PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

Wednesday, 7th February, 1912.

Sir Henry H. Howorth, K.C.I.E. D.C.L. F.R.S. F.S.A. in the Chair.

Mr. J. A. Gotch, F.S.A. read a paper on "The Original drawings of Whitehall, usually attributed to Inigo Jones," with lantern illustrations.

Mr. Gotch explained that the original drawings for the Palace at Whitehall are preserved at Worcester College, Oxford, at Chatsworth, and at the British Museum. They have always been attributed to Inigo Jones, and two sets, those at the British Museum and at Worcester College, were published respectively by Campbell in the *Vitruvius Britannicus* and by Kent, the former in 1720 and the latter in 1727. It has always been considered that these two were the only designs prepared, that they were the work of Inigo Jones, and that they were devised in the reign of James I, previous to the building of the banqueting house, which forms part of them, the only portion ever erected.

A careful investigation of all the drawings included in the various collections, some seventy in number, goes to show that these accepted conclusions must be radically modified. Instead of two designs, it turns out that there are at least seven, some of which represent different stages in the development of one scheme. It also becomes clear that they were not designed in James I's reign, with the banqueting house as part of them, but that that building was an independent structure erected on the site of an earlier building, burnt down in January 1619. Inigo Jones designed the new banqueting house, which was begun three months after the destruction of the old one, and his two original drawings are preserved at Chatsworth.

Most, if not all, of the other drawings for the palace are the work of John Webb, his relative and assistant, whose training under Jones did not begin until 1628, six years after the banqueting house was completed. The designs for the palace were so arranged as to include Inigo Jones's already completed building.

How far the designs were purely of Webb's invention, or how far inspired by Jones, it is difficult to say; but there are no drawings or sketches attributable to Jones beyond those for the banqueting house itself and possibly one other, which does not fall into line with any of the remainder.

Of the seven designs two are at Worcester College, one at the British Museum and four at Chatsworth, but certain of the drawings at Worcester College and Chatsworth supplement each other. On one set are notes in Webb's writing, which shew that he was undoubtedly the author, that he made the design for Charles I, and submitted it to Charles II, who accepted it. That the idea of building a palace was revived by Charles II

is proved by an isolated block-plan for yet another scheme, dated 17th October, 1661.

The various drawings which make up the seven sets can be differentiated and classified, and many of them were shewn on the screen. The process of development by which two of the Chatsworth sets merge into one of those at Worcester College was indicated, and was illustrated by slides.

The deduction from a study of the drawings that Webb must have been the chief, if not sole, designer, is confirmed by his statement in a petition presented by him to Charles II in 1660, praying that he might be granted the post of surveyor of the king's buildings. In the " brief " accompanying the petition Webb states that " he was Mr. Jones's deputy and in actual possession of the office upon his leaving London (in consequence of the outbreak of the late unhappy war), and attended his majesty in that capacity at Hampton Court and in the Isle of Wight, where he received his majesty's command to design a palace for Whitehall, which he did until his majesty's unfortunate calamity caused him to desist."

This surprising conclusion cannot be avoided, in spite of the opinion so long held that Jones was the designer. That opinion was formed from an uncritical examination of the drawings, and it has never been tested until now by a minute investigation of the originals, and by a careful comparison of the various sets preserved in libraries far apart one from another. It is only by the help of photography that the collation of the different drawings has been rendered possible. The paper is printed *in extenso*, with illustrations, in the June number of the *Architectural Review*, 1912.

In the discussion which followed Mr. Lawrence Weaver expressed some doubt as to whether king Charles actually considered the designs for Whitehall when he was in the Isle of Wight. He felt that the evidence in support of this view, contained in Webb's petition, was not strong enough to support that contention.

Mr. Hope said that there was some analogy between Windsor and Whitehall. In the former the architect was Hugh May and not Christopher Wren, as is often supposed.

Mr. Macartney, Mr. Batsford and the Chairman also spoke.

A vote of thanks was then passed to Mr. Gotch for his valuable paper.

Wednesday, 6th March, 1912.

Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, M.A. *Director*, in the Chair.

Dr. Philip Nelson, F.S.A. exhibited the seventeenth-century seal of the Convocation of the see of Sodor and Man.

Mr. Aymer Vallance, M.A. F.S.A. then read a paper on Ancient Bridges, with lantern illustrations.

He began by apologising for treating of bridges so soon after Mr. Willis Bund's admirable paper on the same subject. It was, in fact, Mr. Bund who first showed Mr. Vallance the possibilities of the subject of bridges and inspired him to turn his attention to them. Mr. Vallance undertook, however, not to deal with any of the same Worcestershire examples with

which Mr. Willis Bund was mainly occupied, nor indeed to treat of any outside the borders of England and Wales; for they alone afforded plenty of material to occupy his attention in a single afternoon.

Remarking that the earliest bridges were probably of timber, he traced the growth and development of bridge-construction from the primitive post-and-lintel type, of which Torr Steps in Somersetshire and Slaughter Bridge, near Camelford, Cornwall, furnish striking examples, to the fully-matured mediaeval stone bridge, with its ribbed arches, its piers with cutwaters, and its chapel, or perhaps its fortified gateway, of which the Norman bridge at Monmouth furnishes the only extant specimen.

When increasing demands of traffic required a bridge to be widened, the extended roadway would absorb the spaces hitherto provided on the summit of the cutwaters as refuges for foot-passengers. For their safety, then, the expedient was sometimes adopted of erecting a wooden gangway along the side of the bridge. An instance of this occurred at the famous, but now, unfortunately, destroyed, bridge of Stratford-le-Bow.

Mr. Vallance went on to explain the peculiarities of ancient bridges, e.g. their steep ascent for giving cover and protection in time of war; and their obliquity in respect of the roads leading to and from them. The only bridges now retaining traces of ancient chapels upon them are those of Wakefield and Rotherham in Yorkshire, St. Ives in Huntingdonshire, and a doubtful instance at Bradford-on-Avon. These were illustrated by lantern slides, as also were the chapels now or formerly standing at the ends of the Ouse bridge in York, and the old bridges at Derby and Rochester.

A sketch of the history of old London Bridge and of some of the more important bridges of the country followed, the lantern illustrations including a great number of picturesque examples, some no longer existing, from old drawings or engravings, and others from photographs taken of bridges happily still standing.

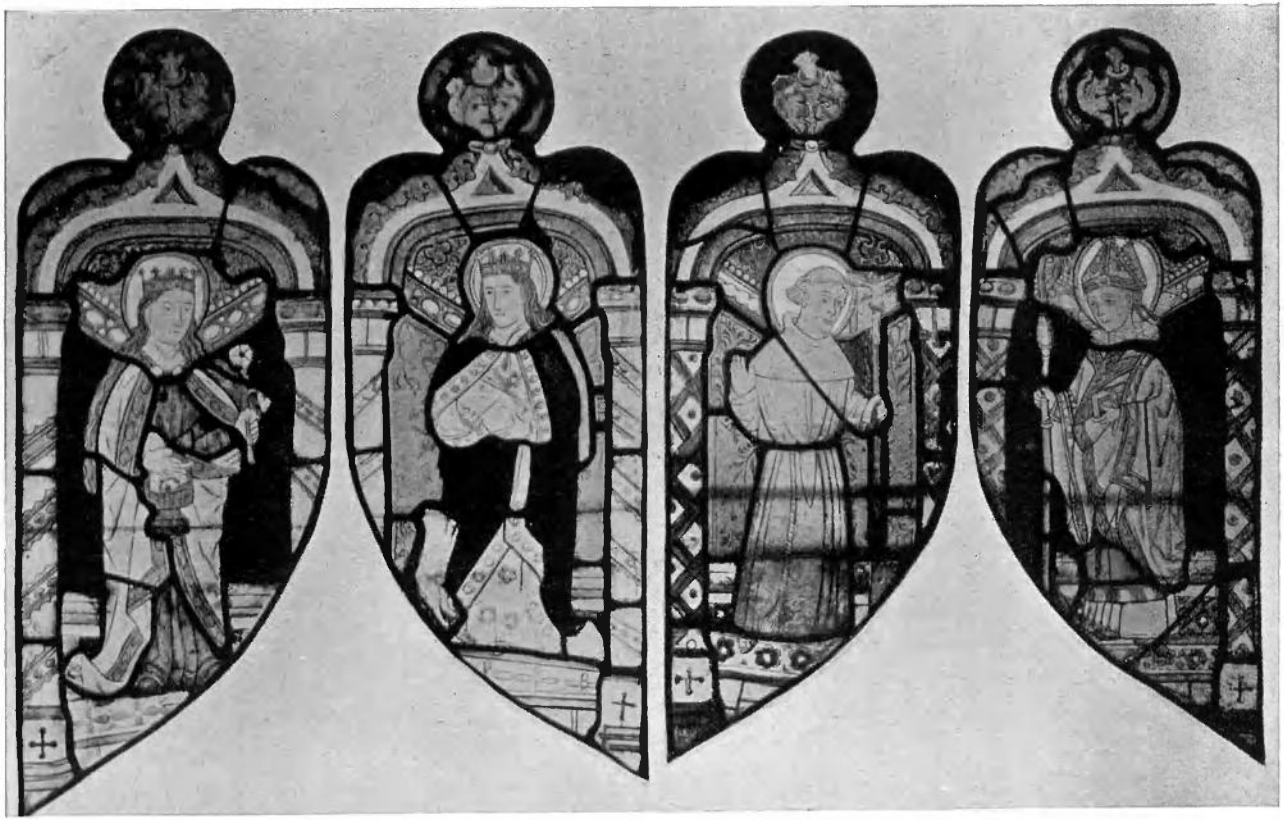
Mr. Vallance concluded with a plea for the preservation of ancient bridges, both on account of their extraordinary aesthetic properties, and also on account of the historic associations and hallowed memories which cling about them.

Mr. C. R. Peers, Sec. S.A. stated that in his official capacity as Inspector of Ancient Monuments, he often had to meet members of County Councils. In his view sentiment was not as a rule allowed to interfere with business, and well-meaning persons were always anxious to replace old bridges. In this way many old bridges disappeared, especially the smaller ones, such as pack-horse bridges. The only way to save them was to divert the roads they carried.

Mr. P. M. Johnston, F.S.A. drew attention to the charming series of old bridges on the West Rother, at Iping, Trotton, Pulborough and elsewhere.

Mr. R. Garraway Rice, F.S.A. mentioned the large number of bequests for the upkeep of bridges contained in the Sussex wills of the sixteenth century, when benefactions were being diverted from religious to more secular purposes.

Mr. Hope, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Vallance, urged the importance of making a photographic record of all old bridges in view of their rapid destruction.



MEDIAEVAL GLASS FROM THE COLLECTION OF DR. PHILIP NELSON, F.S.A.

To face page 215.

PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

Wednesday, 17th April, 1912.

Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, M.A. *Director*, in the Chair.

Mr. Talfourd Ely, D.Litt. F.S.A. read a paper on excavations near West Marden and in Hayling Island, with lantern illustrations, and exhibited some objects found on these sites.

He first described a Roman villa in Watergate Hanger on the Stanstead Park estate, which contained one large and several small rooms, three having tessellated pavements. The somewhat irregular plan of the villa may be due to later additions, or, as the Chairman suggested, the three southern enclosures may have been yards and not rooms.

Close to the villa on the north-east was another building, the shape of which suggested that it was a bath, but in the absence of the usual cement lining, Dr. Ely supposed it might be the cottage of a bailiff or other person employed on the estate, as he found in it various implements. He produced evidence to show that the adjacent meadow called Busto (compare the Latin *bustum*) was the Roman burying place.

Turning to the excavations in Hayling since the last published account Dr. Ely pointed out the historical value of the sequence of coins found there.

The Chairman and Mr. Mill Stephenson took part in the discussion of the paper, Mr. Hope maintaining that the small building last mentioned was probably a nymphaeum with latrine. He also suggested that one of the small spaces shown on the plan of the villa might be the site of a staircase, in which case the building would have been of two stories.

Dr. Philip Nelson, F.S.A. read a paper on the fifteenth-century glass in the church of St. Michael, Ashton-under-Lyne, depicting events in the Life of St. Helen, which will appear in the next issue of the *Journal*.

Dr. Nelson also exhibited lantern slides of a bench-end from a church in Somerset, and four tracery lights said to have come originally from the east window of Battle church, Sussex, and now forming part of his collection.

The date of the four tracery lights (plate 1), which measure 24 by 10 inches, would appear to be of the closing years of the fifteenth or opening years of the sixteenth century, judging from the character of the workmanship of the columns which support the canopies. The subjects represented are as follows:

1. St. Dorothy, wearing a purple dress, over which is a white cloak edged with gold. She carries a basket of flowers in one hand, whilst in the other she holds a spray. The background is of ruby, the top of the canopy being upon blue.

2. St. Agnes, who wears a white robe trimmed with gold and a red mantle. In her hands she carries an open book, so held that the text is towards the spectator, whilst at her feet gambols a lamb. The background is blue, the head of the canopy is on pink.

3. St. Francis, who wears a brown habit girt with a rope. In his left hand he holds a long cross, upon which is the figure of Christ, while the right is upraised, but fails to show the stigmata. The background is of blue, the canopy top being upon red.

4. This represents a bishop, bearing his crozier and wearing a mitre. an alb, a purple dalmatic fringed with gold, and a grey almuce. The body of this figure was unfortunately much injured, and it thus happens that the chasuble is a restoration. The background is pink, whilst the head of the canopy is upon blue.

In the discussion which followed there spoke the Chairman, Dr. Cox, Mr. P. M. Johnston, and Dr. Grayling. Mr. Johnston observed that probably the tracery lights from Battle were discarded when the church was restored by Mr. Butterfield c. 1840–1850.

A vote of thanks was then passed to Dr. Ely and Dr. Nelson for their papers.

Wednesday, 1st May, 1912.

Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, *Director*, in the Chair.

Mr. A. C. Fryer, M.A. Ph.D. F.S.A. read a paper on the monumental effigies by Nicholas Stone, illustrated by lantern slides. The paper will be printed in the *Journal*.

In moving a vote of thanks, the Chairman said he took the same view as Dr. Fryer in thinking the effigies were likenesses.

Mr. W. L. Spiers said he had tried to trace not only Stone's monumental effigies, but every other work from his hand, and had found it a difficult task. He said that Nicholas Stone was exceedingly versatile and the first to discard the Elizabethan tradition abandoning the use of pyramids, cresting and strapwork, and to follow the renaissance style.

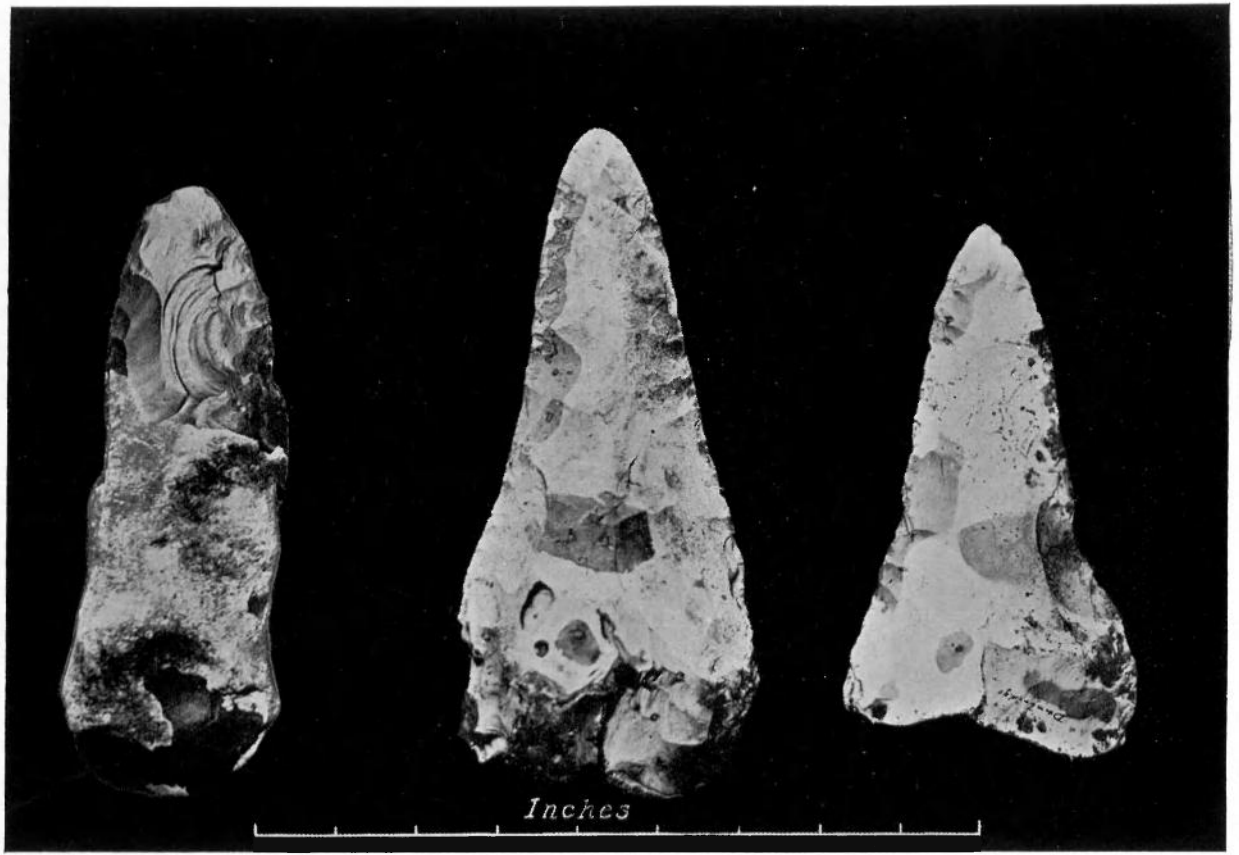
He also drew attention to the frequent employment of escutcheons, a favourite device of Stone's by which it was often possible to identify his work.

Wednesday, 5th June, 1912.

Sir Henry H. Howorth, K.C.I.E. D.C.L. F.R.S. F.S.A. *President*, in the Chair.

Mr. M. S. Giuseppi, F.S.A. read a paper on the accounts of the iron-works at Sheffield and Worth, Sussex, during the years 1546–1549. The paper will in due course be printed in the *Journal*.

The Chairman and Messrs. Rice, Rowley, Hope, and Boyd Dawkins also spoke.



NO. 1. NO. 2. NO. 3.

PALAEOLITHS FROM GRAVEL DEPOSITS AT DUNBRIDGE, HANTS. FROM THE COLLECTION OF MR. E. A. RAWLENCE.

To face page 217.

Professor Boyd Dawkins mentioned that from his examination of the spoil banks and old mines in the 'sixties in the course of the Geological Survey, he had come to the conclusion that the iron industry in Sussex dated as far back as the prehistoric iron age, and it was clearly proved from the pottery found in the spoil banks near Battle to have been carried on immediately after the Roman occupation.

A hearty vote of thanks was then passed to Mr. Giuseppi.

Wednesday, 3rd July, 1912.

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

Mr. E. A. Rawlence exhibited seven specimens of palaeoliths of somewhat unusual excellence of character and workmanship: three of them are illustrated on plate II. They were secured from a gravel pit situated about two hundred yards south of Dunbridge station, near Romsey, Hants. on the escarpment of the short valley which runs from Dean and joins the main river Test at Kimbridge. The pit is on the immediate edge of part of the great eocene floor which skirts the centre of our south coast and stretches from Worthing on the east to Puddletown, near Dorchester, on the west, and is just at the junction of the plastic clay with the chalk. This gravel ridge runs in a south-westerly direction down the remainder of the Dean valley and thence along the Test valley nearly to Awbridge. The gravel is quarried in several places along the ridge, but none of the other pits appear to be nearly so prolific in worked flints as that at Dunbridge, which is right at the upper end of the deposit. This pit is extraordinarily productive and, according to the reports of the workmen, was still more so in its earlier stages. The deposits are more or less stratified in fairly parallel beds: the coarse gravels are, as a rule, in the lower beds, and are highly stained with oxide of iron, and in places the deposit of iron is so great that it has transformed the gravel into a conglomerate. On the southern side of the pit there are considerable beds of fine sand intermixed with layers of fine gravel and sand. The lower and thicker bed of sand seems to have been deposited against an almost vertical wall of gravel. The working face of the pit is an average of nearly 20 feet and, with the exception of about 18 inches of surface soil, and where the layers of sand occur, it consists of saleable gravel throughout. From the statements of the quarrymen it appears that the worked flints are found mostly in the lower beds: some are much water-worn, but the peculiar features of those exhibited is their extraordinary freshness, combined with great symmetry and delicacy of workmanship, almost suggesting that they came from a manufacturer's floor.

No. 1 is 7·86 inches in length, and is interesting through exhibiting a distinct handle, the base being flaked to remove some excrescence and to make it fit comfortably to the lower side of the palm of the hand of the user.

No. 2 measures 8·562 inches in length, and there are few specimens that can surpass it in symmetry and elegance of workmanship. The finely

worked edges are almost as fresh now as on the day it was manufactured, and it is beautifully bleached.

No. 3 measures 7·23 inches in length and almost rivals no. 2 in workmanship: one might almost imagine that they were made by the same hands. So far as can be gathered from the workmen, these two specimens came from the south side of the pit, and from one of the gravel and sand layers fairly high up.

Mr. Rawlence also exhibited four other palaeoliths: one a very charming little flake with a finely worked edge for scraping purposes; a second, with a finely worked chisel edge; a third measuring 6·52 inches, which is a fine piece of black flint from the chalk, remarkable for the boldness of its flaking; and a fourth, a beautifully worked little flint presenting much the same characteristics as nos. 2 and 3.

Mr. R. Garraway Rice recalled that Mr. Dale had shown some specimens from the same pits.

Mr. George C. Druce, F.S.A. read a paper on the Caladrius and its legend sculptured on the twelfth-century doorway at Alne church, Yorks. with lantern illustrations. The paper will be printed in the *Journal*.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Rawlence and Mr. Druce.

SPRING MEETING AT THE TOWER OF LONDON.

Wednesday, 22nd May, 1912.

In continuation of the arrangements made by the Council for spring and autumn meetings to places of interest in and around London, a visit was paid this spring to the Tower under the guidance of Mr. C. R. Peers, M.A. Sec. S.A. Inspector of Ancient Monuments, and Mr. Harold Sands, F.S.A.

Certain portions of the Tower of London not accessible to the general public were by special permission thrown open to the Institute, and the Council desire to record their thanks to the authorities for this privilege.

The members assembled at the entrance on Tower Hill, and proceeded through the Middle Tower Gate, dating from the reign of Edward I, across the bridge which spans the former wet moat, now used as a parade ground. Passing through the Byward Tower Gate (temp. Edward I), and the Bloody Tower Gate (rebuilt temp. Edward III), which gives access to the inner ward, they entered the White Tower or Great Keep, and passed into the crypt of St. John's chapel on the first floor. The White Tower is the earliest of its kind in England, dating from the latter part of William I's reign, and completed in that of William II.

In the crypt a selection of plans were shown. Mr. C. R. Peers gave an account of the fortress and its gradual growth, and was followed by Mr. Sands, who spoke on the history of the Tower from documentary sources. Both papers are printed in the *Journal* at pages 173 and 161 respectively.

The keep was then examined in detail. Dating from about 1087 to 1097, it was some ten years in building, and is only surpassed in size by the great tower of Colchester castle. The vaulting of the basement is a modern insertion of brick. Originally only the crypt and subcrypt of St. John's chapel were vaulted, and the chapel itself. The tower is of four stories, the main staircase serving all the floors being at the north-east angle.

Mr. Hope contended that the so-called council chamber originally served as the clerestory stage to the great hall below it, which was designed, as was probably the chamber east of it, to run through two stories, as in the slightly later towers of Rochester and Hedingham.

After luncheon the members reassembled at the Middle Tower Gate for the perambulation of the fortress. Beginning at the south-west corner the ground floor of the Byward Tower was inspected, together with its postern to the wharf added in the reign of Edward III, and rebuilt in the reign of Henry VIII. The portcullis is still in working order, and probably dates from the time of Henry VIII.

The circuit of the outer ward between the walls was then made. Passing the Bell, Beauchamp, Devereux, Flint, Bowyer, Brick, Martin, Constable,

Broad Arrow and Salt Towers, they visited the basements of the Well and Cradle Towers, dating from the reigns of Henry III and Edward III respectively. Near the Salt Tower may be seen the remaining portion of one of the six cross-walls and gates which formerly divided the outer ward into as many separate sections. The Cradle Tower was formerly the state entrance leading from the wharf to the privy garden and the royal palace, of which nothing now remains.

Passing the new Lanthorn Tower erected on the site of the original building, which dated from the time of Henry III, the members visited the basement of the Hall Tower and St. Thomas's Tower.

In the Hall, or Wakefield, Tower the regalia have been kept since their removal from the Martin Tower in 1867. St. Thomas's Tower was the original water gate facing Bloody Tower Gate, and is now the residence of the keeper of the regalia. Since the reign of Henry VIII this tower has been better known by its more sinister name of Traitors' Gate, the state prisoners here leaving the Tower when despatched by water to take their trial at Westminster, returning by the same route. The gate deserves notice for its remarkable joggled arch, 61 feet in span, with a rise of $15\frac{1}{4}$ feet. It dates probably from the reign of Edward II or Edward III. At its sides were sluice gates, now done away with, which served to retain the water in the great ditch at low tide.

Having thus completed the circuit of the outer ward the members re-entered the inner defences and visited the vaulted basements and the upper stories of the Bell Tower, the Beauchamp Tower and the Rampart Walk which connects the two. The upper story of the Bell Tower served as a prison for the venerable John Fisher, bishop of Rochester, 1534–1545. On the walls of the Beauchamp Tower are many inscriptions carved by prisoners, some of which, however, were brought here from other parts of the fortress in 1853. The Rampart Walk is also known as Queen Elizabeth's Walk from the tradition that the princess used it when a prisoner in the Tower.

The party next visited the chapel of St. Peter ad Vincula, so rich in historic associations. This chapel is believed to be that mentioned in the only surviving Pipe Roll of Henry I, as having been remade, for as the chapel in the keep had but recently been completed, it is unlikely that it would so soon have been in need of repairs.

From the chapel the members passed to the Devereux Tower, with its thirteenth-century vaulted basement, the Bowyer Tower, where a fragment of the wall of Roman London is to be seen under the floor, the Martin Tower, further remains of the Roman wall of London and of the Wardrobe Tower, the Broad Arrow Tower and the Salt Tower. The two latter contain a number of prisoners' inscriptions. In the Martin Tower the regalia were kept until 1867, and it was from here that Colonel Blood attempted to steal them in 1673. The Flint and Brick Towers, rebuilt after the fire of 1841, are of no interest.

The members then passed outside the Tower on to the Wharf or " Kaia Regis." From here can be seen in the moat the mouth of the great drain which passes under the site of the great hall from the White Tower, with a branch from the Wakefield Tower.

This completed the meeting.

THE TOWER OF LONDON ABOUT 1597.

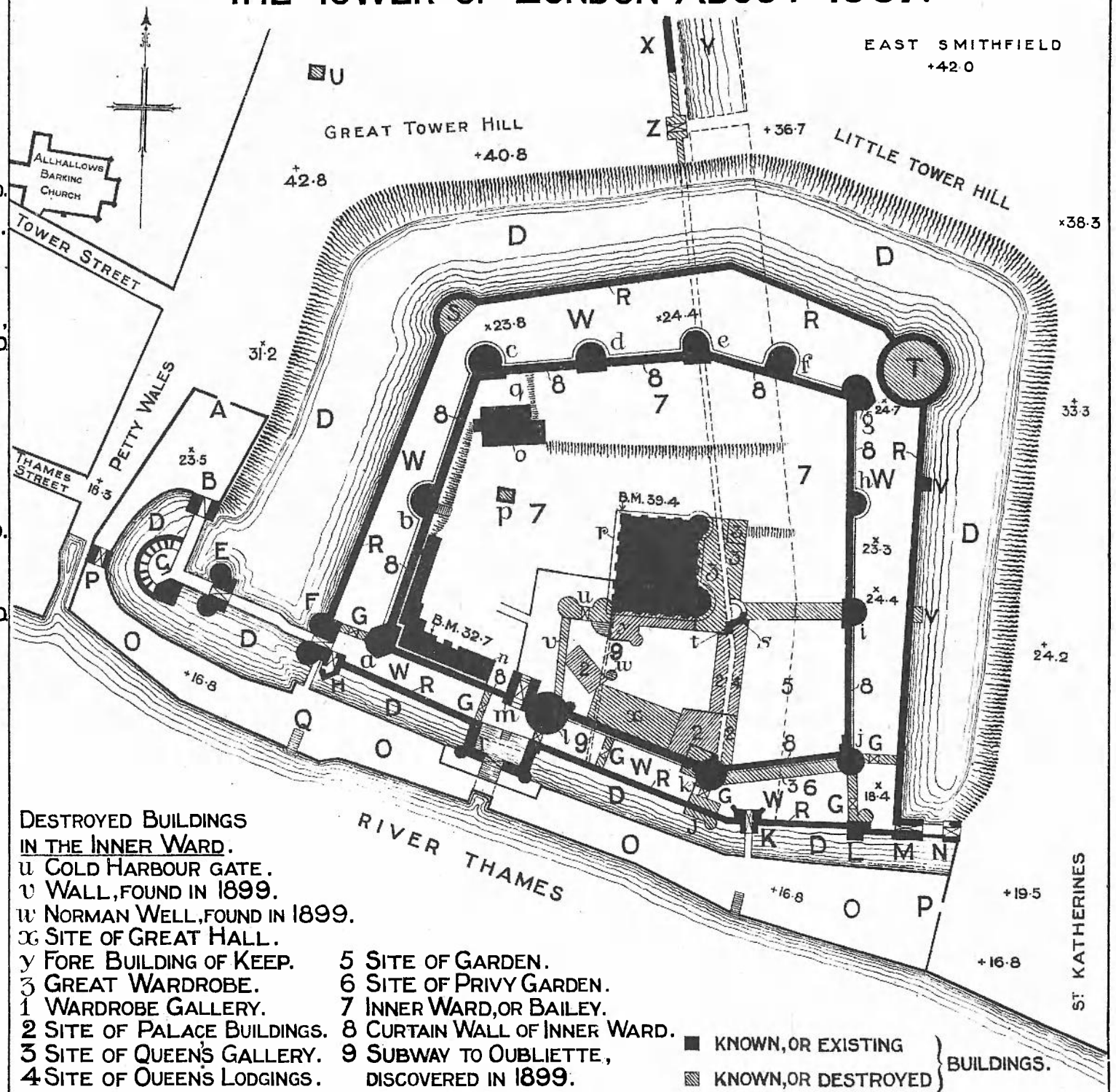
KEY TO PLAN.

THE OUTER WARD.

- A Bulwark Gate. } NOW
- B Lion's Gate. } NOW
- C Lions Tower. } DESTROYED.
- D Wet Ditch.
- E Middle Tower Gate.
- F Byward Tower Gate.
- G Cross Walls, & Gates. { NOW DESTROYED.
- H Byward Tower Postern.
- I Water Gate, or St. Thomas Tower.
- J New Turret of Henry. III. Destroyed.
- K Cradle Tower, Postern.
- L Well Tower.
- M Tower Leading to { the Iron Gate,
- N Tower above { now destroyed.
- O The Wharf. "Kaia Regis."
- P Wharf Gate, now destroyed.
- Q Queen's Stairs.
- R Curtain Wall of Outer Ward.
- S Legge's Mount Tower.
- T Brass Mount Tower.
- U Site of Permanent Scaffold.
- V Turrets not named. One destroyed.
- W Outer Ward.
- X The City Wall. } NOW
- Y The City Ditch. } NOW
- Z The City Postern Gate. } DESTROYED.

THE INNER WARD.

- a Bell
- b Beauchamp
- c Devilin, or Devereux
- d Flint
- e Bowyer
- f Brick
- g Martin
- h Constable
- i Broad Arrow
- j Salt
- k Lanthorn
- l Hall, or Wakefield } Towers.
- m Bloody Tower Gate.
- n The Lieutenant's Lodgings, or Kingshouse.
- o St. Peter's Chapel.
- p Site of Block, and Scaffold.
- q Site of The Hermitage.
- r White Tower, or Great Keep.
- s Remains of Wardrobe Tower.
- t Remains of Roman City Wall.



Destroyed Buildings in the Inner Ward.

- u Cold Harbour gate.
- v Wall, found in 1899.
- w Norman Well, found in 1899.
- x Site of Great Hall.
- y Fore Building of Keep.
- z Great Wardrobe.
- 1 Wardrobe Gallery.
- 2 Site of Palace Buildings.
- 3 Site of Queen's Gallery.
- 4 Site of Queens Lodgings.
- 5 Site of Garden.
- 6 Site of Privy Garden.
- 7 Inner Ward, or Bailey.
- 8 Curtain Wall of Inner Ward.
- 9 Subway to Oubliette, discovered in 1899.

■ Known, or existing
▨ Known, or destroyed } Buildings.

Scale of Feet

0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700

H. Sands. F.S.A. Mens et del. 1907.

[*By permission of Messrs. B. T. Batsford.*

DRAYTON HOUSE.

From *The Growth of the English House*, by Mr. J. A. Gotch.

THE SUMMER MEETING AT NORTHAMPTON.

TUESDAY, 23RD JULY, TO WEDNESDAY, 31ST JULY, 1912.

President of the Meeting: S. G. Stopford Sackville, M.A. D.L.

Patrons of the Meeting: The Most Hon. the Marquess of Exeter; The Most Hon. the Marquess of Northampton, K.G.; The Right Hon. the Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham; The Hon. and Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Peterborough; The Lord Annaly; and The Lady Knightley of Fawsley.

Vice-Presidents of the Meeting: The Worshipful the Mayor of Northampton; Sir W. Ryland D. Adkins, M.P; Sir Edward Brabrook, C.B. Dir.S.A; The Ven. Archdeacon of Northampton; J. H. Etherington Smith, M.A. F.S.A; J. J. Van Alen; and the Rev. Wentworth Watson, M.A.

Local Committee: Sir W. Ryland D. Adkins; F. W. Bull, F.S.A; the Rev. H. K. Fry, M.A; T. J. George; the Rev. H. I. Longden, M.A; C. A. Markham, F.S.A; E. P. Monckton, M.A. F.S.A; B. B. Muscott; the Rev. A. K. Pavey, M.A; and the Rev. A. W. Pulteney, M.A.

Hon. Local Secretary: The Rev. R. M. Serjeantson, M.A. F.S.A.

Hon. Secretaries of the Meeting: Everard L. Guilford, M.A; G. D. Hardinge-Tyler, M.A. F.S.A.

PROCEEDINGS OF MEETING.

Tuesday, 23rd July. Reception by the Mayor and Corporation. Lunch. The churches of St. Peter, St. Sepulchre and St. Giles. Tea. Eleanor Cross at Hardingstone.

Wednesday, 24th July. Rail to Kettering. Motor to Boughton House. Motor to Geddington Church and Cross. Motor to Kettering. Lunch. Motor to Rushton Church, Hall and Lodge. Motor to Rothwell. Tea. Rothwell Market House, Church, and Jesus Hospital. Motor to Kettering. Rail to Northampton.

Thursday, 25th July. Rail to Rockingham. Motor to Liddington Bede House and Church. Motor to Kirby Hall. Lunch. Motor to Rockingham Castle. Tea. Rail to Northampton.

Friday, 26th July. Rail to Moreton Pinkney. Motor to Canons Ashby House and Church. Motor to Byfield Church. Motor to Hinton. Lunch. Motor to Fawsley Dower House, Church, and House. Tea. Motor to Moreton Pinkney. Rail to Northampton.

Saturday, 27th July. Rail to Irthlingborough. Motor to Stanwick Church. Motor to Raunds Church. Motor to Higham Ferrers. Lunch. Higham Ferrers Church, Bede House and College. Motor to Rushden Church. Tea. Rail to Northampton.

Monday, 29th July. Rail to Thrapston. Motor to Lowick Church. Motor to Drayton House. Motor to Thrapston. Lunch. Motor to Woodford Church. Motor to Irthlingborough Church. Motor to Higham Ferrers. Tea. Rail to Northampton.

Tuesday, 30th July. Rail to Elton. Motor to Fotheringhay Church and Castle. Motor to Tansor Church. Motor to Oundle. Lunch. Motor to Warmington Church. Motor to Polebrook Church. Motor to Oundle. Tea. Oundle Church. Rail to Northampton. Annual General Meeting.

Wednesday, 31st July. Motor to Brixworth Church. Motor to Holdenby House and Church. Motor to Northampton. Lunch. Motor to Earl's Barton Church. Motor to Castle Ashby. Motor to Cogenhoe. Tea. Cogenhoe Church. Motor to Northampton.

Tuesday, 23rd July.

After an interval of thirty-five years the Institute again held its summer meeting at Northampton.[1]

The proceedings began with the formal reception of the Institute by the Mayor and Corporation of Northampton in the Town Hall. The Mayor, Dr. Lee F. Cogan, expressed his pleasure at the presence of the Institute in Northampton, and felt that the antiquity of Northampton would appeal to all its members, although the town itself was not rich in relics of the past.

Mr. S. G. Stopford Sackville then extended a most hearty welcome on behalf of the county, and acknowledged the compliment paid him in asking him to be associated with the meeting. That it was thirty-six years since the Institute last visited the county showed the wealth all over England of antiquities and objects of interest. In Northamptonshire they flattered themselves they were not inferior to any county in archaeological and historical attractions. Since the Institute last visited it they had lost Sir Henry Dryden, the Colossus among country gentlemen for his immense knowledge of archaeology, and also Lord Alwyne Compton, bishop of Ely, who was distinct among the clergy of his generation in the work of church restoration; but they still had eminent authorities on the history of the county, among them Mr. Gotch, the Rev. R. M. Serjeantson, and Mr. C. A. Markham.

[1] The last meeting at Northampton took place in 1876, and a report of the proceedings will be found in the *Archaeological Journal*, xxxv, 407.

Sir Henry Howorth, in reply, expressed his appreciation of Northamptonshire and its squires, country gentry who took such a great interest not only in its antiquities, but also rendered such valuable service in its administration. It was a great pleasure to him to meet again such a squire of the county as Mr. Sackville.

He said that Northampton formed a part of the country from which literary English was derived. Its rich soil and resources had made it continually prosperous. It had played a great part in helping to build up the kingdom. It had been the scene of some serious tragedies, but tragedy was often, in his view, an important factor in building up a kingdom. There was very much to be learned from Northamptonshire, and one of the purposes of the Institute was to arouse interest in the localities into which it came.

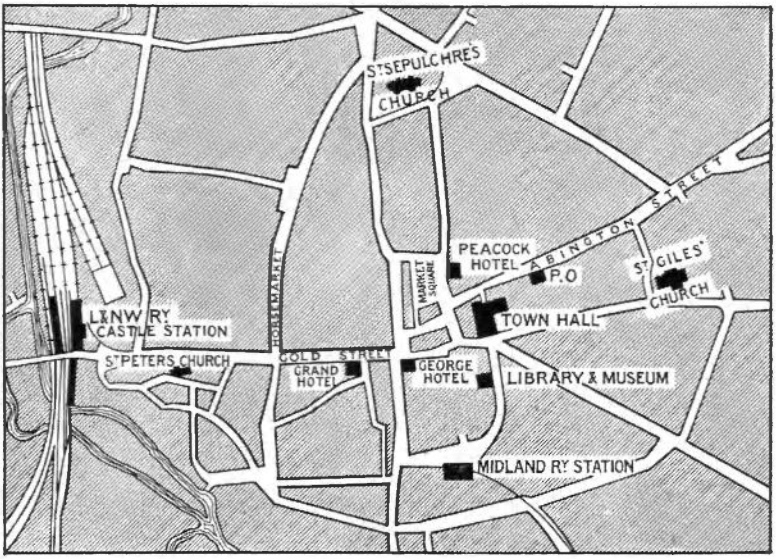


FIG. I. SKETCH PLAN OF NORTHAMPTON.

The members then visited St. Peter's, St. Sepulchre's, and St. Giles' churches, which were described by the Rev. R. M. Serjeantson, and after tea, kindly provided by the Mayor, the party visited queen Eleanor's Cross, described to them by Mr. W. H. St. John Hope.

THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

St. Peter's Church (fig. 2), which was described by the Rev. R. M. Serjeantson, rector of the parish, consists of a continuous nave and chancel under one roof, both with clerestory, north and south aisles, also continuous, north porch and western tower.

The present church, as we see it now, appears to have been built in the third quarter of the twelfth century. It was not, however, the first ecclesiastical building to occupy the site, for during the restoration of 1851

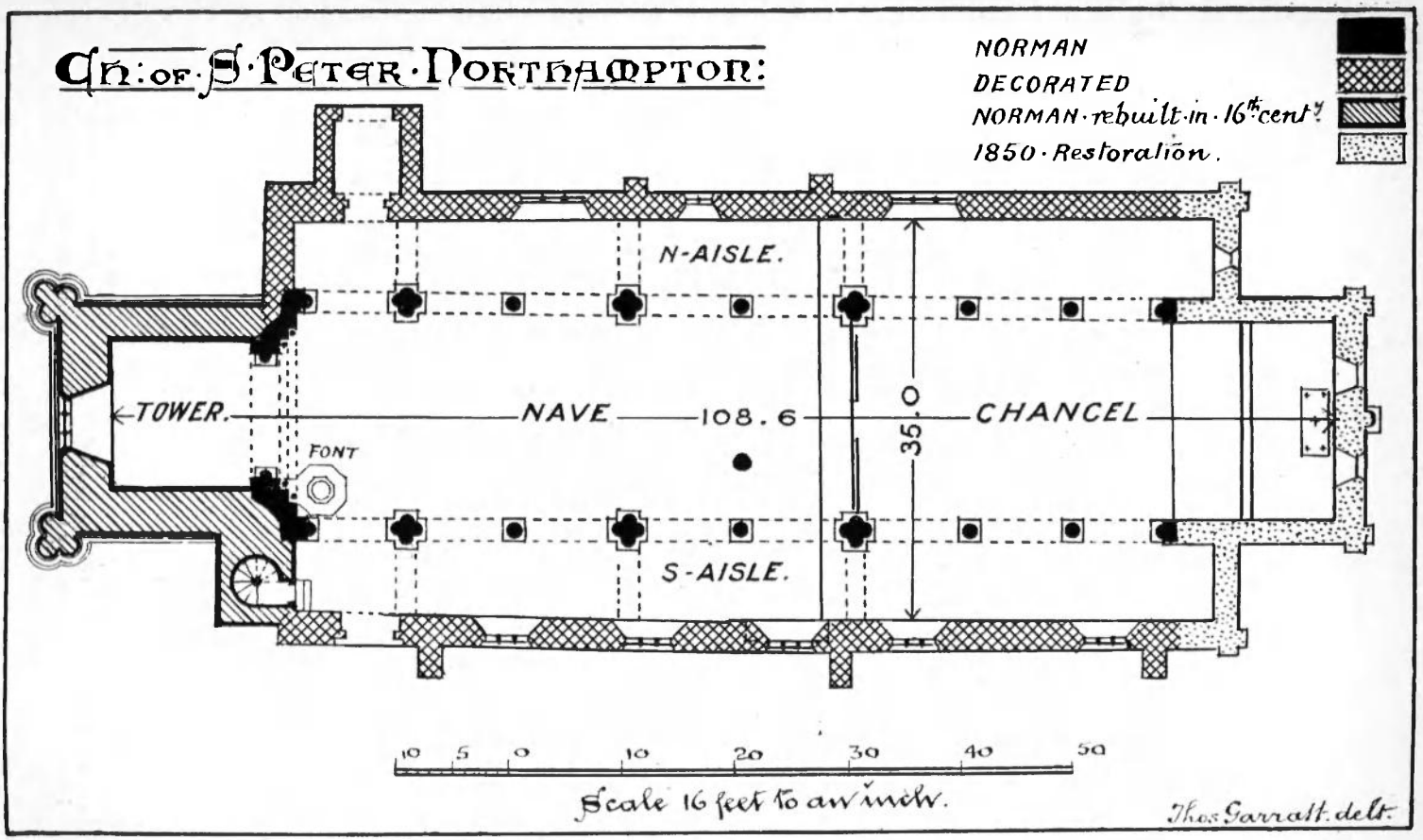


FIG. 2.

From Serjeantson's *History of St. Peter's Church, Northampton.*

fragments evidently belonging to a pre-Conquest church were found here. A thirteenth-century manuscript contains a rather pretty legend connected with this earlier church. According to it a certain Norwegian, who had spent a year and a half in it, serving God day and night in fasting and prayers, was told in a vision that if he dug in a certain spot he would find beneath the pavement the relics of a saint. The tomb was brought to light, but for a time it remained unopened, until one Easter eve, when a crippled girl who had been placed in the church to pray for a cure was completely healed, the church being suddenly lit up and the bells chiming a joyful peal. Near the body was some writing, which stated that St. Raginer, nephew of St. Edmund, and, like him, murdered by the Danes, was buried there. Edward the Confessor, who was king at the time, paid great reverence to the place, and caused a great shrine of gold and silver to be made from the offerings at the tomb, and in it the relics of the saint were placed. This is the last heard of the shrine; but there continued till the fifteenth century to be a gild of St. Raginer in this church. The twelfth-century church now standing is conspicuous, as regards the interior, for the slenderness and gracefulness of the pillars, for the broad bands which surround many of them, a very unusual feature at this date, and for the claw ornaments or griffes at the bases connecting them with the square plinths below. The capitals are all different. The fact that in every case the arch as well as the capital is carved adds much to the beauty and effectiveness of the work. Early in the fourteenth century the aisle walls appear to have been rebuilt on the original site and of the old materials. The tower collapsed in the reign of James I, demolishing the western bay of the nave arcade. When rebuilt a good many years later, it was erected one bay eastward of its original site. The east end was also shortened in the same way, though again restored to its original length in 1851.

It is probable that the rebuilding of the tower and of the east end and the insertion of the numerous square-headed windows, all took place early in the reign of Charles I, while Dr. Samuel Clerk was rector. Clerk was one of the commissioners appointed by the bishop to see that the churches were decently kept, and he would feel bound to set his own house in order to begin with.

None of the old fittings of the church remain except the font, which dates from the fourteenth century. In mediaeval times there were in addition to the high altar, altars dedicated to our Lady, St. Nicholas, St. John Baptist, St. Katherine, and St. Eregair (probably a scribe's error either for St. Gregory, or for St. Raginer), and to each of these altars various parishioners left legacies in their wills. There are also frequent references to the great rood, and at least one to the christening door, before which a certain William Webster desired, in 1527, to be buried.

In the thirteenth century special rights of compurgation were attached to this church. Anyone in the town or neighbourhood who wished to clear himself of any crime by compurgation was compelled to spend a solitary vigil in St. Peter's, and next morning to take a solemn oath that he was innocent, and also to bring a certain number of witnesses to swear that they believed in his innocence. Other churches tried to claim the same privilege, but bishop Grosseteste decided that the right was attached to St. Peter's only.

The patronage of St. Peter's belonged originally to the Cluniac priory of St. Andrew in this town, until it was recovered by the king in 1266. It remained in the royal hands till 1329, when it was granted to the master and brethren of the hospital of St. Katherine, near the Tower of London, who have presented ever since.

During the latter part of the sixteenth century St. Peter's was a meeting-place for the more advanced puritans of the town and neighbourhood. At this time a certain Edmund Snape, a man of very extreme views, was curate here. In 1591 he was summoned before the court of star chamber and committed to prison. He had made himself particularly obnoxious to the government by the part he took in connexion with the celebrated Martin Marprelate tracts. It is said to have been through his influence that Sir Richard Knightley allowed Penry to set up the secret press in his house at Fawsley, where one of the most noted of the tracts, the *Epitome*, was printed. Penry was himself a worshipper at St. Peter's, as was proved in the trial of 1591. The title page of the *Epitome*, the tract printed at Fawsley, states, among other things, that it was "compiled for the behoofe and overthrow of the unpreaching Parsons, Fyckers, and Currats, that have lernt their Catechismes, and are past grace. By the reverend and worthy Martin Marprelat, gentleman, and dedicated by a second Epistle to the Terrible Priests." It concludes by saying "And lest M. Doctor [Dr. Bridges, dean of Sarum, who had written a book against the Puritans] should thinke that no man can write without sence but his selfe, the senceles titles of the several pages, and the handling of the matter throughout the Epitome, shewe plainely, that beetleheaded ignoraunce, must not live and die with him alone."

At the west end are three monuments of some interest: a tablet to the memory of John Smith, one of the earliest mezzotint engravers, who was buried here in 1743; a white marble bust to William Smith, the father of British geology, who discovered the fact that the world was built in strata; and a third to the memory of George Baker and his sister, Elizabeth, who died respectively in 1851 and 1861. It was Miss Baker, Mr. Serjeantson explained, who with her own hands removed the whitewash and plaster from the capitals of the church, and saved the whole building from being pulled down to make room for a new brick church.

Mr. W. H. St. John Hope remarked that the removal of the limewash by Miss Baker was a very meritorious work from one point of view, but it should be observed that the carved stonework had been deteriorating ever since, owing to the decomposing action of the gas. The two alternative remedies were the removal of the gas or the covering of the surface again with clean whitewash. The early builders did not like a gloomy interior, so they introduced whitewash. The fact that some of the pillars were compound led him to believe that the church was intended to be spanned by a barrel vault, and for this purpose they prepared the capitals for the side arches to carry the abutment across the aisles. Against this theory an objection might be raised from the thinness of the walls. They had, however, to remember that Norman masonry varied greatly in quality. The Normans built in concrete, and if their mortar happened to be good the walls would stand an enormous strain. But sometimes the mortar was rotten, in which case a collapse easily occurred.

ST. SEPULCHRE'S CHURCH.

The church of the Holy Sepulchre (figs. 3 and 4) was visited under the guidance of Mr. Serjeantson, who said it was built originally about the year 1100, and was meant to be a reproduction of the church of the holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. The latter church was built in the first instance by the emperor Constantine, and consecrated in A.D. 335. It consisted of (1) the circular building, which covered the actual sepulchre: this was an oratory rather than a church, and contained no altar at first, though in later times three altars were placed in it; (2) to the east of the sepulchre was a large quadrangle "open to the pure air of Heaven," and surrounded by cloisters on three sides; (3) still further east was the great church known as the Martyrium, built upon the spot where the three crosses were alleged to have been found by the empress Helena. The altar was at the west end of the church, facing the holy Sepulchre. Constantine's church was burnt in 614. It was soon, however, rebuilt, but was again destroyed in 1010 by order of the caliph Hakim, who ordered the whole church to be razed to the ground. Permission was quickly given for its rebuilding, though the work was not completed till 1048. The new church of the holy Sepulchre was somewhat different from the one built by Constantine. It consisted of the circular building over the sepulchre, to which was attached an eastern quire. Neither the cloisters nor the great church of the Martyrium beyond were rebuilt. We thus get the church which was the prototype of all our European round churches, a circular nave with a quire attached to it on the east. The holy city was captured by the crusaders on 15th July, 1099, and it is probable that the Northampton Sepulchre church was begun very soon after in 1100. It has generally been assigned to Simon of Senlis, the first Norman earl of Northampton, who is known to have taken part in the first crusade, and who was a great builder. It was probably intended as a thankoffering for the recovery of the holy Sepulchre from the infidels, and for his own safe return. The building was quickly completed, for by a charter which cannot be later than 1116 earl Simon handed it over to the Cluniac priory of St. Andrew, which closely adjoined it. This charter at once disposes of the theory that the Northampton round church was founded by the Templars, who did not come into existence as an order till 1128, and did not arrive in England till 1134. From 1116 till the dissolution of the monasteries, St. Sepulchre's always belonged to the monks of St. Andrew's, who presented secular vicars for institution, and it never had the slightest connexion with the Knights Templars.

The church consisted in earl Simon's time of a circular nave and a small chancel, which terminated probably in an apse. Towards the close of the twelfth century the north wall of the chancel was pierced by arches, and a north chapel was added. It is interesting to know that this chapel was dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury. It will be remembered that Becket's ever-memorable trial took place in Northampton, in October, 1164, and that he escaped from the town through the north gate, which was within a stone's throw of St. Sepulchre's. He was murdered in 1170, and canonised in 1173. It must have been very shortly after this time that the new north chapel was built. The two arches which connected this chapel with the then chancel are of distinctly Transitional character. During the latter part of the thirteenth century

a second north chapel was added; the south aisle was built or perhaps rebuilt early in the fourteenth century. Towards the close of this century the clerestory and triforium of the circular part of the church were pulled down. Much loftier pointed arches were built upon the twelfth-century piers, and a fine tower was added at the west, taking the place of the dome which had previously covered the "round." At the same date were built the three lofty arches giving access from the "round" into the nave and side aisles. The wooden corbels which support the present nave roof date from the fifteenth century, and represent musicians with various instruments. In 1634 the extreme north aisle was pulled down. In 1861 the

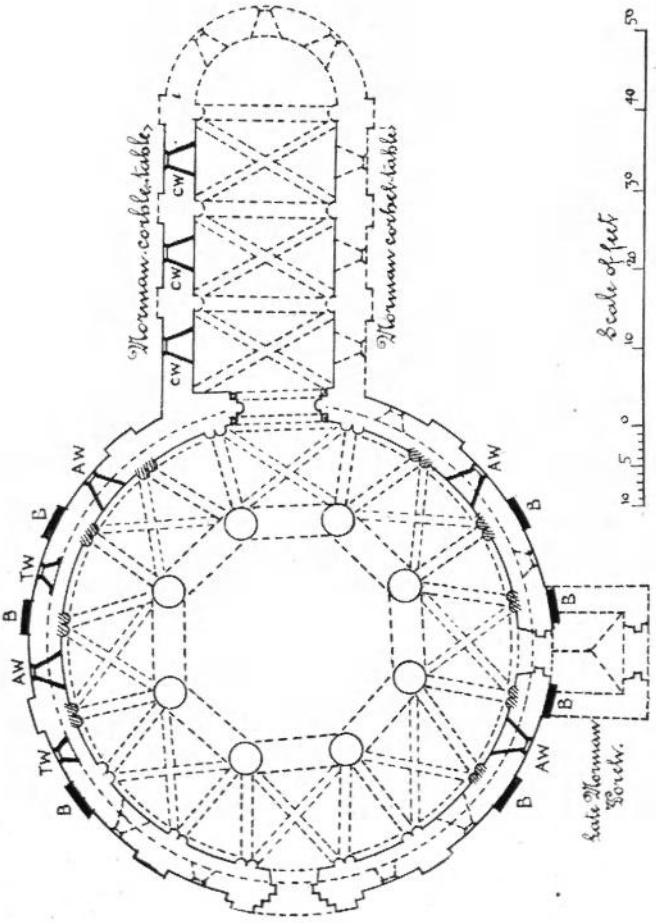


FIG. 3. ST. SEPULCHRE'S CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON, ORIGINAL PLAN.

From Cox and Serjeantson's *History of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton.*

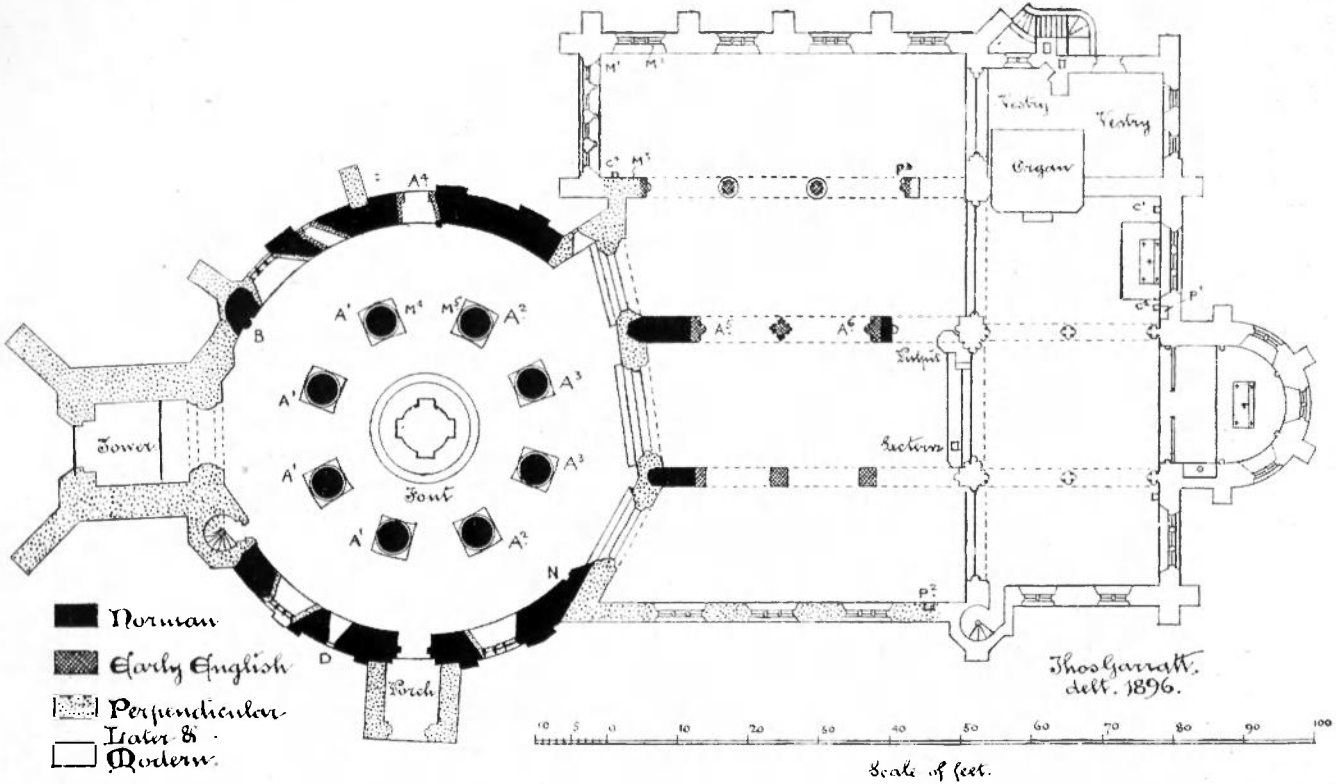


FIG. 4. ST. SEPULCHRE'S CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON, AFTER RESTORATION.

From Cox and Serjeantson's *History of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton.*

present chancel, with north and south chapels, was added, and the second north aisle was rebuilt on the old foundations. In mediaeval times, in addition to the high altar, there were altars dedicated in honour of St. Thomas of Canterbury and St. John the Baptist, our Lady, St. Nicholas, and St. Martin, as is shown by early wills. There was also a figure of St. Modwen, and the usual lights before the sepulchre and the rood. Then too there was a gild of St. Martin in this church, which is mentioned in several early wills. The gild had its banner, for the repairing of which, in 1464, a certain Agatha Dunstall left 4d. Another lady (Jane Harrod) in 1543, left "to the maintenance of the church at principal feasts to be before the high altar my green silks, and my green pillow with all that longeth thereto."

The present fittings of the church are all modern. On the south side of the "round" is an interesting processional cross locker, and on the north side a twelfth-century tympanum is built into the wall. Close to this is a splendidly preserved brass to the memory of George Coles, and his two wives and twelve children: he died in 1640, and was a great benefactor to the town.

Mr. Hope then made some pertinent observations. On account of its round part the building was, he said, a very remarkable structure. Some little time ago he had gone to some trouble in investigating all that could be found about our round churches. They could be divided into four classes. First, there was the ordinary parish church, such as this one and the one at Cambridge; these had nothing to do with the Templars. Next came the chapels, of which the most noteworthy was that in Ludlow castle, with its round nave and a square chancel ending in a polygonal apse; there had been another example in Henry III's palace of Woodstock. Thirdly, there came the churches which had undoubtedly belonged to the Templars. The present Temple church in London had a predecessor near Chancery Lane, and when the present block of offices on the site was being erected the workmen discovered the stumps of some of the pillars. The church of the preceptory at Temple Bruer had also a round nave, and originally an apsidal quire. Fourthly, there was the round church erected at Clerkenwell by the Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, which was as large as the recently restored example in the Strand; and the early fourteenth-century Hospitallers' church at Little Maplestead, with a six-sided nave with circular aisle, and an apsidal chancel. It was customary to talk of these structures as round naves, but Mr. Hope did not feel at all sure that they should not rather be regarded as the bases of belfries like the ordinary central tower. Until it was destroyed in an unfortunate "restoration" the round church at Cambridge possessed such a belfry, and there was still one at Little Maplestead. There were in this country quite a large number of sites where the Templars had preceptories, which were transferred, after the monstrous suppression of the Order of the Temple, to the Hospitallers. He felt very little doubt that if proper investigation was made on these sites one after another would be found to include a round church. These Templars' or Hospitallers' places were on a very small scale; the chapels certainly need not have been large, because the Templars were not themselves priests, and were not bound to attend any services.

ST. GILES' CHURCH.

St. Giles' (fig. 5), described by the Rev. R. M. Serjeantson, was originally an aisleless cross church with central tower, built early in the twelfth century. Portions of the lower part of the tower remain, and one or two doorways now blocked. At the close of the twelfth century the tower was completed and the stair-turret added at the north-east angle. In the first half of the thirteenth century the chancel was rebuilt, lengthened and widened. This was done in a rather curious way. The south wall of the old chancel was left as it was, but the north was rebuilt, four feet northwards of the old line, thus adding considerably to the width of the chancel, but throwing the centre of the east window quite out of line with the middle of the chancel arch. Most of the present chancel belongs to the period of this enlargement.

The builders next turned their attention to the nave. They began on the south side, and evidently intended to add a south aisle. One arch was built up in the hitherto unpierced south wall, but then there came a pause. The tower began to show signs of weakness. This was remedied by the simple expedient of blocking the wide round-headed tower arches on all four sides and piercing these with very much smaller arches. The fillings of the northern and southern arches have never been removed, but those on the east and west sides were opened in 1853.

In the first half of the fourteenth century the east wall of the chancel was rebuilt, and on the outside of the church the junction of the old and new work is very noticeable. At this date also the north chancel or lady chapel was evidently built.

The builders now once again turned their attention to the nave. An arcade and aisle were erected on each side, that on the south being probably completed first.

Finding that the south arcade had been begun too near the tower, the north wall was pierced at a point further to the west. The south-east respond is 2 ft. 6 ins. west of the tower; the distance between the tower and the north-east respond is 4 ft. 5 ins. Next the twelfth-century transepts were taken down and the aisles were continued eastwards so as to flank the tower. This work was probably finished about the year 1360. About this date, or only a little later, the south chancel chapel was completed.

In the fifteenth century little work was done in the way of building, though the font may be of this date, such part of it at least as is old. In 1512 the present windows in the lady chapel, i.e. the north chancel chapel, were inserted, as is shown by the will of one of the parishioners.

Just a century after these alterations, the tower fell (in 1614) and crushed a considerable portion of the nave. The damage caused by the fall was, however, soon restored, and in 1616 the work was almost completed.

A tablet on the north wall of the nave commemorates the fact.

ROB SIBTHORPES CARE
TO GODS TRUE FEARE
THIS DOWNEFALNE
CHURCH GOT
HELPE TO REARE
1616
WILL. DAWES. MASON.

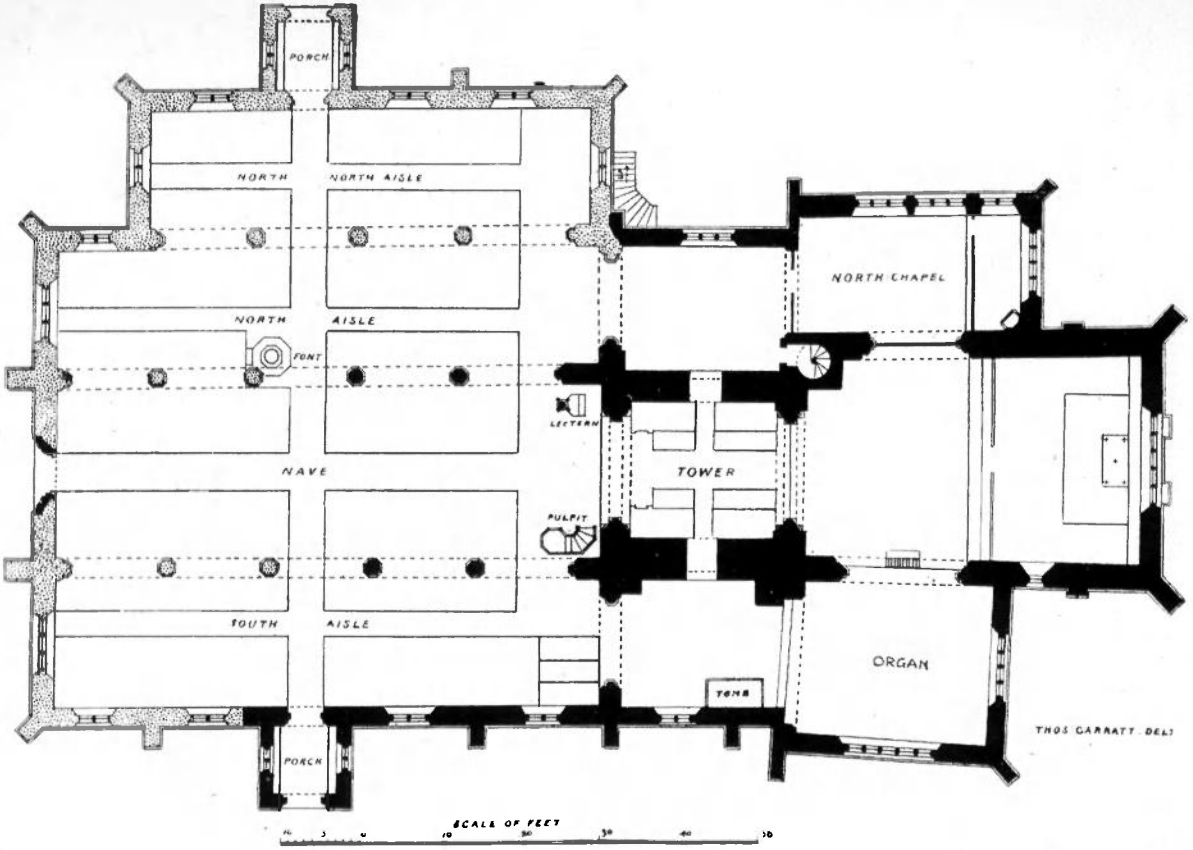


FIG. 5. ST. GILES' CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON.

From Serjeantson's *History of St. Giles' Church, Northampton.*

Another tablet reads as follows :—

1616
JOHN PATTISON
HUMF : HOPKYNS
CHURCHWARD
WHEN THIS BUIL[DING]
BEGAN.

For two centuries and a half the church remained much in the same condition, but in 1853–4 it was carefully restored. The nave and aisles were extended two bays further west, and an extra north aisle was added to the church.

Twenty years later (1875–6) the chancel with its side chapels was restored.

From a documentary point of view not very much is known with regard to this church. The earliest mention of it occurs in, or about, the year 1120, in a confirmatory charter of Henry I. In the thirteenth century a certain Eva, an anchoress, had a cell in St. Giles', but nothing further is known about her.

By far the most interesting point with regard to the church is the fact that all through the middle ages it served as a meeting place for the mayor and assembly of the town. The *Liber Custumarum* of the borough records frequent instances of regulations having been drawn up in St. Giles' church. To take one or two instances : In 1381 at a meeting held here a penalty of forty pence was imposed on all who turned pigs into the streets. Three years later an enactment was made forbidding inn-keepers from making either horse-bread or white bread, to sell in their houses. On Monday next after the feast of St. Michael, 1407, "the 24 burgesses and all the commonalty of the town of Northampton, summoned and assembled before the mayor in the church of St. Giles," drew up certain regulations with regard to fishing in the Nene ; while at a general assembly (*colloquium generale*) held in St. Giles' on Wednesday before the feast of St. Denys, 1467, orders were made regulating the sale of sea fish. Northampton was not alone in transacting her secular business in a sacred building. We find the same thing everywhere. Perhaps the most glaring case is that of Romney, where the vicar was obliged to bribe the corporation not to hold their meetings in church while divine service was proceeding. The corporation accounts of Romney for 1407–8 record the receipt of 3s. 4d. "a free gift of John Hacche, vicar of Romney, that the jurats in future shall not hold their session in his church while divine service is being celebrated."

With regard to the arrangement of St. Giles' in pre-reformation days a great deal of information may be gleaned from a study of early wills. From these sources we learn that the church of St. Giles contained chapels dedicated respectively to the blessed Virgin, to St. Peter and to St. John ; that in addition to the high altar there were altars in honour of our Lady, St. Peter, St. Clement, St. John and St. Nicholas ; that there were figures or images of our Lady, St. Giles and St. Katherine, and lights before the rood and the sepulchre.

There were two gilds in this church, those of St. Clement and the holy Cross. The gild of St. Clement had its own chaplain and owned considerable property. With regard to the present church fittings, the

pulpit dates from the second quarter of the seventeenth century, though the staircase is considerably later. The font has been largely restored, but parts of it date from the fifteenth century.

The church contains at least one interesting monument, which is now in the north aisle, but which has been moved twice during quite recent times. It dates from the early part of the fifteenth century, and has been known (at least since 1720) as the Gobion monument. The last male Gobion, of the Northampton branch, died in the year 1301. The monument may, however, belong to one of his descendants through the female line, who called himself in all his charters John Paynell Gobion.

Near the Gobion monument (so called) is a stand, on which are two chained books, dated 1609 and 1676. The first is Calvin's *Commentary on Isaiah*, the other is the *Second Book of Homilies*.

Robert Sibthorpe, who rebuilt the tower, was a man of considerable importance in the time of Charles I. He was first of all vicar of St. Giles', then of St. Sepulchre's, then of Brackley. He first came into prominence by a sermon which he preached at the Northampton assizes in February 1626–7 on the subject of passive obedience. Sibthorpe was a thorough believer in the divine right of kings, and he stated in his sermon that "if princes command anything which subjects may not perform, because it is against the laws of God or man or impossible, yet such subjects are bound to undergo punishment without either resistance, or railing, or reviling, and to yield a passive obedience where they cannot yield an active one."

King Charles was delighted with this sermon, and requested archbishop Abbot to licence it, with a view to its being printed. The archbishop very naturally refused, stating his objections to the general tenor of the sermon, and also to particular assertions contained in it. As a result of his refusal, Abbot was suspended from office, and the sermon, after certain expressions in it had been somewhat toned down, was licensed by other bishops and duly printed. There is a copy of it in the British Museum. The boldness of Sibthorpe's utterances brought him into special notice. The king made him one of his chaplains in ordinary, and appointed him to the important living of Burton Latimer in Northamptonshire. On the outbreak of the civil war, however, he was promptly deprived of his preferments, and was reduced to great poverty. He lived, however, to see the restoration, but died in 1662.

From St. Giles' the members passed on to the Town Hall, where they were entertained to tea by the Mayor of Northampton. In the council chamber the five corporation maces, dating from the time of James I, Charles II (2), and George I (2) respectively were on view.

After tea brakes and motor cars conveyed the party to the Eleanor cross at Hardingstone, a distance of about a mile and a half.

ELEANOR CROSS, HARDINGSTONE.

Nearly opposite the entrance to Delapre there is a short length of what is supposed to be the raised causeway or footpath leading from Northampton to the cross, laid down about 1291–1294 by Robert, the son of Henry of Northampton "pro anima reginae." This cross, standing on the outskirts of the park of Delapre abbey, was, of course, one of those erected by Edward I upon the route of the funeral procession in 1290 of queen Eleanor from Lincoln to London. Above the octagonal base, which itself

stands on eight steps, are four canopied niches, each of which contains the figure of a queen, facing the four cardinal points. The head of the cross has long disappeared, and at the time of the battle of Northampton (1460) it was known as *crux sine capite*. The heraldic sculpture and the naturalistic treatment of foliage are noticeable points in its decoration.

Mr. Hope briefly dealt with the historical side of the monument. Towards the end of 1290 king Edward and queen Eleanor of Castile set out together for Scotland. On the way, the queen died at Harby in Nottinghamshire on 28th November. Edward was extremely attached to her after fifty years of happy married life, and he hastened back to London so that the queen might be buried with due solemnity. In accordance with custom the body was disembowelled, and the parts taken out were buried in Lincoln minster, where a beautiful monument was set up over them. The queen's heart was put in a vessel and conveyed to London, where it was deposited in the church of the Black friars. The conveyance of the body to London occupied a good many of the short November days, and entailed numerous stoppages. Tradition has it that wherever the body rested a cross was set up. It is known for certain that a number were ordered and built. In the Public Record Office there is a series of accounts of the queen's executors, covering the two years in which the crosses were erected. The most important was put up at Charing Cross, though for what reason is not known, as the journey from the last stage in St. Paul's to Westminster was so short. It is a little difficult to arrive at the exact cost of the cross; it seems to have been nearly £800, which was a large sum to be spent on such a memorial in 1290. The next one mentioned is that erected at Lincoln at a total cost of £134. The cross put up in the middle of Cheap was probably destroyed as far back as the fourteenth century; beautiful fragments of it may be seen in the Guildhall museum. The cross at Hardingstone is one of a group of crosses contracted for by a master mason named John of Battle, the cost of which works out at an average of £95 each. The verge or shaft of this one was wrought by William of Ireland; the whole of the imagery and a good deal of the carving was done in London. As William of Barnack was paid to bring it to Hardingstone, it is not improbable that the material used may be Barnack stone. It was curious that the crosses about which no complete details are found in the accounts are those of which no remains exist. Mr. Hope thought from this that it was possible that the crosses were begun and left unfinished, and finally cleared away.

EVENING MEETING.

In the evening the Rev. R. M. Serjeantson read a paper on the history of Northampton.

Mr. Serjeantson began by reminding his audience that travellers who pass through the station on their way to or from London often take away with them a very wrong impression of the shoemakers' town. All that they can see from the line is a series of streets of modern red brick houses, from which they naturally assume that they have before them an ordinary manufacturing town, with little or nothing to interest the antiquary or the historian. But this view is quite a wrong one. Northampton is a place with a history that few other English towns can rival.

It is undoubtedly true that in the period before the Norman conquest Northampton was a place of small importance. It was twice burnt by

the Danes in the eleventh century, and when Domesday book was compiled (1086) a considerable part of the town was still in ruins.

It owed its restoration and later greatness to its first Norman earl, Simon of Senlis, who, during the reign of William Rufus, rebuilt the town, and surrounded it with a wall. He also erected a strong castle at the west gate, and founded a house of Cluniac monks near by, both of which institutions afterwards played an important part in the history of the town.

For some three centuries after the time of earl Simon, Northampton was one of the most important towns in England. For proof of this statement we have the fact that when prince David of Wales, brother of the famous Llewelyn, was condemned in 1283 to be hung, drawn and quartered, it was ordered that his head should be sent to London, and the four quarters to the four other chief towns of England, York, Northampton, Winchester and Bristol.

During the time of our Plantagenet kings parliament met here more often than at any other place in England, London only excepted, and the town was frequently honoured by royal visits. To take a single case, king John, during his short reign of 17 years, visited Northampton on no less than 30 different occasions.

The place doubtless owes its importance in mediaeval days to various causes: partly to the fact that it possessed a strong castle, which after the death of its founder was taken into the hands of the king; partly to its close proximity to Rockingham forest, thus affording amusement to our Norman and Plantagenet monarchs, who were all keen sportsmen; and last, but by no means least, to its central position, which made it a convenient centre for watching the powerful barons whose loyalty was often more than doubtful. Thus during the rebellion of 1174 Henry II hurried from Normandy to Northampton, and from thence sent his troops in every direction. In a few days he had reduced the whole country, and compelled the refractory barons to come to him in Northampton, and make their submission. As was to be expected in a town of such importance, Northampton was strongly fortified. On the west it was protected by the castle, and by several branches of the Nene, which often overflowed its banks, and formed on the west side of the town an impassable morass. On the other three sides it was defended by a stong wall. Henry Lee, who was town clerk of Northampton in the time of Charles II, tells us that "the town was walled about, and had four large gates, the south, the west, and the north, which had chambers over them, and inhabited by poor people, but the east gate was a stately building, large and high, with the coat of arms of several persons cut in stone upon the walls." On the south and west sides of the town the river was crossed by bridges, to each of which a hermitage was attached.

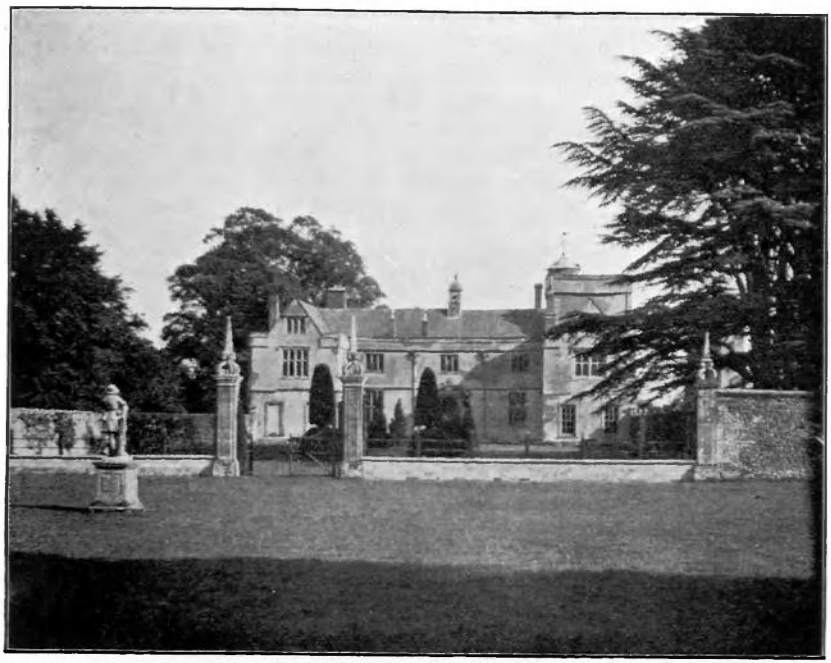
The churches were numerous, there being no less than twelve in the town or its immediate suburbs in mediaeval days, though in post-reformation times eight of these were allowed to fall into ruin, or, as in the case of St. Gregory's, were used for secular purposes.

The great church of All Saints is described by Lee, who remembered it before its destruction in 1675, as larger than many of our cathedrals; and St. Sepulchre's and St. Peter's, which still remain to us, are known far and wide as two of the most interesting churches in the kingdom.

In addition to the churches the town was well supplied with religious

[*J. A. Gotch, phot.*

RUSHTON HALL. NORTH-WEST CORNER OF COURTYARD.



[*J. A. Gotch, phot.*

CANONS ASHBY. THE GREEN COURT AND HOUSE.

houses of various orders. At the north gate was the powerful Cluniac monastery of St. Andrew's, which, as an old chronicler tells us, "received persons of quality coming from the north to London"; while the abbey of St. James, a house of Austin canons outside the west gate, "received those coming from the west."

To the south in the meadows beyond the river was the little house of Delapre or "our Lady in the Meadows." It was tenanted by nuns of the Cluniac order, and was the only establishment of Cluniac nuns in England. Within the town walls were the houses of no less than six different orders of friars. There were the Dominicans or Black friars; the Franciscans or Grey friars; the Carmelites or White friars; the Austin friars; the poor Clares; and the friars of the Sack.

The town had also several hospitals. Those dedicated in honour of St. John Baptist and St. Thomas the martyr still remain, though both have been moved to a new site. These two houses afforded a refuge for pilgrims, and for the sick and infirm.

In addition to these, there were two leper hospitals, one dedicated in honour of St. Leonard in the southern suburb, on the road leading to London; the other at Walback, just outside the north gate, on the road leading to Leicester. A little further along the same road at Kingsthorpe, a mile from the town, was a fifth hospital dedicated in honour of the Holy Trinity and St. David, and called indifferently by either name.

Then, too, as was the case with most old towns, Northampton had its special holy place to which pilgrims were attracted. Here it took the form of the "holy rood in the wall," a miraculous image in the church of St. Gregory, at which, as late as 1511, Henry VIII made an offering of 6s. 8d.

Of these religious foundations scarcely a trace remains, and the reason is not far to seek. In September, 1675, Northampton was practically destroyed by a disastrous fire, which in a few hours reduced the once prosperous town to a heap of ruins. A few of the churches, St. Peter's, St. Sepulchre's, and St. Giles', fortunately escaped, as did also the hospitals of St. John and St. Thomas, and one or two interesting old houses. Of the rest, little remained when the flames had done their work. The great central church of All Saints was entirely destroyed, with the exception of the tower, on which the marks of fire are still everywhere visible, the yellow iron-stone having been turned in many places into a dark red. The new church of All Saints was built upon the site of the old chancel, thus, of course, enormously reducing the size of the building, and turning the former central tower into a western one.

The timber used in rebuilding the church was a gift from the king. Along the top of the western portico is an inscription recording the fact; and in the centre of the portico is a statue of the merry monarch, in which he is absurdly represented in the impossible combination of a Roman toga and greaves, with the long curling wig of the Stuart period.

As with the church of All Saints, so with the town. Its buildings, or at any rate the older ones, date mostly from the close of the seventeenth century. But though the mediaeval town has gone, the old street names remain, and carry us back to the time when the various crafts plied their several trades in different parts of the town, each craft having its own quarter. Thus the principal street in Northampton is still known as the Drapery,

and running out of it, are Mercer's row, and Gold street, which is always described in ancient deeds as the street of the Goldsmiths. Hard by are Silver street, where the silver-smiths plied their trade, Woolmonger street, and Tanner street. Then we have Sheep street, where sheep were sold till quite recent times, the Horse market, and Mare fair. The old town hall stood in the square still known as the Mayor-hold, and close by is Bearward street, marking the site of the old bear pit.

Northampton had its gildhall in quite early days, but the mayors were always elected, and most of the municipal business till the reign of Henry VII was done in the church of St. Giles', then quite a small building just inside the east gate.

The town received its first charter in the first year of Richard I (1189), the privileges granted to the citizens being much the same as those enjoyed by the Londoners. One clause expressly states that "these privileges should be held as freely and fully as the citizens of London held theirs, and the like customs and privileges should be shared by both."

After these general remarks, Mr. Serjeantson then sketched in detail the history of the town. In the twelfth century Northampton was frequently visited by our Norman and Plantagenet kings; and in the thirteenth it was more than once besieged and taken.

In the reign of Henry III large numbers of students migrated here from Oxford and Cambridge, and had it not been for the fact that they sided with the barons against the king, Northampton would probably have become the great university town of England. As it was, the new university (which the king had previously favoured) was broken up, and the students were compelled to return to Oxford and Cambridge.

During the reigns of the first three Edwards parliaments were constantly summoned to meet here, and it was at a parliament held in Northampton castle that Edward III first publicly laid claim to the throne of France.

With the outbreak of the long French wars which ensued, the importance of Northampton rapidly declined. All eyes were now turned on the continent, and Northampton was too far from the coast to be a useful centre of operations. Royal visits became few and far between, and the holding of parliaments here was abandoned.

In the fifteenth century a sanguinary battle was fought in the meadows just outside the town (June, 1460), in which Henry VI was defeated by the Yorkists, and carried off as a prisoner to London.

In the days of Elizabeth, Northampton was one of the chief centres of the puritan party. It was here that the famous puritan exercises known as "prophesyings" were first instituted, which soon spread to London, Norwich, York, Ely and various other parts of the country. It was for refusing to put down these meetings that archbishop Grindal was suspended from his office.

In the next century Northampton was still strongly puritan, and on the outbreak of the civil war the town was fortified by the parliamentarians, and remained throughout the war one of their most important centres. At the restoration of the monarchy in 1660 Northampton had to pay dearly for her faithfulness to the parliament, for king Charles ordered the town walls to be demolished, and a good deal of the castle was also pulled down.

After referring to the great parliamentary election in 1768, which cost £160,000 and nearly ruined several of the great county families, Mr.

Serjeantson concluded his paper with a few remarks upon the shoe trade. He pointed out that though we hear of large consignments of boots being sent from Northampton in the days of the Stuarts, it was not till the close of the eighteenth century that shoe-making became the staple trade of the town. An examination of the parochial registers of the four old churches of Northampton shews that shoe-makers in the seventeenth and the greater part of the eighteenth centuries formed only a very small proportion of the population. During the nineteenth century, however, things were changed, and now it is probably true to say that nearly every family in the town is connected in some way with the manufacture of boots and shoes.

Wednesday, 24th July.

On Wednesday the excursions to places of interest outside Northampton began with a short railway journey to Kettering, after which the members embarked in private motor omnibuses and were conveyed to Boughton House. Time unfortunately prevented a halt at Weekley, where the front of the Montagu Hospital is of particular interest.

MONTAGU HOSPITAL, WEEKLEY.

This hospital or almshouse stands on the village green just outside Boughton park. It was founded in 1611 by Sir Edward Montagu of Boughton and was originally intended for seven old men. The building has been slightly remodelled internally but the charming exterior remains practically untouched. The style is that of the local houses of the period. For the most part the building is simple and plain, but the entrance is somewhat elaborate: above it are the founder's arms, with the date 1611. Immediately over the door is the sentence "What thou doest do yt in faith"; and higher up is a sundial with a line from Ovid's *Fasti*:

Tempora labuntur tacitisque senescimus annis.

BOUGHTON HOUSE.

Boughton House (fig. 6), was described by Mr. J. A. Gotch, F.S.A. The old house was built about 1540 by Sir Edward Montagu, Lord Chief Justice in the reign of Henry VIII, the first of the Northamptonshire branch of the family who rose to eminence. Several of the family added to the house from time to time, but it was Ralph, first duke of Montagu, who built the bulk of the existing work about the year 1700. He had been ambassador at the court of Versailles, and on his return is said to have imitated that great palace in his new house. He completely overlaid the old building of which, however, the great hall remains, although quite altered in appearance. There are also one or two of the old windows left, but they are blocked up and hidden behind more modern fittings. Their positions indicate that the house must already have been of considerable size before it was enlarged by Ralph, the first duke. He was unable to complete all that he aimed at, and the interior of one of the north wings is still unfinished. The house is an extremely interesting example of the home of a great noble of the time of William and Mary, and it retains much of the furniture and decorations of the period. There are, among other things, a number of fine painted ceilings by Verrio, Cheron, and by another and less skilful hand. The painted

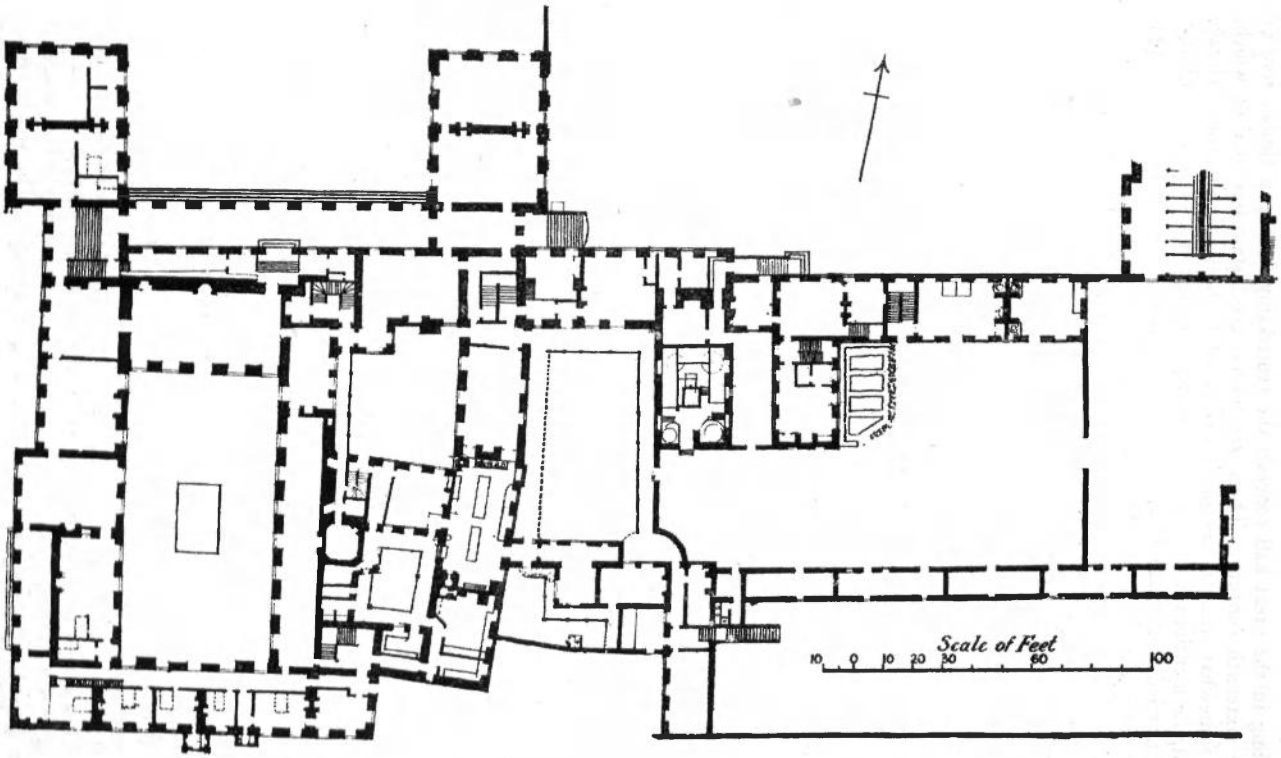


FIG. 6. BOUGHTON HOUSE FROM A PLAN MADE IN 1746.

ceiling in the great hall conceals the remarkably fine open timber roof of the sixteenth century. There are several good staircases, one of which, of somewhat unusual design, is decorated with shields of arms. Horace Walpole mentions it when telling George Montagu of his visit to Boughton. "I hurried from chamber to chamber, and scarce knew what I saw, but that the house is in the grand old French style, that gods and goddesses lived over my head in every room, and that there was nothing but pedigrees all around me, and under my feet, for there is literally a coat of arms at the end of every step of the stairs: did the duke mean to pun, and intend this for the *descent* of the Montagus?" He might well ask the question, for duke John, the son of Ralph, took every opportunity of displaying his descent, several chimney-pieces of his time being decorated with the arms and alliances of his ancestors. He himself married a daughter of the duke of Marlborough, and he indicated the fact with some heraldic emphasis. The principal rooms retain the large boldly moulded panels of the late seventeenth century, on which are hung a number of interesting family portraits, as well as many other pictures of the time. Boughton had an unusually large and elaborate lay-out, figured in *Vitruvius Britannicus*, and it was the centre of an extensive network of avenues, which stretched for miles across the countryside. In the immediate neighbourhood of the house there were canals, cascades, parterres, and a large mount; statues gave point to the vistas, fountains played here and there, and in particular the principal cascade had pipes introduced into it, so that out of the falling body of water there spouted upwards a number of vertical jets. Much of this splendour, including the garden statuary, has now gone; but the canals remain, together with many fine trees in the park, and some twenty-five or thirty miles of avenues. The stables are of the same period as the house and are designed on a similar scale. Their height and the great archway that leads from the garden to the stables yard combine to give them an air of dignity and distinction.

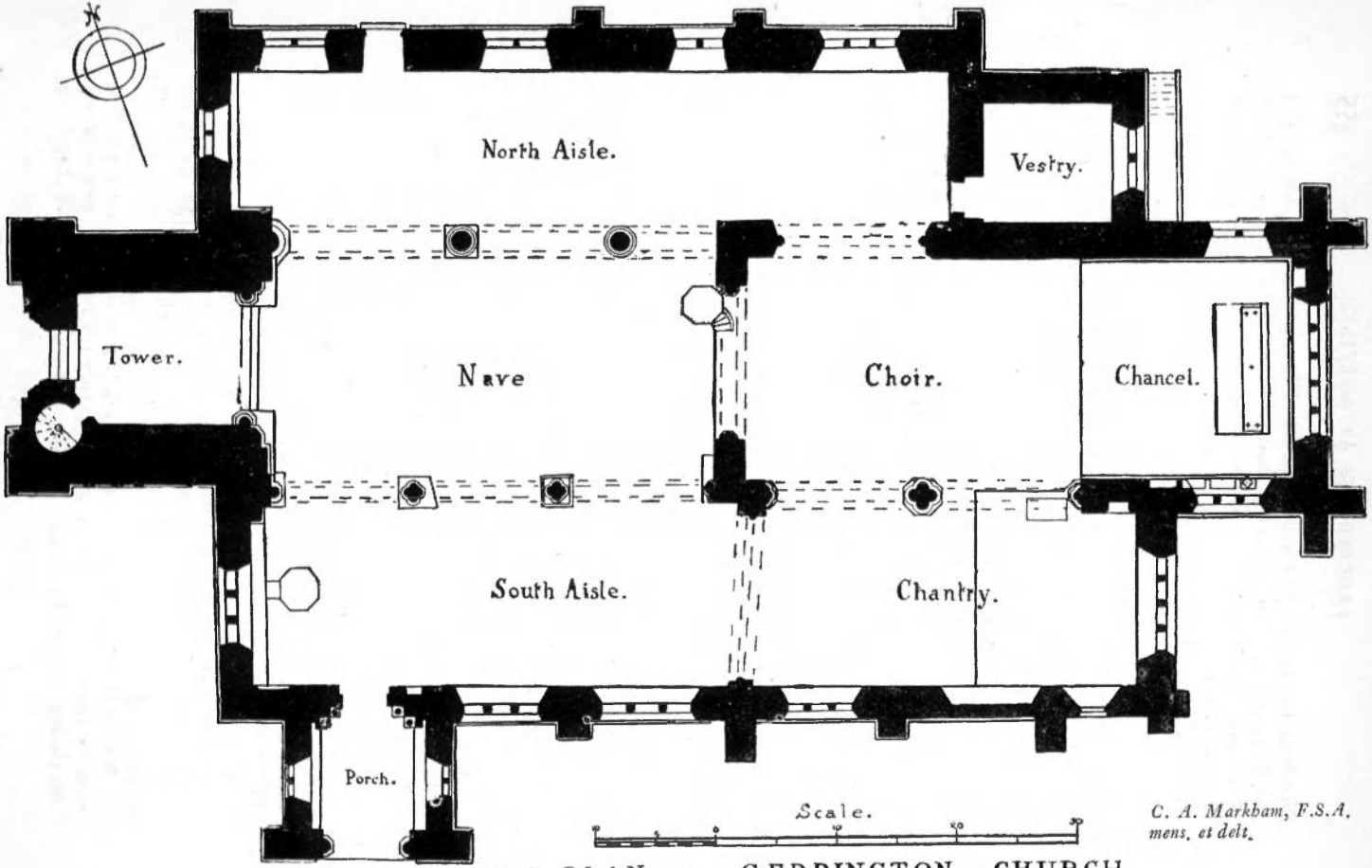
The motors then left Boughton House for Geddington. Just outside the village they passed over a good fourteenth-century bridge with cut-waters on one side.

ELEANOR CROSS, GEDDINGTON.

In the middle of the village and at the meeting of three streets is an elaborately carved cross mounted on seven steps. It has a hexagonal base, but the upper part is triangular and consequently of hard outline.

No definite record of Geddington cross survives in connexion with the funeral procession of queen Eleanor; but it is probable that on its way from Stamford to Northampton the procession passed through the royal manor of Geddington, where the kings of England had a house of some importance.

It is curious that the rolls of queen Eleanor's executors, which include minute details about many of the other crosses, should contain no mention of this one at Geddington. It is, as Mr. Hope pointed out, totally different in scheme and design from the three still remaining. Instead of a massive structure it is simply a slender triangular column with three images of the queen in the second story, and ending in a shaft. The whole surface is covered with beautiful diaper work. Beyond doubt it belongs in date to about 1293–4. There is nothing except the heraldry and the figures to connect it with the queen. The images differ from those on the



C. A. Markham, F.S.A. mens. et delt.

FIG. 7. PLAN of GEDDINGTON CHURCH

Northampton cross, being veiled instead of having the hair hanging over the shoulders, as is also the case in master William Torel's gilt-latten figure of the queen at Westminster. The monument is in wonderful preservation despite its exposed position.

GEDDINGTON CHURCH. The church (fig. 7) was described by Mr. A. Hamilton Thompson, M.A. F.S.A.

The north wall and part of the south wall of the nave, above the arcades, are those of the pre-Conquest church: in the (originally) external face of the north wall is a row of triangular-headed recesses. The beginning of a similar row exists on the south side. The first church was aisleless and probably ended in a rectangular chancel. The present plan suggests that a central tower and transepts may have been built after the Conquest, but it is more probable that the chancel was lengthened westwards in the thirteenth century, so as to cut the eastern arch of the north arcade of the nave in half. This arcade (now rebuilt) was cut through the north wall about 1170: if there was then a central tower, the builders must have begun at the west end and miscalculated their spacing. The western arch is wider than the others, and thus they may have been reduced to the expedient of building a half arch at the east end of the arcade. Other thirteenth-century work included the enlargement of the chancel with the addition of a south chapel, and of a south aisle to the nave. This was done about 1250: the east respond of the nave arcade is built upon a high plinth of rough walling. There had been no previous aisle on this side. During the first half of the fourteenth century alterations were made to the chancel: a low clerestory was built, and a new east window was inserted. Further alterations, recorded by incised inscriptions round the foot of the inside walls of the chancel and round the altar-step in the south chapel, were made to these parts of the church about 1369. The incription in the chancel is in Lombardic lettering as follows: + WILLELMVS · GLOVERE · DE · GEYTYNGTON · CAPELLANVS · FECIT · SCABELLA · EIVS · ARE · ET · PAVIMENTARE · ISTVM · CANCELLVM · AD · HONOREM · DEI · ET · BEATE · MARIE · QVI · OBIIT · IN · FESTO · CORPORIS · CHRISTI · ANNO · DOMINI · M.CCC.LXIX · CVIVS · ANIME · PROPICIETVR · DEVS · AMEN + The word *scabella* has been taken to refer to the sedilia, but the foundations of the altar and the altar-step are probably intended. The sedilia are of a considerably earlier date. The inscription in the south chapel runs: + ROBERTVS · LAVNCELYN · DE · GEYTINGTOVN · FECIT · ISTVM · CANCELLVM · CVIVS · ANIME · PROPICIETVR · DEVS · AMEN.

The north aisle and north chapel of the chancel were widened and rebuilt about this time. The western tower and spire, which belong to the end of the fourteenth century, were entirely new from the ground upwards. The angles of the tower are clasped by rectangular buttresses of small projection, which are diminished in size as they mount by a number of off-sets with string-courses: this type of buttress is very common in the neighbourhood of Kettering and Market Harborough. The clerestory was added to the nave, and an upper clerestory to the chancel, at the time of the building of the tower.

Behind the high altar there remains a late fourteenth-century panelled stone reredos. Part of the thirteenth-century rood-screen is now between the chancel and south chapel. At the west end of the south chapel is a

handsome Jacobean screen, combining excellent Gothic tracery with an imitation of classical detail. This took the place of the earlier rood-screen in 1618, when it was given to the church by Maurice Tresham. It bears the arms of Tresham, the inscription "1618 · LAVS · DEO · M · T · ", and a further inscription round the arch of the screen from Psalm xxvi, 8. The present screen is the work of Mr. Gambier-Parry, who has restored most of the building recently. The chancel was restored at an earlier period by Mr. J. N. Comper. The church formed parcel of the royal manor of Geddington until 1358, when it was appropriated to the Cistercian abbey of Pipewell.

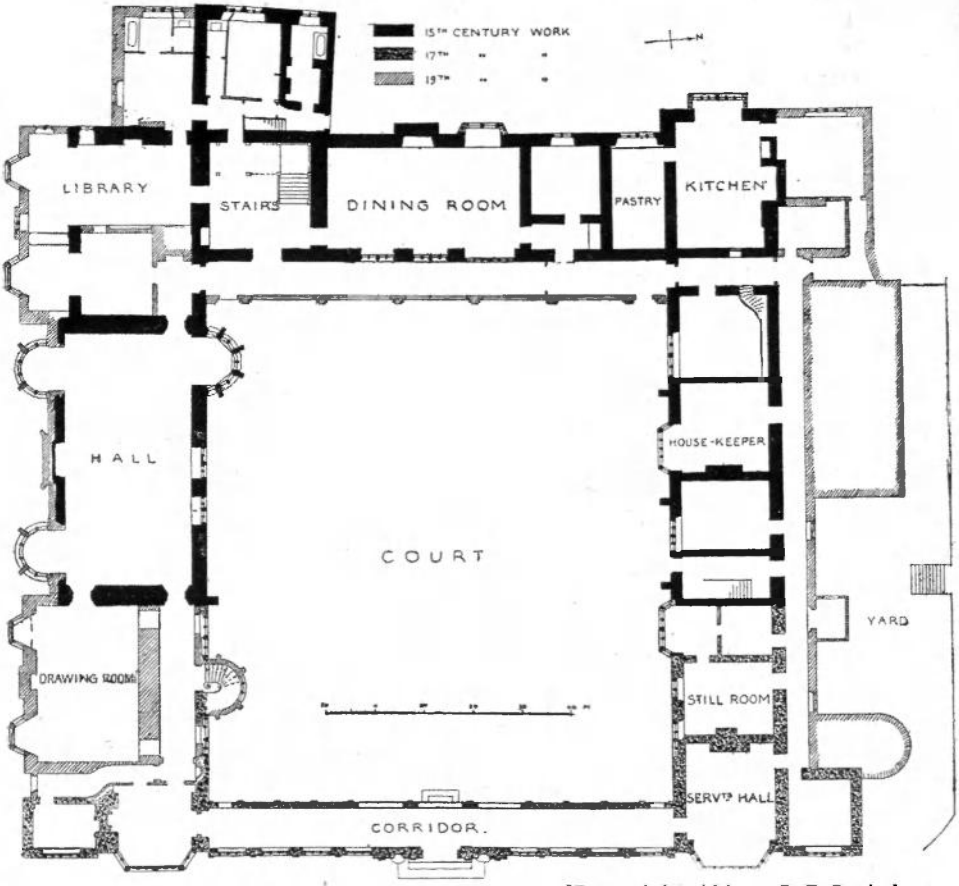
The party then returned to Kettering for luncheon, after which a run of half an hour brought them to Rushton church, described by Mr. Thompson.

RUSHTON CHURCH.

A north aisle was added in the thirteenth century to an earlier nave, and in the later part of the thirteenth century a north chapel was added to the chancel. The western tower is largely of the same date, and was built in front of the west wall of the old nave, which remains unaltered, and contains a small round-headed window with a deep inner splay. The chancel has been shortened, rather to the detriment of the handsome fourteenth-century sedilia. On the south side of the chancel is a small mediaeval vestry with a pointed barrel-vault, probably of the fourteenth century. In the north chapel is a fine thirteenth-century effigy of a knight; and between the north chapel and the chancel is the alabaster monument of Sir Thomas Tresham (d. 1559), last prior of the order of St. John of Jerusalem in England, who is represented as wearing the mantle of the order over his suit of armour. The second monument was removed from the destroyed church of St. Peter, which stood near the Hall, and was the church of a separate parish.

Mr. Hope commented on the effigies. The mantle of Sir Thomas Tresham has on the breast a cross flory, which was the badge of the order before it was done away with some three to four hundred years ago. The order was first suppressed by Henry VIII; it was revived for a short period by queen Mary with Sir Thomas as lord prior, and has been again revived within recent years. It is a matter for regret that when the order was last revived the badge adopted was the so-called Maltese cross instead of the graceful cross flory. The monument is one of a large class of alabaster tombs in the Midlands distinguished by their twisted angle-pilasters and armorial shields. It would be very interesting if anyone could find evidence as to the precise locality of the workshop from which they all came. The procedure of purchase must have been very similar to that in a monumental mason's shop or yard at the present day. The customer selected his kind of monument out of those in stock, and gave instructions as to the armorial bearings to be added, and perhaps as to the effigy. This extremely prosaic method of business was prevalent in the thirteenth as well as in the sixteenth century, and was probably applied to the purchase of the Purbeck marble knight now lying in the north chapel. The fact that this warlike armoured figure (who is either drawing or, more probably, sheathing his sword) has his legs crossed must not be taken to indicate that he was a Crusader. At the time of its erection it was the fashion to make effigies with their legs crossed, and consequently the ready-made examples would quickly follow it. The chain armour is here rendered with some minuteness, and among other

things shows how the leather-lined piece, which fitted close to the head, was fastened at the left ear by a kind of hairpin; in some cases it was laced to the lower piece.



[*By permission of Messrs. B. T. Batsford.*

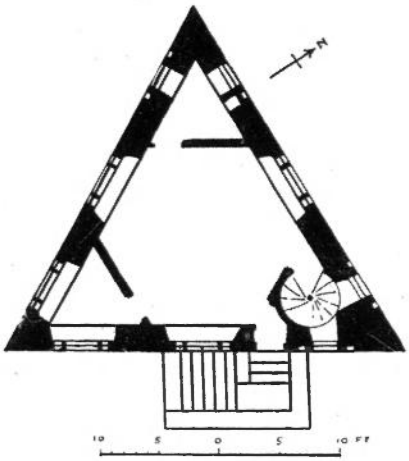
FIG. 8. RUSHTON HALL.

From Gotch and Talbot Brown's *Architecture of the Renaissance in England.*

RUSHTON HALL.

A move was then made to Rushton Hall (fig. 8 and plate II, no. 1), described by Mr. Gotch, who said that the earliest parts were erected by a John Tresham about the year 1500; his great-grandson, Sir Thomas, made additions and alterations in the year 1595. This Sir Thomas was a great builder, having erected, in addition to what he did to his own house, the market house at Rothwell, the triangular lodge at Rushton, and Lyveden New Building. He was a staunch Roman Catholic, and underwent such frequent and long

terms of imprisonment that his building operations were sadly hampered. Very shortly after his death in 1605, his son Francis became implicated in the Gunpowder plot, and the estates were confiscated. Rushton was bought in 1619 by Sir William Cokayne, who much enlarged the house, and gave it its present appearance (from the east and west). The Cokaynes became viscounts Cullen and lived at Rushton until the beginning of the nineteenth century, when the property was sold. Since then it has passed through several hands, and has suffered from fire. The interior has been entirely remodelled, and retains of the old work nothing but the ceiling over the principal staircase, a doorway, also on the stairs, a fine chimney-piece of Sir Thomas Tresham with his arms, and a curious plaster relief of the Crucifixion in a little room called the oratory. The



[*By permission of Messrs. B. T. Batsford.*

FIG. 9. RUSHTON LODGE.

From Gotch and Talbot Brown's *Architecture of the Renaissance in England.*

great hall retains its original dimensions and its roof which, however, has been restored. The screen, which was at the east end, has been removed; the doorways have been altered, and two new bay windows have been added on the south side. Of the exterior the south front is new, as also is the north or servants' side. The west front is mainly original, and so also are the east front and courtyard. The view of the latter, seen over the entrance corridor, approaching from the east, is striking and uncommon. The detail is somewhat unusual, and the combination of the balustraded parapet with the gables which rise out of it, all treated with restraint and simplicity, is singularly effective. The grounds retain some evidences of their formal lay-out, especially the avenue called Dryden's Walk, where the poet is said to have composed the *Hind and Panther.*

RUSHTON LODGE.

From the Hall the party proceeded to the Triangular Lodge (fig. 9), at the extreme end of the grounds, a quaint building, symbolical of the Trinity, built by Sir Thomas Tresham in 1593–1595. Everything here is in threes. There are three sides, with three gables on each side; three floors, with three windows on each face; each front is 33 feet long and has a legend of 33 letters in the cornice. The chimney is also three-sided. The windows are all combinations of trefoils. Their shape prevents any adequate portion being opened so as to afford proper ventilation. There are many symbolical carvings, as well as a series of shields giving the heraldic history of the Tresham family. All the symbols have been explained, as well as the letters which occur in inconspicuous places, but the numerals in the gables still offer subject for controversy. The interior has very little of architectural interest. One corner is occupied by the winding stairs of stone, the other two by small three-sided rooms, thus leaving a hexagonal chamber of fair size in the middle. This arrangement is repeated on each floor, save that on the topmost one corner is taken up by a fireplace and flue. This is the only fireplace in the building. The chimney stands in the centre of the building over the void space of the chamber. As the chamber is ceiled, it was for many years an interesting speculation as to how the flue was conducted to the visible chimney shaft. During some recent repairs the problem was solved and it was found that the stone flue was carried almost horizontally on stout oak beams above the ceiling.

On the way back to Kettering the party stopped for tea at Rothwell, and took the opportunity of visiting the market house and the church.

ROTHWELL MARKET HOUSE.

The former, a beautiful building, which is a good example of the country mason's endeavours to imitate classical models, is one of the three celebrated works attributed to Sir Thomas Tresham. The inscription upon the frieze of the lower entablature records the purpose of its erection. In the upper entablature is a remarkable display of heraldry, the arms being those of Sir Thomas Tresham's friends. It is probable that the building was never roofed. It has been recently restored and converted into offices for a district council, and a roof has been added.

Mr. Gotch stated that the agreement for the erection of the market house is preserved among the Rushton papers. It is made between Sir Thomas Tresham and William Grombald, a mason, and is dated 2nd July, 1578. Most of the materials were to be found by the inhabitants of Rothwell, but Grombald was to find the whole of the labour, including the carving of fifty-three "skutchins with armes imbost upon them"; for this he was to receive £60. There were to be seven gables with seven beasts of a full yard high or better, holding a scutcheon of arms engraved with one coat only, or a fane. There were to be seven arches set up in every respect "according to the plot," and seven windows; the scutcheons were to be carved according to a "plot" already drawn by Grombald and shown to Sir Thomas Tresham.

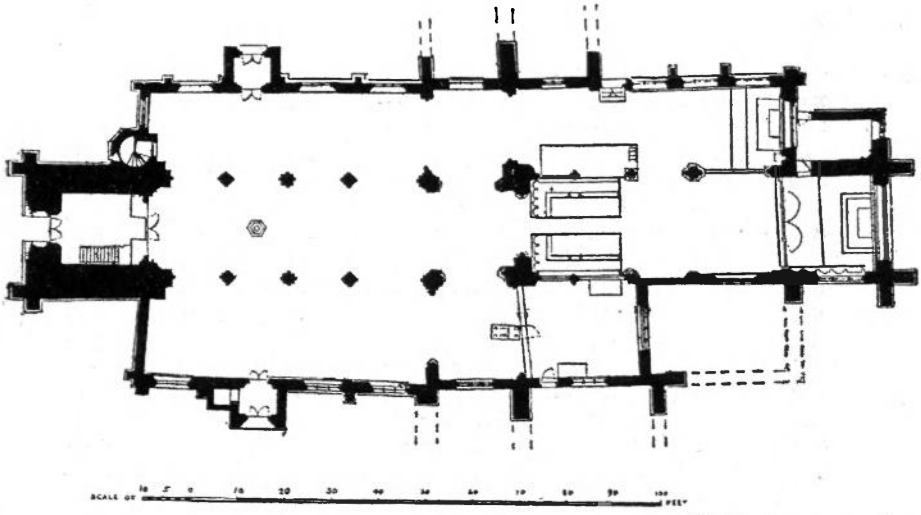
From this it would appear that Sir Thomas devised the general arrangements, at any rate the details of the principal decoration, but that the mason embodied these ideas in certain "plots," or drawings. The whole work, it would seem, was designed between the client and the mason,

without the intervention of a surveyor or architect. The arrangements mentioned in the agreement were slightly varied in execution, and the number of "skutchins" was considerably increased. Knowing, as we do, Sir Thomas's fondness for symbolical numbers, 3, 5, 7 and 9, we can imagine that he must have sorrowed at the necessity of having eight arches and six windows instead of the seven contemplated in the agreement.

ROTHWELL CHURCH.

Mr. Thompson said that the plan of the twelfth-century church (fig. 10) was cruciform, and there was probably a central tower. There are indications that the chancel had at any rate a south chapel, and much of the fabric of the chancel of this period is left, including a row of clerestory window openings in the south wall.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ROTHWELL



[*H. Cayley mens. et delt.*

FIG. 10.

There is also a portion of a pilaster-buttress, probably marking the north-east angle of the original chancel, imbedded in the east wall of the south aisle. The south respond of the arch opening from the north aisle into the transept was left when at a later date the aisles were altered, and affords some clue to the early proportions of the nave and aisles, which at this period were about half their later height and width. The western tower, which has a beautiful doorway of about 1170–1180 recessed within a shallow porch in the thickness of the wall, may have been added when the aisles were made, but there are indications that it is later than its general appearance suggests, and that the doorway may have been removed from the west wall of the church to its present position. In the last years of the twelfth century a general rebuilding was taken in hand which continued into the thirteenth. To this period belong large portions of

the nave arcades, the north arcade and part of the south arcade of the chancel. The chancel also seems to have been lengthened about the middle of the thirteenth century, when the nave arcades were raised to about twice their former height. The old columns, which had a filleted shaft on each face and capitals with conventional foliage, were screwed up higher, and new pieces, the shafts of which are not filleted, were inserted below. The arches, which are unmoulded and awkwardly shaped, may be the older arches rebuilt; but their rough work gives some ground to an opinion that they may be the result of a post-mediaeval rebuilding. The aisles were widened, the crossing was heightened and the central tower probably removed, the south chapel of the chancel was lengthened by one bay to the east, and its western portion was extended to form an eastern chapel to the south transept. A stair-turret, roofed with a tall pinnacle, was also built on the north side of the west tower, and, about this time, or soon after, the richly moulded and shafted arch was made between the tower and nave. The large vaulted bone-hole beneath the south aisle, which contains a collection of human bones and is now entered by a stair from the south porch, is probably of the earlier part of the thirteenth century. It is narrower than the aisle above, and its outer wall is not below the aisle wall. It was obviously made before the aisle was widened, and was probably entered by a stair from the churchyard. Fifteenth-century additions included the vaulting of the tower and the remodelling of the belfry stage, the clerestory of the nave, and the present east window: the north chapel of the chancel was also remodelled. The south transept was shortened and the north transept destroyed in 1673. There is a beautiful and unusual thirteenth-century triple piscina in the chancel. Two brasses remain, one to William of Rothwell, archdeacon of Essex (d. 1361), the other to Edward Saunders (d. 1514), who founded a chantry at the altar of St. Nicholas in the south chapel. There are some scanty remains of mural painting on the east wall of the bone-hole. The church was granted to Cirencester abbey in the twelfth century, and remained appropriated to that house until the suppression.

Near the church stands the Jesus Hospital. The buildings stand south-east of the church and form a picturesque quadrangle of characteristic late sixteenth-century work. The details are of the local type that survives in many cottages and manor-houses until a late period.

In the evening Mr. Hamilton Thompson read a paper on church architecture in Northamptonshire, a full abstract of which will be found in *The Architect and Contract Reporter*, lxxxviii, 117–119, 131–132.

Thursday, 25th July.

This day an early start was made at 9 o'clock by train to Rockingham, and thence the members reached Liddington by motor-car.

LIDDINGTON BEDE-HOUSE. The bede-house was described by Mr. Thompson, who said that it was one of the most interesting mediaeval houses in England, being practically untouched except for a little seventeenth-century modification. It belongs for the most part to the

late fifteenth century. The bishops of Lincoln had a manor-house here as early as the twelfth century. St. Hugh of Lincoln gave the church of Liddington to be a prebend in that cathedral; and its bishops were very fond of living here in the middle ages. It had the additional recommendation of forming a halting-place on the way from the cathedral city to their favourite residence of Buckden in Huntingdonshire. Another advantage was that it formed a very convenient centre where the clergy might come to be instituted from all parts of the great diocese. The house appears also to have been sometimes used by the prebendary of Liddington.

Of the early house nothing seems to remain. Bishop Burghersh (1320–1340) had licence in 1331 to enlarge and wall his park here, and in 1336 had licence to crenellate his house. Some part of the walling of the house of this date may be left, but the present house appears to have been built by bishop Russell (1480–1494), and completed by bishop Smith (1496–1514). The hall, with a fine wooden ceiling and much old glass in the windows, is on the first floor, with the kitchen and other offices below. At one end of the hall is the great chamber, from which a lobby, forming a bridge across a passage from the churchyard to the house, communicates with the bedroom: various smaller rooms, now much altered, were at the other end of the hall. There is a small chamber on one side of the lobby, with a window cut diagonally through the wall and looking into the churchyard. When the ceilings of the hall and great chamber were made, a portion of the roof above was converted into attics with concrete flooring. The entrance to the house is on the north, the side away from the churchyard; and there is an old pentise against the wall on this side, covering the doorways of the offices and the entrance to the stair. The building was converted into a bede-house for a warden, twelve poor men and two women, by Thomas, first earl of Exeter, who died in 1622. Among the alterations which then took place was the insertion of an arch at the head of the stair, and of a small porch of plain wainscoting on the inner side of the hall doorway.

The glass, which fills four windows in the hall, including a bay-window and one window in the great chamber, is of two separate periods, and has been re-leaded, probably in the seventeenth century, without much attention to the details. The earlier glass consists of quarries ornamented with conventional lilies, which are treated with great variety. Across some of the quarries runs a scroll with the motto "Delectare in Domino," and the lights are framed in a border consisting of squares of blue or red glass alternating with oblong white pieces, on each of which is painted a black cross moline. The kneeling figure of a bishop with a mutilated scroll, as well as other fragments of the upper lights in the great chamber window, appear to belong to this glass, which may be attributed with some probability to the time of bishop Alnwick (1436–1449), whose armorial bearings were silver a cross moline sable. The later glass is mainly composed of quarries stained with a small rose, and bears on scrolls or on diagonal bands with large letters the motto "Dominus exaltacio mea." In the hall windows are two shields set in circles of conventional foliage: one of these is the shield attributed to St. Hugh, while the other, bearing a cheveron between three roses, appears to be that of bishop Smith, who used these armorial bearings,

but with different tinctures. The arms of Russell appear to be azure two cheverons gold between three roses silver, and those of bishop Smith silver a cheveron between three roses gules, while the arms at Liddington are sable a cheveron silver between three roses gules. In the bay-window is a red rose, with a gold crown above. It seems probable that these windows were made in the time of bishop Russell, and glazed in that of his successor, and that the older glass was re-used to fill the lights above the transoms of two of the new windows.

Above the fireplace in the hall is a shield with three roses, and the cheveron between three roses occurs again on a shield upon a turret at an angle of the garden-wall, through which the footpath of the roadway is carried.

Mr. Francis Bond remarked on the wonderfully carved cove of the hall ceiling. This, he said, is an imitation in wood of the fan-vaults which grew so much in favour during the fifteenth century after their first introduction in Gloucester cathedral. It is a feature of the roofs of East Anglian churches, such as that of St. Peter Mancroft at Norwich. The ceiling was probably put up by bishop Smith, who in so doing appears to have lowered the height of the apartment very considerably.

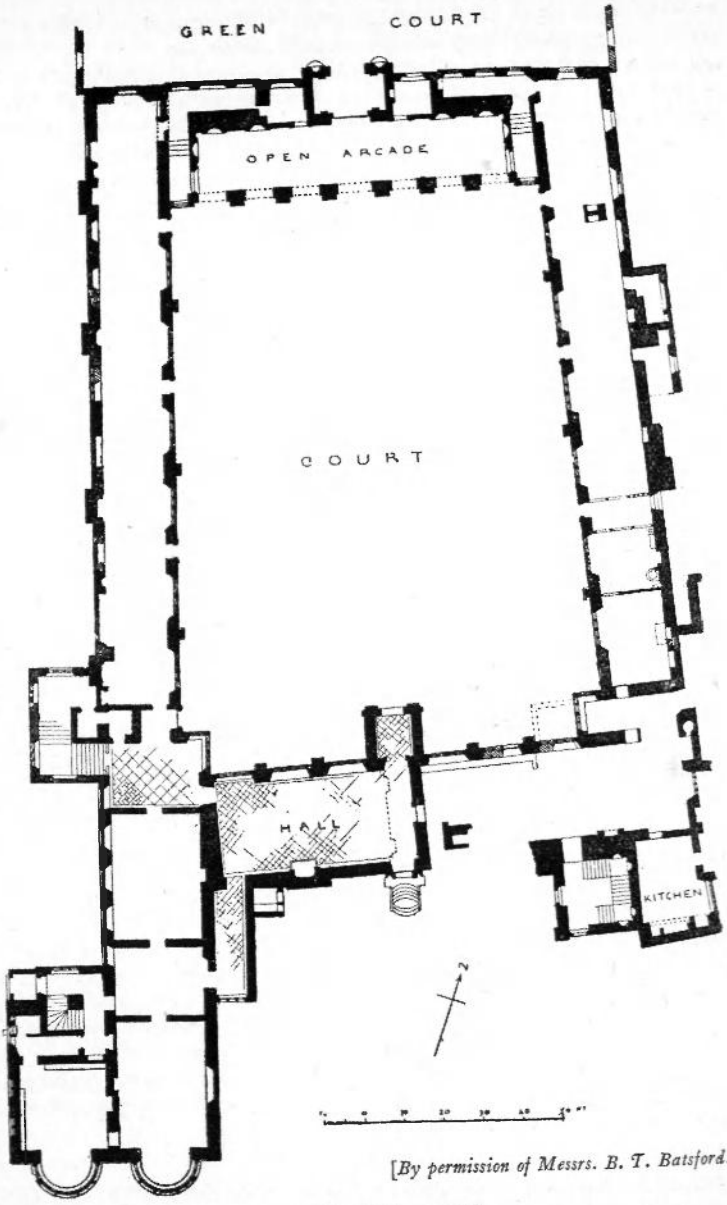
Miss Constance Jones, principal of Girton College, referred to the original meaning of bedesman and bede-house. She defined a bede-house as an almshouse where the prayers of the inmates were offered for the soul of the benefactor, the verb "to bid" in the sense of "to pray" being nearly obsolete, though retained in the reduplicated phrase "a bidding prayer."[1]

LIDDINGTON CHURCH.

The church, which stands on the south-east side of the bede-house, was also described by Mr. Thompson.

The chancel, tower, and low spire are mainly of the early part of the fourteenth century, their exact date being apparently between 1320 and 1340, when bishop Burghersh carried out various works at the adjacent manor-house. As lord of the manor he would probably defray the expense of the tower, while the charges for the chancel would be defrayed by the prebendary as rector. The east window contains that reticulated tracery which is common to much fourteenth-century work in Northamptonshire and Rutland. The nave, aisles, and clerestory are very good fifteenth-century work. The tracery of the aisle-windows is of the same design as that of the large window which lights the stair of the bede-house. Objects to notice are the stone coffin-lids in the south aisle, the handsome rood-screen with traces of painting in the panels, fragments of painting (a hell-mouth forming part of a Doom) on the south wall of the nave, two late fifteenth-century brasses (one with a later inscription), and the arrangement of the altar, which is surrounded by the communion rails (1635). There are remains of several texts painted on the walls in the sixteenth century.

[1] Skeat, *Etymological Dictionary*, gives: *Bead*, a perforated ball, used for counting prayers (E.). The old sense is "a prayer"; and the bead was so called because used for counting prayers, and not *vice versa*. M.E. *bede*, a bead; Chaucer, *Prof.* 109. "Thanne, he hauede his *bede* seyd" = when he had said his prayer. Havelok, 1385. A.S. bed, a prayer; gen. used in the form of gebed (cf. G. gebet). A.S. *biddan*, Du. *bidden*, O.H.G. *pittan* (G. bitten), to pray.



[By permission of Messrs. B. T. Batsford.

FIG. II. KIRBY HALL.

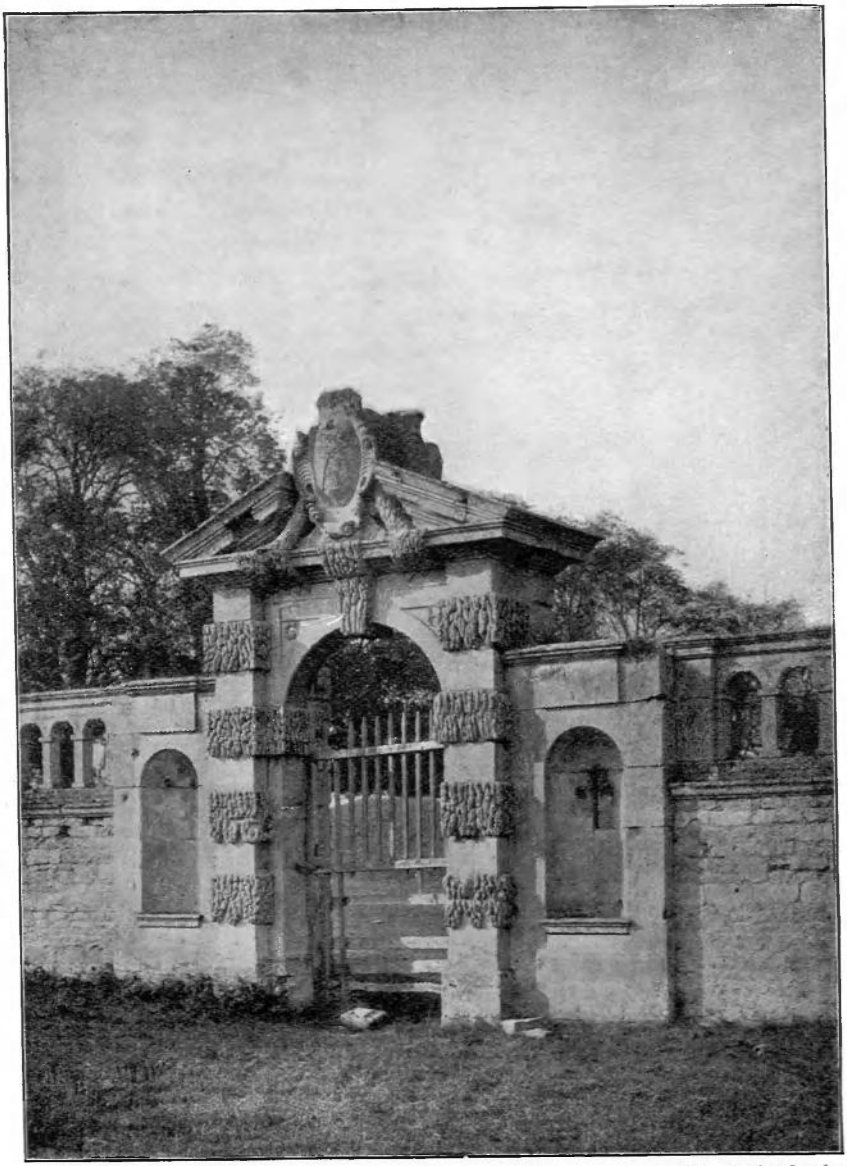
From Gotch and Talbot Brown's *Architecture of the Renaissance in England.*

To face page 465.

[*J. A. Gotch, phot.*

KIRBY HALL. PORCH IN COURTYARD.

To face page 465.



[*J. A. Gotch, phot.*

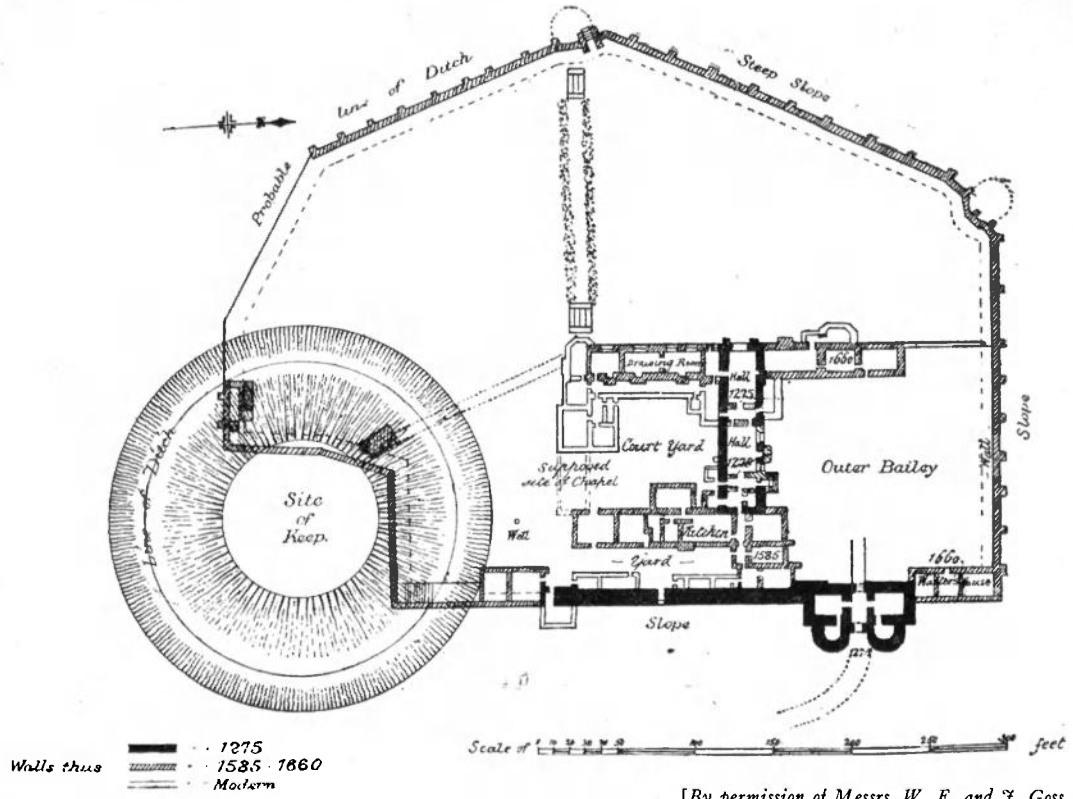
KIRBY HALL. GATEWAY IN OUTER COURT (PART OF INIGO JONES' WORK).

In referring to a low side window in the south wall of the chancel Mr. Thompson remarked that the theory that such windows were inserted to allow of lepers in the churchyard participating in the services, and the alternative view that they used for hearing confession, were alike untenable. The most feasible explanation to offer is that they were built for the purpose of allowing a bell to be rung from within the chancel at the solemn moment of the elevation of the Host. Mr. Hope strongly supported this theory of the sacring-bell as being the only common-sense explanation. The confessional theory could, he said, be put out of court by mentioning a few examples where such a use was a physical impossibility. There were instances, as at Kidwelly castle, prior Crauden's chapel at Ely, and at Little Wenham manor-house, where chapels with low side windows were placed on the first floor, and at Leeds castle, Kent, there is an upstairs chapel with two low side windows which look out over the moat that surrounds it. With regard to the leper theory, it seemed to be imagined by some people that lepers were allowed to roam at large over the country, and that they spent their time staring into churches. As a matter of fact, these unfortunates were strictly looked after, elaborate provision being made for their isolation in lazar-houses, where they had their own chaplains. Another suggestion sometimes offered was that these windows were made for putting a lighted candle in for the purpose of scaring away evil spirits. Against that it might be remarked that many of them were obviously intended to be divided horizontally, the lower portion being fitted with a wooden shutter and the upper filled with glass. If, however, a candle was to be protected the whole window would surely have been glazed. In view of objections such as these, Mr. Hope said that one was driven back on the theory that they were meant for the ringing of the sacring-bell.

KIRBY HALL.

After a fifty minutes' ride, the cars had to be left and an indirect approach by a field path was followed for a third of a mile to Kirby Hall (fig. 11 and plates III and IV), which was described by Mr. Gotch.

It is, he said, the romantic ruin of one of the most beautiful of Elizabethan houses. It was built by Sir Humphrey Stafford of Blatherwycke. His name, his arms and cognizances are carved on the stonework, as well as the dates 1572, 1575. He must have employed John Thorpe to design it, as the plans of the ground and upper floors are among Thorpe's drawings at the Soane Museum, and on the former he has written a note to the effect that he laid the first stone of it in the year 1570. There is in these plans a determined attempt at a symmetrical treatment, which was not, however, fully carried out in the actual building. The arrangement follows the established type; the entrance archway and the screens of the hall are on the main axial line; at the lower end of the hall were the servants' rooms, buttery, larders, kitchen, etc; at the upper end were the fine family apartments and the principal staircases, one of which led to the long gallery, which occupied most of the west wing on the upper floor. On the ground floor of the wings, both east and west, were a series of intercommunicating rooms arranged in groups of two or three, each group having its own little doorway. These doorways are among the most charming features of the building. Under the north wing was an open arcade. The porch of the hall is of unusual design, the only example comparable to it being at Beaupre in Glamorganshire.



[*By permission of Messrs. W. E. and J. Goss.*

FIG. 12. ROCKINGHAM CASTLE.

From Wise's *Rockingham Castle and the Watsons.*

When the house was practically completed, in 1575, Sir Humphrey Stafford died, and the property was purchased by Sir Christopher Hatton, who was already building himself a larger house at Holdenby in the same county. He seems to have made a few alterations and additions, and his successors some fifty years later modernised the house with the help of Inigo Jones. At least so says tradition, and, to judge by the style of the later work, the tradition appears to be justified. Jones cased the north front, added an attic story to it, and inserted a number of windows in the north side of the court as well as one in the porch. These are dated 1638 and 1640. Time has mellowed the whole into one tone, and many visitors have been misled as to the date of some of the features, but a careful examination of the heraldry, and a scrutiny of Thorpe's plans, enables any one endowed with sufficient patience to distinguish between the two periods.

The house was inhabited by the family until the year 1822, after which it was occupied in part by the agent. But it gradually fell to decay, and the process of dissolution, although much checked of late years, has been going on ever since.

The lay-out at one time must have been quite imposing; there are still remains of an extensive raised terrace on two sides of the field on the west side, a field which was once a garden. There are also remains of a bridge which, in Richardson's time, was of sufficient interest to be illustrated by him. Along one side of the terrace are some yew and other trees which must at one time have been clipped into order and have formed a material part of the decoration. Fragments of the basin of a large fountain stir the imagination to construct further beauties; and we know from Bridges' history that the gardens in his time were celebrated for the variety of the trees they contained.

Mr. Hope called attention to the interesting sitting heraldic beasts which still remained on some of the gables and their flanking pinnacles, and pointed out that the great courtyard had been surrounded originally by a series of such beasts upon the pinnacles that were placed at intervals along the parapet. He also referred to the late survival of the English traditional free use of heraldry exemplified in the builder's Stafford knots and badge-like crests that were carved in the architraves.

ROCKINGHAM CASTLE.

After luncheon, served in the great hall, which still retains its carved ceiling, the members had ample time to examine the whole of the buildings, and toward three o'clock they drove on to Rockingham castle (fig. 12) which was described to them by Mr. Thompson.

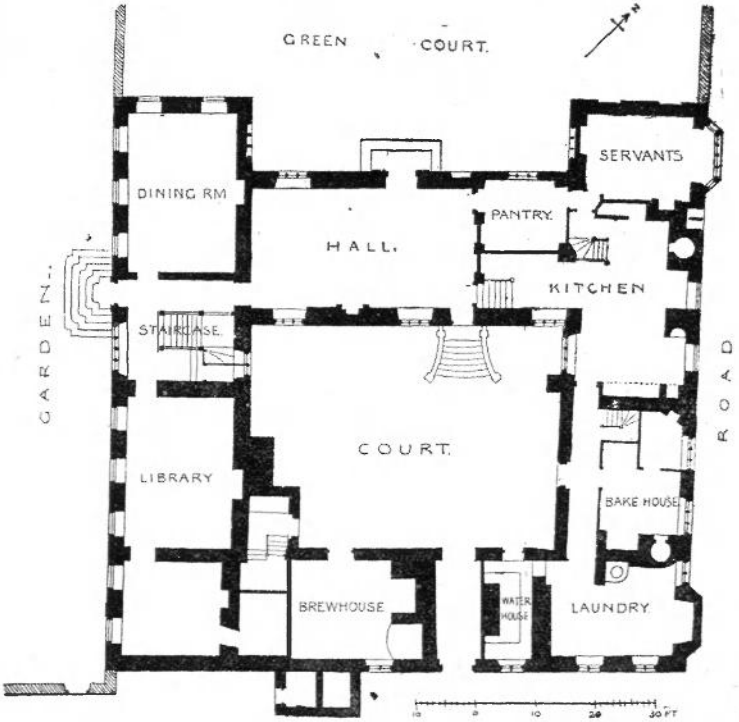
The castle, founded by William the Conqueror, followed the ordinary mount-and-bailey plan of early Norman castles. A large portion of the mount remains at the south-east angle of the site, which was probably walled in the course of the twelfth century. The greater part of the mediaeval work now remaining, including the gatehouse, which is flanked by cylindrical towers containing guard-rooms, the east wall, and the fabric of the great hall, belongs to the thirteenth century. Much rebuilding was done early in the reign of Edward I, when the hall, great chamber, and other domestic buildings took the place of earlier structures. The present house, however, is a large mansion, with the thirteenth-century hall as its nucleus, chiefly of two periods. The block east of the hall, containing

the kitchens, was built in 1585 during the tenure of the castle by Edward Watson. The western building, at right angles to the hall, consists of north and south wings, with its central portion on the probable site of the cellar and great chamber. In 1579, the date on the roof-beams, the hall, which up to that time was probably a lofty room with an open timber roof, was divided into two floors, and transverse sections were then or later cut off at both ends. The passage at the east end took the place of the original screens, and the thirteenth-century doorways remain at either end: the south doorway, however, has been blocked. The western passage divides the hall from the dining-room, which had previously been the cellar. This room was lighted by a large mullioned window in the east wall: blocked lancets of the thirteenth century remain in the north and south walls. The north and south wings, which form the garden-front of the house, were begun at this time. After the civil wars, when the castle was fortified and afterwards slighted by the parliamentary forces, they underwent a considerable amount of repair, but there is no reason to doubt that they are substantially of Elizabethan date, and were built, with the kitchen-block at the opposite end of the hall, soon after the transformation of the hall and cellar was completed. The towers in either wing were added by Salvin as part of a restoration of the castle in the second quarter of the last century. The long gallery is on the first floor of the north wing. The reveting of the north and west sides of the hill on which the castle stands appears to be Elizabethan, but the sites of two of the drum-towers of the mediaeval curtain wall are known. The original plan of the castle is not very obvious at first sight, owing to the encroachment of the south wing upon the outer bailey. The great hall, however, was on the south side of the outer bailey, between it and the inner ward, the greater part of which is now filled by additions to the house of various dates, enclosing a courtyard on three sides. There is an Elizabethan garden-house or pavilion in the north-east angle of the outer bailey, close to the gatehouse. A summary of the documentary history of the manor and castle will be found in G. T. Clark's *Mediaeval Military Architecture*, vol. ii; and their history has been carefully worked out by the late C. Wise in *Rockingham Castle and the Watsons*. In the long gallery are several interesting portraits; and in the upper part of the panelling of the dining-room are a number of painted shields with the armorial bearings of local families, placed there towards the end of the seventeenth century.

Mr. Hope referred to the entry in the Domesday survey as proving conclusively that Rockingham castle was a new one at the time of the Norman Conquest. There was a quite erroneous idea abroad that many of the castles then erected had really a pre-Conquest origin. Rockingham was one of the strongholds thrown up by command of the Conqueror on strategically commanding sites to keep in order the surrounding hostile population. Many of them were on a very much larger scale originally than they are now, and in this instance there had been a large outer bailey to the south. This would have placed Rockingham castle among those of the first rank in point of size, but when the time came for substituting walls of masonry for the original timber defences, the circumstances that had led to the construction of so large a fortress had changed, and the stone defences were confined to the great tower on the mount and the walling-in of the inner bailey.

The party were subsequently entertained to tea by invitation of the Rev. and Mrs. Wentworth Watson. The Watson family obtained a lease of the castle from the Crown about 1554, and became its owners in 1615. It is fitting that one of the mottos painted in 1579 upon the beams of the hall should be, "This howse shall be preserved and never will decaye, wheare the Almightie God is honored and served daye by daye."

A special train conveyed the members to Northampton, and in the evening Mr. Reginald A. Smith, M.A. F.S.A. read a paper on the Hunsbury Hill finds, with lantern illustrations, here printed at page 421.



[*By permission of Messrs. B. T. Batsford.*

FIG. 13. CANONS ASHBY.
From Gotch and Talbot Brown's *Architecture of the Renaissance in England.*

Friday, 26th July.

The proceedings on Friday began with a visit to Canons Ashby, where the charming house of the Drydens (fig. 13 and plate II, no. 2) was inspected under the guidance of Mr. Gotch. It replaces an older house built on the other side of the church by Sir John Cope out of the ruins of the suppressed priory, and was begun in the middle of the sixteenth century by a Dryden whose family had lived in Cumberland. To this fact is generally ascribed the existence of the tower, an unusual feature in the midlands, but one which might

CANONS ASHBY HOUSE.

have been derived from the pele towers of the Border. John Dryden, the son or grandson of the founder, added the great hall and other portions, and probably to him is owing the formation of the courtyard. His arms appear in the spandrils of the old door from the hall to the green court, now blocked up. This dates the work between his marriage in 1551 and his death in 1584.

There are a few remains of the Cope house still preserved: of these the most important are two heraldic wood panels over the fireplace in the book-room, and a fragment of a stone column with the Cope crest. Judging by these scanty indications the house must have contained some fine work. The beautiful carved ceiling of the drawing-room, covered with strapwork, appears to have been the work of Sir John Dryden between 1632 and 1658, as his arms are incorporated in the design: and the handsome chimney-piece is of the same period, although the heraldic panels over the chimney-piece are later in date, being those of Edward Dryden who died in 1717. This Edward modernised the house in the years 1708–1710, and gave it the appearance which it retains to-day, no alterations of great importance having been undertaken since that time. It was he also who built the garden walls and the various stone piers, which give character to the interesting lay-out. The exterior of the house is delightful in form, colour and texture. The interior has much that is interesting in the shape of panelled rooms, open fireplaces, chimney-pieces, and, in particular, the ceiling in the drawing-room. The house is an excellent example of an unrestored ancient country-house with harmonious surroundings, and is full of interesting furniture and pictures. Canons Ashby has interesting literary associations: Edmund Spenser was a frequent visitor, and there is a room named after him. John Dryden, the poet, was a cadet of the family; and Richardson, the novelist, is said to have written a large part of *Sir Charles Grandison* here.

CANONS ASHBY CHURCH.

The party then proceeded to the church, which was described to them by Mr. Thompson.

The order of Augustinian or Austin canons first settled in England at Colchester about 1105. A large number of their houses were founded in the twelfth century, and to this period belong the four in Northamptonshire. The priory of Canons Ashby was founded by Stephen de Leye: the actual date is uncertain, but it was probably in the reign of Henry II. St. James's abbey at Northampton was founded before 1112, Chacombe priory in the reign of Henry II, and Fineshade priory in the reign of John. The priory church as it now stands consists merely of the western portion of the nave. Like many churches of canons, the original church was probably aisleless, and, as at Bolton, Haughmond, Newstead, Lanercost and elsewhere, the presence of the cloister on the south of the church prevented extension on that side, so that the nave has only a north aisle. The western doorway and the beautiful arcading in the west wall date from the middle of the thirteenth century, while the tower was added on the north-west side of the church in the first half of the fourteenth century, and the west window was inserted about 1450. The arcading of the west wall is continued along the west face of the aisle and tower, but the design is different, and it is evident that the west wall of the aisle was rebuilt when the tower was added. The

church had a north doorway, now blocked, which was covered by a long porch. A portion of the west jamb of the outer doorway of the porch remains within a buttress against the middle of the east wall of the tower. This buttress originally ended on the roof of the porch, which was destroyed when the buttress was lengthened. The east end of the present church was built by Sir John Cope about 1540. The south wall was re-erected on original foundations in 1710. The roofs also belong to this date. There are numerous monuments to members of the Dryden family, beginning with a brass to John Dryden, who died in 1584. The foundations of part of the priory buildings were excavated by the late Sir Henry Dryden, who made a conjectural plan of their arrangement. The priory was a fairly well-to-do house, but was never of great importance. There is a considerable amount of documentary matter relating to it in the Lincoln episcopal registers, the most interesting portion of which relates to the misrule of prior William Culworth, who, after bringing the house into considerable disrepute, absconded about the year 1434. In point of income it stood fifth among the religious houses of the county: its gross income at the survey of 1535 was £127 18s.

BYFIELD CHURCH.

Byfield church was described by Mr. Thompson. The chancel was rebuilt early in the fourteenth century, and is a very fine example of its period, with unusually long and narrow windows, and tracery formed by intersecting mullions. The arches of the windows are segmental. The nave and aisles, with a large south porch, followed later: there is a small chantry chapel adjoining the south aisle. The west tower was begun in the fourteenth century, but the tall octagonal turrets at the angles, and the spire, were not completed until early in the fifteenth century. The clerestory of the nave is a fifteenth-century addition, but there are traces of an earlier clerestory with circular window-openings. Hornton stone is used for the internal work of the fourteenth-century period, and is very commonly found in the churches of this part of Northamptonshire. There is some old woodwork in the roof and benches of the nave. The church was granted in the twelfth century to the famous abbey of Saint-Evroult in Normandy, and the advowson was in the gift of its priory of Ware. On the suppression of the alien priories, the right of presentation was granted to the prior and convent of the house of Jesus of Bethlehem at Sheen; but the rectory was never appropriated to either of the monasteries which presented to it.

Some discussion followed, in which Mr. Hope took part, with regard to the two-light fifteenth-century low-side window in the south wall of the chancel, one of the latest examples of such an opening.

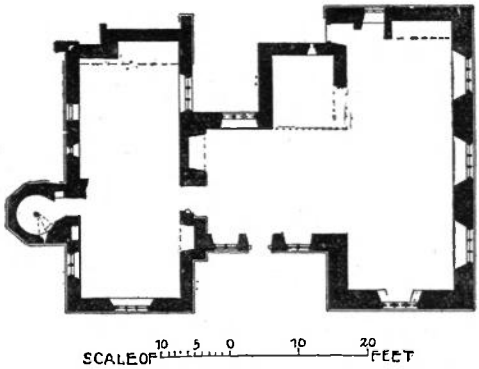
FAWSLEY DOWER HOUSE.

After luncheon at Hinton, the afternoon was given up to Fawsley. The Dower House (fig. 14), described by Mr. Gotch, is a very good example of a small brick manor house of the early sixteenth century, some distance north-east of the large house at Fawsley. The plan is not very obvious, owing to the destruction of almost everything except the outer walls; but the entrance appears to have been in the projecting porch in the angle which the right-hand wing makes with the hall. The hall is in the middle of the building, the right-hand wing would contain the kitchens, and the left-hand wing the parlours: the staircase of this wing was in the vice which

remains as a picturesque excrescence. The house is partly built of stone and partly of brick. The chimneys are of the elaborate twisted character of the time of Henry VII and VIII, and are the only examples of the kind in the district, which is essentially one of stone.

FAWSLEY CHURCH.

The nave of the early aisleless church at Fawsley was one bay shorter than the present nave. About the end of the thirteenth century aisles were built and the church lengthened by a bay westwards. The south doorway and two of the windows of the south aisle are of this period: the north doorway was narrowed early in the eighteenth century to make room for a monument against the inner wall of the aisle. The tower is of the fourteenth century. A clerestory was added to the nave towards the beginning of the sixteenth century: the handsome wooden roof of this period remains. Some new windows were inserted in the aisles at this date. The chancel was built



[*By permission of Messrs. B. T. Batsford.*

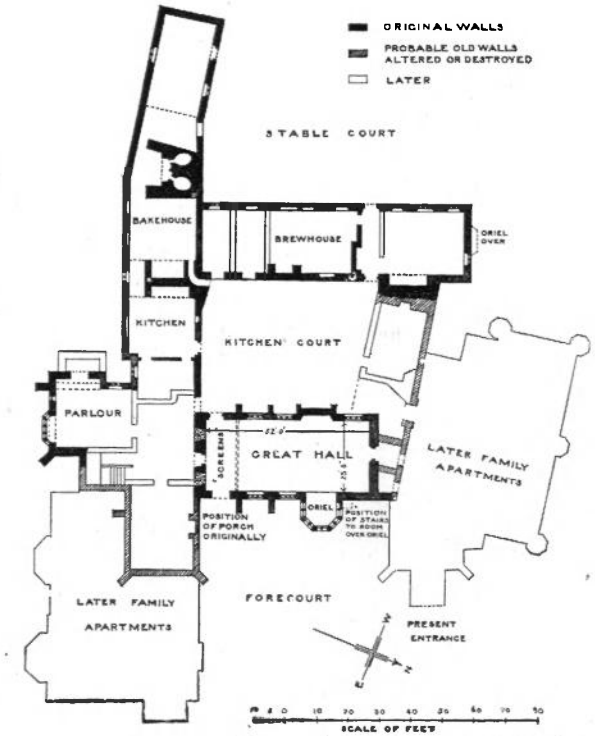
FIG. 14. FAWSLEY DOWER HOUSE.

From Garner and Stratton's *Domestic Architecture of England.*

late in the thirteenth century, but was heightened and otherwise repaired in 1690: there is a blocked low-side window in the south wall, and a squint in the south-west corner from the south aisle of the nave. Much old woodwork has been used up in the present pews, and in the windows is a large amount of seventeenth-century heraldic and German medallion glass. The monuments include an inscribed slab to Richard Knightley (d. 1518), the brass of his son Thomas (d. s. p. 1516), the fine table tomb of Richard Knightley (d. 1533) and his wife Joan Skenardon, with alabaster effigies and figures of their children in the niches along the sides, the brass of Edmund Knightley (d. 1542) and his wife Ursula de Vere, and memorials to many later members of the family. The great table tomb retains much of its colour, and shows the influence of renaissance detail.

Referring to this tomb, Mr. Hope said that had the monument been in France a cast would have been made of it by the Government and placed in the Trocadero Museum; whereas in England no one troubled

about works of art which their forefathers produced. The monument is worthy of the closest examination by reason of its extraordinary detail. As alabaster was soft when quarried and only hardened under exposure it was possible for the carver to obtain the greatest minuteness. In St. George's chapel in Windsor castle there is a very similar tomb, erected to Sir George Manners, lord Ros, who died in 1513, and to the lady Anne, his wife, who died in 1526.



[*By permission of Messrs. B. T. Batsford.*

FIG. 15. FAWSLEY.

From Garner and Stratton's *Domestic Architecture of England.*

FAWSLEY HOUSE.

Fawsley House (fig. 15) was lucidly described by its present owner, Lady Knightley of Fawsley. It consisted originally of ranges of early fifteenth-century buildings, disposed about a quadrangular court, of which the hall formed one side, but the former picturesque aspect of the house has been sorely obscured by the addition (by Salvin) of two dull and dreary modern wings, one on either side of the hall, and by the obliteration of many of the internal arrangements.

The screens were at the south end of the hall, and the bay window, instead of lighting the high table according to the usual custom, was placed in the middle of the east wall. Above the window is a chamber which

can now only be approached by a ladder; here the *Epitome,* the second of the Marprelate pamphlets is said to have been printed. Opposite the window is a very handsome fireplace. Some interesting portions of the old building form the back of the house.

Lady Knightley kindly entertained the members at tea, after which they drove to Moreton Pinkney station, and thence by special train to Northampton.

At the evening meeting Mr. J. A. Gotch read a paper with lantern illustrations on some of the great houses of Northamptonshire, a subject upon which no one has a better claim to speak with authority. This paper will be found in *The Architect and Contract Reporter*, lxxxviii, 66–72.

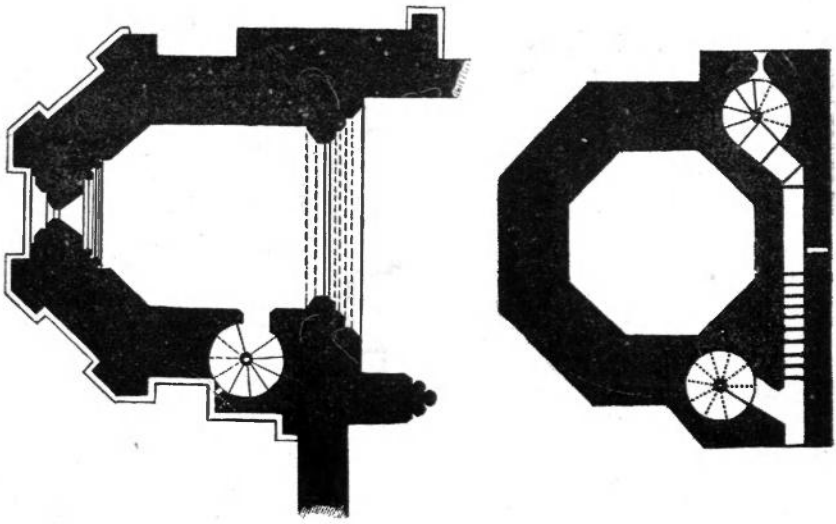


FIG. 16. STANWICK CHURCH, GROUND FLOOR AND SECOND STORY OF TOWER. From J. Parker's *Churches of the Archdeaconry of Northampton.*

Saturday, 27th July.

STANWICK CHURCH.

Leaving Northampton at half-past nine the members went by train to Irthlingborough and thence by car to Stanwick, whose church (fig. 16), together with all the other churches visited this day, was described by Mr. Thompson.

The ground plan of Stanwick church is mainly of the thirteenth century, in the earlier part of which a south aisle was added to an existing twelfth-century nave. The arches of the nave arcade are four-centred: this form of arch, unusual at so early a period, was possibly adopted owing to the width of the span covered and the comparative lowness of the earlier wall in which the arcade was constructed. The chancel arch appears

to be a later restoration of a late twelfth-century arch. The octagonal tower, with angle buttresses in the lowest stage, and the spire, are entirely of the early part of the thirteenth century. The construction of the stair to the belfry is noticeable: starting in a vice near the south-east corner, it crosses the tower-arch in a straight flight, and reaches the belfry by a vice at the north-east angle. The chancel was rebuilt and various windows were inserted in the fifteenth century. At the back of the chancel-arch on the north side is a very beautiful niche or stall, with a rounded trefoil head and tall jamb-shafts with foliated capitals. This is probably in its original place, but the chancel has been so much altered that there is some uncertainty on this head; the design recalls much work of the same early thirteenth-century type at Peterborough. The advowson of the church belonged to Peterborough abbey, but the rectory was never appropriated by the patrons. The pulpit was given by John Dolben, bishop of Rochester and afterwards archbishop of York, whose father was rector of Stanwick from 1623 to 1631.

RAUNDS CHURCH. From Stanwick the party proceeded to Raunds. Here the twelfth-century church (fig. 17) was aisleless, and probably had transeptal chapels. There is no trace of a central tower, but quoins which indicate the west jamb of the south transept-arch exist above the fourth pier from the west end of the nave, at a point from which the nave has obviously been lengthened eastwards to include the crossing. Early masonry beneath the south wall of the aisle seems to be that of the south wall of this transept or chapel. In the first half of the thirteenth century the beautiful west tower and spire were built, and the south transeptal chapel was continued westwards as a broad south aisle to the nave. About 1260–1270 the chancel was lengthened, and the south aisle extended eastwards to form a chancel chapel. The whole south arcade was remodelled in a rather complicated manner, and the difficulty of spacing produced some irregularity in construction. In the fourteenth century the present north aisle was built, and a new chancel arch was inserted in the place of an old one, with a half-bay of the south arcade on either side of it. The north arcade of the nave is regularly spaced in five bays, while the aisle is spaced in seven. This, with the irregular spacing of the south arcade, produces some curiosities in the plan: no pillar is exactly opposite another, nor do any of the buttresses on opposite sides of the church centre with each other. In the fifteenth century a vault was inserted in the lower stage of the tower, a clerestory was added, and several windows inserted. The vaulting of the tower involved the obscuring of the beautiful inner arch of the west window, which can now be seen only from above the vault. There is a good south porch with chamber over, but the old two-storied vestry north of the presbytery has been destroyed. The church contains some interesting and well-preserved remains of distemper paintings, especially on the north wall of the nave, where figures of Pride and the Seven Deadly Sins, St. Christopher, and *les trois morts* and *les trois vifs* can still be made out. In the north aisle is another series of wall paintings of the story of St. Katherine. Within the tower arch is a fifteenth-century clock dial with paintings of supporting angels, and of the donor and his wife. The font, with its projecting ram's head, also deserves notice. Within the tower are preserved two of the old fire-hooks for pulling the

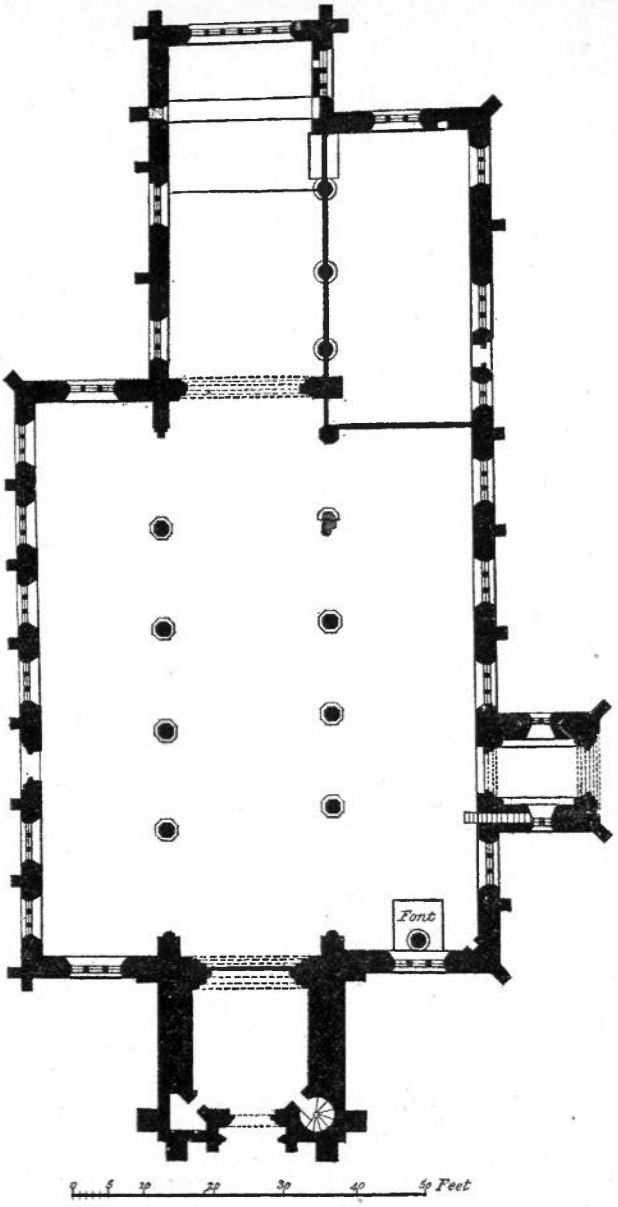


FIG. 17. RAUNDS CHURCH.

From J. Parker's *Churches of the Archdeaconry of Northampton.*

thatch off burning buildings. There are two brasses and a table tomb in the chancel. The church was appropriated to the Newarke college at Leicester in 1357–1358.

The once ample furniture of screens has been cut up and shifted so recklessly that it is no longer possible to assign all the disjointed portions and fragments to their proper places in the building. The easternmost and the middle one of the three arches between the chancel and the south chapel are occupied by screens, that in the easternmost arch being surmounted by a cornice, or beam, sculptured with a trefoil arcade of thirteenth-century work, an unusually early date for a screen. The westernmost of the three arches contained a screen of the time of Richard II, or perhaps even of the latter part of Edward III's reign. This screen, removed when the present organ was erected, now stands in the opening between the south chapel and the nave's south aisle. It had to be lengthened, however, with modern work to adapt it to the wider space it was destined to fill. Along the middle rail may be noticed the numerals scored into the wood for the guidance of the joiner who first made and erected it. Twenty-one tracery-heads, as well as some cresting, from ancient screen-work are now made up into a reredos at the east end of the north aisle. More fragments are stored in the chamber over the south porch, and others are enclosed in glass cases in the south chapel. The wainscot of the rood-screen, cut down to the middle rail and deprived of its gates, stands in the chancel-arch. The rood-loft was approached by steps, some of which remain, uncased, in the sill of the window in the outer lateral wall of the south aisle, in line with the chancel-arch. A series of vertical chases under the hollow of the eastern order of the chancel-arch shows where the timber upright quarters for a tympanum, inserted in the chancel-arch, were fixed; and two horizontal cuts (one on the north, the other at the same level on the south) interrupting the label above the chancel side of the arch show where a transverse timber was fixed to support the bottom ends of the uprights. The upper part of the chancel-arch was thus blocked up; and also was plastered toward the west flush with the east wall of the nave; the upper half of the label (now again complete, owing to modern "restoration") on the nave side of the chancel-arch being at the same time cut away to make a smooth and unbroken surface for the rood-group. These alterations took place in the latter half of the fifteenth century. There are still visible, on the west face of the wall above the chancel-arch, the white blank spaces, or silhouettes, where the upper part of the rood and the Mary and John stood against a red ground. The lower part of the rood and of the attendant figures extended downwards on to the area of the now demolished tympanum. In the white surface of the silhouettes may be seen the holes (some now plugged up) in which the stays were embedded for holding the large rood-figures in position. The background is powdered with circles containing the sacred monogram and that of the blessed Virgin amid a group of albed angels, hovering about the central figure.

HIGHAM FERRERS CHURCH.

Higham Ferrers was the next place visited, and here the party had lunch. They afterwards proceeded to the church, which is mainly of the late thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries. Its unusual plan (fig. 18) with two parallel naves and

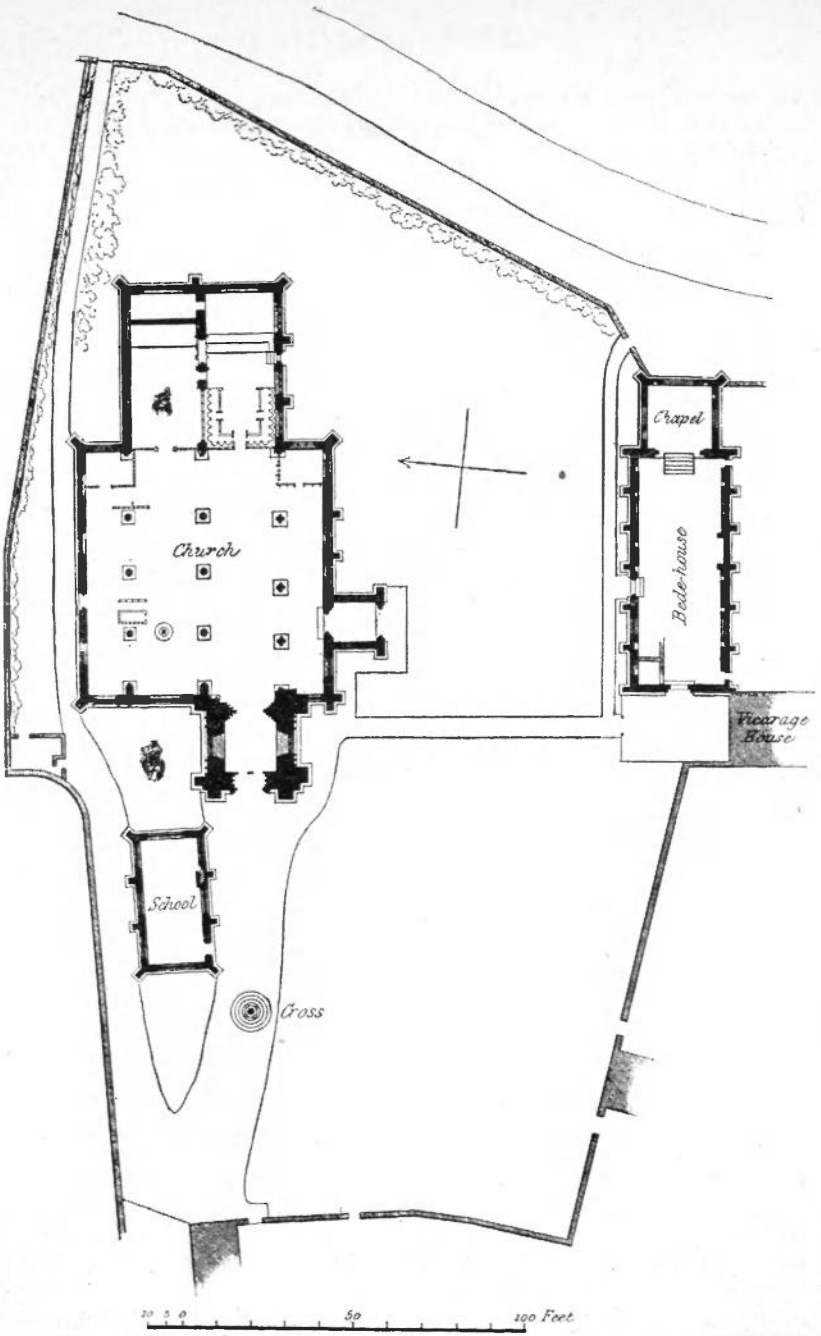


FIG. 18. HIGHAM FERRERS CHURCH, ETC.

From J. Parker's *Churches of the Archdeaconry of Northampton.*

chancels between north and south aisles, is remarkable. There is a south porch, and at the west end of the southern nave is a lofty tower and spire. The tower and south nave, with its aisle and part of the chancel to which it is attached, are mainly of the thirteenth century, but the northern half of the building is chiefly of the fourteenth century, when the present windows of the south chancel were inserted. The beautiful steeple was taken down and carefully rebuilt with much of the old material in 1631–1632, and is remarkable for its rich recessed doorway. This is double, with the tree of Jesse carved on the jambs and across the segmental heads: it has a pointed tympanum above, filled with sculptured medallions on either side of an ornamental bracket and housing for a lost image of our Lady and Child. The sculptures represent, on the north, the Salutation, the Annunciation, the Adoration of the three kings, Christ disputing with the doctors, and His Baptism; and on the south, the Adoration of the shepherds, the Crucifixion, the Vision of Zacharias, the Three Maries at the sepulchre, and the Harrowing of hell. The west porch is of the shallow type seen at Raunds, Rushden and Oundle. North of the high altar is an early fourteenth-century canopied table tomb with considerable remains of colour and interesting heraldry; on the tomb is the brass of a rector, Lawrence Seymour (de Sancto Mauro, d. 1337). The south or ritual chancel and quire contain excellent stall and screen-work, of the date of the foundation of the college of chantry priests. There is another screen between the north chancel and nave: the north chancel contains the brasses of archbishop Chichele's father and brother, and its eastern portion is screened off, as at Rushden, by a partition to serve as a vestry, entered from the south quire. The east ends of the aisles have the altar platforms partitioned off by wooden entercloses of different dates, that to the south being *temp.* Henry VIII. The various wooden roofs are worthy of note, but the rood-beam, which was in place half a century ago, has disappeared. The font is a good plain example of the thirteenth century.

The advowson of the church belonged to the family of Ferrers, earls of Derby, whose castle stood on the north side of the church, until the attainder of Robert Ferrers in 1266. It was then granted with the manor to Edmund, earl of Lancaster, second son of Henry III. His grandson, Henry, duke of Lancaster, granted the church in 1355, with those of Raunds and Irchester, to the new college of the Annunciation of our Lady in the Newarke at Leicester, to which it was appropriated in 1357–1358. The vicarage remained in the gift of Newarke college until the suppression of that foundation under the chantry act of 1547. In 1422 Henry Chichele, archbishop of Canterbury, a native of Higham Ferrers, obtained licence to found in the church a college of eight chaplains, one of them to be master, another to be grammar-master, and a third song-master, four clerks and six choristers. The college, which was dedicated in honour of St. Mary the Virgin, St. Thomas of Canterbury, and St. Edward the Confessor, was founded by Chichele during his metropolitan visitation in 1425, when he granted statutes: its chief endowment consisted of the possessions of the suppressed alien priory of Mersea in Essex. It was surrendered to Henry VIII in July 1542, before the passing of the first chantry act.

The curious arrangement of two parallel quires in this church, already referred to, may be probably explained by some indications which the

tomb between the two chancels suggests. The fine brass upon it was obviously not intended for the tomb, which has been cut away to admit of the insertion of the stone. The heraldry on the lower part of the monument shows that it was intended for a member of the house of Lancaster, to whom the manor belonged at the time of the building of the quires. It is more than probable that while Lawrence Seymour, the rector, rebuilt the chancel between 1320 and 1330, Henry, earl of Lancaster, to whom his brother's forfeited estates were restored early in the reign of Edward III, built the north quire about the same time as a chantry chapel, intending to be buried there. In 1330, however, he founded the hospital of the Newarke in Leicester, which his son converted into a college of secular canons; and, when he died in 1345, he was buried, not at Higham Ferrers, but in the church of his new foundation. No chantry was founded by him at Higham, and it is likely that he changed his design when he founded the hospital at Leicester. The north quire at Higham thus remained deprived of its original purpose, and with an empty tomb; and it seems evident that the tomb was eventually utilised by the translation of the remains and the brass of Lawrence Seymour from their first resting-place, which in the ordinary course of things would have been in the middle of the chancel floor. The architectural details of the church and tomb and the dates of Seymour's incumbency and the foundation of the Leicester hospital combine to explain a feature in the plan of the building for which a reason is otherwise hard to find.

M. Valentin de Courcel, referring to the great display of battlement decoration in this and several other churches visited during the meeting, stated that in France such a form of decoration was quite unusual for churches. He could, however, recall one example, namely the cathedral church of Troyes, in Champagne, where it occurs in those portions of the fabric which were built at the time when Edmund of Lancaster married Blanche, widow of the late count of Champagne. Edmund married her in 1275, and bore the title of count of Champagne until 1284, when his wife's daughter Joan married the king's son. M. de Courcel thought it not unlikely that the rule of Edmund of Lancaster for these nine years, during which he visited England with his wife, might account for this style of decoration so common in English and so rare in French churches.

The vicar (the Rev. H. K. Fry) and Mr. Owen Parker, lately mayor of Higham Ferrers, also called the attention of members to various features in connexion with the church and collegiate buildings.

THE BEDE HOUSE. The very interesting bede-house, which stands parallel with the church on the south, consists of a lofty hall with good west window, and a square chapel opening out of it to the east, once divided from the hall by a screen. The bede-house dates from 1423, and was formerly the abode of twelve poor men, one of whom acted as warden, but is now an empty shell with no remains of its ancient arrangements save the large chimney in the south wall. The chapel stands above a subvault, which was probably a bone-hole.

THE SCHOOL-HOUSE. Just to the north-west of this church stands another building of Chichele's foundations, the so-called school-house. This is three bays long, and is built as a chapel, with a drain for its altar in the south-east corner and a vice in the south

wall to the rood-loft, which subdivided the building. The west end seems to have contained a low ante-chapel lighted by a row of four small lights under the large window above. To the south of the school-house are the steps and part of the shaft of a rich fourteenth-century cross.

THE COLLEGE. Of the college buildings little remains beyond the front of the gatehouse in the main street, somewhat north-west of the church. In the upper part of this are three niches, which probably contained statues of the three patron saints of the college. The building was a closed quadrangle of the usual collegiate type, the earliest example of which appears to be the old court of Corpus Christi College at Cambridge, built in the later part of the fourteenth century. There are some remains of the southern range, but the other ranges, one of which must have contained the hall and kitchen, have disappeared. There was a chapel, said to have been on the south side of the quadrangle, where the chaplains probably said their quire-offices on ordinary days, but the collegiate quire was in the church.

RUSHDEN CHURCH. The party then drove to Rushden church (fig. 19), the last item on this day's programme. The present ground-plan is due to an enlargement which took place in the later part of the thirteenth century. This included the addition of broad aisles to a short nave. The transeptal chapels were probably built on the enlarged site of earlier ones: if the earlier church, as the plan followed at the rebuilding indicates, had a central tower, it was entirely taken down, and a very broad eastern bay added to the nave on the site of the crossing, the breadth of the new transepts being taken from that of the new bay. This alone seems to explain the peculiarity of the plan. The thirteenth-century chancel extended one bay east of its north and south chapels, and, when these were lengthened eastward in the fifteenth century, the north and south walls of the chancel were left with little alteration. The sedilia in the south wall and a two-light window-opening, with inner and outer planes of tracery, belong to the thirteenth century, and windows of that period are left in the transepts. The tower and spire are of the later part of the fourteenth century. The west doorway is covered by a shallow porch with ribbed vaulting, which is one of a type found in the Nene valley churches, like the porches at Higham Ferrers and Raunds. The vaulted north porch was built at the same time. The nave arcades seem to have been rebuilt rather earlier; while the clerestory and the elaborate strainer-arch between the nave and the crossing of the transeptal chapels are of the earlier part of the fifteenth century. Similar strainer-arches are found at Finedon and in the north chapel at Easton Maudit, both within a few miles of Rushden. The north and south chapels of the chancel assumed their present form late in the fifteenth century, when large windows were inserted in the aisles of the nave and elsewhere. The stone reredos in the north chapel stands clear of the east wall, leaving room behind for a small vestry, like that at Higham Ferrers. This is entered through a small thirteenth-century doorway in the north wall of the chancel, and forms a passage to a turret at the north-east corner, in which is a vice leading to the roof. The reredos, however, fits its position badly, and it has been thought that possibly it was removed from behind the high altar. A Jacobean monument has been inserted in the centre of its western face.

The beautiful west arch of the south chapel has an inscription on the soffit recording its construction by "hue bochar and Julian his wyf." Other points to notice are the excellent fifteenth-century screen-work, including the entercloses of the transepts, and pulpit, the roofs of nave and aisles, and several fragments of old glass, chiefly in the head of the east window of the same chapel. There is a thirteenth-century octagonal font, with conventional foliage carved in relief on the sides. Both transeptal chapels retain their piscinae. The north transept appears to have been divided

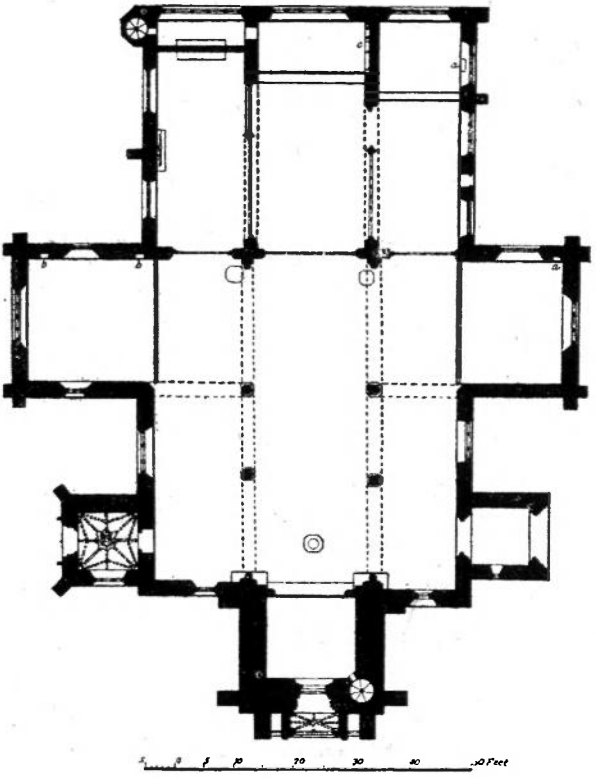


FIG. 19. RUSHDEN CHURCH.
From J. Parker's *Churches of the Archdeaconry of Northampton.*

into two stories: the loft or upper floor was lighted by windows which now form a clerestory to the transept. The advowson of the church belonged to the Cluniac priory of Lenton near Nottingham, but the rectory was not appropriated to the patrons.

Mr. Hope drew attention to the remains of ancient glazing in the windows, including an unusual treatment of the tree of Jesse. Mr. Aymer Vallance pointed out that Rushden, with its rood-screen and six parcloses,

presents the aspect of a church which happily preserves much of its ancient wood furniture. At the "restoration" in 1874 the screens were condemned to be cut up and misapplied, but were ultimately saved through the determined opposition of Mrs. Sartoris, who has thereby won the gratitude of the archaeological world. This lady, however, was unable to prevent some of the screens from being shortened at the foot; though they have since been raised again as nearly as possible to their proper levels. The rood-screen, one of those that suffered curtailment, is the oldest of all, being, in fact, of an early Perpendicular type, with wainscot of feather-edge boarding. It has lost its doors and gates, but retains a few traces of scarlet from the original decoration. The northern half of the wainscot is pierced with elevation-squints, consisting of three trefoil-shaped apertures close under the rail and two square apertures below, at different levels. All the screens in the church are rectangular in construction and (except those on either side of the chancel, which are of an ordinary design of Perpendicular) present the geometrical features characteristic of the fifteenth and early sixteenth-century screen-work of the district. The screen across the north transept is the latest of all. It must belong to about the year 1530, while the screen across the west end of the north chapel is only a few years earlier.

At the evening meeting Sir W. Ryland Adkins, M.P. spoke on the "Story of Northamptonshire."

Sunday, 28th July.

On Sunday the Museum and Art Gallery were thrown open to members by kind permission of Mr. T. J. George, to give them an opportunity of inspecting the Hunsbury Hill finds.

Monday, 29th July.

LOWICK CHURCH.

This day the party travelled by rail to Thrapston, and thence by motor-cars to Lowick, where the church was described to them by Mr. Hamilton Thompson.

Little is left of any building on this site earlier than the end of the fourteenth century, but there are remains of thirteenth and early fourteenth-century work in the chancel. The whole church was rebuilt between 1369 and 1415. The nave and aisles are probably due to Sir Henry Greene (d. 1399), whose shield with that of his wife, a member of the Wiltshire house of Maudit, is found on the bosses of the wooden roof. The large south chapel of the chancel was probably completed by Ralph Greene (d. 1415), while the chancel itself was doubtless finished by John Heton, rector 1406–1415, whose tombstone is in the middle of the floor. It is possible, however, that he may have been helped by the Greenes, as a fine series of shields, indicating the alliances of members of that family, has been preserved in the south windows of the chancel. The chancel was built on its old site, the earlier walls being heightened, and a large portion of the north wall was left at the east end, at the back of which are the mutilated sedilia of an earlier north chapel. The western tower appears

to belong to the earlier period of building, but the octagonal lantern was not completed until later than most of the church. The chapel south of the nave may have been finished by Henry Greene (d. 1467–1468): a chantry was founded in it by his grandson, Edward Stafford, earl of Wiltshire (d. 1499–1500), in 1498. This chantry was one of the few suppressed under the first chantry act (1545). The two chief features of the church are the series of tombs of the lords of Drayton, including the alabaster monuments of Ralph Greene and of Edward earl of Wiltshire, and the marble table tomb, with brasses, of Henry Greene; and the early fourteenth-century glass (figures from a Jesse tree) arranged in the upper lights of the windows of the north aisle. This glass probably came from an earlier east window. In the wall of the north aisle is a cusped recess, probably for a heart-tomb.

Before describing the fine alabaster tombs in the church, Mr. Hope said he would like to recall to those present an interesting account of a French purchase of alabaster in 1414. Two documents were brought to light in France a few years ago and communicated to the Institute by Mr. John Bilson,[1] which chronicled a voyage to England undertaken by Alexandre de Berneval, mason, for that purpose. This Alexandre was one of the most prominent architect-masons of Rouen in the first half of the fifteenth century. In 1414 he was commissioned by the abbot of Fécamp to go to England to purchase the necessary alabaster for certain work. The architect and three companions sailed to Newcastle, where they stayed eight days at the expense of the English ship-master. They left Newcastle on St. Christopher's day (July 25th), and arrived the fourth day after at Nottingham. "And then the said Englishman took them to a village called Chellaston, where the alabaster was, and found there the merchant who sold it, called master Thomas Prentis, with whom the said Englishman made a bargain to deliver to him certain pieces of alabaster at a certain price, by an agreement between them two in the presence of the aforesaid persons, by which the said Prentis should receive immediately forty golden crowns, undertaking to deliver the said stone at the port of Hull in England. And the terms were made in the town of Nottingham in England between these English merchants."

This same master Thomas Prentis was known to us, continued Mr. Hope, in connexion with the splendid alabaster tomb and effigies in the chancel at Lowick church, of Ralph Greene, esquire, who died in 1415, and Katherine Mallory his wife. This tomb was especially noteworthy because the contract for the making of it is known.

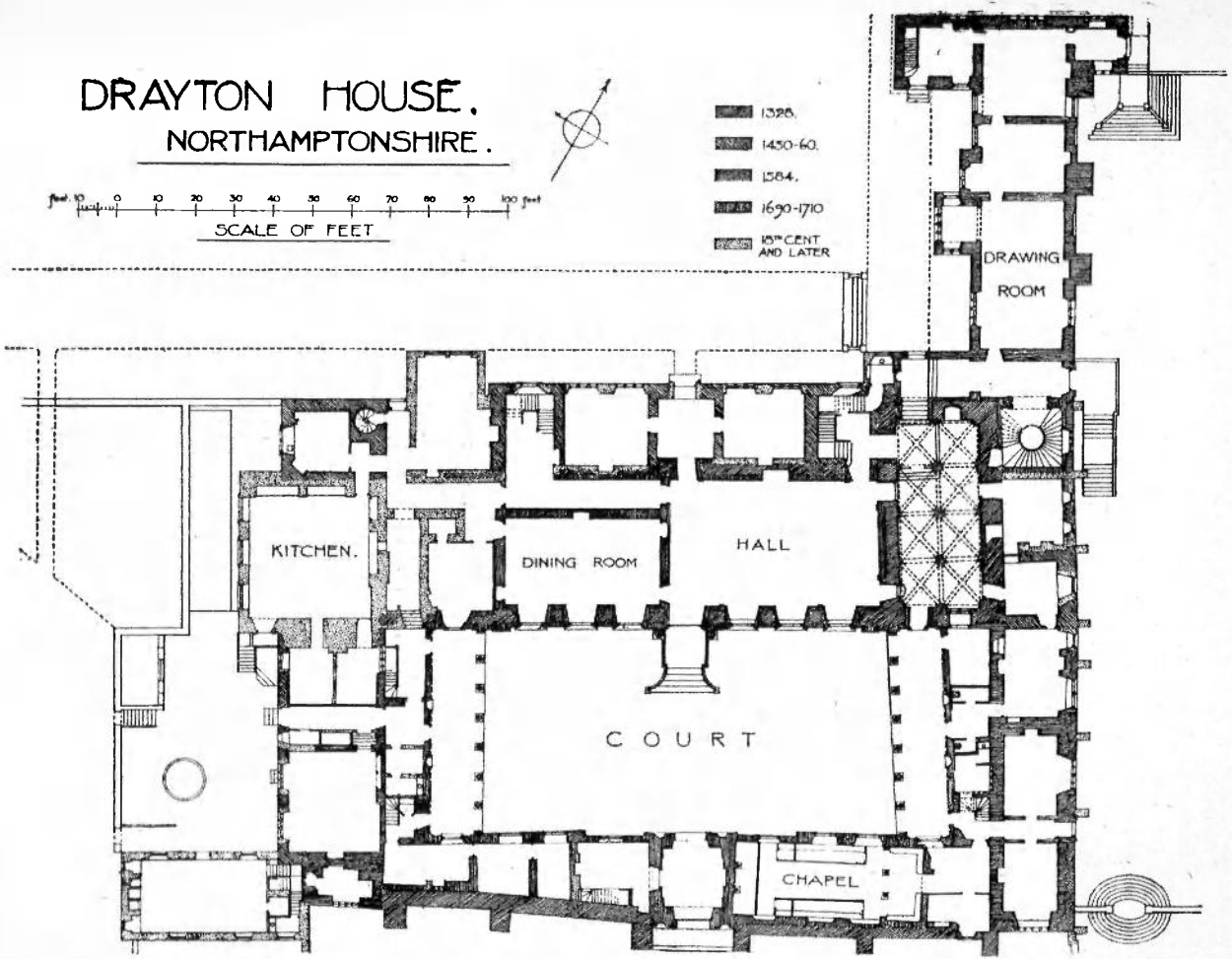
The original, which was in French, was dated 14th February, 1418–19, and was an indenture between Katherine, who was the wife of Ralph Greene, esquire, William Aldwyncle and William Marshall, clerks, on the one part, and Thomas Prentys and Robert Sutton, of Chellaston, in the county of Derby, "kervers," on the other part, "witnessing that the said carvers have covenanted and agreed to make and carve well, honestly and profitably, a tomb of stone called alabaster, good, fine and pure, containing in length 9 feet and in breadth 4 feet 2 (inches), upon which tomb shall be made two images of alabaster, the one a counterfeit of an esquire armed

[1] Printed in *The Archaeological Journal*, lxiv, 32–37.

at all points, containing in length 7 feet, with a helm under his head and a bear at his feet; and the other image shall be the counterfeit of a lady lying in her open surcoat with two angels holding a pillow under her head, and two little dogs at her feet, the one of the said images holding the other by the hand, with two tabernacles called gablettes at their heads, which tomb shall contain at the sides the ledgerment three feet, on which sides shall be images of angels with tabernacles bearing shields according to the device of the said Katherine, William, and William. And also the said carvers shall make an arch of alabaster above all the said tomb in length and breadth, with pendants and knots and a crest of faytes and other works pertaining to such a tomb, the which images, tomb, and arch shall be proportioned, gilded, painted, and arrayed with colours well and sufficiently in the pure, honest, and profitable manner that pertains to such work. For doing and performing which works in manner aforesaid the said Katherine, William and William shall pay or cause to be paid to the said Thomas and Robert, or either of them £40 sterling."

The monument has lost the alabaster arch and almost every trace of its colour and gilding, but is otherwise in beautiful order, and Mr. Hope indicated the special features by which might be recognised other tombs that emanated from the Chellaston works, of which there are a great many in England. These include the two bede-folk at the feet of the effigies and the shield-bearing angels along the sides of the tomb. The eagle in a circlet of pearls, which is to be seen upon the head-dress of the lady, and on other alabaster effigies of the same date and workmanship, is probably a trade-mark of Thomas Prentis. Mr. Hope also claimed a Derbyshire origin for the other monument, that of Edward Stafford earl of Wiltshire (d.1499–1500), in the south chapel, on account of the little bedesmen couched under the feet, and pointed out the cordon of Stafford knots and wheel-naves that encircled the shields about the tomb, and the collar of the muzzled bear at the feet of the effigy. He also referred to the delicately wrought collar of linked SS shown about the earl's neck, and cited the cumulative evidence that the SS collar signified **soverayne**, the favourite word of Henry IV, adopted by him while still only earl of Derby in 1385, and painted on the tester of his tomb at Canterbury. Another collar of SS is hung about the neck of the hart's head which forms the crest surmounting the helm of Ralph Greene.

Mr. Aymer Vallance called the attention of the party to the south aisle with its benches, bench-ends and poppy-heads, all of one series and date. The most notable is one with a pair of pomegranates. The occurrence of this device is significant. The pomegranate was the badge of the Moors at Granada, and as such was adopted by the Spanish royal house at the fall of Granada in 1491–2. It is not indigenous to this country and was therefore unknown in England until 1501, when Henry VII's heir, prince Arthur, married Katherine of Aragon, daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella, the sovereigns under whom the great Moorish stronghold had been reconquered. The device then became, through the popularity which the Spanish match enjoyed, a favourite device in England, and remained so until the repudiation of queen Katherine by her second husband, Henry VIII, in 1533. The badge becoming identified with the cause of the disowned queen, the stallwork must have been executed either


DRAYTON HOUSE.
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
SCALE OF FEET
1328.
1430-60.
1584.
1690-1710
19TH CENT AND LATER
DRAWING ROOM
KITCHEN.
DINING ROOM
HALL
COURT
CHAPEL

previously to 1533, or during the reign of Katherine's daughter, queen Mary, 1554 to 1558.

DRAYTON HOUSE.

From Lowick the journey was continued to Drayton House (fig. 20 and plate 1), where the members of the Institute were hospitably received by the president of the meeting, Mr. S. G. Stopford Sackville, who himself acted as guide over his beautiful and famous home.

The early manor-house probably consisted of a hall, with cellar and great chamber above at one end, and kitchen-offices at the other, and was apparently entered through a porch on the north side, opposite the present entrance. A cellar, vaulted in two alleys from a central row of columns, still remains with very slight alterations; the hall has been much transformed, but portions of the old walls are left, and the mediaeval roof is preserved above the present ceiling. In 1328 Simon de Drayton had licence to crenellate the house; the outer wall of the present entrance courtyard may be referred to this date. The cellar may also belong to this period, although an earlier date has been claimed for it. The porch of the hall was rebuilt by Henry Greene before his death in 1467–1468, and its northern face forms the central portion of the northern front of the house. In 1584 the third lord Mordaunt of Turvey added the north-east wing, with the long gallery on the third floor, and a vaulted cellar in the basement. The towers at either end of the north front were perhaps built at the same time, and two-storied buildings were erected against the north wall of the house on either side of the porch. The wooden dormer windows of these buildings and the stone cupolas of the towers appear to be additions of the middle of the seventeenth century. In the later part of the seventeenth century, Henry Mordaunt, second earl of Peterborough, laid out the gardens, building the small banqueting-houses in the east garden, and decorating its walks and parapets with much handsome lead-work. He probably shifted the main entrance to the south side of the house: the outer gateway of the entrance courtyard is certainly his work. After the marriage of his daughter, the duchess of Norfolk, with Sir John Germain in 1701, the south front of the house was transformed by the erection of the stately entrance façade, the general features and details of which are very unlike any contemporary English work. The architect's name is unknown. At the same time the great chamber was remodelled, sash windows were freely introduced, and three staircases were made, one of which, at the south end of the Elizabethan wing, is a fine example of a spiral staircase of geometrical construction. The grand staircase at the north-east end of the hall has painted walls and ceiling, and an iron rail which, with most of the iron-work of the house and garden, may have been designed by Tijou. A new stair was made from the Elizabethan wing to the east garden, and the approaches to the house were provided with iron gates of great beauty. Sir John Germain's second wife, Lady Elizabeth, before her death in 1769, added the east and west colonnades of the courtyard, and built a chapel against its south wall. The last important work, in the later part of the eighteenth century, was the redecoration of the dining-room (on the probable site of the early kitchen) and drawing-room by lord George Germain, who died in 1785. The delicate coloured plaster-work of the dining-room is in the manner of the

Adam brothers, but the name of the artist has not been kept on record. Much discriminating restoration has been done within recent years. The whole house is a splendid monument of English domestic architecture, and contains a vast amount of furniture, china, etc. which has its own special interest. The great chamber or "king's chamber" has a fine plaster ceiling, and there is some curious Oriental decoration in the duchess of Norfolk's boudoir, which adjoins the long gallery.

The manor of Drayton descended in the fourteenth century from the Draytons to the Greenes. Constance, heiress of Henry Greene, married John Stafford, earl of Wiltshire. Their son Edward died 1499–1500. His heiress married John, lord Mordaunt of Turvey, from whom the manor descended in a direct line to Henry, second earl of Peterborough (d. 1697). His daughter and heiress, Mary, duchess of Norfolk (d. 1705), married and left her estate to Sir John Germain. His second wife and widow, Lady Elizabeth Berkeley, left it to lord George Sackville, son of the first duke of Dorset, who was created viscount Sackville in 1782. He took the name of Germain. His heir was Charles, fifth duke of Dorset, on whose death in 1843 the property passed to his niece, the mother of the present owner.

WOODFORD CHURCH. After lunching at Thrapston a visit was made to the interesting church of Woodford (fig. 21), which was described by Mr. Thompson.

Towards 1200 a north aisle and chancel chapel were added to a previously aisleless church. In the thirteenth century a new chancel of great length was built east of the older chancel, which was thrown into the nave, the old chancel-arch being replaced by a new one. The north aisle was widened and a south aisle built to correspond. A porch was also added on the south side, having to the east of it a vaulted undercroft of three unequal bays for a dwelling-house above, which extended also over the porch, and was reached by a stair west of it from within the church. Owing to a late fifteenth-century reconstruction of the aisle only the westernmost bay of the subvault now remains, as a dark recess opening towards the aisle, and all the upper works have gone. The south doorway, within a shallow vaulted porch, is contemporary with the north arcade of the nave, and is remarkable for the beautiful band of undercut foliage which is carried along the central part of the arch. The north doorway is of the thirteenth, the porch of the fourteenth century. The lower part of the tower is of the twelfth century; the upper part, with spire, was added in the thirteenth century. The church contains an arched monument, with wooden effigies of a member of the Trailly family and his wife (c. 1300), for which a portion of the sedilia of the north aisle has been removed. There is a six-sided thirteenth-century font; some old glass remains in the north aisle; and in the chancel floor is the brass of Simon Malory (d. 1580). The church was a rectory of medieties: portions of one of the mediaeval rectory houses remain north of the church.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH CHURCH. The last visit on Monday's programme was to Irthlingborough church.

Mr. Thompson said that there were originally two churches here, dedicated in honour of All Saints and St. Peter, in the gift of the abbot and convent of Peterborough. John Pyel had licence to found a

college in St. Peter's church in 1375 : the foundation, for a dean, five other secular canons, and four clerks, was completed by his widow in 1388. The ground-plan of the church, with chancel-chapels, and aisles with transeptal chapels, is mainly of the later part of the thirteenth century. Windows

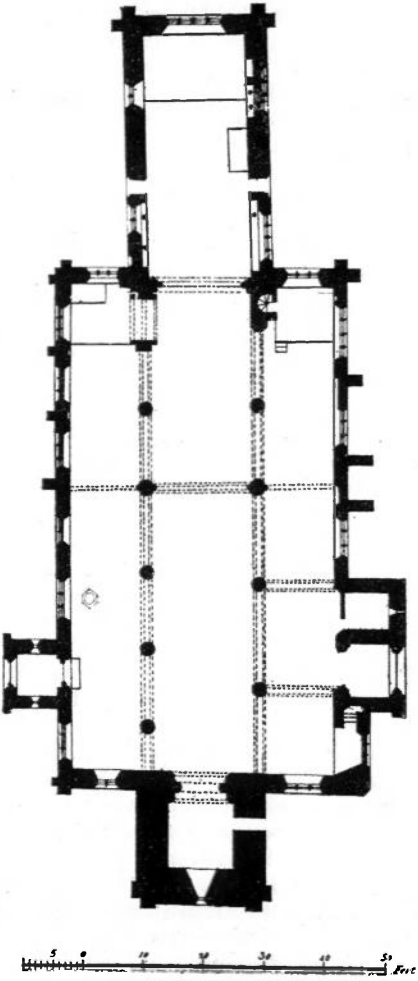


FIG. 21. WOODFORD CHURCH.
From Parker's *Churches of the Archdeaconry of Northampton.*

were inserted and other alterations made in the fourteenth century. The west tower was built by John Pyel after 1354 and before 1375 : he also was responsible for the west doorway of the church, and for the porch between the church and tower. The isolated position of the tower, with only a low building between it and the church, fortunately allowed the

builders to retain the beautiful three-light west window, a charming example of early fourteenth-century tracery. The tower, with its tall octagonal lantern of three stages, and some buildings on the north side, of which the vaults remain, contained rooms for the use of members of the college: the plan and internal arrangements deserve careful study. On the south side of the tower there are traces of other buildings, but nothing is left of the hall of the college, of which there is documentary evidence in a visitation held by bishop Alnwick in 1438. The interior of the lantern was cased and fireplaces added some time after the actual building: this proved dangerous to the stability of the tower, which was rebuilt upon the original lines some years ago. The quire-stalls of the college remain in the chancel; and there is a brass inscription on the tomb of the first dean. In the east wall of the north transeptal chapel is a wide arch, filling the whole space, within which the altar was placed. Beneath the south transept is a bone-hole. In the south chapel of the chancel is the tomb with effigies of John Pyel and Joan his wife. Near by is a later and much more elaborate canopied tomb in Purbeck marble. This, as Mr. Hope pointed out, is one of a large class to be found all over the country, which seem to have originated from one particular shop or town, probably London, and were all of practically identical design, the only individuality being in the inserted brass at the back.

EVENING MEETING

At the evening meeting Mr. T. J. George read a paper on Northamptonshire earthworks.

Northamptonshire, said Mr. George, like nearly all the midland shires of England, does not contain a large number of prehistoric camps, though it has quite an average share of earthworks of the moated mount type, and of those called homestead moats.

The pre-Roman earthworks can be counted on the fingers of one hand. They are at (1) Borough hill near Daventry, (2) Castle Yard in Farthingstone parish, (3) Arbury hill near Thenford, (4) Rainsborough camp near King's Sutton, and (5) Hunsbury, two miles south-west of Northhampton. As none of these camps are promontory forts, they all fall into class B of the classification adopted by the various writers on earthworks in the *Victoria County Histories*, and are accordingly hill-top fortresses.

On the top of Borough hill are remains of entrenchments estimated by George Baker to measure 2¼ miles round the outer ditch; the camp is one mile from end to end, about 600 yards in the widest part; it is about 150 acres in extent, and one of the largest camps in England, and as far as can be made out, it is only exceeded in size by Ham hill camp in Somerset, which has an area of 210 acres. Like Maiden castle near Dorchester, and Caynham in Shropshire, it is divided into two parts, the northern part being cut off by two ditches. Within this northern portion, Baker discovered in 1823 the foundations of what he considered the praetorium of a Roman general, but in reality these are the remains of an ordinary Roman villa. Baker, together with other antiquaries of that time, imagined the camp to be the site of Bannaventa, the station on Watling street mentioned in the second itinerary of Antoninus as lying between Lactodorum (Towcester), and Venonis (High Cross).

Castle Yard is an earthwork classed under C in the *Victoria County History* scheme, but for reasons which are given it is placed here under

class B. It lies on high ground about 4½ miles south-east of Borough hill. Though the ramparts are much obliterated, its shape can be discerned on the east and west sides, while traces of the fosse are visible on the north. On this side a grass field separates it from an earthwork of the mount and bailey type, called Castle Dykes, which will be mentioned later on. Castle Yard, as it was named by Morton, is called Castle Dykes camp in the *Victoria County History*. Mr. George thought it much more likely to be pre-Roman than Roman, as the few remains which have been found in it are analogous to the remains found in the Hunsbury camp, near Northampton; its position, too, helps one to class it as a British earthwork in preference to Roman.

Arbury camp, in Thenford parish, is a small hill-top fortress with extensive views over parts of Oxfordshire and Warwickshire. That part of it which is under grass measures 240 feet by 96 feet. It was probably circular. The remaining portion, being under plough, is now quite obliterated.

Rainsborough camp, in Newbottle parish, lies 3¼ miles west by south of Brackley, and about 7 miles from Banbury. Including the ditch, it has an area of about 11 acres; the ditch as measured by Baker was 13 feet deep and 15 feet across.

Hunsbury, locally called Danes' camp, is situated about 2 miles south-west of the centre of Northampton, and is near the end of a ridge or promontory of high ground. It is not exactly circular nor oval, but between the two, and is about 4 acres within the inner rampart. The defences consisted of a ditch 15 feet deep and about 30 feet across between an inner and an outer rampart. In excavating the outside of the camp for ironstone some 10 years ago, the remains of another ditch were found 80 yards from the inner ditch; this outer ditch, which had been filled in level with the surrounding land, no doubt for agricultural purposes, did not completely surround the camp. The remains found in this camp are all pre-Roman and of the early iron age. Mr. George said that examples of Roman earthworks were fewer still than the British; and as far as he knew, there are but two in the county, namely, at Chester house in Irchester parish near Wellingborough, and at Towcester. Towcester was the site of Lactodorum, and is on the Watling street. From the remains of ramparts which Baker was able to trace 70 years ago, he reckoned the area to be about 35 acres. It is probable that when Edward the Elder fortified Towcester with a stone wall in 917, it was on the same lines as the old Roman fortification.

The rectangular earthwork in the parish of Irchester is about 20 acres in area. Professor Haverfield thinks it was a small walled town or village, and not a military centre. Roman coins and other remains have been found, and these are now in Northampton museum.

When the Institute last visited Northampton in 1876, the late Mr. G. T. Clark was compiling lists and making plans of the class of earthworks now known as moated mounts, but called by him "Saxon burhs," a type of fortification now considered, and fairly well proved by Dr. J. H. Round and Mrs. Armitage to be of Norman origin.

Simple mounts are noted by the Rev. E. A. Downman[1] at Alderton, Cransley, Culworth, Clifford Hill, Earl's Barton, Lilbourne, Peterborough, Preston Capes, Sulgrave, Towcester and Wollaston.

[1] *Vict. County Hist.* ii, 397.

Of mounts with one or more outer courts or baileys, there are examples at Buckby and Castle Dykes, near to Castle Yard in Farthingstone parish. The latter is one of the most interesting examples of its kind in England. Others are at Thrapston, Fotheringhay, Lilbourne, Rockingham and Sibbertoft (also called Castle Yard). The castle at Northampton, now completely destroyed, was probably of this type.

A list of some thirty-two homestead moats is given by Mr. Downman, but there are probably more than this. A good account of Tichmarsh castle, with plans and drawings by the late Sir Henry Dryden, is given in vol. 21 of the *Reports of Associated Architectural Societies*.

To the list of earthworks in the second volume of the *Victoria County History*, under class G, i.e. "enclosures ramparted and fossed," may be added a large enclosure lying on low ground in the hamlet of Falcott in the parish of Wappenham, known by the name of Old Mountains.

Under unclassified earthworks should come a long mound of earth at Guilsborough; a plan of this, before part of it was levelled, is given in Wetton's guide-book to Northampton and its vicinity, 1844, page 110, where it is considered to be "The latest work of Ostorius, the propraetor under the emperor Claudius. It was oblong in shape, included about eight acres within its area, and was called 'The Burrows,' or 'Borough Hill.'" The editor also says that "Upon removing the south bank, in the beginning of the present century, many remains of skeletons and saddle-trees were found." This account reads very much as if the men had come across an Anglo-Saxon cemetery, and if this theory is correct, it would prove to be one of the very few earthworks attributed to the Saxons.

It is perhaps needless to say here that the work of Ostorius is now thought to be far from what is now Northamptonshire. Professor Haverfield has certainly exposed the fallacy of the Ostorian forts down the Nene valley.

Tuesday, 30th July.

This day the Institute journeyed to the extreme north of the county: leaving the train at Elton, they were conveyed by motor to Fotheringhay, where the church was described to them by Mr. Hope.

FOTHERINGHAY CHURCH.

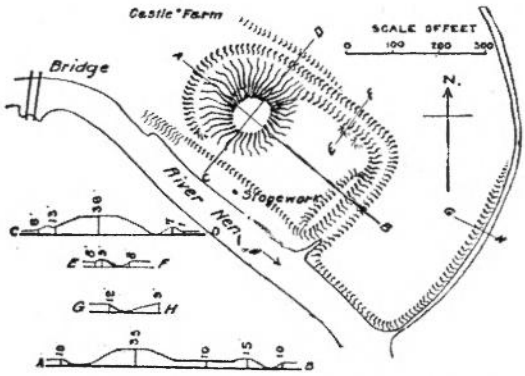
While this building is, as Mr. Hope remarked, simpler in its architectural history than any of the others visited in the course of the summer meeting, it was not the least interesting. A church undoubtedly existed at Fotheringhay at the time of the Domesday survey, because a priest is mentioned in connexion with it, and an earlier church stood on the present site. Leland writing of the village some centuries ago said that it had "but one streat, al of stone building. The glorie of it standith by the paroche chirche of a fair buildid, and collegiated. There be exceeding goodly meadowes by Foderingey." The older parish church survived until the fifteenth century. By that time, among many other changes, the manor had passed by grant into the hands of Edmund of Langley, duke of York, the fifth son of Edward III. He is sometimes said to have founded a college here, but he only projected it, the foundation really being due to his son

Edward, who succeeded him as duke of York. The foundation included a master or dean, a precentor, and eleven other fellows, eight clerks, and thirteen choristers. Before his death in 1415 at Agincourt the founder took down the chancel of the existing parish church and erected in its place a splendid quire. The process of reconstruction was continued by Richard, duke of York, who was minded to build a nave equal in magnificence to the quire.

The present nave and its aisles with the north porch, the western steeple with its eight-sided lantern, and a destroyed south porch, were built by William Horwode of Fotheringhay, freemason, in accordance with a contract entered into between him and two commissioners acting on behalf of Richard, duke of York, and dated 24th September, 1434. By this contract Horwode undertook "to mak up a new body of a Kirk joyning to the Quire of the College of Fodringhey, of the same hight and brede that the said Quire is of; and in length iiij^{xx} fete fro the said Quere donward withyn the Walles." In the aisles were to be windows agreeing or "accordyng in all Poynts unto the wyndows of the said Quire, sawf (that) they shal no bowtels haf at all." The contract specifies also the making of west windows to the aisles and nave, and the embattling of their walls, and of "six mighty Botrasses of Fre-stone clen-hewyn"; also of a clerestory "grownd id upon ten mighty Pillars with four respounds." The pillars were to carry "five Arches abof the Stepill and abof every Arche a wyndow . . . of four lyghts according in all points to the wyndows of the clere-story of the said Quere." For the support of the roof there were to be built over the aisles "six mighty Arches butting on aither side to the clere-story," and two other mighty arches "butting on aither side to the said Stepill." The steeple was to be built within the church "upon three strong and mighty Arches [? and] vawthid with stoon," and to be square below, but with its upper part "chaungid and turnyd in viij panes" with "clere-storial windows . . . eche window of three lights." All the carriage and "stuffe, that ys to say, Stone, Lyme, Sonde, Ropes, Boltes, Ladderis, Tymbre, Scaffolds, Gynnes, and all manere of Stuffe that longeth to the said werke" were to be found by the duke of York, who was also to pay William Horwode 300*l.* in all for carrying out his contract. Various discrepancies between the contract (which referred only to the masonry work) and the building Mr. Hope thought might partly be due to the corrupt text, which was known only from the version printed by Dugdale, and one important section of which was both defective and apparently misplaced. The quire was unroofed after the suppression of the college and eventually cleared away, with the exception of the arches (now walled up) at its western end between it and Horwode's new body. That into the quire has over it the mark of the roof of the old nave, and above, a window that looked westward from the quire over it. The nave, aisles, and steeple escaped destruction through forming the parish church. The nave is four bays long, with a narrow easternmost bay filled on either side with "two perpeyn-walls . . . of Free-stone, clen-wroght, that is to say, oon on aither side of the myddel Qwere dore; and in either wall three lyghts and lavatoris in aither side of the wall, which shall serve for four Auters, that is to say, oon on aither side of the myddel dore of the said Qwere, and oon on either side of the said Isles."

The contract seems to have been most faithfully carried out, as the various parts are still almost exactly as described. The fact that William Horwode is described as a freemason only means that he was a master mason building on his own account wherever anyone wanted a church erected. The church, said Mr. Hope, compares in a very simple way with the great chapel of St. George at Windsor; it is now extremely plain, and no doubt derived much of its glory from the stained glass and the furniture. It is impossible to define the limits of the now vanished quire or its lady chapel, as the site is now used as the churchyard. The quire stalls after the suppression of the college and the consequent decay of the quire were distributed in some of the neighbouring churches.

Against the walls now stand two interesting monuments, set over the bones and gravestones of Edward duke of York and his son Richard, the builders of the quire and nave, by queen Elizabeth, who removed their remains out of the ruined quire. The aisles are seven bays long, and



[*By permission of the Victoria County History Syndicate.*]

FIG. 22. FOTHERINGHAY CASTLE.

overlap the steeple, which has on the corners of the square belfry octagonal turrets carrying crested helms of the duke of York, and on the top of the lantern a great copper vane formed of his badge, the falcon and fetterlock. The church contains a good font of the date of the nave and a beautiful contemporary pulpit (with a Jacobean canopy over the original one) with the arms of king Edward IV, and has a good series of open wooden roofs. The college cloister and buildings stood to the south of the destroyed quire, and have likewise utterly perished.

Mr. Thompson added a short account of the history and constitution of the college, which was incorporated by letters patent of 18th December, 1411, and referred to the light thrown on the internal condition of the college by episcopal visitations preserved at Lincoln. He also mentioned that a large part of the endowment of the college was derived, like that of other collegiate foundations such as Eton and St. George's, Windsor, from the grant of the alien priories of Newent and Avebury. Such priories were not conventual, but were manors belonging to foreign religious houses, on which two monks usually resided as proctors for their monastery.

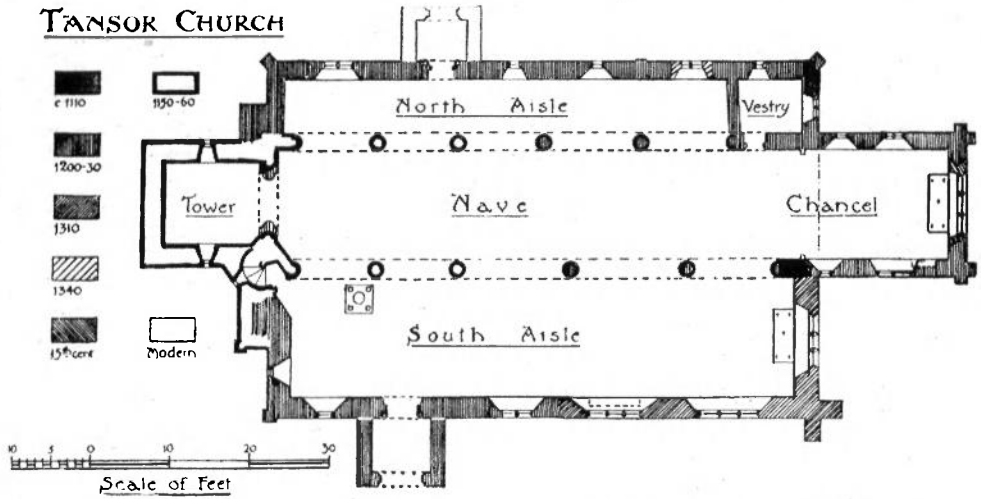
FOTHERINGHAY CASTLE.

From the church the party walked to the castle (fig. 22), which Mr. Hope described as a good example of the mount-and-bailey type planted all over the country by the Normans; in this case to control the passage of the Nene. The castle was founded by Simon of Senlis, earl of Northampton, who is also probably responsible for the mount at Earl's Barton. It stood close to the left bank of the Nene, which is here crossed by an old bridge. The ordinary mount-and-bailey plan of an early Norman castle can be easily traced: the mount stands at the south-west end of the bailey, close to the river, and as usual had its own ditch, intersecting at two points with the ditch of the bailey. Its defences were still of timber in 1215, but by 1341 the great tower had been built in stone and cement, and the castle also contained two chapels, a great hall, two lodgings, a kitchen and an oven, and a gatehouse with chamber over, in front of which was a drawbridge. Edmund of Langley is said to have rebuilt the great tower in form of a fetterlock, but Mr. Hope said he was not aware of the fetterlock being one of his badges. Leland ascribes the "refreshing" of certain "very fair lodgyns" in the castle to "Catarine of Spain," and these probably formed the apartments of Mary queen of Scots for the few months previous to her beheading in the great hall on 1st February, 1586–7. The whole of the castle buildings have gradually disappeared, and the only monument of them is a fallen block of rubble from the great tower.

TANSOR CHURCH.

From this melancholy spot a move was made to Tansor, whose church (fig. 23) was described by Mr. Thompson. Tansor church is a most interesting example of development of plan. There was an aisleless early twelfth-century church, with nave and chancel of equal breadth. Aisles were added to the nave in the later part of the twelfth century: the north doorway and western tower are also of this date. Early in the thirteenth century the north aisle was extended eastward, with a small vestry at its east end, so as to enclose the western part of the north wall of the chancel. The south aisle was also lengthened to a similar extent, one bay east of a transeptal chapel which seems to have existed on this side. Owing to the narrow bay formed by the vestry on the north side, the spacing of the south arcade is irregular, and presents some interesting problems. The south doorway is of this period; but, late in the thirteenth century, the south aisle was widened so as to include the whole of the transeptal chapel. The eastern part of the chancel was rebuilt between these two periods. The work in the nave is plain throughout, but the detail and finish of the stonework is excellent. In the thirteenth-century additions to the nave, the proportions of the twelfth-century columns at the west end were preserved: the columns are slight in proportion to their height, a feature which is noticeable also at Warmington.

The nave ascends considerably from west to east, owing to the decided slope on which the church is built. A vice, made in the south-east corner of the tower in the thirteenth century, weakened the adjacent masonry, and a new arch was made inside the older arch in the east wall of the tower. There is a fine font, with work of two dates. Some stalls, probably from the destroyed quire of Fotheringhay church, remain in the chancel; others are in the neighbouring churches of Hemington and Benefield. There are



[*By permission of the Victoria County History Syndicate.*

FIG. 23.

the supposed remains of an altar on the first floor of the tower. In the south wall of the chancel is a double piscina, with a shallow niche for cruets in the spandril between the two arches. A stone bench runs along the foot of the north aisle inside the church: such benches are common in the neighbourhood, and are found close by at Warmington and Cotterstock.

The rood-screen is recorded to have been in a state of decay as long ago as 1620. It stood, however, until within the last quarter of the nineteenth century, when it was taken down and condemned to demolition. But the old clerk, Richard Bradshaw, never would allow it to be burnt or otherwise injured, so far as he could help. For about twenty-five years the remains were kept in the western tower. They were there when the *Victoria County History of Northamptonshire* (1906) was being prepared, but have since been erected against the east wall of the south aisle. The workmanship appears to be of the first half of the fifteenth century. The doors have been taken off, but they stand close to the screen. Each consists of a plain rectangular panel, or leaf, with two original iron hinges attached. The screen retains traces of ancient colour, scarlet, white and dark green. In front of it stands a communion-table, made up of pieces of old screen-work, including boarding and mullions.

WARMINGTON CHURCH. The journey was then resumed to Oundle for luncheon and afterwards to Warmington, where Mr. Thompson said that the beauty of the architectural detail of the church gave it a claim to be considered among the chief of the smaller masterpieces of thirteenth-century art in England. It is not, however, all of one period. The arcades of the nave are of a composite character. Aisles were built in the later part of the twelfth century, divided from the nave by arcades with slender columns and scolloped capitals like those at Tansor. The columns were heightened early in the next century, the old capitals being retained, and arches were built with mouldings cut in a rectangular plane. There was probably a short interval before the rebuilding of the aisles, which apparently began with the south aisle. The chancel, aisles, clerestory, vaulted north and south porches, and west tower with spire, are beautiful work of about the middle of the thirteenth century, to which date also belongs the singular sexpartite vaulted ceiling of wood over the nave. The buttresses of the aisles were mostly rebuilt in the fourteenth, and the east window was inserted in the fifteenth century. There are a fifteenth-century rood-screen and pulpit, and an early renaissance enterclose at the east end of the north aisle. The painting of the rood-screen and pulpit has been "restored," and much of the former is new. The elaborate details of the tower and west doorway deserve special notice, and all the thirteenth-century work is of unusually magnificent design. The church was appropriated to the abbot and convent of Peterborough in 1315–1316.

Mr. Hope commented upon the mingling of Gothic with delicate renaissance forms in the enterclose of the north aisle chapel, and suggested that it might be the work of the man who about 1536 put up the screen in King's college chapel at Cambridge.

POLEBROOK CHURCH. Polebrook church (fig. 24) was the next objective. This was shown by Mr. Thompson to have been cruciform originally, probably with a tower over the crossing. A narrow north aisle was added in the later part of the twelfth century, and the

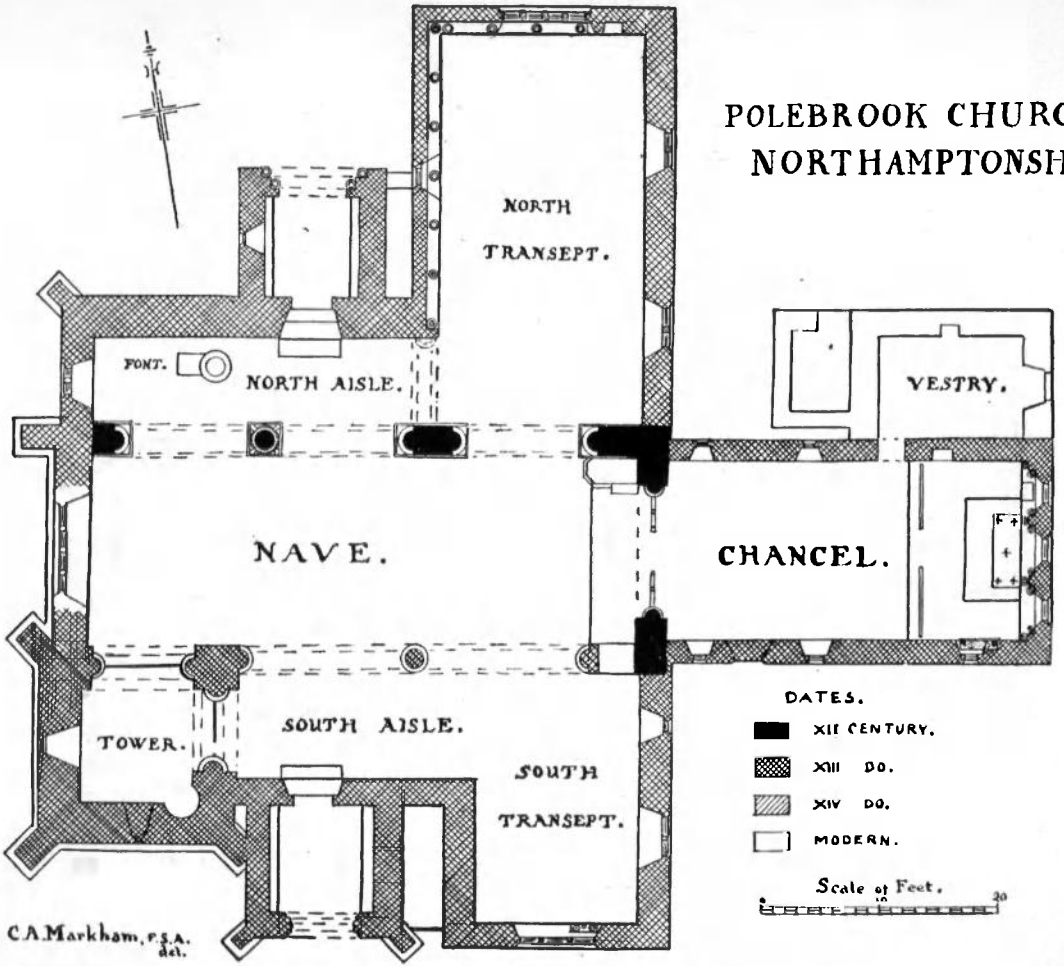

POLEBROOK CHURCH,
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
NORTH
TRANSEPT.
FONT.
NORTH AISLE.
VESTRY.
NAVE.
CHANCEL.
TOWER.
SOUTH AISLE.
SOUTH
TRANSEPT.
DATES.
XII CENTURY.
XIII DO.
XIV DO.
MODERN.
Scale of Feet.
0
10
20
C.A.Markham, F.S.A. del.

FIG. 34.

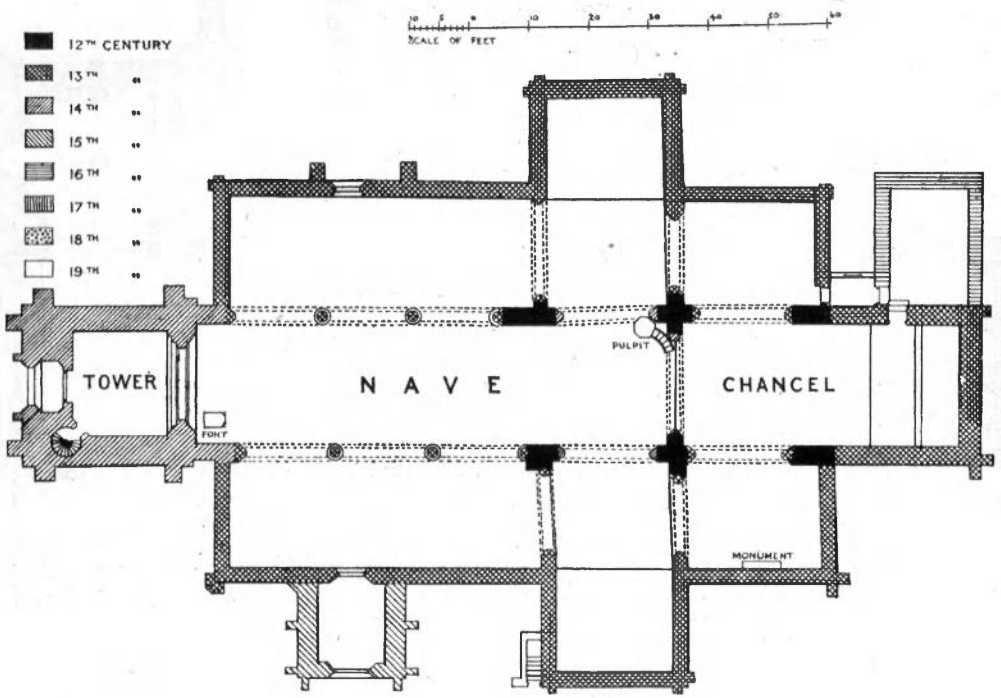


FIG. 25. OUNDLE CHURCH.

chancel arch, the north arcade of the nave and the arch of the north transeptal chapel belong to this period. Early in the thirteenth century a south-west tower with spire was built adjoining the western bay of the nave, as there was no room at the west end of the church, and a south aisle with a lofty arcade was added. The chancel was enlarged and rebuilt, the north aisle was also rebuilt, and a new north transeptal chapel, with internal wall-arcading on the north and west sides, was made. The area covered by the chapel was at once widened and lengthened, but the existing arch into the nave was retained, thus giving clear evidence of the width of the chapel before alteration. The north aisle was not widened, but a small transverse arch was built across it at the point of junction with the transept. The small south transeptal chapel seems to belong in its present state to the same period, but its fabric appears to be in part earlier, and its dimensions are probably similar to those of the earlier north transept, as the plan indicates. Some windows were inserted at the end of the thirteenth and during the fourteenth century. The thirteenth-century work throughout the church, including the doorway of the north porch, is full of beautiful detail, worthy of comparison with that at Warmington. The south doorway is that of the twelfth-century church, and was removed to its present position when the south aisle was built. There is an old rood-screen with some remains of colour, and a plain Jacobean pulpit with hour-glass stand. The manor and advowson of Polebrook belonged from the early part of the fourteenth century to the abbot and convent of Peterborough.

The President, at the close of Mr. Thompson's description, questioned the former existence, here and in other churches visited during the meeting, of towers over a crossing which have now disappeared. Mr. Thompson, Mr. Hope and Mr. Francis Bond quoted numerous examples in favour of such towers and the proofs of their existence. The Rev. A. du Boulay Hill and the Rev. H. W. Hall also took part in the discussion.

OUNDLE CHURCH.

A return was then made to Oundle, where, after tea, a visit was paid to the church (fig. 25). Here, as Mr. Hamilton Thompson explained, there undoubtedly was, until the later part of the fourteenth century, a tower over the crossing. Remains of twelfth-century work exist in the western walls of the chancel. In the thirteenth century the chancel was lengthened, north and south aisles were added to the nave, and the present chancel chapels were built. Somewhat later in the century the transepts were reconstructed. The windows of the aisles and transepts afford an excellent illustration of the development of the traceried opening, and the windows of the earlier part of the period have some kinship with those at Warmington. In the fourteenth century the central tower was taken down, and the crossing thrown into the nave, to which a clerestory was added. The new chancel arch and arches into the transepts have mouldings identical with those of the chancel-arch at the neighbouring church of Cotterstock, which was probably built between 1340 and 1350. The present tower was built at the west end of the nave towards the end of the fourteenth century: the spire appears to have been entirely rebuilt in 1634. The vaulted south porch, with an upper chamber, was built about 1485. There are a fifteenth-century pulpit and lectern, screens between the chancel and chapels, and

the lower panels of the rood-screen are left with traces of painting. There is a large bone-hole beneath the south transept, and a vestry with upper story north of the chancel. The church was appropriated to the abbot and convent of Peterborough towards the end of the fifteenth century.

The President, continuing the discussion raised at Polebrook, acknowledged that the evidence for the tower over the crossing at Oundle was plain. Mr. Thompson said that the evidence at Polebrook was equally clear upon an analysis of the plan of the building, but that the way in which the alterations had been effected there made the early arrangement less obvious at first sight.

Mr. Bond said that cruciform churches with central towers were very common in the villages of Normandy, and probably, originally, of England also. As built, the four arches of the central tower were abutted by the solid walls of nave, chancel and transepts, but when these walls, or some of them, were pierced with arches in order to add aisles, the safety of the tower was imperilled, and in some cases it might fall, and in others be removed. Another reason for removal was that when a broad spacious chancel was substituted for a narrow Norman one, it was not safe to widen the eastern and western arches of the central tower to give a better view of the high altar, and it was therefore taken down.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

In the evening the annual general meeting was held in the Grand Hotel, Sir Henry H. Howorth, *President*, in the chair.

The report of the council for the session 1911–1912 being taken as read, and the accounts for the year 1911 having been presented, the chairman moved, and Sir Edward Brabrook seconded, the adoption of the report and accounts, which was carried unanimously. The report and accounts are printed at pages 535 and 536, 537, respectively.

Following the practice set at the Oxford meeting a comprehensive vote of thanks was then passed to all persons who had contributed to the success of the meeting, whether by organisation, hospitality or description of buildings.

The place of meeting in 1913 was then discussed, the feeling of those present appeared to be in favour of Exeter, and the chairman undertook that this should receive the careful consideration of the council.

The annual general meeting was followed by a paper by Mr. Christopher A. Markham, F.S.A. on Ancient Roads and Bridges in Northamptonshire, of which the following is a short summary.

The reader stated that the chief characteristics of a very early road are shortly as follows: (1) It seldom or never turns a sharp corner. (2) If it runs east and west, wherever possible it keeps to the southern slope of a hill, and to the northern bank of a stream, that its surface may dry the quicker. (3) It never climbs higher than it need, and will often keep for a long distance below the ridge; but, if necessary it will climb the hill and keep on the water-shed for miles. (4) In passing a church a road running east and west generally approaches close to the south door. (5) Where a river valley must be crossed, the road winds round the sides of the hills until it reaches a spot where projecting spurs reduce the width of the valley: there it turns acutely towards the stream, crosses it, and on reaching higher ground at once regains its original direction. (6) Whenever a

hill must be taken, it is approached direct and by the shortest route to the summit. (7) The road generally forms the boundary of the parishes between which it passes.

Mr. Markham instanced the Banbury lane, certainly one of the oldest, if not the oldest in the county, as fulfilling these conditions. Coming from the east past the British camp known as Hunsbury hill, and passing near Rothersthorpe, it runs to the south of Pattishall church. At Foster's Booth it is crossed at right angles by the Roman Watling street; the road then runs within a few yards of the south door of Cold Higham church: some distance further on it becomes a green track, being indeed in some places little better than a quagmire. At Thorp Mandeville it again approaches close to the south door of the church, reaches Banbury and leaves Northamptonshire, gaining the prehistoric monument known as Little Rollright Stones.

Another road, possibly pre-Roman, which also conforms to these rules, leads from Northampton towards Welford. It creeps round the hill leading down to the Naseby branch of the Nene before reaching Brampton, turns almost at a right angle, crosses the valley at the narrowest part, and turns again to resume its original direction. After leaving Chapel Brampton this manoeuvre is repeated, and the next valley is crossed in the same way. The road then climbs the spur of the hill towards Spratton, and when it once reaches the crest it does not forsake the water-shed until Welford is almost reached, where the old road leaves the present one and proceeds by Down Town hill to Lutterworth.

After mentioning other early tracks, Mr. Markham gave some account of the two great Roman ways which crossed Northamptonshire, the Watling street and the Ermine street.

The first, which ran from Dover through London up to the Roman Wall, enters the county at Old Stratford, and proceeds in a very direct line to the station of Lactodorum, now known as Towcester. Passing Weedon the road reaches a point near Norton, the probable site of Bannaventa. Some distance beyond, near Ashby St. Ledgers, Watling street becomes a grass track, still of considerable width, though in some places almost covered by thorns and bushes. About a quarter of a mile from the Northampton and Rugby main road, the street is barred by a gate, the first indignity of the kind it has received since leaving London. After running through a few open fields Watling street merges in the Banbury and Lutterworth main road, and leaves Northamptonshire at Dove bridge near Lilbourne.

The Ermine street crosses the north-east corner of the county, on its way from London to Lincoln, entering Northamptonshire at the station of Durobrivae, a large settlement lying on both sides of the Nene, which it crossed by a bridge of stone and wood. Traces of this bridge were found and removed in 1715, when the river was made navigable. Its course over open fields is well defined until, on reaching Sutton Cross, it forms for a short distance part of the present road, and afterwards returns to its grassy condition. It passes Walcot park to a point south-west of Barnack, where it is said to have been furnished with a watch-tower, taken down about 1700. It then crosses Burghley park, but here its course was obliterated in the seventeenth century, and near Wothorp park it again disappears, and leaves the county and crosses the Welland a little west of Stamford.

Mr. Markham traced the course of several other roads for which he suggested a Roman origin. Several radiate from Durobrivae. The best known of these is Langdyke or High street, which branches off due north, and crosses Lolham bridges.

He stated that no one has yet proposed any route to the important camp, near Chester house, south of Wellingborough, nor was he able to suggest any line of road to that station.

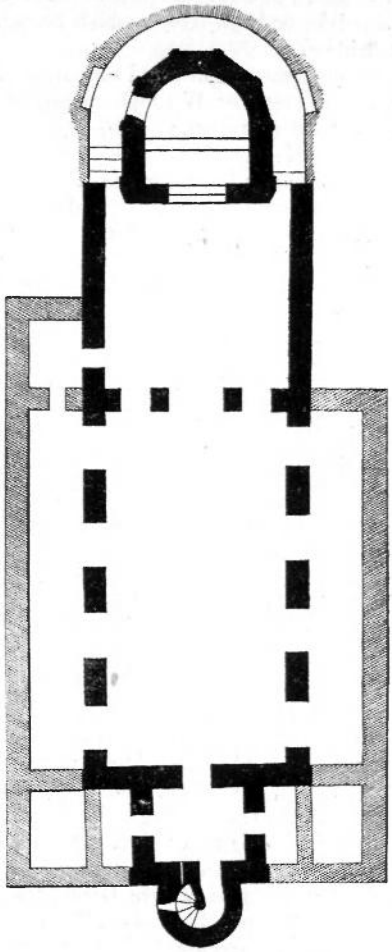
Mr. Markham then drew attention to the extraordinary manner in which the art of road-making was lost after the Romans left England, and gave many instances of the dangerous condition of the roads, even as late as a hundred years ago. It was not until the commencement of the eighteenth century that turnpike roads were introduced; and, it appears quite in accordance with the fitness of things that the first act of parliament for forming a turnpike road in this county, passed in 1717, should comprise a portion of the great Watling street; other road acts followed in succession, and ultimately there were 27 turnpike trusts affecting Northamptonshire.

Mr. Markham then turned to bridges and briefly enumerated the various bridges shown in Speed's map published in 1610.

Roman remains are represented by the bridge over the Nene at Durobrivae previously mentioned. The triple bridge at Crowland on the Welland is no doubt the successor of that referred to in a charter dated in 943: one foot of this bridge was formerly in this county, though now about two miles over the border. The bridge at Geddington, erected about 1280, has five arches, of various dates and forms, the two oldest being pointed, and that in the centre circular, with the date 1784 on the key-stone. Charwelton possesses a charming bridge, on a very small scale, made for foot passengers and pack horses, with two pointed arches, probably of the fourteenth century; and at Braybrooke also is a bridge of about the same date with two pointed arches. The two fourteenth-century bridges over the Nene at Northampton, known as the south bridge and the west bridge, have long disappeared. Oundle bridge, which happily survives although now in process of being widened, consists of a series of thirteen arches, of all sizes, shapes and dates, and was originally only 9 feet 8 inches across, though afterwards increased to 13 feet. On the north side is the inscription: "The yere of ovre Lord 1570 thes arches wer borne dovne by the waters extremythe in the yere of ovre Lord 1571 they were bvlded agayn with lyme and stonne Thanks be to God." Wansford bridge, over the Nene, now consists of ten arches built in the fourteenth century and repaired in 1674. In one of the recesses on the eastern side there is a socket of an old bridge cross, afterwards used for a sun-dial. At Peterborough the first bridge over the Nene erected in 1140 by the abbot of Peterborough, and probably rebuilt in the fourteenth century, has now been replaced by a modern iron construction.

Wednesday, 31st July.

The final day of the meeting opened with a visit to one of the most interesting churches in the county. The party drove in cars from



[*By permission of Mr. John Murray.*

FIG. 26. BRIXWORTH CHURCH.

RESTORATION OF PRE-CONQUEST PLAN WITHOUT LATER ADDITIONS.

Scale: 32 feet=1 inch.

From Prof. Baldwin Brown's *The Arts in Early England.* This plan shows the apse in complete outline, without distinguishing the rebuilt portions. The south chapel is also omitted.

Northampton to Brixworth, where the church (fig. 26) was described to them by Mr. Thompson. The vicar (the Rev. A. K. Pavey) also spoke on some of the important problems connected with the church. Their remarks are embodied in the following description of the building.

BRIXWORTH CHURCH.

A body of monks from Peterborough is said to have settled at Brixworth between 670 and 680. The buildings of their monastery were probably destroyed by the Danes during the invasion of 870. These statements rest upon later evidence; but the masonry of a great part of the present church may be reasonably ascribed to a date earlier than the Danish conquest, and there is considerable evidence for its repair and partial reconstruction at two separate times. One of these repairs certainly took place in Saxon times: the date of the second is not clear, but some time shortly before or after the Norman conquest is probable. The church at present consists of a clerestoried nave of four bays, originally aisled; a quire or presbytery of two bays, of equal width with the nave, and with a south chapel; an apse, polygonal externally but internally semicircular, surrounded below the ground-level by a sunken ambulatory; and a western tower, to which is attached on the west side a large stair-turret of semi-circular form.

The nave appears to be substantially of the earliest period (670–680). The walls are of rubble stone-work, with which is mingled a large number of thin bricks, evidently re-used from the ruins of Romano-British buildings near the site. This circumstance, combined with the general kinship of the plan to that of the early Christian basilican type of church, has given rise to the ill-founded opinion that the church was originally a Roman secular basilica, which is now generally abandoned. The nave opened into aisles through an arcade of four arches in each of the side-walls, divided from each other by square piers or masses of wall. Both the piers and arches rise slightly in height from west to east. Each arch is of two rings in the same plane with each other and the wall-faces of the piers. These rings, with their outer circumscribing semicircles, are very largely composed of Roman bricks, but thin slabs of local oolite have also been freely used in a manner which suggests a reconstruction of the arches after a period of ruin, in which new stone-work was used where the supply of original bricks failed. The jointing of the arches afforded some difficulty to the builders: the lowest voussoirs are tilted against each other with approximately straight joints, and wedges of rubble and mortar are inserted above the pier at the normal springing-point. Above the arches the wall on each side has an internal off-set, which also occurs at a somewhat higher level in the west wall. The clerestory has four wide round-headed window-openings on each side, cut nearly straight through the wall. The arches are again largely built of brick. The size of these windows and the absence of any appreciable internal splay is very exceptional in work of this early date in England, but may be paralleled from early Italian churches of the basilican type. A wide relieving arch with a chamfer was inserted, probably in the fourteenth century, between two bays of the clerestory in the inner face of the south wall, probably in consequence of the weakening of the wall by the insertion of a large window below.

The aisles were removed and the arches blocked at an uncertain date.

The present south doorway has a round-headed arch with early Gothic mouldings and jamb-shafts, made about 1180: it is too wide for the space in which it is set, beneath the western arch of the south arcade, and the wall on the west side has been cut into to admit it. Until the restoration undertaken by the Rev. C. F. Watkins in 1863, this doorway was covered by a contemporary porch, which was then removed. The eastern arch of the same arcade, until the same restoration, opened into the western bay of the south chapel, which was then shortened to its present length. It is therefore possible that the aisles were taken down before 1180, and certain that their destruction took place before the end of the thirteenth century, when the chapel was completed. This is apparent on the north side, where some four feet of the lower portions of the piers have been cased with masonry, the chamfered off-sets of which agree in date with the similar off-set of the south chapel. From recent excavations it appears that transverse walls originally extended across the north aisle from each of the piers. The arches on this side are set back on the piers, so that there is an offset towards the aisle. It may have been intended to build transverse arches across the aisle, for which sleeper-walls were prepared at the foundations; but of such arches or of any transverse partitions above the foundation walls there is no indication. These features have not been found upon the south side; the foundations of a wall running in an oblique direction from south-east to north-west were discovered at a little distance from the south door, but of this or its connexion with the church nothing positive can be said. The present fillings of the arches are modern on both sides, with the exception of that in which the south doorway is built. The old fillings with late Gothic windows were taken out at the restoration, and the new insertions were pierced with wide round-headed window-openings.

The nave is now divided from the presbytery by a wide and very flat chamfered arch, probably of the fourteenth century. In the north jamb, however, there remains the springing of an earlier arch, which formed the northern member of an arcade of three arches, with a wide arch in the centre. The transverse sleeper wall of this screen-arcade has been discovered, as well as the bases of piers which appear to have been thick pieces of wall like the piers of the nave.

The north wall of the presbytery is lighted by two large three-light windows. That on the east was entirely rebuilt in the restoration of 1863. The sill of the western window, which is of the early fourteenth century and appears to have been in the south wall of the nave till 1863, has cut into the brick arch of a round-headed doorway of the early period, which probably opened into a chamber or sacristy on this side. The lower part of the south wall is pierced by two arches communicating with the south chapel: above them the old wall remains, with the blocked arch and upper portion of a large round-headed window, which was splayed internally. The eastern arch is narrow and pointed, and has keeled responds with moulded capitals and bases: it belongs to the earlier part of the thirteenth century. The western arch is lower and wider, and was made about 1300. Its responds are octagonal, and the mouldings are without the concave profiles of those of the earlier arch.

The south chapel, the destroyed western bays of which, as already noted, overlapped the south arcade of the nave, assumed its complete form about

the third quarter of the thirteenth century. To this date belong the window-openings with their simple tracery of curved mullions, and the whole of the south wall, including the two handsome tomb-recesses with moulded arches and shafts. A portion of the base-course of the east wall suggests that the chapel was formed by the enlargement of a twelfth-century addition to the church on this site. There is a small doorway in the south wall with a plain four-centred arch, which is an insertion.

In the centre of the east wall of the presbytery is the tall chancel arch, which is probably in great part original. On either side of it, high in the wall, is a round-headed opening, similar in general character to those in the clerestory. At some distance below these and partly below the present level of the floor are two blocked openings with rounded heads, through each of which passed a flight of steps, giving access to the sunken ambulatory of the apse. In the south part of the wall, above the blocked doorway and below the window-opening, is a pointed recess, the back wall of which retains some of its plaster, with traces of a mural painting. The jamb of an earlier recess, not, however, of pre-Norman date, is seen in the wall some inches to the north of the recess in question, which is probably of the thirteenth century.

The present apse, the floor of which is some steps above the presbytery, with the exception of its north-western part, is modern, but is built upon an ancient sub-structure. Before the restoration the chancel was a rectangular building, which seems to have assumed that shape in the fourteenth or fifteenth century In 1863 the later mediaeval work was destroyed, and the present apse built on the lines suggested by the old masonry which remained. There can be little doubt that the polygonal apse of which portions remain was rebuilt at an uncertain date upon the site of the original apse, and that the sunken ambulatory which encircles its east end and is now open to the sky formed a portion of the earlier building. The wall forming the outer circumference of the ambulatory, with the two wide recesses which it contains, has been rebuilt, but the inner wall is old, with the exception of a portion beneath the east end of the apse, and retains much of its original plaster. An off-set of bricks supported the springing of a barrel-vault, of which some courses remain on the north side, and are reproduced in the modern work of the rest. Upon the semicircular base was built a polygonal apse with five sides. The bays of the apse were divided by pilaster-buttresses, the outer faces of which were not flat but angular, while their heads were united by a continuous surface-arcade, the springing of which can be traced at the north-west corner. One original window remains in the north-west bay: it is wide and round-headed: one buttress and a large part of another are left. No bricks occur in the masonry above the sub-structure, but a species of tufa, which is not found in the nave or presbytery, is freely used. This is one circumstance which indicates that the five-sided apse is a rebuilding. Apart from the somewhat advanced structural character of the work, shown in the use of buttresses, the evidence of rebuilding is also clear from the fact that the northern wall encroaches on the eastern wall of the presbytery, so that the window in that wall only just escapes being blocked. This is also a feature of the new work on the south side.

The ambulatory is a singular feature in two ways. The position of

the windows in the east wall of the presbytery leads to the conclusion that it was originally external to an apse, the upper wall of which was semicircular both outside and inside. The barrel-vault was probably protected by a lean-to roof. In the second place, investigation has failed to reveal any traces of a crypt below the apse, such as the ambulatory would lead us to suspect. The soil beneath the apse is said to be undisturbed, and is in the main composed of solid iron-stone rock. When the upper part of the inner face of the old ambulatory wall was uncovered at the restoration, it bore no traces of plaster; while the plaster on the outer face is original and conceals no openings to any inner chamber. There was an opening in the east part of the wall, which has now been rebuilt, but it is supposed that this was made for a burial at a much later date. In default of evidence for a crypt, the reason of a feature which, so far as England and a large part of Europe are concerned, is unique, cannot be stated positively. The two entrances imply that it was intended for visitors to a shrine, who could enter in the usual way by one door and leave by the other, and it is possible that the recesses on the north-east and south-east sides of the passage contained tombs or relics.

The west tower with the west wall of the nave remains to be described. As the north wall of the church is a little longer than the south wall, the west wall is set obliquely to the nave. The doorway from the ground-floor of the tower is in the middle of the wall, and is a wide archway with a head of Roman bricks. Vertically above this is a similar but smaller archway, now blocked, from which the first floor of the tower was entered, probably by a wooden stair or landing, from the interior of the church The outer head of this arch, however, has been cut into by a large triple opening, forming a window in the first story of the tower. This is composed of three narrow arches, turned in brick and divided by two large baluster-shafts with through-stone impost blocks, capitals of a roughly trapezoidal shape, rounded centre-blocks swelling in the middle with neck and base-mouldings, and tall bases the upper parts of which have hollow curves.

The tower itself is of three stages below the belfry, undivided by off-sets. Each of these communicates by a doorway with the rounded turret which projects from the west base. The low round-headed doorway on the ground-floor, which opens into the lobby at the foot of the vice within the turret, has been made, however, in the masonry with which a lofty arch, the original western entrance from outside, has been filled in. The tower also had ground-floor doorways in the north and south walls, and the southern doorway now forms the outer entrance of the tower. But it is clear that these lesser doorways opened into lateral chambers, a few courses of the western walls of which are left, in bond with the walls of the tower. Each of these chambers had an upper floor, the holes for the joists of which are now blocked, but can be clearly distinguished: there was no communication between these upper rooms and the first floor of the tower, and nothing remains to show how they were approached.

The vice in the western turret, which was, as has been seen, an addition to the tower-building, is wide and lighted very thoroughly by a number of wide rectangular openings, originally closed by pierced stones, of which two remain. One of the two, however, if not the other, is a comparatively late insertion in the opening. The vice is covered by a winding barrel-

vault, mostly covered with its original plaster. Its material and that of the newel of the stair is in great part of the tufa, dark in colour and light in weight, which is employed in the apse. The first floor of the tower is entered from the stair by a round-headed archway with brick voussoirs. This is of the earlier date, and an examination of the entrance shows that it has been formed, with little alteration, from an original window-opening. The entrance from the stair to the second floor is through a rough opening made in tufa walling. The walls of the second floor are, however, of fourteenth-century masonry, and when this stage was rebuilt, the head of the stair and its vault were destroyed just above the springing of the latter.

The first floor of the tower is the key to the history of the structure. The line of the original plaster in the west wall shows that this stage was originally covered by a gabled roof: there are similar, but slighter indications in the east wall. Above the sides of the gables the walls have been heightened: the north and south walls have also been raised and otherwise repaired. In the work of heightening tufa was largely used, as in the stair-turret and apse. On the top of the story thus transformed another story was added, and the vice was built against the west face of the building to afford easy access to these upper chambers. The growth of the tower is thus analogous to the process which took place in the late seventh-century church at Monkwearmouth. The church was originally entered through a porch with a lofty western entrance and an upper chamber with a gabled roof, and the porch was flanked on each side by a small building with an upper room, the use of which is conjectural. Foundations have also been discovered of a building, probably an outer porch, at right angles to the west wall of the tower. The upper chamber of the porch was entered, as already noted, from the interior of the church: its floor-level, which is indicated by off-sets in the walls below the present floor, was lower than at present. It had a window in the west wall, and another in the south wall: the latter was placed rather high, probably to clear the roof of the flanking building on that side, and, as its arch is constructed of tufa, it appears to have been rebuilt when the wall was raised. The upper chamber was evidently used for some special purpose which is not clear; and this led about the close of the tenth century to the piercing of the large triple window-opening into the church. The archway below the window, although its head was mutilated by this insertion, probably continued to be the entrance to the chamber until about the middle of the eleventh century. At this time or even rather later the porch was raised into a tower, the turret added and the western doorway of the ground-floor blocked. The original window in the west wall of the chamber on the first floor was converted into a doorway, and the archway on that floor communicating with the interior of the nave was filled up.

Early in the fourteenth century, the belfry-stage of the tower was taken down and replaced by the present belfry-stage, which was crowned by a broach-spire with pinnacles at the angles. The turret, however, was retained to its full height, and it is not certain whether it was at this time or later that the upper parts of the stair and its vault were broken away. It is noticeable that a considerable amount of herring-bone coursing occurs in the turret and in the south wall of the tower: similar coursing is found in the interior of the east and north walls on the first floor. As herring-

bone coursing is now acknowledged to be generally indicative of an early Norman date, and is found at Brixworth in connexion with the tufa masonry which is also a feature of the obviously rebuilt chancel, it may reasonably be inferred that the work of restoration and rebuilding was undertaken in the later part of the eleventh century, and possibly soon after the Norman conquest. This is also rendered probable by the somewhat advanced construction and design of the chancel. Turrets similar to that at Brixworth are found in three other instances in England. At Brigstock in Northamptonshire and at Hough-on-the-Hill in Lincolnshire they occur in connexion with masonry of a type generally acknowledged to be Saxon: at Broughton, near Brigg, the tower and turret, though rough in detail and much patched at various restorations, can hardly be earlier than the later part of the eleventh century.

The condition of the tower and west wall of the church indicate that, when the presumably eleventh-century restoration took place, the south wall of the porch and adjacent angle of the nave had become somewhat ruinous, and had to be almost rebuilt. This is indicated by the herring-bone work in the lower part of the south wall of the tower and by the sparing re-use of brick-work at the angles of tower and nave. A portion of an old carved stone has also been built into the west wall of the nave on this side. There is less indication of thorough rebuilding below the first floor on the north side, but if, as is probable, the chambers adjoining the porch were pulled down at this time, it is clear that the west wall of the nave on either side must have undergone thorough reconstruction. It contains, however, neither tufa nor herring-bone coursing.

The church contains some interesting carved stones. One of these, with the figure of an eagle in low relief, is built into the inner jamb of the north doorway: it was described by Sir Henry Dryden in *Associated Architectural Societies' Reports*, vol. xix. A portion of a Saxon cross-shaft of unquestionably early date was taken in 1897 from the vicarage garden and placed in the church near the pulpit: its ornamental sculpture closely resembles that of the famous "fishing stone" at Gosforth in Cumberland. Another carved stone is built into the east wall of the south chapel. A fine effigy of a knight in chainmail and surcoat in the south chapel is probably that of Sir John de Verdon, to whom the thirteenth-century rebuilding of this part of the church may be ascribed. Two stones in the presbytery floor have inscriptions in Lombardic lettering: one is that of Simon Curteys (d. 1328), the founder of a chantry, while the other is that of a vicar, Adam de Tauntone, who died in 1334–1335. A fourteenth-century stone reliquary, containing half a throat-bone of a saint (possibly St. Boniface, in whose honour there was a gild in the parish), was described by Sir Henry Dryden in the article above noticed. The church was granted by Henry I to Roger, bishop of Salisbury, in 1112, and became a prebend in the church of Salisbury, appropriated to the chancellor, who still retains the nominal prebend of Bricklesworth with his stall.

M. Valentin de Courcel drew attention to the analogy between the western part of Brixworth church and that of several churches in Syria and Italy, where small square rooms are to be seen on both sides of the doorway, and suggested that possibly these rooms at Brixworth might have been used as chapels dedicated in honour of St. Michael and St. Gabriel, as was often done in such parts of churches in early times.

HOLDENBY HOUSE AND CHURCH.

The journey was then continued to Holdenby. This was described by Mr. Gotch as having been one of the largest of the palaces built by the courtiers of queen Elizabeth. It was the work of Sir Christopher Hatton, "the last and greatest monument of his youth," as he called it. It was building about the year 1580. There were two large courts in the house itself, and a vast outer or base court.

The first of these courts was 128 feet by 104, and the second 140 feet by 110. The hall stood between them, and one of its peculiarities was that instead of the usual screen it had two lofty obelisks covered with shields bearing the arms of the neighbouring gentry. One of these obelisks is figured in Buck's view of the ruins of 1729. The principal front extended some 300 feet and faced west, looking across to Althorp. Judging by Thorpe's plan it must have been a very fine façade, largely massed, discreetly broken up and full of glittering windows flanked by adequate stretches of plain wall.

Of this enormous pile little besides one side of one court survived the commonwealth. The remains were eventually enlarged and converted into the present house. Two large archways also remain, which originally formed lateral entrances, like the archways at Kirby, to the walled forecourt of the house. The walls have been destroyed. The archways are excellent examples of the heavy pseudo-classical style of the early renaissance in England: the compound curves of the pediments and large circles in the gables bear witness to the influence of contemporary Flemish and German art. The archways bear the date 1583 and the arms of Sir Christopher Hatton. The house passed from the Hatton family about 1608 into the possession of the crown, and it became one of the places of detention for Charles I. After his death it was sold, and soon afterwards it fell, or was violently hurried, into decay.

The description of it, which occurs in the matter-of-fact survey of the royal mansions in 1650, confirms the opinion formed from Thorpe's plans, that it was a magnificent palace.

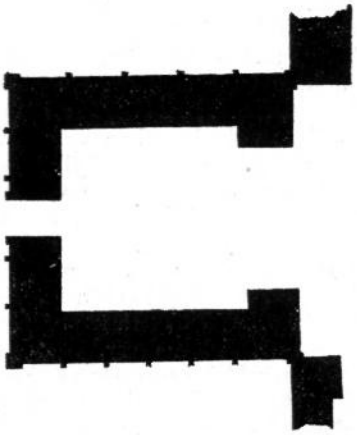
The parish church, which stands just to the south of the house, is noteworthy for the fine renaissance screen, which is said to have come from the hall of the destroyed mansion, and is shown on Thorpe's plan.

EARL'S BARTON CHURCH.

The party returned from Holdenby to Northampton for luncheon, and then drove out in an easterly direction to Earl's Barton church, of whose tower a plan is given in figure 27. The chief peculiarities of this were given by Mr. Thompson.

The remarkable west tower, of plastered rubble, with "long-and-short" quoins, and bands of strip-work on its faces, was probably built towards the close of the tenth century, and is apparently contemporary with the lower portions of the towers of Barnack and St. Peter's, Barton-on-Humber. The details of the upper stages, with diagonal bands of strip-work, and baluster shafts set on the outer faces of the sections of wall between the window-openings, and the construction of the west doorway, deserve special notice. Such details have been wrongly supposed to have been derived from timber construction: this, however, is by analogy with timber buildings of a much later date, and there are no grounds for the theory. Professor Baldwin Brown has laid some stress upon the influence of Germany upon England at the time of the religious revival of the tenth century,

and has suggested the derivation of "strip-work" and other kindred features of the towers mentioned from German sources, which in their turn were probably indebted to Italian buildings. The present parapet of the tower is a late addition, and the wide archway into the nave was made late in the thirteenth century, with re-use of twelfth-century material. The quoins of an aisleless early Norman nave are fairly perfect at two angles, and can be traced at all four. The south doorway, of the third quarter of the twelfth century, was rebuilt when the south aisle was made. The twelfth-century chancel was lengthened and largely rebuilt about the middle of the thirteenth century, but the old material was carefully re-used. The arcading round the chancel was reconstructed, and some of the spare arches from the east wall were inserted as sedilia in the new part of the south wall; while pieces of chevron ornament, probably from the jambs of earlier windows, were built up at the interior angles of the old walls



[*By permission of Mr John Murray.*

FIG. 27. EARL'S BARTON CHURCH. PLAN OF WESTERN TOWER.

Scale: 16 ft. = 1 in.

From Prof. Baldwin Brown's *The Arts in Early England.*

of the chancel, at their junction with the thinner walls of the added portion. Aisles were added to the nave about this time the south aisle being the earlier; but they were considerably altered in the fourteenth century, when the arches of the nave also seem to have been reconstructed, and a new chancel arch was made, the older jambs being left. The fifteenth-century screen has been much restored. In the wall of the north aisle is a locker for a processional cross, and there are two low-side windows, one on either side of the quire. The church was appropriated to the abbess and convent of Delapre (St. Mary of the Meadows), near Northampton.

Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, in speaking of the strip-work, said that some time ago the late Mr. G. E. Fox had called his attention to some figured mosaic pavement discovered in North Africa, which showed Roman buildings

ornamented with pilasters in precisely the same way as this Saxon tower. It had to be remembered that when the Saxons came to England they brought no building tradition with them. In building their stone churches they used Roman materials and based their work on Roman models. So it is not to Germany that we need look for the prototypes.

Mr. Hope also added some remarks about the Norman castle mount hard by. He thought that its nearness to the church could be explained by the fact that the nave had originally been aisleless and the graveyard on the north side of it was as usual at first of small extent: there had thus been plenty of room for the mount and its ditch. The latter was now partly filled up by the later extension of the churchyard. There were quite a number of examples of the parish church and the castle of the lord of the manor being in such close proximity.

Mr. Hope further remarked that when at Liddington he had forgotten to mention two instances of what were apparently documentary references to the making of low-side windows in Windsor castle, where neither lepers were tolerated nor folk in the habit of resorting for confession. In one of these a window which was glazed above and shuttered below was inserted early in Henry the Third's reign in the king's chapel, which was on the first floor of the buildings in the upper bailey: the other was the making of a small window called a "gapier" in the great hall in the lower bailey of the castle (now destroyed) when one end of it was fitted up as a temporary chapel for the dean and canons in the reign of Richard II, while the chapel of St. Edward and St. George was being repaired.

The journey was continued to Castle Ashby, where the great mansion of the Comptons (figs. 28 and 29), was described by Mr. Gotch.

CASTLE ASHBY. Every vestige of the castle which in the middle ages existed here has disappeared. The estate was acquired by the Comptons in 1512, and the house was begun by Henry lord Compton, probably between 1583 and 1589. It was continued by his son William lord Compton, and finished in 1624. This date is worked in the stone parapet and follows the text "Nisi Dominus," etc. the letters of which form the balustrade. The bulk of the house is of the Elizabethan type, with mullioned windows, but the south front is said to have been designed by Inigo Jones. The interior has undergone much renovation, but there is a fine room of the Jacobean period called king William's dining-room.

The gardens and lay-out have always been noteworthy. A map of 1760 shows a fine avenue leading from each of the fronts. Shortly after this date great changes were made by "Capability" Brown, but his work was stopped by the impoverishment of the family owing to the enormous expense of the parliamentary election of 1767–1768. About the middle of last century the gardens were taken in hand by the third marquess of Northampton, and to him is owing much of their present magnificence.

COGENHOE CHURCH. The programme of the day and of the meeting closed with a visit to Cogenhoe, whose church was described by the Rev. R. M. Serjeantson. As we have it now, he said, it dates mainly from the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. There are, however, small portions of an earlier church still remaining. The south doorway dates from about the third quarter of the twelfth century, and

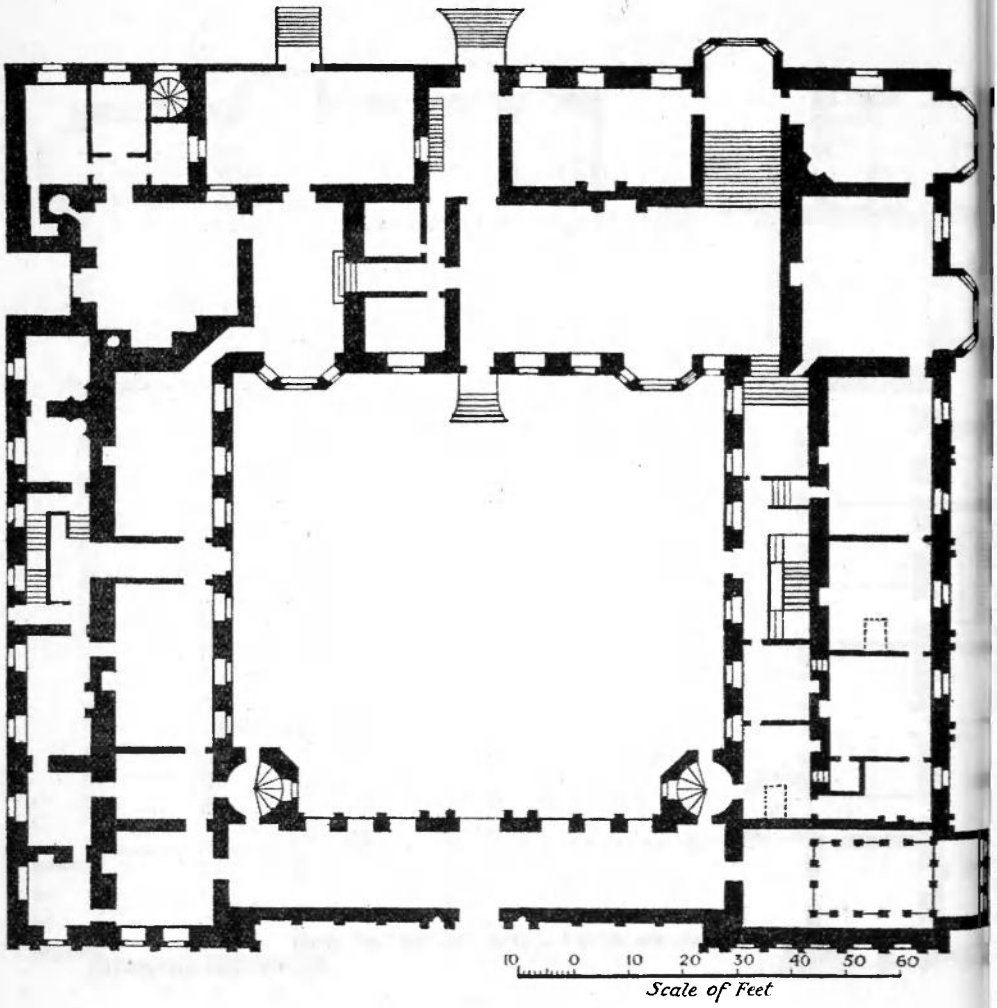


FIG. 28. CASTLE ASHBY. GROUND FLOOR.

From *Vitruvius Britannicus.*

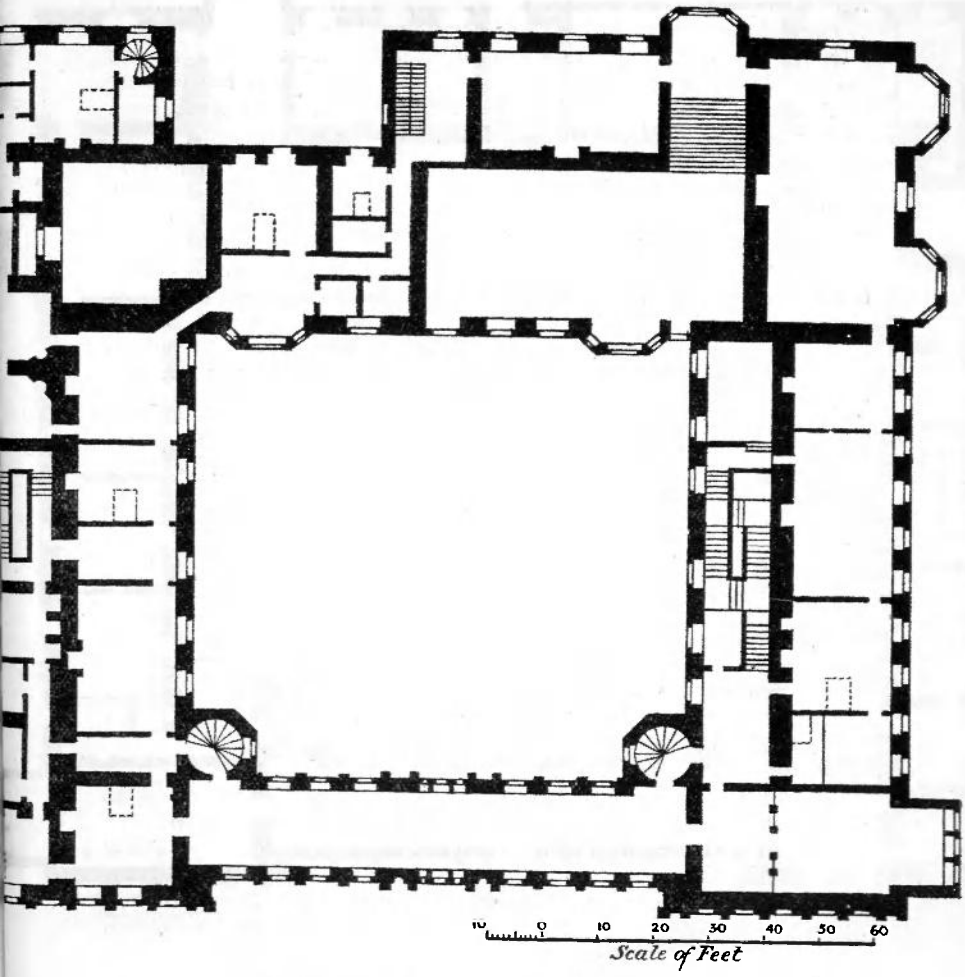


FIG. 29. CASTLE ASHBY. FIRST STORY.

From *Vitruvius Britannicus.*

parts of the south wall of the chancel may also be of the same date. The chancel was rebuilt about the year 1225. An interesting feature in this work is the beautiful arcade which runs along the north and south walls. The capitals have square abaci, but rest upon triple circular filleted shafts. Within the arcades, on the south side, are pairs of lancet lights, divided by circular engaged columns with square moulded abaci.

On the north side there are only two arcade arches. That to the east contains similar windows to those on the south. The next bay was left blank, and is now occupied by two small aumbries, above which is an interesting specimen of an Easter sepulchre.

The east window of the chancel appears to be a few years later, perhaps about the year 1240.

During the third quarter of the thirteenth century the nave was rebuilt, doubtless by Nicholas de Cogenhoe, whose family had held the manor since the time of Henry II. His arms, a fess between three mascles, occur four times on the capitals of the nave arcade, and are also represented on his tomb, which is now at the south-east corner of the south aisle. About the same time that these alterations were being made in the nave, a chapel was added on the north side of the chancel. We may safely assume that this work was effected about the year 1275, judging from the style of the architecture; but quite apart from this, there is documentary evidence to show that building operations of some kind were going on at Cogenhoe at this time. Thus on 27th February, 1277, the keeper of the king's forest between the bridges of Oxford and Stamford was ordered to cause Nicholas de Cogenhoe to have five oaks fit for timber; and two years later, 12th of March, 1279, Roger Clifford, justice of the forests on this side of the Trent, was required to allow him a further four oaks in the forest of Salcey.

The next work taken in hand was the widening of the aisles, which was carried out during the second quarter of the fourteenth century. The south porch is also of the same date. It was afterwards heightened in the fifteenth century, but the line of the gable of the fourteenth-century porch is still clearly visible.

About the middle of the fifteenth century the present tower was built at the west end of the church, and at the same time a clerestory was added to the nave.

Against the second pier, on the south side of the nave arcade, is a highly ornamented niche, which once doubtless contained the figure of a saint. In the porch is a holy-water stock, of late fifteenth or early sixteenth century date. On the east gable of the church is a beautifully sculptured stone cross, carved on all four sides. It bears representations of the holy Trinity, the Crucifixion, St. Peter, and St. Paul.

With regard to the men who built this church the following notes may be interesting. The family of de Cogenhoe was settled here at least as early as the reign of Henry II, when William de Cogenhoe was certified to hold one hide and a half, and one virgate of land in Cogenhoe. But the man in whom we are most interested is Nicholas de Cogenhoe, who rebuilt the nave, and whose arms we see on several of the capitals. He was not a tenant-in-chief, but held part of the manor from John de Hastings, and the rest from Nicholas de Haversham.

Nicholas de Cogenhoe was evidently a favourite with Edward I, who in 1275, granted him three tuns of the royal wine, with which his son Nicholas the younger might keep the feast of his inception at Oxford.[1] Three years later, on two different occasions, the king granted his friend Nicholas a tun of the king's wine for his own use. Now and again, as we have seen, he received from his royal master a grant of oaks fit for timber, to be used doubtless in the rebuilding of the church, or for the erection or repair of his own manor house. The most interesting gift, however, is one of twelve live hares, which the keeper of Northampton park was ordered to send to Nicholas de Cogenhoe for the stocking of a grove of his.

Nicholas de Cogenhoe died in 1281, and was buried in the south aisle of the church, where his effigy, in full chain mail, is still to be seen.

He was succeeded by his son William de Cogenhoe, who founded a chantry of our Lady in the church of Cogenhoe, " to maintain one priest to sing for ever for the soul of the founder and his friends." Little is known about him except that he accompanied the king to France in 1286 and 1287; and that in 1298 he was selected, with seven others, to escort Blanche, widow of Edmund, the king's brother, on a journey beyond the seas.

William de Cogenhoe died about the year 1313, leaving a son Giles, who apparently fell a victim to the Black Death in 1349. A great grandson of this Giles was the last of the de Cogenhoes in the male line, and at his death, at the age of 10, in 1399, the property passed to his sister Agnes, who shortly afterwards married Sir John Cheyne.[2]

The Cheynes held the estate for two centuries and a half, until, about the year 1660, Charles Cheyne, afterwards created viscount Newhaven, sold his property at Cogenhoe to find part of the purchase money for the duke of Hamilton's estate at Chelsea, which he was then buying. One relic of the Cheyne family still remains in the church, an interesting map of the parish drawn up in 1630 for " Mr. Francis Cheney, Esq."

With regard to the internal arrangement of the building in pre-reformation times, we learn from the wills of parishioners of Cogenhoe that there was a chapel in this church dedicated to our Lady: that there were altars of our Lady and St. Nicholas; and that there was a light of St. Peter, a sepulchre light and a torch light.

One parishioner in 1531 leaves two cows to the church of Cogenhoe, and provides that " the churchwardens alway for the time being shall have the letting and setting to hire of the said two kine for the most advantage of the said church. And if it fortune that any of the said two kine die, or both of them, then I will that the said churchwardens shall buy other stock. And I ordain and will that the two kine shall ever more endure for the purpose above named." (i.e. to provide an annual mass and dirge for his soul).

[1] The inception meant the taking of the M.A. degree, when the scholar began to *teach*. Every inceptor whose income amounted to £40 a year had to feast all the regent (teaching) masters or forfeit 20 marks to the university.

[2] Mr. Serjeantson desires to place on record his indebtedness to the late Mr. Albert Hartshorne for these notes on the de Cogenhoe family.

The inventory of the goods of the church drawn up in 1552, at the king's command, is much mutilated, but it shows that at Cogenhoe the best vestment was of purple velvet embroidered with gold. The church also possessed a white vestment of satin of Bruges, with back and face of red Bruges satin with all things pertaining thereto; also one cope. The rest of the page is torn off.

One of the church's present relics is a small manuscript volume of sermons, in the hand-writing of Francis Smith, who was rector of Cogenhoe from 1637 to 1656. It is beautifully written, and in addition to the sermons, contains special forms of service for holy baptism and matrimony. These were apparently composed by the rector himself, in place of the corresponding services in the book of common prayer, the use of which had been forbidden by the Long Parliament.

In 1345 the coroner's rolls for Northamptonshire record a case of a fugitive taking sanctuary in this church. A certain Ralph Capoun robbed a man of 10s. in the wood of Harpole, and for fear of arrest, took sanctuary in the church of Ecton, on Friday in the octave of St. Hilary, 13th January. He confessed his crime to the coroner on the following Sunday, but at that time expressed himself as unwilling to abjure the realm. He stayed in the church of Ecton until the feast of St. Valentine, 14th February, when he managed to escape; but the hue and cry was soon raised, and he was glad once more to take sanctuary, this time in the church of Cogenhoe. Here on the feast of St. Peter in Cathedra, 22nd February, he again confessed his crime, abjured the realm, and was despatched to Dover.

The editors are very much indebted to Mr. Gotch, Mr. Hope, Mr. Serjeantson, and Mr. Hamilton Thompson for material assistance in drawing up the foregoing report.

PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

Wednesday, 6th November, 1912.

Sir Henry H. Howorth, K.C.I.E. D.C.L. F.R.S. F.S.A. *President*, in the Chair.

Mr. C. H. Bothamley, M.Sc. read a paper on the thirteenth-century walled town of Aigues-Mortes, with numerous lantern illustrations. The paper will in due course be printed in the *Journal*.

In the discussion which followed the Chairman said it was interesting to note that although the town was built at one date and on what was practically a clear site, the spot was occupied in the sixth century by a monastic house. This was before the Saracenic occupation of northern Africa, and the scourge of their piracy had been felt in the Mediterranean. When one considered that the whole littoral was scattered with remains which consisted almost exclusively either of defences against the pirates, or of works erected by them, he felt no doubt that the dread of pirates was the reason for erecting the walls of Aigues-Mortes, which otherwise seemed needless. With this town might be compared the early fourteenth-century Burgundian walls of Moret in Switzerland, which still retain their brattices.

Mr. Hope said he could not call to mind anything in England at all comparable with Aigues-Mortes. The city of Salisbury is contemporary, and Ludlow a little earlier: both were laid out on new sites, and in both the usual rectangular mediaeval town planning was adopted, but here the similarity ends. He was anxious to know whence this rectangular planning was derived. It certainly did not appear to him to owe anything to Roman survivals in the places he had named. He also drew attention to the efforts made at Aigues-Mortes to render everything fireproof, and raised the question as to the nature of the missiles discharged through machicolations and other openings. The ordinary tradition of molten lead and boiling oil could not be accepted as probable, for obvious reasons of expense and impracticability.

The Chairman said that where towns were laid out de novo a rectangular planning of the streets was the most logical and would therefore be adopted irrespective of any precedents.

He also suggested that the religious care with which the inhabitants preserved the town walls in this and other mediaeval sites was due to the belief, now known to have some foundation in fact, that malaria could not pass through them, for it seems that a high wall presents a serious obstacle to the mosquitoes that carry the infection.

He then moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Bothamley, which was passed unanimously.

Mr. Bothamley, in his reply, observed that the rectangular town plan was common all over south and south-western France, instancing the newer town of Carcassonne. So far as he knew, the only English parallel to Aigues-Mortes in England was Conway, where one found a castle and town of the same date, built as part of one definite plan. In the town, however, the rectangular plan was not so well marked.

With regard to missiles through the machicolations he agreed with Mr. Hope that the ordinary tradition was wrong. It seemed quite clear from some of the old accounts of sieges that stones were the missiles generally used, and also large masses of timber when they were available. Of course in great extremity any heavy objects, including household furniture and utensils, would be pressed into service, as shown in some of the illuminated manuscripts.

One reason for keeping the lower parts of the walls of Aigues-Mortes and its gates in good repair was that the town might be protected against inundations of the Rhône. In winter it was not uncommon for much of the surrounding country to be several feet under water.

Mr. Druce suggested that the reason why the Tour de Constance was connected with the town by a simple gangway might lie in the fact that the original approach was of so extremely complicated a character that it had to be replaced by the present means of access.

Mr. Bothamley said that the angle from which the photograph of the tower entrance was taken gave the impression that it was much narrower than the reality. The bridge is in fact several feet broad. Originally, no doubt, part at least of the bridge was of timber, and could be quickly removed in time of danger but there was no evidence of any drawbridge.

Wednesday, 4th December, 1912.

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

Mr. R. H. Forster, M.A. LL.B. F.S.A. read a paper on The Corbridge Excavations, 1912, with many lantern illustrations.

Mr. Forster explained that the area reserved for the work of 1912 was the northern part of the field which slopes towards the river, to the south of the granaries, fountain, and "Forum." The remains discovered were interesting, and in several cases important, and the work linked up several sites on the south side of the main east and west street, only partially excavated in 1907, with part of the area explored in 1906.

At the east end of the reserved area the remains were scanty and of poor quality, and in the south-east corner, where the ground falls more sharply, traces of foundations no longer existed. Adjoining this part of the site were the remains of a somewhat irregular and complicated building which had been reconstructed at least once, and may possibly have been latrines: the position is suitable, but only the vaguest traces of an outfall drain could be found.

To the north of this was a large oblong space, enclosed by rough but fairly substantial foundations, which may, however, indicate the enclosing wall of an unroofed area, rather than a building. The interior showed signs of industrial occupation, and there were remains of a flagged pavement at the south end. Along the east side of this space was a street, running southwards from the main east and west street: at the west edge its gutters had been enlarged by setting flat stones on edge against either side of the stone channel, but the whole road disappeared before it reached the southern limit of the excavations.

Further to the west were the foundations of three long oblong buildings, separated by narrow streets, which had been roughly outlined in 1906. The easternmost, and shortest, was a simple oblong without party walls: it contained several small hearths and rough fireplaces, but small finds were very scanty, and there was nothing to indicate its character. The next building was longer and wider, and divided into two series of chambers by a party-wall down the centre and cross-walls, some of which were of a date later than the outer walls. At the north end, as in other parts of the site on the same line, there was a noticeable depression, which appeared to be due to the careless or partial filling up of a natural hollow or small valley. Indeed, most of this part of the site seemed to have been made ground when it was first built on in Roman times: this was probably in the second century, though pottery of earlier date was found at a deep level below the filling. A trial pit sunk in one of the chambers of this building produced the greater part of a no. 29 Samian bowl and other Samian which can hardly be later than A.D. 100. Much coarse ware also was found here, which is expected to give valuable dating results.

The third building was larger, and showed a more complicated ground-plan. Apparently this site had originally been occupied by two buildings, divided by a narrow space, but the more northern of the two was in a very bad condition and little could be made of it. A small chamber in the north-west corner contained the remains of a rough hypocaust, underlying only a portion of the floor. The southern building seemed originally to have been a house, with chambers enclosing three sides of a central area, and a long open court on the west, where the building fronted on a broad street. At a comparatively late period part of the building had evidently been adapted for the manufacture of pottery, and here a small kiln was found: it was floored with square bricks and fitted with side flues, and the whole was filled and covered with a mass of broken pottery and burnt clay, the latter being apparently the remains of the clay dome or cover of the kiln. A large amount of similar fragments of pottery came from two adjacent chambers, most of it being coarse ware of a reddish-brown colour. Some of the vessels had been dishes or shallow basins of considerable size.

To the west of the broad street already mentioned was a site of particular interest. The northern part had been occupied by a building of undetermined character, the north end of which, abutting on the main east and west street, was uncovered in 1907. To the south of this was a curious building, about twenty-four feet in length, originally a simple oblong with an apse at the west end, a large door opening on the street to the east, with a small door close to it in the north wall. At a later period these

doors had been walled up, the north wall had been partially removed, and apparently a new entrance had been made near the north-west corner, but here the destruction had been very thorough. The original walls, though only 1 foot 10 inches thick, had been built with V-shaped facing stones and a core of hard concrete. This building was set at a slight angle with the general alignment of the adjoining sites. It has been conjectured that it may have been a temple, of simple form originally, but adapted later for a different cult; but practically no evidence was found which might throw light on the subject.

Further to the west was a site of which the northern part had been extensively used for the manufacture of weapons, and particularly long-shanked, socketed arrow-heads with four-sided points. Of these a large number were found in various stages of manufacture, as well as three or four small furnaces, with tempering tanks beside them. To the south were the remains of a carefully-made water tank: unfortunately only one fragment of the sides remained, but the grooves in which the other stones had been set were still clear. The tank had an outlet on the south side, but its source of supply was not discovered.

Between this site and the west hedge of the field were the remains of an extensive building of the greatest interest. It measured over all about 65 by 45 feet. It consisted of what may be termed a nave, with an apse (apparently an addition, but possibly of not much later date) at the west end, north and south aisles, each divided by a cross-wall, and a range of small chambers on the north side of the north aisle. One of these chambers had a single-flue hypocaust with a floor of very hard *opus signinum*: at a later date this had gone out of use and another hypocaust had been constructed on the earlier floor; this had an *opus signinum* floor of poorer quality, and between the cement and the flags on which it lay was found a coin of Valentinian. The building seems therefore to have been in use during the last period of the occupation, to which may be assigned a narrow forecourt at the east end, and a stone platform, composed of re-used materials, near the west end of the nave.

The most remarkable feature, however, was a sunk chamber, measuring 10 feet by 6 feet, under the western half of the south aisle. It was floored with large flags, resting on the natural sand, and had been vaulted by the method known as oversailing. The doorway, at the west end of the north side, had large flat slabs for jambs, and from this a flight of eleven steps with narrow treads led up to the floor level of the nave, just in front of the apse. The chamber appeared to have been filled up in Roman times with broken stone and masons' rubbish.

The ground plan of this building bears some resemblance to that of the church found at Silchester; but the importance of its position, with a street passing along the south fronts of the buildings already described and leading up to the west door, renders it unlikely that a church should have been built here at the comparatively early date to which this building may be assigned. It is much more probable that it was some sort of government administrative building, an adaptation to the peculiar needs of a town of the praetorium of the ordinary fort. However, it may well represent a type of official building copied in the construction of early Christian churches, and the *confessio* or relic chamber so often found

in the latter may be derived from the sunk chamber or strong room, such as has been found on this site.

A large altar, about 3 feet 8 inches high, was found lying on its side, base uppermost, on the steps leading to the sunk chamber. It is of plain design, with a moulded base and cornice, and the side panels have not received their final dressing. The first panel bears the following inscription :

DISCIPVLI
NAE
AVGVSTORVM
LEG II
AVG

This inscription lends weight to the suggestion as to the official character of the building. The mention of *Augusti* makes the date not earlier than A.D. 162, and possibly it may be as late as the time of Severus.

In or close to the same building were found the torso of a statue, probably a deity or genius, a relief showing Hercules brandishing a club, with a smaller unidentified figure beside him, and a walling stone, measuring on the face eight inches by ten, carved with a rough *tabula ansata* which bears this inscription :

LEG XXX V V
COH VII

This stone has given rise to a considerable amount of discussion, as no inscription of the thirtieth legion has hitherto been found in Britain, and the theory that it is in reality a twentieth legion stone, altered by a later hand, has strong support. The first x has undoubtedly been inserted after the second was cut, but this may have been due to faulty spacing, and does not necessarily mean that the insertion was made at a manifestly later date : the style of the cutting, which has been carried out with proper tools, is not such as to suggest a different hand, if allowance is made for the delicate handling that would be needed in order to avoid damage to the spaces on either side. In this connexion Professor Haverfield's note, which follows, is valuable, though it is difficult to see why a later inhabitant or visitor should have made the alteration, especially as the upper bed of the stone is in a rough condition, suggesting that possibly the stone was a "waster," and never occupied its intended position. All through the inscription there is a certain variation in the quality of the lettering which is hard to understand, and perhaps it is best to leave the question open for the present.

In conclusion a word must be said of certain walls, varying from four to five feet in thickness and generally having a chamfered plinth on one side, which formed a prominent feature in the season's discoveries. It seems impossible that they were originally linked up to form an enclosing wall round a section of the town : they are not of early date, and their foundations are of decidedly poor quality, while one of them partly abuts against and partly overlaps the north-east corner of the smaller apse building, and finishes in a made end, across which the plinth returns. It has been suggested by Mr. P. Newbold that in these walls we have the remains of a system of aqueducts, by which water was supplied to this quarter of the town, and there is much to be said in favour of the theory : for instance,

one of the walls in question terminates alongside the building which may have been latrines, while another, where it is broken away, is pointing directly towards the tank in which the Corbridge Lion was found. There are still, however, many difficulties to be solved, and in particular there is as yet nothing to show how a supply of water, which must have come from the north, could be introduced.

Professor Haverfield kindly contributed a note on the second inscription. He submitted that only two facts were certain: firstly, as originally cut, the stone bore the letters LEG XX V V COH VII. Later, a third x was intruded between LEG and XX and this x was cut in a more rude or cramped fashion than the other letters; and, secondly, no inscription of Legio XXX V V has yet been found in Britain. If this stone mentions it, it is the first trace of its presence.

If certainties are thus few, probabilities, or rather possibilities, claim attention. First, as to the legion. This was created by Trajan in or about A.D. 98 and employed awhile on the Danube: about A.D. 120 it was transferred to the fortress of Vetera on the lower Rhine, where it stayed till the fourth century: in A.D. 359 it was fighting, maybe temporarily, on the Euphrates frontier. Now, some Rhenish legions certainly sent detachments, or *vexillationes*, to Britain in crises; the legions VIII Augusta and XXII Primigenia are mentioned more than once as having done so. There is, therefore, no a priori difficulty in the idea that the thirtieth did so at some date between A.D. 120 and, perhaps, 350. But if it did do so, it is strange that no record survives except this admittedly blundered stone. Of the other legions there are fuller evidences, in the shape of inscriptions in Britain and abroad. On the whole, the balance of probability is slightly against the thirtieth legion on this head.

Secondly, as to the inscription. Its brief wording is absolutely on all-fours with that of many legionary stones of the second and third centuries found on the Roman Wall and at Corbridge and elsewhere. But those stones refer to cohorts of legions serving in the British province. Had a "vexillation" of the thirtieth come over from Germany and its stone-cutter carved this stone, we should expect the words usual in such cases, VEXILLATIO LEGIONIS XXX V V, of course duly abbreviated. No great stress can be laid on such a detail, but as a matter of probability the form chosen suits the twentieth legion from Chester better than the thirtieth from Vetera.

Thirdly, as to the cutting. It has been suggested that the cramped or rude cutting of the intrusive x may be due to a slip of the original stone-cutter; that is, he miscalculated his space and found, when he had already cut XX, that he could get the remaining x v v into the line. All men, even soldiers, blunder. But it is rash to assume a blunder in order to explain a puzzle of this sort. A legionary stone-cutter is not very likely to have miscalculated so simple a piece of spacing, and he was under no necessity to get all the letters into one line; he could have put his second v in the next line, or even have omitted it.

Another explanation of the inscription seems possible. The intrusive x may have been added by some casual soldier from the thirtieth legion, or by someone connected therewith, who found himself at Corstopitum after the stone was set up. It should be observed first, from the style of

letters and the circumstances of the find, that the stone might belong to the second century and even to the middle of it ; secondly, special drafts, as we know, were sent over from Germany to North Britain at that period. A Newcastle slab, dated to A.D. 158 or thereabouts, mentions men of the second, twentieth and sixth legions, the British legions, as " contributi ex Germaniis duobus " (sic), " sent specially from the two German provinces to fill gaps in the three British legions." Such a draft might, and indeed almost must, have contained men from the Vetera district, and probably even spare legionaries from the thirtieth. Any of these, in frolic or an access of affection for his old home, might have inserted the intrusive x. If this be so, the stone gives proof, not that the thirtieth ever sent a vexillation to our province, but that the British legions were often replenished from Germany.

In putting forward these suggestions, Professor Haverfield said they were only possibilities which might be destroyed by a chance discovery any day. Next year a thirtieth legion stone might be dug up at Corbridge, proving that the one now before us is only a blundered and unfinished effort, with its last two lines left blank. But on our present evidence we cannot say that.

In the discussion which followed there spoke Mr. W. H. St. John Hope and the Chairman, after which a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Forster was passed unanimously.