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the Manor of Beachamsted, we conclude that this is the Manor House of the De Beauchamps. We hear of a Hugo de Beauchamp claiming a large part of Staughton in the Thirteenth Century. And there were branches of the family in the neighbouring county of Bedford, viz. at Bedford Castle and at Eaton Socon. The Barony of the De Beauchamps is now extinct. But Lord St. John of Bletsoe is a descendant. John Leland in his itinerary mentions this House in 1538. Thus "From St. Neots to Stoughton village by some enclosed ground, about 3 miles, it is in Huntingdonshire. There hard by the Church is a pretty house of Oliver Leder and pretty commodities about it. From Stoughton to Melchbourn village, about 4 miles there be much pasture and some corn ground. How water cometh to Stoughton village and then about a mile lower than St. Neots into the Ouse River." This is the Oliver Leder who bought the Rectory and the Rectory Manor of Henry VIII in 1539.

In the Edwardian Inventories for Huntingdonshire we learn that when Oliver Leder was at Place House, the roof of the Church fell in, and for the repair of this, some of the ornaments of the Church, the vestments, rich cloth and other church furniture were sold. Oliver Leder died in 1557, and Frances his wife the year after. On their death the Rectory and Rectory Manor passed into the hands of Thomas Baldwin, uncle of Frances Leder, and Beachampstead Manor was bought by Sir James Dyer of Wincanton, Somersetshire. He is the author of an important law book entitled "Reports of Cases in the Reign of Henry VIII, Edward VI, Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth" highly commended by Sir Edward Coke, and still quoted in the courts of law. He was succeeded in Place House by a great-nephew Sir Richard whose figure is on the tomb in the Chancel. Sir Lodovic Dyer was a grandson of Sir Richard (he was a youth of about 15 years, when the Herald's visitation of Staughton was made), he was owner of this property and also of property at Colmworth. There is a Recumbent figure of Sir Lodovic Dyer on a tomb in Colmworth Church.

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The property was in the possession of Edward Coke from 1661 till 1713, and then of Lord Foley of Kidderminster to 1718. He was succeeded by Colonel Howe, son-in-law of Kennett, Bishop of Peterborough. The Rev. Christopher Walters succeeded to the property by marriage with Sophia Howe. We have a touching memorial of the Rev. C. Walters and Sophia his wife in the Communion Plate of Staughton Church given by him in memory of his wife, who died at the early age of 36, in 1750.

There is a brass in the chancel in memory of the Rev. Richard Walters, a member of this family, Chaplain of H.M.S. Centurion, in Commodore Anson's Expedition, and Author of the well-known "Voyage Round the World." He died, March 10th, 1785, aged 67 and was buried in this Church. In 1823 Place House was purchased by Sir James Duberly.

THE MANOR OF GREAT STAUGHTON.

On a hill north-west of Great Staughton Church is a little Farm, marked on the Ordnance Map, 'Old Manor House.' Close to this is an enclosure surrounded by two well-defined moats, shewing that here plainly once stood a fortified dwelling.

This site is sometimes marked on maps as Cretinsbury, sometimes called Cretinburgh and as "Burh," indicates (according to Bishop Stubbs) the dwelling of the Powerful Man of the Saxon Community, this is the place where once lived the Chief of the Saxon Community that settled in Stockton; and here also lived the Lord of the Manor of Great Staughton when the Township of Saxon times had developed into the Manor of the Norman period.

The last owners of the Manor before the Crown were the Wautons. Valentine Wauton, whose name appears frequently in our registers, was married to Margaret, Aunt of Oliver Cromwell the Protector. The Register of their marriage is to be found in St. John's Church, Huntingdon, of the baptism of their children in the Registers of Great Staughton.

He was a vehement Parliamentarian and was on the commission appointed to try Charles I, and which condemned him, and the name of Valentine Wauton appears on almost every one of the lists of those attending the meetings of the Commission. He prevented the plate of the University of Cambridge being sent to the King for his service. He was taken prisoner by the Royalists, but was exchanged and afterwards made Colonel in the Parliamentary Army.

When Monk was endeavouring to effect the Restoration, he fled the country, and he lived in Holland under a feigned name, working as a gardener; and died there. As a Regicide his land was confiscated and is now in the possession of the Crown.

He succeeded George Wauton,[1] whose monument is in the Church, in the Manor of Great Staughton.

A John de Wauton or Waveton succeeded to this property in Staughton by marriage with the heir general of Sir Adam de Cretin, a knight who distinguished himself in the French Wars of Edward III.

It was from his family that the Manor of Staughton got the name of Cretingsbury or Cretinburgh. The Cretins themselves succeeded to the property by a marriage with the heiress of the Criols whose names appear as Lords of the Manor of Great Staughton, and in the document that tells us that Licence had been given to the Engaines to have a Private Chapel at Gaynes, Geoffrey de Mandeville is mentioned as the Patron of the living of Great Staughton. He therefore was one of the Lords of the Manor. The Manor House has long been pulled down, probably when the lands were confiscated.

Staughton as far as one can tell, appears in the Domesday Book under the name of Tokestone, we read : " In Tokestone, the Bishop of Lincoln had vi hides paying geld. There is land for xvi ploughs. There are now in demesne ii ploughs and a half, and xvi villeins and iiij

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1. Sir George Wauton and Sir Oliver Cromwell his friend were both in command of troops in the army that was called to meet the Spaniards in the expected invasion by the Spanish Armada. Sir George was knighted by James I.

borderers having viii ploughs.   There is a Priest and a
Church and xxiiij acres of meadow and c acres of woody
pasture in the time of King Edward, and now worth x
pounds.   The Abbott of Ramsey claims over the Bishop
in this Manor."

THE PARISH, THE RECTORY, VICARAGE,
STAUGHTON HOUSE.

The word "Parish" is the equivalent of the latin
"parochia" and the Greek "par-oikia."   This in the
early days was applied to the "District" over which
the Bishop himself had the presidency.   But afterwards
it was applied to that district which the Bishop assigned
to one priest to have the oversight of, as his parish.

The "Parish" is not necessarily coincident with the
"township" or the "manor," for the township may
have several "*parishes*" in it, and the "parish" may
have several "*manors*" in it.

The Parish of Great Staughton includes the township
of Great Staughton and the Manor of Great Staughton.
The manor itself including the sub-manors of Beach-
hamstead and of the Rectory and the hamlet of Staugh-
ton Moor.   The Parish also includes the Manor of
Dillington with the hamlets of Dillington and Perry.
The formation of Parishes grew out of the practice of
the Lord of the Manor applying to the Bishop for a
chaplain for his household and tenants, and so in course
of time the Bishop assigned the Spiritual cure of the
district around, whether of manor or manors to the
Priest thus appointed.

Those priests who were first appointed to have the
cure or rule over the Parish were called "Rectors,"[1] and
as the Rectors represented the Parish, they were called
the Person or "*Parson*" of the Parish, and it is to the
"Rector" of the Parish only, that the designation
"Parson" rightly belongs.   We are able to make a list
of Rectors and Vicars of the Parish from the early part

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1.   Except when the church was built after the parish or manor became
monastic property, when the Incumbent seems to have been invariably
styled 'Curate.'—(Ed.)

of the Thirteenth Century to the present time. The first name that we have on our list is Radulphus, Rector from 1238 to 1264. And so there follows an almost ·complete and continuous list from that time to the present.

In 1383 the living was assigned as an endowment to the Carthusian Monastery in London. From this time the Rectory and the Rectory Manor were attached to this Monastic institution, which was however bound to provide " a Vicar " or deputy to perform the duties of the parish and also to provide a sufficient income to enable him to do so.

As the monastery was now the Rector, the incumbents became Vicars and the monastery Patrons.

Before this the Lords of the Manor were patrons, and so we find the Mandevilles, the Criols, and the Cretins were Patrons of the living; and on the suppression of the Monastery in 1539, Oliver Leder and his wife became Patrons, but, on their death the patronage and the Rectorial Property went to Thomas Baldwin, uncle of Frances Leder. The Baldwins then became Patrons and Rectors, and they lived in Staughton House which appears to have been the Old Rectory House.

The Patronage passed from Thomas Baldwin to his son John, and so to two other generations of Baldwins. The last John Baldwin sold the living of Great Staughton (which would include the Advowson and the Lordship of the Rectory Manor but not the Rectorial Glebe, Tithes and House) to Viscountess Campden in 1631 for £1050, and she then became Patron of the living and presented John Gaule to the Vicarage in 1632. But the Advowson was given by her to Archbishop Laud (at one time President of St. John's College, Oxford) and he in turn gave it to that College, and since that time St. John's College has been the Patron of the living, and all the Vicars since John Gaule have been appointed by St. John's College. But although the Patronage of the Living and the Lordship of the Rectory Manor passed from the owners of Staughton House, yet the other property attached to that house did not; but after the death of John Baldwin in 1657, the Staughton House

Estate passed to John Conyers, afterwards Sir John Conyers, Bart., who married in 1675 Mary Newman, who, we are told, brought to her husband the Estate called the Baldwyns, and whom we may presume was related to the Baldwyn family, though what the relationship was has not yet been discovered.

Sir John Conyers died in 1719 and was succeeded by his son, Sir Baldwyn Conyers.

Sir Baldwyn died in 1731, and leaving only daughters, the title passed to a cousin, Sir Ralph Conyers of Chester. The ninth and last baronet, Sir Thomas Conyers died in 1810.

This last baronet, we are told, died in abject poverty; and his daughters were married to labouring men. It is said that he was compelled to go to the workhouse in Chester-le-Street, but he did not die there.

A benevolent antiquarian of Durham raised a subscription for him and had him removed to comfortable lodgings, where he died shortly afterwards. Concerning this family we learn from Burke's extinct Baronetages that it is one of the oldest in the kingdom; it sprung from Roger de Coigniers, Constable of Durham in 1095, and the family may be traced through the centuries to the reign of Charles I, who made one of them, John Conyers the Baronet, in 1628. His grandson, John Conyers, was the one who succeeded to the Baldwyn's property in Great Staughton.

The last of the Baldwyns who lived at Staughton House, viz.: John Baldwyn, and also those persons living at Staughton at that time, viz.: John Gaule, Vicar, and Valentine Wauton, Lord of the Manor, were all on the Parliamentary side; but the sympathies of the Conyers family were in an opposite direction.

We find some curious notes in the Registers concerning them, viz.: that Sir John Conyers received the Sacrament in Great Staughton Church, September 4th, 1715. Sir Baldwyn on Easter Day, April 9th, 1720, did likewise, also we note that Sir Baldwyn had one daughter christened " Henrietta Maria," and two of his daughters became nuns.

The Coniers were succeeded at Staughton House by Lord Ludlow otherwise Lord Preston descended from the celebrated General Ludlow. He was succeeded by Mr. Parker, and he by the Onslow family. The ashes of the last member of General Onslow's family were buried in Great Staughton Churchyard two or three years ago.

Staughton House appears to have been the Old Rectory, but the Old Vicarage is that house which is now called the Rectory Farm. This formerly was called the Hermitage. We have a note in the Parish Books that Mr. James Pope, who was Vicar between 1796-1820, nearly rebuilt this at the beginning of the Nineteenth Century. The present Vicarage was built in 1852 by Mr. H. B. Wilson, who succeeded to the Vicarage in 1850. He is the most famous of the Vicars, at least in later times, as the author of one of the Essays in the well-known publication called "Essays and Reviews."

For his Essay he was prosecuted in the Ecclesiastical Courts and suspended from his benefice for one year; but appealing to the Privy Council and defending himself, the decision was reversed, and the suspension taken off.

GAYNES HALL.

Gaines Hall is, I believe, the Manor House of the Manor of Dillington. Dillington was the township of the Dillings or the township of persons who were all related to, or supposed to be related to one another, and bore the name of Dillings. Of Dillington we read in Domesday Book, "In the Manor of Dillington (Dillingtune) the Abbot of Ramsey hath six hides that paid Geld. There is land for 12 ploughs. Here there are now in the demesne two ploughs and 16 villeins who have ten ploughs. There are 12 acres of meadow. Wood for pannage one mile and two furlongs long and one mile broad. In the time of King Edward its value was six pounds and it is now four pounds."

The moats of which we find the remains indicate that it was the fortified dwelling of the powerful man of the township, and Dillington the little place below the Hill

was once the Saxon or Engle township of which this house is the burgh or afterwards the Manor House. The earliest Record of Dillington tells us that it was given by a certain Widow (Leofwine) to Ramsey Abbey in the Tenth Century, and that this gift to the Abbey was afterwards confirmed by Charters of King Edgar (974), King Edward the Confessor and William the Conqueror. The gift of Dillington with Church was also confirmed by a Bull of Pope Alexander III in 1178. Next we hear of the Manor being held at the end of the Eleventh Century by one Ranulp, who rendered for it the service of one Knight to serve the King on behalf of the Abbot of Ramsey. In 1166 it was held of the Abbot, by service of one Knight's fee, by Richard Engaine, who died in 1208.

It was from this family of the Engaines that the House takes its name of Gaines. There is also left a memorial of the family in the name of the little village in Essex called Colne Engaine. From Clutterbuck's history of Hertfordshire we learn that Richard Engaine married Sarah de Vere, first Earl of Oxford. The Earls of Oxford were possessors of Heddingham Castle in Essex not far from Colne Engaine. The Engaines, as is usual with these great Landowners, came over with the Conqueror—and it is said that the first Engaine was the Superintendent of William's Military Engines from which office he is supposed to have taken his name. Richard Engaine was succeeded in the Manor of Dillington by his brother Vital Engaine.

Concerning this Vital Engaine, from the Lincoln Registers we learn that the famous Bishop Grostete "With the consent of Geoffrey de Mandeville, patron of the Church of Staughton and of the Rector of the Church, gave Sir Vital Engaine and his heirs the right to have in perpetuity a chapel in his Hall, with font and bell and service by his own chaplain." Vital was succeeded by his son Henry, (who died childless), and next by his son John. This is the John Engaine who held the Manor of Gidding on condition of Hunting the wolf, the fox, the wild cat, the badger and the hare in four

counties and a half, viz.: in Northampton, Hunting-
don, Oxford, Buckingham and Rutland.

This John died in 1297, and was succeeded by his
son John, who died childless in 1322. The property
was then divided amongst his sisters, and the manor of
Dillington apportioned to Mary, who married William
Barnack.[1]

The property having been thus in the family of the
Engaines more than 200 years. It continued in the
Barnack family till 1421, when it passed again through
the female line into the Stonham family for Mary
Barnack married Robert Stonham.

In Camden's Visitations of Great Staughton, 1613, we
find an inscription described as existing in the Church
as follows. " Here lies Robert Stonham, Esquire and
Mary his wife, which said Robert died the 27th day of
. . . . . . Barnack, knight, died 23rd day of the
month of September, A.D. 1464. On whose souls God
have mercy, Amen." We do not find this inscription in
the Church now. But there is a slab with the matrix
of a brass in the chancel which may possibly have had
this inscription on it.

Robert Stonham was succeeded by a son Robert, who
left a daughter Elizabeth who inherited the property and
married John Broughton. He died in 1529 and was
succeeded again by his daughter Catharine who married
William, Lord Howard of Effingham, in 1535, the father,
by a second wife, of the famous Lord Howard of
Effingham, who saved England from invasion by the
Spanish Armada. The only child of Catharine Howard
was Agnes who inherited the property and married
William Paulet, Lord St. John, afterwards Marquis of
Winchester. She appears to have let Gaynes Hall for
21 years to Sir Oliver Cromwell of Hinchingbrooke,
who again sub-let it to Richard Cromwell. It is not
clear how the property went after this. We find in
1607, Sir Thomas Luke holding the property and paying

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1. At the death of John Engaine 1322, his estates went to his nephew
John, son of his brother Nicholas, then to Thomas, the son of this second
John. Thomas dying s. p. in 1569, the estates were divided amongst his
three sisters, one of whom, Mary married William Barnack.—(Ed.)

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rent for it.   Afterwards we find it was purchased by Sir
James Beverley for £16,000.   His tomb is in the Gaynes
Chapel, and he died in 1670 aged 66.   We also hear of
the family of the Cheneys in connection with this house
and property.

There is a monument in Gaynes Chapel to the
memory of General Tho. Handasyde who was some-
time Governor of Jamaica, and died in 1729, aged 84.
He was owner of the Gaynes Estate.   We find his name in
the Vicar's books in 1717.

He was succeeded in the ownership of the property
by General Roger Handasyde, Governor of Berwick in
1745.   This was the time of the rising under the Young
Pretender, and it was in Berwick that some of the dis-
comfited Royalists, under Sir John Cope took refuge
after their defeat at Preston Pans.   Next we find Dr.
Handasyde at Gaynes.

In 1797 the estate was purchased by Sir James
Duberly.   He died in 1832, and he was succeeded by his
son, Captain James Duberley, who had been present at
the battle of Waterloo.   He died in 1864 and was
succeeded by his son, Captain William Duberly, who died
in 1888.   The present owner is Captain Grey Duberley,
who was present at the battle of Magersfontein and other
engagements, and was in South Africa during the whole
of the Boer War.

The present house is quite modern and was built by
Sir James Duberly.   There is little left of the old house
unless it be the foundations and the bridge over the moat
at the back.   The old wall in the garden is very inter-
esting.   There are here some interesting relics of a
Church which is said to have existed once at Dillington.

The Heraldic shields in the window of the Hall Door,
of different families connected with Staughton are inter-
esting, and are said to have been brought here from
Place House when Sir James Duberly purchased the
Manor of Beachamstead.

H. G. WATSON.

WISBECH PARISH CHURCH

Dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul, this church is very interesting, not on account of its beauty or symmetrical disposition, for Cole has declared it to be "the oddest built church he has ever met with." Its interest lies in its singular record of architectural changes, changes which have been compared to those seen in Leominster Church.

From whatever point it is viewed, this church is seen to be a singular building, but chiefly so in its western elevation, which is enormous in extent, but irregular and lacking in design. One sees a prodigious gable covering two naves and a turret staircase between, which is finished just above the roof as a bell turret; then a broad aisle occurs on either side, and added to all this we have a large tower soaring upwards at the north-west corner and the South Porch with parvise over and gabled east and west.

Viewed from the east, the varieties in the roofs introduce other incongruities, resulting in a confused jumble. We see the double nave roof of mediæval pitch, the high gables of the choir and chapel, the latter conspicuously so, the leanto roofs of the aisles, the low gable of the Porch and a similar one to the Vestry with elaborately enriched battlement. Each succeeding century seems to have contributed towards the whole and herein lies its interest.

Upon entering the church the perspectives are grand and impressive, although the same irregular multiplicity of parts is everywhere apparent.

This is one of the three double-nave churches in England.

The three nave arcades of three different styles, a strange skew arch and a spacious and lofty chapel to the south of the chancel at once arrest attention. The chancel is of great length but is somewhat low in height. A superficial glance around shows three special periods of activity to have prevailed.

Of the oldest there remain the late Norman arcade next the North Aisle, an engaged pier and capital between the Chancel and Chapel, the lower part of the Transitional Romanesque Tower adjoining and westwards of the North Nave, the floor of the narthex of which lies some 18 inches below the present level.

The Early Decorated is represented by the two Chancel Arches, the South Aisle and adjoining Arcade with Clerestory over, the South Porch, the West Window of the South Nave, the Arcade between chancels and the north wall and windows and east wall of chancel.

Of the Perpendicular period we have the Central Arcade in the nave, the Windows in the north clerestory, the East Window of the south chancel, the unusually elaborate Sacristy eastwards of the latter and the stately tower at the north-west angle of the Church immediately adjacent but wholly apart from the same.

Collecting these threads together, the history of this grand old fabric unravels itself as follows:—

First there was a Norman or Romanesque Church, the first stone of which is said to have been laid in 1111, although an earlier church is recorded to have existed. The Nave of this Norman church consisted of six bays and is easily located as five of the bays of its north arcade still remain. The pillars are unusually lofty and being treated as columns and not piers, are pleasing, and viewed from the original floor level must have looked vastly different from the usually ponderous Norman pillar. Some are plain cylinders, others have four small shafts attached, but these are not arranged in any symmetrical order.

The capitals are mostly of the cushion type, but varied in form, the easternmost is "flowered" and the arch is "chevroned" and you will observe that as usual with the Romanesque builders, the chevron is worked to the width of the individual voussoirs, which differ greatly in size. Indications of a clerestory overhead are said to have been found in the restorations and although examples of Norman clerestories are seldom met with until late in the Twelfth Century, yet the quatrefoils in the

spandrels of the pillar arcade seem to supply the place of a triforium and as with our neighbour at Long Sutton there probably were clerestories. There was a narrow and low north aisle and probably a similar one to the south. During the 1856 restorations, the bases of the South Norman Arcade were found under the floor. Nothing remains of the chancel, but this was probably a short one without aisles. At this period no Tower existed, but one was shortly after commenced, outside the west end of the Nave, and you see the lowest stages today. The North and South Aisles were continued westwards to the outer face of the Tower, and in the turret staircase formed in the south-west angle of the Tower, we see a doorway which opened out on a gallery over this South Aisle extension. You will notice the more finished character of the Tower, its arches pointed and chamfered in the orders, and the abaci octagonal. We have no pillar of this period but two pairs of responds.

Overhead in its south wall may be seen portions of a large pointed window, with internal splay and string, and recessed in orders and chamfered externally—the aisle roof would finish below this.

A South Aisle was now added to the Choir, for we see the late Romanesque pillar and floriated capital forming the western respond to the present chancel arcade, its square abacus clearly contemporary with the western bay and not with the earlier portions of the Romanesque arcade.

The second great period of activity occurred in Decorated times early in the Fourteenth Century and a complete remodelling of the edifice now took place, the phenomenal double nave appearing. The old South Aisle was demolised and in place thereof a new body of about the some height as the old nave was erected, and a South Aisle added.

The arcade between the South Nave and Aisle consists of the usual clustered pillars, quatrefoil in section, the eastern respond to which is a richly worked and crocketted canopy to what was doubtless a niche containing the effigy of the patron saint of that particular

guild, for there were some 7 or 9 guilds attached to this church, each having its own chantry chapel. The Porch with its parvise over is contemporary and very interesting in detail, the upper chamber was used as a muniment room and repository for the townsmen's weapons and later on as a Town Library.

The large West Window in the South Nave with its fine flowing tracery is perhaps one of the best parts of the church.

Although different opinions were at one time entertained it is now certain that each nave had a separate roof—perhaps the pre-existing north nave roof was raised somewhat—but the Norman clerestories still remained —the southern one becoming internal (as seen in Long Sutton). The North Aisle was widened and I would call your attention to the very fine North Doorway of this style, with its grotesque and floriated ornament in the arch and not in the jambs, this discontinuation of ornament being common to the district. Two of the square headed windows in this Aisle appear to be cöeval.

One of the chief chantry chapels—that of St. Martin —was in the north-west angle of the church, which afterwards became the baptistery.

All idea of completing the Tower was abandoned and its south-west turret was carried upwards to receive a bell, a new western doorway was inserted, probably leaving the Romanesque window over.

The Choir and its South Aisle were now entirely rebuilt, the only vestige of the earlier portion being the Transitional Norman respond mentioned earlier.

The fenestration in the north wall of the Chancel shows some signs of symmetry being now observed, and one of these windows is decidedly Flamboyant in character. The east window of this period was five-light with simple arch tracery, but was replaced by another in the last century's restorations. As the Chancel was increased in width northwards the north chancel arch had to disappear, and a unique expedient had to be resorted to, to bring the Norman Arcade into line—the easternmost arch of this Arcade being taken down and a

new pointed arch constructed in an oblique direction. Later on a further addition was made here. The South Chapel was also rebuilt and its roof is steep-pitched and overtops the chancel roof. Its eastern window has been replaced by a Perpendicular window, which was covered up until the restoration of 1856.

Perpendicular Additions. There was yet no complete Tower and the deficiency is now supplied. It is very marked in character, containing three stages, but the continuous labels at window lines subdivide the elevations into six stages. The total height of the tower and spire is 130 ft. The doorway forms a stately portal, and a similar one is formed in its opposite wall immediately outside the previously mentioned north door of the church. In detail the shafts of these doorways are unusually large, apparently a localism ; and the flowing traceried windows in the east and west walls of the lowest storey, if cöeval, are unusual, but they may have been built in from some other position. Very probably this lowest stage was built somewhat earlier, the work progressing slowly, until Bishop Morton's time 1520-1538, when he saw the whole completed.

You will observe the buttresses occur a little way from the angles, and occur in pairs terminated under the battlements with pediments.

The strings in the basement and under the belfry stages expand into richly foliated bands. The two upper stages each contain a single narrow window of two-transomed lights and are low.

The highest sub-stage is relieved by a profusion of initial, heraldic and other devices, set above and beside the head of the belfry windows.

The very elaborate open battlement rises in steps as usual in East Anglia, but more often found in brick than in stone. Two real and two pierced embrasures occur on each side with a central pinnacle between, with larger pinnacles at the corners. A short spire with fine finial crowns the whole, and altogether it is a bold and striking composition and certainly a fine piece of masonry.

Probably from a desire for more light and more sound

in the interior, or perhaps from the fall of the original tower demolishing the South Norman Arcade, but internal evidences do not support the latter idea, it was now replaced by a four-bay, wide and lofty Perpendicular arcade, but the tower arch and abutments were left untouched. These piers contrast very much with western country shapes, being more mullion-shaped, with discontinuous imposts, the semi-octagonal forms of shafts and capitals all typifying the eastern forms of the period.

Many windows were now inserted including a Perpendicular clerestory over north Norman arcade, which forced upon the builders that peculiar arrangement by which it is connected up to the chancel, a skew arch being thrown across from the fifth pier to a point some distance up in the chancel arch—truly a curious and ingenious expedient.

Probably the single roof over the double nave was erected before the north clerestory was formed.

The elaborate Sacristy to the east of the Chapel, gabled towards the east with a highly, though roughly enriched panelled battlement continued round its low gable and along its south wall, was also built at this time, and the characteristic rude and obscure sculptured shields, some bearing the arms of the Sees of Ely and Canterbury, the two keys of St. Peter and the two swords of St. Paul. There is also one on which appear a T, the letters Bur and the representation of a well, from which it appears that Thomas Burwell was the builder, and as he was head of the Holy Trinity Guild about 1500 this building would appear to be their Chapel.

The East Window of the Chapel was also inserted at this time, also a two-storey five-light window inserted over the west door which remained until the Restoration in 1856.

A doubt exists as to the origin and uses of the pointed low recessed space under the east window of the South Aisle, and I am inclined to think it was used as an aumbry by one of the Guilds for the storage of their muniments and chattels.

A small bracket on the jamb of the South Window

near here was also, I think, used for placing the taper or light upon during recital of masses in this same chapel.

Time will not permit me to do more than briefly mention that in later times galleries were erected along the several arcades, the South Arcade having a two-storey gallery, but these excrescences have very properly been removed. A chancel screen with perhaps a rood loft existed at one time, but has disappeared.

I can only call your attention to the several original altar slabs now forming part of the floor in various parts of the church, each bearing the incised five crosses; a fine piscina beside the organ, the original altar slab in the present communion table which is believed to date from William III, the Caroline table being in the Sacristy; the fine mural monument by Nollekens, and two other good Renaissance mural monuments in the Chancel; the slab and excellent large brass of Richard de Braunstone, a Constable of Wisbech Castle with the canopy and portion of the inscription missing; pieces of old stained glass worked-in in the south mullioned window in the chancel, and the fine processional cross.

The curfew bell is still tolled here every evening from 8.45 to 9.

I am indebted to Mr. A. W. Cope, the Curator of the Wisbech Museum, for kindly giving me access to various papers and old views of the Church.

F. BURDETT WARD, M.S.A.

INCUMBENTS OF COUNTY OF HUNTINGDON

FENSTANTON (SS. PETER AND PAUL).

	RECTORS.	PATRONS.		
1390	John Rome or Romna	Thomas, Earl of Nottingham,[1] Lord of Mowbray and Segrave	A	ex. 1390
			A	d. 1394
1390	John Burton		A	r. 1397
1394	Thomas Yokflete or Okested	Earl of Nottingham		

	VICARS.[2]			
1397	Thomas Yokflete	Dean and Chapter of the Free Chapel Royal of St. Stephen, Westminster	A	d. 1415
1415	Henry Russyngton	,, ,,	A	d. 1421
1421	Thomas Pigott [3]	,, ,,	A	
	Richard Child			r. 1454
1454	John Hamond	William Wallesby, Chaplain of St. Stephen's, Westminster	A	r. 1479
1479	John Redgrave [4]	Dean and Chapter of St. Stephen's, Westminster	A	
				d. 1525
1525	Alan Cooke alias Betryn	,, ,,	A	r. 1532
1532	Thomas Byrde, B.D.	,, ,,	A	r. 1533
1533	Robert Byrde	,, ,,	A	r. 1544
1544	Thomas Elkyn [5]	John Chambers, Dean of the Free Chapel Royal of St. Stephen's Westminster	A	
1565	Edward Martin	Henry Harvey, Trin. Hall	F	d. 1578
1578	Robert Palmer [6]		F	
1586	Nicholas Yelderd		F	d. 1597
1597	Francis Smith		F	d. 1630
1631	Jacobus Brooke, M.A.		F	d. 1644
1651	William Walton [7]		F	cess. 1663
1663	Edward Curtis, M.A.	Trinity Hall, Cambridge	A	d. 1666
1666	Thomas Hughes	,, ,,	A	
1668	Christopher Potter, M.A.	,, ,,	C	d. 1677
1678	Robert Blemell, LL.B.	,, ,,	A	1708
1708	Mark Bullen, LL.B.	,, ,,	C	d. 1736
1736	William Thickness	,, ,,	A	cess. 1739
1739	Benjamin Longley, LL.B.	,, ,,	A	r. 1750
1750	Kingsman Baskett	,, ,,	A	cess. 1770
1770	John Cook, LL.B.	,, ,,	A	d. 1801
1802	Thomas Bourdillon, M.A.	,, ,,	A	r. 1853

1. This was sent to me as Duke of Northampton, but evidently ought to be Earl of Nottingham.

2. From Bishop Bockingham's Memoranda we learn that the Vicarage was ordained 15th April, 1597.

3. Thomas Pigott still Vicar in 1437.

4. John Redgrave still Vicar in 1505.

5. Thomas Elkyn still Vicar in 1559.

6. Robert Palmer mentioned as Vicar in a Visitation of Hunts., in Lambeth Palace Library, circ. 1583-85.

7. William Walton paid First-fruits October 7th, 1651, but appears to have been Vicar as early as 1645.

	RECTORS.	PATRONS.		
1853	Stanley Walton, M.A.	Trinity Hall, Cambridge	C	d. 1875
1875	Henry Goddard Mattram, M.A.	,, ,,		r. 1882
1883	John Wilberforce Doran, M.A.	,, ,,		r. 1889
1890	George Herbert Frewer, M.A.	,, ,,		

CHANTRY OF ST. MARY'S, FENSTANTON.

	CHANTRY PRIESTS.	PATRONS.		
1392	William Plomer	Margery, Countess of Norfolk[1]	A	d. 1412
1412	John Nicolls	Queen Johanna	A	r. 1419
1419	John Gardyner	John Lancaster and others	A	
	Richard Stedberd [2]			
	Richard Stilleborn [3]			
	Richard Buttelere			d. 1540
1540	Adam Tyler	Lady Anna Barkley, wid: of John Barkley for her son Henry Barkley	A	

FLETTON (S. MARGARET).

	RECTORS.	PATRONS.		
1239	Bartholomew de Stanford		A	
1241	Roger de Eva	Ab. & Mon. of Peterboro'	A	
	John de Sumercote			d. 1263
1263	Hugo de Sandeton	Ab. & Mon. of Peterboro'	A	
	Hugo de Lobenham			d. 1313
1313	John de Aylington	Ab. & Mon. of Peterboro'	A	
	John Trivet [4]			
	John Dering			ex. 1387
1387	Thomas Spys de Stamford		A	ex. 1389
1389	John Cotton		A	
1400	John Hauk	Ab. & Mon. of Peterboro'	A	r. 1400
1400	John Excetre		A	
	William Croxten			ex. 1419
1419	Thomas Roger		A	
	Thomas Dale			r. 1470
1470	Thomas Blenche	Ab. & Mon. of Peterboro'	A	
	Robert Skynner			r. 1526
1526	Edward Hare (or Eyre) [5]	Ab. & Mon. of Peterboro'	A	
1558	William Baker [6]		A	
1588	John Elys, B.A. [7]		F	d. 1635
1635	William Lee, M.A. [8]	Onslow Winche, arm.	C	
1652	Thomas Rayment		F	d. 1694
1694	John Wright, M.A.	John Proby	A	d. 1730
1730	John Wakelin, M.A.	John Proby of Elten, arm.	A	d. 1760
1760	Peter Peckard, S.T.P.	Lord Carysfort	A	d. 1798
1798	Richard Buck, M.A.	Earl of Carysfort	A	r. 1828

1. Margareta, Duchess of Norfolk, was daughter of Tho. Brotherton, and grand-daughter of Ed. I.; she married John Lord of Mowbray and Segrave.
2. Richard Stedberd mentioned in 1505.
3. Richard Stilleborn mentioned as Chantry Priest in Subsidy of 1526 and again in 1535. Probably Stedberd and Stilleborn are different names of the same man.
4. Rector in 1336 and 1343.
5. Still Rector, 1534.
6. William Boker (Booker, Boker, or Baker), still Rector, 1583. (Act. Book, I.).
7. John Elys buried at Fletton, 11th Febrary, 1634-5.
8. William Lee still Rector, 1650. Triers' Visitation.

	RECTORS.	PATRONS.		
1829	James Jackson Lowe, M.A.	Trustees of Lord Carysfort		d. 1830
1830	Edward Rutter Theed, M.A.	Earl Fitzwilliam	A	r. 1851
1851	Christopher Carr	The Rt. Hon. Earl Fitz-william	X	d. 1856
1856	William Judd Upton M.A.	Earl Fitzwilliam	X	r. 1887
1887	Charles Dowman, LL.B.	Hon. G. C. W. Fitzwilliam		

FOLKSWORTH (S. HELENA).

	RECTORS.	PATRONS.		
	Thomas Crowland [1]		A	
1225	Thomas, cap.	Ab. & Mon. of Crowland	A	
1245	Alexander de Blumhall	,, ,,	A	
	Walter de Iselk			r. 1256
1256	Simon de Dudington	Ab. & Mon. of Crowland	A	
	Alan de Ebor			d. 1268
1268	Thomas de Upton	Ab. & Mon. of Crowland	A	
	Thomas de Freston			r. 1294
1294	Nicholas de Calveton	Ab. & Mon. of Crowland	A	r. 1310
1310	John de Glaston (or Glaceton)	,, ,,	A	r. 1314
1314	John de Luffenham	,, ,,	A	
	Adam Wirrok de Irchester			r. 1370
1370	Richard de Spoxton	Ab. & Mon. of Crowland	A	r. 1383
1383	John Pratte [2]	,, ,,	A	
1402	William Lowth	John Haversham and R. Stretton	A	r. 1407
1407	John Crowell		A	r. 1422
1422	Thomas Upton		A	
	Robert Cook			d. 1479
1479	John Wylbaston	Ab. & Mon. of Crowland	A	r. 1483
1483	John Lawe			r. 1484
1484	John Oldham			r. 1484
1484	Thomas Cartwright		A	r. 1485
1485	William Hapton [3]		A	
1495	Richard Ward			d. 1504
1504	Thomas Blissying	Bishop of Lincoln by lapse	A	d. 1506
1506	John Nycolson	Ab. & Mon. of Crowland	A	r. 1515
1515	Francis Grene	,, ,,	A	d. 1538
1538	William Walwyn	,, ,,	A	
				d. 1541
1542	William Judde	Milo Fforest of Morborn	A	
1551	Thomas Gallant		F	d. 1557
	Richard Dunne [4]			d. 1561
1561	Thomas Lambert		F	d. 1573
1573	Clement Cooke	Edward Montague, Kt.	F	d. 1605
1605	John Gibson [5]	,, ,,	A & C	d. 1630
1630	Robert Castell, M.A.	John Castell, Esq.	C	
1645	George Burres [6]			
	Thomas Sumner			d. 1666
1667	Thomas Arnold	William Sherard	A	r. 1669

X=Bishops' Certificates, Ely.

1. Thomas Crowland, 1220-21, 11th year of Bishop Wells.
2. John Pratte still Rector, 1386.
3. Ri. Warde succeeded Tho. Cartwright as Rector of Folksworth in 1495, it would seem therefore that the appoiment of Wm. Hapton did not take efect.
4. Richard Dunne was Rector, 1558, and Thomas Gallant died 1557, but no mention of the Institution of Richard Dunne has been found.
5. John Gibson buried at Folksworth, 28th June, 1630
6. George Burres was inducted, 18th November, 1645, Parish Register.   He was still Rector, 19th March, 1654.

	RECTORS	PATRONS.		
1669	William Sherard, M.A.	Castell Sherard	A	d. 1690
1690	Henry Skaife, M.A.	,, ,,	A	d. 1702
1702	Robert Pupplett, M.A.	William Sherard and Catharine his wife	A	r. 1706
1706	John Abell, S.T.B.	John Sherard	A	d. 1721
1722	Robert Pack, B.A.	Catharine Sherard, widow	A	d. 1739
1739	Samuel Addenbrook, M.A.	Richard Edwards, Water-newton, Esq.	A	r. 1751
1751	Benjamin Addenbrook	Saml. Addenbrook, Clerk	A	d. 1781
1781	John Stevens, M.A.	Saml. Stevens, of Peter-boro', currier	A	d. 1785
1785	Newcome Paddon, B.A.	Joseph Sutton of Peterboro'	A	d. 1807
1807	William Wilkinson	King Geo. III.	A	r. 1819
1820	William Bissil, M.A.	Henry Wilkinson	A	d. 1838
1838	Henry Freeman			d. 1864
1865	Henry John Wale, M.A.			r. 1878
1878	Thomas Kynaston Gaskell, M.A.			r. 1885
1885	Oswald Whaley, M.A.			r. 1885
1886	Thomas Henry Blencowe	H. W. Stokes, Esq.		r. 1899
1899	Frederick John Chapman	,, ,,		r. 1901
1902	John Charles Saunders, M.A.	,, ,,		r. 1905
1907	Alfred Ernest Cook, B.A.	,, ,,		

GREAT GIDDING (S. MICHAEL).

	VICARS.	PATRONS.		
	Thomas de Gidding [1]	Prior and Convent of Huntingdon	A	
1237	William de Molesworth	Huntingdon Priory	A	
	Richard			d. 1301
1301	William de Leycton	Prior and Convent of Huntingdon	A	
	William de Evenle			d. 1321
1321	John Coleman de Hemington	Huntingdon Priory	A	r. 1325
1325	William de Newport	,, ,,	A	
	Thomas de Burgh			ex. 1341
1341	John de Holm	Huntingdon Priory	A	
	Thomas del Hay [2]			d. 1348
1348	Galfrid Pole of Kyne-bolton	Huntingdon Priory	A	r. 1354
1354	Robert Moy	,, ,,	A	
	(——) Deeping [3]			
1376	William Morden	Huntingdon Priory	A	
	Radulph Randolf			ex. 1392
1392	William de Higham	Huntingdon Priory	A	ex. 1393
1393	Robert Bryan	,, ,,	A	ex 1393
1393	William de Carlton	,, ,,	A	
1397	John Tovy	,, ,,	A	d. 1406
1406	John Whyt de Botestone	,, ,,	A	
	John le Losse (or Lelosst)			ex. 1413
1413	Philip Mellys		A	r. 1413
1413	John Dyer	Huntingdon Priory	A	r. 1415
1415	William de Wrangle	,, ,,	A	r. 1419
1419	Radulph Hamwyk	,, ,,	A	
	John Maddyngley			d. 1467
1467	Thomas Bleighton	Huntingdon Priory	A	

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1. Cir. 1218. Rolls of Bishop Wells.
2. Thomas de Leiton was Vicar in 1343. Probably the same as Thomas del Hay.
3. (——) Deeping was Vicar in 1354.

	VICARS.	PATRONS.		
	John Overton			d. 1482
1482	Richard Bottesham	Huntingdon Priory	A	d. 1505
1505	William Palmer	Huntingdon Priory	A	r. 1509
1509	Michael Broughton	,, ,,	A	
	John Ingoldsby			r. 1515
1515	John Dyxson	Huntingdon Priory	A	
	Thomas Paynter			d. 1524
1524	John Grene	Huntingdon Priory	A	r. 1525
1525	Thomas Hodson, cap.	,, ,,	A	d. 1569
1569	Bartholomew Clark alias Lynton [1]			cess. 1578
1578	Thomas Kendall, M.A. [1]	Edward Watson, Esq.		dep. 1583
1583	Edward Higbie [1]	,, ,,		dep. 1619
1619	Luke Grosse	Ludovic Watson. Kt.	C	d. 1666
1667	John Smith, M.A.	Edward, Duke of Rockingham	A	d. 1697
1697	John Malabar, M.A.	Ludovic ,, ,,	A	d. 1714
1715	Robert Watts	Edward, Lord Sondes	A	d 1725
1725	Watson Tookey, M.A.	Duke of Rockingham	A	r. 1727
1727	John Warrell or Worrel, A.B.	Ludovic, Duke of Rockingham	A	c. 1729
1729	Thomas Neale, A.M.	,, ,,	A	d. 1769
1769	Henry Knapp, M.A.	Lord Sondes	A	c. 1777
1777	Thomas Charles Cadwallader Moore	Lewis, Lord Sondes	A	c. 1781
1781	John Fairchild	,, ,,	A	d. 1788
1788	James Saunders, M.A.	,, ,,	A	d. 1822
1822	Ben Johnson	,, ,,	A	d. 1843
1843	Frederic Johnson, M.A.	Charles William, Earl Fitzwilliam	X	c. 1850
1850	Frederic Porter	,, ,,	X	r. 1855
1855	Joseph Vernon Theed, M.A.	Hon. G. W. Fitzwilliam		r. 1865
1865	William Hopkinson, M.A.	,, ,,		r. 1873
1873	William Salmon Bagshaw, M.A.	,, ,,		

LITTLE GIDDING.

	RECTORS.	PATRONS.		
1226	Robert de Hedleya [2]	The Bishop of Lincoln by authority of the Council	A	
1240	John de Richmund	Rob: Saumford, Master of the Kts. Templars	A	r. 1255
1255	Radulph Basseth	Roscelin de Ros, Master of the Kts. Templars	A	r. 1276
1276	Galfrid de Langeford	The Master of the Kts. Templars	A	d. 1277
1277	William de la Laundo	Rob. de Turville, Master of the Kts. Templars	A	
1313	John de Staunford	Bishop of Lincoln	A	cess. 1335
1335	William Cross de Baumburgh	Ph. de Thame, Prior of the Hosp. of S. John of Jerusalem	A	r. 1342
1342	Richard de Aston		A	d. 1348

1. Am unable to find the Authority for the Institutions of Clark, Kendall and Higbie, but think the dates were given me by the Rev. G. Henessey, whose name is a guarantee of accuracy. (Ed.).

X=Bishops' Certificates, Ely.

2. Sixteenth year of Bishop Wells, circa 1226.

	RECTORS.	PATRONS.		
1349	John de Polleshale	Prior & Hospitallers of St. Jn. of Jerusalem	A	r. 1350
1350	Richard Buk de Elington	,, ,,	A	r. 1351
1351	John de Kirkeby	Ph. de Thame, Master of the Hosp. of St. Jn. of Jerusalem	A	d. 1360
1360	Adam de Chatteriz 1	John Penely, Prior of the Hosp. of St. John of Jerusalem	A	
	Robert Foster			ex. 1391
1391	William Smith	Hildebrande Inge, locum tenens of Prior of S. John of Jerusalem	A	ex. 1392
1392	William Ingelde	,, ,,	A	r. 1396
1396	Thomas Jekys	Walter Grendon, Prior of the Hosp. of S. John of Jerusalem	A	
				d. 1405
1405	Stephen Stokes	Wr. Grendon, Prior of the Hosp., etc.	A	r. 1406
1406	William Byngham	Wr. Grendon, Prior of the Hosp., etc.	A	r. 1407
1408	John Aylmere	,, ,,	A	ex. 1411
1411	John Wright		A	ex. 1413
1413	Richard Snowe	Wr. Grendon, Prior, etc.	A	r. 1414
1414	Robertson of Simon de Baumburgh	,, ,,	A	ex. 1415
1415	Willing Coneworth	,, ,,	A	r. 1416
1416	John Longe	,, ,,	A	d. 1423
1423	John Grene	Hen. Cromhale for the Prior of S. Jn. of Jerusalem	A	
	John Evans			r. 1452
1452	Wm. Ffaureyns (or Ffareyn)	Rob. Botyll, Prior of St. Jn. of Jerusalem	A	r. 1454
1454	Robert Crane	,, ,,	A	r. 1461
1461	John Bolton	,, ,,	A	r. 1465
1465	Thomas Howde	,, ,,	A	d. 1492
1492	John Ineman	John Kendall, Prior of Hosp. of S. Jn. of Jerusalem	A	r. 1501
1501	William Johnson 2	Tho. Newporte, Master of Hosp. S. Jn. of Jerusalem	A	
	Henry Empson 3			
				dep. 1554
1554	Thomas Lambert	King Philip and Queen Mary	A	
1579	Walter Bickelles or Bedelles			
1580	Thomas Clarke 4	Queen Elizabeth	F	
				r. 1590
1591	William Bate, M.A. 5	Lord Chancellor	F	
1591	John Brooke, M.A.	,, ,,		
				r. 1597
1597	Thomas Prowde, S. T. B.	Lord Keeper of the Great Seal	F	r. 1598
1598	Henry Williamson, M.A.	,, ,,	F	d. 1614
1614	Michael Reade	The King	F	
1625	David Stevenson or Stephens, M.A.	,, ,,	C	

1. Still Rector, 1382.
2. Still Rector in 1504.
3. Was Rector in 1526, (Subsidy) and in 1535.
4. Still Rector, 1584-5 (Visitation of Hunts. in Lambeth Palace Library).
5. Presentation revoked, 1591.

	RECTORS.	PATRONS.		
1651	Edward Wallis [1]	Parliament	F	
1659	Farrar Collett, M.A.		F	cess. 1663
1664	James Wildbore	King Charles II.	C	d. 1674
1674	Anthony Hill		C	d. 1691
1691	Thomas Ferrar, M.A.	King William III. and Queen Mary	A	cess. 1707
1707	William Postlethwayte	Queen Anne	A	d. 1731
1731	William Robinson, B.A.	King George II.	A	d. 1781
1781	Thomas Harris, B.A.	King George III.	A	d. 1792
1792	Gerard Clough, L.L.B.	,, ,,	A ·	d. 1831
1831	Willing Pullen, B.A.[2]	King William IV.	A	d. 1843
1843	William Whall, D.D.	Queen Victoria	X	d. 1874
1874	William Salmon Bagshaw, M.A.			

STEEPLE GIDDING (S. ANDREW).

	RECTORS.	PATRONS.		
1238	Thomas de St. Albans	Abbot & Monastery of Ramsey	A	d. 1268
1268	Richard Lonna or Lenna	,, ,,	A	d. 1303
1303	Robert de Abington [3]	,, ,,	A	dep. 1309
1309	John de Sautre	,, ,,	A	d. 1312
1312	Richard de Spalding	,, ,,	A	r. 1319
1319(?)	Roger de Nassington [4]	,, ,,		d. 1352
1352	John de Wodenewton	Bishop of Lincoln, by lapse	A	
	Thomas Swaffham [5]			
	Robert Barker or Baxter [6]			
1422	Thomas Cook	Abbot & Monastery of Ramsey	A	r. 1423
1423	John Wyltonhurst	,, ,,	A;	
	Roger Harper			r. 1448
1448	William Petit	Abbot & Monastery of Ramsey	A	d. 1491
1491	John Carnebull	,, ,,	A	r. 1510
1511	Richard Sargeantson [7]	Abbot & Monastery of Ramsey	A	
	John Dyxson [8]			d. 1539
1539	John Thorneys	Abbot & Monastery of Ramsey	A	
1554	Laurence Balinson		A	d. 1563
1564	Henry Berridge		F	d. 1615
1616	Edward Lynne		F	1633
1633	Daniel Piggott, M.A.	John Cotton	C	d. 1636
1636	Robert Williamson		F	cess. 1665
1665	James Wildbore	John Cotton, Bart.	A	d. 1673
1674	Anthony Hill	,, ,,	C	d. 1691
1691	Thomas Ferrar, M.A.	,, ,,	A	d. 1739

1. Appointed by Parliament, 15th Jan., 1647-8.
2. Willing Pullen, name also given as William, still Rector in 1841.
X Bishop's Certificates, Ely.
3. Robert de Abington had been admitted by the Bishop, but after a trial held at Catworth he was deprived.
4. As Roger de Nassington left Woodwalton in this year, it is probable that that is the date of his appointment to Steeple Gidding.
5. Patent Rolls, 22nd April, 1381, Pardon to Tho. Swaffham, Rector of Steeple Gidding.
6. Robert Barker or Baxter was Rector, 1422.
7. Was Vicar of Hemingford Grey in 1526 (Subsidy).
8. *Was Rector*, 1526, (Subsidy). *Will Arch. Hunts.*, 6, 27, *dated* 1539.

PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Archæological Society

On the 30th June and 1st July, 1908, the Architectural and Archæological Society of the Counties of Lincoln and Nottingham paid a two days visit to Huntingdon and its neighbourhood, and courteously invited our Members to join them.

On the first day, starting from their headquarters at the George Hotel, the first place visited was Godmanchester Church (St. Mary), where the Rev. A. F. Sutton (Hon. Sec. of the visiting Society and organizer of the Excursion) read some notes upon the Church, which is chiefly of Perpendicular date, although it contains several portions of the earlier E.E. church.

Parts of the chancel and the east and west walls of the nave are E.E.; the chancel arch itself appears to have been rebuilt, probably in order to raise and widen it, in the Decorated period, for although the bases of the responds and the arch stones appear to be E.E., the responds themselves with their caps are Decorated, and yet again in the gable above are parts of two E.E. windows which still retain considerable remains of painted decoration.

The caps of the tower arch are carved with stiff E.E foliage.

Against the south-west corner of the nave, outside, may be seen a fragment of the E.E. west window of the south aisle, but the present Perpendicular west window of that aisle has Decorated inner jambs and arch, and similar inner jambs and arches appear in the north and west walls of the north aisle. An early door of somewhat uncertain date, although probably E.E., may still be seen in the north wall of the chancel, but blocked up, and almost hidden by the modern vestry. The rest of the Church (except the tower and spire) is Perpendicular; the nave arcades are lofty and are surmounted by a good clerestory, and the aisle windows are large three-lights with transoms.

The Church has north and south porches, both with a parvise over them; that on the north is small and poor, but that on the south is larger and has canopied niches and remains of wall arcading. In this porch is now preserved the ancient font which was turned out of the Church some fifty years ago but has lately been recovered.

The tower (and spire) is one of an interesting group of towers which this County possesses; at first sight they appear to be fine specimens of the Perpendicular period but upon examination they are seen to be of the seventeenth century. The date of this example, 1623, is carved upon a panel over the west door, and the Records of the Borough prove it to have been built of stone

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brought from Ramsey Abbey, Huntingdon Priory and Hinching-brooke Nunnery; Fox, the Historian of Godmanchester, thinks that the west doorway came from Ramsey complete, but this appears to be very doubtful, as the workmanship is obviously of the date 1623. There are some interesting chancel stalls with carved misereres, the subjects of which include the fleur-de-lis (the Borough crest); the monogram S.W.; the fox and goose; and the hare in the midst of a rising sun, a reference to the tradition that a hare was the first to bring tidings of the rising of the sun on Easter day, hence the Germans and others use a hare, or 'hare-sun' very much as we do the Easter-egg.

There is also a good example of a wooden almsbox with chain attached, inscribed: "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will He repay him again" (Prov. xix, 17). This interesting almsbox was stolen about fifty years ago, but was thrown by the thief into a horse-pond, from which it was fortunately recovered although sadly damaged. On one of the buttresses on the south side of the chancel is a very interesting mediæval sundial carved in stone; it is circular, and the divisions of the dial are formed by a kind of tracery pattern.

The stairs to the rood loft are on the south side, and form a rather quaint feature outside. The screen is modern, by Bodley; and there is some good modern stained glass in the church.

Godmanchester, which is supposed to be the site of the Roman station Durolipons, is a very ancient Borough and possesses charters from many monarchs from King John downwards.

The next Church visited was Offord Cluny (All Saints), which although small has some interesting features. The north arcade has three E.E. arches on circular columns with fairly good moulded caps and bases; the south arcade is much plainer and probably Decorated, but rather poor. The clerestory is Perpendicular, and the roof is of similar date, with carved figures at the feet of the principals.

The aisles are Perpendicular of very simple character, and both have plain oak roofs. The chancel is modern, of brick, and un-worthy of the Church, but the chancel arch is plain E.E. The tower is Perpendicular of simple but good design; it has a good west door with spandrels enclosed within a square label moulding, above which is a Perpendicular three-light. The belfry windows are two-lights, and the tower is finished with an embattled parapet having large and bold grotesque gurgoyles in the centre of each side. The buttresses at the angles of the tower are well designed. The south aisle has some good buttresses and gurgoyles; and both here and in the north wall some earlier worked stones have been built in, but they are of no great interest.

Offord D'Arcy (St. Peter), the next Church visited, is full of interesting features. The chancel is E.E. and windows of this period still remain in the north and south walls, but the east window is a Perpendicular three-light. On the south side is a good trefoil headed piscina with two basins, one a quatrefoil the

other circular; and over the apex of this is another trefoil opening giving access to a wooden shelf forming the top of the piscina, and over which, in its turn, there is a wooden top.

The north arcade of the nave is good plain Norman, on square piers and responds; the eastern arch is very small and has been much modernised. The south arcade is of very good Decorated work, with plain arches resting upon clustered columns with well moulded caps and bases.

The windows of the north aisle are Perpendicular, but those of the south aisle are flowing Decorated two-lights, and the eastern-most window in the south wall has a piscina formed in its eastern jamb, and sedilia of two graded seats in its sill; the piscina has an octofoil basin, and the arch is supported by a fossil marble shaft.

There is a good ball-flower cornice below the parapet of the south aisle; and the south porch has a good gable cross.

The west tower is late Decorated, but it is surmounted by a Perpendicular spire of later date and poorer character than is usual in this county.

There are two brasses, one to Sir Lawrence Pabenham and his two wives, torn from its stone and much mutilated; the other, also mutilated but restored to its stone after years of wanderings, commemorates Dr. William Taylard, a former Rector.

A memorial slab, carved in low relief, depicting a civilian and his wife, probably of early fifteenth century date, has been fixed against the north wall: this stone formerly rested on a high tomb under an arch in the south wall of the south aisle, but was removed to the floor of the tower at a restoration in the eighteenth century, and more recently to its present position.

A fragment of a very pretty early Decorated oak screen, at one time in the north aisle, has now been fixed under the tower arch.

From Offord D'Arcy the party proceeded to Great Paxton, where the Church dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is one of the most interesting in the County. As this Church has been fully described in our pages upon a former occasion[1] we cannot devote much space to it now, suffice it to say that Mr. St. John Hope fully confirmed the views, previously expressed, that the church while showing signs of Saxon workmanship was yet of late date and in fact post-Conquest.

The next two Churches visited, Eynesbury and St. Neots, have both been described before,[1] and we will pass them over, together with the Luncheon at the Cross Keys Hotel, and proceed at once to describe the next Church visited, viz. Little Paxton.

This Church, dedicated to St. James, has been very largely rebuilt; the nave arcade is composed of E.E. stones, but put to-gether very badly in the early part of the nineteenth century, and the north wall entirely rebuilt at the same time contains some interesting Norman fragments built in at its base. The south door is an interesting specimen of rude Norman work, and has a curious tympanum; and the chancel arch is of similar workman-ship, but the arch itself has been rebuilt to a pointed form.

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1. See The Transactions, Vol. II, pp. 17 to 54, and 170 and 171.

The chancel is very interesting ; the windows are very late Decorated and Perpendicular, but the walls are clearly Norman, the jambs and arches of the windows in both the east and south walls being plainly visible.

The tower is of rather plain Perpendicular work and has been much mutilated, but it has bold gurgoyles at its angles.

There is a tradition that the north side of the nave was knocked down during Oliver Cromwell's rebellion, when after the skirmish at St. Neots the rebels pursued the King's troops to Boughton, about a mile and a half away across the fields, and the latter occupied this Church in order to block the road.

From the Church the party proceeded to the Hall, kindly thrown open to them by the late Mr. Sweeting. The house is said to have been built by Bishop Reynolds of Lincoln, for his son, and his arms impaling those of the See of Lincoln are over the dining room chimney piece. It was evidently originally a red brick house of two stories with bold overhanging eaves, and an attic-story above with dormer windows ; to this a later red brick front has been added, cutting off the eaves and carried up with a cornice and parapet, and two lead rain-water heads of this front bear the date 1738, which looks as if Reynolds reconstructed an older house and did not really build it.

There is a fine oak staircase, the walls of which, together with those of the hall and dining room are all cased in panelling which appears to be of the date 1738.

The next Church visited was Southoe (St. Leonard), which has a chancel, nave with two aisles, south porch, and tower at the west end of the north aisle. The chancel windows are E.E., but the shallow buttresses of both the north and south walls look as if they might be Norman. The east window is a poor Perpendicular five-light. The north arcade of the nave is Perpendicular, and the south arcade is E.E., all the windows of the clerestory and aisles are Perpendicular, and so is the west doorway of the nave, which has the initials I. B. in the spandrels outside. The masonry of the north aisle is particularly good, and the cornice below the embattled parapet has the following letters carved in the form of pateræ in a hollow moulding : T. R. O. S. F. I. F. E.

The south doorway is an unusually rich specimen of Norman work, with carved jamb shafts and caps, and a carved tympanum.

The tower is of red brick and comparatively modern, and there is a good deal of red brick also in the clerestory. The Church was considerably restored in 1859, when some of this red brick was probably introduced, but parts of it are earlier.

There is a plain sanctus-bell cot on the east gable of the nave.

The next Church visited was Buckden (St. Mary), which has been described before.[1] Since the Society's former visit to Buckden, the miserable eighteenth century plaster has been removed from the walls of the nave, aisles and tower, and the stonework has been pointed. Several interesting features have been brought to light, viz. a mutilated fragment of a good piscina

in the south-east corner of the north aisle, and another in the south wall of the south aisle; several stones with E.E. mouldings in various parts of the walls; and numerous interesting changes in the masonry, especially in the tower, the junction of the nave and tower, and at the top of the clerestory. This removal of the plaster (or perhaps we should more correctly say the pointing of the walls) was very adversely criticised by our visitors, and a rather heated argument ensued for most of the Huntingdonshire men thought that the plaster could well be dispensed with. Whatever one's personal opinions may be upon this point, and certainly we fully agree that ancient plaster should not be removed, it does seem that when poor and disfiguring eighteenth century plaster has been removed from the walls it might reasonably be left to the option of the guardians of any individual church to replaster or to point the walls as seems to them best; and considering that modern plaster put upon the walls can have no archæological value, and that it will hide any evidence of change of masonry that may exist, it would almost appear that there is less likelihood of doing harm by pointing the walls than by plastering them. What, for instance, would not an archæologist give to see the masonry of the arcade walls at Great Paxton? What an insight into the history of the church might it not give! and yet this is hidden (apparently permanently) by an expanse of featureless and uninteresting modern plaster; surely discretion is wanted upon this point as upon all others!

We may take this opportunity of recording that during the present year the old high pews have been replaced by modern oak seats[1] with nicely carved poppy-heads to the ends, and that the floor has been relaid, new wrought iron lamp standards introduced, and the font has been removed and set up, upon a new stem and base (the old being of poor nineteenth century design), in the tower. During these alterations the old floor level, three inches below the present floor, was discovered, but unfortunately it was not possible to adopt it in the new work; no remains of the old flooring tiles existed, but simply the indications at the bases of the piers.

The last Church visited was Brampton (St. Mary), which has also been described before.[2] Here, by the kindness of the Rev. H. S. Budge, tea was served on the Rectory lawn; and the party then made their way back to Huntingdon.

In the evening the Annual Dinner was held at the George Hotel, after which the Ven. Archdeacon Vesey read an interesting paper upon Old Huntingdon, and Mr. St. John Hope read an account of the discoveries lately made at Temple Bruerne.

On the second day the two Churches of All Saints, and St. Mary, Huntingdon, were first visited. All Saints is a rather late Perpendicular Church, the nave arcades having depressed four-centred arches on clustered columns, with late but good details. The south aisle is large and has very elegant Perpendicular

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1. From designs by Mr. S. Inskip Ladds, A.R.I B.A.—(Ed.).
2. See The Transactions, Vol. II, pp. 1 to 16, and 166.

windows, good buttresses with rich niches and crocketted pinnacles, and the walls below the windows enriched on the inside with wall panelling in stone.   The tower, at the west end of the north aisle, has a low E.E. arch on the south standing on a circular column and a very prettily carved respond bracket. But the upper part of the tower is of much later date, chiefly of red brick but with stone embattled parapet and pinnacles.

The Church has been much restored; the chancel and north aisle in 1859, when the vestry and organ chamber were built, and the south aisle in 1861, under the direction of Sir Gilbert Scott; the Rev. F. G. Vesey (now Archdeacon of Huntingdon) being then Rector.

St. Mary's Church is largely of E.E. date, the south arcade being especially interesting, having good moulded arches on varied columns, one being very prettily clustered.   Most of the windows are Perpendicular insertions, and the roofs are modern but there are a few old timbers in that over the nave.

The Church is recorded to have fallen down in 1607, and to have been rebuilt in 1608-1620, but probably the damage done was not so extensive as the words would seem to imply.

The tower is a good specimen of late Decorated work, and at one time has had wall arcading on the north and south sides; the buttresses are well designed, and terminate in bold pinnacles above the parapet, the whole producing a very pleasing effect.

The Church was restored in 1869 and in 1876, on the latter occasion under Sir A. W. Blomfield.   We have touched lightly on these two churches at Huntingdon because they are worthy of a much more detailed description than we have now room for, and we perfer, therefore, to leave them for the future.

Having seen also the Hospital of St. John [1] and the unusually fine mediæval bridge, the party proceeded to Hinchingbrooke House. [1]

The next place visited was Wyton Church (All Saints), which, although it has been almost entirely rebuilt, still retains an E.E. arcade of four bays, having clustered columns with good caps and bases, and well moulded arches, while the north door has some good early ironwork.   The Church was rebuilt in 1846 and again restored in 1866; the tower which was previously of wood was rebuilt in brick in the former year and the three stone gurgoyles now built into the north aisle wall belong to this tower; in 1866, it was again rebuilt, this time in stone, but it is so small that there is no room to hang the bells properly and they cannot be rung.

St. Ives (All Saints) the next Church visited is finely situated on the north bank of the Ouse; it is chiefly of Perpendicular date and has an elegant tower and spire at the west end.   Some small portions of the thirteenth century Church remain, and the east window of the south aisle is a fine Decorated five-light. [2]

The site of St Ives Priory is at the opposite end of the town,

1. The Hospital of St. John is described in the Transactions, Vol. I, p. 419; and Hinchingbrooke House in Vol, II. pp. 165 and 166.
2. For a detailed description of St. Ives Church see The Transactions, Vol. I, pp. 100-104.

but only a barn and a dove-cot now remain. The Priory Church was built by Ædnoth, Abbot of Ramsey, circa 1016, and it, together with the other buildings of the Priory, was burnt in 1207, the Church being re-dedicated, after rebuilding, in 1238. In the Cartulary of Ramsey Abbey, throughout the entire mediæval period, there is a constant reference to the *parish* Church of St. Ives, sometimes in a very marked manner, and we cannot but think that this, especially in view of the relative situations of the parish Church and the Priory, proves conclusively that there were two churches and not only one as has been sometimes thought. And this is still further confirmed by the fact that the Incumbent is a Vicar; Domesday Book seems to mention two churches at St. Ives (no doubt St. Ives and one of the Hursts), and the probability is that the Church was in existence even before the manor was given to Ramsey Abbey, and almost certainly before St. Ives Priory was founded. No doubt the Priory Church was destroyed at the Dissolution of the Monasteries.

After paying a hasty visit to the ancient bridge with its fragment of a bridge chapel (dedicated to St. Leodgarius) the party adjourned to the Golden Lion Hotel for Luncheon, after which they proceeded to Warboys, passing on the way the curious old stone locally known as the Abbot's Chair; it is in the form of a rude arm-chair, and stands in the grass on the side of the road. Probably it is the stone that marked the meeting place of the Hundred Court, but it is hardly large enough ever to have been used as a "chair."

The Churches of Warboys and Bury have both been fully described in our pages already,[1] and we must not stop to describe them again.

The last place visited was Ramsey, and here the party visited first the Parish Church, and secondly Ramsey Abbey, and for an excellent description of the former the reader is referred to Rev. R. Black's paper in the first Volume of our Transactions.[2]

The Church is a very fine specimen of the Transitional period, with a well elevated sanctuary. The windows are chiefly insertions of Decorated and Perpendicular date, and the tower is a patch-work erection built in 1671 with stones from the Abbey, but presenting a bold and sturdy appearance, much better than might be expected from its date.

After partaking of tea on the vicarge lawn, by kind invitation of the Rev. and Mrs. Pawley-Smith, the party made their way to the Abbey.

Of the monastic buildings considerable portions remain incorporated into Lord de Ramsey's mansion, notably the fine E.E. crypt or undercroft of the Refectory, and the outer walls and buttresses of the Refectory itself which rise to a considerable height at the east end of the house. The building of this Refectory was begun in the time of Abbot Hugh de Sulgrave, (1254-1267), and it was first used in 1276, in the time of Abbot

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1. See The Transactions, Vol. I, pp. 309-318, 403-418, 420 and 423.
2. Transactions, Vol. I, pp. 319-326; also pp. 421-423.

William de Gurmecester, (1267-1285).   All the walls of the cyrpt are enriched with wall arcading of well moulded trefoiled arches on circular shafts with good caps and bases, but now much mutilated.   This Abbot, William de Gurmecester, also built the Abbot's Hall, and a gate in the west side of the court.

What are thought to be the foundations of the south wall of the south aisle of the Abbey Church, were found a few years ago just on the line of the south edge of the garden path, which runs on the south side of the house, at its western end.   The Ramsey Cartulary gives an interesting description of the building of this Church which had a central tower on four arches, and another tower (which contained the bells) at the west end ; the foundations were laid in 969, and the church was consecrated in 974.   But between 980 and 991 the principal tower cracked from top to bottom, owing to insufficient foundations, and had to be taken down and rebuilt, and the restored church was re-consecrated in 991.   Abbot Reginald (1114-1130), began to build a new Church, into which the convent went after seven years, i.e., 1123. Abbot Walter, in the last year of King Stephen's reign, again rebuilt the great tower of the Church.

Abbot Simon de Eye (1316-1342), commenced to rebuild the Presbytery of the Church in 1330, and was buried in the new building on the left side of the altar ; probably the "*three great Buttrises in the Este ende of the Chauncell and of the north side*," which the Bursar of Trinity College, Cambridge, purchased in 1555, were part of Simon de Eye's work.

The stones of this once great Abbey were used, after the Dissolution of the Monasteries, to build the Colleges of Gonville and Caius, King's, and Trinity at Cambridge ; and the towers of the parish Churches of Ramsey and Godmanchester, while the miserere stalls, now in Over Church, are also said to have come from here.   In the present house, however, is still preserved the monumental effigy of the founder, Duke Ailwyn.

At the Dissolution the Abbey became the property of the Cromwells who converted it into a residence, and it passed by sale from their family to Colonel Silas Titus, and upon the death of his daughter and heiress it was purchased, in 1730, by Mr. Coulson Fellows, ancestor of the present owner, Lord de Ramsey.

The modern parts of the house were built, from designs by Blore, in 1839, which date is on the north front.

The Abbey gateway is a pretty and rather rich specimen of Perpendicular architecture.

Amongst those who attended this excursion were, of the visiting Society : Revs. A. F. Sutton, R. S. G. Cole, A. Pulteney, J. A. Penny, J. Dolphin, K. Kirk and Canon Madan ; Messrs. W. H. St. John Hope, W. H. M. Ellis ; Mrs Mansel Sympson, Miss Nash and Miss Hutton.   Of our Society : Revs. A. G. Cane, J. G. Cheshire, G. E. Sharland, W. M. Noble, A. C. T. James ; Messrs. S. Inskip Ladds, E. L. Watts, W. Emery, C. Whymper ; Mrs. Sharland, Miss May Ladds, and others.

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Papers