XIV*a*.—NOTES ON THE CHAPEL OF OUR LADY, SEATON DELAVAL.

By W. S. Hicks.

THIS interesting little building is on the typical Norman plan of nave, choir, and chancel (possibly apsidal). The last having been rebuilt in the 14th century, all trace is lost of apsidal shape. The building is of lofty proportions. Its windows are all modern, but there is one small ancient window high in the north wall now blocked up. There is a small side door in the south side of the choir near the nave. It is also built up and partly destroyed.

The west door remains; it has had a sculptured tympanum and a small zigzag indented label round it. The nave is about 25 feet long by 20 feet wide, and is separated from the choir by a handsome arch[1] in the gable wall, 2 feet 9 inches thick. This arch, and a corresponding one separating the choir from the chancel or apse—2 feet 6 inches thick—fix the date of the building early in the 12th century.

The large plain cushion capitals, the rough zigzag arch, with the plain moulded inner order, and a billeted label, handsomely enriching both sides of both arches, somewhat resemble in character those in the little chapel of Old Bewick. The general plan resembles it closely.

The choir between these arches measures about 11 feet 6 inches east and west, and 16 feet north and south. The chancel eastwards measures 11 feet 6 inches by 15 feet 6 inches.

The alterations in the 14th century are chiefly indicated by the prettily designed, but rudely worked, piscina and credence of that period; and also by the handsome tomb, or tombs, of a cross-legged knight and a lady, whose effigies are now placed on their bases at the west end, against the north and south walls. The panelled sides of the tombs have been removed, and inserted in the wall over the entrance door. These contain shields, two of them bearing the arms of Delaval and another a lion rampant. Some further panels of the same sort are hidden behind the modern hatchments on the west wall.

[1] See representation of interior of Chapel at p. 224.