

Notes and Queries.

NOTES.

HUNSTANTON CHURCH INVENTORY.

The following was copied and sent me by the late Vicar, the Rev. Percy C. Stanley not long before his death. I take it that one of the chalices of which I have a photograph is one of the pair referred to; at all events, it is *temp.* Edward VI.

HONSTANTON.

An Jmytory made the second day of Novembr⁹ in the thyrde and fourthe of phi et marie 2^c by us Churchwardens Roger Pedder and Wy^m Gybson.

ffyrst ou² the hyght aulter one payer of Chafes and one Corperaxe ij aulter Clothes ij clothes to hange befo² the aulter of Sylke one clothe to hange aboue before the table of the aulter ij Candlestyck^t of laten ij Cruett^t one Crys-metory ij Twell^t of dyepur ij wesement^t the one of Crymson velvet the other of busshen ij dekens the one blake velvet the other of ffusshen⁹ Naples one Cusshen of Sylke one mefse boke one Sacryⁿ belle ij payes of copper.¹

Itm⁹ ij Coopes of velvet one Crosse of Copper and a clothe one Syrples iij Rochets.

Itm⁹ in bokes ij Anthyphoners one legente ij Salters ij presfesyngers one Emanue^t, one Graylle² one payer of Censters of latten.

Itm⁹ one herseclothe of blake worsted one coverlytt.

Itm⁹ one belle in the steple one hand belle.

J. H. F. WALTER, Vice-President.

BLACKFRIARS' HALL, NORWICH.

The publication of my paper in the last part has elicited further information from other members of the Society. Mr. Henry Berney, of Croydon, has been kind enough to point out to me that Daniel King's view of the Blackfriars' Church had been published earlier than 1718, as No. 50 among the views (without letterpress) called "The Cathedrall and Conventuall Churches of England and Wales orthographically delineated by D. K., London, 1656"; so that my

¹ pairs of copes.

² Gradual.

deduction from the dedication to Thomas Pettus that the drawing had been made before the fall of the tower in 1712 is confirmed. Mr. F. Leney, Curator of the Castle Museum, has also given us information that the Dominican turret bell, founded by William of Norwich, was removed to the Museum in 1901 from the Cattle-Hill weighbridge, by the Markets Committee of the Norwich Corporation, and is now to be seen on a stand in the keep. I am reminded by this, that there is now another relic of the Hall in the garden of the Museum: this is the bowl of the font left at the Hall by the Dutch congregation; it is very plain in character, and of a large size, giving facility, as may be suggested, for infant baptism by immersion. It was moved up to the Museum in the early part of 1924.

There is still a feature of the Hall of very great interest, but which has not, hitherto, been noticed by any of the writers on this subject: and this is a group of three alcoves in the wall just under the easternmost window of the north wall, and north of the high altar. Unlike the piscina arches, the traces of which can just be seen in the south wall from the inside of the building, these openings can only be seen from the outside. They have been much repaired in recent times, and that in no sympathetic manner. The window above them had been entirely blocked up, a house fronting Elm Hill having been built up against it, and it must have been while that house existed that these alcoves had been used as cupboards: the remains of shelving and thick successive coats of whitewash confirm this. This house was last occupied as a shop and warehouse by the late Mr. T. C. R. King, being in fact where he commenced his business: it was burnt down in 1860 or 1861, and by an arrangement with the Corporation as ground landlords, they did not require Mr. King to re-build on his paying them the insurance money. There is still in possession of his family an interesting water-colour by Fred B. Russell, shewing the outside of Thomas à Beckett's Chapel and the Library windows over it (*v. Harrod*, p. 94), all of which were wantonly destroyed by the Corporation in 1875. The central alcove is 8 ft. 2 ins. wide, with a rectangular ashlar hatchway measuring 4 ft. 1 in. high by 2 ft. 8 ins. wide, opening into the Church. On the right and left of it, are two other narrow recesses, one of them on the right being clearly a place for a penitent to kneel for confession, with another small hatchway into the chancel 1 ft. 4 ins. high by 1 ft. 1 in. broad, and the remains of a stoup. The other small recess on the left has nothing of its old character remaining, so that one can only vaguely surmise from its position that it may have been an Aumbry. The conclusive trait of the central large alcove seems to be this, that the rebates on the stone shew it had been closed by a small door that would have been opened from *outside*. This fact at once removes the possibility of



THE END OF THE ANCHORITE'S HOUSE AND THE CONFESSIONAL
AT BLACKFRIARS' HALL, NORWICH.

its having been either an exceptionally large Aumbry, or, that uncommon ecclesiastical feature, an Easter Sepulchre. The only conclusion, therefore, I can arrive at, is that this was the end of an Anchorite's house, which opened into the Church, and was possibly separated from it by a grill, as well as by the hatch: kneeling behind the grill in prayer, he could venerate the Host on the altar without leaving his little cell, and this at every celebration of the mass either by day or night. There is an objection to this theory, in that the Confessional might be considered in too close proximity, so that the words of the penitent might be heard by the Anchorite as well as by the Friar; but this is open to considerable doubt, for there would be a distance of about 3 feet between the two hatchways, and the whispered words of the penitent could not, I think, be heard round the corners at that distance, nor through the intervening wall.

The Photograph shews the south end of the Anchorite's cell and the Confessional. In the former the hatchway can be but faintly traced, while in the latter the smaller hatchway is easily discernible, together with the remains of the stoup on its east side (to the reader's left). It must be remembered that the brick and cement arches and the bevelling of the stonework nearest the camera are quite modern, and that only the inner arches and walls are ancient. The 2-foot rule is a rough guide to the measurements.

The existence of the Confessional itself is curious, for there had been agreements by the Sack Friars, the predecessors of the Dominican Friars, with the Rectors of St. Peter of Hungate, and of St. Andrew and St. Christopher, that they would not administer any ecclesiastical sacraments to any of their parishioners. Still, I suppose that even if the Dominicans were so bound by the agreements of their predecessors, this prohibition did not apply to the inhabitants of any other parish either in Norwich or Norfolk. I know of no clearer instance in the county of an outside Confessional than this, though there are many so-called "leper's windows."

ERNEST A. KENT.

THE TOMB OF ROBERT JANNYS IN THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE'S
COLEGATE, NORWICH.

This altar tomb lies on the north side of the Church, and has suffered not so much from neglect as from over-solicitude, for its features are largely obscured by an overlay of numerous coats of whitewash. It is identified by the design on the front; in the centre is an impaled shield, upheld by two figures. On the dexter half is a merchant's mark between the initials R. J., for Robert Jannys, and on the sinister are the arms of the Grocers' Company of London: Arg. a chevron between nine cloves, 3, 3, and 3, sable.

About this is an inscription, now much obscured, but which reads, so far as it is legible, "Conturbat me. animam m....." If the last word is "mors," it would mean "Death hath overwhelmed my soul," and is probably a quotation from the book of Psalms.

Blomefield's *Norfolk*, 1731, also gives this further inscription as then existing: "Norvicensis Faulto sub Bimatu Majoris pauperum hic vivens semper amator," which alludes to his being Sheriff of Norwich in 1509, and to his charitable disposition.

The custom of impaling or quartering a merchant's mark with the arms of a trading company was not uncommon with the rich merchants of Tudor days, who left it to their sons to obtain a formal grant of arms. A parallel case is on the fine brass of John Rede in the Church at Wrangle, Lincolnshire, where Rede's merchant's mark is on one side with his initials, and the arms of the Merchants of the Staple at Calais on the other.

A contemporary portrait of Jannys, who founded the Free School at Aylsham, and was a benefactor to the City of Norwich, is in the Guildhall, with the following inscription:—"For all, welth, worship and prosperitie ferce Death ys cum, and (ar)restyd me. For Jannys praise God, I pray you all. Whose acts do remayne a memoriall."

The initials of Jannys, R. J., were also glazed on one of the windows in the Guildhall in 1534, with the inscription:—"Master Robert Jannys Grocer," and his mark, the grocers' arms, the city arms, and the mercers' arms. We arrive in this way at the date of the tomb. Robert Jannys' will was proved in 1530. The Grocers' Company (of London) had their grant of arms in 1531-2. The benefaction came to the Guildhall in 1534; 1533 or 1534 is then the probable date of the erection of the tomb in St. George's Colegate. This date is of interest, as the tomb is clearly of Italian workmanship or design. It is of moulded brick or coarse terracotta, the use of which the Italians introduced to England; the lettering of the inscription is Italian, also the shape of the shield. It may thus be added to the list of examples of Italian craftsmanship in Norfolk, which are found also in the Church of Wymondham, in the Bedingfield tomb at Oxburgh, on houses at Great Snoring, at Great Cressingham, and possibly at Methwold. There are also a few memorial plaques existing at Watton, and some others of Italian design in the Museum at Norwich and at Crown Point, brought from a gateway at Arminghall. One of the plaques represents a monk in a long hood, holding a rosary, from the identical mould used for the tomb of Robert Jannys.

The question may be raised as to how the Italians came to be in Norfolk in 1533. The sculptor Torrigiano was among the first to come over to England, in 1519-20, and was employed on the tomb of Henry VII. He brought other artists with him, but they did not stay long. Maiano, a skilled worker in terra-cotta, wrought



TOMB OF ROBERT JANNYS.

the roundels representing the Roman Emperors at Hampton Court in 1521. It is not certain under whose auspices they made their way into Norfolk, but a great many people connected with the Court employed them to embellish houses with plaques and medallions and to erect tombs, though they introduced no school of architecture, and, so far as can be traced, built no houses. The Classical style in buildings was due to later and more indirect influences. A Norfolk noble who patronized the Italian craftsmen in England was Sir Thomas Lovell, son of Sir Ralph Lovell, of Barton Bendish. He built a house at East Harling before 1524, on which he placed his armorials and a portrait relief of himself in bronze, executed by an Italian. This relief is now in Henry VII. chapel at Westminster. Sir Thomas also built much in London, notably the gateway to Lincoln's Inn, which was begun in 1518-19, when a payment was made to "Thomas Nortriche the brykemaker." Possibly then he brought his brickmakers from Norfolk. We know further that Sir Thomas was a patron of the Italian decorators, for when he died, in 1524, Vincent Volpe, an Italian painter, was employed to make for his funeral "twenty-four escutcheons in metal, with my master's arms in Garter, to be set on the altars at the interment." (A. B. Chamberlin, "Hans Holbein the Younger," London, 1913). Italians were also employed to design his monument in the Priory of Holywell in Shoreditch. Thus, if Sir Thomas introduced them to Norfolk, they were working there between about 1523 and 1534, chiefly in coarse terra-cotta, not sent from Italy, or the texture would have been finer, but made from brick clay found in the neighbourhood. But the work in this material which now remains in Norfolk appears to have been executed not by the greater artists, but by the subordinate moulders. Their designs were few, and many copies were made from the same mould. Nor do they shew any great artistic merit. It is even possible that the Norfolk brickmakers who were working on Sir Thomas Lovell's work at Lincoln's Inn, brought back some Italian moulds and used them in Norfolk. The plaques which were affixed to buildings such as East Barsham Hall, &c., bear no relation to the architectural features, and give the impression of being stuck on without appropriateness of design or proportion. Nevertheless, the traces of the Italians are few and should be exhibited at their best. Perhaps this note may stimulate some antiquary to remove carefully the whitewash from the tomb of Robert Jannys, and reveal its features, so that it may stand as an illustration in the history of art, and also be a better memorial to one who did good in his day.

J. KESTELL FLOYER, D.D., F.S.A.

ST. GEORGE COLEGATE CHURCH, NORWICH.

In connection with the foregoing note it is interesting to learn of the projected restoration of this ancient Church. The Vicar,

the Rev. E. T. Edwards, sends us the following particulars of its present condition.

The condition of the splendid roof of the nave and aisles of this Church is giving cause for grave anxiety. The lead is in a very bad state and the Church is suffering very much through water finding its way into the walls and pews. The nave roof has been patched and repaired many times, and nothing further, in the nature of patching, will be of any use. As a temporary expedient the worst parts have recently been covered with corrugated iron. The sum of £500 has been spent during the past four years in renovations and renewals, including the re-roofing of half of the south aisle, which alone cost £280, but it is estimated that a further sum of at least £1,500 is needed to complete the entire work.

It is interesting to note that John ("Old") Crome is buried beneath the floor of the east end of the south aisle.

E. T. EDWARDS, Vicar.

THE SAMSON AND HERCULES AND AUGUSTINE STEWARD'S HOUSES,
NORWICH.

"The fine old city, perhaps the most curious specimen at present extant of the genuine old English town. Yes, there it spreads from North to South with its venerable houses..... its thrice twelve churches..... and yonder, rising 300 feet above the soil..... behold..... that cloud-encircled Cathedral spire..... Now, who can wonder that the children of that fine old city are proud of her and offer up prayers for her prosperity?....."

Thus wrote George Borrow, nigh a century ago, of Norwich. The elders of his early days could look back to a time when the ancient city was still guarded by mediæval walls of which the gates on occasion still were closed at curfew—when its narrow streets and lanes still were adorned by numerous examples of Tudor domestic architecture, many long since destroyed, as well as by those ancient fanes which happily still remain. Amid those relics of the past stood the majestic Jacobean and Georgian mansions of the civic aristocracy.

Of those several architectural types—Tudor—Jacobean—Georgian—probably none are better known than that imposing block—the Samson and Hercules and Augustine Steward's Houses on Tombland, facing the Erpingham Gate and the west front of the Cathedral.

Samson and Hercules House is stated by Kirkpatrick to have been built by one Christopher Jay (a zealous Royalist) during his mayoralty in 1657. It contains many spacious rooms—some wainscotted, of the Jacobean and Georgian periods—a large covered-in

courtyard, at one corner of which is a quaint little garden. The extensive undercroft and some walls remain of the 15th-century house said to have belonged to Sir John Fastolf, and afterwards to the Countess of Lincoln. Blomefield states that in Henry VII.'s time the Duchess of Suffolk used the house then standing there as a town residence for herself and for her family.

Augustine Steward's House was built by him about 1530. This remarkable citizen and benefactor of Norwich was sometime Mayor and Member of Parliament. (When Mayor in 1534, he was the main promoter of the rebuilding of the beautiful Guildhall Council Chamber as it exists to-day, and in 1539 he induced Henry VIII. to sell the Dominican Church (now known as St. Andrew's and Blackfriars' Halls) to the city for some £80.)

To save these historic buildings from degradation or destruction, the Norfolk and Norwich Trust, in conjunction with the Young Women's Christian Association, have secured them at the recent public sale for £3,400. The Trust take over and purchase for £600 Augustine Steward's House, which forms the picturesque South-East corner, in part overhanging Tombland Alley. The Trust will give the Y.W.C.A. the opportunity of occupying these premises in connection with "Samson and Hercules" House.

It is anticipated that in addition to the £600 the Trust will require £400 for preservation and repair work on Augustine Steward's House.

The Young Women's Christian Association Authorities have for many years carried on valuable work in Norwich. They propose to widen their activities on a broad-minded basis and to adapt the property to serve as Non-Sectarian Social Clubs and a "Home from Home" for Girls and Women, with a view to creating a beneficent centre of our city life and amenities.

At a meeting of the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society and the Norfolk and Norwich Trust Committees recently held, it was unanimously decided to issue a joint appeal to members of the two Societies, and general confidence was expressed that the £1,000 required for a project which should enlist the cordial help and sympathy of the philanthropist, as well as of the archæologist, would be raised without difficulty or delay.

WALTER R. RUDD, Hon. General Sec.

NOTE.—The sum received to date totals only £292 11s. 6d. Surely members who have not already subscribed will see to it that the outstanding balance shall be speedily covered by liberal remittances to the Hon. Treasurer of the Fund, Mr. Richard F. O. Ferrier, Hemsby Hall, Great Yarmouth.

THE SURVEY OF ENGLISH PLACE-NAMES.

A general Survey of English Place-names was begun in 1922, with the approval and encouragement of the British Academy. The object of the Survey is to gather together all historical and other material necessary for the interpretation of Place-names. When that material has been gathered it is the aim of those responsible for the Survey to secure the co-operation of the various scholarly interests—historical, linguistic, topographical—which must contribute to their interpretation, and to publish the results in a series of volumes which will deal with the Place-names of England county by county. The volumes will be arranged topographically and will include not only an account of the etymology of the individual names, but also a continuous introduction in which the general conclusions, historical and linguistic, which can be drawn from the study of the Place-names of the county in question, will be set forth. It is the special desire of the promoters of the Survey that these volumes shall be written and planned in a way which will make them appeal not only to the specialist scholar, but to the educated public generally. The English Place-name Society has been formed to carry through the work of the Survey, and it has already issued an introductory volume in two parts. The first county volume will appear in the summer of 1925 and will deal with Place-names of Buckinghamshire.

The Society has been fortunate in Norfolk in securing the interest and services of Mr. Odon K. Schram, M.A., to act as organiser for the collection of Norfolk material and to help them in the work of interpretation. Mr. Schram has been working upon Norfolk Place-names for the past two years, and is very anxious to secure the interest and co-operation of those who are interested in these questions, and will be very glad to get into touch with those who are willing to help him in the matter. The particular lines upon which help is needed are perhaps best set forth in the pamphlet issued by the Society, dealing with "Local Records of the Survey of English Place-names," from which we may make the quotations which follow:—

In collecting material for the comprehensive Survey of English Place-names now in progress, it is comparatively easy for those engaged in the work to collect material printed in the volumes published by the Record Office and by Record and other Societies, both national and provincial, and, while it may not be easy to collect, it is at least easy to discover the existence of material still in MS. which is in the possession of the Record Office, the British Museum, and other public institutions. Strictly local material is of the utmost importance, but presents much more difficult problems. In the first place, the very existence of the material is often hard to discover, and, secondly, when found, it

is scattered over so wide an area, and distributed in so many different places, that the task of collecting it is impossibly laborious and expensive, unless active local co-operation can be secured.

Two questions will at once present themselves,

- (1) *What records are likely to be of service to the Survey?*
- (2) *What work needs to be done upon them?*

(.) *Local Records to be searched:*

Parish Registers, Churchwardens', Overseers' and Constables' Accounts, Terriers.

Tithe rent-charge awards and maps.

Enclosure awards and maps.

Estate maps.

It is important also to remember that place-name material may find no record in any written or printed material, but may still live orally on the lips of the people.

(2) *Work to be done upon them.*

The main work is to take from these records the names found in them. Here we may usefully distinguish between

- (i.) names of farms, fields, woods, streams, hills and other features which do not find records upon the Ordnance Survey maps,
- (ii.) names which are so found.

All the names which fall under (i.) should be recorded, and so far as is practicable, their exact situation should be indicated. For this purpose, a rough sketch-map may often be helpful.

Names under (ii.) only call for record so far as their form as found in the particular document differs from that now in use. It is specially important that no form should be omitted because it is thought to be corrupt or a mere vulgarism. Such forms may be of the greatest significance in the full history of the name in question.

The *material* thus collected *should be set forth* by giving in the first instance the name of the document from which it is derived, or, in the case of oral information, the statement that is the source. Then the material itself should be transcribed exactly as it appears in the document, with the date (so far as can be determined) of its appearance.

Local pronunciations, etc. The fullest possible information is required for the purpose of the Survey with reference to the local pronunciation of names, especially where it differs from that suggested by the present-day spelling, and here again it is important to remember that local pronunciations must never be rejected on the entirely unscientific ground that they are vulgar. Local legends with reference to the origin of names are also important and should be recorded.

Finally, *the work needs to be done now*. All who love their own country-side must desire that everything possible should be done to determine the significance of its place-names, and so make them things of living interest. If you wish the names of your own parish or district to receive adequate treatment, the material must be gathered before it is too late. There will be no second Survey of English Place-names in the lifetime of any of us.

All questions and offers of help with regard to work in Norfolk should be addressed to O. K. Schram, Rose Villa, Blofield, Norfolk.

All questions with regard to the Place-name Society, its publications, work, etc., should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary (Professor Mawer), The University, Liverpool.

THE TITLE WICKNER OR WIGNER.

Mr. F. Johnson, Assistant Secretary, has drawn my attention to a discussion of this title in the *The East Anglian or Notes and Queries*, new series, vol. vii. On page 15 there is a query regarding the use of the word wigner "in the North Walsham district to designate a collector of manorial quit-rents. The terminal, *ner*, may have come simply as giving an official title from the *wic*: hence we get wiggreve, wigreve, wigner = *wyggerefa* Is the word peculiar to East Anglia?" On page 304 of the same volume, a correspondent states that the word wigner "was used by the 'oldest inhabitants' of Orford, Sudbourne, Iken, and Chillesford, to designate the 'Forester' employed by the late Sir Richard Wallace, Bart., of Sudbourne Hall; and in the early part of the century was the only 'Title' given to the Collector of Quit-rents, etc., on the Sudbourne Hall Estate."

CHRISTOBEL M. HOOD.