

# ON A BRASS IN WANDSWORTH CHURCH.

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ONE OF THE HONORARY SECRETARIES.

WHEN, in June, 1889, the Society visited Wandsworth Church, J. G. Waller, Esq., F.S.A., drew special attention to the unique brass of a serjeant-at-arms with a mace suspended at his side in the place of the usual dagger.

Recently, on looking over the wood blocks belonging to the Society, an unused block of this brass was found and is here reproduced. The brass itself lies on the floor of the nave and is in very bad condition; the head of the effigy is lost, and in places the engraved lines are nearly effaced. The figure is 30 inches in length and armed in complete plate with a lion at the feet; a narrow belt crossing the taces diagonally supports the sword, whilst the mace is apparently suspended, head downwards, from a cord looped through the lowermost taces. Four shields, two above and two below the effigy, are lost. A marginal inscription, unfortunately much mutilated, surrounds the whole; the words in brackets, now lost, are here given from Stow's *Survey*, ed. 1720.



✠ hic jacet Nichūs . . . . . [serbiens Regis Henrici quinti post conquestum ad] arma qui obiit vicesimo sexto die Januar' anno dñi millio CCCC° XX° Cujus anime . . . . . amen Pater noster.

The size of the whole composition is 65 by 25 inches. There is a very poor engraving of it in J. T. Smith's *Antiquities of London and Environs*, 1791.

Two other brasses of serjeants-at-arms have been noticed, one at Shopland, in Essex, to Thomas Stapel, 1371. The lower half of this figure is concealed by a pew, and it is doubtful whether he has a mace or not. There is an engraving of the upper portion in the *Publications of the Antiquarian Etching Club*, Vol. II, pl. 26. The second, now unfortunately lost, was at Broxbourne, Herts., to John Borrell, Serjeant-at-arms to Henry VIII, 1531, holding a mace in his right hand. It is engraved in Vol. III, pl. 56, of the *Antiquarian Etching Club*, and also in Haines' *Manual of Brasses*, Vol. I, p. 126.