The Manorial Society.

The Manorial Society is about to issue the first of a series of lists of such Manor Court Rolls as are in the possession of private individuals, or in the custody of the Stewards of the Manors to which the Rolls relate, or in that of corporate bodies, as distinguished from those Court Rolls which are preserved in the Public Record Office, the British Museum Library, and other public depositories of collections of MSS. and other documents of antiquarian interest. It is obvious that the success of such an undertaking will depend, to a great extent, on the loyal support and cordial co-operation of local antiquaries.

Any information respecting the existence of Court Rolls, the periods which they cover, and their present custodians, will be gratefully received by the Registrar of the Society (Mr. Charles Greenwood), 1, Mitre Court Buildings, Temple, E.C.

The list will be issued in parts, at intervals, as such information accumulates, and supplied, gratuitously, to members of the Society.

It is hardly necessary to point out the value of such lists to the cause of antiquarian research, especially as they will supplement those which are to be found in the national and other public collections above referred to.

Proceedings at Meetings of the Royal Archaeological Institute.

February 6th, 1907.

Sir Henry H. Howorth, *President*, in the Chair,

A paper was read by Mr. Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A., on "A day's excursion among the churches of south-east Norfolk," illustrated by numerous lantern slides. The paper is printed in the *Journal* at page 91.

After the President had summed up the subject of the architectural features, a vote of thanks was accorded the lecturer for his paper.

March 6th, 1907.

Mr. St. John Hope, *Vice-President*, in the Chair.

The Rev. E. S. Dewick, M.A., F.S.A., read a paper on "Consecration Crosses and the ritual connected with them," illustrated by numerous examples.

The discussion was opened by Col. Bayliss and continued by Messrs. Rice and Druce; the Chairman having summed up, a vote of thanks was accorded the author of the paper.

April 9th, 1907.

Sir Henry H. Howorth, *President*, in the Chair.

Mr. Howard Candler, M.A., read a paper on "How the Elephant became a Bishop: an enquiry into the origin of the names of the chess-pieces." The paper is printed in the *Journal* at p. 80.

A vote of thanks was accorded the author.

Figures in alabaster were exhibited by Mr. E. Herbert Fison and the Rev. E. S. Dewick, M.A., F.S.A. Mr. St. John Hope, V.P., described the figures.

May 1st, 1907.

Mr. St. John Hope, *Vice-President*, in the Chair.

A paper entitled "Notes on the architecture of the church of St. Candida at Whitechurch Canonicorum, Dorset," by Miss Edith K.

PRIDEAUX, illustrated by lantern slides, was read by Mr. FRANCIS BOND, M.A., F.G.S., on behalf of the author. The paper will be printed in the *Journal*.

The Rev. E. S. DEWICK and the CHAIRMAN took part in the discussion, and a vote of thanks was accorded the author.

June 5th, 1907.

SIR HENRY H. HOWORTH, *President*, in the Chair.

Mr. FRANCIS BOND, M.A., F.G.S., read a paper on "The strange history of the English Parish Church," illustrated by lantern slides, which will be printed in the *Journal*.

The Rev. E. S. DEWICK, Col. BAYLISS, Messrs. RICE and JOHNSTON took part in the discussion, and after a summing up by the PRESIDENT, a vote of thanks was accorded the author.

Proceedings at Meetings of the Royal Archaeological Institute.

ANNUAL MEETING AT COLCHESTER.

JULY 23RD TO JULY 31ST, 1907.

President of the Meeting.—The Right Hon. JAMES ROUND.

Vice-Presidents of the Meeting.—Sir Edward Brabrook, C.B., F.S.A.; W. H. St. John Hope, Esq., M.A.; J. Horace Round, Esq., M.A., LL.D., D.L.; J. H. Etherington Smith, Esq., M.A., F.S.A.

Local Committee.—Henry Laver, Esq., F.S.A.; the Rev. T. H. Curling, B.A.

London Committee.—Sir Henry H. Howorth, K.C.I.E., D.C.L., F.R.S. F.S.A.; James Hilton, Esq., F.S.A.; W. H. St. John Hope, Esq., M.A.; Sir Edward Brabrook, C.B., F.S.A.; Herbert Jones, Esq., F.S.A.; C. R. Peers, Esq., M.A., F.S.A.; Mill Stephenson, Esq., F.S.A.

Secretary for the Meeting.—Wm. Hale-Hilton, Esq.

PROCEEDINGS.

July 23rd.—Inaugural meeting at the Town Hall. Reception by the Mayor of Colchester. Copford Church, with vaulted Norman nave and apsidal vaulted chancel, described by Dr. Laver. Layer Marney Hall, a sixteenth century quadrangular house, with gatehouse, described by Mr. W. H. St. John Hope. Layer Marney Church, with monuments of the Marney family, described by the Rector, the Rev. H. T. Boys. Evening meeting. The Rev. F. W. Galpin, on "Musical Instruments in Gothic Art," illustrated by examples.

July 24th.—Little Maplestead Church, with hexagonal nave and circular aisle, described by Mr. Hope. Castle Hedingham Church and Norman Castle, described by Mr. Hope. Evening Meeting: Mr. W. Gurney Benham, on "The Town Charters of Colchester." Dr. J. Horace Round, on "Bergholt Sackville and the Essex Sackvilles."

July 25th.—Inworth Church, described by Mr. Hope. Coggeshall Church, of the fifteenth century, and Coggeshall Abbey, founded 1140, both described by Mr. Beaumont. Paycock's House (*c.* 1500). Bradwell Church, described by the Rev. T. H. Curling. Two mediaeval barns at Cressing Temple. Faulkbourn Hall, mainly of the fifteenth century, described by Mr. Hope. Evening Meeting: Dr. J. Horace Round on: (*a*) "The Carrington Legend"; and (*b*) "A Note on Dr. Gilbert."

July 26th.—Colchester Castle, described by Mr. Hope. The Museum. The Roman Walls, St. Botolph's Priory, St. John's Abbey Gate, Trinity Church, Dr. Laver acting as guide. Conversazione at the Town Hall.

July 27th.—Maldon Church, with thirteenth century three-cornered tower, described by Mr. Beaumont. Spital Chapel, described by Mr. R. C. Fowler. The Town Hall (*temp.* Henry VIII). The Plume Theological Library (*c.* 1660). Bileigh Abbey, mainly of the thirteenth century, described by Mr. R. C. Fowler. Heybridge Church, Langford Church, with apsidal *west* end, described by Dr. Laver.

July 29th.—Great Dunmow Church and Tiltey Abbey, both described by Mr. Hope. Horeham Hall [1510], described by Mr. T. D. Atkinson. Thaxted Church and Great Bardfield Church, both described by Mr. Hope. Annual Business Meeting.

July 30th.—Brightlingsea Church [fifteenth century], described by the vicar, the Rev. A. Pertwee. St. Osyth's Priory [*c.* 1120], described by Mr. Hope. St. Osyth's Abbey, Great Clacton Church, described by the vicar, the Rev. J. Silvester. Evening Meeting: Dr. Henry Laver, on "The Destruction of Colchester by Boadicea." Mr. I. Chalkley Gould, on "Traces of Saxons and Danes in the Earthworks of Essex."

July 31st.—Extra day. Bradwell-juxta-mare, the site of Othona, a Roman coast fortress. Ruins of the seventh century church of St. Peter on the Wall, described by Dr. Laver. Tillingham Church. Southminster Church.

Tuesday, July 23rd.

After an interval of thirty-one years, the Institute again chose Colchester as the centre for its annual meeting. The proceedings opened at noon, when the Mayor and Corporation, in robes of office, received the members in the Town Hall. On behalf of the citizens, the Mayor (Mr. WALTER B. SPARLING, J.P.) cordially welcomed the Institute to Colchester. He was followed by Alderman HENRY LAVER, F.S.A., and the Rev. T. H. CURLING, B.A., who, as President and Secretary respectively of the Essex Archaeological Society, joined in the welcome on behalf of that body. The President of the Institute, Sir HENRY H. HOWORTH, in responding, dwelt briefly on the long record of Colchester's history, and introduced the President of the meeting (the Right Hon. JAMES ROUND), who also spoke. Alderman LAVER then drew attention to some details in connection with the week's programme. A vote of thanks to the Mayor and Corporation for their hearty reception of the Institute was carried unanimously; the MAYOR replied in suitable terms, and the proceedings then terminated.

After an adjournment for luncheon, the members drove through Lexden and Stanway to Copford church, which was described by Dr. LAVER. The building now consists of an early Norman apsidal chancel, a nave of the same date of four bays, with a later south aisle and south porch, and a wooden belfry over the western end of the nave. Originally, the church consisted only of the apse and nave, both vaulted, the former with the usual semi-dome, the latter with a barrel-vault, with broad arches forming the divisions, springing from flat pilaster strips. Owing to a slight settlement, the nave vault was removed, probably in the fifteenth century, and the present king-post roof substituted.

The whole of the interior was originally decorated with colour, considerable traces of which were found in 1876 when the church was restored, but unhappily a good deal of repainting was done, some of it quite conjectural, especially in the apse. Dr. Laver also referred to the new door and porch, and said that the old door which had been removed was one of the few in England on which human skin had been nailed. Portions of this skin, perhaps belonging to some sacrilegious Dane, are still preserved in the vestry. The church has lost all its old furniture with the exception of the rood-screen and a large chest.

A move was then made to Layer Marney, where the party was received by Mr. W. M. de Zoete in front of the Hall, which Mr. W. H. St. John Hope described. He referred to the interest of domestic architecture, and reminded his hearers of the very fine examples of houses which had merged from fortresses into comfortable dwellings visited when at Tunbridge Wells in 1906. He characterised Layer Marney Hall as the beginnings of a large mansion of the courtyard type, dating from about 1520, but which had never been completed. It consisted of a lofty gatehouse of three stories with angle turrets, built entirely of brick, with ranges of buildings on either side. These were built by Sir Henry Marney, K.G., afterwards Lord Marney, Captain of the Guard to Henry VIII., who died in 1523. He was succeeded by his son John, who carried on the work for two more years, when he also died and all building came to an end. What remains is all of fine brickwork, but the principal window mullions and transoms, the cornices and other ornamental features are of moulded terra-cotta and show strong traces of Renaissance influence, while the main portions are Gothic. This peculiar combination belongs to an interesting group of buildings which Mr. Hope urged some member to take up as a special study. The house, if it had ever been carried to a conclusion, would probably have contained a great hall and ranges of chambers.

Some discussion took place as to the Italian or Flemish origin of these decorative features, and as to whether they were the work of Englishmen under foreign influence.

The President observed that an Italian architect was responsible for a great deal of decorative work in the reign of Henry VIII., in one instance being employed by Wolsey in the work at Hampton Court, and that probably accounted for the work in some of the decoration in that building, which was, he believed, the earliest dated building where that particular style of ornamentation occurred.

The parish church was next inspected, and the chief features of interest pointed out by the rector, the Rev. H. J. Boys. It consists of a chancel of three bays with north chapel, a nave of five bays with north aisle and south porch, and a tower at the west end. The building is practically all of one date, and evidently the work of the same builders as the great house. It is throughout of brick, even the window mullions and transoms being of this material. With the exception of the exterior of the tower, the whole of the surfaces were originally plastered. The chancel and nave retain their open roofs with coved ceilings, but the aisle and north chapel have flat roofs with richly-moulded cross-beams. The rood-screen seems to be older than the present church, and there is some good late woodwork about the

pulpit. On the north wall of the nave is a rude painting of St. Christopher, with the usual attributes. The chief features of the church, apart from its architectural interest, are the fine tombs. The earliest is of alabaster, with effigy in armour of Sir William Marney, who died in 1414, and directed that his body be buried in the quire. His tomb stood over his grave until a recent restoration, when it was removed into the north chapel. Under an arch between chancel and chapel is another fine monument, that of Henry, Lord Marney. His will, made in 1523, directs "that the chapel which I have begon adjoyning to the chauncell of the parish churche . . . be new inside and fully fynysshed according to the same proportions in length bredith and heith as it is begon, with a substanciall flat Roofe of Tymber." His executors were also to "cause to be made a Tumbe of marbull to be sett in the wall betwixt the chauncell and the said chapell, which wall I will it be newe and to be vawted over with marbull and workmanly wrought w^{h} suche works as shalbe thought convenient by my executours, and my Image to be made of black marbull or Towch w^{h} everything convenient and appurteyning to the same, and to be leyd and sett upon the said Tomb." The tomb and its canopy are actually of moulded terra-cotta, showing strong Renaissance influence, but the effigy is of touch, and represents the knight in armour. In the north aisle is another tomb, also of moulded terra-cotta, of John, Lord Marney, with his effigy in touch. The tomb is not canopied, but has across the west end the panelled block of an altar, in accordance with the will of the deceased.

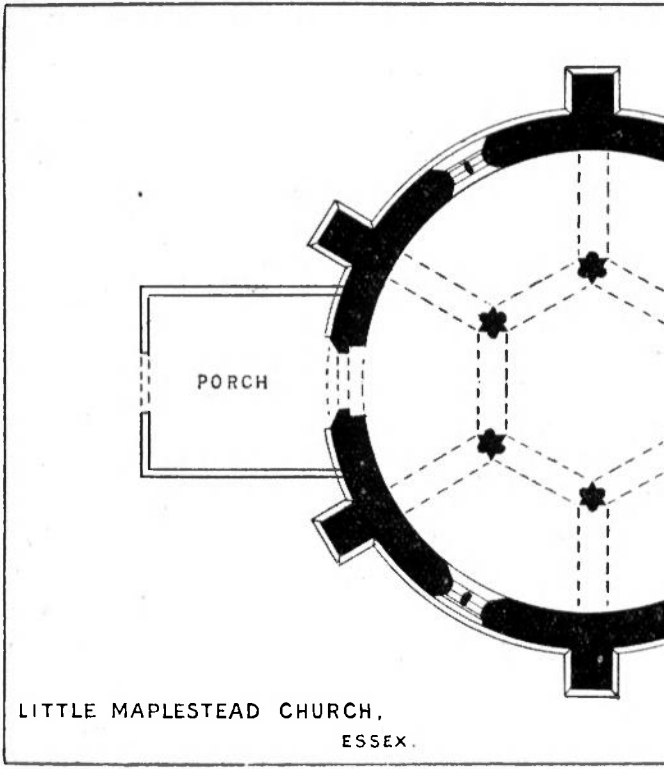
On leaving the church the party returned to the grounds of the Hall and was entertained to tea by Mr. de Zoete, and subsequently drove back to Colchester.

At the evening meeting in the Town Hall the Rev. F. W. GALPIN, M.A., read a paper on "Musical Instruments in Gothic Art," and showed by actual examples from his own collection, mainly of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the nature of the several instruments represented in carvings and painted glass of our own cathedral and parish churches, without gathering examples from Continental sources or referring to the illustrations of musical instruments to be found in the manuscripts of mediaeval times. Beginning with the harp, the lecturer observed that in England it always took the form of a small and portable instrument with a curved front pillar resting on the knee or hanging from a strap from the shoulder, and he referred to examples in the Angel Choir at Lincoln. Mr. Galpin then passed to the psaltery, which consisted of a small sound box with metal strings stretched across it, plucked by the fingers or by a plectrum; the player is usually represented as supporting it with his arms, with hands left free to play on the strings. This instrument in its most archaic forms was of Eastern origin, and owing to the fact that in the Vulgate the word stands as a translation for the Hebrew *rebec*, the psaltery is constantly met with in church architecture. Instances are to be seen on the fourteenth-century stone rood-screen at Great Bardfield, also at Manchester and Beverley. An advance was made on this instrument in the dulcimer, which, similar in other respects, was struck by two small hammers; it thus became the predecessor of the piano, as the psaltery was the parent of the spinet. The citole, a rare

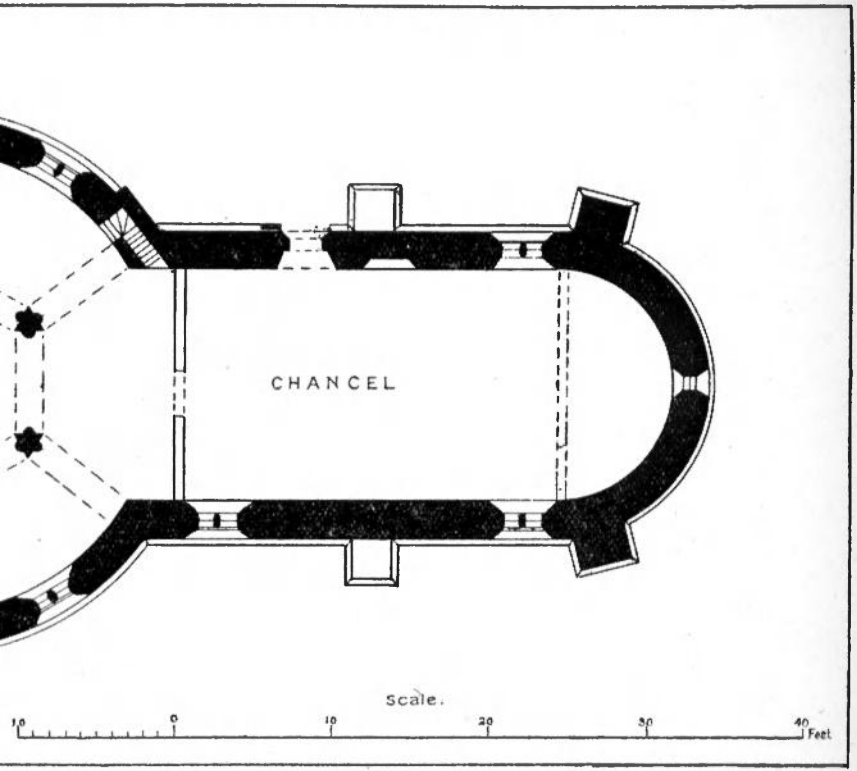
instrument somewhat flatter than the psaltery, was then described, followed by the gittern, a large type of zither. Another stringed instrument was the lute, easily recognised by the pear-shaped outline of the body and the rounded back. It was introduced by the Moors into Spain, whence it spread throughout Europe; but fell into disuse in the eighteenth century in favour of the guitar. The lecturer then described the rebec introduced by the Arabs in the sixth and seventh centuries, distinguished from the fithele, or fiddle, by the oblong body and incurvations at the sides of the latter, which was in earlier times played with the fingers or a plectrum, but the bow, adopted apparently from the Arabs, was used with it in the tenth century, and it appeared with the rebec in the royal bands of the sixteenth century. The symphony, later known as the hurdy-gurdy, the earliest stringed instrument provided with key mechanism, and in use as early as the eleventh century, enabled a succession of consecutive octaves or fifths to be rendered with ease and precision, and was apparently used in the churches to accompany the *organum* or harmonised plain song. Mr. Galpin next dealt with the clavichord, the first stringed instrument with a true keyboard, and the virginal, which in turn gave place to the harpsichord and the pianoforte. Turning to wind instruments, he exhibited early specimens of the flute in the form of pan-pipes; its nearest relative was the three-holed pipe, used with a small drum or tabor and associated with the morris dance and village revels. The shawm was a reed instrument chiefly used for open-air music, which, under the name "wayhte," became the recognised instrument of the watchmen, and was of all pipes the most frequently represented in Gothic art, being easily distinguished by the large bell at the lower end. By a modification in shape and bore, it became in the seventeenth century the hautboy, while with a bag attached it became the bagpipe, and in Great Bardfield church might be observed the bagpipe and shawm. The horn and the trumpet and the earlier straight or slightly curved form of the cornet, and the trombone were next examined. The organ, in its early portable form, was also commented upon at length, and its gradual evolution into the great organ traced. The paper concluded with some observations on the drum, the double drums, the timbrel, triangle and cymbals. The interest of the lecture was much enhanced by a performance on several of the instruments. Mr. Galpin played, among others, an Elizabethan jig, a morris dance, and a tune composed for Henry VIII. for the sackbut.

Wednesday, July 24th.

The party travelled by special train to Halstead, and from thence drove first to Little Maplestead, where the remarkable and diminutive church (see plan) was described by Mr. W. H. St. John Hope. It originally belonged to a preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers founded here in 1186; the font only is of that date, the church belonging to the late thirteenth or early fourteenth century. It consists of a long apsidal quire or chancel, with a hexagonal tower on the west surrounded by a circular aisle from which arches extend to support the tower. To this was added in the fifteenth century a large wooden western porch. From the abutting arches spanning the



LITTLE MAPLESTEAD CHURCH,
ESSEX.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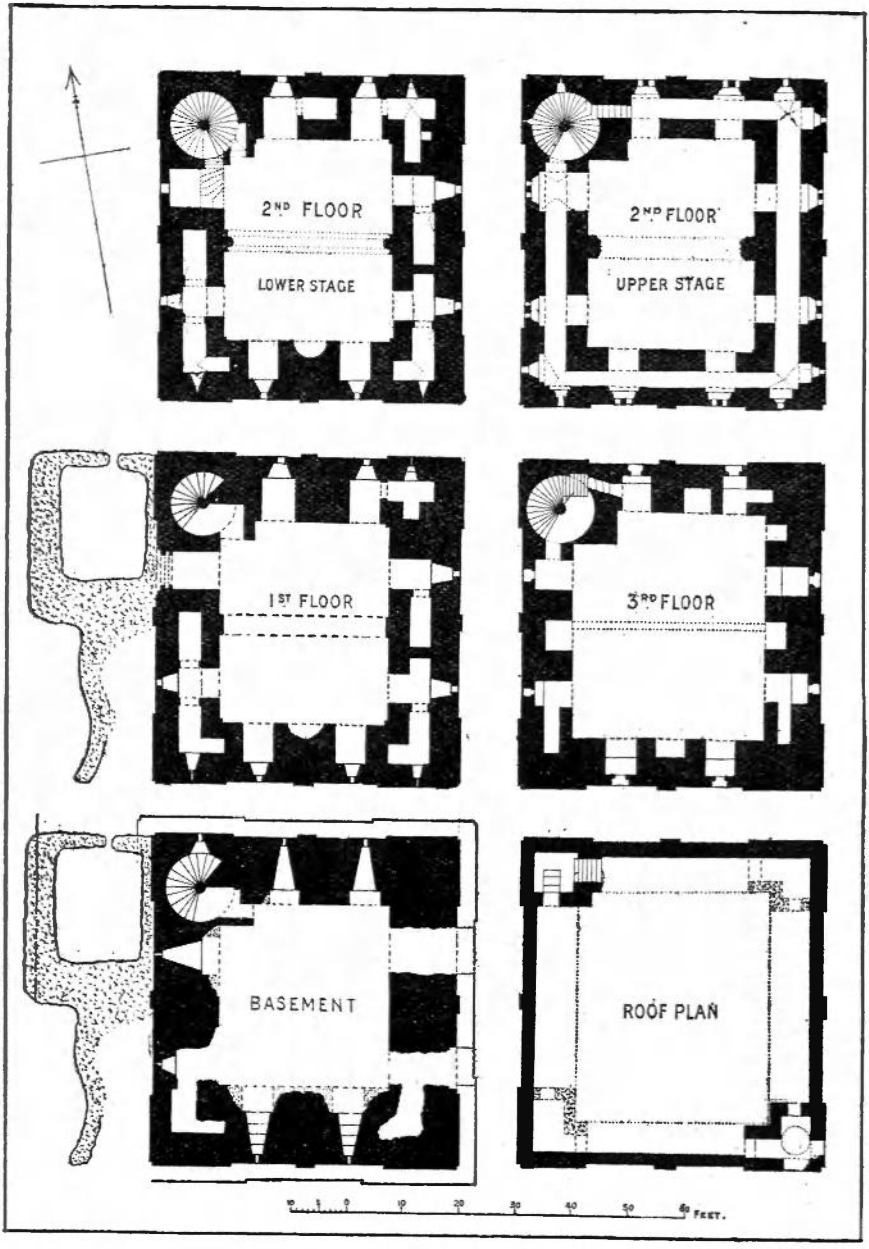
aisle the tower was perhaps intended to be vaulted, but was apparently never completed, and is now surmounted by a wooden belfry. Mr. Hope observed that round churches were generally associated with the Templars, but as the great church of the Knights Hospitallers at Clerkenwell possessed a round nave, it might well be that the builders of Little Maplestead church were following the plan of their own mother church rather than the example of the Templars. The church has suffered considerably from scraping and rebuilding, and underwent a drastic restoration about thirty-five years ago, when every window was made new, the arcades scraped, the porch destroyed, the old altar-screen and rood-screen swept away, and the rood staircase removed.

A passing visit was paid to Great Maplestead church, which has an apsidal chancel and nave of Norman work; the tower also appears to be Norman. On each side an aisle has been added, a transept and chapel have been built out, and a tomb has taken the place of one of the altars. There are some good late monuments, one representing the recumbent figure of Sir John Deane, of the seventeenth century. The church has undergone a good deal of reconstruction.

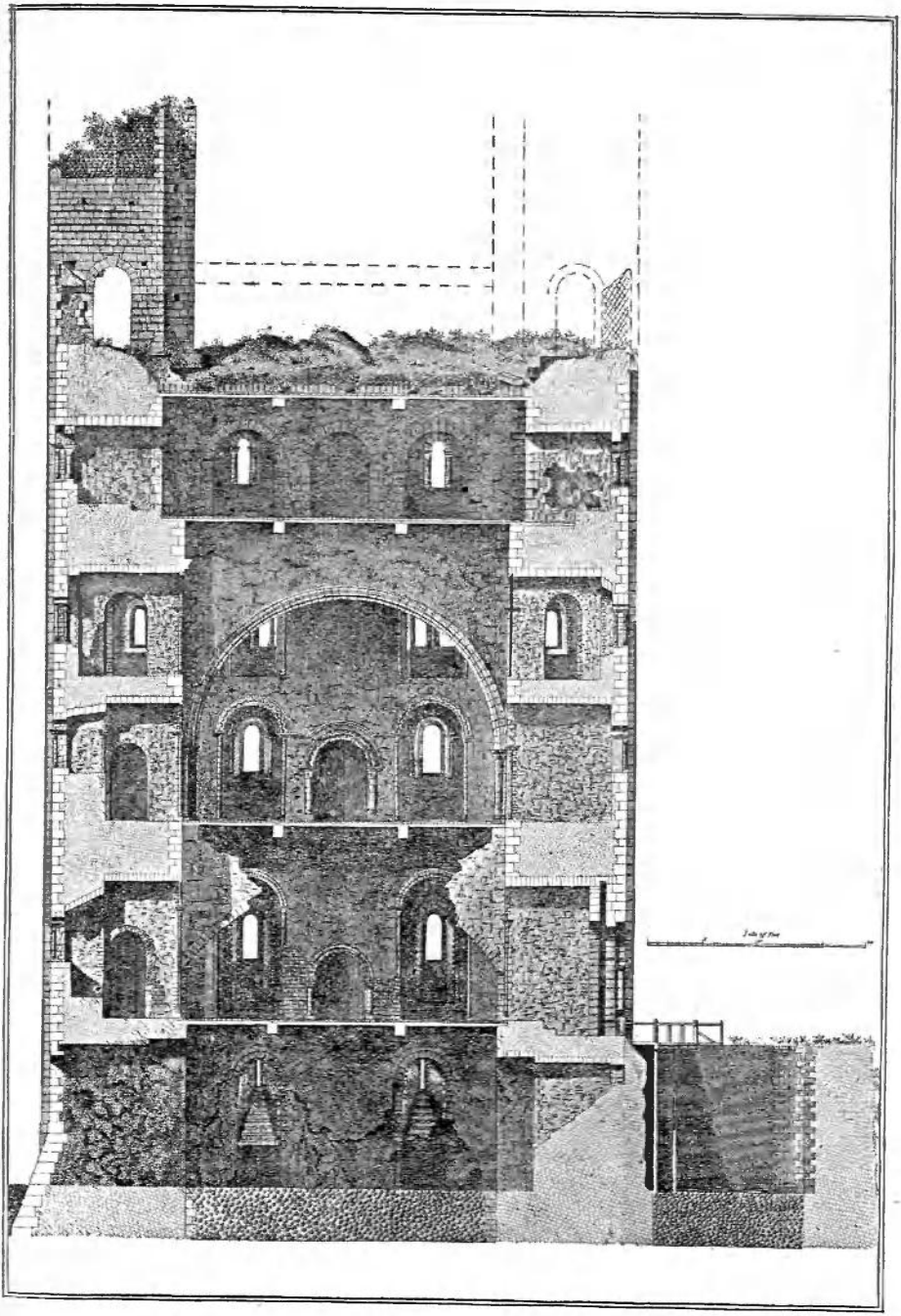
The party then drove to Castle Hedingham, where lunch was laid at the Bell Hotel. The church was then inspected under the guidance of Mr. HOPE. It consists of chancel, nave with clerestory and aisles of six bays, south porch and a western tower. The nave and chancel are both of good Transitional work. The chancel has, on the east, a wheel window and three small pointed windows below it, and side windows set in a wall arcade, all original work. The nave arcades have simple round arches carried by pillars alternately round and octagonal, with square capitals enriched with excellent carved leafwork. The clerestory windows were plain, round-headed openings, but have been altered into two-light windows of brickwork early in the sixteenth century, to which time may also be assigned the remarkably fine hammer-beam roof. The eastern ends of the aisles were originally walled off from the nave as chapels, but the openings were pierced in the fourteenth century, when larger windows were also inserted. The tower is entered from the nave by a lofty pointed arch carried by transitional responds of the same character as those of the nave arcades. These were shown by Mr. Hope to have belonged to an additional bay which was destroyed when the tower was built, and used up in the new work. Externally, the tower is a fine and picturesque one of brick, whose date the guide books fix as 1616 upon the authority of an inscription on the exterior, now nearly hidden by ivy, ROBART ARCHER, THE MASTER WORKEMAN TO THIS STEPELL 1616; but this can only refer to later repairs. As Mr. Hope pointed out, the date of the tower can be approximately fixed by a row of badges over the west window which referred to John de Vere, K.G., Earl of Oxford, Lord High Admiral and Lord Chamberlain, who died in 1513. A boatswain's whistle, such as was carried by officers in the navy in the time of Henry VIII., indicates his post in the navy; a screw jack surrounded by the Garter refers to his Christian name; then comes the De Vere mullet or star, followed by an ox crossing a ford, and a chair which points to the office of Lord Chamberlain. The doors are all original, and still enriched with twelfth-century ironwork, which is very rarely met with. The restored

rood-screen contains a good deal of the old work, and in the chancel are remains of the old stalls with carved misericords, which suggest that the church was intended for collegiate rather than parish purposes. The only monument of importance is that of John de Vere, the fifteenth Earl of Oxford, who died in 1539, with effigies of himself and wife carved on a slab of touch, with figures of their children on the sides.

From the church the members proceeded on foot to the castle (see plan), where they were received by Mr. J. K. A. MAJENDIE, the present owner. The castle was described by Mr. HOPE as consisting of an extensive earthwork, a modification on a large scale of the Norman mount-and-bailey type, thrown up by Aubrey de Vere, who held Hedingham in demesne at the time of the Domesday Survey. Had the castle been begun on a smaller scale, it would have been a typical example, but the builders started with so large a perimeter that there was not material enough to make the usual conical hill, but only to form a bank round the area. Other examples of this divergence from the type are to be found at Old Basing and in the middle of the great prehistoric earthwork known as Old Sarum. The Hedingham Castle earthwork consisted of an outer bailey, in which were the gatehouse, the stables, etc., and was separated from the inner bailey by a deep ditch, now spanned by a Tudor bridge of brickwork. To the original castle, which was fortified by wooden stockades, was added, probably by a second Aubrey de Vere who died in 1141, a great rectangular tower of masonry in the middle of the inner bailey. Mr. Hope pointed out its many features of resemblance to the better-known and somewhat larger tower of Rochester, which is recorded to have been built between 1126 and 1139, and claimed that the two were the work of the same *ingeniator* or military engineer. But whereas the Rochester tower is built of the local Kentish rag, with Caen stone dressings, the rubble core of the Hedingham tower is faced throughout with regularly coursed ashlar, probably from the Barnack quarries. The result is that the Essex example, despite the loss of its battlements and of two of its four turrets, retains an appearance of finish which invests it with a dignity and beauty difficult to match. The tower was entered on the first floor from a staircase and barbican, now much ruined, and included a basement and a second and a third floors. The second floor, which served as a hall, has a clerestory on all four sides, and is spanned by an arch carried by responds, instead of being subdivided by a wall as at Rochester. A like feature, but of plainer character, may be seen in the floor below. A large well, recently discovered near the tower, was opened for the inspection of the party. Mr. Hope also referred to the history of the castle and its long ownership by the Vere family. He said that at the time of the Domesday Survey, which was finished in 1086, the place was held in demesne from the King by Aubrey de Vere, and a number of small holdings were described as held of the manor. Small holdings were never found unless there was a big place held by the lord himself. Dr. Horace Round had pointed out that the existence of small holdings at Hedingham in the Domesday Survey pointed to this being Aubrey de Vere's stronghold, and therefore he claimed that this mighty earthwork was thrown up by Aubrey de Vere some time before 1086, probably an obligation laid upon him by the King. The



HEDINGHAM CASTLE. PLANS OF THE TOWER.



SECTION OF THE TOWER OF HEDINGHAM CASTLE FROM EAST TO WEST.

one aim was to maintain the conquest of the country, and the construction of such works was either the work of the Conqueror or one of his tenants-in-chief. Aubrey de Vere was succeeded by his second son, also named Aubrey, who in 1106 was made Great Chamberlain by Henry I., and married a daughter of the Earl of Hertford. To him must be ascribed the building of the tower. In 1152 Maud, wife of King Stephen, died in the castle, and was buried at Faversham. In 1216 the castle was occupied by John, but was recaptured in the next year by the French party, who held it for a time. It was a noteworthy thing that, with very small intervals, the castle was continuously in the hands of one great family for five centuries after the Conquest, and considering the vicissitudes of the great families of the country during that period, that was quite exceptional. King Henry VII. was entertained in the castle by one Earl of Oxford, and Queen Elizabeth by another. In 1592 the castle was disposed of to Lord Burleigh, and remained with his descendants till 1609, when it came back to the De Veres by purchase, and was held till 1625, when the last of the De Veres died; then it passed by jointure to his wife, then to the Earl's cousin, and was sold in 1713 to Robert Ashurst, from whom it had descended to Mr. Majendie, the present owner.

The President then added some interesting historical notes on the Vere family. Perhaps, with the exception of the Courtneys, who were Emperors of Constantinople and subsequently Earls of Devon, he thought there was no family so continuously famous as this. They acted a prominent part in the war of Stephen and Matilda, taking the side of the latter; they fought against John, and a De Vere was one of the few nobles who received a title from Simon de Montfort. A De Vere led the right wing of the English army at Poictiers, and the family took a very active part in the Wars of the Roses. Two of them were executed in the Tower by Edward IV. Henry VII., after being entertained at Hedingham, was mean enough to call in question then umber of his host's retainers, and fined him a large amount. The earl, however, must have survived that, because he was recorded as being buried with 900 tenants marching to his grave, all dressed in long black cloaks. In the time of Elizabeth a De Vere was one of the most attractive of our English soldiers, fighting at the head of our troops in the Low Countries, and it was a De Vere's desertion which contributed more than anything else to displace James II.

The party then inspected with great interest the interior of the keep, and then, at the invitation of Mr. Majendie, the visitors moved to the adjoining mansion, which was thrown open to them, tea being served in the shade of a magnificent tulip tree in full bloom. Subsequently carriages drove the party to the station, whence they reached Colchester shortly before 7 p.m.

At the evening meeting Mr. W. GURNEY BENHAM exhibited the town charters and other illustrative documents, and described the various classes preserved in the muniment-room. These form a collection which it would be difficult to match, and, through the exertions of Dr. Laver, the whole has been put into admirable order. A note on the subject by Mr. Gurney Benham is printed in the *Journal* at page 203. Dr. J. HORACE ROUND also contributed a paper on Bergholt Sackville and the Essex Sackvilles, which will appear in the *Journal*.

Thursday, July 25th.

On Thursday, the members first went by train to Kelvedon, where carriages were in readiness to convey them to Inworth. Here the church was described by Mr. HOPE and Mr. LYNAM, both of whom ascribed the early-looking work in the chancel and nave to the Early Norman period, though there were characteristics of Saxon work in the walls which made it difficult to decide conclusively whether it was Saxon or Early Norman. The building consists only of chancel and nave, with modern west tower and south porch, but contains evidence of the nave altars, and a good simple screen and other woodwork; likewise some vestiges of ancient colouring with scenes from the life of Our Lord.

The journey was then continued to Coggeshall, where the large and fine church of St. Peter-ad-Vincula, of late fifteenth-century date, was described by Mr. G. F. BEAUMONT, F.S.A. The church consists of chancel and nave, both with aisles, a western tower and south porch. Mr. Beaumont pointed out the chief features of interest. He observed that a church stood here in 1125. The church was built on the site of, or in close proximity to, a Roman villa, for near it had been found coins of Antoninus and other emperors, tiles, tesserae, etc. The tower was the earliest part, and was evidently built for a much smaller edifice. The church has suffered much from the restorers, and all its old fittings are gone.

The site of the Cistercian Abbey, founded here in 1140, was next visited, again under the guidance of Mr. BEAUMONT, who first explained the features of the now restored chapel of St. Nicholas, of early thirteenth-century date, one of the earliest undoubted mediaeval brick buildings in England. It formerly was the "chapel without the gate," where women and others who were not admitted into the abbey precinct could hear Mass. Of the abbey itself very little remains. Mr. Beaumont indicated the position which, in his opinion, was occupied by the abbey church, and said that after a period of hot weather the plan of much of the building could be clearly traced. The portions which still remain and which are now converted to farm purposes were then pointed out: some being conjecturally identified with the infirmary buildings. Mr. HOPE and Mr. LYNAM were inclined to regard part of an arcade in the farmhouse as belonging to the church, but this view did not commend itself to Mr. Beaumont. Mr. Hope added that a more detailed examination needed to be made before the real nature of the several buildings could be ascertained, and urged the Essex Archaeological Society to devote fifty or sixty pounds to the excavation of the site, by which they would be able to reconstruct the monastic arrangements with exactitude.

After an interval for luncheon, served at the Chapel Hotel, the party, by permission of the Rev. C. Noel, visited Paycock's House, an interesting small half-timbered mansion containing much beautiful carved work on the beams and rafters, and built, according to Mr. Beaumont, between 1500 and 1505 by one Thomas Paycock, a merchant, who mentioned it in a will dated 1505.

The party went on next by carriage to Bradwell, where the interesting, but out-of-the-way, little church was described by the Rev. T. H.

CURLING. Structurally it is of the Norman period, but larger windows were inserted in the fourteenth century to light the high altar and nave altars, and in the fifteenth century in the east and west walls. The earlier of these windows are noteworthy for the extensive traces of figure and other contemporary painted decoration on the jambs and soffits which have been brought to light by Mr. Curling. The windows also contain some fragments of the original glazing. The remains of the rood-screen and loft are of interest, as are portions of the enclosure of one of the nave altars and other woodwork. One or two good monuments remain, including the ornately carved late Elizabethan stone figures kneeling in niches over the altar representing Sir Anthony Maxey and his wife, and his son, Sir William and his wife; also part of an incised slab of touch commemorating a priest who died in 1349. The font, Mr. Curling suggested, was originally a square Norman one, but the corners had been chamfered off and the bowl fitted to an octagonal Tudor base of moulded brick. The whitewashed exterior of the church has a very striking and telling effect.

On the way to Faulkbourn Hall, two mediaeval barns of great size were inspected at Cressing Temple. The smaller of the two is over 130 feet long. Mr. LAVER pointed out that originally not a bit of ironwork was used in the great structures, and that only the axe and adze had fashioned the massive oaken beams of which they were constructed. Built in 1450, the barns were attached to Cressing Temple, a place which belonged later, he supposed, to the Hospitallers, and they were used for the storing of the produce from the tithes of the parishes surrounding. In ascribing the reason of such massive buildings being composed so largely of wood, Mr. Laver said that owing to there being no suitable building stone in the county, wood had to be used, and Essex was one of the counties in which the carpentry was superior to all the rest of England.

Faulkbourn Hall, where the party was received by the owner, Mr. Christopher W. Parker, and entertained to tea on the lawn, is a good example of a brick house of the fifteenth century, with later additions, originally built, as was explained by Mr. HOPE, round three sides of a small courtyard, the approach to which was by a fine avenue of trees. The middle part was occupied by a dining-room rather than a hall, though it had a bay window, and over it the great chamber with a good oriel. At one of the outer angles a stately tower was carried up. All this work is of one date, and from analogies with the tower of Tattershall, Hurstmonceux Castle, and other contemporary buildings, Mr. Hope saw no reason to doubt that it was begun shortly after a licence to crenellate, dated October 11, 1439, had been granted to Sir John Montgomery, the then owner. The party then drove to Witham station, and Colchester was reached shortly after 7 p.m.

At the evening meeting Dr. J. HORACE ROUND read two papers, one dealing with the Carrington Legend and the creation of bogus pedigrees, and the second, which is of considerable local interest, with Dr. William Gilbert.

In his note on Dr. Gilbert, Dr. Round said there had been in his own time a remarkable growth of interest in Dr. Gilbert as a Colchester worthy, and it was no doubt due to the great development in electricity that this pioneer of electrical science had come by his

own. Yet even in the eighteenth century his fame was well established. Morant, the historian of Colchester, termed him "that great man," and spoke of Holy Trinity parish as "having had the honour of giving birth to, and also of being the seat and residence of, the most learned Dr. William Gylberd." In the church of this parish was to be seen his interesting monument, for the fortunate preservation of which we were indebted to Dr. Laver's pious zeal. This monument was rich in heraldry, as was the fashion of the day, and three years ago, when a great Gilbert enthusiast, Professor Silvanus Thompson, was visiting Colchester with the Institute of Electrical Engineers, he announced what a local paper described as "an interesting discovery." Alluding to the arms on the stone over Gilbert's tomb, Professor Thompson was reported to have said: "He had lately been able to establish that they included the arms of Gilbert of Clare, Earl of Gloucester, who owned fifty manors in Suffolk and Essex, and married a daughter of King Edward I. It was his arms which were granted, with the addition of a crest, to Dr. William Gilbert by the College of Heralds in 1577. The work of tracing out the arms, family connections and other details connected with Gilbert, was, he added, by no means at an end, and for help in this direction he earnestly appealed to East Anglians who treasured his memory." Well, said Dr. Round, we must do justice even to Elizabethan heralds. It will be seen that the doctor's arms are not the chevrons of the house of Clare, but that they are merely a variant of the arms borne by various families bearing the name of Gilbert. How, then, did the professor evolve his great discovery? The explanation is quite simple. The doctor's father came from Clare, on the border of Essex and Suffolk, and these arms were granted to the Gilbert family of Clare. This, in heraldic jargon, became "Gilbert de Clare," and the Professor must have followed this false clue. One more point: at the right-hand top corner is the coat of Gilbert impaling one which proves to be that of Wingfield quartering another; it has been suggested that these were the coats of the doctor's father and mother, but this was not so. His father, Jerome, Recorder of Colchester, as is proved by his monument, formerly in Trinity church, married an Elizabeth for his first wife, and was father by her of Dr. Gilbert and of a daughter. His second wife was a daughter of Robert Wingfield, of Brantham Hall, Suffolk, whose mother was a Wiseman.[1] By her he was father of four sons, the doctor's half-brothers, two of whom erected this monument.

Dr. Round went on to discuss the identity of Gilbert's birthplace with the house now shown as such and described as "Tymperleys." He showed that this name must be a revival, as it had long ceased to be in use when Morant wrote (1748). He questioned, therefore, the authority for making this house the birthplace, the more so as a statement made by Morant virtually identified the house with one known in modern times as "the Rookery," outside the walls. (It has, however, been subsequently ascertained that the original Tymperleys stood, as alleged, in Trinity Street, though the identity of the house has not been absolutely established.) Dr. Round added that, by the kindness of Mr. Gurney Benham, he had been enabled to consult the

[1] Metcalfe's *Visitation of Suffolk of* 1612, p. 176.

original court-roll, and his valuable edition of the Borough Oath-Book had also enabled him to trace the will of Richard Weston, the purchaser. From these court-rolls, now beautifully arranged, which are a priceless source of information for Colchester topography, the history of the property with which we are dealing was found to be as follows: it had belonged to Thomas Stampe, whose daughter and heir, Alice, brought it to her husband, Roger Tymperley. This Roger, Dr. Round identified as the fourth son of John Tymperley, who had purchased the Hintlesham estates in Suffolk. The property then descended to John Tymperley, son of Roger and Alice, and from him to Frances, his daughter and heir, who married George Horseman. George and Frances sold it to Richard Weston, of Colchester, gentleman, and in the description of the property it is stated to be "jacentibus in parochia Sanctæ Trinitatis et parochia beatæ Marie Virginis, infra muros ville Colcestrie." Here everything turns on the words "infra muros"; if they were rendered literally, "below the walls," this would exactly describe the position of the three rentaries in St. John's Street, adjoining the Rookery grounds on the west, and running into St. Mary's parish. Richard Weston, who had bought the property from the Tymperley heiress, made his will on May 6th, 1542, describing the house thus: "I will that the said Elizabeth my wife shall have and enjoye to her and her heires for ever all that my capital messuage or mansion place called Tymperleys, with the curtilages, gardens, and close of ground there unto adjoining which I late purchased in the parish of Holy Trinity." Dr. Round said that here for the present his history stopped, but he wished to point out that Dr. Gilbert, being described as "ætatis suæ 63" at the time of his death in 1603, is always said to have been born in 1540. If so, he cannot have been born, as is always alleged, at Tymperleys, because it had been shown that as late as 1542 it was the seat of the Westons, and not of his father. His father Jerome first appears on the court-rolls in this same year, 1542–3. On the other hand, it is very tempting to make the bold suggestion that Richard Weston's widow, Elizabeth, who thus became possessed of Tymperleys, was no other than the Elizabeth who afterwards appears as first wife of Jerome Gilberd, and mother to Dr. Gilbert. This would account beautifully for the devolution of the property, but in that case the doctor can hardly have been born before 1544, which would make him only 59 at his death, or in his 60th year, while his monument says he was 63 "ætatis suæ." Can there have been a mistake on the monument? (It appears that there was, as suggested, a mistake, and that the doctor was not born till 1544.)

The PRESIDENT, referring to Gilbert as one of the greatest scientific men that England had produced, said he was quite sure that the paper would give rise to some discussion.

Dr. LAVER said he had taken hundreds of people to Tymperleys, and it was rather a blow to him to know he had been misleading people; but the fault was not his. If there had been a mistake, he thought it should be made as widely known as the previous statements.

The PRESIDENT observed that that was exactly the right spirit, and Dr. Laver had met the criticism in a most admirable way.

With regard to the Lucas and Lisle controversy, Dr. ROUND said he

did not claim to have actually proved the error, but there was a great question about it. He suggested that an examination of the title deeds of the two houses might help to clear up the matter, which afforded an example of the caution needed in accepting statements based on so-called tradition, without examining as closely as possible the ground on which it rested. Before concluding, he referred to the somewhat heated argument which took place on the occasion of the last visit of the Institute to Colchester as to the reason for the shooting of Lucas and Lisle. He had, he said, made a careful and prolonged research into that matter, the results of which he had published in the *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*, and there was no doubt whatever that Lucas and Lisle were condemned, not upon the charge of breaking their parole, but for the part they took in the defence of Colchester. He did not say whether they were right or wrong, whether they did break parole or not: all he stated was the undoubted fact that they were condemned solely—and not, as alleged by Sir Clements Markham, for breach of parole—for their part in the defence of Colchester. And bearing in mind some of the things which were said in that connection on the last occasion, he did not think the Institute should meet again in Colchester without that fact being publicly stated.

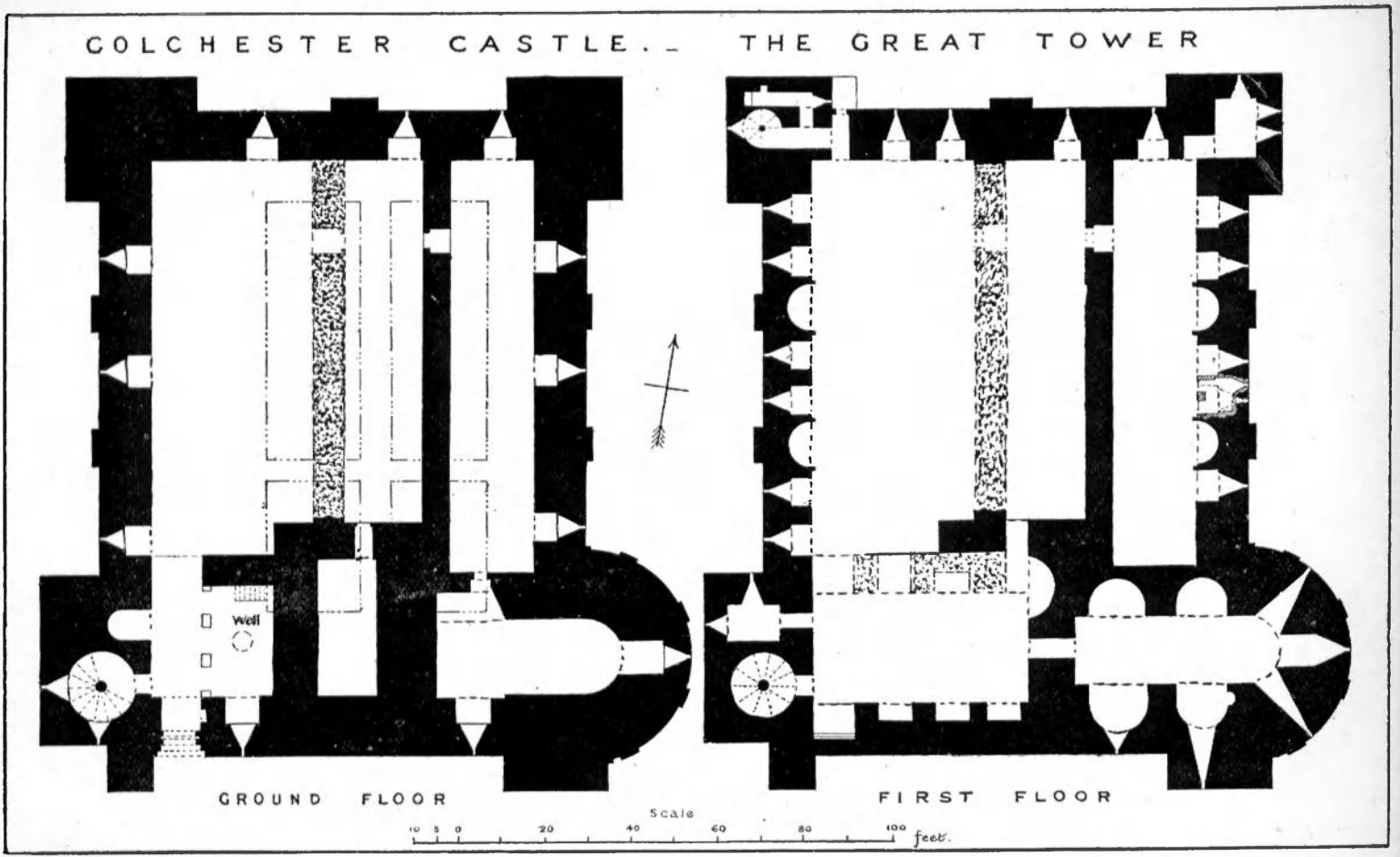
The paper on the Carrington Legend, as already stated, dealt at considerable length with the question of bogus family pedigrees, the birthplace of this particular "legend" being apparently at Cressing Temple, and the first person with whom it can be associated being Henry Smith, of Cressing. Dr. Round claimed to have found fatal flaws in the particular pedigree claimed, and mentioned in connection with the matter some interesting circumstances relating to Sir John Smith, who in the days of Elizabeth was guilty at Colchester of so grave an escapade that he was sent a prisoner to the Tower. An old soldier and diplomatist, he was addicted to "looking upon the wine when it was red," and when placed in command of the Essex train-bands on the eve of the coming of the Armada, he led his regiment to Tilbury, only to quarrel with Lord Leicester and to tell him his health required that he should go to the baths. Other escapades of this Essex worthy were related. Eight years later he committed a further indiscretion. Staying with him at Tofts, in Baddow, was Thomas Seymour, a younger brother of the Lord Beauchamp, who, according to the will of Henry VIII., was actual heir to the throne. The succession to the Crown was a thorny subject, and the two journeyed to Colchester, and on June 12th, 1596, rode on to the field where Sir Thomas Lucas was drilling the local train-bands, and Sir John Smith called on the pike-men to leave their colours and follow him, telling them who was with him. He further committed the offence of abusing Lord Burghley, Elizabeth's great minister, and the Government, hearing of this, scented an armed rising, and Sir John was accused of treason. He pleaded before the Privy Council that his real offence was oversight, "by reason of his drinking in the morning of a great deale of white wyne and sacke." With his sack he had eaten oysters, in June! In vain he offered to make a public and abject apology in the market place of Colchester, and pleaded his "wynie case and extreme drunken follies that he committed for his sins and through lack of the grace of God."

He was kept in the Tower ten years, and for the rest of the Queen's reign was a virtual prisoner at Baddow.

After some observations by the PRESIDENT and Dr. LAVER on the folly and vanity of persons who falsified family history for their own ends, and the desirability of exposing them, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Round.

Friday, July 26th.

This day was restricted to an examination of the chief objects of interest in Colchester itself. The first item was the castle (see plan), which was the subject of an exhaustive demonstration by Mr. W. H. ST. JOHN HOPE to a large audience assembled in the library in the great tower. It was difficult, he said, to realise that when the Institute met at Colchester in 1876 there was still a violent quarrel as to the Roman origin of the existing structure, while now all were agreed that it was of Norman date, though built of Roman materials. By the aid of a map of England on which were marked all the known royal and other eleventh-century castles, he showed how their distribution assisted in the work of the Conquest, and what an important point the castle of Colchester occupied. That it was a work of the Conqueror there could now be no doubt. He referred to castles, such as that at Hedingham, built on the "mount-and-bailey" principle, and said that there were three notable exceptions among the early castles where that plan was not followed, one at Exeter, built by the Conqueror himself in 1082; another in London, now known as the Tower of London; and the third at Colchester. He drew attention to a map of the Roman city of Colonia, remarking that the walls which enclosed it still remained, and his own opinion was that when the Conqueror settled the castle here, the quarter of the town in which it stood was open, and although part of it was taken afterwards for the Grey Friars' monastery, he believed that it was originally part of the castle area. There were strong reasons for believing that this quarter was occupied at the time of the Conquest by the very considerable ruins of some very important Roman buildings, such as the forum, the basilica, and the baths, and consequently the lengthy mention of Colchester in Domesday contained no reference to the castle, or to the destruction of houses to make way for it, as was the case at Lincoln and other towns of Roman origin. The large open area of the forum was a very likely place on which to build the chief part of the castle, instead of throwing up a mount, as elsewhere, and the builders were probably moved to the erection of the tower there by the proximity of these extensive Roman ruins. Nothing could be simpler than to lay out the tower in the middle of the forum, and begin it with the materials on the spot, of which it was unquestionably built. Although the present earthen banks that enclose it were not square with the walls of the tower, whenever any research had brought to light remains of the Roman walls it showed that they were all parallel with the great tower. What probably happened was that when the tower was completed and the Roman walls stripped of those bricks which were capable of being used, the long lines of rubbish and the rubble cores of the walls were covered up to form the great banks that enclosed the inner bailey. All recent writers


COLCHESTER CASTLE.- THE GREAT TOWER
well
GROUND FLOOR
FIRST FLOOR
Scale
10 5 0 20 40 60 80 100 feet.

upon Colchester Castle had persisted in claiming that it was the work of Eudo, the *dapifer* or steward of the King's household, at the end of the eleventh century. He believed that 1076 was the actual date ascribed to it, and the authority which was relied on for this statement was a mediaeval chronicle of Colchester, the value of which could be gauged by the fact that it began with the venerable legend of good King Coel. It was practically a document of no value whatever, and the statement contained therein was disproved by another document, fortunately of contemporary date. Eudo undoubtedly founded the abbey of St. John, outside the walls, and there existed in the chartulary of St. John's a very important document, which, from the heading, referred to the time of Henry I., and could therefore not be earlier than 1100. The charter referred to is a grant to Eudo the *dapifer*, of the city of Colchester, the tower and castle and everything belonging to it, and stated that the King's father and his brother had held the castle before the gift of it to Eudo. This took the story straight back to the Conqueror, as the person to whom one must look for the origin of the castle. The date of the charter was the first Christmas after the King and his brother made up the great quarrel between them in 1101; it was witnessed by Robert, bishop of Lincoln, and everything pointed to no earlier connexion of Eudo with the castle than 1101, so that henceforth it was hoped that they would hear no more of the Eudo legend. The building itself, Mr. Hope added, had been many times besieged, and had changed hands rather frequently, but it had never been taken by storm. It was rather a significant fact that the street which separated the castle area from the rest of the town was called Maidenburgh. All places called by that or similar names, such as Maidenway, were now held by the best authorities to signify a stronghold which had never been captured, and it might be that this is why the street bore that name. The castle, from having a considerable military value at first, at the head of the Colne estuary and between the two great rivers, lost in time its importance, and by the end of the thirteenth century had become nothing more than a state prison. Mr. Hope went on to deal at some length with the descent of the castle through the Crown, its sale to Sir James Norfolk in 1656, and its further sale in 1683 to John Wheely, who covenanted to destroy the building and to sell the material it contained. This, however, he found so difficult a task that he abandoned it, and the ruins left were sold to Sir Isaac Rebow, who left them to his grandson, from whom they passed to a Mrs. Webster. She gave them to her daughter, Miss Ralph Creffield, and the latter subsequently married Mr. Charles Gray, and from him the property descended to the Right Hon. James Round, the present owner. Mr. Gray was responsible for the preservation of the castle and the restoration of the great well of the keep, as well as the carrying up of the staircase and the building of the dome, the establishment of a library in the crypt, and the roofing of the whole. By the aid of plans and sections, Mr. Hope went on to trace the arrangements of the castle, which was in many respects similar in plan to the Tower of London, though of larger area, and provided with two cross walls instead of one, on account of the difficulty of finding long enough beams for the floors; it was also evident from their similarity of plan that one and the same engineer had designed both. And although the fact had

been denied by some, there was ample evidence that Wheely must have demolished the upper portion, which without doubt contained a large chapel, precisely of the same character and size as that of St. John in the Tower of London. The vaulted sub-structures were evidently intended to carry something massive, and at the north-eastern corner there was a staircase which ascended to the destroyed upper floor, which by analogy with the Tower of London would have contained the great hall. Mr. Hope also drew attention to the foresight of the builders of the castle in carrying the tower foundations some distance below ground to avoid the danger of mining in time of siege. In conclusion he suggested that a building which rivalled in size the Tower of London might properly be known in future as the Tower of Colchester.

Dr. J. HORACE ROUND, speaking at the invitation of the President, said that Mr. Hope's remarks showed what could be done by the scientific study of architecture, and by the vast knowledge which Mr. Hope possessed of most of the important buildings throughout the country. He referred to castles of this description as examples of adaptation to environment, as providing secure fortresses for small bodies of men, and constructed in such a way as to give the greatest possible chance to the defenders and the least to the besiegers. This was particularly noticeable in the construction of the windows, the lower ones being so made as to avoid the risk of lighted torches being thrown inside, while the entrance was made on the first floor, accessible from the ground by a ladder, which in case of siege could be drawn up. The water was also supplied from a great well chamber, which was always the most difficult part of the building for an assailant to reach. He also drew attention to the extraordinary fact that although the tower was chiefly intended for military purposes, it should differ from others in the provision of a chapel which occupied a position quite disproportionate to its military character. Of course, one would expect the Tower of London, which was sometimes used as a royal residence, to have a chapel, but in relation to the chapel at Colchester there was a mystery which was yet to be solved.

Mr. HOPE added that he should like to get satisfactory evidence as to whether this tower or the Tower of London was the older, but he was afraid that question could not be settled. He observed that these towers were exceptional in the early part of the Norman period, and he should like to know if anyone could quote an example in Normandy which could have afforded a prototype.

The PRESIDENT said there was no evidence of stone towers in Normandy till a good many years after the Conquest, and with the exception of the three stone towers in England, wooden stockaded mounts prevailed in England till the time of Stephen. It struck him as probable that the three royal castles were constructed *de novo*, and not as were others, with the restrictions of contour of the previously existing wooden stockaded mounts.

Dr. LAVER then described at length the contents of the Museum, which is housed in the chapel sub-vault, and includes a collection of antiquities illustrative of Colchester and the neighbourhood of the first importance, together with a series of Romano-British sepulchral antiquities made by the late Mr. Josselin, which is virtually unrivalled.

During the afternoon the members were shown round Colchester by Dr. LAVER, the Roman walls of Colonia being first inspected. Dr. Laver said the walls encircled the town almost every part of the way, there being one and three-quarter miles remaining. In some parts they were 17 feet high and 9 feet thick, and in very few parts was there anything approaching a tower, but at various places inside the walls there had been found great blocks of masonry on which no doubt the Romans placed their engines. The whole of the material of the walls was septaria, whilst there were layers of Roman brick or tiles at intervals. As to the date at which they were built, Dr. Duncan had said they must have been built not later than the earlier half of the second century, and there were no breaks in the character of the construction to show that portions had been built at different dates.

St. Botolph's Priory was the next objective, which Dr. Laver described as a priory of the Augustinian Canons, the first of their houses in England, and by a bull of one of the Popes it had the control of the Augustinian Canons throughout the kingdom. After the dissolution of monasteries the nave of the priory was preserved owing to its becoming the parish church of St. Botolph, but during the siege it was practically ruined, and had been a ruin ever since.

Mr. HOPE drew attention to the curious way in which the builders had made use of local material; they could not get any stone, so they fashioned out of Roman tiles the remarkable series of arcades which adorn the west front, not necessarily as niches for the purpose of holding images, but simply part of the architectural scheme. The design of the gable of the nave was curious, on account of its large wheel window, a feature which was rather rare.

Dr. HORACE ROUND said that he had worked out the history of the foundation of the priory, and it seemed that at the end of the eleventh century there was there a house of secular canons, who lived, as secular canons did, an easy life, but it so happened that a desire for a spiritual revival came upon them and they determined to observe a more severe discipline. With that idea, the head of their Order went abroad and studied the rules and observances of the Order of St. Augustine, and when he returned his brethren adopted that Order, and from that sprang the foundation of the Augustinian Order in England.

The party then walked to St. John's Abbey gate, which Dr. LAVER described as being all that remained of the great Benedictine abbey of St. John. There were some statements in the Corporation accounts which would lead one to suppose that the building was put up between 1412 and 1416. Every other portion of the abbey was gone. Referring to the last abbot, John Beach, who was tried for treason because he would not give up the rights of the abbey to the king, he was one of the three mitred abbots who were hanged, the other two being those of Glastonbury and Reading.

Mr. HOPE observed that the architecture was very poor, but apart from that it was an interesting example of an abbey gateway of purely domestic character, for there was nothing specially ecclesiastical about the building.

Dr. HORACE ROUND added a few words, in the course of which he said that after the dissolution of the abbey it went to the Lucas family,

who afterwards came into disfavour with the townspeople, because the one supported the Royalist cause, and the other supported the Parliamentarian cause. Sir Charles Lucas took part in the siege and was shot, and that place was the spot of a heated struggle. It was held by the Royalists, because it was necessary for the Parliamentary party to obtain occupation of the ridge on which the gateway stood to mount their guns, and on their getting the ridge the fate of the town was practically sealed.

Trinity church was the next point of interest to be viewed. Dr. LAVER said that the body of the church was of very much later date than the tower, which was Saxon. The church now possessed nothing of very great interest, with the exception of the tower, and the remains of Dr. Gilbert who was buried under the chancel in a vault, and on the wall was a monument to his memory. He was the father of the knowledge of electricity, and Queen Elizabeth, to whose Court he was physician, left him a legacy, so it was said, to enable him to pursue his study. He wrote a learned book called "De Magnete," and he almost anticipated Newton in his work. He was a great friend of Galileo. Gilbert gave reasons for the dip of the magnet, and gave the variations of it in two or three places in Greenland, in Nova Zembla, and in Central Asia, places that were comparatively unknown until years afterwards. His knowledge of electricity at the time of Elizabeth was equal to that which was known in the first twenty-five years of the nineteenth century.

The company then adjourned to the grounds of the Holly Trees to enjoy the hospitality of the Right Hon. James Round.

In the evening the Mayor (Mr. WALTER B. SPARLING, J.P.) gave a largely attended conversazione at the Town Hall, where he received the members and their friends and a number of local residents. The maces and other of the corporation insignia were displayed in the Mayor's parlour, together with various local objects of antiquarian interest.

Saturday, July 27th.

Saturday was devoted to a visit to Maldon and neighbourhood. Leaving Colchester by train, the members on arrival at Maldon drove up to All Saints' Church, which was described by Mr. P. M. BEAUMONT. The building is noteworthy for its unique thirteenth-century triangular tower, and for the rich fourteenth-century work of the south aisle or Darcy Chapel, under which is a vaulted bonehole or charnel-house. Mr. HOPE said he thought the church must have been composed for some time of only the nave, chancel and tower, without the chapels, and the meaning of the triangular tower was not far to seek if they looked outside. There was a street on which it now abutted, but when the church was built, the tower was so constructed that it should not extend up to the street, so as to allow room for the processions around the outside of the church on the several occasions when these took place. In some instances a similar difficulty had been overcome by cutting openings through the tower. Mr. LYNAM drew attention to the extraordinary skill with which the tower had been treated architecturally, its peculiar plan being hardly observable outside.

The party next proceeded on foot to the Spital Chapel, about half a

mile out of the town, an interesting aisleless, cruciform structure. It was once the chapel of a hospital of lepers, founded, Mr. R. C. FOWLER said, about 1164. The architectural details agreed with the date of foundation, but the south gable had been rebuilt in the thirteenth century and contains a triplet of lancets built of Roman brick. The whole structure is in a sad state of dilapidation and now used as a barn. The President added some interesting observations on the prevalence of leprosy and scurvy in the Middle Ages and their probable causes.

Returning to Maldon, the party paid a visit to the Tudor Town Hall. In the council chamber, hung in glazed frames round the walls, is the fine series of town charters. The danger of fire and the fading from exposure to sunlight which is rapidly going on, called for some comments. Dr. LAVER said that at one time he could read them all distinctly, but that was now difficult. He understood that it was upon the advice of someone in the Heralds' College that the Corporation had been recommended to treat their valuable documents in that way. It was unanimously resolved, on the motion of the President, that the attention of the Corporation be respectfully called to the great danger from fire and exposure to direct sunlight which these charters were incurring.

A brief visit was also paid to the theological library founded about 1660 by Dr. Plume, sometime Archdeacon of Rochester, now housed in the desecrated church of St. Peter. The old steeple staircase forms the approach to the library, which contains a number of old portraits as well as books.

Luncheon was served at the Blue Boar, after which the party drove to Bileigh Abbey. Mr. R. C. FOWLER described this as a house of Premonstratensian or White Canons, founded as early as 1172 by Robert Mantell at Parndon, but removed to Bileigh in 1180, the White Canons being a reformation of the Black Canons or Augustinian Order, of which mention had been made at St. Botolph's Priory on the previous day. Mr. HOPE stated that there were only thirty-three houses of the Order in England, the date of their coming being about 1120. He also pointed out the site of the church, which was long ago dug out for gravel, and showed that the existing remains consisted of the chapter-house, a vaulted passage next to it, and the warming-house beyond, with the dorter above, and part of the southern range of buildings with the east end of the frater. The chapter-house, which is of a date *circa* 1200, is quite perfect, and has the peculiarity (which it shares with Kirkstall Abbey) of a double entrance, flanked by the usual windows. The vault is carried down the middle line by a row of Purbeck monolithic columns. The warming-house has a similar row of pillars to carry the vault and a fine later fireplace. An account of the different monastic orders and their relations with each other was given by the President.

The drive was continued back through Maldon to Heybridge church, which was described by Mr. HOPE. Originally it had been a Norman church of somewhat unusual proportions, consisting as now of a chancel and nave, with a massive western tower of some architectural pretensions. Later, larger windows had been inserted to give more light to the nave altars, the chancel had been lengthened by a bay, and

a clerestory added to the nave. Then some catastrophe had happened; the tower had fallen or been struck by lightning, and had involved in its ruin the destruction of the arch opening from it into the nave, the nave clerestory, and the chancel arch. The fine king-post roof to the nave, resting on the bases of the clerestory windows, bore various devices in its carved spandrels, which pointed to the latter part of the fifteenth century, and probably, therefore, to the period of the disaster. The chancel roof was also a richer example of the same time. The tower was now reduced to about half its former height. The Norman north and south doorways of the nave remained, together with the original doors and their ironwork. Dr. LAVER added that the battle of Maldon between the Saxons and the Danes was said to have taken place where the church was built.

Langford church was the last item on the programme. It has been so thoroughly restored that little of interest remains: at one time, however, as Dr. LAVER pointed out, it possessed not only an apsidal chancel but also another apse at the western end, which still remains; the plan of this church is probably in this respect absolutely unique in this country. The eastern apse has disappeared, but its foundations were found when some work was being carried on at the eastern end of the church some years before, and in the present chancel's tiled flooring there was an indication of the line which those foundations followed. There was another early and unusual feature in the church, in that the arch of the south door was splayed upward to allow the door to open and close. The party subsequently returned in carriages to Witham and thence by train to Colchester.

Sunday, July 28th.

In connexion with the visit of the Institute, the Rev. T. H. Curling, curate of St. Mary-at-the-Walls, honorary secretary of the Essex Archaeological Society, preached an appropriate sermon at St. Mary's church at the morning service, which was attended by a number of the members of the Institute, his text being: "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein" (*Psalm* xxiv, 1).

Monday, July 29th.

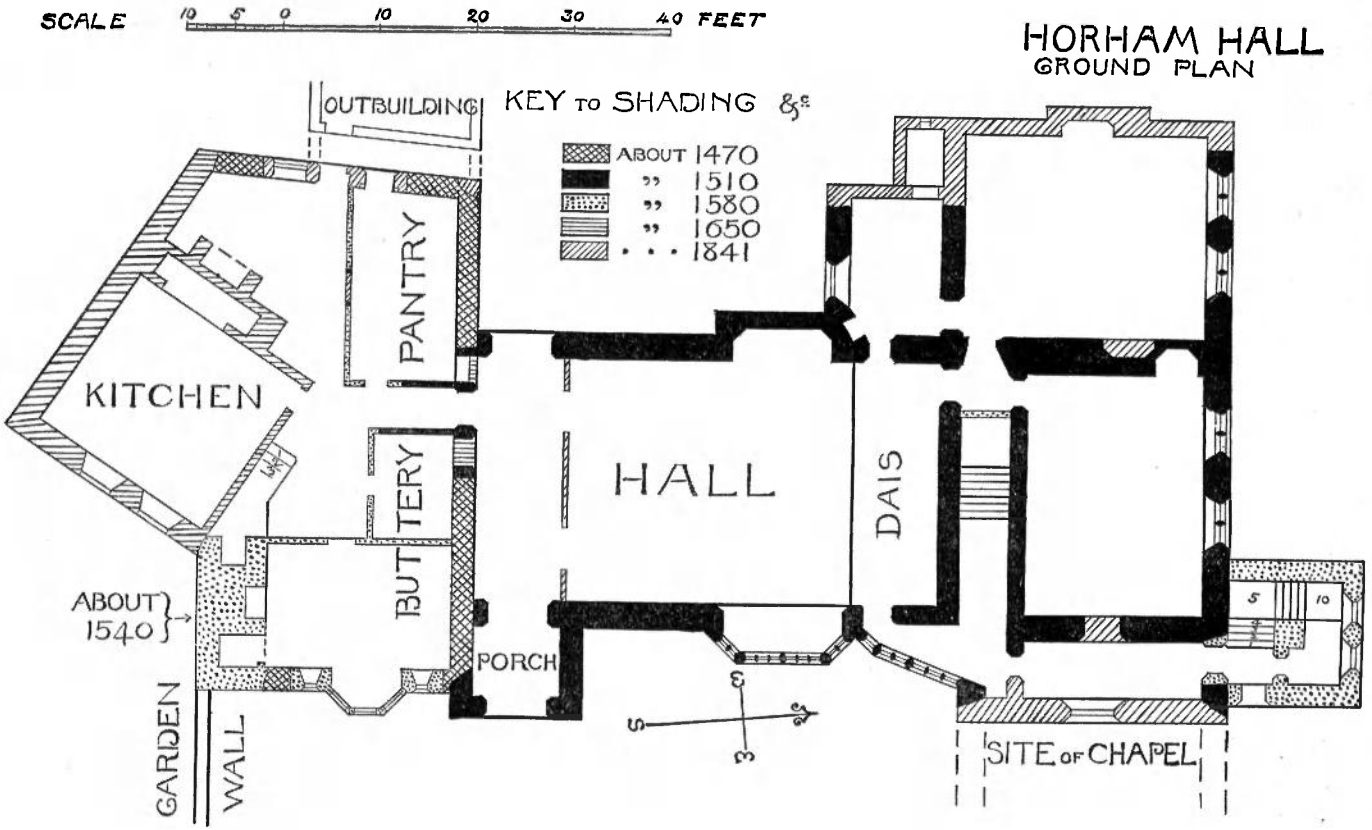
This was a particularly interesting day, and a large party left Colchester somewhat earlier than usual for Dunmow, and drove at once to Great Dunmow church, which was described by Mr. W. H. St. JOHN HOPE. It consists of an ample early fourteenth-century chancel, a nave of the fifteenth century with earlier aisles, and a south porch, a late south chapel, and a western tower. Mr. Hope expressed the opinion that originally there had been a cruciform Norman church on the site with a tower over the crossing. Early in the fourteenth century the east end had been rebuilt, and the present fine chancel constructed. It also appeared that the narrow Norman aisles had been taken down and widened to the width of the transepts. Some accident must have happened later, as the arcades were entirely rebuilt in the fifteenth century and a clerestory added. The churchwarden's accounts, which begin in 1526, mention in that year

the mending of the windows in the new chapel, probably that on the south of the chancel, and the execution of a considerable amount of work on "the stepyll." As the new casting of the bells is also mentioned, there can be no hesitation in fixing the date of the tower as belonging to the first quarter of the sixteenth century; the south porch is also of about the same date. The south door, Mr. Hope pointed out, was of the thirteenth century, and the curious wooden gallery over it which projected into the aisle from the parvise over the porch might have been used for the boys in the old Palm Sunday services, though the elaborate tracery introduced rather suggested that the gallery had been used as a family pew. There were preserved in the church a few fine fragments of ancient glazing, but nothing was left of the old furniture except the gallery above referred to.

Of the Cistercian abbey of Tiltey there are few remains, beyond a wall with traces of vaulting, part of either the eastern or western range of buildings, and the site is now a rough pasture. The visit of the Institute, however, was not to this, but to the little church of Tiltey, which originally served as the *capella extra portas*, where women and others who were not allowed within the gates might hear Mass. Mr. HOPE explained that the abbey was founded by Robert de Ferrers and Maurice FitzGeoffry in 1153, and colonized from Wardon. It probably began with the usual temporary buildings, for it was the second abbot, Dan Symon, of whom the Coggeshall chronicler wrote on his death in 1214 that (*gracia Dei sibi co-operante*) *quasi de pauperrima grangia pulcherrimam et opulentam instituit abbatiam, in qua zelus religionis cum prudentia seculari contendebat.* It does not appear, however, to have been other than a small foundation, and at the Suppression was worth only £167. It was granted to Lord Audley, who pulled down all the buildings except the gatehouse chapel. This, Mr. Hope showed, had consisted at first of an oblong structure with lancet windows, all of the plainest character, as befitted Cistercian simplicity; but about the middle of the fourteenth century there had been added a square chancel, somewhat wider than the older part, with large traceried windows of extraordinary beauty, and triple sedilia and piscina of equal excellence. These large windows were undoubtedly intended to be, and were originally, filled with rich coloured glass, in direct contravention of the Cistercian rule which forbade the use of any but plain glass. In the south wall of the old chapel are the original double-drained piscina and aumbry of the thirteenth century. Mr. MILLER CHRISTY, at the request of Sir Henry Howorth, briefly described the brasses, which are unusually numerous for so small and out-of-the-way a country church. The earliest was of the fourteenth century on a slab now in the nave with a Norman-French inscription in Longobardic characters in memory of "Mahaud de Mortemer." Another was an inscription commemorating Thomas of Takeley, an abbot of Tiltey, *c.* 1420. In the chancel are some fine heraldic brasses of the sixteenth century, commemorating, among others, George Medeley (1562), his wife and family and Margaret Tuke, widow and her family (1590). Sir HENRY HOWORTH added a few remarks on the great fervour imported into religious life at the close of the eleventh century, attributable, he thought, to the zeal of Pope Gregory VII.

Horeham Hall (see plan) was the next point visited. Mr. A. P. Humphry, the present owner, welcomed the party in the great hall, where Mr. T. D. ATKINSON gave a short account of the building. Its architectural history, he said, began with Sir John Cutte, who about the year 1510 erected the larger part of the present building, including the hall, the great chamber, and other rooms to the north; but the block to the south, comprising the buttery and pantry, etc., contains in the upper story the open roof and other traces of (probably) the chapel of an older house, *circa* 1470. Sir John Cutte's new chapel was under construction at his death in 1529 and was apparently never finished. The kitchen, which stands obliquely to the rest of the building, dates from the middle of the seventeenth century. At the opposite end of the house is a lofty Elizabethan tower for viewing deer drives in the surrounding park. The fine chimney stack at the south-west corner of the house was probably the work of Sir John's son, who died in 1535. The hall retains its old ceiling and a large oriel window, but has been disfigured by a recently added staircase and gallery. The house was once surrounded by a wet ditch, part of which still remains.

After luncheon at Thaxted, the party assembled in the fine and spacious parish church, one of the largest in Essex. It consists of a chancel with north and south aisles of four bays, with eastern half-bays for the altars, a crossing and north and south transepts, a nave and aisles of six bays with north and south porches, and a western tower and spire. Speaking from the fine pulpit, which stands in the body of the church, Mr. HOPE said it was much to be wished that something definite were known as to the history of so interesting a building. The oldest parts were the nave arcades, the western arch of a lost middle tower, and apparently the bulk of the transepts. These belonged to a reconstruction that had evidently been stopped by the Black Death in 1349. The chancel aisles seemed next in order of date, but the curious arcades with their pierced spandrels and the clerestory above were so much later in character as to suggest that the former work was damaged by the fall of the tower. The wide aisles of the nave had evidently replaced narrower ones, and belonged to the same late date as the clerestory and the nave roof. The tower and spire and the fine north porch were late fourteenth century, but the south porch was contemporary with the aisle, and had, in addition to the large arch of entrance, smaller arches at the sides. Beneath the east window of the chancel are the blocked windows of a bonehole or charnel-house, access to which was by a stair south of the high altar. The church is still fairly rich in old woodwork of various dates, including a curious wooden canopied case to the font of early Tudor work. The pulpit and sounding board are good examples of the time of Charles II. The aisle windows also contain a great quantity of old glass, with remains of figures of saints and pictorial subjects (mostly in a fragmentary condition), which has lately been carefully re-arranged. From the diversity of their style, Mr. Hope suggested that the windows had been glazed at different times through the liberality of sundry donors. A study of the bosses of the aisle roofs, many of which were heraldic, would probably give a clue to their exact dates. The mediaeval oaken roofs remain throughout, bleached to a silver grey, and, with the plastered


SCALE 10 5 0 10 20 30 40 FEET
HORHAM HALL
GROUND PLAN
KEY TO SHADING &c
ABOUT 1470
" 1510
" 1580
" 1650
. . . 1841
OUTBUILDING
PANTRY
KITCHEN
BUTTERY
HALL
DAIS
ABOUT 1540
PORCH
GARDEN WALL
SITE OF CHAPEL
5
10

and whitewashed walls, add largely to the dignified aspect of the building. The exterior of the church deserved as much examination as the interior, and the way in which the buttresses and pinnacles were carried up in the eastern portion of the church was deserving of all praise.

The journey was next continued to Great Bardfield, where another interesting church was visited. It was described by Mr. HOPE as consisting of an early Norman chancel, the date of which had been obscured by the insertion of larger fourteenth and fifteenth-century windows, of a nave and aisles with south porch, and a western tower, surmounted by a slim wooden spire covered with sheets of lead. The tower is of late twelfth-century date, but the nave and aisles, with the clerestory and the original roofs, belong to the last quarter of the fourteenth century, and were probably rebuilt by Philippa, daughter of Lionel, Duke of Clarence, and *suo jure* Countess of Ulster, who married Edward Mortimer, Earl of March, about 1368, and died in 1381, shortly after her husband. The aisles have fine and large square-headed windows with delicately-wrought tracery. The noteworthy feature of the church is the chancel arch. This is of the same date as the nave, but subdivided into three openings by stone mullions with beautiful tracery above, carrying, in the middle division, carved brackets for the Rood and SS. Mary and John. The original figures had long been destroyed by Puritan fanatics, but have lately been replaced by new. The aisle windows contain some fine fragments of the original coloured glazing, including shields of the arms of Mortimer, King Edward III., and of the rebuilder of the nave.

A visit was to have been paid to Stebbing church, a beautiful building, *temp.* Edward II., with a (restored) chancel arch similar to that at Great Bardfield, of which it was clearly the prototype; but owing to an earlier mishap to one of the conveyances the journey had to be continued to Dunmow, where they were hospitably entertained by Mr. William Hasler at tea in the grounds of the Croft. Here Sir HENRY HOWORTH gave some particulars of the old Dunmow Flitch observance, and the party subsequently returned to Colchester by special train.

In the evening the annual business meeting of the Institute was held, when the Report of the Council was read by the Secretary and a satisfactory statement of accounts presented by the Treasurer. Some discussion took place as to the place of next year's meeting, Cardiff, Tenby, Oxford, Durham and Lincoln being suggested in turn, but, as usual, the final selection was left to the Council. The formal business was followed by a series of votes of thanks to persons connected with the reception and entertainment of the members.

Tuesday, July 30th.

The party first drove to Brightlingsea church. This interesting structure was described by the vicar, the Rev. A. PERTWEE, who pointed out that the thirteenth-century chancel and the three eastern bays of the nave, of fourteenth-century date, were the oldest portions. The rest of the nave and the fine western tower belonged to the closing years of the fifteenth century. The tower is of very good

proportions, and the fine arrangement of the buttresses imparts massiveness. One feature of the tower, the gallery at its base, is of peculiar construction and was built probably for the accommodation of singers or minstrels. Of the bells, only one ancient one now remains, dated 1450, and the old Sanctus bell, which is not hung. The greatest loss the church sustained was in 1814, when the fifteenth-century clerestory and nave roof collapsed, and the former had not been rebuilt. The original roof was a low pitched one and very ornate. In the present roof some of the original bosses have been used. The north or Lady Chapel was lengthened by bequest of one John Beriffe in 1521, and the vestry on the south side was built, through gifts of John Cowper, mariner, and others, about 1538. The south porch has some delicately-worked details of the middle of the fifteenth century. The church contains some interesting brasses and other monuments, and a curious font and cover under the tower.

The journey was then continued to St. Osyth's Abbey, where the party was received by the owner, Sir John H. Johnson, and most kindly allowed access to every part of the buildings. Mr. HOPE once more acted as guide, and explained that the monastery was said to occupy the site of a religious house built in honour of St. Peter and St. Paul, by Osyth, the saintly daughter of King Frithwald, and wife of Sighere, King of Essex, from whom she ran away on her wedding day and took the veil. Here she lived until martyred by the Danes in 635. The later monastery was a house of Black Canons, founded before 1118 by Robert, Bishop of London, but little was known of its history. According to the Coggeshall chronicler, the second abbot, Dan Ralph, who died in 1215, *locum illum magnifice in sumptuosis edificiis in redditibus et sacre religionis cultu decoravit.* The privilege of wearing the mitre and ring and other pontifical ornaments was conceded to the abbot in 1397 but annulled in 1403 and regranted in 1412. The abbot and twenty-four canons appended their names to the Acknowledgment of Supremacy in 1534, and the annual value was then reckoned at £758 gross, or £677 in the clear. The inventory taken at the Suppression bears witness to the wealth of the house, and is also of use in giving the names of all the buildings. From the inventory it appeared that the church stood to the south of the cloister, and the rest of the buildings seem to have followed the usual plan. The church has absolutely disappeared, and of the claustral buildings there only remains some portions of the eastern and western ranges, both closely entangled with excellent later work built shortly after the Suppression, which include some fragments of the original twelfth-century buildings. The present house contained some interesting traces of the abbot's lodging, which adjoined the north end of the dorter range, and had been largely reconstructed by Abbot John Vyntener, whose rebuses with the date 1527 could be seen on the large oriel of his time.

At the conclusion of Mr. Hope's remarks a move was made for the interior of the house, just in time to escape a heavy downpour of rain, and the members had an opportunity of examining from the interior the oriel window of Abbot Vyntener's great chamber, rich with heraldry and other devices; in the house is a large collection of carved panelling of his time, but not in its original position, bearing his rebus

and initials, and devices of the various lay and clerical dignitaries who had been connected with the priory.

The most prominent of the later works is a tall brick tower, which perhaps did double duty as a sea-mark and for watching deer drives in the park. Calling particular attention to the massive fifteenth-century structure which formed the gatehouse, Mr. Hope said that it alone deserved close study. It was a magnificent building of faced flints, with delicate details in the stone ornamentation, with panelled front and elaborate niches and vaulting, still in excellent order, and formed an interesting and worthy entrance to the beauty of the structure that was within the grounds.

The rain having ceased, an adjournment was made for luncheon, after which a visit was paid to the neighbouring parish church of St. Osyth.

Mr. HOPE explained that this church afforded an interesting example of a nave which was undergoing reconstruction at the time of the suppression of the abbey, the older nave having been replaced by a much wider one with piers and arches of moulded brick, carrying a fine open roof. The piers and arches were no doubt intended to carry a clerestory, but this and the new chancel arch had not been carried out. The piers for the proposed chancel arch are pierced with openings on each side, to allow of a view of the high altar. In the middle of the chancel is a curious pen, a modern restoration of an old arrangement, with kneeling-places all round the inside for those receiving the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Communion.

Great Clacton church was the last item of the day's programme, and was explained by the vicar, the Rev. J. SILVESTER. It originally resembled Copford church in having an apsidal vaulted chancel and a nave with broad dividing transverse arches and a barrel vault, all of Norman work. The chancel has, however, gone, and is now represented by a modern square-ended structure, and the nave has lost its arches and vault. The tower is a fifteenth-century addition. The party subsequently returned by rail to Colchester.

At the evening meeting, in the Town Hall, Dr. LAVER, F.S.A., read a paper on "The destruction of Colchester by Boadicea," which is printed in the *Journal* at p. 210.

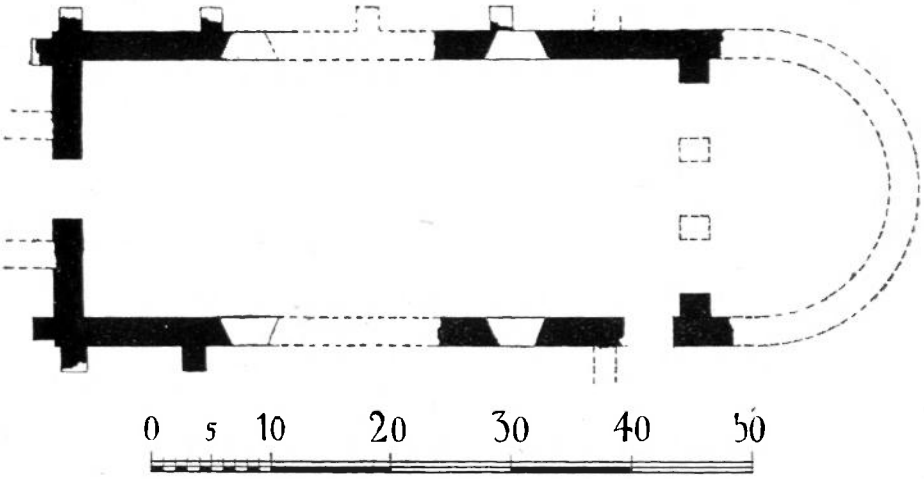
A second paper, on "Traces of Saxons and Danes in the Earthworks of Essex," was contributed by Mr. I. CHALKLEY GOULD, but owing to his indisposition the paper was read for him by Mr. HOPE.

Wednesday, July 31st.

Tuesday, the 30th, was actually the last day of the meeting, but it was arranged that Wednesday, the 31st, should be regarded as an extra day for a visit to the site of the Roman coast fortress of Othona, near Bradwell-juxta-Mare, and to the ruined church or chapel of St. Peter-on-the-Wall. The party first went by special train to Southminster, and then drove through Bradwell-juxta-Mare to the site of the Roman fortress. This was explained by Dr. LAVER as one of the series which was built in late times for the defence of the "Saxon shore," and surrounded with a wall of masonry, with towers at intervals. Half of the area of the station is now below high-water mark, but some portions of the walls may yet be seen.

The ruins of the chapel of St. Peter, built across the line of the western rampart, and perhaps occupying the site of the western gate of the station, are now used as a barn. The chapel consisted originally of a deep apse, an oblong nave with a triple arch between it and the apse and a western porch which was afterwards carried up as a tower (see plan). The apsidal chancel has disappeared, but the nave is fairly complete, and Mr. HOPE claimed that on the evidence of its plan, its tall walls, the distinct traces of the triple chancel arch, and other features, there could be no hesitation in dentifying it with the church which Bede records to have been built by Cedd, after his consecration as Bishop of the East Saxons, in 653, at "Ythancester," on the banks of the Pant, or Blackwater.

On the way back to Southminster a halt was made at Tillingham, the manor of which was given by Ethelbert, King of Kent, to St. Paul's Cathedral church in 604 and has continued uninterruptedly in the possession of the Dean and Chapter to this day. The village



PLAN OF THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-ON-THE-WALL.

church has, however, been so much restored that it contains no features of interest beyond its Norman font and north door.

Before leaving Tillingham, the party was hospitably entertained at tea by Dr. BARRETT, whose charming garden was also inspected, and on the return to Southminster the church there was visited. It has a wide early nave, a good vaulted porch of the sixteenth century, and a western tower. The eastern part of the building is modern.

The return journey to Colchester was made by special train, and thus concluded a very enjoyable meeting.

The whole of the arrangements were excellently and punctually carried out by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. HALE HILTON, with the help of Mr. W. BRUCE-BANNERMAN, and, both as regards weather and the numbers attending, the meeting was in every way most successful.

Proceedings at Meetings of the Royal Archaeological Institute.

November 6th, 1907.

SIR HENRY H. HOWORTH, *President*, in the Chair.

Mr. REGINALD A. SMITH, M.A., F.S.A., read a paper on the "Distribution and Variation of Anglo-Saxon Brooches," illustrated by numerous lantern examples.

After some observations by Mr. HOPE and the PRESIDENT, a vote of thanks was accorded the author.

December 4th, 1907.

SIR HENRY H. HOWORTH, *President*, in the Chair.

Mr. AMBROSE P. BOYSON read some further notes on low-set openings in Scandinavian churches; followed by Mr. P. M. JOHNSTON, F.R.I.B.A., on a low-side opening in St. Saviour's Church, Glendalough, Ireland, illustrated by numerous epidiascope examples.

Messrs. HOPE, DEWICK, RICE, STEBBING and the PRESIDENT took part in the discussion, and votes of thanks were accorded the authors.