

PAINTED GLASS FROM A WINDOW IN THE
CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-A-BECKET,
BRIGHTLING, SUSSEX.

BY W. C. ALEXANDER.

THESE fragments of glass, a part of that which filled the eastern window on the south side of the chancel, were saved by the Clerk (Mr. Winchester) when the old glazing was removed in 1900 to make room for a new window. What remains is much shattered and other portions have been destroyed.

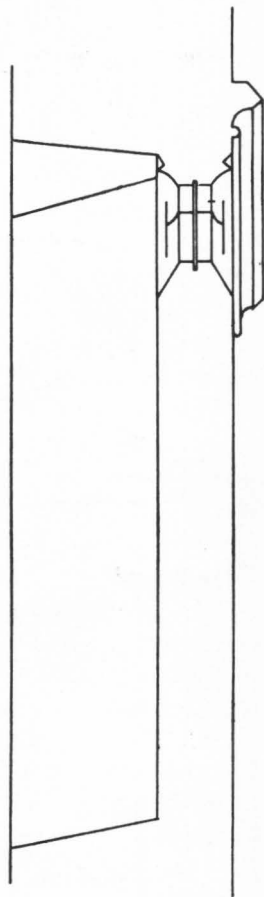
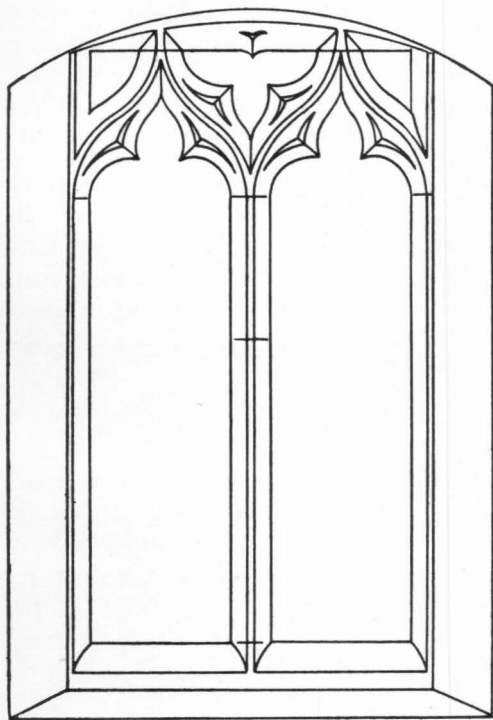
Drawing No. 1 gives the design of the Late Decorated window, and Nos. 2 to 7, inclusive, are copies of all the glass of the same period now remaining. The leading is modern, and the original arrangement has been lost, as seen in drawings 4, 5, 6 and 7. Nos. 4 and 5 have been made up to fit the two spandril lights in the tracery. Plate 7 is heraldic glass of the eighteenth century, made to fit the central tracery in the head of the window.

The decorated glass is the ordinary white of the period, thick, rough and rather green in colour; flesh-coloured pot glass is used for the two male heads; ruby glass, in which a thin coat of red covers the white glass, usually called flashed glass; yellow pot glass only seen in the fragment of a wing; and white glass with a yellow stain, used on the hair of the woman's head and in ornamental borders.

The drawing, in a deep enamel colour, is bold in treatment. On the reverse side of some of the glass a smear of brown has been used to give depth of colour to the men's hair, a treatment I have not before seen.

The most interesting fragment is the head of our Lord with the right hand raised in blessing. The head of an angel and that of a woman complete the figure subjects. The sheet of fragments No. 3 shows a portion of a wing on a yellow ground, fragment of a canopy, part of a diaper pattern, various designs of foliage and a pattern on yellow stain, consisting of a beaded ornament with a couple of small rings between, some on a straight and part on a curved line.

No. 1.

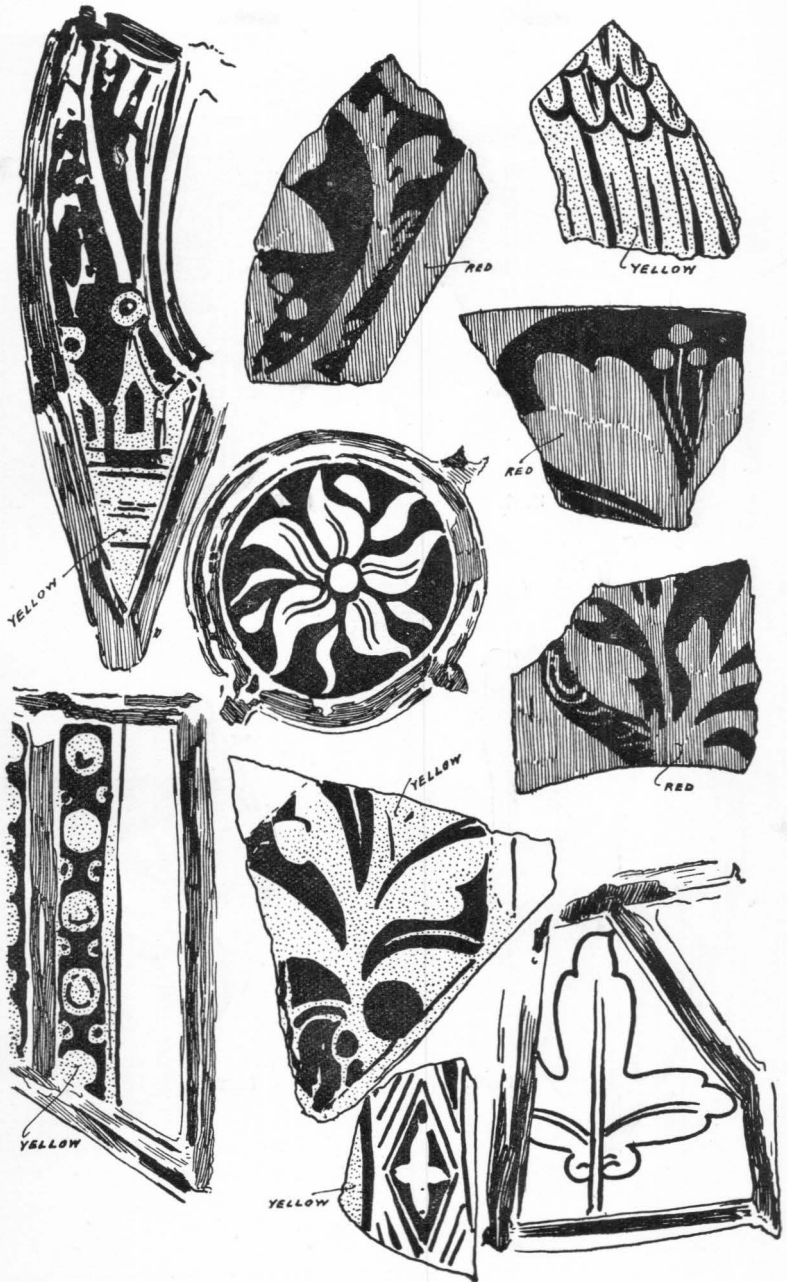


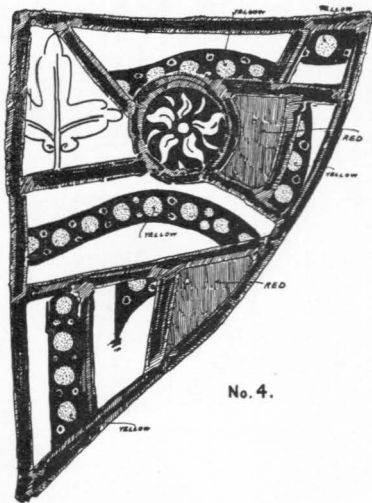
W. C. Alexander
 Nov 8 1901.

No. 2.

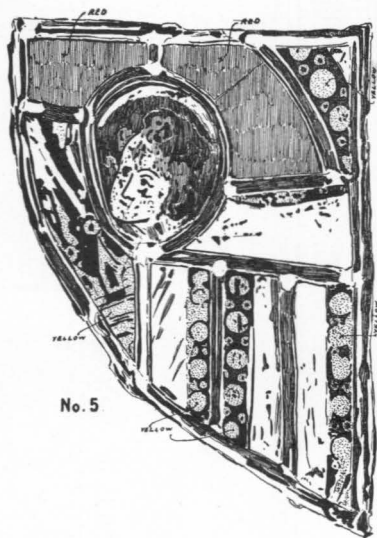


No. 3.





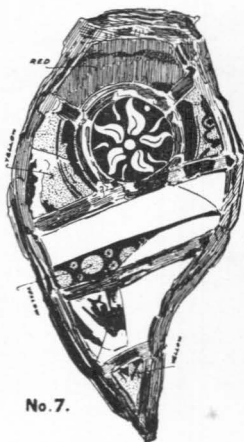
No. 4.



No. 5.



No. 6.



No. 7.



PAINTED GLASS, BRIGHTLING CHURCH.

The late heraldic glass I have copied, as it may be the memorial of a benefactor to the church. It is much broken and portions are missing. It was made to fit the central part of the tracery. The Clerk told me that he had heard it was a copy of earlier glass which had been injured and replaced in this way. Whether this is so or not the story may give a useful hint.

In the accompanying illustrations I have only been able to show the design and not the actual colour or present eaten condition of the glass. I may say I could not get satisfactory tracings, but by holding the glass at an angle could see the enamel paint on the surface. Having drawn on this with a thick black I was able to get a satisfactory print on a slightly damped Japanese paper.
