. NEOTS CHURCH, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

the existing Church was completed about 1486; that the tower was begun about 1489, and advanced as far as the belfry in 1493, and that the pinnacles were erected between 1526 and 1535. The Church is an elegant and symmetrical example of that light and airy Gothic which attained its greatest excellence in the reign of Henry VII. The plan of the structure is uniform, consisting of a stately nave and chancel, north and south aisles both to nave and chancel, a vestry,\* north and south porches to the nave aisles, and a tower of grand proportions at the west end of the nave.†

The tower being faced with light grey stone, which weathers into various tones, has two requisites for grandeur, *viz.* size and fine well wrought material. Its height from the ground to roof is 100 feet, and to the apex of the pinnacles about 128 feet. The design is of a very high class, closely resembling some of the finest towers of Somerset. Two large buttresses stand at each corner of the tower, each a little distance from the angle. They run up to the belfry stage and then stop, being finished at their tops by tablings on which pinnacles, with crockets and finials, are set anglewise. Three single and a double band of quatrefoils are carried along the faces of the tower; those in the base course run round the buttresses as well as the tower; but the two next run between the buttresses and then re-appear at the angles of the tower. The upper bands are also not continuous; they run up to the corner piers and stop there. The pinnacles and battlements were restored in 1880. On each side of the tower the centre battlement exhibits an emblematical representation of an Evangelist. On the south side, about halfway up, is a niche, in which probably was formerly a figure of the Virgin, to whom the Church is dedicated. From a drawing in my possession dated 1817

\* The vestry was rebuilt and enlarged at the expense of the late Mr. John Jewel Evans of St. Neots in 1883; when a marble tablet was fixed on the south wall of the vestry as a memorial to the late Rev. Thos. Burroughes, brother of Mrs. Evans, and is surmounted by the family arms of that gentleman.

† A drawing of the Tower appears in "*Illustrations of the Spires and Towers of the Mediæval Churches of England*," by Charles Wickes. Vol. II. Towers. pl. 3. large folio 1854-5.

the face of the clock covered the upper part of the niche, which has consequently lost its projecting canopy. The tower contains a fine peal of eight bells, cast by Joseph Eayre,\* of St. Neots, the seven smaller in 1753—the eighth in 1764. The latter was recast in 1832.

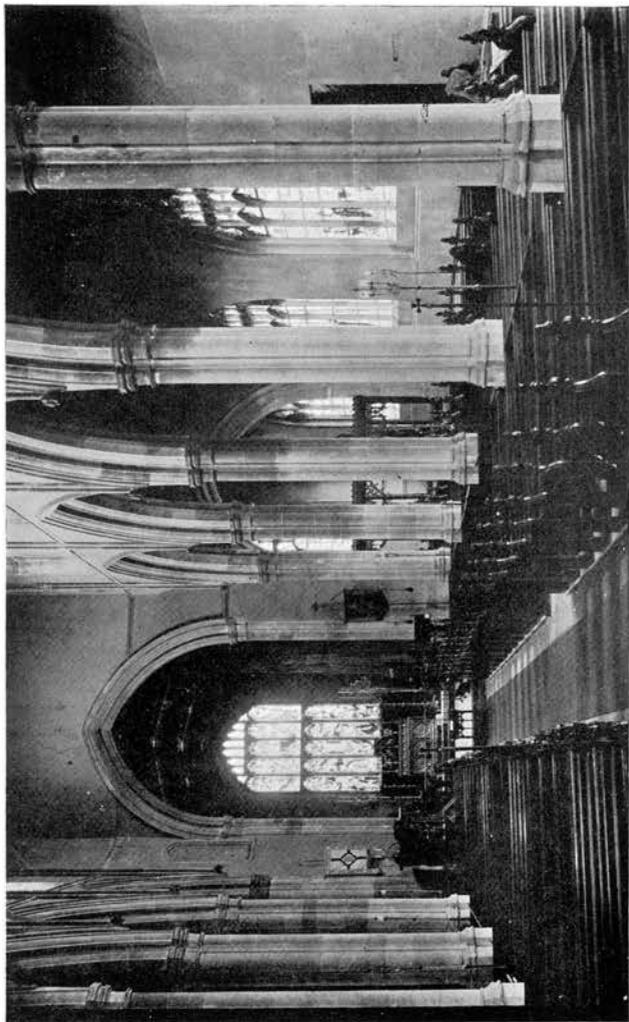
The nave is about 80 feet long, and has arcades of five bays, opening into north and south aisles, with tall moulded piers and highly pointed arches. A clerestory window of three lights occurs in each bay. The roof is of oak, and has carved cornices and other elaborations. On the roof over the narrow bay next the chancel arch ancient colouring has been reproduced. The aisle roofs are also ancient. At the battle of St. Neots in July, 1648, the Parliamentarians who were the victors, put the Royalist prisoners to the number of about 120 in the Church for security, where they were kept well guarded before being sent to Hitchin. And in some additional notes by the late Dr. Rix to Gorham's *History*, he states "The soldiers seem to have occupied themselves in shooting at the roof of the nave, which on close inspection has a worm-eaten appearance. The timber however is sound; and most of the holes still contain at a little depth a leaden shot, not globular, but a section of a cylinder."

The roof of the chancel was entirely rebuilt in 1901, at the expense of Charles Perceval Rowley, Esq., the work being carried out most satisfactorily by Mr. W. Wade. At the same time battlements were added externally, corresponding with those on the nave.

The north aisle of the chancel, in which the organ is placed, is the Jesus Chapel; the monogram **ihc** appears on the cornice of the roof internally, and on the exterior buttresses. This Chapel seems to have been erected by "The Guild or Fraternity of Jesus," consisting of President, Wardens, and Brethren. It is probable that this

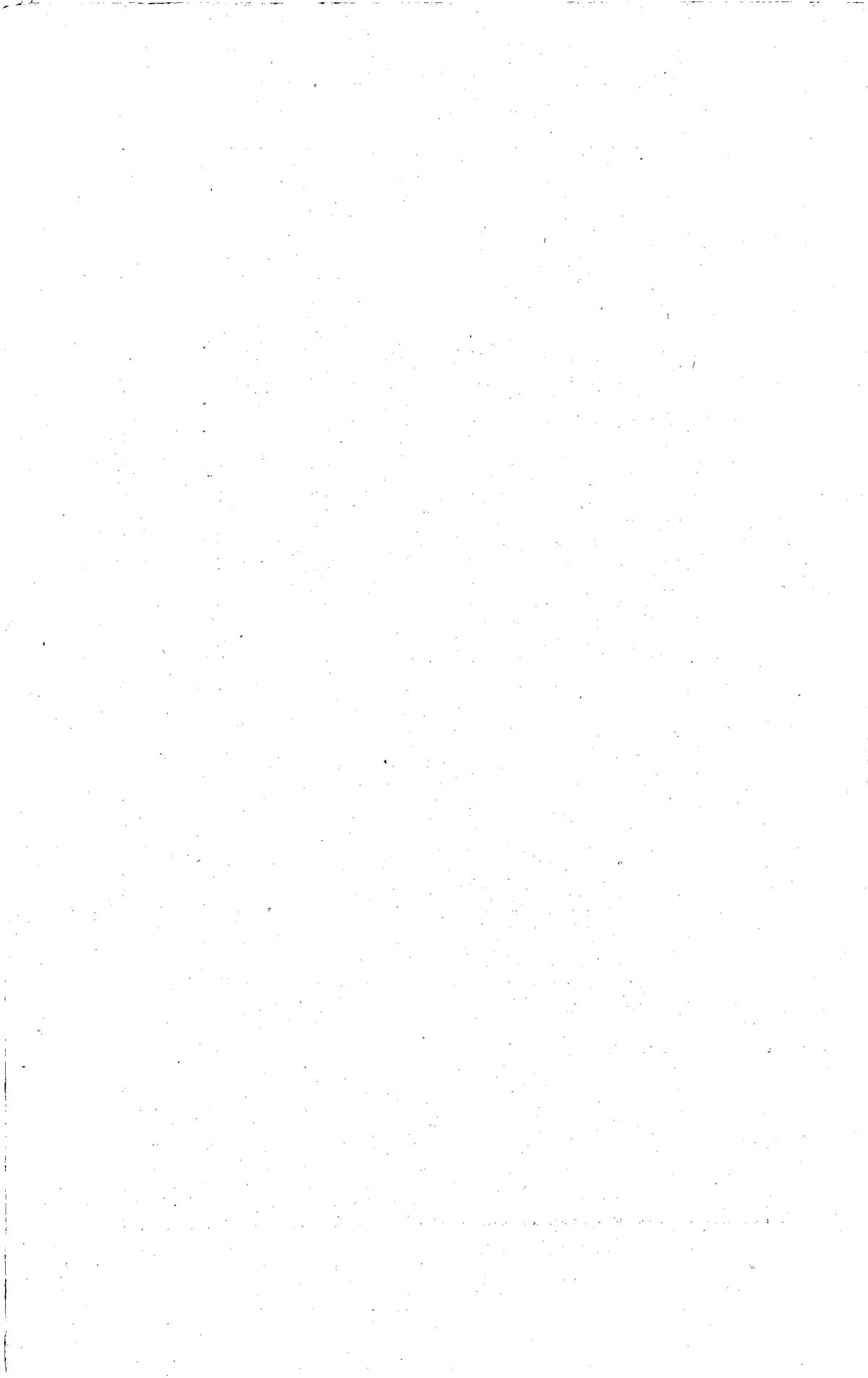
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\* Joseph Eayre was the originator of the only Bell-foundry in this County in comparatively recent times. He was baptized as an adult in 1731 at Kettering, where in 1736, he was also married. He erected a lofty brick building in the "Priory" St. Neots in 1735 in the form of a bell. Here he carried on the business until his death in 1772, and during these thirty-seven years many bells were sent to the churches in this and other counties.



"A.E.J. No. 2 Series."

INTERIOR OF ST. NEOTS CHURCH.



Brotherhood was dissolved with the minor monasteries in 1536, for no later legacies appear to have been left to it. Built into the east wall of this chapel is a fragment of a tomb, having upon it a portion of the usual appeal or prayer for the soul of the departed.

The south aisle of the chancel forms the Lady Chapel, in which is a recess for a reredos.

Sixteenth century oak screens fill the arches at the east ends of nave aisles, and the arches between the chancel and the chapels. From a drawing which I have, the screens seem to have passed through the hands of a careful restorer.

Over the south porch is a parvise known as *Dove's Chamber*,\* access to which is obtained through a doorway immediately to the west of the south entrance. It contains the remains of a small theological library, and a little of the original coloured glass, which thanks to George Fydell Rowley, Esq., the Patron of the living, has recently been carefully re-leaded and placed in two frames, forming an inner casement to two lights of the window in the parvise, thus rescuing it from utter destruction.

In 1847 the Church was restored and re-seated, and the carved pulpit by Messrs. Rattee & Kett, of Cambridge, was erected; the figures on the pulpit represent the four Evangelists, St. Peter and St. Paul.

The organ built by the late Mr. G. M. Holdich in 1855, was restored and improved by Messrs. Bishop & Son, in 1900. The Choir seats date from about 1860.

On the south side of the chancel is a monument in memory of the late George William Rowley, Esq., and his wife, erected in 1893 as a tribute of filial devotion by Charles Perceval Rowley, Esq., their only surviving son. The memorial takes the form of a canopied altar tomb of stone, with a recumbent statue of the deceased lady in white alabaster, from designs by Mr. F. A. Walters, F.S.A., and executed by Mr. Thomas Earp, and is a splendid work of art.

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\* One Robert Dove was Vicar from 1617 to 1622.

The stained glass in the windows is modern, all having been filled during the last forty-four years. The glass generally is of excellent quality; it is in accordance with the style of architecture of the 15th Century, and the colouring is exceedingly rich and effectively blended, reflecting great credit on the artistic skill of the designers. Many of the windows were given by C. P. Rowley, Esq., who has done so much towards beautifying the noble church.\*

For architectural details of the present Church, I may refer the interested reader to a paper on "*St. Mary's Church, St. Neots, Huntingdonshire*," by Mr. S. Flint Clarkson, F.R.I.B.A., in the *Transactions* for 1886 of the St. Albans Architectural and Archæological Society.

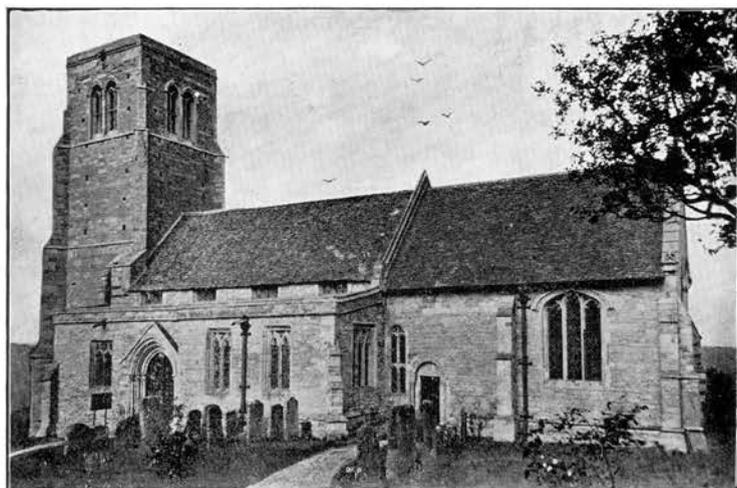
WM. EMERY.

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\* A detailed description of the windows is given in my pamphlet on St. Neots Church, published at the *Advertiser Office*, St. Neots, 1902.



STOW LONGA CHURCH, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.



## STOW LONGA (ST. BOTOLPH), HUNTS.

The history of Stow Longa may be traced back to the year 991, when Ethelred was king; the manor then belonged to Duke Brithnoth. Four years previously, Brithnoth had attacked the Danes at Malden in Essex and defeated them with great slaughter. They afterwards returned vowing vengeance. Brithnoth appears to have been away from home, for he hurried back to Malden and coming to Ramsey Abbey, on his way asked for entertainment and provisions. The Abbot refused to entertain any but Brithnoth and seven companions, he therefore pressed on to Ely, where they were all hospitably received, and the next morning coming into the Chapter House to return thanks, gave to the Abbot and Convent the manor of Spaldwick with its Soke (of which Stow formed a part). King Edward the Confessor's Charter confirmed it to the monks, and it figures as their property in the Domesday Survey. The monks retained it until 1109 when the Abbey became a Bishopric and the property was given to the Bishop of Lincoln, who formed the Manor of Stow into a Prebend under the title of Stow Longa, endowing it also with the impropriate rectory and advowson of Spaldwick. The Prebend still exists in Lincoln Cathedral, but the endowments are held by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

The Church stands on higher ground than any other church in the county, and there is good reason to say was built in 1109, probably a small one at first of the usual Norman type. A fine Norman doorway with curiously carved tympanum, is now the Priest's door to the chancel; the meaning of this carving has been variously interpreted.\* This interesting doorway with

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\* A paper dealing with the subject of this and certain other Cambs., and Hunts., tympana and the quaint symbolism thereon depicted appears in this volume of *Transactions*.

a few fragments found during the restorations of recent years are all that remains of the Norman Church.

In the 13th century the Church was enlarged to its present size; the greater part of the present walls are of that date together with the chancel arch and nave arcades. Some mistake must have been made in setting out the north arcade, causing it to be taken down and rebuilt, for the western respond stands some inches to the north of the original base, which it does not fit, and has some appearance of Decorated work.

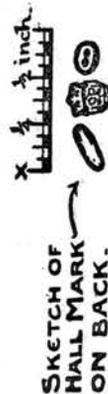
In the middle of the 14th century the side Chapel was built at the east end of the south aisle. Its walls are not square with the rest of the building; this under present conditions needs explanation. It was caused by the spread of the chancel arch, which (before it was rebuilt in 1880 was the shape of a horse shoe) had thrust out the arcade wall, and also caused the east window of the side chapel to be a long way out of plumb. The late Decorated windows in the aisle walls were probably inserted when the side chapel was built.

The south arcade has been rebuilt, but in a far different manner to that on the north; there are evident signs of poverty, the work is done in a careless clumsy manner, broken "drums" of the columns, pieces of windows and other worked stone are built into the wall, and the deficiency made good by stiling the bases, thus making the columns shorter than those of the north arcade.

In the absence of records, one can only suggest a cause for this clumsiness. In 1362 a destructive storm is known to have occurred and it probably blew down the 13th century tower, which destroyed the south arcade, leaving the western respond intact. Now as this was the year of the second great plague which raged from August 15, 1361 to May 3, 1362, it is conceivable that the people were so impoverished that they could do no more than rebuild the arcade and roof, thus making the Church fit for use, leaving the tower to be rebuilt when they could raise the necessary funds. The present tower was built at quite the end of the same century and is considered a

fine specimen of early Perpendicular work. Over the door are two coats of arms with a mitre between them, they bear (I) . . . . on a chevron . . . . between three church bells . . . . as many escallops . . . . (II) . . . . a chevron . . . . between three roses. All our efforts to find the owners have thus far been fruitless. There is only one bell made by Henry Jordan of London (died 1468), inscribed SANCTE PETRE ORA PRO NOBIS.\* Perhaps the Prebendary who built the tower lies under the matrix of a fine floriated cross at the entrance to the chancel. Large parts of the Church and all its windows are of this date, so also the clerestory, destroyed probably in the 17th century. As the Church stands on the top of a hill, in all likelihood wind was again the destroying agent. To save the expense of rebuilding, the walls were levelled to where the present corbels now stand and a barn like roof put on, which remained until 1901.

The font is octagonal with a circular stem and Early English moulded cap; the base (of the same period) was found in the Vicarage garden at Spaldwick.



SKETCH OF HALL MARK ON BACK.

The Church has the proud distinction of possessing a silver paten, the oldest known, bearing the London hall

\* In 1552 there were three bells and a sacring bell.

mark, 1491-2; the chalice is hall marked for 1877-8.

The other items of interest are: (1) a fine oak screen or rather the remnant of what it once was, as can be traced in the north arcade; (2) a monument with brass plate to Sir Thos. Maples 1634; the matrix below contained an inscription to his wife, who was buried 26 August, 1624,

*"For whose sake for widowes 3, three houses did he make."*

These three houses have disappeared, and may perhaps account for the removal of the brass. In the chancel floor are stones to Richard and Ann Elmas, 1682. The old oak shelf in the piscina for side altar remains *in situ* as found when the plaster was removed a few years ago. On the south wall of the tower is inscribed: "*Orate p. aiab' Robte Becke et Alicie uxor.*"

The earliest Prebendary of Stow Longa that we know is John de Maydenestor who presented Thomas de Haytor to Spaldwick Vicarage in 1265. Among his more important successors are Simon Montagu *circa* 1334, Philp de Weston 1342-1369, Guy de Mona 1394-1397, John Dalton 1417-1432, Thomas Wolsey 1509-1514 (afterwards Cardinal Archbishop of York), Cuthbert Tonstall 1514 (afterwards Bishop of Durham), Francis Gascoigne 1529-1547, Richard Fletcher 1586 (afterwards Bishop of London), and Valentine Casey 1607-1621 (afterwards Bishop of Exeter).

In 1837 the whole county of Huntingdon was separated from the diocese of Lincoln, and Stow Longa once more came under the jurisdiction of Ely.

The old manor house at the end of the village was a fine specimen of timber and plaster with good brick chimnies. The hall was large with two fire places and carved oak chimney pieces of renaissance design: all has disappeared and a modern house formed at one end. When these alterations were made in 1877 the date 1622 was found on the lead guttering. The property has now reverted to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners who have decided to pull it down.

G. E. SHARLAND.

## EYNESBURY AND ITS CHURCH.\*

The village of Eynesbury and the town of St. Neots from the middle of the eighth to the latter part of the tenth century were included in the designation Eynesbury. The name has been spelt in a great number of ways, and as now spelt is doubtless a corruption of *Ernulph's-bury*, its Norman name, which is found in the Domesday Survey. A village may have existed earlier, if so, it was probably called *Burg* or Bury, from the Saxon word meaning a town or citadel. Doubtless Eynesbury was occupied as a place of defence during the Roman period. The site is to the south-west of the Church and is known as the Cony-gear. It adjoins the river Ouse from which it now rises gradually, and commanded the adjacent ford and surrounding meadows. For many years it has been worked as a gravel pit, and the artificial mound and intrenchments which formerly remained have become obliterated. Many Roman coins as well as pottery have been found on the site.

The Domesday Book in speaking of the Manor of Eynesbury, (*Einulvesberie*) says, "there is a Church here and a Priest, and two mills worth 32s. and sixty acres of wood for pannage. In the same township there is a certain sheep-fold, containing 662 sheep." This is remarkable as Eynesbury is the only Manor in the county in which record is made of the existence of sheep. The manor was clearly paramount among those connected with it.

It appears that one-third of the tithes of Eynesbury had been settled in the monastery of St. Neots. The advowson was given to the monks by Simon, first Earl of Huntingdon, during the incumbency of Walfrid, about the time of William Rufus; in 1204 it was ceded to

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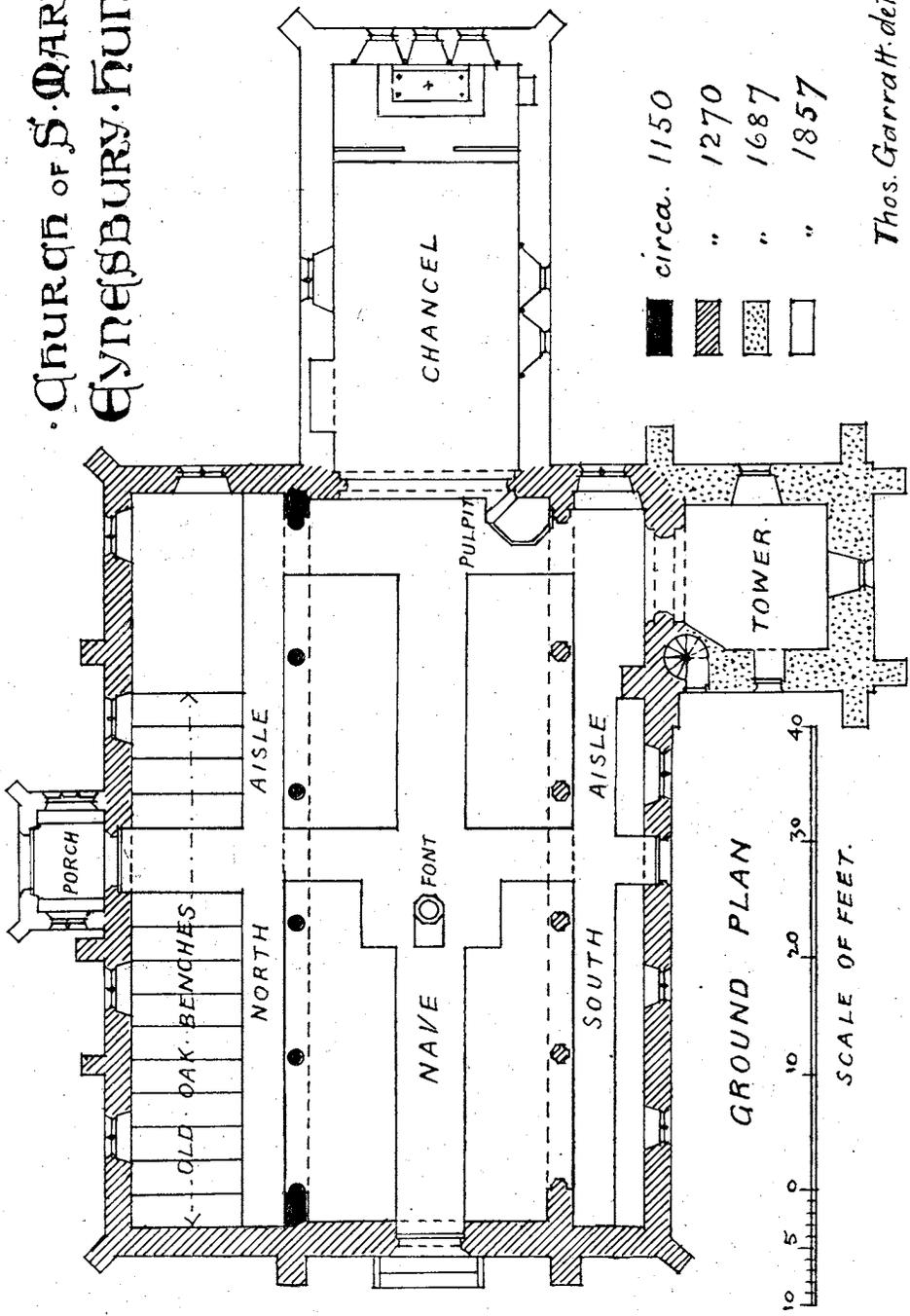
\* Being a Paper read at a Meeting of the *Cambs. & Hunts. Archæological Society* at Eynesbury, on June 23, 1903.

Saher de Quinci, Lord of the Manor of Puttock's Hardwick, sometimes called Saher's Hardwick. Gorham in his "*History*" (p. 111) states that a slab or stone coffin, close to the north wall of the Chancel, but bearing no inscription, is said, in a tradition recorded by Sir Robert Cotton, to cover the remains of Saher de Quinci. Since then the advowson has descended with the Manor of Eynesbury.

The Church, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of nave, chancel, north and south aisles, the latter being singularly narrow, and a porch on the north side; but the feature that most attracts attention is the unusual position of the tower, built at the south-east of the south aisle. The north arcade is very interesting and typical of transitional work; the pillars and caps are of clunch, as are also those on the south side. This material was used a good deal during that period. Sharpe, an authority on transitional ornamentation puts this class of foliage (the crossing and twining of the stems is noticeable) at 1170, but in conjunction with the simple form of abacus may be earlier, perhaps 1150. The bases of this arcade are not very characteristic but would suit that date, and the chamfered pointed arches would be in accordance. The string over this arcade is unusual, lacking a lower bead, and is probably of the thirteenth century. It will be observed it is continued also over the south arcade. The caps of the south arcade have a chamfered neck moulding and may date about 1270. They are of a type that is found with slight variations into the fourteenth century. The arch between the south aisle and the tower is interesting, having an earlier type of cap with nail head ornament. This nail head pattern is the prototype of the well known Early English dog-tooth moulding. The caps may be about 1220 but the bases appear to be later, possibly of the date of the south arcade. This piece of work in the lower part of a tower which was rebuilt in 1686-1687 may offer many suggestions to others better versed than myself in church architecture.

The old tower was struck by lightning and destroyed the chancel in its fall. A brief was widely published

# CHURCH OF S. MARY. EYNESBURY HUNTS.

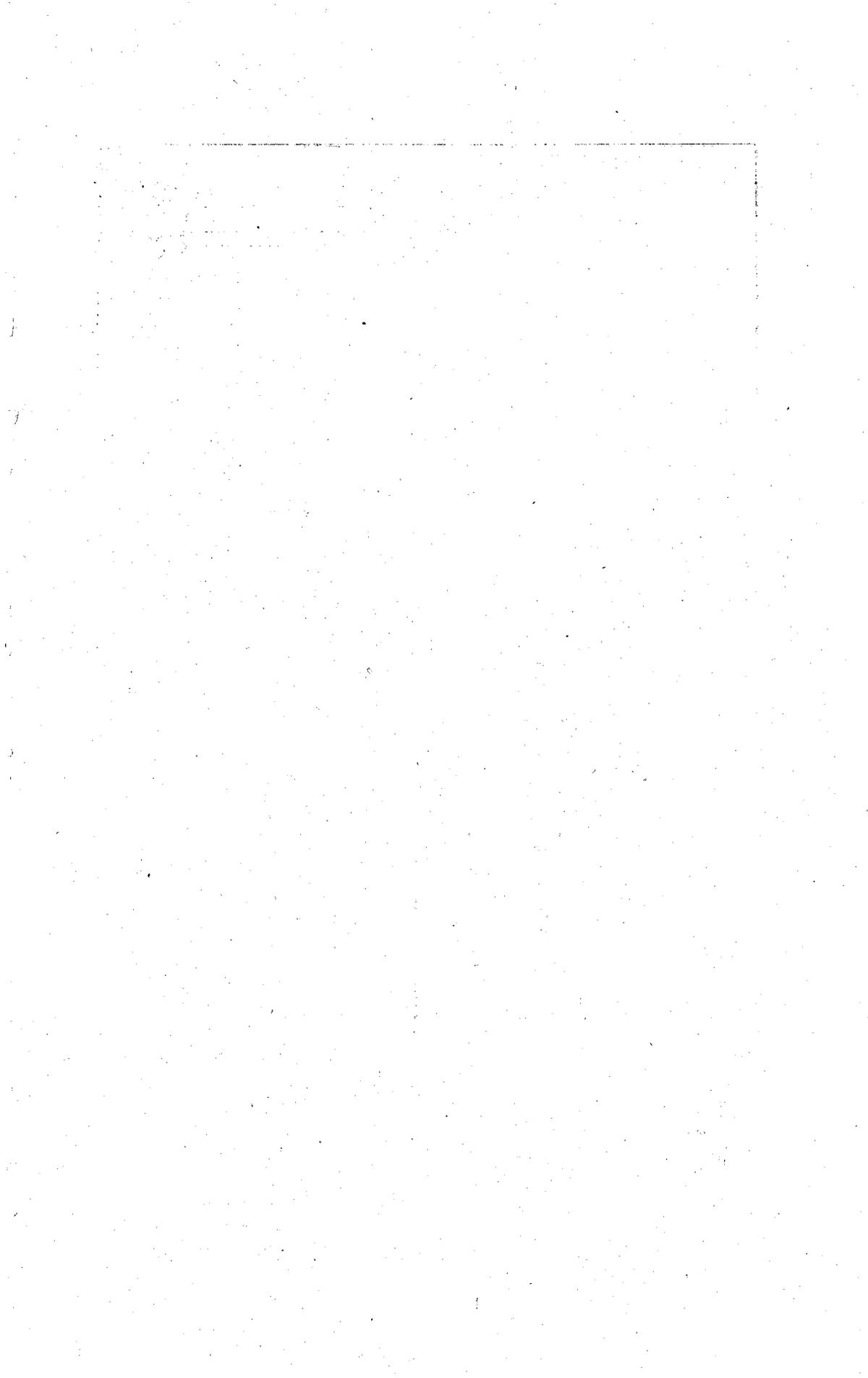


- circa. 1150
- ▨ " 1270
- ▩ " 1687
- " 1857

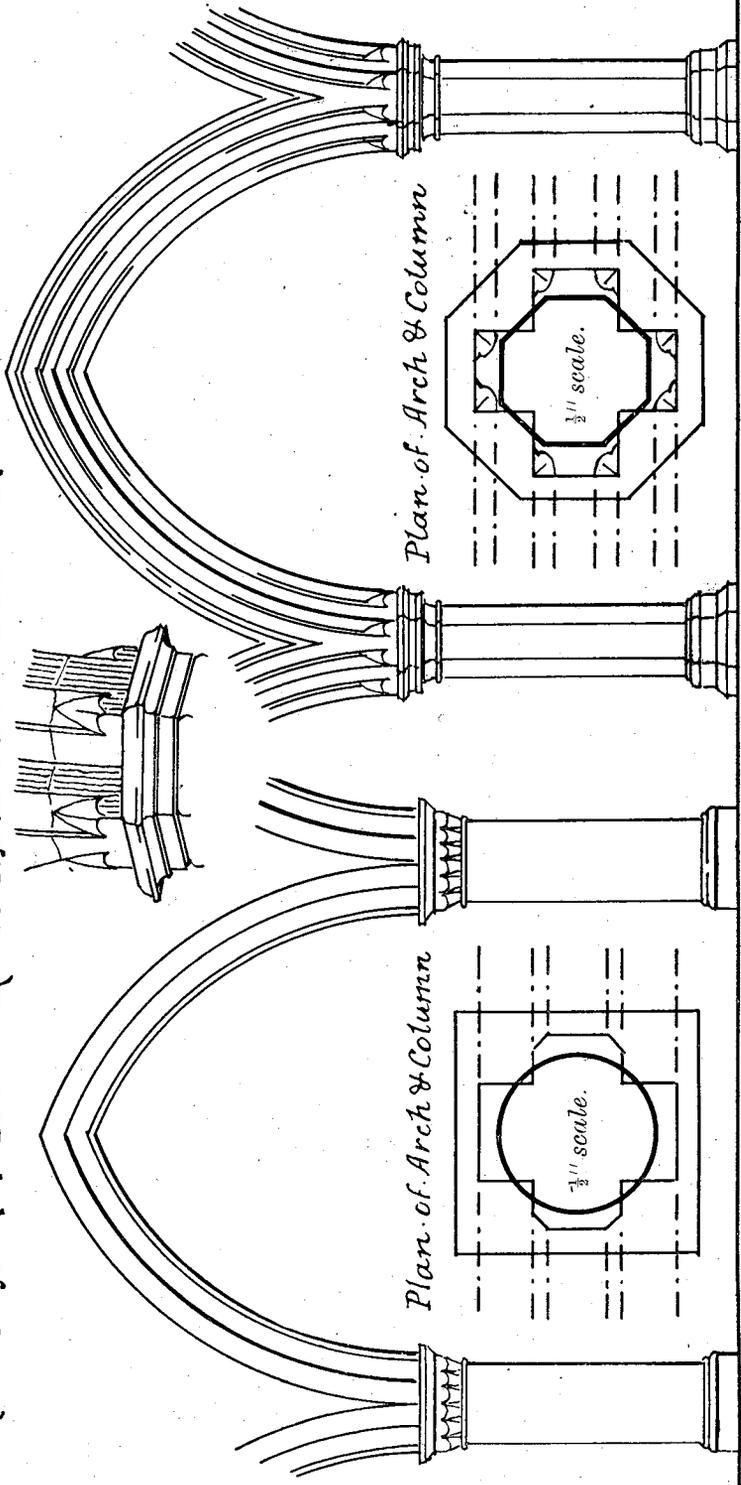
GROUND PLAN  
SCALE OF FEET.

Thos. Garratt delr. 1905





CH. OF S. MARY: EYNESBURY: HUNDOS:



South Arcade

$\frac{1}{4}$ " scale.

North Arcade

Thos Garratt: delt. 1905.

in 1686-7 for rebuilding and repairing the steeple and parish Church of Eynesbury. The cost of the repairs and rebuilding being stated at £1,118. Contributions towards the required amount are found entered in numerous books of Church accounts. A flat roof was then put on the chancel, cutting off the upper half of the chancel arch, which was glazed as a window, and it remained in this state till the Church was thoroughly restored in 1857. The east window of the chancel previous to this date was blocked up to afford space for an incongruous altar piece; the ceiling of the nave was plastered, and both it and the walls of the Church were thickly coated with whitewash. The pulpit and reading desk were on the south side about the middle of the nave. The font was a plain octagon and originally stood at the south-west of the nave. An old workman who was engaged on the restoration informed me that it was carted away by the contractor!

Gorham mentions that the floor contained many brasses, but not one remains! I am however indebted to a paper by the Rev. H. W. Macklin (1894-1896) on the "*Brasses of Huntingdonshire*" for the following details:—In the south aisle are three slabs; that at the west end contains matrices of two small figures, a civilian and his wife, c. 1470. The next has matrices of a lady in veil head-dress, and three husbands (two dexter, one sinister) in caps, c. 1500. The two halves of this slab are not now separated as mentioned by Mr. Macklin, having been replaced this year (1903). The third, opposite the entrance to the tower, has matrices of a broad fillet with roundels at the angles; in the centre was the figure of a lady in a Paris bonnet, kneeling at a faldstool, c. 1580; below the matrix of the inscription was a small plate.

The parish registers commence 30 Henry VIII. (1538), the uncommon original paper book of that date being fortunately preserved. In the earliest a licence granted about 1568, under the Act 5 Elizabeth, cap 5. is recorded to the effect that

Wyllyam Samuell, Parson of Eynesburye, lycensed  
Jhon Burton, being verye syke, to eate Fleshe for

ye tyme of his sycknes, soo yt. he, enjoyeinge ye benefytt of ye lycense his sycknes contynewinge viij dayes, do cause ye same to be regestered into ye Regester Booke of ye Paryshe, and this lycence no longer to indure, then his sycknes doth laste.

The six bells were recast and rehung by Robert Taylor, the bell-founder of St. Neots, 1810, and a 9d. rate was agreed upon at a vestry meeting in 1812 to defray the cost\*.

I have not referred to the interesting old bench ends in the north aisle, but am leaving a full description of them to our worthy secretary, the Rev. C. H. Evelyn-White, who has promised to comment upon them†.

It may not be without interest to say that Eynesbury is the birth place of James Toller the "young English giant," who was born in August 1798, and who at the age of 18 years had attained the height of 8 feet  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches, his feet measuring 15 inches in length. He lived only about 20 years, and was buried in the church, to avoid it is said the possible temptation to body-snatchers.

WM. EMERY.

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\*Since the above was written the bells have been re-hung upon entirely new fittings, the work having been very satisfactorily carried out by Messrs. John Warner & Sons at a cost of £80, which was raised by subscriptions.

† The paper to which reference is made is contained in this volume.

## GREAT PAXTON, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

It appears from the Saxon Chronicle in the tenth century that a certain Earl, Toli by name, obtained the Province of Hundedune by force against the King. If, as seems probable, Toli is the same as Toglos he was slain in battle at Tempsford in 921 and since it is found in Domesday book that King Edward the Confessor owned Toseland it would follow that the King became possessed of Tolis estates, of which Toseland and Great Paxton would have been part. After the Conquest, Great Paxton was handed over by William I., to his niece Judith, widow of the Earl of Huntingdon, by whom it was owned when Domesday book was written.

Judith's daughter, Maud, married David, son of Malcolm III., King of Scotland, who founded Holy Rood Abbey at Edinburg. Thus the Church and advowson of Great Paxton became the property of the Kings of Scotland, and as early as 1155 had passed into the hands of the Abbot and Convent of Holy Rood. In the *Harleian MSS.*, is recorded a decision by Hugh de Wells, Bishop of Lincoln, that the Church of Paxton belonged of right to the Abbot and Convent of Holy Rood. About 1274, Richard, Bishop of Lincoln, gave the Church and advowson to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, who, in 1285, paid 200 marcs sterling to the Abbot and Convent to buy off a yearly pension that had been reserved to that body. In the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln the living now remains.

Domesday book states :

"In Pachstone with its 3 Berewicks, King Edward had 25 hides paying geld. There is land for 41 ploughs. Here the Countess (Judith, of Huntingdon) now has in demesne 5 ploughs, and 60 villeins and 8 borderers having 34 ploughs. There is a Church and a priest, and 3 mills worth 64 shillings and about 20 acres of meadow. Pannage in woods half a mile long and half a mile and one furlong broad, and another wood half a mile long and

3 furlongs broad. Of this land one hide belongs to the Church. In the time of King Edward worth 29 pounds and 4 shillings, now 33 pounds and ten shillings."

It is an interesting conjecture which were the three Berewicks. The Parliamentary Writs in 1316 state that "Great Paxton, Little Paxton and Toulesland are one town," and in the *Lansdowne MSS.*, is found a reference to Great Paxton "Parish Church to which Little Paxton and Toseland, which hath both chapells of ease, do belong, and therefore the minister is called the Vicar of the three steeples." Hence it must be assumed that the separation of the third berewick from the Mother Church must have been before the fourteenth century. Now the *Lansdowne MS.* speaking of Abbotsley say:—"This Town, as some think, was in the Parish of Great Paxton;" and it adds, "Great Paxton being Mother Church and burial place to this." Is it not then probable that Abbotsley was the third berewick? If we had here the only clue to such a surmise it might be dismissed since Abbotsley has no record or tradition in its support. But it is very different when we come to Great Paxton. Here we have an instance of a village tradition handed on from father to son, without any help from written records, for centuries, and talked about among the people as if the events were a matter of yesterday.

Until within the memory of those now living there remained portions of an old road running through the parish in the direction of Abbotsley called "the Abbotsley balk." Old inhabitants can point out several fields through which it ran, and remember gaps in hedges, which indicated the line of the old road. It skirted the Vicarage on the east and north, passed along the north boundary of the orchard and ended on the north side of the Church at what is still called the "Abbotsley door": this door has been filled up for many years but its outline is distinctly marked. There appears to have been no right of way over the "balk"; it has long been closed and for the most part ploughed up. Labourers often, even now, find large stones beneath the surface which formed its foundation. There is no mention of it in the

“Award.” Everyone in the village will tell how the dead were carried along this balk, brought into the Church through the Abbotsley door and buried in the churchyard. Tradition adds a little further support, for it was incumbent on each of the parishes to keep in repair a certain portion of the churchyard wall and hedges, and Abbotsley is said to have once borne its share of the burden. On the other hand there is no entry in the Register of anyone from Abbotsley being buried in the churchyard or any item of a contribution from Abbotsley in the churchwardens’ accounts. If, however, the separation took place before the fourteenth century no such entry could be expected. Until further evidence is produced the possibility of Abbotsley being the third berewick must not be dismissed as legendary.

The churchwardens’ accounts take us back to the reign of Edward VI. Some of the early records relate to the disputes that arose between Little and Great Paxton over the subsidies that the former had to pay towards the maintenance of the mother church. In one instance the churchwardens had to bring these passive resisters before the court of the Bishop of Lincoln. They submitted that :

“Whereas the inhabitunts of Little Paxton (time) out of mynde have bene and are bound to stand to the parte of the charges of the sayd Church of Much Paxton all manner of repacons as was approved . . . . when the two Iles weare latlie made the inhabitunts of Much Paxton bare two parts the inhabitunts of Little Paxton the third and the inhabitunts of Towsland within the pish . . . . aforesayd the 4th pte” and “inasmuch about xxx yeares past the inhabitants of Little Paxton and Towsland came unto Much Paxton and there theye for there pte chose one Thomas Towsland and the inhabitunts of Muche Paxton chose one Thomas Jarmyn” [as churchwardens].

The remainder of the MS., is torn away, but as a result the defendants presented the following petition :

“The humble petition of the Churchwardens and inhabitants of Little Paxton in the Countye of Hunts to the Reverend Father in God the Lord Bishoppe of London and the rest of the highe Commissioners his associats.

Who sheweth that whereas the said Churchwardens and inhabitants, as sued before this Honorable Court for Contribution towards the Repacons of the Church of Great Paxton as being their pish and Mother Church, and whereas it doth appeare unto

us since our repayre to the Towne, both by Anntient customes, as also by diverse orders, that the said inhabitants of Little Paxton ought to pay a fourth part towards the said Repacons, in manner and forme as by one Order last of all made by Mr. Doctor Hill Commissiarye to the Lord Bishoppe of Lincolne is ready to be exhibited to this Court, of wch said order as also diverse other circumstances yor supptts were utterly ignorant, as being seduced by sinister Counsell in the Countrye. Maie it therefore please yor Lordship and this honorable Court, that since wee yor Ldps humble supptts being better instructed doe fynde that of right wee ought to paye the said Contribution, in such manner as is alledged, as to our Mother Church, and likewise are readye to stand to the said last Order made by Mr. Doctor Hill, that wee maye without our severall examynacons and further charges being very poore men, and having been at great charges in towne more then a weeke, be dismissed, upon this our Confessions and the decree of this Honorable Courte, which done the said inhabitants yor poore and humble supptts will both paye the charges spent in the said cause by the said Churchwardens of Great Paxton, and likewise the Aererages of fiftye fower shilings for the Laers, (? Levies) to wch they have not contributed, and this the said Churchwardens of Great Paxton are consent to condiscend unto, soe as this Court upon these our Confessions doe make a fynall decree therein according to the said last order, and this granted wee yor poore suppliants shal be bound to praye for yor Lordships lief long to continewe."

After this the contributions seem to have been made peacefully for in the early part of the seventeenth century the Churchwardens' Accounts show repeatedly receipts from Little Paxton and Toseland for repairs to the roof, bells, etc. of Great Paxton Church. The last contribution was made in 1875, when Little Paxton and Toseland each repaired a portion of the churchyard wall.

The Rev. E. Giles, when Vicar, discovered a thirteenth century MS. in one of the books of parish notes. He had it carefully transcribed by Mr. J. A. C. Vincent of the Public Record Office. Mr. Vincent expressed an opinion that the writing is not of the date A.D. 1235 but later by fifty years at least and that the document is transcribed from an earlier one. The only word which he was doubtful is "oracone" but "in praying for the dead" is required by the context. The following is a translation:—

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY GHOST AMEN. A dispute having arisen between Master Reginald de Baa, Rector of the Church of Paxton, of [the

one] part, and his parishioners of Towlislond of the other part, upon certain points relating to the mother-Church of Paxton, and the question upon the same . . . . . having at length been referred by consent of either party under a penalty of one hundred marks in the arbitration on each point, namely, to the Prior of the Preaching Friars of Northampton and the Rector of the Preaching Friars of Cambridge and the Parson of Southo and the Dean of Bourne; the said arbitrators, having heard the arguments of either party, awarded in form and manner following upon the first point, that is to say, that when the Rector of the Church aforesaid should demand of the said parishioners of Towlislond help for the repair of the mother Church when needed, then, in order that the said parishioners of Towlislond be not overburdened by the maintenance of their own Chapel and the repair of the mother Church, for the future they shall be held liable to assist the mother Church along with other parishioners of the same in their proper proportion, namely, that, if the lands of Paxton have been taxed to help the same Church, then the lands of Towlislond shall also be taxed, and the parishioners of Towlislond shall be held liable for half of the tax along with the parishioners of Little Paxton, and they shall be severally held liable, and this same method shall be followed in whatever other manner the tax may be levied. And, whereas the same Rector demands that some legacy be left to the mother Church in the last wills of the dying, it is awarded to him that the best animal in the homestead, or, if there be no animal, then some other thing, be given by way of legacy according to the custom of the diocese. The bequeathing of anything else over and above this to the mother Church is voluntary, not obligatory. Also as to the providing of the torch, tapers, linen cloths, and other ornaments of the said church, except the chief wax candle at Easter, this shall be left to their devout liberality. And whereas he demands that the said parishioners of Towlislond shall attend the mother Church three or four times a year, it is provided by the said arbitrators that whereas no loss ought to be sustained by the mother Church in the matter of revenue or of offerings on the three chief feasts, which offerings they have been wont to make in their own Chapel in lieu of keeping the feast of the dedication of the mother Church which they have not kept hitherto, in future they must go to the mother Church with their offerings to do her honour on the feast of the Holy Trinity. Also as to Baptism, Anointing, and the taper at Easter and the celebration of the first mass in the Prayers for the dead, let the practice henceforth be such as it was wont to be hitherto. And as to the providing of a Chaplain in the said Chapel on three ferial days in the week and on all customary feast-days in the year when they surcease from field-labour according to notice given in Church, except the feast of the Holy Trinity, it is determined that the said Rector shall provide a Chaplain after the aforesaid manner. Given at St. Neots, in the Church of the Blessed Mary, in the one thousand two hundred

and thirty-fifth year from the Incarnation of our Lord, on the eighth of the Ides of August. [-6 Aug. 1235.]

The earliest Register is that of Little Paxton (1567). Great Paxton and Toseland begin in 1583. The Registers of all three parishes are almost continuous from these dates. There is the usual hiatus at the middle of the seventeenth century. One entry, however, is found in that period: "John Stooles and Cathurn Peete was married befoore William Pedlie Esquire and justice of peace the 20th day of February 1653 in Witness of John Smith and Robert Darlo."

There are several volumes of Churchwardens' Accounts in which many items of interest occur. The Rev. E. Giles, the last vicar has transcribed a large part of these MSS., and more was copied at his expense.

At the time of the Armada scare the following entry was made:

*A note what Furniture of Armor belongeth to Much Paxton taken the vijth Julie 1588.*

*First ij Jacks of plate wth sleeves.*

*Item ij bylls. ij skulls. & ij capps.*

*Item a bowe & sheafe of arrows. j dagger.*

*Item a courselett, wth a pyke & a hed pece sword & dagger.*

*Item j Qualever wth sworde & dagger, flask & tutch box & hedd pece.*

*Item a Qualever betwene Towseland & the Towne. flask and tutch box, sword & dagger, hedd pece.*

*Item an old allmon ryvett & the hedd pece.*

*Item an old qualever.*

*Item a crow of yron.*

*Item an old stythe wch wm gale hath for vjs. viijd.*

*Item a santey bell.*

*Item ij shoulder coots. one for the pykman & the other betwene Towseland & the towne.*

*Item the molde & wrest for the ptible qualever . . . . .*

*Magna Paxton.* These are in her maties name to require you the Constables there presently to collect iijte for her maties service & for you souliours cottess & more xs. for every soldier for conduct money and the same to be at Hunt. one Monday morning by xj of the clock, as also every pticular man to paye for his soldiers cote & xs for his conduct money at yor uttermost pell, dat the second of August 1588 in hast Dove & Page & that yor laborer be redy & yor horse & carte at an houre warndge."

An inventory of Church furniture is also given in the following form:—

“A true note of all the church goods delivered to Willm Sparrowe and Abraham Whitechurch Churchwardens of great paxton the xvijth of April 1624 from John Steele and Willm highway old Churchwardens.

*Impis* a fayre large bible *newelie bought 1627 in March.*

*Itm* a new comm booke.

*Itm* the old booke for the Clarke.

*Itm* a booke of the defence of the right of kinges.

Jewell & harding a great booke

*Itm* a booke of prayer for the fift of novebr & an act in print.

*Itm* a book of canons.

*Itm* one old homelie booke.

*Itm* a Register booke in parchement.

*Itm* a booke for the Churchwdens accompts.

*Itm* one old Registre booke in paper.

*Itm* bullaigers decades (?)

A booke for the fift of August.

A booke of prayers with an ordr of fasting in the time of the plauge & one other little prayer booke of thanksgiving to God for the staying of the plauge one other for the clarke.

*Itm* a comn cupp of silver wth a cover.

*Itm* a puthr stoope of a quart size.

*Itm* a boxe for the comn cupp.

*Itm* a great chest with iij lockes and keyes.

*Itm* a comn table with a carpet of . . . . . and a fayre linen cloath.

*Itm* a surplece.

*Itm* a seate for service.

*Itm* a pulpit of woodd, cover with a cushin *A newe booke of homelies. 2 newe bookes of fasting 1628 April 21.\**

*Itm* a font with a covr to it.

*Itm* a poore mans boxe with ij lockes and keyes.

*Itm* a long ladder. A seate for ye clarke.

*Itm* v small bells wth fyve ropes.

*Itm* one Iron pulley.

*Itm* a beare wth an hearse uppon it.”

Almost all these articles have long since disappeared but the “great chest” still remains.

The Church of Great Paxton is dedicated to the Holy Trinity. Originally it was probably cruciform in shape. The north transept now does not extend beyond the aisle but ends abruptly in a plain gable. On the south side the transept is only shown in the altered form of the roof at the end of the aisle.

\* These words in italics apparently added at a later date.

From the outside these features are perhaps more noticeable than from within. The nave is enclosed by two whole bays, and a third much shortened on either side at the west end; whilst a solid block of masonry, amounting to a wall, between the eastern bays and the transept arches, greatly obstructs the view from the aisles, but they were necessary in order to support the lofty transept arches, which have massive clustered columns, on the east side. While the nave arches are only 14 feet the north transept arch is as much as 28 feet from the floor. All this work is evidently Saxon of not very early date; the long and short work with the wide joints, in some cases about 2 inches deep, is well shown in the pillars of the crossing and on the west side of the masonry blocks. It is strange that these indications of Saxon work seem to have remained unnoticed until quite recently when Bishop Alwyne Compton was the first to call attention to them. There now remains no doubt among experts as to assigning the work to this early period. Although the chancel arch is in the decorated style, it rests on the earlier pillars, the abacus over the caps of which, are ornamented with very irregular billet moulding. The south transept arch is placed on the old capitals, but these are several feet lower than those opposite although of an exactly similar pattern. The late Precentor Venables conjectured that there was originally a central tower which fell. If this is a true explanation and the tower fell to the south so as to destroy that transept arch, it would account for the shortened pillars, the old caps being retained and placed in the lower position. On the other hand, Mr. Inskip Ladds, whose has studied the church closely, is of opinion that although a central tower was intended, it was never completed. On the nave walls to the extreme east may be noticed pilaster strips indicative of Saxon work, they have been cut away for about 6 feet from the floor no doubt to make room for high pews.

These pilaster strips are also found beside each of the four central pillars. A rude string course runs along the walls of the nave, about 3 feet above the arches, of the



*Photo by*

*A. E. Jennings.*

GREAT PAXTON CHURCH, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.



same date as the arches themselves. On the outside of the church on the south side a similar string course may be observed broken through by the three Norman clerestory windows. Mr. Ladds explains these two string courses by a very ingenious suggestion. He conjectures that the original church was begun on a much larger scale a triforium being intended in the nave, the base of which would be the interior string, whilst the outer string would be below the proposed clerestory windows where the aisle roof would reach the nave walls. He conjectures that the work was stopped for a time and that when it was again taken in hand a more modest design was adopted, by which the triforium was abandoned and the present clerestory was put in at a lower level, the aisle roof being lowered at the same time. The nave piers are most interesting, the section is very unusual, being made up of four round pillars with much narrower pilasters filling up the space between each. All the caps are rounded blocks only roughly finished off. The piers are built of deep and shallow stones carrying the principle of long and short work to an unusual extent. There were originally three and perhaps four bays in the nave. The third bay to the west has been shortened to admit a buttress to the more modern tower. The third clerestory window has been closed for the same reason. Other buttresses to support the tower have been built inside the aisles of the church. The position of the south door appears out of place also; instead of being, as would be expected, opposite the third bay, it is now at the extreme west end of the aisle. If there were originally a fourth bay, the door would be in its accustomed place.

The chancel was rebuilt in the Decorated period. On the north side a window of three lights with mullions carried through the head is part of the original work as are also the piscina and sedilia in the south wall. When the chancel was underpinned in 1902 it was found that the walls rested on made earth without any solid foundation. In the process of the work the base of a buttress was found near the Priest's door, probably belonging to the Saxon chancel. Most

of the windows in the church are more modern insertions in the perpendicular style. At the back of the north-east pier of the crossing a narrow staircase has been burrowed through the masonry to an opening where the pulpit now stands, this would be the approach to the rood loft. When the church was restored in 1867 the floor of the church was lowered, some two feet, to its original level: this has given a dignified appearance to the chancel which now stands so high that the base of the Altar is about 5 feet above the level of the nave. At the same time the oak chancel screen was moved and cut away to fit into the Tower arch. It has some fine carving, and above the central opening is a panel with surrounding rays of glory. A figure originally on this panel has been removed; its form is suggestive of a representation of the Blessed Virgin with the Holy Child in her arms (the Assumption). All this woodwork is now thickly covered with brown paint. The tower has been thrust into the west end, instead of being added to it; this is evident from the shortened bays to the west and the buttresses inside the church, mentioned above: it has had the effect of shortening the nave considerably. The upper windows of the tower are Perpendicular, that on the east side being encroached upon by the nave roof when it was raised to its present pitch. Above the chancel arch is carved in the timber of the roof the date 1637. In the Churchwardens' accounts there are details of the cost of this restoration. The amount was raised in three levies thus described "A leavi made in July for to pay Mas. Adkinson for the roofo of Church at vs a halfe yard (15 acres) land and I.s. vjd a house." There follows a list of names and amounts paid. Again "A leavi made in August for to pay for Towe Ton of lead and other Charges at vs a h.y. land and is vjd a house," and "A leavi made the fift of November to pay the plumer for running of the lead and other chariges at ijs vjd the h.y. land and vj the house . . . . . The whole sume of these there levies xxxv*li* xvs-vij *d.*"

The adjoining parishes had to pay their share for



III. "Jos. Eayre St. Neots fecit 1756."

IV. Sancta Caterina ora pro nobis."

V. "Praise the Lord 1758."

Some years ago in pulling down one of the churchyard walls the stem of a Churchyard Cross was found in the masonry, this has now been placed in the Churchyard to the west of the south door. The font is a plain octagon of perpendicular date. The font cover of carved oak was placed there by the friends of Miss Clara Towgood in her memory. The existing altar vessels at Great Paxton are of comparatively modern date. The Chalice bears the inscription "*Deo et Altare sacrum*" and "*The gift of Thomas Bowdler Esq.*"

The chalice and cover at Little Paxton are valuable. On the chalice is inscribed "FOR THE TOWNE OF LYTEL PAXSON" and the cover, which is of the same date has "1569" engraved upon it. The Toseland Chalice is of the same period; on it is engraved "TOWSLAND HUNDRETHE."

Any description of the Church would be incomplete which did not acknowledge the noble gifts of the Towgood family. The restoration in 1867 was mainly carried out at the expense of the late Mr. Edward Towgood who at the same time presented the organ. The three Misses Towgood, who succeeded their father at Paxton Hill allowed nothing to be wanted: the beautifully embroidered altar cloths etc. were worked under their superintendance and at their cost. The greater part by far, of the restoration of the bells and belfry was paid for by the family; the lamps designed and executed by Messrs. Barkentin & Krall to be in harmony with their surroundings, the altar and processional crosses were provided by the same benefactors, and when the last of the three sisters, Miss Eleanor Towgood, died in 1898, she bequeathed £500 for the lighting of the Church, £400 for the maintenance of the Churchyard and £2000 to provide an additional Sunday Service for Great Paxton and Toseland. These sums are vested in the Ely Diocesan Trust. The present representative of the

family, Mr. Hamer Towgood of Saintfoins, Cambridge-shire, not only restored the west window but has recently added the richly carved oak reredos.

In compiling these notes I must acknowledge the obligation I am under to Mr. Inskip Ladds, to the Rev. W. M. Noble and the Rev. E. Giles by whom almost all the information has been supplied.

A. G. CANE.

## THE CARVED BENCH-ENDS IN EYNESBURY CHURCH, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

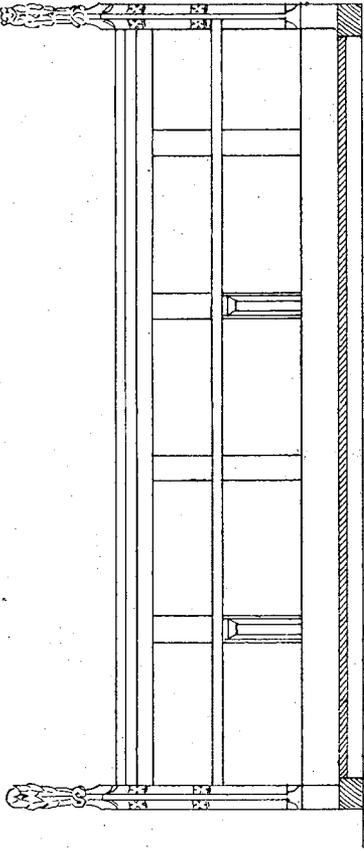
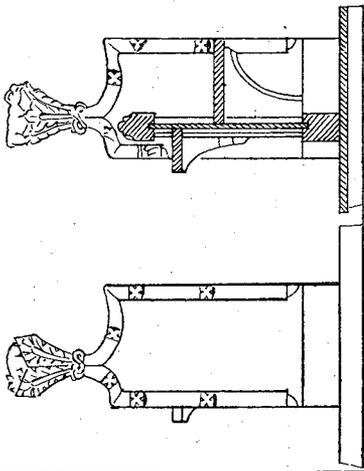
It is somewhat strange that so attractive a feature as the singularly well preserved oak benches in Eynesbury Church, displaying designs of such a varied and interesting character as to invest them with no ordinary importance, should have hitherto escaped the particular attention they certainly merit. The accomplished writer, the Rev. G. C. Gorham, whose work on St. Neots and Eynesbury is deservedly valued, makes no mention of these seats. They were removed in the course of a general restoration in 1857 to their present position in the north aisle from the place they originally occupied in the nave. Whether while there the benches, during then recent times, were in any way hidden from view by modern excrescences, such as were allowed to disfigure parish Churches during the years that followed the stirring events of the sixteenth century, I cannot say. The omission of all mention of these seats is otherwise unaccountable.

There are in all thirty-two bench-ends, all of different design, mostly bearing the 'poppy head' in its complete form. Twenty-six show the twisted cable pattern immediately below the actual *fleur-de-lis* which may be regarded as giving to the 'poppy-head' its true character, tying up or binding together the bundle or head. The familiar term 'poppy-head' has been variously defined; *poupée* (*Fr.*) or *pupa*, *poppæa* (*Latin*) furnishes us with a meaning which appears by no means improbable *viz.*: something which resembles a puppet or doll, or even the puppet-like bundle which the human figure—*e.g.* of a young child—is made to assume under certain conditions.\* *Poop*, signifying the high end of a seat,

\* "*Statuncula vestibis amicta*" (*v. Fucciol.*, Du Cange)="clouts, bearing a likeness to a tied up bundle."

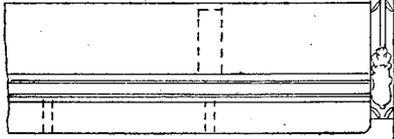
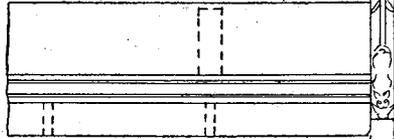
See also an excellent article in *The Ecclesiologist*, Vol. ii., n.s., pp. 209-216, which is full of ingenious suggestions relating to symbolism, etc.

Church of S. Mary Eynesbury, Hunts. Old oak seats now in North Aisle.



End

Section

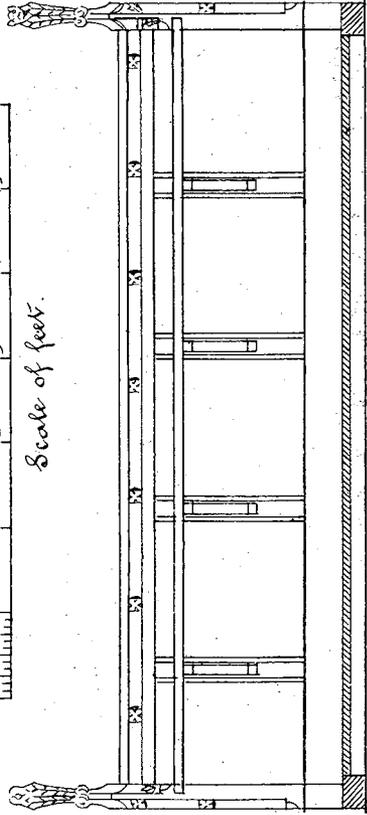


Front.

12 9 6 3 0

Scale of feet.

1 2 3 4 5 6



Plan.

Back

Thos Garratt, del.  
1903.



an elevated ornament, has also been suggested. The plant (poppy) of the genus *papaver*, in its tied up form conveys a perfectly intelligible meaning. But the main idea is to be found in the *fleur-de-lis* which is a recognized ecclesiastical emblem as well as a royal heraldic badge. The *fleur-de-lis* is supposed to have originated in the spear head, and this form of leaf in its simplicity may be seen, appositely enough, in the mouldings of some of the Eynesbury bench-ends. The *fleur-de-lis* shows the upright or stem with its over-lapping sides united by a band. This true form is curiously absent in certain of these bench-ends as will be pointed out, but this very feature invests the consideration of the carvings with an added interest, as where the customary upright foliage takes the form of a recumbent animal or a quaint human representation. If the gracefulness of the exact form is lost, the variety is pleasing, even though it is somewhat uncomely. It has been assumed that where the recurring feature of the twisted band that encircles the neck of the 'poppy-head' is wanting, a later date may be assigned. I think this unlikely; any such divergence from the wood-carver's beaten track is at once picturesque and skilful.

There are sculptured upon these bench-ends fourteen designs depicting animals in one form or another; generally full length either recumbent or crouching. As far as the distorted views of our forefathers with regard to the precise form of objects of natural history will allow us to judge, it may be assumed that the hippopotamus, rhinoceros, wild boar, horse, sheep, stork, serpent, or fish, &c. are here represented. The vegetable world offered no facilities worth mentioning for contortion and caricature, so that the mediæval artist generally followed nature's own pleasant path in representing foliage, &c. But yet an inexactness frequently prevails which is very perplexing when we seek to investigate forms and attach names and designations. An elongated leaf of the spear-head type and a similar specimen resembling an arrow head are of frequent recurrence. The end of the bench which carries the ornamental bunch of foliage with its

half expanded and undeveloped centre, its lateral curling and expanded leaves marked by a graceful curve is characteristic of the 'poppy-head' with which we are best acquainted. The conventional bunch of foliage, however may be best left for the examination of experts in botanical nomenclature.\* Such ornamentation I am inclined to regard as entirely decorative, wrought with a view to pictorial effect more than anything else.

It will be observed that scriptural or legendary subjects are eschewed, while others are quaint only, without being humorous or grotesque.

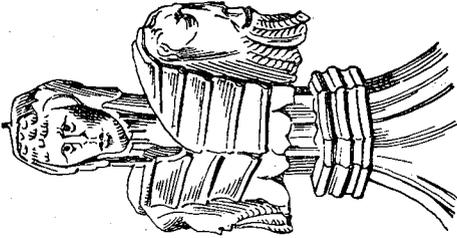
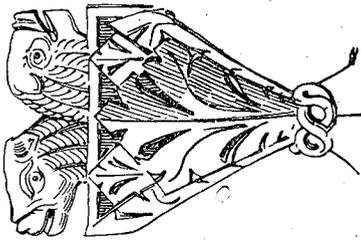
On the back of most of the flattened forms of the animals the remains of a rivet or screw may be seen, which points either to the existence of some ornament required to complete the *fleur-de-lis* shape, or to the utilization of the standard for a scone or other temporary adjunct.

The average height of the standards, measuring from the top of a finial to the ground base is three to four feet. The finials and shoulders project above the back of the seat. The standards, which like the other material used in the construction of these seats are sound and massive, are morticed into an oak sill. Much of the ordinary work, excellent as it is, seems somewhat roughly executed, the surface of certain of the seats seem to be hewn rather than planed. The form of the bench-end exhibits the shoulder greatly diminished on one of its sides to allow of convenient access to the seat. The seats are supported on brackets and the backs carried down. A narrow flat book board, placed a little higher than the seat, is in two or three instances the original work. The continuous sills upon which the benches now rest are of course renewals. Or, the seats may originally have been constructed without a boarded floor; old Church accounts elsewhere seem to establish this mode of erection.†

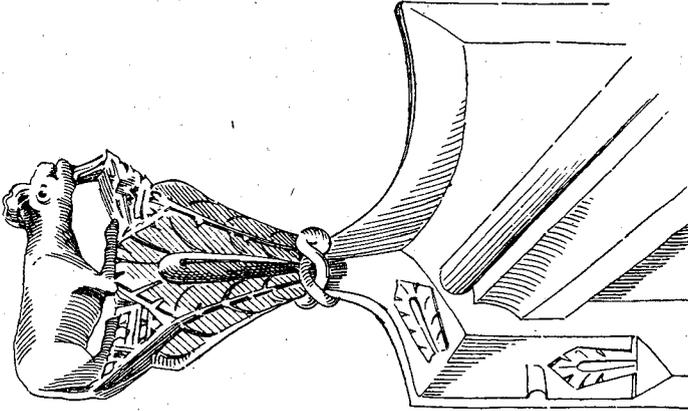
The seats as at present arranged in the north aisle are

\* The open pomegranate frequently carved on a finial is sometimes thought to have given rise to the term.

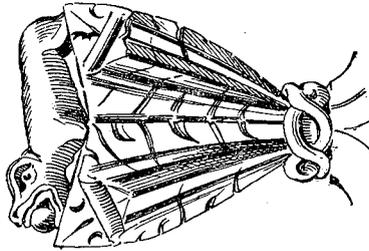
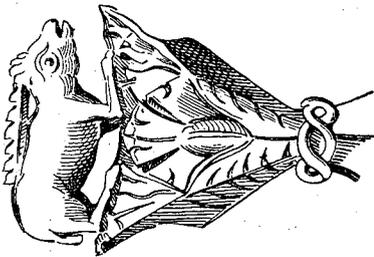
† *Vide* Accounts of St. Mary's (Great), Cambridge.

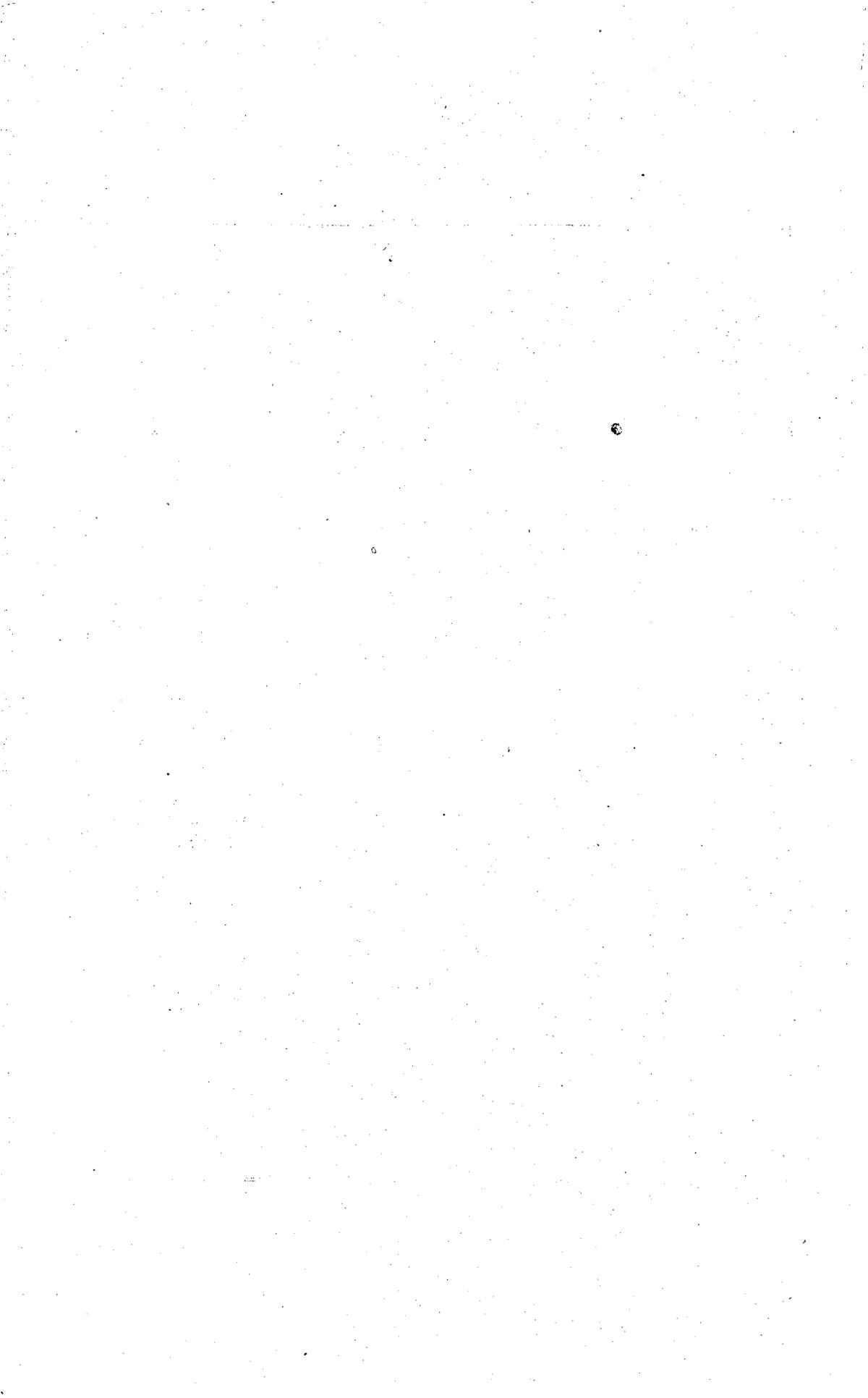


Thos. Gornall. del. 1905.



Bench Ends,  
Church of S. MARY,  
GYNESBURY HUNGS.





in two divisions, *viz.* to the east and west of the north door. The easternmost block is made up of four lines of seats with five 'poppy heads' on either side. The front has seven panels of late Perpendicular character moulded at the top and decorated with small quatrefoils; at the back a similar number of panelled divisions carry the quatrefoil while the top bears the elongated leaf decoration. The range of seats towards the west has ten compartments, with eleven bench-ends on each side. Six divisions or panels of varying pattern front the series. The design, which has the flower ornament, is hardly so pleasing as the work in the front group, the tracery of the arcading being of a debased form and consequently far less graceful. The chamfered top has the quatrefoil ornament. The wainscoting is relieved by the bowtell or small buttresses.

Three of the bench-ends facing south have their sides carved. In one case a tree appears with fruit thereon, another has leaves only without stem.

Open seats or benches of this character are found of as early a date as the fourteenth century, if not earlier, but they mostly belong to a later period, and were always placed in the nave. There may at one time have been other seats of a like kind in the nave of Eynesbury Church, but the excellent condition of the benches that remain renders it improbable that work of this character could have passed into a state of decay, and it is unlikely that any such were ever removed out of the Church.

These seats were probably introduced into Eynesbury Church early in the sixteenth century, or it may have been quite towards the close of the previous century, forming a range on either side with a broad passage between. Such partial seating was I fancy very general about the time named, and I have an idea, however much we may dislike it, that particular parishioners who defrayed the cost appropriated the benches to their own use. It was left to others to augment the series as desired. Only in this way can we account for such a limited seating accommodation at a time when pulpits had become stationary. It is certain moreover that seats during the period

referred to, were never allowed to be the incumbrance into which they ultimately developed. Men in those far off days were content simply to kneel and worship, or were satisfied when need required it, with a movable stool. It is not unlikely that pride rather than necessity led to the introduction of the fixed seat, and to this and like causes we may attribute in no small degree its long retention.

The entire groups of benches may now be more closely examined.

EAST OF NORTH DOOR.

- I. (a) The first in order, starting from the east end of the north aisle, is a singularly interesting example of the wood carver's art, a kind of *tria juncta in uno*, displaying reduplicated heads, male and female; whether the intention was to represent two, three or four persons, or the whole a mere matter of caprice, I cannot say, but I am inclined to regard the whole as a species of mythological triad. The termination shows the head of a female in wimple and characteristic head-dress which marks the period as that of the early part of the sixteenth century or the close of the fifteenth.\* Encompassing the face are broad lappets falling from a frontlet or cap of network design with a kind of crimp bordering. The undergarment displays a narrow frill brought up closely around the throat. This head appears as a double profile. Below, on either side, the heads of two bearded men project. They have plaited hair or rather hair indicated by hatched horizontal lines somewhat resembling the judicial coif. The design is not an infrequent one, and it is moreover of great antiquity. It is to be found *e.g.* carved on Egyptian capitals (as at Denderah); indeed, this Eynesbury example, so far as the two

\* The monumental brass of Joan Swann at Stretham, Cambs., (A.D. 1497) displays precisely similar costume, and this continued to be worn until the middle of the sixteenth century.

branching profiles are concerned might well have been wrought in part from this Egyptian model so close is the resemblance in coiffure. These are the only illustrations affecting costume, afforded by the Eynesbury examples. Whatever this singular device or combination may typify it is certainly suggestive of marital relationship. The faces so much resemble one another that likenesses can scarcely be imagined. An allusion however may be made to the connection of a wife with two husbands. The double face or two headed representation afforded ample scope for the caricaturist in days gone by. Even the clerks in the Exchequer, labelling their documents, are found to pourtray by a rude characteristic drawing of three heads in one, the person of a usurer. It is to be hoped for the honour of the neighbourhood that double-faced individuals were not immediately in the eye of the Eynesbury carver! This easternmost 'poppy-head' measures 14 inches from top to bottom and 10 inches across, the finial (female head) is 5 inches by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

- (b) The example placed at the further end of this seat is an ordinary 'poppy-head.'
- II. (a) The 'poppy-head' is formed of foliage. The upper portion is missing. The shoulder and continuation carry a hollow moulding with leaf and quatrefoil ornament.
- (b) The poppy-head is composed of foliage. The hollow moulding of this bench-end displays a cone-like continuous ornament and is relieved by the small mock buttress.
- III. (a) From the foliage issue the heads of two bulls (?) with open mouths, as if bellowing. The hollow moulding has quatrefoils on sides and shoulders. The twisted cable, here as elsewhere, appears round the neck of the 'poppy-head.'
- (b) The lower part of the head displays foliage upon which is seen the hinder part of some recumbent

animal. The hollow moulding of the sides bear the leaf ornament.

- IV. (a) A foliated head; twisted band round neck; the quatrefoil appears in the hollow moulding.  
 (b) Foliated head; leaf ornament and quatrefoil within the moulding.
- V. (a) Head foliated; the neck, collar, shoulder and side well moulded.  
 (b) The foliated head has an unfinished appearance. The moulded neck, &c., as before noticed.

WEST OF NORTH DOOR.

- I. (a-b) Identical with No. V.
2. (a) Foliated with two beasts' heads issuing. These animals have long hair on necks and distended nostrils. The quatrefoil appears in the moulding.  
 (b) The broad profile of a human head (without neck) issuing from the foliage exhibited below, and displayed in an oblong. It is quite of a Dutch type, somewhat resembling an old world representation of the sun in his glory. When I first saw this quaint carving I had a suspicion that it might be intended to represent the ninth century Saxon, little St. Neot, the long distended hair surrounding face and head giving the appearance of a *halo*, but I now see no reason for encouraging such a conjecture. This curious piece measures  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches by 6 inches by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. It of course misses the *fleur-de-lis* or true 'poppy-head' form. The hollow mould of the sides, &c., show the leaf ornament.
3. (a) On the leafage of the lower portion is a smooth skinned beast with long horn-like ears, feeding; the legs are bent at the knees. The leaf ornament is within the moulding.  
 (b) A hound on leafage with large angular teeth and flap ears.
4. (a) A leaf head with leaf ornament in the hollow mould.

- (*b*) Leaf head with quatrefoils in hollow.
5. (*a*) Stag with antlers extended on back, standing on leafage; quatrefoils appear in the mouldings.  
 (*b*) Animal with thick hair at the back of neck, feeding. Leaf ornament in moulding.
6. (*a*) An animal with large round ears, on leaves. Within the moulding is the leaf and quatrefoil ornament. Enriched seat end.  
 (*b*) Ram (?) feeding on leafage, which appears in the under part. The leaf ornament is within the moulding.
7. (*a*) Animal and bird, bodies conjoined at shoulders. These objects are bereft of their heads.  
 (*b*) An animal (? wolf). The trefoil ornament is within the moulded portion.
8. (*a*) Animal upon foliage biting its back. Within the moulding is the quatrefoil. End of seat enriched.  
 (*b*) Animal (rabbit or hare) with long ears laid back. The moulding has the trefoil ornament.
9. (*a*) On foliage a bearded stag with antlers: quatrefoil in moulding.  
 (*b*) Bird (head gone) on foliage. In the moulding is the quatrefoil and trefoil ornament.
10. (*a*) An animal swallowing a ball. Leaf and quatrefoil ornament in mould. Enriched seat end.  
 (*b*) Birds (?) or serpents or swans with scaly necks, head to head.
11. (*a*) Horse (?) with reins on neck, standing on foliage below: quatrefoils within the moulding.  
 (*b*) The 'poppy-head' displays leafage: the leaf and quatrefoil ornament enriches the moulding.

It should be mentioned that occasionally small blocks within the mouldings intended for quatrefoils, &c., remain unworked.

As I had occasion to remark some time since in the course of my observations on the Brampton stalls,

Huntingdonshire is particularly rich in carved woodwork which deserves to be systematically and exactly studied; hitherto it has been well-nigh neglected in a County which until the establishment of this Society in 1900 was content to allow its antiquities to remain 'undiscovered.' The Eynesbury seats are undoubtedly fashioned out of native timber by the hands of skilled Huntingdonshire men whose work deserve to be appreciated. There are few examples more interesting than these unique (and in all probability locally designed) benches. An added interest is found in the fact that the men who destroyed the carved work in our Churches with axes and hammers were content to leave these benches alone, and we acknowledge our indebtedness.

By way of additional illustration Fox's *History of Godmanchester* may be consulted (pp. 288, 9). At the end of several chapters are tail-pieces illustrating the curious carvings that ornamented "the Assistants' seats." The work is somewhat similar to that at Eynesbury, and a date (A.D. 1513), forming part of an inscription upon one of the panels, may possibly furnish an approximate date for the Eynesbury benches.

The 'poppy-heads' at Glatton are very interesting; indeed several churches in the county furnish conspicuous examples of this important feature of ecclesiastical woodwork.

In the adjoining county of Cambridge there are many instances of good carved bench ends. An interesting set may be seen at Soham. Three faces are upon a 'poppy-head,' and the animal form is also here a deviation from the strict *fleur-de-lis* pattern.

I have to express my indebtedness to Mr. Thomas Garratt for the skilful drawings which illustrate this paper.

C. H. EVELYN-WHITE, F.S.A.

THE STORY OF  
COTTENHAM, Co. CAMBRIDGE.

THE MANORS IN DOMESDAY TIMES. The authentic history of Cottenham may be said to commence with the Norman Conquest, and is contained in three particular compilations, *viz.* *Domesday Book*, *Inquisitio Comitatus Cantabrigiensis*, and *Inquisitio Eliensis*. The first of these is too well known to need any considerable remark. It will here suffice to say that its date is generally agreed to be A.D. 1086. The second document—the Inquest for the County of Cambridge—exists in one single manuscript which dates from 1180 or thereabouts, and is preserved among the *Cottonian MSS.*, in the British Museum, under the reference number, *Tiberius A. vi.* Unfortunately, that portion which particularly relates to Cottenham has been lost, so that the scanty information Domesday affords will have to be supplemented by our third document—the Ely Inquest, an Inquiry into the holdings of the Abbey of Ely. It is contained in the same MS., as the Inquest for the shire and was probably drawn up in the first instance as a preliminary to the settlement of the possessions of Ely by William I. Domesday Book and the Ely Inquest regard Cottenham from different points of view. The first takes cognisance of all taxable property, omitting all irrelevant details: the second aimed at including all the property of the Abbey, and disregarded all else. Thus much for our authorities. Let us now examine the picture they disclose of Cottenham.

Cottenham, then as now, was included in the Chesterton Hundred, and its importance can be judged from the fact that of the eight jurors for the Hundred, named by the *Inquisitio Eliensis*, two were Cottenham men: *viz.* Sturmidus de Cotenham and Almar de Cotham, or Cotenham.

There were three great landowners: the Abbey of Ely, the Abbey of Crowland, and Picot the Sheriff of the County. Of the holdings of each, the Domesday Book gives a full account, while the Ely Inquest, as we have seen, deals only with what concerns itself, *i.e.* its own Manor and the land which Picot the Sheriff occupied.

The Ely Manor came into the possession of the Abbey from a certain Leofwin, who, being guilty of matricide, gave to the church of Ely "terram de Cothenham" amongst other estates.\* It contained ten hides—that is 1,200 acres—and sufficient plough land for 8 teams of eight oxen apiece. Of this land, 720 acres was held immediately by the Abbey, with a team of eight oxen, 'and,' adds the *Inq. Elien.* 'a second could be formed.' The rest of the land was held by 16 villeins—ten, the *Inq. Eliensis* wrongly states—and 10 cottagers with six teams of oxen. These villiens were legally free men, but owed to the Manor on which they were, and from which they could not depart, certain services, working for the lord two, three or more days in the week. The cottagers seem to have held very little land of their own (nine of them possess crofts in *Inq. El.*) but worked partly for the lord of the Manor, partly for the villeins.

In addition to these, there were two serfs, slaves who were as much the property of their master as a dog, with hardly any legal rights. There was also meadow land for the plough teams, pasture for the sheep, &c., of the town. At the time of the return its value was £5.

The Crowland Manor is given in much the same terms, except that mention is made of a fishery from which 500 eels were obtained—presumably per annum—and 12 pence is named as a present. This Manor is stated to be worth £6 per annum.

The Sheriff's Manor consisted of 600 acres with the usual tenants, pasture, teams, &c., to the value of 40 shillings at the time of the survey. From a fishery came 150 eels, and as the *Inq. Eliensis* alone informs us, 25 'fishes.' The land in question was occupied by three

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\* See *Historia Eliensis* Lib ii., Cap 1x., Ed. Stewart.

sokemen—two sokemen says the Abbey of Ely, careful only about its own—or holders of land under a bond, the nature of which is quite hypothetical. One of these, Oswi, it is interesting to note, is mentioned by name in the Ely Inquest. Some of this land evidently belonged to the Abbey of Ely, and had been occupied by Picot. In addition to this we read that the sheriff had also in his possession 40 acres and a croft of the Abbey of Ely, valued at 10 shillings, and 40 acres of plough land and 5 acres of pasture of the Abbey of Crowland.

Such are the particulars of the early tenure of property in Cottenham. It may be worth while to sum up these particulars in a few general facts previous to setting out the entries in the Domesday Book and *Inquisitio Eliensis* in an extended text and translation.

The Ely Manor comprised ten hides, or 1200 acres, and 28 able-bodied labourers are mentioned: the Crowland Manor consisted of 1320 acres with 21 labourers; while Picot, holding 600 acres, had 14 labourers and 3 sokemen or yeomen-farmers. The population of Cottenham, as far as can be gathered from Domesday, was 56, but of course many of these were heads of families, and perfectly free persons would not be mentioned. The acreage of the town was 3120 acres, and two fisheries produced 650 eels and 25 fishes per annum. In the *Hundred Rolls* (2 Edw. I.), Cottenham is reckoned at 27 hides or 3240 acres.\* The 11 hides of the Crowland Manor are described as “ut in terris, pratis, pasturis et mariscis . . . unde dictus Abbas et Conventus tenent in dominio de dictis undecim hidis duas hidas arabiles, et quinque hidas in pratis, pasturis et mariscis pertinentibus ad predictam villam.”

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\* The present estimate is somewhat above 7,000 acres. The difficulty however of reconciling the different land measures of the Domesday survey with those of later times is well known, and in the state of our knowledge it is impossible to arrive at any satisfactory conclusion. Much has been written on the subject, but particular mention may be made of learned papers by the late Mr. O. C. Pell and others in the two volumes of *Domesday Studies* issued in 1888—1891 under the auspices of the Domesday Commemoration Committee.

## LIBER CENSUALIS VOCATI 'DOMESDAY BOOK.'

[Terra Abbatie de Ely].

*In Cestretone Hundreto.* Manerium COTEHAM pro ix hidis se defendit. Terra est viii carrucis. In dominio vi hidae et i carruca. Ibi xvi villani et x cotarii cum vi carrucis. Ibi ii servi. Pratum viii<sup>to</sup> carrucis. Pastura ad pecuniam villae. In totis valentiis valet et valuit c solidis; Tempore Regis Edwardi viii libris. Hoc manerium iacetet iacuit in ecclesiae dominio de Ely.

[Terra Ecclesiae de Croiland].

*In Cestretone Hundreto.* Manerium Coteham tenet abbas de Croiland. Ibi xi hidae. Terra est viii carrucis. In dominio vi hidae, et ibi est una carruca, et altera potest fieri. Ibi xii villani et viii bordarii cum vi carrucis. Ibi i servus. Pratum viii carrucis. Pastura ad pecuniam villae. De maresca quingentae anquillae, et de presentatione xii denarii. In totis valentiis valet et valuit vi libris; tempore regis Edwardi viii libris. Hoc manerium fuit semper et est in dominio ecclesiae Sancti Guthlaci.

[Terra Picot de Grentebri].

*In Cestretone Hundreto.* In Coteham tenet Rogerus de Picot v hidas. Terra est iii carrucis. In dominio est una, et alia potest fieri. Ibi vi villani cum viii cotariis habent: carrucam. Pratum iii carrucis. Pastura ad pecuniam villae de maresca cl auguillae. Valet xl solidis: quando recepit, l solidis: tempore regis Edwardi lx solidis. Hanc terram tenuerunt iii sochemanui. Horum unus, homo sanctae Edeldredae, tenuit iii hidas et dimidiam, xiiii acris minus: non potuit idare quia erat de dominio ecclesiae; et alter, homo abbatis, i hidam et dimidiam habuit et dare potuit sine soca; et tercius, homo Wallef comitis, xiiii acras habuit et dare et vendere potuit.

In Coteham tenet Picot xl acras et i ortum de dominio ecclesiae de Ely.

In eadem Coteham tenet Picot xl acras terrae et v acras prati de dominio Ecclesiae Sancti Guthlaci.

DOMESDAY BOOK.

[Land of the Abbey of Ely].

*In Chesterton Hundred.* Manor. Cottenham gelds for 9 hides. There is land for 8 teams. In the demesne are 6 hides and 1 team. There are 16 villeins, 10 cotiers with 6 teams. There are 2 serfs. Meadow for 8 teams. Pasture for the cattle of the town. In total value it is worth and has been worth 100 shillings: in King Edward's time £8. This manor lies and laid in the lordship of the church of Ely.

[Land of the Church of Crowland].

*In Chesterton Hundred.* Manor. The abbot of Crowland holds Cottenham. There are 11 hides. There is land for 8 teams. In the demesne are 6 hides and there is 1 team and a second can be formed. There are 12 villeins and 8 bordiers with 6 teams. There is 1 serf. Meadow land for 8 teams. Pasture for the cattle of the town. From the marsh, 500 eels, and 12 pence from presents. In total value it is and has been worth £6: in King Edward's time, £8. This manor is and always has been in the lordship of the Church of S. Guthlac.

[Land of Picot of Cambridge].

*In Chesterton Hundred.* In Cottenham Roger holds of Picot 5 hides. There is land for 3 teams. In the demesne is one and another can be formed. Six villiens there, with 8 cotiers have one team. Meadow land for 3 teams: pasture for the cattle of the town. From the marsh, 150 eels. It is worth 40 shillings: when he received it, 50 shillings: in King Edward's time 60 shillings. Three sokemen held this land. One of these was a vassal of S. Etheldreda and held  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hides lacking 14 acres: he could not give his land because it was of the lordship of the Church: another, was a vassal of the abbot and held  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hides: he could give it away but without the soke: the third, a vassal of Earl Wallef, had 14 acres and could give or sell them.

In Cottenham Picot holds 40 acres and 1 croft of the lordship of the Church of Ely.

In the same Cottenham Picot holds 40 acres of land and 5 acres of meadow land of the lordship of the Church of S. Guthlac.

## INQUISITIO ELIENSIS.

*In Cestretone Hundreto.* Cotenham tenet abbas Eli x hidas. viii carrucis ibi est terra. i carruca et vi hidae in dominio, aliaque potest fieri. vi carrucas [habent] homines. x villani, i cotarius, ix de ortis suis, ii servi. Pratum viii [carrucis]. Pastura ad pecora villae. In totis valentiis valet c solidis; quando recepit c solidis; tempore regis aeduardi viii libris. Hoc manerium iacet et iacuit in ecclesia Sanctae Aedeldrethae in dominio

(*Fol. 45a., Col. i.*)

In eadem villa tenet Picotus vicecomes v hidas xiiii acris minus. iii carrucis ibi est terra. i carruca in dominio et alia potest fieri. i carrucam [habent] homines, vi villani, viii cotarii. Pratum iii carrucis. Pastura ad pecora villae. De marisca cl anguillae et viginti v pisces. Inter totum, valet xl solidis: quando recepit l solidis: tempore regis Edwardi iii libris. Hanc terram tenuerunt ii sochemanni: unus istorum, Osuui, iii hidas et dimidiam xiiii acris minus habuit de dominio Sanctae Aedeldrethae, et non potest vendere, et alter i hidam et dimidiam: potuit dare sine soca. Hi fuerunt homines abbatis Ely: et unus autem potuit et alter non potuit.

In eadem villa tenet Picotus vice comes xl acras et unumortum de dominio Sanctae Aedeldrethae et valet x solidis.

(*Fol. 45a., Col. 2.*)

## [Names of the Jury for Chesterton Hundred].

In Cestretone hundreto iuraverunt Rogerus de Cilderlaia, Giffard de Draitona, Gillebert de Histona, Sturmidus de Cotenham, Bruningus de Cestretone, Almar de Cotham [Cotenham C.]. Ledmarus de Draiton, Ernius de Cilderlaia, et omnes alii Franci et Angli de hoc hundreto iuraverunt. (*Fol. 39a., Col. i.*)

*Summary of possessions of the Abbey.*

## [At the end of the "Inquisitio Eliensis."]

Cotenham. ii dominicae carrucae, vi hidae carrucatae (?), xvi villani, decem bordarii duo servi. Hoc est, vi dominicae carrucae, xv hidae carrucatae (?), xxxv villani, xviii bordarii, vii servi. (*Fol. 67a., Col. ii.*)

(*Fol. 68b., Col. i.*)

NOMINA VILLARUM. Cotenham. vi carrucae.

(*Fol. 68b., Col. iii.*)

*Picotus vice comes.* In Cotenham. v hidae xii acris minus.

\*In Cotenham tenet rursus Picot hidam et dimidiam et unam virgatam ad servitiuni et iii alias virgatas de soca. (*Fol. 211A.*)

\* This extract occurs in a list of those who wrongfully keep back lands of the Abbey of Ely.

THE ELY INQUEST.

*In Chesterton Hundred.* The abbot of Ely holds 10 hides at Cottenham. There is land for 8 teams. In the demesne are 6 hides and one team and another can be formed. The men own 6 teams. There are 10 villeins, 1 cotier, 9 possessing their own crofts, two serfs. Meadow land for 8 teams: pasture for the cattle of the town. In total value it is worth 100 shillings: when received, 100 shillings: in King Edward's time, £8. This manor lies and laid in the lordship of the church of St. Etheldreda.

In the same town Picot the sheriff holds 5 hides lacking 14 acres. There is land for 3 teams. In the demesne is one team and another can be formed. The men hold one team, viz. 6 villeins, 8 cotiers. Meadow land for 3 teams. Pasture for the cattle of the town. From the marsh, 150 eels and 25 fishes. Altogether it is worth 40 shillings: when he received it, 50 shillings: in King Edward's time, £3.

Two sokemen held this land: one of them Osui held  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hides less 14 acres, of the lordship of S. Etheldreda and cannot sell: the other held  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hides and could give them away, without the soke. These were men of the abbot of Ely, and one could, the other could not [sell his land].

In the same town Picot the sheriff holds 40 acres and one croft of the lordship of S. Etheldreda and they are worth 10 shillings.

In Chesterton hundred the jurors were Roger of Childerley, Giffard of Drayton, Gillebert of Histon, Sturmibus of Cottenham, Bruning of Chesterton, Almar of Cottenham, Ledmar of Drayton, Ernius of Childerley; and all the other French and Englishmen of this hundred were jurors.

*Summary of Lands, &c. of Ely Abbey.*

Cottenham: 2 demesne teams, 6 hides of plough-land (?) 16 villeins, 10 bordiers, 2 serfs. That is 6 demesne teams, 15 hides of plough-land, 35 villeins, 18 bordiers, 7 serfs.

NAMES OF TOWNS.                      Cottenham.                      6 teams.

*Picot the Sheriff.*                      In Cottenham.                      6 hides less 12 acres.

In Cottenham Picot again holds  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hides and one virgate in slavery and other 3 virgates of soke.

FURTHER MANORIAL DETAILS. Of these Manors, that of *Crowland*, which, as some think, lay on the west of Cottenham, the site of the house lying off the present High Street, as will be hereafter mentioned, was given to the renowned Lincolnshire Abbey by a priest named Turketel, a grandson of Alfred the Great. At the dissolution of the monasteries in 1539 it passed to the Crown, and ten years later to Lord Edward Fiennes in exchange for other lands. The manor of the Monastery of *Ely* (since given to the See, but latterly in private hands), became subsequently known as *Pelhams*.\* The *de Lisle's* of Ridgmont and Rampton held the Manor, so called, formerly Picot's. There are now three other recognized Manors or sub-manors, *viz.* *Sahams*, *Sames* or *Kalys* (owned by the Burgoyne and Thursby families); *Burdeley's* or *Harleston's* (which passed, *temp.* Edw. iii., by co-heiresses to the Cottenham families of Marshall, and Chambers, and is now held by Christ's College, Cambridge); and the *Rectory Manor*. The Manors of *Crowland*, *Lisle's* and *Saham's* were purchased by the renowned Cambridge Carrier, Thomas Hobson, (members of whose family were for some time resident in the district), and are now possessed by representatives of the Musgrave family. The land has been for the most part enfranchised so that the manorial rights are now of small account. Those who may be said to represent the former 'free-tenants' (paying rents and rendering services) are now owners. It will thus be seen that the manorial history is very extensive.

Before the Justices itinerant at Cambridge (7 Henry I.) the Abbot and Convent of Crowland claimed a 'view of Frankpledge, Waif and Infang-thef' † over their several manors of Cottenham, Hokington and Draiton.

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\* This small Manor was given to the keeper of St. Mary's Altar at Ely in the time of Bishop Hervey le Breton (died 1131). It was originally the gift of Iwa, a Saxon noble, together with Wiyelingham (Willingham).

† In the *Subsidy* roll of 1 Edw. iii. (1326) under Cottenham appears the name of Wm. de Pelham.

† *Frank-pledge*: the original of our *Court Leet*, the right to view the frank pledges or Manor freemen, who were mutually pledged each for the good behaviour of the other. *Waif* and *Infang-thef*: the power to try cases of ownerless property and of theft or larceny within the liberty.

The respective rights of the several manors were unquestionably a source of frequent controversy. An instance of this occurs in a disputation (*temp.* Edw. iii.) regarding the manner in which the cutting of the fen turf by the free-tenants of the several lords should be undertaken. A sufficiency for each man's 'housbote' was claimed. The names given are as follows:—

For Lord de l'Isle	{ Symon Pagge.
	{ Symon Wade.
„ Abbot of Crowland	{ Symon Warloke.
	{ John Leet.
„ Lord of Burdeleys	{ Thomas P . . .
„ the Rector	John Sygare.
„ Lord of Pelhams	John Hervey.
„ Lord of Kaly's (or Sames)	William Sygare.

The Court Rolls of the *Rectory Manor* which are deposited in a large chest remaining in the Church, form a particularly large and valuable collection of early records, including writings that date from the beginning of the fifteenth century. Constituting, as they do, the title deeds of the copyholders of the manor, we are able to obtain the names of many of the early inhabitants, and can thus trace the descent of property held of this manor on certain conditions of suit or service, and gather many interesting particulars relating to old-time customs, etc. Concerning the origin of this manor, I am unable to furnish any particulars. It was certainly not in itself a Domesday manor, and is in all probability an off-shoot or sub-manor of the Ely holding. The first dated Court-roll in this collection (A.D. 1428) belongs to a period during which Maurice Wynter held the Rectory. As the benefice appears to have been more or less continuously filled by Clerks, either related to the Bishop or in some way closely connected with the See, and not infrequently holding other considerable preferment, it is reasonable to suppose that the manor was an early creation, designed, it may be, in a measure, to protect the interests of the Church of Ely in the neighbourhood and enlarge the influence of the parish church in the midst of conflicting

claims to pre-eminence. Of course this is merely conjectural, but I have an idea that the Crowland influence was far from being inoperative in the matter of a firm maintenance of *prestige*, and, to say the least, had to be considered.

In these documents we find the names of the 'homagemen,' the customs and services of the manor, the nature of the fines levied, payment of rent in kind, as *e.g.* in the form of fat capons, or 'wax of pollen' to be made into tapers for the High Altar on the Feast of All Saints, and much other interesting matter including full lists of the fourteenth and fifteenth century inhabitants. The series extends from 12 Richard II., to 9 Henry VII.\*

An entry of singular interest relates that in 1487, Thomas Gygner, Thomas King, Robert Leet, John, son of Simon Green and Nicholas Reynold were each fined twelve pence for digging in search of silver, without licence, on land called 'Jakes' next to 'Bigyns Croft End.' In those times the earth was frequently the place chosen for the deposit of treasure, and the knowledge, real or imaginary, that money was stored away in the ground probably led to a frequent and inconvenient disturbance of the soil. In corroboration of this, I may instance the following, extracted from the Steel MSS., (*Topog. Cambs., c.1., Bodl. Libr. Oxf. under Rampton*; it should really be under Cottenham)† :—

"In Aug 1715 was found near 1000 pieces of old coin, upon London Hill, abt ½ mile from Rampton, the silver is good, it appears to be the coin of Henry II., [as some of the pieces whose image and superscription is fair discover]. It was first discovered by a shepherd who found a little earthen vessel (worn green with age) full. Several people of the town by digging a foot or two deep have also found several other pieces."

Regarding Turketel, who owned the Cottenham manor, we have some interesting particulars. Having been sent by his cousin, King Athelstan, to quell a disturbance at

\* A commencement has been made in the work of transcribing these Charters which are being printed with notes in *The East Anglian* (Vol X.) as opportunity permits. Those already printed refer mainly to properties at Cottenham and Westwick forming "the Church and Causeway Estate" of Cottenham.

† I am indebted to Miss Parsons of Horseheath for this reference.

York (A.D. 936), Turketel stayed the night at Crowland Abbey, then only occupied by three aged monks, the place having in 870 been set on fire by the Danes and ruined. The courage of these old inmates stirred in Turketel so strong a desire to devote himself and all that he possessed to the re-building of the Abbey that he forthwith endowed it with his manors of Wendlyngburg, Elmyngton, Worthorp Beby, Hokyngton (Oakington) and Kottenham,\* and gave his life to religion, being eventually elected Abbot. This gift was afterwards confirmed by a charter of king Etheldred granted in 948 from which we learn that a Church then existed in Cottenham.

After the death of Turketel in 975 the Danes continued to devastate the country and the manors of Hokyngton and Kottenham were not only burnt but the inhabitants slaughtered. In 1017-1032 the two decayed manors were re-built under Abbot Brihtmer. In the days of Canute the Abbot of Crowland, Leofsin, let the estate at Cottenham on the understanding that the tenants should supply the Abbey of Ely with provisions for one week in the year. The reason for such an arrangement is not clear, but it may have had some connection with a previous bequest to the Abbey of Ely of land at Cottenham by the Saxon Abbot, Leofwine, in 1016.

It is usually supposed that at Cottenham, the University, afterwards planted at Cambridge, had its commencement, Geoffrey of Croyland sending monks to lecture at Cottenham in the year 1106. Considerable doubt exists as to the veracity of a reputed history of Croyland which bears the name of Ingulph, who became Abbot of Croyland in 1085. It was on the death of this Ingulph that Geoffrey (or Geoffrid) prior of St. Evroul in Normandy was summoned by Henry I., to succeed him at Croyland, and he immediately set about the re-building of the oft stricken Abbey, the ruins of which are still in evidence. But it was with more enduring materials that this

\* In the Guthlac Roll of the twelfth century (c. 1160) 'Turketellus' is shown holding a scroll inscribed 'Ego Abbas Turketellus do tibi pater Guthlac sextam partem hereditatis mee Wenliburch (Wellingborough), Bebi (Beeby; Leic.), Coteham (Cottenham) Hokintune' (Oakington).

vigorous and learned man sought to build. To the Croyland manor at Cottenham he is said to have sent Gilbert (de Cottenham)\* one of the monks from St. Evroul, together with three companions, Odo, Terric and William. The particular habitation where they sojourned had been erected in 1032 by Brihtmer, the Abbot. It was probably on or adjacent to the site of what is known as "the Abbot's Close," to which in 1511, Wm. Pepis, senior, was admitted at a Court Baron of the Rectory. The ground in question is a spot of considerable interest owing to the fact that it is none other than that which comprises the elevated earthwork surrounded by a moat to which reference will be made later on. At different times the place has undoubtedly witnessed stirring events and been the scene of strife and conflict. The influence of Gilbert and his companions in maintaining the rights of Croyland was presumably of considerable weight. In one year, we find that as a result of Gilbert's advocacy one hundred marks were raised in Cottenham for rebuilding the ruined Abbey. It mattered not that the Cottenham folk knew neither Latin or French, but only the vulgar tongue, Gilbert, surnamed "de Cottenham," found a way to quicken their zeal by his own devotion.

An important Charter was granted by king Stephen about the year 1140, which gave the Church and monastery of Croyland exemption from taxation in respect of upwards of 13 hides of land possessed by the monks in Cambridgeshire, of which five-and-a-half hides were in Cottenham, "for the salvation of his soul and the souls of his children, his uncle king Henry, and his predecessors, kings of England, Queen Matilda his wife, Eustace his son, and the souls of the faithful departed."

One of the Abbots of Croyland, Robert de Redinge, had a sharp contention with certain Fen men and the litigation was long and tedious. In the course of one of his journeys to London in relation to this matter the aged Abbot was taken ill and died at his Manor house at Cottenham, where he was buried in 1191. His death

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\* Afterwards Abbot of Westminster. He died in 1140.

was doubtless hastened by the perversity of the fen men and his own devotion to duty.

THE PLACE-NAME, ETC. It may now be advisable before referring to Cottenham history of mediæval days to retrace our steps in order to gather a few details of interest in relation to times even more remote than those we have considered. The early English settlers in this locality occupied what was undoubtedly a position of great natural advantage; at first, in all probability, on the immediate fen border land, and subsequently on the higher ground, where habitations of the community would be gradually formed. The Domesday Survey, in what I regard as a very interesting connection, places us I venture to think, in possession of the origin of the place-name, Cottenham. Both constituent parts of the name embody a like feature, *viz.* the dwellings (*Cotan*) of the *Cotarii*, who were an important section of the population. They represent such of the inhabitants who dwelt in the home district, in contradistinction to those residing in and around the fen border. The *Cotarii* rendered service to the lord (gardening, &c.) and are usually contrasted with the tenants in the fields. The plots or crofts occupied by them were known as *Cots-land* or *Cotes*, the homestead ranging in extent from one to five acres.\* Occasionally they may have occupied plots in the open fields. Under the pressure of population the system of territorial serfdom was bound to break down, but Cottenham in its very name is a standing witness to the ancient order of things.

THE SETTLERS AND THE SETTLEMENT. The early British occupation which I have assumed flourished here upon distinctly favourable lines, readily lent itself to the plans of the invading Romans who would naturally avail themselves of such of the strategic resources as they found ready to hand.† In some such way it is not unlikely that a protective channel and other similar works

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\* A common name for the holdings was *lundinaria*, 'Monday-lands,' because the tenants were bound to work exclusively for the lord each Monday of the week. The *bordarii*, also mentioned in Domesday, were of a similar class.

† *Vide* "Cottenham, the supposed site of a Roman Camp," *Cambs. and Hunts. Arch. Soc. Transactions* Vol. 1. pp. 55-76.

of earlier date were utilized by the Romans, the re-construction of which was in all probability largely carried on in the vicinity of what we know as Cottenham Lode.\* The artificial drains and canals that now traverse the lowlying ground, and the great embankments (largely due to the enterprise of the Roman settlers)† that protect the land from the sea, witness to the immense labour required to bring about the splendid results. These eminent engineers, largely we may assume to facilitate the escape of the flood waters and natural rainfall, constructed the great Car-dyke, the extent and importance of which is scarcely appreciated in our time. It now only appears in part in its dried up and diminished form, but it may fairly be assumed that formerly it made its way from Cambridge as far as York‡ and had a uniform width of nearly sixty feet. Along the entire line it is probable that strongly fortified settlements were placed, indeed a large number of these have been located. It is important to observe that to the north and north-west of Rampton traces exist of extensive earthworks of varying character in the adjacent parishes of Cottenham and Willingham, mainly designed it would appear to guard the passage into the Isle of Ely. The important Car-dyke§ was undoubtedly part of an elaborate system of defence. How far the artificial formations at Rampton and Cottenham (notably those marking the sites of moated residences of the feudal lords) were connected with any such system we must leave. They may originally have formed part of a subsidiary or second line of defence, if not indeed a part of the original plan, while they are in a direct line with 'Belsar's Hill.' Whatever the early history of these sites, there were undoubtedly fortified residences

\* *Vide* "Cottenham, the supposed site of a Roman Camp," *Cambs. and Hunts. Arch. Soc. Transactions*, Vol. I. pp. 55-76.

† They were 370 years in this Country.

‡ Not merely from Ramsey to Lincoln as is generally assumed.

§ Car=flat marshy tract of land, fringing higher ground (O.N. *ker*, land burdened with accumulated water). I would refer the interested reader to Mr. Arthur Bull's paper on "The Car-dyke," in the *Cambs. and Hunts. Arch. Soc. Transactions*, Vol. I. pp. 49-54, for much important information; also to the accounts of subsequent investigations, and other remarks, forming my contribution to this and allied subject matter, in the same publication.

of considerable importance, at first merely existing in the character of a stockade on the top of the vallum, developing in process of time into the castle or mansion of a feudal lord or opulent landowner.

DAYS OF CONFLICT. It was from the direction of Cottenham on the south-west, only five years after the battle of Hastings, that William the Norman directed his memorable land invasion of the Isle of Ely, which he approached from Cambridge by way of Impington and Histon, gathering his army it would seem in the vicinity of Cottenham and Rampton for the attack. Here, there is every reason to think, the lawless troops of the usurper Stephen may have assembled, and in the course of the work of raising fortresses as a means of defence, displayed particular energy, seeing that the Isle offered special means of protection.\* The anarchy following the death of Henry I., was particularly active in the neighbourhood of Cottenham, perhaps even in Cottenham itself.

Certainly an important feature in relation to the exciting times through which Cottenham passed in common with many other places in the neighbourhood exists in what I take to be the remains of a feudal stronghold, which in all probability occupied a much earlier entrenched position, enclosed by a double moat (p. 66). It appears to have formed one of a series of defensive earthworks, a conspicuous example of which is to be found at Rampton (a little to the south-east of the Church and in a line with the corresponding fortified enclosure at Cottenham) where the de Lisle's had their chief Cambridgeshire seat.† The Rampton mansion, of which considerable remains existed within the memory of man, and the foundations of which may be partially traced, has been entirely swept away, the moated enclosure and certain adjacent earthworks alone remaining.

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\* *Vide* Cambs. and Hunts, Arch. Soc. *Transactions*, Vol. I.

† A full account of this ancient and renowned family, together with particulars of their several possessions, etc., will be found in my *History of Rampton, Cambs.*, which it is intended to issue as a distinct publication and not in connection with the *Transactions, etc.*, of this Society as previously announced in Vol. I. pp. 105, 213.

During the civil war between Henry III., and his barons, when Simon de Montford endeavoured to force an entrance into the Isle of Ely, Walter of Cottenham a knight of the Isle, was arrested, it is said at the instance of John, prior of Barnwell, and hanged on the gibbet by the king's soldiers. The names of the barons who were in rebellion in the Isle of Ely are on record. The insurgents include Gerard de Insula, one of the lordly race holding possessions in Cottenham. In 49 Henry III., we find Robert de Lisle taking part with the rebellious barons. One of the same name had previously been in arms against king John, but returning to obedience on the accession of Henry III., had his forfeited lands restored. The de l'Isle's it must here suffice to say were a militant race, distinguished for courage, which was duly rewarded with high honours, emoluments and positions of eminence, including such dignities as that of knight-banneret, baron, the companionship of the Order of the Garter, etc. In consideration of his good services as sheriff of Cambs., and Hunts., John de l'Isle was in 25 Edw. III., appointed Governor of Cambridge and had a special grant. He died seized of divers manors including those of Wilburgham Magna, Rampton, Cottenham, Westwick and Coveney, leaving Maud his wife surviving and a son and heir, Robert, then of the age of twenty-two years. These de l'Isle's stood side by side with their king on the battle field and in the parliament, and Cottenham may well feel proud of the connection.

Another Robert, (summoned to Parliament 5 Edw. ii. —16 Edw. iii.) who in 8 Edw. ii. was ordered to be at Newcastle with horse and arms to restrain the incursions of the Scots, and some years later was engaged in an expedition into Flanders, subsequently assumed the religious habit, before doing which he was seized of the manors of Rampton, Cotenham and Westwyk, with the advowson of Wimpole, all which he settled on Alice the daughter of Robert de l'Isle, Elizabeth Peverell and Richard Bayeux for life with remainder to John, son of Robert de l'Isle and his heirs. This adoption of a religious life was a not infrequent course; scarcely was

the coat of mail discarded and the monk's cowl put on than death often ensued.\*

A remarkable cause to which I have elsewhere more fully referred, has some interest in relation to Cottenham. It is set out in an Assize roll of 11 Richard II. (1388)† and discloses the fact that at Cambridge before two justices, examination was made as to whether Robert de Lyle, John de Wyndesore, Robert de Wyndesore, William de Wyndesore and others had dispossessed Alice, who was the wife of William de Wyndesore of the manors of Rampton, Westwick, Impington and Cottenham Lyle. They alleged that the plaintiff '*per nomen Alicie Perrers*'‡ was banished from the realm of England by Parliament in the first year of the then present reign. To which Alice replied that pardon followed her marriage with William de Wyndesore. Statement and cross-statement follow in bewildering array. Robert de Lyle affirmed that he was tenant of the manors of Rampton, Cottenham and Westwick, apart from Johu de Wyndesore having any rights therein; Alice claimed to have been enfeoffed by charter produced, after the deed of pardon (8 Rich. II.) and that she was afterwards in possession until dispossessed by Robert de Lyle and others. De Lyle stated that he was seized of Rampton, Cottenham and Westwyk before Alice's banishment; that by deed dated at Coveney the Monday after St. Martin, 42 Edw. iii., he had, by the name of Robert de Insula de Rubio Monte, granted Rampton, Westwick, Cottenham and Pishonbury

\* An interesting illustration is to be seen in the monumental effigy at Conington, Hunts. of a 14th century knight clad in chain mail and Franciscan habit.

† I have to thank Dr. W. M. Palmer for drawing my attention to this important document, an abstract of which he was good enough to send me.

‡ Alice Perrers was one of the ladies of the bed-chamber to Queen Philippa, and in his old age, the mistress of Edw. III. At the solicitation of the people the king put her away, but after the death of the Black Prince was recalled (1377). She was married to Sir William de Windsore (3 Rich. II.), and on their joint petition in the next Parliament the sentence against her was annulled, and divers manors and lands restored to her. On her death in 1384 he was stated to be heavily indebted to the king, and all his jewels, goods and chattels on his manor of Rampton were ordered to be seized by the sheriff, but as the manor of Rampton was in the liberty of the Bishop of Ely, the seizure was to be effected by him. By an Inquisition taken at Cambridge (*temp.* Hen. IV.) the de Windsore were found holding lands in Rampton, Cottenham, and Westwick.

(Herts.), to Robert de Assheton, clerk, and Henry de Smayth, clerk, to hold for ever they paying an annual rent of £160. The rent being in arrear while John de Wyndesore was tenant, de Lisle re-entered on their manors. It is a very involved affair and must have caused considerable commotion at the time, not only as a matter of litigation to the parties themselves, but in its far reaching effect upon those less intimately concerned and not least upon the inhabitants of the particular villages. An interesting instance of the disorders that occurred consequent upon the strife that was thus gendered is I think to be found in the record of an inquest held at Rampton (1 Rich. ii.) concerning the death of the Rector, John Stanton, which followed upon some angry words with two of Sir William de Windsor's servingmen, the Rector was first struck with a club by one of his assailants, while another stabbed him from behind, and both took to their heels. The possibility is great that the words said to have been uttered by Henry II., in reference to Thomas à Becket, had in effect, and for a like reason, been oft repeated by Sir William in the hearing of his servitors. Sir William de Windsor took a leading part in the putting down the Peasants' rising in 1381-2, in which revolt Cottenham took a very prominent part.

In the Assize roll (P.R.O. No. 103), there are some important particulars relating to this memorable insurrection of 1381-3, which have been fully set out, for the first time, in the pages of the *East Anglian* (Vol vi.) by Dr. W. M. Palmer. The trials at Cambridge, Ely and elsewhere of the insurgents taking part in the outbreak are precisely recounted. One of the most serious aspects of the riot was presented at Cottenham where the manor house of Roger de Harleston was sacked. He was a man of position and influence, supervisor of the Poll-tax collection, and a County representative in Parliament, and was, mainly in consequence it may be supposed, a mark for the virulence of the populace. We can picture the rebels setting out for Cottenham "committing divers felonies and seditious to the prejudice of the Crown and oppression of the people," and earning for themselves

the executioner's axe. Roger de Harleston had his tenements at Haslingfield, Milton, Denny and elsewhere similarly treated, while at Cambridge his house there was demolished by "the leaders of the people."\* One, Richard Martyn, who is described as chief among the Cambridge insurgents, led a body of men to Cottenham, and in an inquisition taken at Chesterton it was presented that on the Sunday before St. Barnabas' day, the cattle, timber, and other goods of Harleston were sold. It was further alleged that on the same day at Cottenham 20*lbs.* 'lane. sordide in colore de blu'† was seized. At one time it seems that Roger was in hiding, for search was made for him. Sir William de Windsor and others acted under a commission from the Bishop of Ely in 1382 against certain malefactors, who, after assembling in conventicles, committed murders, perpetrated incendiarisms, etc. The stout-hearted and intrepid prelate, Bishop de Spencer of Norwich, in his crusade of 1383 "like a wild boar gnashing with his teeth, sparing neither himself nor his enemies," marched the following year into Cambridgeshire and did much to quell the tumult, not sparing even those who sought sanctuary in the churches.

A controversy between Henry de Castwigh, Abbot of Crowland (1324-1358), and John de L'Isle, related to 'agistments'‡ in six parts of Cottenham fen, is only another indication of the strained relations that continued to trouble the different sections of Cottenham folk in those eventful times. All such matters involved on either side a complete retinue of retainers, who shared the fortunes of their masters. About this period we happen to know the names of the Cottenham *cum* Westwick people which are preserved in the Subsidy roll of I. Edw. iii. (1326) to which I have already referred. They include Robert de Insula who heads the list, his assessments standing at vs. *ijd. ob.* and *iijs. jd. q.* Others are

\* The Sunday appears to have been largely chosen for riotous assembling. I find a Clement Harleston (probably of the same family and emanating from *Harlton*) possessed of Manors at Balsham, West Wrattling and elsewhere, *temp.* Hen. VII.

† Presumably a coarse *delaine* fabric of woollen material, perhaps merchandize.

‡ Profits from pasturage of cattle.

Henry Bernard (xviiij*d. ob.*), John Pepys (xvj*d.*), John de Burdeleys (vs. ij*d. ob.*), William Bernard (vs. iiij*d. q.*), Wm. Pepys (vd. *ob.*), William de Pelham (xij*d.*), Margaret ad Crucem\* (iiijs. ij*d.*). There are several other remarkable names, but scarcely any that occur at Cottenham to-day. While there is a William Abbot and an Alice Prior, no name appears that we can associate with Crowland.

Cottenham passed through the other tumultuous periods that mark the varied page of history, in common with the rest of the county, being despoiled or fleeced or buffeted with more or less of the equanimity which become those who bow under obligation to a superior force. In only an incidental manner shall I refer hereafter to any of such local events.

MARKET. In 49 Henry III. (A.D. 1264) a market on Mondays and a fair for three days (June 30th and two following days) at the festival of SS. Peter and Paul, were granted to the rector of Cottenham, John Walerand and his successors, owners of the Rectory Manor.† A fair is still held on Shrove Tuesday at "Church End," and the weekly market is still remembered by "the oldest inhabitant."

THE FAMILY OF PEPYS. The illustrious name of Pepys is mentioned in connection with Cottenham at a very early period. With the exception of the title taken in 1836 by Charles Christopher Pepys (Lord Chancellor), of Earl of Cottenham and Viscount Crowhurst (born 1781, died 1851), the name of Pepys in relation to Cottenham is little more than a memory, the family having wholly passed away from the district. The pedigree found at the end of Lord Braybrooke's edition of the famous '*Diary*' commences with:—

"Robert Pepys, of Co. Cambridge, from whom was descended  
 "Wm. Pepys, of Cottenham, Yeoman, only son. Will dated 20th  
 "March, 1518, proved 20th May, 1519; buried at Cottenham."

\* This name points to the existence of the village or Wayside Cross.

† An interesting monumental slab which ought to be in the Church at Cottenham, but is not, and to which I shall presently refer, I believe commemorates this rector, to whom Market and Fair were granted. He died in 1272.

But in his '*Diary*,' Pepys says under date 1667, June 16th:—

"Roger Pepys told me that . . . he will show me a decree in Chancery wherein there was twenty-six men, all house-keepers, in the town of Cottenham, in Queene Elizabeth's time of our name."

And further:—

1667. June 12th. "I met Roger Pepys newly come out of the country. He and I talked aside a little, he offering a match for Pall, one Barnes. . . . His father married a Pepys; in discourse he (R. P.) told me that his grandfather, my great-grandfather, had 800*l.* per annum in Queen Elizabeth's time, in the very town of Cottenham; and that we did certainly come out of Scotland with the Abbot of Croyland."

There then follows Lord Braybrooke's note, which in the light of the early course of events in Cottenham is a little difficult to understand. He says:—

"What this means it is not easy to say, probably Croyland is written in error. No connection can be traced between the 'Pepys' family and any Abbot of Croyland."

As the family of Pepys was located in Cottenham *certainly* as early as 1326 (and possibly much earlier), it is by no means improbable that they may have come in with the original Croyland folk. The 'memoir' prefixed to the '*Diary*,' which states that the family settled at Cottenham early in the 16th Century is clearly inaccurate in this particular.\* In an old MS., found in the Church chest at Bolney, Sussex, entitled *Liber Talboti Pepys de instrumentis ad Feoda pertinentibus exemplificatis* (at one time in the possession of the great-uncle of the Diarist), there is this 'Noate written out of an old Booke of my 'uncle William Pepys':—

"William Pepys, who died at Cottenham, 10 Henry VIII., was brought up by the Abbot of Crowland, in Huntingdonshire,

\* In Blomefield's *Norfolk*, the family is stated to have been previously seated at Diss. A branch of this family was undoubtedly connected with Norfolk, and there were other Norfolk matrimonial alliances. Talbot Peapes (a son of Roger Pepys, of Impington), was a donor to the library of St. Peter Mancroft Church, Norwich, where Tenison, at one time Curate of Cottenham, was Minister. Roger Pepys, a son of Talbot Pepys, of Impington (living in 1684, *æt.* 67, married for his second wife, Barbara, eldest daughter of Sir Francis Bacon, Serjeant-at-Law, and a Justice of the King's Bench. She was buried at St. Gregory's, Norwich, March 2nd, 1657. He was of the Middle Temple, London; Recorder of Cambridge; and M.P., for the Borough, 1661.

"and he was born in Dunbar, in Scotland, a gentleman whom "the said Abbot did make his Bayliffe of all his lands in "Cambridgeshire, and placed him in Cottenham." \*

As the name appears, in Cottenham records a couple of centuries earlier, and seeing it occurs in the Rectory manor Court-rolls in 1431† and subsequently (sometimes as '*Pepes*,' as the name was and is properly pronounced) it is open to question how far the statement is correct in regard to William Pepys (*temp.* Henry VIII.). It is extremely unlikely that the family from the sixteenth century downwards had no connection with the Cottenham Pepys' of previous times.

The Crowland connection is a natural one, and it is quite possible that the very first representative of the Pepys family may have been brought up by one of the Abbots, and have come out of Scotland. It is a phase of the family history with which the writer of any future memoir of Samuel Pepys ought to make himself conversant.

An entry in the 'Diary' should at least prove entertaining to Cottenham folk, who may actually see their town advanced to a place among the counties:—

1667. Nov. 3rd. "To church, and thither comes Roger Pepys "to our pew, and thence home to dinner, whither comes by "invitation, Mr. Turner, the minister, and my cozen Roger "brought with him Jeffrys, the apothecary at Westminster, who "is our kinsman, and *we had much discourse of Cottinghamshire.*"

The latter expression may be regarded either as an intentional phrase for Cottenham, or merely a *lapsus calami*.

In the Subsidies of 1645 the name of Pepys is no longer found, but in parochial papers one is entered as "John Peapes, of Stoke Clare, in the County of "Suffolk, gent." Other entries of the name include: Peppess (1535), Pepes (1553), Pepys, Georgino (1569), Pepys, Edward (1585), Pepys, John (1589), Pepys, Richard (1615).

\* In a Cambridgeshire *Fine* (38 Henry VIII.) we meet with the following:—"Wm. Peppes, gent., v. John Russell and Alice his wife in Cottenham."

† Thomas Pepys and Alice his wife (1431) and another similarly named (probably son and heir) were fined for allowing cart horses to trespass on the lands of the Rectory manor, and William Pepys (son) for the trespass of his horse among the tithe corn.

Before leaving the Pepys family I may give one further extract from the gossip Samuel in reference to a Cottenham 'character,' and also by way of introducing an additional illustration of Cottenham life as it affects its commercial side. It mainly concerns the issue of the copper coinage known as trade tokens.

1667. Oct. 7. "They (copper tokens of the Reindeer Inn, at Bishop's Stortford, where Samuel Pepys stayed), bore the name "of a Mr. and Mrs. Aysworth, whom *I knew better than they think for*. It was this woman that amongst others was great "with my cousin Barnston, of Cottenham, and did use to sing to "him and did teach me 'Full forty times over.'" (A song which appears to have accorded well with the character of the woman, who was banished from Cambridge for her evil courses.)

A Cottenham tradesman's token was in circulation in the 17th Century. Upon the obverse it bore:

PHILIP CHAMBERS                      HIS HALF PENY

It had on the reverse side

IN COTTENHAM 1668.

surrounding the figure of a wild man with a club over his shoulder. These devices are often very interesting. A Proclamation of Charles II. put an end to the circulation of these tokens.

THE RECTORS. Some brief notices of certain of the Rectors of Cottenham may not be out of place here. The first recorded name is that of Stephen Rydel, a nephew of Bishop Rydel, and Archdeacon of Ely (*circa*. 1210). In 1310, Robert de Orford, who for some years was Prior of Ely\* and afterwards Bishop, retired to the Rectory of Cottenham, where he died in 1315. William Francis (Rector 1312-1320) was long engaged in a controversy relating to tithes at Westwick (then considered a hamlet of Cottenham), with the Abbot of Croyland, as Rector of Oakington, which was decided in favour of the Abbot.

Nicholas de Cantebrigia (Rector, 1334) was appointed Penitentiary† in 1346, and acted as a Vicar-general during the Plague. In 1375 Nicholas de Drayton,

\* A John de Cottenham was Prior of Ely in 1516.

† To prescribe rules of penance, act in special cases of conscience, and the like, with which the ordinary parish priest was not competent to deal.

Warden of King's College, was appointed Rector; being suspected of heresy he was imprisoned. In 1376 he was made a Baron of the Exchequer.

The extraordinary rapidity with which one Rector followed another towards the close of the fourteenth century is remarkable. In *twelve* years (1375-1387) there were no less than *nine* Rectors. Edward Burnell (Archdeacon of Ely) Rector (1379) died March 11th, 1385, leaving twenty pounds in gold for the Cottenham poor. In 1388, Thomas de Castro (Bernardi), at one time Rector of Bluntisham, was Rector. Laurence Bothe or Booth instituted Rector in 1444, became master of his college (Pembroke, Cambridge), and successively Vice-chancellor, Prebendary, and Dean of St. Paul's, London. After resigning Cottenham in 1456, he became Chancellor to Queen Margaret, wife of Henry VI. (the brother of Laurence Booth had previously held the same office). He was made Keeper of the Privy Seal, a tutor and guardian of Edward, Prince of Wales (aged 4), Bishop of Durham, and Archbishop of York previous to his appointment in 1471, as Lord Chancellor. He died in 1480, and was buried at Southwell, where two altar tombs occupied the Booth Chapel, long since demolished. Dr. Warkworth, Master of Peterhouse, was Rector in 1458; his effigy may be seen in a window of the college hall.\* During a vacancy of the See. (*temp.* Henry VII.) the king presented William Warham. He was at the same time Rector of Barley, Herts., Master of the Rolls and Archdeacon of Huntingdon. He afterwards became Bishop of London, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Lord High Chancellor (1504), not retiring from the Cottenham rectory until 1506. Archbishop Warham officiated at the marriage of Henry VIII., with Katherine of Arragon, and was succeeded as Archbishop by Thomas Cranmer, and as Lord Chancellor by Cardinal Wolsey, dying in 1532. Samuel Fleming, who was presented by John Pepys, of Cottenham, in April, 1581,

\* He had the Bishop's licence to farm out his rectory, a not unusual proceeding at that period.

was deprived in 1601.\* Next but one after him a brother was also Archbishop of York. Another brother was Bishop of Exeter.

Edward Leedes was appointed Rector in 1558, by Bishop Thirlby. Bishop Goodrich had previously collated him to Little Gransden, and made him Prebendary of Ely the same year. As Bishop's Commissary and Vicar-general he was employed in the general visitation ordered by the King's council for the suppression of altars, images, vestments, etc., throughout the diocese. Leedes also received from the Bishop the Rectories of Newton and Elm in the Isle of Ely. He became Chancellor of the diocese and was one of the Bishop's executors. Subsequently Leedes was chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Precentor of Canterbury, Master of Clare Hall, Rector of Snailwell, Rector of Littleport, Master of St. John's Hospital, &c. He resigned Cottenham in 1580, dying at Croxton, where he had an estate and of which parish he had been Rector.

John Davenant (Rector in 1620) was Fellow, and afterwards Master of Queen's. He attended the Synod of Dort in 1618, and was consecrated Bishop of Salisbury in 1621. Dr. Leonard Mawe followed (31 Dec., 1621). He was Master of Peterhouse, Chaplain to Charles, Prince of Wales, Master of Trinity, Bishop of Bath and Wells.

Among the rectors of Cottenham, John Manby, a son-in-law of Bishop Francis White, deserves special mention. He was collated March 25th, 1635, and ejected in 1641, being superseded by the intruder, Peter French (who married Robina, a sister of Oliver Cromwell in 1642), and John Nye (who also held the livings of Childerly and Croxton) in 1640. The rector was re-instated in 1650. Dr. Manby having been collated to Cottenham by Bp. Francis White (whose chaplain he was) married one of the Bishop's daughters, and resided on his benefice contrary to the general practice. He incurred the displeasure of a malevolent faction in

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\* Why Pepys should have presented I am unable to say. The rectory has ordinarily been at the disposal of the Bishop of Ely.

Cottenham\* and following the leadership of certain "lewd fellows of the baser sort" the intolerant party formulated the necessary complaint, and alleged that, conforming to the order of Bishop Wren, Dr. Manby had restored the permanent Communion table (or altar), that he upheld the observance of Saints' days, and the practice of the Offertory, together with other observances which in very truth were in harmony with the doctrine and discipline of the church, but contrary to the mind and will of unbridled fanaticism. Dr. Manby was in consequence cast into prison, and relentlessly persecuted for a period of eighteen years. Regarding French, it may be further observed that Cromwell ("the Lord of the Fens") bestowed a canonry at Christ Church, Oxford, upon his brother-in-law. French dying in 1655, his widow soon after married Dr. John Wilkins, Warden of Wadham College, Oxford, and afterwards Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, who then returned to the neighbourhood of her early married life. Dr. John Fitzwilliam, Canon of Windsor (Rector, 1674), was deprived as a non-juror in 1691. Altogether it would be difficult to find a more remarkable set of men, and circumstances so interesting as those we meet with in the succession of rectors at Cottenham.

MONUMENTS. Two portions of a fine purbeck marble slab, formerly in Cottenham Church, are now in the possession of the trustees of the Cambridge Archæological Museum, and are deposited in their Newnham storehouse, with numerous other objects of antiquarian interest for which there is not space in the museum itself. This monument, which is of late thirteenth century date, commemorates an ecclesiastic vested in alb, with apparel, decorated with the "fylot" pattern, and chasuble. The head is tonsured, and rests on a square cushion; the feet are long, being unduly extended. The centre of the slab is missing; only the upper and lower portions remain. Around the edge of the stone

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\* *Vide* "News from Cambridge, or, a brief relation of the wicked proceedings of these Informers, *viz.*, Stephen Perry, Tinkler, Edward Wallis, Cobler, and Christopher Heard, labourer." Printed 1675.

ran a Latin inscription in Lombardic capitals, much of which is of course wanting. This alone can be read:—

+ CHRISTE : AL[ME : DEVS:] - - - PREC[OR]:  
- - - [MISERERE:] MEI.

*(O Christ merciful God I pray Thee have mercy upon me.)*

The slab appears to have been long in use as a paving stone, face downwards, a very frequent misuse of ancient memorials of the dead.\* This singularly interesting monument was doubtless conveyed away as a fit object for a museum, during the last 'restoration' of the church, when in all probability much else of historical value was allowed to be carried off. Not infrequently we find, side by side with a respect for objects of antiquarian interest, a strange want of reverence for, if not an utter disregard of, a class of memorials that are entitled to the protection, not of a museum intended for curiosities, but of the sacred walls within which they were originally placed, and from which they ought never to have been allowed to pass. If the unconcern of past custodians is pleaded by way of palliation, may not a more enlightened age claim, as a simple act of restitution, that the proper guardians may now be entrusted with the safe custody of the church's own goods? Failing in this, we not only deprive a church of one or other of its, possibly, few remaining features of interest, but we in fact largely nullify its historical connection with the past, and dishonour those whose memorials are entitled to our unqualified respect. If the finely carved woodwork of the old stalls of a parish church call loudly for replacement† how much more the monumental slab of (as I suppose) a rector of so important a church as that of Cottenham.

There is a remarkable scarcity of monuments of all

\* An instance lately occurred at Rampton where two portions of an early coffin slab, incised with cross of a most uncommon design were discovered, the upper part having been utilised as a paving stone within the Church, the lower part in the Churchyard path. It has been carefully preserved in the chancel.

† The 14th century 'Miserere' seats formerly in Brampton Church, Hunts., now in the Museum of Archæology at Cambridge.

kinds, which can only be accounted for by the indifference displayed by those who were in authority, at such times when the church was in the hands of builders and 'restorers.' The only remaining memorial of ancient date has been thrust outside the building, where, by the wall of the north aisle, lies a portion of a coped coffin stone. In the chancel there are several slabs, of no particular interest, including one to John Dowsing, a member of an old and honourable Cottenham family. Two stones which have matrices for brass inscriptions\* tell the tale of modern pillage rather than of iconoclastic daring.

THE CHURCH. As we have already seen, a Saxon Church doubtless existed, in all probability on the site of the present building, prior to the Norman Conquest, and subsequently was rebuilt upon a greatly enlarged plan. There are to be seen embedded in the exterior south wall of the chancel fragments of early Norman masonry, presumably placed there at the time of a recent restoration, which attest the ancient character of the edifice. Of the Norman Church there is no further indication (unless the bases of the piers of the Chancel arch and nave arcade furnish such, which is doubtful), but from the style of the fragments of wrought stone in the south chancel wall it is likely that here formerly were to be seen massive circular piers, rounded arches, zig-zag mouldings, etc., the unmistakeable characteristics of a Norman Church. However slight the trace, there remains just a remnant of Early English work in a detached thirteenth century capital now deposited on the floor of the chancel, probably brought to light during restoration work.

The present Church is a fine and imposing edifice, of considerable size and some interest. If it can lay but small claim, as a whole, to particular attention, either in regard to age and architectural merit, it certainly possesses features of sufficient importance to render it an

\* In *Notes on the Cambridgeshire Churches* [by G. R. Boissier] 1827, mention is made in the five-lined description, of "some monuments with brasses." Cole (MSS., 5802) alludes to several others.

object that deserves attentive study. Lysons, the leading county historian, omits all reference to the Church; more recent writers are similarly content to pass it by without notice, or to essay to speak of it as placed "at the extreme northern end of the village and not worth seeking."\* Such a reflection is hardly justifiable, as the most casual observer will perceive, while a closer investigation will make it abundantly clear that the building is one which must on no account be slighted. It consists of chancel, nave with clerestory, aisles, south porch, north doorway opening into a modern vestry, and west tower. In the main, the structure may be regarded as work of the fourteenth (latter part) and fifteenth centuries. The chancel arch is perhaps earlier, the plain round form, loose joints and bases of the piers would seem to indicate work of the Early English period.

The lofty chancel is of early Perpendicular character, possessing particularly large and high windows. The east window is a modern copy of that in Prior Crauden's Chapel at Ely, and is filled with stained glass of no particular merit. It replaced an original of far greater dimensions as evidenced by the existing masonry. The roof is modern and poor and has been greatly lowered. The original roof-line may be traced on the exterior. The 'Priest's door' on the north side is without any distinctive feature. The interest within the chancel centres in the graduated *Sedilia* with canopies and *Piscina*, the whole in four divisions, surmounted by an entablature of conventional floral design, enriched with cusping, much of which remains unfinished. The work has been extensively repaired; traces of red colour are still discernible and at one time the whole was doubtless richly decorated. The piscina which occupies the easternmost of the four compartments has a twelve-foiled oblong opening or drain, in the centre of which is a plain ball of stone, having four holes beneath to carry off the water. The floor of the chancel has been lowered throughout. It was extensively repaired in 1842-3.

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\* *Rides around Cambridge* (p. 73) by Rev. E. Conybeare. Cambridge: 1902.

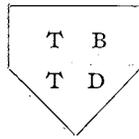
The nave arcade presents some points of particular interest. The five arches on either side are on a different level as will be noticed. An interesting series of finely-worked corbel masks or heads (without doubt for the most part portraits) mainly formed of clunch, occur within the spandrils, at the intersection of the arches in the nave and aisles, or in connection with the roofs. Commencing on the *south side* of the NORTH AISLE (E. end) are:—(i.) A man wearing close fitting hood and cape, covering shoulders; (ii.) A young man with long hair, curled, dressed in jerkin buttoned close in front with collar unbuttoned at throat; (iii) Floriated; (iv) Wanting; (v) Winged angel with hair gathered into a roll on either temple, holds small heater-shaped shield; (vi) Wanting. On the *north side* (E. to W.); (i) Floriated; (ii) Man with moustache, wearing seamless jerkin with collar; (iii and iv) Floriated; (v) Man with very mournful expression, a hand laid on either jaw (much worn); (vi) Female holding small shield. In the SOUTH AISLE, on the *north side* (E. to W.); (i) Plain; (ii) Head of man with long curling hair, wears coat buttoned up the front, with low collar; (iii) Floriated; (iv) A grinning jester who shows his teeth, wears hood and cape with scalloped edge; (v) Floriated; (vi) Wanting. On the *south side* (E. to W.); (i) Floriated; (ii) A young man with long hair (much worn); (iii) Floriated; (iv) Woman in low-necked dress, has long hair, bound by twisted head band; (v) Man, with contracted brows, wears beard and moustache and round flat cap; (vi) Floriated. In the NAVE on the *north side* (W. to E.):—(i*a*) Floriated; (i*b*) Wanting; (ii*a*) Floriated; (ii*b*) Young man with long hair and head band or crown—small wings appear to rise from the back of his shoulders;\* (iii*a*) Floriated; (iii*b*) Man with hair falling on both sides in tangled masses, he wears skull cap (or is tonsured) and high collar; (iv*a*) Angel bearing shield; (iv*b*) Man with hair falling over either cheek in broad flat masses, rolled at end; (v*a*) Angel with shield; (v*b*) Woman with

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\*.An interesting design, finely wrought.

flat-topped head dress, the band of which is worked in chevron pattern, the veil falls on either side of the face. Large projecting ears; (via) Angel with shield; (vib) Wanting. On the *south side* (E. to W.); (ia) Angel bearing shield; (ib) Wanting; (iia) A seventeenth century substitution for deficient original. At the sides are traces of the moulded stone. It now forms a roughly outlined shield, which bears the following lettering:

1622



the initials probably of churchwardens.

(iiia) A quarter circle bracket, plain (seventeenth century); (iiib) Woman with long hair, she has a collar (pierced with single holes) from which hangs a kind of square pendant ornamented with four dots, thus:— ∴ (iva) Angel holding shield; (ivb) Boy with long flowing hair, round cap and collarless jerkin; (va) Floriated; (vb) Man, with hood closely covering head and neck, he has slight fringe of beard on edge of lower jaw, and wears jerkin with large buttons up the front; (via) Floriated; (vib) Wanting.

The string course running from the cap of respond at the north-east corner of the nave joins that of the cap of pier of the chancel arch, while on the south side it falls some three inches below the upper moulding of the corresponding pier cap. It will be seen that the caps of the nave arcade, and also the stops on the north and south sides are different. On the south side the stops are semi-pyramids; on the north they are formed by uniting an ogival curve and a roll. The costume in which these demi-figures appear mark the period as that of about the middle of the fifteenth century. The nave arcade must be of somewhat earlier date. The later clerestory calls for no special remark. The roofs of nave and aisles are open and plain perpendicular, of good

character, that of the nave showing tracery in the span-drills. The north aisle possesses one feature that may be particularly noticed, *viz.* the north door, in conjunction with the window which is above it. The doorway itself is at once seen to have originally formed the outer entrance previous to the unwelcome addition to the original structure of an apology for a vestry. It is of early perpendicular date, boldly moulded chiefly of clunch, with (possibly) earlier grotesque drip-stone heads of barnack, considerably worn by exposure to the weather. The lower portion is hidden by the vestry floor which is at a much higher level. I am inclined to think that originally this doorway may have formed a porch entrance, and was moved inwards to be on a line with the north wall leading into the church. The three-light perpendicular window above is not central, and has an odd appearance placed to the west of the door. Although of fair proportions it is of lesser dimensions than the other aisle windows, and may at one time have formed the window of a porch. Alterations and additions have clearly been effected in and around this doorway, for there is a difference of style, construction and material. The arch of the doorway is depressed (*circa* 1425-1450). The position of a plain holy water stoup close by this doorway to the east in the north wall, is in itself a sufficient indication of some such alteration. This pre-reformation adjunct is now devoid of any particular character, retaining the mere form.

At the east end of this aisle is a very uncommon form of early piscina (which owing to its position behind the organ is much overlooked), connected with the altar formerly here. Of the dedication of this side chapel (or the corresponding chapel in the south aisle) I have no certain knowledge, but in the will of John Sygar (A.D. 1528) the gilds of St. Katherine and St. Ethelnote are mentioned as connected with this church.\* The piscina (18 in. by 17½ in.) is destitute of any moulded stone work

\* Cole's MSS. 209.

\* Palmer's *Village Gilds of Cambridgeshire* (Trans. Cambs. and Hunts. Arch. Soc. Vol. i.)

being simply fashioned in the wall and has a four-foiled water drain. It is stirrup-shaped, and is remarkable for the original fresco with which the background is decorated, consisting of the well-known masonry pattern formed of single lines with the branching four-petalled flower in the centre of each space.\* A stone bracket with rose carved on the under side, is on the adjacent east wall.

In the south aisle at the east end, is the piscina (25 in. by 27 in.) with an eight-foiled water drain and stone shelf. Facing this piscina, some two feet above the base of the pier in which it is cut, is a narrow slit or niche,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $3\frac{1}{4}$  in. of irregular form, having a circular head. At first sight I was inclined to regard this as an opening made for a relic of some kind, but in all probability it served a mere utilitarian purpose. At the west end it will be observed that the tower buttress, against which the aisle has been built, shows the line and angle of the high pitched nave roof of an earlier edifice. On the floor close by is the fine iron-bound oak chest (to which I have already referred) with five locks, in which are deposited the valuable series of documents relating to the Rectory Manor, the 'Church and Causeway' property, and other important papers, in excellent preservation.†

The recent opening out of the east tower arch, long blocked, has effected a much needed improvement. The lower portion of the tower is early fifteenth century work, built, or rather largely covered, with ashlar masonry. There is a buttress at either angle, rising to a height of some thirty feet. The upper part is formed of seventeenth century brick work, plastered over, and surmounted with four strange-looking bulbous turrets, fashioned it is thought after those which adorn King's College Chapel

\* This early form of decoration indicates late thirteenth century work, and deserves to be jealously guarded. Faint traces of painting on the chancel arch are mentioned as discernible in 1854. No notice of this piscina decoration has hitherto appeared.

† Among the miscellaneous papers is a report by Mr. Caley on the patronage of the Church from the time of the Norman Conquest. There appear to have been disputes at various times as to the patronage, and this may serve to explain the Pepys presentation to which I have already referred (pp. 78, 9).

with which however they have little in common. A variety of well cut lettering appears upon the lower face of the tower, over the west door, and upon the buttresses, indicating, it would seem, those who contributed, or were in some way connected with the work of re-building the tower which fell during a great storm in 1617. On the buttress at the south-west corner is:—

EDW NOR	IOHN NORM = AN . MARGRE	1617 NORMAN
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16 : M . N : 17.

beside many initials. On the west front over the door:—

JAMES : GRAVE 1617	SARA = GRAVE
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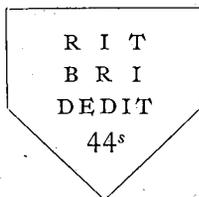
E. S.

T. W.

On the north-west buttress:—1617 THOMAS GRAVE.

On the north face of the tower:— M. C. W. C.

On the south buttress in a shield:—



There is a sun-dial on the south buttress dated 1885.

The fall and re-building of the tower is recorded upon an inscribed stone, now resting upon the chancel floor, but originally placed in one of the walls of a school

building that formerly stood in the churchyard north-west of the church. The inscription is as follows:—

THIS SCHOOL-HOUSE BEING  
DEMOLISHED BY THE FALL OF THE  
STEEPLE A.D. 1617. WAS REBUILT  
A.D. 1697 AT THE CHARGE OF  
MRS. KATHERIN PEPYS WHO ALSO  
GAVE A COMMONABLE HOUSE  
AND 100<sup>li</sup> IN MONEY FOR THE  
TEACHING OF POOR CHILDREN  
ALSO SHE GAVE TO Y<sup>re</sup> TOWN OF  
RANCE 100<sup>li</sup> IN MONEY FOR Y<sup>re</sup>  
USE OF Y<sup>re</sup> POOR.

The south porch has good pointed windows and bears indications of a parapet previous to the present battlemented construction. The south door is worth notice. The two heads supporting the drip-stone (probably portraits) are much worn and disfigured, that on the west side represents an elderly man with long beard and round high cap, the one on the left (presumably the wife) is less distinct. The door itself is a noticeable feature, the wood and iron work forming the original design. The upper portion of the carved work of the door has been much weathered, and is largely obscured by repeated coats of varnish or paint. The gable stone above the south porch is noticeable. It ends in a drip-stone termination over the slanting east end of the aisle, which in turn displays in the hollow of the moulded ridge good examples of grotesque sculpture. The gargoyles on the exterior of nave and aisles form a remarkably fine series and are upon the whole well preserved. The uniformity of the several windows of the aisles (and, except in regard to size, the chancel windows are scarcely dissimilar), is a marked feature. Their recurring and regular form is to me, I must confess, a little monotonous. The ebb and flow of the tide architectural is not much in evidence here; the gradual disuse of the decorated style led to a strong appreciation of the blending of types, the old and the new, as seen in the tracery of these

windows, and the entire re-construction of the church, was carried out in all probability before the opportunity came of varying the set design.

The woodwork of the church generally is of oak, modern throughout, but good of its kind. The chancel screen (a latter-day substitution for the rood screen) is poor in design, and detracts from, rather than adds any dignity to the interior. A chancel screen can only be acceptable when it conforms to this ideal. The seats with slight exception are open benches with poppy-head designs, representing it is said a variety of flowers and grasses found in the neighbourhood.

The octagonal font at the west end of the south aisle is of no sufficient interest to call for particular remark.

It will be observed that there is no proper vestry. Indeed even in churches of the size and importance of Cottenham this is no uncommon feature. It is reserved for days when vestments are generally restricted to little more than the surplice, and the act of vesting has lost its significance; to build vestries, more often than not to the despoiling of a goodly fabric. It would be interesting to trace the use of the word 'vestry' as applied to purposes altogether foreign to its original meaning. The vestry meeting of past days, rarely 'select' even when so called, was intensely secular, and even now it has scarcely changed, despite its supposed exclusive church character. The meetings of parishioners for business purposes in ancient times were held at Cottenham in the south porch where documents were duly signed and witnessed (as appears from those in the church chest), etc., etc. Gradually it may be supposed the assembly acquired by custom a kind of right to meet 'in vestry,' where such opportunity was found; if the exact thing did not exist it was improvised.

**MURAL AND OTHER DECORATION.** In addition to a painting on the west wall of the tower, existing in Cole's time (although then so much defaced by the weather as to be very indistinct), there were on either side of the belfry arch, figures of (1) TIME, and, (2) DEATH with the words "I stay for no man"—"I spare no man," and the

further inscription (so often ironically used in like case) "Repaired and beautified in 1740." The church was then lavishly adorned with texts of Holy Scripture. In addition, there was a painted rood screen, and an altar piece with painted and gilt canopy. There were also figured on the mural and other memorials then existing divers armorial bearings, etc., the disappearance of which is highly reprehensible. No ancient stained glass, armorial or other, remained.

THE BELLS. In the time of Edward vi., there were only two bells and a sanctus bell entered in the inventory, but in another list (*Queen's Remembrancer*, 3, Edw. vi.) "ffowre grete bells and a sanctus belle" are mentioned. There is now a peal of six musical bells, (probably recast only in part out of the old metal) by John Briant of Hertford.\* The first has JOHN BRIANT : HARTFORD FECIT. AN : DOM : 1800. OMNES INCOLAE PLAUDITE. The second, third, and fourth, have the founder's name, etc. only. The fifth and sixth are remarkable for an array of officials' names, to the last of which is added REV<sup>d</sup> PEPLOE WARD : RECTOR. STATUTUM HOMINIBUS SEMEL MORI. Cole mentions only five bells:

THE CHURCH PLATE as recorded in an inventory of 1717 included :—

"One fair chalice of silver double guilt and paten to it with black leather case, the gift of Dr. Leonard Mawe deceased.

"One fair silver flagon with a cover to it *E dono Reverendi Thoma' Iskill Rectr* with a red leather case to it.

"One silver flagon double guilt with a red leather case to it of the gift of the Reverend Doct<sup>r</sup> John Fitz-william deceased.

"One pewter flagon.

"A silver bason for collecting y<sup>e</sup> offerings at y<sup>e</sup> communion given by y<sup>e</sup> Rev. Dr James Smith."

The inventory of such church goods as remained in the sixth year of King Edward vi., furnishes us with an interesting view of the conditions under which our forefathers worshipped, and in this particular instance an indication is given of the important position of the parish

\* Bryant (the name is so spelt in the Exning baptismal register, June 8th, 1748) had a somewhat remarkable history. He received a classical education, and worked under Arnold at the St. Neots' foundry, R. Taylor being under him.

church of Cottenham. The magnificence of the copes, one of cloth of gold, another of red silk set with pearls, together with other vestments, one of which displayed "a picture of Christe on y<sup>e</sup> back" is striking. The stately ritual was enhanced by divers articles of church furniture including one pair of organs which are rarely mentioned in these inventories. There were only two great bells and a sanctus bell, a lesser number than actually found in the small village church of the adjoining parish of Rampton. It is interesting in this connection to note that Henry Gooderycke, a prebendary of Ely, and probably a nephew or some relation of Thomas Goodrich, bishop of Ely, was a commissioner in various ecclesiastical causes, including that under which the church goods were confiscated in the reign of Edward vi. I have in the introduction to my two volumes of *Inventories of Church Goods (temp. Edw. vi.)* relating to (i) Cambridgeshire and (ii) Suffolk, when alluding to the varied character of the reforming tendencies of the commissioners in the different districts, dealt with what I conceive to have been a predilection shown by them in the retention or otherwise of certain ornaments. At Cottenham in the sixth year of Edward vi., the following from among the church goods were committed to the safe keeping of William Wimpole the elder, Richard Essex, William Lovell, Robert Smyth and Richard Brasyer, viz. the silver chalice, a cope of white silk, a cope of blue satin, with the several cloths, surplices and rochets, for the only maintenance of divine service within the said parish church. The continuation in use of the cope, at least, is thus clearly sanctioned, if not actually established. The vestments and other articles of value not so appropriated were measured apparently by their intrinsic worth rather than by any supposed ecclesiastical blemish. At all events the more precious the object the greater seems to have been the necessity for its non-inclusion among goods reserved for church use. This is significant of a policy of rapine. The Churchwardens of Cottenham at this time were John Reade and Henry Bryggs.

THE PARISH REGISTER dates from 1572.

CHARITIES. There are several Charities, viz. :—those of (1) *Mr. Moreton* who in 1671 gave the moiety of an estate in the parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn for apprenticing children ; (2) *Mrs. Catherine Pepys*, who by will (A.D. 1703) gave a house and land for teaching sixteen poor children ; (3) *Mrs. J. Brigham* (1715) who gave a rent charge of £15 for the apprenticing of children ; (4) *Mrs. Alice Rogers* (died 1728) gave rent charges for a similar purpose and for teaching poor children ; (5) *Dr. John Fitzwilliam*, a former Rector gave a house and land for the benefit of the poor of Cottenham ; (6) *Thomas Maulden*, a house and land for a like object. In addition to the Townlands Charity there is the Church and Causeway Estate\* of considerable value which has from time to time been the subject of much litigation as the mass of documents in the parish chest sufficiently attest. Indeed the charities of this parish and the administration of the funds, before the Charity Commissioners stepped in, are known to have evoked considerable ferment and proved little short of a grave scandal. These charities in 1837 yielded the very considerable sum of £427 10s. od. A benefaction board in the church sets out the different charities.

MISCELLANEA. Among the presentments recorded in the visitation books at Ely, is one relating to a certain Richard Coverley who at Cottenham "taketh upon him to be a cunning man, being neither physician nor chirurgeon . . . to him divers do resort as to a cunning man or wizard."

The vigorous church discipline of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries was exacted of the parishioners of Cottenham in the form of open penance, chief inhabitants undergoing the ordeal by acknowledging in a loud voice their misdeeds before the whole congregation, after the reading of the Gospel, standing in the midst and craving pardon.†

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\* Formerly administered by "the seven men of Cottenham."

† I have dealt with this matter at large in the pages of the *East Anglian*, (Vol. vi. p. 207) where full particulars are given of a singular Cottenham case.

No account of Cottenham would be complete without some reference to the Rev. John Tenison who was curate here for nearly fifty years (1624-1673) under six rectors (three of whom were certainly non-resident). Through the troublous period of the commonwealth, and the distressing months when the plague desolated the country around, the good man pursued his simple life. He married in 1631, Mercy Dowsing, daughter of a respected inhabitant of Cottenham. The marriage took place in the adjoining village of Rampton.\* I am unable to assign any reason for this, seeing that neither family was in any way connected with Rampton, and the churches are a considerable distance apart. The second son of this union, Thomas, was born at Cottenham in 1636 (baptized May 2nd.), was educated at the Norwich Grammar School and eventually became Archbishop of Canterbury.

I have frequently been asked if the Dowsing's of Cottenham were in any way connected with the Suffolk family of the iconoclast, William Dowsing. I have been unable to trace any relationship, but some slight clue may be afforded in a Cottenham Apprenticeship Indenture bond of 1655, wherein Antony Matsome of *Stratford* Co. Suffolk, broadcloth weaver, bound himself in Ten pounds to set free his apprentice, Samuel Butler, son of Henry Butler of Cotnam, musician. Stratford, the abode of the Suffolk William Dowsing, about this time is thus brought into contact with Cottenham, and the two families not improbably were influential in bringing about the apprenticeship matter.

In an original certificate of the state of the diocese in 1563-1603 (*Harl. MSS.*, 594) the number of households in Cottenham is given as 121, while a return sent to the bishop of London in 1676 states the population to be 560, the number of "dissenters who obstinately refuse or wholly absent" 14.

The rectory of Cottenham was liable for an annual pension of £2 to the priory of Barnwell, which at the

\* Rampton Register, *Cambs. and Hunts. Arch. Soc.* Transactions, Vol. 1. pp. 212-236.

confiscation of property (*temp.* Henry viii.) became a fee-farm rent vested in the Crown. I am unable to say when it ceased to be paid or by what process it was apparently extinguished. This iniquitous form of rent-charge is still paid by many incumbents in respect of their benefices, but illegal exactions have of late led to a movement which has resulted in a change of front on the part of the owners\* to the advantage of some overburdened and impoverished rectors.†

I am obliged owing to lack of space to omit the lists I have compiled of Cottenham sur-names at different periods; also the field-names, wills of inhabitants and other topics of interest. One or two matters however, touching the fens, &c., ought to find brief recital.

The repair of the Aldreth bridge and causeway which had been destroyed in Simon de Montfort's rising was a controverted matter among Cottenham men as it was in subsequent times; so too was the vexed question of tithes. In 1343 it was set out in an agreement that *Smithy fen* according to custom should be every year laid 'in fence' from the Purification of the B.V.M. until the time of mowing and carting. The fen also was to be separated by furlongs of forty perches in length, in all of which John de Lisle and the Abbot of Croyland were to have first and second cast, and the townfolk were to have each a portion according to custom. The pennies received from the agistments in the other five fens, *viz.* *North Fen*, *Segeharwe Fen* (Setchel Fen), *Char* (or Car) *Fen*, *Tapping Moor*, and *Grekenhill Fen*, were faithfully to be placed in a box with two locks and taken out in the presence of the bailiff of the aforesaid Lords, and the bailiff of the Burdelay manor. So soon as nine pence received from agistments was deposited in the box, Lord John de Lisle, and the Lord Abbot were to have each four pence, and the Lord of Burdelay's the ninth penny. The demesne lands of the Abbot to be measured were

\* The fee-farm rents were largely sold (*temp.* Chas. i.) for small sums to any purchaser and are still marketable.

† This matter of Fee-farm rents has been largely dealt with in the *East Anglian*, Vols. x. and xi., also by the Rev. C. A. Stevens in his pamphlet "*Fee-farm rents and Monasterial Rent charges.*"

known respectively as *Three-rod-hill*, the *Butts*, *Alburgh-haye*, *Brad-meadow*, the *Headland*, *Mikel-Aldeburgh*, *Little Aldeburgh*, *Holme-meadow*, *Flegy-dole*, *Holme-hut*, *North-long*, *Foul Fen*, and *Frit Fen*. Windmills are mentioned as appertaining to the Croyland abbey.

While digging for foundations (September, 1904) in connection with the erection of additional buildings at the Baptist meeting house in the High Street, adjacent to the site of an old manorial residence,\* five blocks of wrought stone were brought to light. They were not *in situ*, but had been thrown in to form an earlier foundation. These stones when placed in order were seen to form part of a late fourteenth century doorway, making together about three feet of the jamb. In the adjoining yard I met with several fragments of barnack stone prominent among which was a portion of the socket base of a wayside or similar cross. Roger de Harleton had a licence granted to him in 1374 by Bishop Thomas de Arundel for a private chapel on his manor at Cottenham, and these stones are in all probability a part of that building. The habitation seems generally to be that regarded as *the Manor-house* owing to its long continuance and probably to its structural excellence.

Numerous fires that have occurred here are supposed to have contributed in no small degree to the present uniformity of buildings in the village. Several of the houses are fairly ancient and contain, especially in the interiors, interesting work of a bygone period. A great fire at Cottenham in 1676 when two-thirds of the town was consumed was the occasion of the issue of a brief for contributions, concerning which, entries are frequently found in the church accounts of various parishes throughout the country. A further brief was issued in respect of a fire in 1733, when Vincent Wayman, a quaker, incurred an estimated loss of £1,215. Several other serious fires occurred from 1827 to 1850.†

\* A few yards to the north-west lies the square moated inclosure referred to at pp. 66, 69, 72.

† The number of incendiary fires in Cambridgeshire during the 18th and early 19th centuries is quite remarkable.

Cole (*Add. MSS.*, 5802), gives a drawing of the church (south prospect) showing the tower "adorned at the top by fair neat turrets in which are placed as many freestones and is the admiration of all the country thereabouts" (!).

Cottenham long enjoyed a reputation for its cheeses. Previous to the enclosure 14,000 or 15,000 cows are said to have been maintained on the rich pasture now largely brought under the plough. The fame of Cottenham is not restricted to such pleasant scenes of pastoral life, it has in bygone days gone out in very different directions.

In the compilation, &c., of these notes (which are necessarily of a somewhat meagre character), I am gratified to have had the assistance of two of my sons, Mr. H. G. Evelyn-White, scholar of Wadham College, Oxford, (Hon. Sec. of the Oxford Univ. Antiq. Society), and Mr. K. V. Evelyn-White (of Queens' Coll. Cambridge). I only regret that I am unable to have reproduced here some excellent sketches expressly drawn by the latter in illustration of this paper.

C. H. EVELYN-WHITE, F.S.A.

*ERRATA.*

p. 58, line 1, for *VOCATI* read *VOCATUS*.

p. 58, line 24, for *sochemanui* read *sochemanni*.

p. 63, line 12, for *Thomas P . .* read *Thomas Polket*.

SOME  
NORMAN DOORWAYS IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE,  
DISPLAYING SCULPTURED *TYMPANA*.

The influence of Scandinavian art which made its way into this country, mainly it may be assumed by means of the incursions of the Danes, is a conspicuous feature in the church architecture of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. The rounded arch set in a principal doorway, often deep and rich, formed by a succession, in many cases, of receding arches, springing from rectangular jambs and detached shafts, frequently is found to exhibit above the arch, a semi-circular sculptured stone or *tympanum*. This is sometimes only slightly decorated with some simple pattern of conventional character, at other times it is elaborately carved, graven in *bas relief* with allegorical or scriptural subjects of singular and unique design. Possibly it is owing in no small degree to the comparative obscurity of the greater number of the places where such *tympana* occur, and the distance of the church from the main road, that the few remaining examples are still with us.

The character of this early Norman sculpture is in striking contrast to that of the subsequent centuries, and although at times indications of symbolic caricature in many forms of art, more or less grotesque, are not wanting, we have nothing that will compare with it, or that conveys the like impression of bewilderment at the strangeness of the conception, to say nothing of the crudities of the art.

It is a matter of no small wonder that so many of these inconceivably curious specimens of the stone-carver's art, should so long have adorned our church exteriors, while their preservation in a state of surprising





NORMAN TYMPANUM, PAMPISFORD, CAMBS.

freshness is equally astonishing. Although church renovators have frequently shown slight sympathy with the work of those who have preceded them, and often have not scrupled to make havoc of what their own intelligence could either not grasp or endure, or their skill emulate, it is a cause for congratulation that such interesting objects as the Norman *tympana* remain in sufficient number to allow of distinct and methodical treatment.\*

The existence of this class of sculpture, specially in a district over-run by Danes, points to a period not long subsequent to the close of the Danish incursion.† The locality however would doubtless long retain its hold upon legendary matter, and stories of wonder and heroic tales would be recounted as the ages rolled on. The Northmen who so persistently troubled this country left their abiding mark upon its life in ways that greatly influenced the generations that followed.

It is important to observe that just as there is an apparent linking together of the art of Saxon and Norman times, under what I conceive to have been Scandinavian influence, so the transition to the Early English period is a marked feature in the later examples of *tympana*, e.g. at Southoe and Folkesworth, Hunts. There is little further advance in a like direction so far as later times are concerned, and in such cases the subject of the sculpture is on distinctly mediæval lines.‡

There are in Cambridgeshire six examples that have been duly noted of Norman *tympana*, viz. *Ely* (2), *Bottisham*, *Duxford St. John*, *Kirtling*, and *Pampisford*. Those of Ely Cathedral are well known and have frequently been described and illustrated. Bottisham, Duxford St. John and Kirtling, although interesting each in its way, must be passed without further notice. The *Pampisford*

\* Since the preparation of this paper, Mr. C. E. Keyser has issued an elaborate and finely illustrated treatise on *Norman Tympana and Lintels* (London: Elliot Stock). We are indebted to his publisher for the loan of the process blocks from which the three illustrations accompanying this paper are drawn.

† In 870 the Danes devastated East Anglia and Mercia. Then Ely and Crowland fell.

‡ I would instance the sculpture of the Assumption of the B.V.M. above the west door at Over Church, Cambs., which is a case in point.

example at the Church of St. John Baptist is one that merits particular attention owing to the subject and singularity of treatment. It points to the probability of such *tympana* being *dedication* stones. In this instance the several figures, as may be seen in the illustration, are supposed to represent passages in the ministry of St. John the Baptist, conspicuous among the emblems being the executioner's block.\*

Huntingdonshire affords several examples of special interest prominent among which are those of *Stow Longa* (St. Botolph) and *Little Paxton* (St. James), both of which are here illustrated. At the former (over south door of chancel), a mermaid† with uplifted hands appears in broad contrast to the animal forms on either side, that on the right having the curious leaf termination to the tail and left forefoot, which latter is raised in a backward direction. The animal on the left side has the feet uplifted, one of which is placed over a cross-marked stone, presumably an altar. It has been suggested that *Isaiah xiii, 21*, offers an interpretation of this singular device, but with little show of probability. Another less likely explanation put forward is that it represents St. Brendan preaching to beasts and fishes.‡ A far more reasonable solution may be found in connection with the life of the saint to whom the church is dedicated (St. Botolph).§ Following the lead of an old chronicler, St. Botolph when he founded the town of Boston encountered the *develen*, nickers or water ghosts, which may be represented in the peculiar figures of this sculpture. This conjecture appears the more reasonable when the relation of the neighbourhood with the county and diocese of

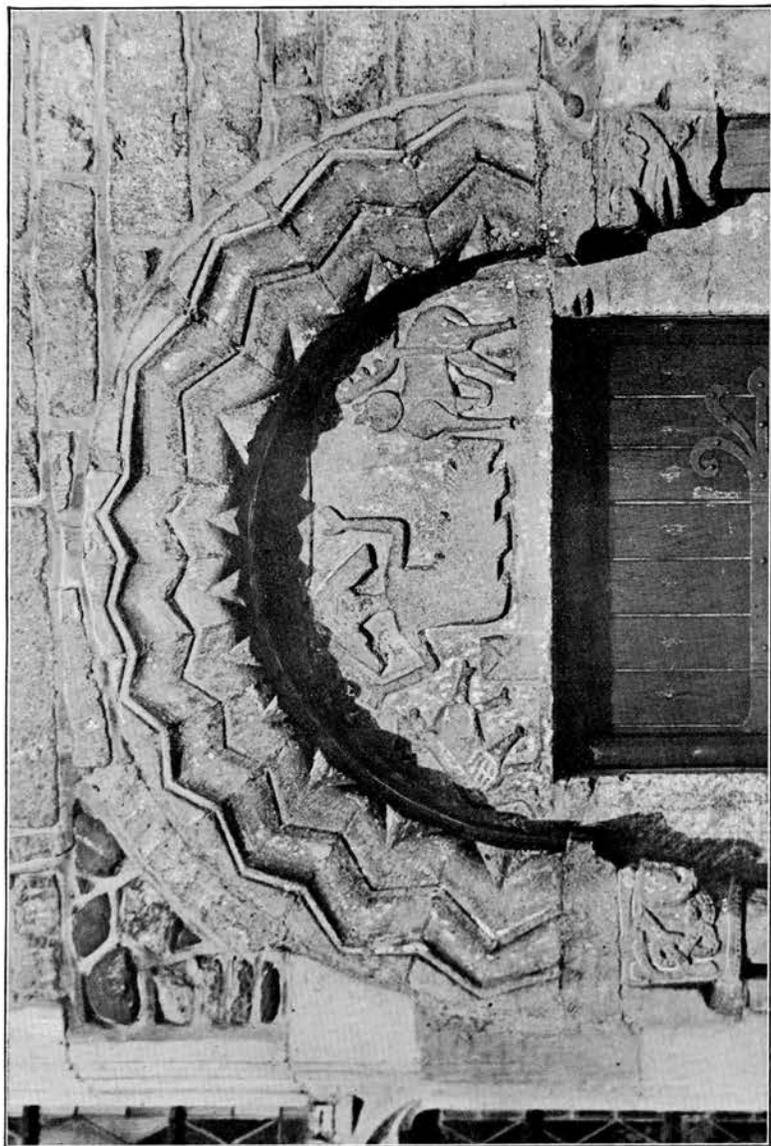
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\* The Church of Syston, Lincolnshire, has a lintel which contains nine figures similarly placed under semi-circular arches.

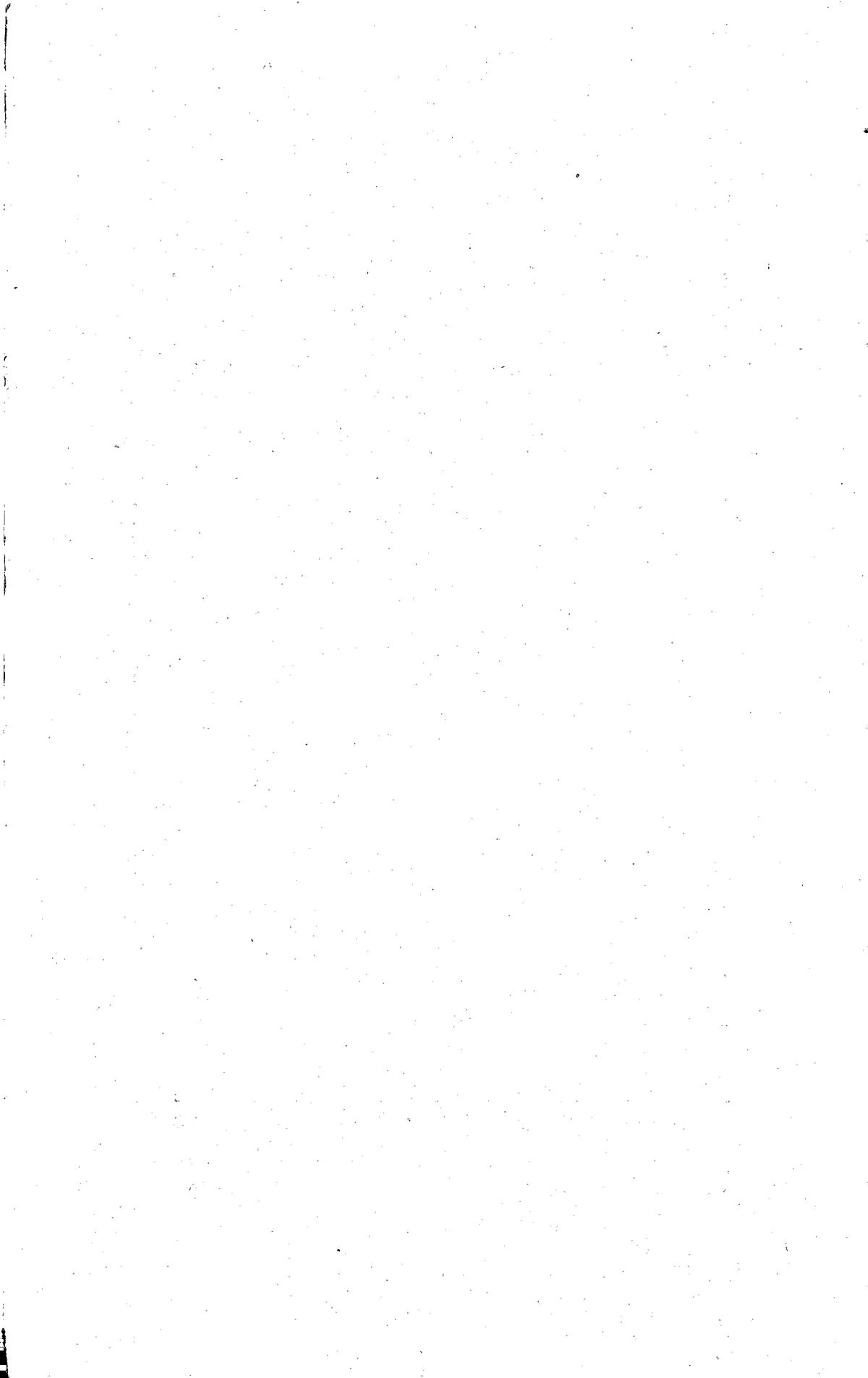
† The mermaid appears in Scandinavian mythology and was believed in as an object of natural history. A miserere carving at Lincoln has this very frequent subject finely depicted.

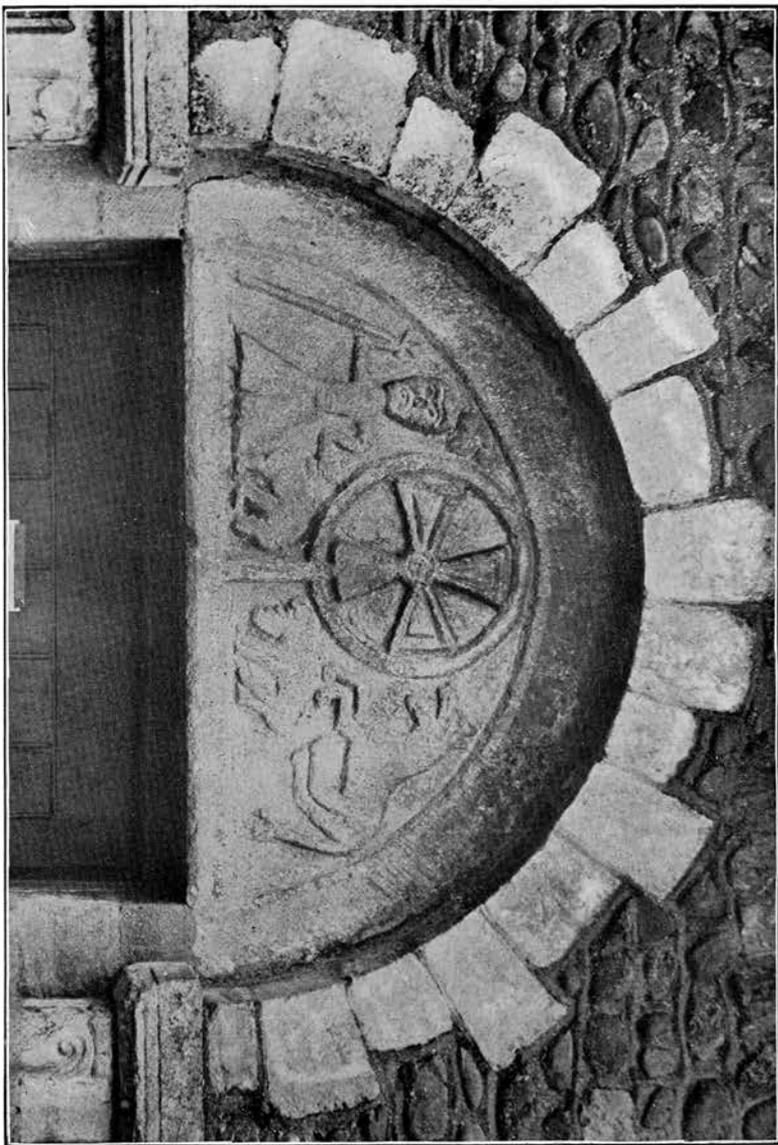
‡ The legend of St. Brendan makes the whale to represent the devil luring lesser fish to their destruction.

§ The suggestion, made sometime after the Society's gathering at Stow Longa, at once approved itself to my mind, and I have little doubt but that it is a correct interpretation. It supports the dedication theory which I urge as applicable in most cases, if not in all.



NORMAN TYMPANUM, STOW LONGA, HUNTS.





NORMAN TYMPANUM, LITTLE PAXTON, HUNTS.



Lincoln is considered.\* The legendary lore of the district, relating to saints having a local reputation helps to explain much that is otherwise enigmatical. Although little that is trustworthy is known of St. Botolph, a life of the saint was written by Folchard, abbot of Thorney in 1068 which serves to bring into close relationship St. Botolph's influence in the neighbourhood. "A God-forsaken devil-possessed spot," we read, was the swamp in the Lincolnshire fen that suited his requirements, and afforded him the desired opportunity for the better rendering service to God and man.† Early writers speak of the hideous monsters, devils in weird animal form, that abode in the fen country. Subsequent history recounts past horrors in a spirit of devout thankfulness on account of deliverance. St. Botolph it may be mentioned has a place in the Scandinavian runic kalendar as well as in Roman, Anglican and other uses.‡ A region of stagnant waters and oozy mud, at one time the abode of the mammoth and other extinct forms of animal life, suggested, by an easy process of reasoning the evil influence arising from a mire of corruption, that could be best counteracted by the cleansing agency of a saintly life.

At *Little Paxton* (over the south door of the nave) the *tympanum* displays the cross within a large circle, prominently placed in the centre of the device. To the right is a prancing animal form with a smaller beast having a human head, below the forelegs of the larger animal. The frocked figure of a man with a huge head, closely capped, holds in one hand a cross-tipped staff, or it may be a weapon; his other (distorted) arm is over a bowed or kneeling animal form. Above the man's head is what closely resembles a disconnected tuft or crest falling to the right, but this I suspect is intended for the *manus Dei*, or, right hand of God, a token of divine blessing and support in trial, often seen in early sculpture. The idea

\* Stow-cum-Spaldwick belongs to a Lincoln prebend. Little Paxton also, and Toseland (chapelries to Great Paxton) appertain to the Chapter of Lincoln Cathedral.

† So the fens of Lincolnshire glory in Guthlac the hermit of Croyland.

‡ The carved misereres at Boston will elucidate St. Botolph's surroundings.

conveyed, doubtless rests upon some legend at the time current in the Church. If led as lambs to the slaughter the faithful are assured of divine protection. The object held in the hand is not, I should say, designed for a crosier, neither am I inclined to regard the figure as intended for an unknown archbishop. Rather I take the subject as conveying the lesson of St. James' martyrdom (*Acts* xii. 1, 2), suggestive of the dedication of the church. The animal with wide open mouth has the peculiar contour at the end of a long tail as previously noted.

While it may be difficult for us to reconcile the strange association of grotesques with figures evidently drawn from sacred story, yet christian truth was thus enshrined in these blocks of carved stone so as to be read in those far off days by the passer by, and offered no such incongruity as that which now presents itself to us.

We are told that it is to the *Bestaries*\* we must look for interpretation of the strange representations so often seen in the sculptured *tympana*. For my own part I pay but little attention to this assumption. The source named may have suggested form, it can hardly be said to have conveyed inspiration or meaning. A moral doubtless underlies the mere form; even through distorted nature we may perhaps by patient investigation, discover for ourselves, if not the precise hidden meaning, at all events the medium that conveyed a kind of spiritual instruction. It will be found less difficult than at first sight might be imagined to formulate by means of quaint animal forms, &c., a story that shall appeal to the faith as well as to the fancy of an inquirer. To the men of old time, swayed by the power of association with the past, corrupt though it was, such pictures of strange beings and things must have been full of meaning. The state of paganism through which they had been brought was fruitful in imagination; every variety of malformation in the animal and vegetable world, at one time made to minister to the worst passions, had to

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\* *Bestiaria*, illustrated accounts of beasts. In this early form, information (largely mythical), as to the mysteries of creation was mainly conveyed to the understandings of our ancestors.

be brought to bay where complete subjugation was found impossible. Saxon life and feeling only very gradually fell away. In transferring their affections from Pagan divinities to the faith of Christ, this people subjected themselves to no inconsiderable deprivation. Strife between the powers of good and evil, displayed in so many forms of early sculpture, was a visible embodiment of the conflict between Christianity and Paganism, and however strange some of the conceits may appear there can be no question as to their effectiveness. The traditions and observances of a corrupt age, passing into a period of purer belief and practice, were cherished only so long as bye-gone influence told in their favour. Ancient superstitions indeed were so deeply rooted in the beliefs of our forefathers that the way towards Christianity was only rendered passable by some tangible adhesion to existing forms. No longer than circumstances compelled was reliance placed upon charms, omens and the like, but the workings of ancient superstition were only relinquished by a process of natural decay. Relics of the older faiths are largely lost in those unrecognizable forms, evolved out of the weird imagination of the race, which we trace in early sculpture, but even the scroll pattern and cable ornamentation of the Scandinavian and Celtic type, so often present in early decorative work, are illustrative of something much more elevated than pictorial effort. If we do not actually possess the key of such a system of symbolism (and its underlying meaning is to a great extent confessedly beyond us), we yet are able to fashion for ourselves much that is not wholly without significance. Later on, in mediæval days, when church life was vigorous and its presentation of doctrine ornate, facts and ideas were not uncommonly pourtrayed under fanciful guise that often bear resemblance to the devices of remoter times. The well known *Agnus Dei* representation that figures so largely in quaint *tympana* (a compromise doubtless between some heathen cult and a recognized christian emblem), is a case in point; also the dragon, which so often occurs, is prominent in the painted

*Doom* and elsewhere. Other like instances will be easily called to mind.

I have no space to deal with the remaining Huntingdonshire examples of Norman *tympana* and doorways, details of which I furnished in the paper originally prepared by me and read in part at a meeting of the Camb., and Hunts., Archæological Society,\* *viz.*: Bury, Covington, Folksworth, Toseland, Southoe and Stibbington.† Only one of these, Covington All Saints, bears human or animal figures. The subject (north door of nave) is that of two rams (?) butting at each other, an instance that would seem to offer no sort of explanation capable of carrying moral or religious truth; possibly it is allegorical of the contest that can only be ended when combat between the evil and the good ceases. The animosity of "the Lion and the Unicorn" will occur to our minds as a latter day embodiment of like import, albeit of lesser significance.

After all, it is perhaps to the mythical element in classic story that we ought ultimately to turn in our desire to unravel the allegory frequently present in *tympana*. The legendary transformations found in the *Metamorphoses* of Ovid furnish us with abundant illustration. I have refrained from exact allusion, and content myself with making the suggestion for what it is worth. It is enough to point to the broad fact of figurative display, which for ages, in a diversified and well-nigh endless fashion, has responded to the call of man's imaginative faculty.

C. H. EVELYN-WHITE, F.S.A.

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\* June 23rd, 1903.

† I am indebted to Mr. S. Inskip Ladds for an excellent set of photographs of these several doorways. I only regret my inability to have them reproduced here.

## REVISED RULES.

1. The Society shall be called the CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE LORD BISHOP OF ELY shall be Patron of the Society.

2. The objects of the Society shall be :—

- (a) To collect and publish information on the history and antiquities of the district.
- (b) To oppose and prevent, as far as possible, the execution of any injuries with which ancient buildings and monuments of every description, within the district, may be from time to time threatened, and to collect accurate drawings, plans and descriptions thereof.

3. The Society shall consist of Ordinary and Honorary Members of both sexes. Candidates for admission must be elected at a general or Council Meeting by show of hands.

4. An Ordinary Member shall pay an Annual Subscription of half-a-guinea to be due in advance on the first day of January, and remain a Member of the Society until he or she withdraw from it by a notice in writing to the Secretary, or fail after due notice, to pay his or her subscription within nine months of it becoming due. A member may compound for his Subscription on payment of the sum of Five pounds.

5. The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, one or more Honorary Secretaries, Editor, Treasurer, Curator and Librarian; all of whom shall be elected for the year at the Annual Meeting.

6. The General Management of the affairs of the Society shall be vested in the Council, consisting of the Officers and of twelve Members elected from the general body of the Members, four of whom shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election. The Council shall have power to add to its number, and ladies shall be eligible to serve on it.

7. The Council shall meet to transact the ordinary business of the Society four times a year as near as may be about Quarter Day.

The Council shall control the funds of the Society, shall decide what papers are to be published in the annual volume of the Society's Transactions, and determine all questions relative to plans and illustrations for the same; fix dates and neighbourhood for the Excursions, and shall have power to fill up temporarily any vacancy that may occur among the officers until the next General Meeting; also to appoint Committees, frame Reports, and prepare Accounts, duly audited, for submission to the Annual Meeting, &c. At the Meetings of the Council, three Members to be a *quorum*, and the Chairman to have a casting vote.

8. The Treasurer shall hold the current funds of the Society, receive Subscriptions, and make all payments sanctioned by the Council; the accounts shall be balanced to Michaelmas yearly, and when audited, shall be laid before the Annual Meeting.

9. The Ordinary and General Meetings of the Society shall be held at such times and places, being within the boundaries of the two Counties, as the Council shall determine.

10. Every Member whose subscription is not in arrear shall be entitled to one copy of such parts of the Transactions as may be issued during the current year of membership, and to purchase one further copy of such publication at half the price chargeable to non-members, and to bring two guests to the Annual Excursions.

11. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of October (Eve of St. Etheldreda), or at such other time as the Council may determine, or convenience dictate.

12. On the occasion of the Annual or other Meetings, the Council shall make arrangements for the reading of Papers in some Public Room, when Members may introduce friends.

13. The Society shall hold two Excursions in the year, arrangements for which may be placed in the hands of a Committee appointed by the Council.

14. No alteration or addition to these Rules shall be made except at a General Meeting, fourteen days' notice of any proposed alteration or addition having been previously given.

# Cambridgeshire and Hunting

## HON. TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

### Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
1904.			
Oct. 25. Balance received from Rev. C. H. Evelyn- White late Hon. Treasurer .....	39	13	4
Dec. 28. Subscriptions.....	5	5	0

£44 18 4

Memo : There was an outstanding liability on 31st Dec

## TREASURER'S STATEMENT

### Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
1905.			
Jan. 1. Balance from last year .....	7	10	5
Subscriptions received during the year, viz.			
For 1903 .....	10	6	
,, 1904 .....	3	3	0
,, 1905 .....	37	5	6
		40	19
Excursion Tickets sold .....	8	16	0
		£57	5
			5

*Assets outstanding :*

6 subscriptions for 1905 not yet paid.

October 17th, 1905,

F. GERALD VESEY, *Chairman.*

# Wiltshire Archaeological Society.

FROM 25th OCTOBER, 1904, TO 31st DECEMBER, 1904.

## Payments.

1904.		£	s.	d.
Nov	15. Cheque Book .....		2	6
Dec.	20. Account Book and Stationery .....		9	0
"	26. G. H. Tyndall on a/c Printing <i>Trans-</i> <i>actions</i> , etc. .... }	36	11	6
"	30. Hon. Treasurer, Postages to date .....		4	11
"	31. Balance in hand to next Account. ....		7	10
			<u>44</u>	<u>18</u>
				4

Number, 1904 of £24 1s. 8d., this has since been discharged.

AT SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1905.

## Payments.

		£	s.	d.
G. H. Tyndall, printer, &c., balance of a/c .....		24	1	8
Archæological Congress Subscription .....		1	0	0
P. C. Tomson for Printing .....		1	7	6
Excursion Expenses, Luncheons, Teas, Waggonettes		8	17	0
Secretary (Rev. A. J. Edmonds)—Postages .....		1	1	4
Treasurer—Postages .....			7	2
Balance in hand September 22nd. ....		20	10	9
			<u>57</u>	<u>5</u>
				5

<i>Liabilities</i> outstanding:		£	s.	d.
Tyndall, estimate for printing Part I., Vol. II. ..		25	0	0
Illustrations to ditto, extra .....				
Printing and Stationery, Postages and Incidentals } say .....		3	0	0
Insurance of Stock in hands of Curator. ....			5	0

Wm. EMERY, *Hon. Treasurer.*

*Audited and found correct,*

S. E. ARMSTRONG, *Bank Manager, St. Neots.*

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The Rev. T. Normandale, Vicar of Over, Cambs., will be pleased if Incumbents will forward to him short interesting extracts from their Parish Records, with a view to his embodying them in a paper for the next number of the Transactions.

A.J.E.

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CONGRESS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES  
IN UNION WITH  
THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON.

---

**Scheme for Recording  
Ancient Earthworks and Fortified Enclosures.**

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APPENDIX II.

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Since the scheme for recording ancient defensive earthworks and fortified enclosures was issued, it has been found desirable to develop the classification by the addition of

G. Enclosures, mostly rectangular, partaking of the form of F, but protected by stronger defensive works, ramparted and fossed, and in some instances provided with outworks.

H. Ancient Village sites protected by walls, ramparts, or fosses.

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**TUMULI, BARROWS, &c.**

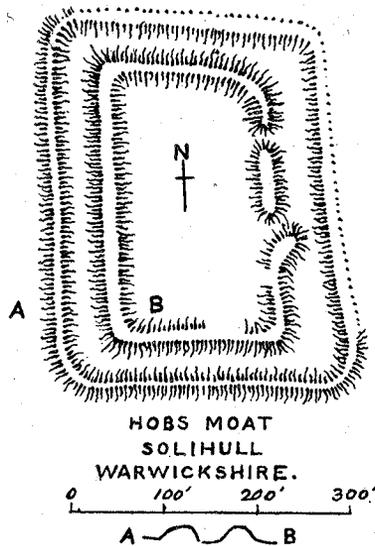
It was the intention, as expressed on page 2 of the scheme issued in 1903, to confine the labours of workers to purely defensive works, but those who have been working on the maps, or in the field, having found it easy at the same time to schedule *tumuli, barrows, and ancient boundary-banks and dykes*, it is suggested that a list of all such remains should be compiled, noting the parishes in which situated, and the position on the 6-inch Ordnance Survey map.

## CLASS G.

The works referred to under class G appear in many cases to be the sites of feudal strongholds, or manorial residences; at the same time it must be borne in mind that, as the late General Pitt-Rivers proved, simple, small, banked and ditched enclosures existed even in the far-away Bronze Age, and, it may be added, at various later periods.

Though generally simple in form, examples occur with outer courts, or divided enclosures, or with ramparting extending beyond the main sites.

Though usually small in comparison with early and similarly defended works, such as those of classes B or C, some of the works of class G cover an area of several acres.



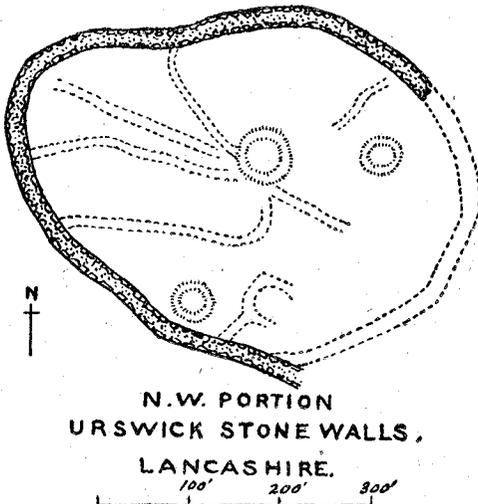
EXAMPLE OF CLASS G.

## CLASS H.

In many cases the second or outer court of mount and court strongholds (class E) contained the germ of village or town, but the works referred to under H exhibit a more simple form of defence, and are not usually attached to any castle or stronghold.

Ancient walled areas, such as some on the moors of the north of England, on Dartmoor and elsewhere, may be included in class H, as the term "village" is used to imply any collection of huts or houses, and some examples may have been for the protection of cattle as well as of human beings.

In lowland districts works of class H occasionally occur, which protected the manorial hold, the church, and village, by means of moats or ramparts, or both.



EXAMPLE OF CLASS H.

The classification of defensive works as recommended by the Committee now stands as follows :

- A. Fortresses partly inaccessible, by reason of precipices, cliffs, or water, additionally defended by artificial works, usually known as promontory fortresses.
- B. Fortresses on hill-tops with artificial defences, *following the natural line of the hill*;  
Or, though usually on high ground, less dependent on natural slopes for protection.
- C. Rectangular or other simple enclosures, including forts and towns of the Romano-British period.
- D. Forts consisting only of a mount with encircling ditch or fosse.
- E. Fortified mounts, either artificial or partly natural, with traces of an attached court or bailey, or of two or more such courts.
- F. Homestead moats, such as abound in some lowland districts, consisting of simple enclosures formed into artificial islands by water moats.
- G. Enclosures, mostly rectangular, partaking of the form of F, but protected by stronger defensive works, ramparted and fossed, and in some instances provided with outworks.
- H. Ancient Village sites protected by walls, ramparts or fosses.
- X. Defensive works which fall under none of these headings.

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Any further information will be given by the Honorary Secretary.

Postal Address :—

*I. Chalkley Gould,*

*Royal Societies Club,*

*St. James's Street, London.*

*July, 1905.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE  
ON  
ANCIENT EARTHWORKS AND  
FORTIFIED ENCLOSURES,

*Presented to the Congress of Archæological Societies,  
5th July, 1905.*

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The Members of the Committee as now constituted are:—

Lord BALCARRES, M.P., F.S.A. (*Chairman*).

Mr. W. J. ANDREW, F.S.A.

Col. F. W. ATTREE, F.S.A.

Mr. C. H. BOTHAMLEY.

Professor BOYD DAWKINS, F.R.S.

Sir JOHN EVANS, K.C.B.

Mr. WILLOUGHBY GARDNER,  
F.L.S.

Mr. A. R. GODDARD, B.A.

Mr. F. HAVERFIELD, F.S.A.

Mr. W. H. ST. JOHN HOPE, M.A.

Mr. H. LAVER, F.S.A.

Mr. C. LYNAM, F.S.A.

Mr. D. H. MONTGOMERIE.

Mr. C. H. READ, F.S.A.

Mr. J. HORACE ROUND, M.A.

Col. O. E. RUCK, F.S.A., Scot.

Mr. W. M. TAPP, LL.D.

Professor B. C. A. WINDLE, F.R.S.

Mr. I. CHALKLEY GOULD, *Hon. Sec.*

IN presenting this Report, the Committee again urges the Secretaries of Local Archæological Societies to obtain schedules of the ancient earthworks and defensive enclosures in their respective districts, and to publish them in their Transactions, or as a separate pamphlet, hoping by these means to increase public interest in these priceless relics of our country's story. It is suggested that reprints of such schedules, accompanied, so far as possible, by accurate plans and sections of works of each class, should be distributed not only to landowners and occupiers but also amongst the County, Borough, Rural, Urban and District Councils, which now so largely control the affairs of the country, and whose members may be able to use influence to prevent the destruction or mutilation which from time to time threatens the remains of so many early fortresses, camps, and strongholds throughout the land.

England is far behind many other civilized countries in the scope of its legislative protection of ancient monuments, but some movement in the desired direction is provided by the Ancient Monuments Protection Act of 1900, which empowers County Councils to purchase by agreement, or to contribute towards the cost of maintaining, any such records of earth or stone.

That further protective legislation is eminently desirable will be admitted by all who estimate the ever-increasing value of these object-lessons, left for the benefit and instruction of posterity.

Whilst regretting that more archæological societies have not already taken the desired work in hand, the Committee recognizes the difficulties, chiefly financial, which are serious obstacles to the undertaking, but hopes that the importance of the object in view may secure willing workers.

In the schedules and plans, appealing to a wide public, no great amount of detail can be expected, but the Committee takes this opportunity of pressing upon those contributing plans of earthworks, &c., to archæological societies to adopt an exact method of delineation of the features, with information as to the levels and other details, not only of the artificial work but of the immediately surrounding land.

The Committee hopes shortly to issue specimen plans and sections to serve as models for similar work in the pages of archaeological societies' Transactions; those which appear in the Scheme issued in 1903 being produced rather with the view of popularizing the subject.

The Committee has to report that the earthworks of the following counties are in hand, both as to schedules and plans: Essex, Lincolnshire, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, Staffordshire, and part of Westmorland and Lancashire.

The editors of the Victoria County Histories have been in close touch with the Committee, and it is pleasant to state that, in addition to Essex and Bedfordshire remains, referred to in the Report of last year, those of Warwickshire have been recorded (by Mr. Willoughby Gardner) in the published volumes of the series.

The Rev. E. A. Downman is contributing to the Victoria History plans of works in Northamptonshire, Dr. Cox is writing on those in Derbyshire, the remains in Berkshire are being described by Mr. Harold Peake, and Durham and Sussex are ready for the press.

The Essex Archæological Society has issued a preliminary list of homestead moats, asking for information to complete the schedule.

The Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society has secured about fifty plans of the county earthworks, drawn to scale by the Rev. E. A. Downman, and it is hoped will issue a complete schedule of the remains in Wiltshire.

The Cambridge Antiquarian Society hopes shortly to publish an account of the works in that county with plans, by Mr. Harding.

Mr. G. G. T. Treherne, a member of the Cambrian Archæological Association, is preparing fully detailed plans and sections of ten camps in the district of Carmarthenshire, known as Laugharnshire.

Amongst other literary matter bearing on the Committee's subject, published since the issue of the last report, may be noticed :—

- “Remains of the Prehistoric Age in England.” By B. C. A. Windle, F.R.S. (Contains lists of pre-Roman earthworks.)
- “Neolithic Dew-ponds and Cattle-ways.” By A. J. and G. Hubbard, F.S.A. (Contains reference to some southern earthworks.)
- “On Irish Motes and early Norman Castles.” By T. J. Westropp, M.A. (Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, Vol. XXXIV.)
- “Norfolk Earthworks.” By W. G. Clarke. (A series of articles published in *The Norwich Mercury*.)
- “The Repell Ditches, Saffron Walden.” By I. Chalkley Gould. (Essex Archæological Society's Transactions, Vol. IX.)
- “Anstey Castle, Herts.” By R. T. Andrews. (East Herts Archæological Society's Transactions, Vol. II.)

Excavations of several ancient defensive and other works have been undertaken during the last twelve months, in addition to the well-known operations at Silchester and Caerwent, including :—

- (i.) Infell, near Ponsonby, Cumberland. By Mr. W. G. Collingwood, F.S.A., and Dr. C. A. Parker, F.S.A. Scot. (Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archæological Society Transactions, Vol. V.)
- (ii.) Small Down, near Evercreech, Somerset. By Mr. H. St. G. Gray, who has produced a plan, sections and views ; and
- (iii.) Landsdown, near Bath, Somerset. The Rev. H. H. Winwood, M.A., has published the result of excavations of the camp. (Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society Papers, Vol. L.)
- (iv.) Arbury, Cambridge. Mr. Ambrose Harding has excavated on the site of Arbury, which is probably a pre-Roman stronghold, and a notice of the resulting discoveries will appear in the Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society.

- (v.) Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire. Mr. D. H. Montgomerie, a member of this Committee, following on the investigations of Mr. William Page, F.S.A., has been actively engaged in uncovering most interesting remains of the defences and other portions of the castle works.
- (vi.) Solberge, Yorkshire. Mr. John Hutton, M.P., the owner of the site, has made preliminary excavations likely to lead to interesting results.

Destruction or mutilation of earthworks must ever command the sorrowful attention of archæologists.

Mr. Percival Ross, President of the Bradford Historical and Antiquarian Society, reports that the Roman camp at Ilkley has been cut through from south to north at its eastern end to form a new road, the district being in course of development for building purposes.

Mr. Worthington G. Smith, of Dunstable, writes that the quarrying operations have already destroyed part of the fosse on the west side of Maiden Bower, one of the most interesting early earthworks in Bedfordshire.

Mr. J. C. Wall, who is examining the earthworks of Devonshire, mentions that a fine prehistoric stronghold in the south of that county is in course of demolition for agricultural purposes.

No doubt many more instances could be included in the black-list of destruction, but *per contra* it is satisfactory to mention that the Bradford Historical and Antiquarian Society has been successful in saving a large circle on Baildon Moor from interference by the constructors of a road.

Tumuli, barrows, and ancient boundary-banks and dykes deserve attention at the hands of those engaged in recording the earthworks of a county, and it is suggested that a list should be compiled. This is the more necessary as such remains disappear with even greater rapidity than earthwork camps and strongholds. In this connection it may be noticed that a remarkably full list of such works in Derbyshire will appear in the Victoria History of that county, 153 examples being recorded.

Although the Committee has expressed regret that more work has not been accomplished, it feels that its labours have not been in vain. Considerable attention has been drawn, through the Press and by much correspondence, to the importance of preserving remains, and it is believed that some good results will follow.

An arrangement has been made with the Editors of the Victoria County Histories that the original plans used by them shall, so far as possible, be deposited with the Society of Antiquaries ; also proofs containing illustrations from the same. These will be of great value to students of early defensive remains. It has also been arranged that lists of many earthworks, whether included among the published plans or not, shall be handed over to the Committee.

A second Appendix to the Scheme has been issued by the Committee, wherein is noted a further development of the classification, likely to prove of service to workers. And, finally, protests and petitions have been formulated against the destruction of landmarks of history.

Should it be the pleasure of the Congress that this Committee be continued, the Hon. Secretary begs that he may be informed of the destruction or mutilation of earthworks of any kind, should such unhappily occur ; the purchase of remains by corporations, or other public bodies, or the gift of such relics to them ; the issue of papers in Transactions, or as separate pamphlets or books, relating to earthworks ; in fact anything of interest tending to make the Report an annual record of more than passing value.

CONGRESS  
OF  
**Archæological Societies,**  
JULY 6TH, 1904.

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The Fifteenth Congress of Archæological Societies in Union with the Society of Antiquaries was held on Wednesday, July 6th, at Burlington House ; Lord Avebury, President S.A., having telegraphed regrets at unavoidable absence, the Chair was taken by Lord Balcarres, F.S.A.

The Congress was attended by Delegates from the Society of Antiquaries, the Royal Archæological Institute (2), the British and Cambrian Archæological Associations, the Huguenot (2), and British Record Societies and the Societies for Berkshire, Bristol and Gloucester, Bucks, Cambridge (2), Cambridgeshire and Hunts, Chester and N. Wales, Cumberland and Westmoreland, Essex (2), Hampshire, East Herts, Lancashire and Cheshire, Leicestershire, Shropshire (2), Suffolk (2), Surrey (2), Sussex (2), Thoroton Notts, Wiltshire (2), Woolhope Hereford (2), Worcester, Yorkshire East Riding (2), and Members of various Committees.

The Minutes of the last Congress, held on July 8th, 1903, were read and confirmed.

The Report of the Standing Committee was read and approved, and the Statement of Accounts, audited by Mr. W. Minet, F.S.A., was read and adopted. The thanks of the Meeting were given to Mr. Minet for his services, and he was appointed Auditor for the ensuing year.

The following were elected as the Standing Committee :—

The Officers of the Society of Antiquaries.

J. Romilly Allen, F.S.A.  
E. W. Brabrook, C.B., F.S.A.  
Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, M.A., F.S.A.  
Sir John Evans, K.C.B., F.S.A.  
G. E. Fox, M.A., F.S.A.  
G. L. Gomme, F.S.A.

I. Chalkley Gould.  
Emanuel Green, F.S.A.  
W. H. St. John Hope, M.A.  
Wm. Minet, F.S.A.  
Canon Rupert Morris, D.D., F.S.A.  
George Payne, F.S.A.  
J. Horace Round, M.A.  
J. B. Willis-Bund, M.A., F.S.A.

Mr. Ralph Nevill, F.S.A., was re-elected Hon. Secretary, and the thanks of the Meeting expressed to him for his services in the past year.

## EARTHWORKS COMMITTEE.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. I. Chalkley Gould, presented a Report stating that the Committee had been enlarged by the inclusion of Lord Balcarras as Chairman, Sir John Evans, Mr. Haverfield and Lieut.-Cols. Attree and Ruck of the Royal Engineers. Many offers of help had been received and more might be expected when the copies of the Scheme, now being circulated by the various Societies, have been finally distributed.

The Cardiff Naturalists' Society had undertaken a survey of the hill forts and Earthworks of Glamorgan. Reference was made to the purchase by the Brighton Corporation of the camp at Hollingbury and the gift by the Duke of Norfolk to Sheffield of the fortified hill called Wincobank. Maiden Bower in Bedfordshire and Wellington on the Ouse were, however, in danger of destruction. The Committee also presented a paper of hints which they thought would be a useful appendix to their Scheme.

Mr. Haverfield pointed out that the work of making records could not be regarded as at all complete unless it was accompanied by an accurate survey giving plans and contours. Some excavation at least should be done in order to settle the date; he expressed the opinion that the English Ordnance Maps, although not perfect, were quite as good as those of other countries. He also stated that a survey was being made in North Germany giving accurate plans and particulars of the camps there that were supposed to be the work of the Saxons. This would be of great value to English workers for purposes of comparison.

Prof. Windle also spoke of the need of accurate surveys, and asked that care should be taken that excavations should not be made at haphazard. He suggested that a list of authorities that could be consulted should be issued in any future papers, and that a leaflet should be drawn up suitable for sending to owners of property.

The Rev. T. Auden, Mr. Michell Whitley and others, gave useful information about work that was being done, and emphasized the lack of funds.

Lord Balcarras pointed out that the Earthworks Committee had no funds and could not help in this way, but that the Society of Antiquaries might assist, at any rate by giving advice. He also stated that there was urgent necessity for preliminary lists and surveys which might be supplemented as time and money allowed. Mr. Willis-Bund, Chairman of the Worcestershire County Council, pointed out that if lists were at once prepared and sent to the County Councils, it was probable that help might be obtained for the preservation of Earthworks from immediate danger. Mr. Ralph Nevill suggested that it would be most helpful if some copies of typical plans published of the North German camps could be included in any future publication of the Earthworks Committee.

Mr. C. H. Read, the Hon. Sec. of the Society of Antiquaries, spoke of the need for cataloguing tumuli and similar sepulchral remains and pointed out that these supplied almost the only material for the earlier history of our islands. He referred to his paper on the subject read at the Belfast Meeting of the British Association and mentioned records made for the War Office on Salisbury Plain and the great work of General Pitt Rivers. There was no doubt that the work was pressing and should be undertaken at once. After some discussion it was agreed that the Earthworks Committee should be asked to take up this subject in addition to their present work on defensive earthworks. Mr. Gould expressed his willingness to do so as Hon. Secretary, provided Mr. Read gave his assistance.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the Committee for promoting the Safe Custody of Local Records had been waiting for the Government to present the Bill which, it was understood, had been prepared. On the proposition of Mr. Freer, seconded by Mr. W. P. Phillimore, it was agreed that Government be asked to do this, so that steps might be taken to make its provisions known and obtain the support that all archæologists were likely to give it. Mr. Willis-Bund stated that the need was pressing as he knew of an ecclesiastical body of importance which had just destroyed a quantity of their old Records. Mr. Green stated that the Somersetshire County Council had made a grant for the preservation and cataloguing of their Records, and that the work was progressing.

Mr. J. H. Round read a paper on "Place Names," carrying further the suggestions made by him some years ago in the paper published by the Congress.

He pointed out the great importance attaching to Mr. W. H. Stevenson's forthcoming "Index to Names," and the value of such sources as genuine Saxon Charters, Feet of Fines, the Calendar of Ancient Deeds just issued by the Record Office and old Estate maps prepared locally. On the other hand such sources as the "Testa de Nevill," Dugdale and the Ordnance Survey must be treated with suspicion. He indicated that the Committee appointed by the Congress would ask the help of local societies to enlist workers to examine thoroughly certain specified authorities and certain portions of country and advocated an effort to correct the recent adoption of wrong forms, of which he gave an amusing instance—the Manhall of Domesday now appearing on the Ordnance Map as Emanuel Wood. Attention should be drawn to the frequent confusion between the terminations "den" and "don," "barrow" and "borough," and between the various meanings of that difficult word "wick."

On the motion of the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield it was agreed that Mr. Round's paper should be printed and circulated to all Societies in Union; Mr. Haverfield suggested that Mr. Stevenson should be urged to print at once his list up to A.D. 1100, by which date the antiquary

had already begun his perversions. Mr. Nevill suggested that perversions began much earlier, in fact at the commencement of scholarship, the Ven. Bede being a very bad example of the practice of explaining Celtic or earlier names by Saxon meanings.

The Secretary explained that the delay in publishing Mr. Gomme's General Index and certain faults found with the Annual Index arose from the neglect of Messrs. Constable, and he was authorized to write to them and endeavour to secure the prompt publication of the General Index.

Mr. W. P. W. Phillimore gave an account of the recently-formed Canterbury and York Society which had already obtained sufficient support to justify it in proceeding vigorously with the publication of the Bishops' Registers of various Dioceses; these would be given in extended form. Some discussion arose as to whether it would be possible to obtain the Registers of separate Dioceses at increased prices.

After lunch Mr. E. W. Brabrook, C.B., took the Chair; Mr. Round mentioned that the Pipe Roll Society had been revived and would probably arrange to issue its productions in separate counties. Mr. Green stated that the Latin was to be extended.

Mr. E. S. Prior, with the help of a large number of lantern slides gave an account of his attempt to produce a system of classifying effigies. His idea was that effigies, of which England possessed some 2,000 examples, could be divided into the three main classes of Purbeck, Freestone and Alabaster, and that they were the production of local trade centres where these materials prevailed, the use and fashion of material being in the order indicated which corresponded roughly to the 13th to 14th, the 14th to 15th, and the 15th to 16th centuries. Mr. Hope gave some corroborative particulars as to the use of alabaster for tombs, deduced from contracts that had been found.

Votes of thanks to the Society of Antiquaries for the use of their room, and to the Chairmen, were carried by acclamation.

RALPH NEVILL, F.S.A.,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

CASTLE HILL,  
GUILDFORD.

CONGRESS  
OF  
**Archæological Societies,**  
JULY 5TH, 1905.

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The Sixteenth Congress of Archæological Societies in Union with the Society of Antiquaries was held on Wednesday, July 5th, at Burlington House. Lord Avebury, President S.A., having telegraphed regrets at unavoidable absence, the Chair was taken by Lord Balcarres, F.S.A.

The Congress was attended by Delegates from the Society of Antiquaries, The Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, the Royal Archæological Institute (2), the British and Cambrian Archæological Associations, the Folklore and Royal Historical Societies, and the Societies for Berkshire, Essex (2), Hampshire, East Herts (2), Kent, Lancashire and Cheshire (2), Shropshire (2), Suffolk, Surrey, Sussex, Thoroton, Notts, Worcester, Yorkshire East Riding, Members of the Earthworks and other Committees, and Garter, Somerset Herald, Mr. Nigel Bond, and Mr. Oswald Barron, F.S.A., visitors, and several other delegates who omitted to sign the register.

The Societies for Bucks, Leicester, Suffolk, and Wilts were holding meetings on the day, and delegates were therefore unable to attend.

The Minutes of the last Congress, held on July 6th, 1904, were read and confirmed.

The Report of the Standing Committee was read and approved, and the Statement of Accounts, audited by Mr. W. Minet, F.S.A., was read and adopted. The thanks of the Meeting were given to Mr. Minet for his services, and he was appointed Auditor for the ensuing year.

The following were elected as the Standing Committee :—

The Officers of the Society of Antiquaries.	G. L. Gomme, F.S.A.
J. Romilly Allen, F.S.A.	I. Chalkley Gould.
Sir E. W. Brabrook, C.B., F.S.A.	Emanuel Green, F.S.A.
Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, M.A., F.S.A.	W. H. St. John Hope, M.A.
Sir John Evans, K.C.B., F.S.A.	Wm. Minet, F.S.A.
G. E. Fox, M.A., F.S.A.	Canon Rupert Morris, D.D., F.S.A.
W. J. Freer, F.S.A.	J. Horace Round, M.A.
	J. B. Willis-Bund, M.A., F.S.A.

Mr. Ralph Nevill, F.S.A., was re-elected Hon. Secretary and the thanks of the Meeting expressed to him for his services in the past year.

The Secretary stated that he had just had placed in his hands a letter from Messrs. Constable in which they objected strongly to a paragraph in the Minutes of the 1904 Congress, which stated that the delay in the issue of Mr. Gomme's Index and certain faults found with the Annual Index arose from their neglect: they requested a correction of this statement, which they regarded as prejudicial to them.

The Hon. Secretary said that he had not intended to impute wilful or deliberate neglect, and the expression was perhaps ill-chosen. Great complaints constantly reached him as to the non-appearance of the General Index, and he had made frequent representations by letter, and once on the instruction of the Standing Committee by interview, to Messrs. Constable, to whom the list of 300 subscribers and some paid-up subscriptions had been made over.

It appears that Mr. Gomme has not been able to complete a necessary part of the indexing that involves considerable clerical work, and that he is unwilling to incur expense on what has been an exceedingly heavy, and promises to be a quite unremunerative, task. The Hon. Secretary had thought that all further arrangements lay between Messrs. Constable and Mr. Gomme, but apparently Messrs. Constable do not consider that their responsibility begins until the whole of Mr. Gomme's copy is in their hands. Accepting this view as correct, the Secretary must of course withdraw the imputation of neglect and express his regret to the Congress that he had misunderstood the position and allowed so much time to pass without taking further steps to secure publication. It was clear that the Committee must consider the position of the Congress in the matter and bring it to some conclusion.

With regard to faults in the Annual Index, the complaints are generally of the non-appearance in the Index of certain transactions. Mr. Gomme, who prepares this for Messrs. Constable, states, however, that all volumes that are completed and published by a certain annual date are included in that year's index and that others published subsequently are put into the next index. Transactions issued in parts are never indexed until the completion of the volume. There appears therefore no reason to impute neglect to Messrs. Constable on this score.

Mr. Gomme states that hitherto only the names of those Societies have been printed in the preface whose transactions are actually included in the particular index. He has promised in future to give the names of all Societies whose works he undertakes to index. If nothing of theirs is given in the body of any index it will be because nothing complete has been published within the period.

Lord Balcarras then altered the paragraph in the Minutes of 1904 to read as follows:—"The Secretary explained that complaints had been made of the delay in publishing Mr. Gomme's General Index, and he was authorized to write to the publishers and endeavour to secure the prompt publication of the General Index."

## THE EARTHWORKS COMMITTEE.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. I. Chalkley Gould, presented a Report showing the considerable progress that had been made in the work of scheduling and describing these Monuments. Societies were urged to at once complete Schedules of the Earthworks in their district as a necessary preliminary to their description and preservation. The Report will be circulated with an appendix to the original scheme which deals with the subject of "moated enclosures."

On the motion of Lord Balcarres, seconded by Mr. H. R. Tedder, F.S.A., the Report was adopted, with thanks to the Committee.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the Dean of Wells had written to the Society of Antiquaries calling attention to an article in the "Quarterly Review" on our National Monuments and urging that the time had come for making some special effort to promote their preservation and, as a necessary preliminary, the preparation of a schedule. The Society of Antiquaries had referred the letter to the Congress as a suitable subject for its consideration, and, as the Dean of Wells was unable to be present, Mr. Willis-Bund had undertaken to introduce the subject. Mr. Willis-Bund in doing this spoke of the great difficulty that, as Chairman of the Worcestershire County Council, he had found at the present time in getting their consent to even the most moderate outlay. He advocated the necessity of first scheduling the monuments, and stated his opinion that, in connection with this matter, it was most important that the Government should be asked to fill up the vacant post of Inspector of Ancient Monuments, vacant by the death of Gen. Pitt-Rivers. He thought that the solution of other difficulties that seemed most practicable lay in grants in aid by Government added to the contributions of local bodies.

The Board of Education had in view the formation of school museums to supply object-lessons, but, in his opinion, the money would be far more advantageously spent in the preservation of national monuments, which might be taken to supply the very best of object-lessons, than in a miscellaneous collection that was likely in practice to be of an unsatisfactory character.

A delegate mentioned the case of Croxford Abbey in Staffordshire towards the repair of which the County Council had voted £100, although the building remained vested in private hands. Mr. H. Laver, F.S.A., stated that the Colchester Corporation had acquired power over their Roman walls and would not allow a stone to be touched.

Mr. Dale, F.S.A., called attention to the impossibility of controlling private owners, even if the schedules were completed. He instanced several cases in Hampshire where old buildings were being damaged, and especially the interesting remains at Warnford.

Mr. St. John Hope wanted to know what control the Inspector of Monuments would have, and stated that, in his opinion, the acquisition

of buildings by County Councils and Corporations was by no means always a success, as the tendency seemed to be to convert such places into tea-gardens.

Lord Balcarras thought that the County Councils had been rather more generous than Mr. Willis-Bund thought, although there was at the moment a wave of economy. He instanced the case of the taking over by the Northamptonshire County Council of an Eleanor Cross. He thought the Schedules should not be limited to such subjects only as were suitable to the care of County Councils. Any scheme should be carried out in a large manner, so that it might provide matter for students all over the world; this was being done in Germany. Private monuments might well be included in the Schedules, but it would be most dangerous to bring pressure from County Councils to bear on private owners. The potential responsibility of the Board of Works was all to the good, although, for the present, financial stress stops action.

Mr. Laver (Essex) proposed, and Lord Hawkesbury (President, Yorks East Riding) seconded, "that, in view of the importance of preserving our National Monuments, the Government be respectfully asked to proceed at once to the appointment of an Inspector of Ancient Monuments in the place of the late Gen. Pitt-Rivers": this was carried unanimously.

Lord Hawkesbury called attention to the proposal to mutilate considerably the monument in Westminster Abbey to Capt. James Cornewall, R.N., who, after losing both legs at the siege of Toulon in 1743, remained on deck in command until the close of the engagement. This was, he stated, the first monument directly erected by Parliament; the object was to make room for a memorial of the late Lord Salisbury. The meeting entirely agreed with his view that the removal or mutilation of a monument erected by the nation was to be deprecated as the worst of precedents. Mr. W. P. Phillimore mentioned the mutilation of the monument to Capt. Tyrrell that took place some years ago.

The Rev. H. A. Lipscombe drew attention to the possession by the trustees of the Saffron Walden Museum of brasses that had been proved to come from Sawbridgeworth Church. These the authorities there were anxious to replace, but the trustees had so far declined to restore them. Instances were given of brasses that had been so given up, Mr. Hope stating that the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge had set a good example in this way.

It appearing that there was no chance of the Bill for the Custody of Local Records being proceeded with this session, it was decided to refer it to the Sub-Committee, to which Dr. Phillimore was added in place of the late Mr. Blashill. Dr. Phillimore stated that the National Society had reprinted the Bill with certain new clauses suggested on behalf of the clergy.

Mr. J. H. Round introduced the subject of Court Rolls, and stated that Sir Alfred Scott-Gatty, Garter King-of-Arms, and Mr. Burke, Somerset Herald, who were both present, would be willing to serve on a committee to prepare a report as to what steps could be taken for their scheduling and preservation. The importance of Court Rolls might be summarized as Genealogical and Institutional, and they therefore appealed to a large class of students.

How important they were from the latter point of view was well shown in the recent great work of Prof. Vinogradoff on the English Manor, in which he concluded that the Manor stood to the world of Western Europe in much the same relation as the City did to ancient Greece. A letter was read from Mr. Brady stating that he had long been anxious to take part in a Society for dealing with Court Rolls and had received great promises of support from landowners and stewards.

Mr. Oswald Barron, F.S.A., said he had found owners ready to give access to Court Rolls and to part with them to proper custody. He pointed out that the Public Record Office has power to take charge of them, and suggested that this was the best place of deposit. As they would always be accessible it would be better not to encourage the retention of the power of withdrawal, which might very possibly cause great trouble.

Mr. Willis-Bund gave instances of the easy acquisition of Court Rolls, and pointed out that part of the work of any Committee would be to prepare a list of the Manors in the Kingdom.

Mr. R. T. Andrews spoke of the manner in which Rolls and other ancient Deeds got separated from their lawful possessors, and instanced the finding of the Minutes of a Corporation in a lawyer's strong room.

The Hon. Secretary stated that the subject seemed one that the Congress might well take up. There was a substantial balance in hand, and, although this was satisfactory in one way, it would be much more satisfactory if the money was spent on some useful object. The difficulty was always to find an active Secretary for any new undertaking, and it was understood that Mr. Burke would be willing to serve in this case. He was of opinion that something should be done to show students how Court Rolls should be dealt with. A summary might be given of the various points of interest and suggestions as to what and how abstracts should be published. He thought that a good way of doing this would be to publish a short Court Roll treated in a model way. At present few knew how to deal with the matter, and such an example would probably lead to many undertakings.

Dr. Phillimore pointed out that it was difficult to say that Court Rolls would never be of further value, as they might have to be consulted as to title or as to such matters as mining rights. He proposed, and the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, F.S.A., seconded, that Mr. Round, Garter King-of-Arms, Somerset Herald, Mr. I. Brady, and Mr. Oswald

Barron, with power to add to their number, be appointed a Committee to prepare a scheme for the preservation and utilization of Court Rolls : this was carried unanimously.

Dr. Hen. Laver, F.S.A., President of the Essex Archæological Society, introducing the subject of the preservation of County Boundaries, said that the immediate cause was the proposal of the Local Government Board to take ten parishes from Essex and to add them to Hertfordshire. He thought all counties were interested, since similar proposals were likely to be made affecting them.

The cause of the proposal was the difficulty arising in administration, from the fact that unions frequently comprised parts of two or more counties, and hence arose troubles as to swine fever, police, &c. Unions were not permanent, and he could see no reason that the Local Government Board could not make arrangements for Counties to work together and avoid this alteration of boundaries that was so objectionable. It was true that the Local Government Board had stated that it was not intended to interfere with the position of these parishes as part of the County of Essex, but in a previous case in which the same assurance had been given two parishes had been taken from Essex and added to Cambridgeshire, and were now shown as part of Cambridgeshire in the official Ordnance maps.

Mr. Willis-Bund said that his experience as Chairman of a County Council was that the difficulties as to swine fever and police were easy to get over by a little management. The real trouble was caused by a clause in the District Council Act of 1894. No doubt, with a laudable view of preserving the integrity of the Counties, this Act laid down that where a Union was in two or more counties there must be a District Council for each County. In consequence the smaller members were in constant trouble from the difficulty of finding satisfactory representatives and rates. It was very desirable that this part of the Act should be repealed.

The Rev. T. Auden, F.S.A., mentioned that trouble from the alteration of boundaries was by no means confined to the counties. In Shropshire great alterations were in progress in the Lichfield and Hereford dioceses owing to the creation of the New Bishopric of Birmingham. One entire rural Deanery was to be transferred from the diocese with which it had been connected for centuries.

Mr. Chalkley Gould mentioned that this same plan to absorb the parishes of Essex had been made by the Herts County Council in 1894, but on finding the strong feeling in Essex on the subject the Chairman of the Herts County Council had at once gracefully withdrawn the proposal.

Mr. R. T. Andrews, speaking as delegate of the East Herts Archæological Society, said that his Society—and he believed the people of Herts generally—would be unwilling that a proposal so repugnant to the people of Essex should be carried out.

After some verbal alterations suggested by Sir Edward Brabrook, C.B., the following resolution, proposed by Dr. Laver, and seconded by Mr. R. T. Andrews, was carried unanimously :—

“That the Congress of Archæological Societies, attended by delegates from all parts of the country, respectfully urges upon the Government the great objection that exists to proposals to alter county boundaries, thereby destroying the continuity of history, confusing old records, spoiling county maps and histories, rendering research more difficult, and damping the spirit of local patriotism.

“It is further urged that where the alterations are for administrative purposes the object in view could be accomplished without change of county names and without altering Ordnance maps by amendment of the Local Government Act of 1894.”

The Secretary was directed to forward this and the previous resolution to the Prime Minister, and in the covering letter to call attention to the remarks of Mr. Willis-Bund.

Votes of thanks to the Society of Antiquaries for the use of their rooms and to the Chairman were carried by acclamation.

RALPH NEVILL, F.S.A.,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

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