

H. Deane
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MONUMENT TO HUGH STARKY, ESQUIRE.
Over Church, Cheshire.

APPENDIX.

ST. CHAD'S CHURCH, OVER.

IN MR. RIGBY'S interesting Paper on OVER, Vol. III, pp. 533-48, and of which we much regret we were unable to find room for more than a slight abstract, we omitted to describe so particularly as it deserved the curious and noteworthy, though rather late, ALTAR TOMB and BRASS to the memory of the re-Founder of the Church, HUGH STARKY, of DARLEY HALL.

MR. H. BESWICK, the Artist who furnished the Architectural Drawings that accompany the Paper, has, in conjunction with Mr. JOHN HEWITT, one of our Members, obliged us with the following sufficient description of a hitherto almost unknown relic of CHESHIRE Monumental Art:—

The OLD CHURCH at OVER, as we have said dedicated to ST. CHAD, is situated in a retired glen, about a mile from the town, and a short distance from the highway leading from NANTWICH to OVER, near the River Weaver. It was rebuilt in 1543, by HUGH STARKY, Esq., and comprises a Nave, Chancel, and Aisles. It is a fair specimen of the perpendicular period of Gothic Architecture, but somewhat late in character. The TOWER is of pleasing proportion, four stories in height and embattled; and has had the Buttresses terminated by finials, which are now missing. A richly decorated frieze runs round the Tower beneath the Cornice.

On the South side of the Tower is a Niche with inscription, but so perished by time or ill-usage as not to be deciphered. The Porch or Parvise is two stories in height, and likewise embattled. Over the window above the Arch is a shield in a panel, with the Arms of STARKY and OULTON carried thereon.

We give a sketch of the PORCH and TOWER from the South side of the Church. So far as we know it has never been before engraved.

The SUN-DIAL shewn on this sketch, not however on account of its Architectural features, but because of its proximity to the PORCH, &c., was erected in 1745, and has the following Inscription :—

“ William Tomlinson,
Hugh Woodfent,
Churchwardens,
1745.”

Within the PORCH is a richly decorated Holy-water Basin, projecting from the wall, surmounted by a fine Crocketed Arch. Unfortunately this has been mutilated and broken.

The TOMB of the Re-builder of the Church, HUGH STARKY, Esq., is situated on the North Side of the Chancel, under a recessed obtuse Arch, having crocketed gables over the same, and projecting buttress (upon each side). The upper slab of the tomb is of black marble, bearing a very fine EFFIGY in BRASS of the above-named gentleman, with four shields engraved with the family arms, (an illustration is given of this Brass, see opposite page. A curious feature in connection with this Tomb is the inscription “*Et Gloria Soli deo honor,*” underneath the Arch; which has the letters left raised in stone three-quarters of an inch above the surface of the wall. The initials “H. S.” above the Tomb are similarly executed.

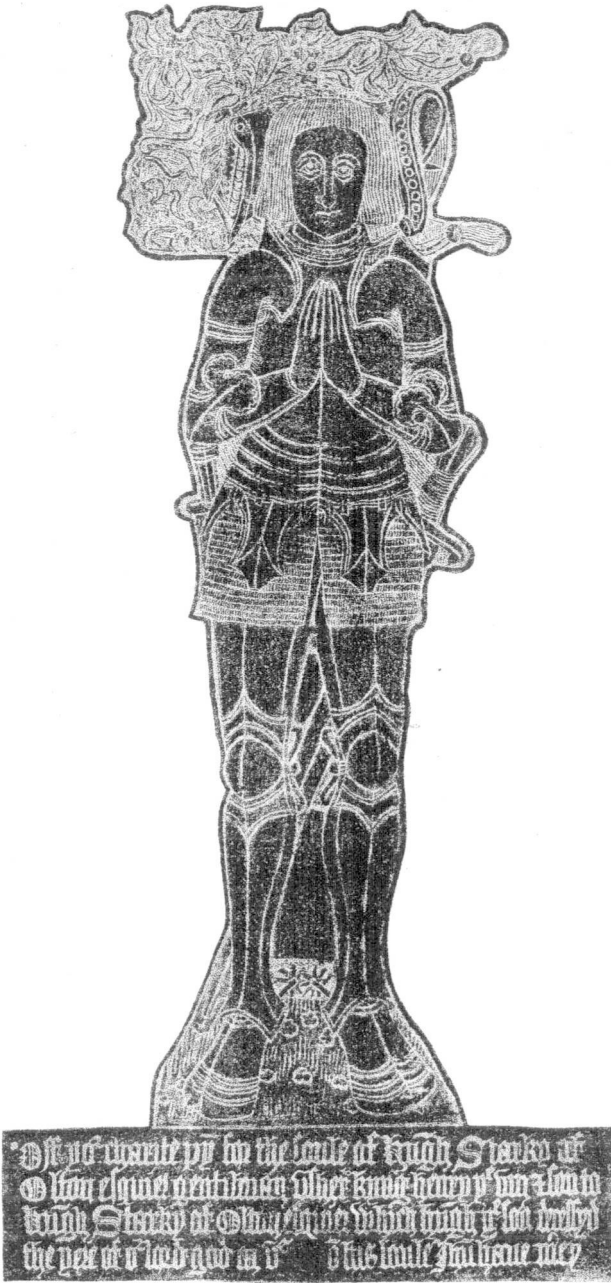
The following is a record of the Inscription on the Brass :—

“Off yo'r charite p'y for the soule of Hugh Starky of Olton esquier gentelman vsher [to] King Henry ye vij & son to Hugh Starky of Olton esquier which Hugh ye son decessyd the yere of o' lord god m.v. o' his soule Jhu haue m'cy.”*

From this it is evident that the Tomb was built during the lifetime of the said HUGH STARKY, and that the date of his death was not at the time (and has not since been) filled in.

In reference to this MONUMENT, the following extract from his WILL may prove interesting,—both the Will and Tomb having been made in the same year, though apparently not in conjunction.

* We give an illustration of this Inscribed Brass, reduced from a rubbing taken on the spot by Mr. JOHN HEWITT. The word [to] within the brackets in Roman type, was not originally on the Brass, but was added in probably the 17th century.



MONUMENTAL BRASS ON TOMB OF HUGH STARKY, ESQUIRE.
Over Church, Cheshire.

“ I will y't iff [it] ffortune me to dye w'th in the Countie of Chest'r that then my bodey shall be buried in ye Chansell of Ov', in my tombe there.”

“ Unto my said executors the advowson of ye viccarige of Ov', w'ch I haue by grant for the next avowdance therof; and I will y't my executors shall at ye next avowdance p'sent therunto Omfrey Lyghtfoote, Clerk, if he be then livinge.”

“ Unto ye said viccar of Ov' ls. for my mortuarie to pray for me.”

Another ALTAR TOMB, to the memory of the above HUGH STARKY's father and his wife MARGARET, formerly stood in the Chancel but has since been removed; the same fate befalling some stained glass figures of these persons in one of the windows (for description of which see Ormerod).

In 1870, the CHURCH was restored by removing the Galleries, cleansing the interior from the hideous whitewash that formerly disfigured this, like many of our Churches, and renewing the roof and seats throughout.

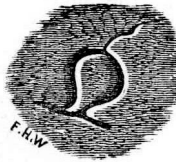
We conclude with the following slight description of the mottoes and inscriptions on the BELLS:—

- 1.—Peace and good neighbourhood, A. R. 1733.
- 2.—Joseph Lees, Vicar, A. R. 1733.
- 3.—Prosperity to this Parish, A. R. 1733.
- 4.—Charles Pickering and Thos. Robinson, Churchwardens, A. R. 1733.
- 5.—The gift of Vicar Harden, recast 1733.

This cage of BELLS came from the celebrated Bell Foundry of Messrs. ABRAHAM RUDHALL & SON, of Gloucester; who were about that time engaged on similar work at St. JOHN's Church, CHESTER.



ERRATUM.—The EDITOR regrets that, through a transposition of the Press at pp. 376-9, the chronological sequence of MR. EWEN's Paper on St. PETER's Church has not been fully maintained. For this, however, the EDITOR desires that he, and not MR. EWEN, may be held responsible.



Leaf-shaped Stop, once supposed to be an "*Omega*," on ROMAN CENTURIAL TABLET NO
in the SOCIETY'S MUSEUM.—*Vide* JOURNAL (Vol. III., pp. 8, 125) and Plate.

DR. SUMMARY OF INCOME ACCOUNT, BETWEEN JAN., 1865, & DEC., 1882. CR

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.			
To Disbursements by Secretary	1026	3	3	1865.	Jan. 1.	—	By Balance	162	14	0
" Payments on Derby House Purchase Account	769	17	6	1882.	"	Receipts from all sources	1568	11	0	
Dec. 31.— " Cash in Bank	62	4	11	Dec. 31.	"	Amount due to Hon. Secretary	127	0	8	
	<u>£1,858 5 8</u>							<u>£1,858 5 8</u>		

Audited and found correct,
(Signed) H. W. JONES.

DR. SUMMARY OF DERBY HOUSE PURCHASE ACCOUNT. CR.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Purchase Money	775	0	0	By Rents received, per Mr. James Rogers	835	4	6
" J. Jones, in discharge of his claim	18	0	5	" Transfers from General Account	769	17	6
" Interest on Purchase Money, 1866 to 1880	312	1	7				
	<u>£1,065 2 0</u>						<u>£1,065 2 0</u>

Audited and found correct,
(Signed) H. W. JONES.