

REPORT OF THE SOCIETY'S VISITS

I. SHEPPERTON-ON-THAMES.—On Saturday, the 10th of September, 1938, the members of the party were cordially welcomed at the rectory of St. Nicholas Church, Shepperton, by the rector the Rev. F. W. Baillie-Saunders and Mrs. Saunders.

The rectory, situated on the north side of the church, possesses much of interest. It is of late fifteenth-century or early sixteenth-century date, of two storeys, with attics. The mediaeval hall, with its original moulded ceiling beams, is formed by part of the existing main block, and may have had wings on the east and west sides originally. The staircase, with its close strings, square newels and turned balusters, is early eighteenth-century work. The house was reconditioned in the eighteenth century, the south front being constructed of symmetrical design, with timber framing faced with tile bricks. The roofs are tiled, hipped at the wings, and have a coved eaves cornice. The dormer windows give a pleasing effect. The entrance doorway is characteristic, with a flat hood over supported by carved brackets.

The party was entertained at tea, and a very pleasant time was spent in chatting with the rector and Mrs. Baillie-Saunders on the old associations of Shepperton. A noted rector was William Grocyn, who was instituted in 1504, and according to Newcourt "became a familiar friend, or rather tutor, of Erasmus." There is a local tradition that Erasmus was, in consequence of this association, closely connected with the church and rectory at Shepperton, and his ghost is claimed to have been seen haunting the place in recent years. Another famous rector was Lewis Atterbury, LL.D., a chaplain

to Queen Anne, who was appointed on the 30th September, 1707.

On visiting the church, some historical facts were mentioned, and it is hoped that Mrs. Baillie-Saunders, who is a well-known authoress, will write a local history of Shepperton, recording the interesting associations connected with the church, its rectory and parish.

Leaving the church, the members noted the adjoining old "Anchor Inn," and proceeded westward to the Manor Farm, not quite a quarter of a mile away. Mr. Melville, the farmer, had kindly given permission to inspect the seventeenth-century barn, which was most interesting, having eleven bays and with three porches on the south side. The barn is of one storey, timber-framed and weather-boarded.

2. THE TOWER OF LONDON.—On Saturday, the 1st of October, 1938, visits to the Tower of London had been arranged. The first one, at 11 a.m., was for the school members, but owing to the international situation at the end of September, many of the schools had been evacuated, consequently only the girls from the Chiswick Polytechnic attended. They spent an interesting time under the guidance of Mr. Walter G. Bell, F.S.A., who undertook to repeat the visit.

In the afternoon, members and friends of the Society were met by Mr. Allen S. Walker, Vice-President of the Society and Official Lecturer of H.M. Office of Works at the Tower, who conducted the members on a general tour of the Tower. The stone causeway over the moat near the entrance had been removed, and members were able to inspect the excavation. Formerly at its outer end was the Lion Gate, with a drawbridge which led to the Lion Tower, part of the site of which is now used as the ticket office and refreshment room. In old days a drawbridge existed between the Lion Tower and the Middle Tower, the latter being to-day's outer gatehouse.

Apart from towers and turrets which are open to the public, the tour included a visit to the Lieutenant's Lodgings, which are of great interest. The house was built during the reign of Henry VIII. It comprises two wings, which abut against the western and southern curtain walls of the Inner Ward at the south-western angle, where the Bell Tower is situated and forms an annex to it. The house consists of three storeys, with attics. The gabled fronts facing the Inner Ward are picturesque features, characteristic of the period. The southern wing contains the Guard Room and the western wing has a half basement called the Cow House, above which is a large kitchen. At the second floor-level a parapet walk alongside the curtain wall runs from the Bell Tower to the Beauchamp Tower, and is called Princess Elizabeth's Walk.

It was from her prison room in the Lieutenant's Lodgings that Queen Anne Boleyn passed to her execution in 1536. In these buildings also were imprisoned the Scotch Lords of 1715 and 1745 rebellions. The Lieutenant's Lodgings was renamed the King's House by Queen Victoria, and is now the residence of the Major and Resident Governor of the Tower, Lieut.-Col. W. F. O. Faviell, D.S.O.

The Bell Tower was probably built by Richard I at the end of the twelfth century. The walls consist of ragstone rubble, with dressings of freestone. The name arose from the alarm bell of the garrison, which was placed in a small timber turret at the top. The tower is of an irregular octagonal plan, both at the base and in the lower storey, but circular above. The ceiling of the lower chamber has a stone vault with square arched ribs, meeting at a point with a carved ornamental boss. It is one of the oldest parts of the Tower of London.

At the conclusion of the visit a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Allen S. Walker, on the proposition of Mr. Goss, the Chairman of the Society.

3. THE STATE APARTMENTS OF ST. JAMES'S PALACE.—On Saturday, the 7th November, 1938, a large party of members and friends entered St. James's Palace, special permission having been obtained from the Lord Chamberlain. Mr. G. H. Chettle, F.S.A., R.S.A., kindly consented to conduct the party. When they had passed up the staircase designed by Sir Christopher Wren, but much altered by Kent in 1730, Mr. Chettle described the palace's historical associations.

St. James's Palace was built by Henry VIII in 1530–32, on the site where formerly stood the Hospital of St. James the Less, founded in Norman times for fourteen leprous maidens. The hospital was demolished, but the chapel retained until 1535–40, when the Collegiate Chapel Royal was built. Henry VIII seldom resided in St. James's Palace, but Queen Mary lived there frequently and called it "Her Manor of St. James's." On the marriage of Charles I, his Queen, Henrietta Maria, preferred St. James's Palace, to Whitehall. There five of their children were born, including Prince Charles, afterwards Charles II. King James II was living there when he fled from his throne.

After the destructive fire at Whitehall Palace, 1697, King William IV decided to hold the State ceremonies at St. James's Palace, and as "Our Court of St. James's" it still remains.

On 21st June, 1809, a large part of the palace was burnt down, so that to-day it is not so extensive as before that date. The party inspected the State apartments on the first floor, starting with the guard room, which has a restored original fireplace. They then proceeded to the armoury and tapestry rooms, on the west of Friary Court, from the balcony outside which the declaration is made of the death of a sovereign and the accession of a new one. The tapestry room was the old presence chamber, and has a fireplace similar to the others, but the quatrefoils of the frieze have carved badges with H.A. and a true lovers' knot, Tudor rose, fleur-de-lis portcullis and a crowned initial H.

Beyond the tapestry room is a long range of State apartments, through which the throne room is reached. In the picture gallery are a number of royal portraits from Henry VII to Victoria.

The Chapel Royal was next seen. The ceiling was the work of Holbein. The chapel was drastically altered by William IV and alterations were also carried out by Queen Victoria. Its magnificent communion plate dates from the time of Charles II.

4. MARLBOROUGH HOUSE CHAPEL.—The party had the privilege of visiting Marlborough House Chapel which has been recently restored by H.M. Office of Works.

The Queen's Chapel, as it was long known, was begun in 1623 from the designs of Inigo Jones, it being intended for the Infanta Maria of Spain. The foundation-stone was laid by the Spanish Ambassador on 16th May. The courtship of Prince Charles, however, was unsuccessful, and he returned to England alone. A year later negotiations took place for the Prince's betrothal to Princess Henrietta Maria of France, and work on the chapel was resumed.

It is just as Inigo Jones designed it, with the exception of the panelling. During the Commonwealth the fittings were removed, but a year after the marriage of Charles II with Catherine of Braganza the chapel was prepared and reopened for her use. On Charles II's death the chapel was embellished by James II and given to his Queen, Mary of Modena.

The Queen's Chapel in about 1700 was granted to French and Dutch Protestants, and thus came to be called the French Chapel and the Dutch Chapel. In 1781 the German Lutherans had its use, as did the Danish congregation in London in our own time.

5. ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS.—On Saturday, the 26th November, 1938, members and friends assembled at

the Royal Society of Arts in John Street, Adelphi, at 2.30 p.m. They were welcomed by Dr. Frank R. Lewis, D.Phil., who gave an excellent address on the society's varied activities. The Society of Arts was founded on the 22nd March, 1754, by the efforts of William Shipley, a drawing master, brother of the Bishop of St. Asaph, and aided by the influential co-operation of Viscount Folkestone, Lord Romney, and others.

The meetings were first held at a circulating library in Crane's Court, Fleet Street, and afterwards at various places until 1771, when the brothers Adam agreed to erect a home in the Adelphi for the purposes of the society. The foundation-stone was laid by Lord Romney on the 28th March, 1772, and the building was completed in 1774. The Society of Arts have occupied it from that date, and now possessing the freehold they have secured the preservation of a fine example of eighteenth-century work. The society became The Royal Society of Arts in 1908.

6. THE CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY.—On leaving the Royal Society of Arts the party proceeded to the Chapel of the Savoy, where the members were heartily welcomed by Dr. Bromley Derry, the Master of Music and Registrar, who gave a most interesting chat on the long history of the Savoy. John of Gaunt, the fourth son of King Edward III, lived in regal state at the Palace of the Savoy. In 1381 Wat Tyler and his Kentish followers came into London, when they attacked the palace and effectively destroyed it. Parts of the buildings remained, and were later used as a prison.

The Chapel was restored in the reigns of George I, George III and Victoria. George III declared the Chapel part of the Duchy of Lancaster. It has been placed at the disposal of the Royal Victorian Order from 12th May, 1937, the date of the Coronation of George VI and Queen Elizabeth. It is a Royal Peculiar, and has no parish.

The church suffered much by the disastrous fire of 1864 when the roof was destroyed with the majority of the monuments and fittings. Consequently, a very thorough restoration was carried out by Sidney Smirke for Queen Victoria, who added the vestry in 1877. The windows are all memorials.

Two small kneeling figures resting on stone corbels set in the walls are fragments of sixteenth-century monuments destroyed by the fire of 1864. There is a restored double sedilia, and nearby a fragment of an old piscina. The Registers date from 1685.

7. MERCHANT TAYLORS HALL.—There was a good attendance of members and friends at Merchant Taylors Hall, Threadneedle Street, E.C.2, on Friday, the 2nd of December, 1938, by kind permission of the Master and Wardens. The party were welcomed by Sir Frederick Fry, a Past Master of the Company and by the Clerk to the Company.

Sir Frederick Fry gave an interesting address on the history of the Company and its Hall. Towards the end of the thirteenth century the Gild, by the name of "Taylors and Linen Armourers," was confirmed by Edward I, and on the feast day of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist they chose their "Pilgrim," which in the early days was the designation of their Master. The first Charter was granted in 1327 by Edward III, constituting it a Craft Gild in addition to its being a religious fraternity. At this time it had no habitation of its own. The site situated between Threadneedle Street and Cornhill acquired in bits and added together, was purchased in 1347. Probably the Hall was built about 1371 on the usual mediaeval plan, with dais at one end and the screen at the other to separate the offices. The screen was erected in 1672.

The walls of the Hall were originally covered with tapestries depicting scenes in the Life of St. John the Baptist, made early in the sixteenth century. As these

priceless treasures were mutilated by the Commonwealth, they were sold in 1730 for £20. Behind the Master's chair on the dais is a panel giving the names of royal personages who have been members of the Company, starting with Edward III.

The chapel of the Gild adjoined the east end of the Hall. It was pulled down after the Dissolution, but two bays of the fourteenth-century crypt remain. The Great Kitchen was built in 1425. The block of buildings at the west end of the Hall was erected in 1682 and contains the Great Parlour, the Grand Staircase and the King's Chamber on the first floor. In a gallery were displayed two embroidered hearse cloths, one dating 1490-1512, and the other 1520-30, the designs depicting the life and death of St. John Baptist.

Stow was a member of the Merchant Taylors Company and in his latter years lived on pensions, one of which was granted by the Company.

8. THE TEMPLE CHURCH.—On Saturday, the 21st of January, 1939, the members and friends assembled at the Temple Church at 2.30 p.m. Mr. G. J. B. Fox, one of the Vice-Presidents of our Society, gave an interesting account of the origin and history of this church.

Hugues de Payens came to England in 1128 and founded an English branch of the Knights Templars. A site was given them at Oldbourne, on which they built the Old Temple, a round church, on the model of the church over the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem.

The English branch of the Knights Templars increased in numbers, power and wealth. A large estate situated between Fleet Street and the Thames was purchased and upon it was built the new settlement. The church was dedicated to the Virgin Mary in 1185 by Heraclius, Patriarch of Jerusalem, when on a visit to England.

The New Temple became a "storehouse of treasure," where kings, queens and others deposited their jewels and cash. King John made use of it, as did Edward I.

In Edward II's reign the Order was suppressed in 1312. Edward III about 1340 made a grant of the entire Temple to the Knights Hospitallers in consideration of £100 paid towards the French War and they, in 1347, leased it to the professors and students of law. Then in Henry VIII's time the lawyers rented it from the Crown and finally acquired it by purchase during Charles II's reign.

In addition to the Round Church of the Temple there are good existing examples at St. Sepulchre's Church, Cambridge; St. Sepulchre's Church, Northampton, and Little Maplested Church, Essex.

In the thirteenth century a new chancel, with north and south aisles, was built. Arched openings were formed in the walls of the Round Church to give access. This new chancel was consecrated in 1240.

Mail-clad effigies in the nave of the Round Church are of great interest. They are chiefly of Purbeck marble. All are of thirteenth-century date, and they may be the work of London masons. All are represented with shields. Two of the effigies are, with some doubt, ascribed to Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex, and William Mareschal, Earl of Pembroke. A third is of a Lord de Ros, with the shield bearing the arms of the family.

9. MIDDLE TEMPLE HALL.—On leaving the Temple Church the party proceeded to the beautiful Elizabethan Middle Temple Hall, built largely by the enterprise of Edmund Plowden, of Middle Temple, whose name and coat of arms is in the heraldic glass of the bay window on the south side of the dais. The Hall was completed in 1573 and the finely carved oak screen at the east end supporting the gallery was erected in 1574.

The Hall, with its fine hammer-beam roof, retains its original dignity. The louvre in the roof, intended to carry off the smoke from the open fire placed in those days in the centre of the floor, was removed in 1732,

and a cupola with a weather-vane fixed in its place. At the west end of the Hall are seven royal portraits, namely, of Queen Elizabeth, Charles I, Charles II, James II when Duke of York, Queen Anne, William III and George I.

The great table for the benchers which is on the dais at the west end of the Hall is traditionally stated to be a gift from Queen Elizabeth and made from Windsor Forest oak. An ancient table, called the "cupboard," of English oak, is treasured by the Inn as it was made from the timbers of the *Golden Hind*, in which Sir Francis Drake sailed round the world. Drake on 4th August, 1586, was welcomed in the Hall on his victorious return from the West Indies.

Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* was played in this Hall on 2nd February, 1601. Most of the armour in the Hall is of the time of Queen Elizabeth.

10. TOWER OF LONDON.—The scheme for school membership which the Society inaugurated was taken advantage of on Saturday, the 11th February, 1939, when a visit to the Tower of London, at 11 a.m., was conducted by Mr. Walter G. Bell, F.S.A., a Member of Council. It was attended by a teacher and four scholars from each of the seven schools represented on this occasion, viz., Brondesbury and Kilburn High School, Camden School for Girls, Chiswick Polytechnic, Davenant Foundation School, Hornsey County School, Longford Senior Girls' School (Feltham), and Townfield Council School (Hayes).

Permission had been specially obtained from Lieut.-Colonel W. F. O. Faviell, D.S.O., Governor of the Tower, for the scholars to be shown over parts of the fortress not accessible to the public. First they were conducted to the Byward Tower and into the Bell Tower, and shown the vaulted stone room in which Sir Thomas More was imprisoned for 14 months. The story of his imprisonment was told on the spot. The party

then went to the high battlement known as Princess Elizabeth's Walk, and from there entered the upper room of the Bell Tower known as "The Strong Room."

The Norman keep, with its unique collection of small arms and armour of historic value, attracted much attention. The visit was brought to an end by the inspection of the regalia of England in the Wakefield Tower.

Mr. Bell was again busily occupied in the afternoon, at 2.30 p.m., in acting as guide to members of the Society and their friends in an extensive tour of the Tower. In the Chapel of St. John, within the Norman keep, the Rev. Vaughan Jones welcomed the members.

This chapel was built of Caen stone by masons from Normandy, brought over by William the Conqueror. It has a nave about 15 feet wide, with narrow aisles continued round the same as an ambulatory and apsidal in form at the east end. The circular columns are short, each with simple carving to the capitals with a T projection as a centre feature. The arches throughout are plain semicircular ones, spanning from column to column in the nave arcade and in the apsidal end. The narrow aisles have groined vaulting. Many scenes familiar in English history have been enacted in this Norman chapel.

11. ST. MARY-AT-HILL.—On Saturday afternoon, the 11th of March, 1939, members and friends visited the church of St. Mary-at-Hill, Eastcheap, under the guidance of Mr. F. Herbert Mansford, F.R.I.B.A.

Little is known of the church on the site before the Fire of London; it had seven altars, one of which stood between the statues of St. Nicholas and of St. Thomas à Becket. Towards the end of the fifteenth century the Norman church was rebuilt and it was repaired in 1616. The tower and walls of the church were not destroyed by the Great Fire. Wren re-used them in the reconstructed church in 1672-7. The old tower stood until

1780, when it was found to be unsafe and was rebuilt. Wren's dignified design of the interior was effected by the treatment of the ceiling, which was the novel one of a dome at the intersection of four barrel vaults, with four columns to support same. There were further works in 1847, James Savage being architect.

This church serves four parishes, three of them not having had their churches rebuilt. The sword-rests from these are placed in St. Mary's. It will be noted that one on the south side bears the name of Sir William Beckford, having come from St. George's. It has an inscription to his memory, as one "whose incessant spirited efforts to serve his country hastened his Dissolution on the 22nd June, 1770, in the time of his mayoralty, and 62nd year of his age." When the defeated opponent of John Wilkes in the Middlesex election was declared by the Commons to be elected, Lord Mayor Beckford exercised his right of access to the king and made a personal protest.

On leaving the Church of St. Mary-at-Hill the party proceeded at 3.30 p.m. to

12. ST. DUNSTAN IN THE EAST.—Two city churches are dedicated to St. Dunstan, and both of these have unusual towers.

The tower and spire of St. Dunstan East date from 1699. Wren, in rebuilding this church after the Great Fire, found it possible to utilise parts of the outer walls. Those of the tower were in such condition that their demolition was necessary. The tower was rebuilt, and Wren raised his spire upon the summit of two intersecting arches; counteracting the outer thrust by lofty pinnacles at the angles of the tower. The weight of the spire is reduced by its construction, being essentially a shell of stone, and by openings for light in alternate sides which allow the wind to pass through, thus reducing the pressure.

In 1810 the body of the church was unsafe, as the

external walls had been thrust out by the roof pressure. It was accordingly resolved to rebuild the church with the exception of the tower.

David Laing, the designer of the Custom House, was appointed architect, with the co-operation of William Tite. The result is a well-proportioned, dignified church. The cost was £36,000. Among the early monuments there is one of Sir John Moore, Lord Mayor, a great benefactor to various hospitals, whose services to Charles II were recognised by his being permitted to add the lion of England to his arms. A memorial of Sir John Hawkins, the great Elizabethan Admiral, which was destroyed in the Great Fire, has not been replaced.

13. THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, RICHMOND.—On Saturday, the 22nd April, 1939, a party of members and friends visited the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, at Richmond, by kind permission of the Rev. G. H. M. Gray, M.A., Rural Dean of Richmond and Barnes.

A church existed in Richmond during the reign of Henry I but its position is unknown. Of the present parish church of St. Mary Magdalene, a record tells that Henry VII gave £5 towards its building. Perhaps the only trace now remaining may be in the tower, which has undergone many alterations. The church in 1487 must have been very small. In 1701 the tower was restored, and in 1750 the church was enlarged. The old chancel was pulled down early in the present century, and a new one built with a side chapel as a memorial, and dedicated in 1904. On the rebuilding of the chancel, the monuments were moved to the body of the church.

The earliest brass is that to Robert Cotton, died 1591, Groom of the Privy Chamber to Queen Mary and afterwards Yeoman of the removing Wardroppe of Bedds to Queen Elizabeth. Then there is a carved mural monument to Lady Dorothy Wright, who died 1631. Sir George Wright, her husband, died 1623, has a marble

slab. There is a monument to Henry Viscount Brouncker, Cofferer to Charles II, who died 1687. The poet Thomson, author of "The Seasons," died 1748, was buried here, and in 1792 the Earl of Buchan placed a brass tablet with suitable inscription to his memory. Lady Diana Beauclerk, a friend of Dr. Johnson, was buried in the church and a memorial was placed therein in 1808. A slab commemorates Mary Ann Yates, the famous tragic actress, who died in 1787, and her husband, Richard Yates, a celebrated actor. There is a tablet in memory of Edmund Kean, the great tragedian, who died in 1833 and was buried in one of the vaults.

14. DOUGHTY HOUSE.—The party, on leaving Richmond Church, made their way to Doughty House at the end of the terrace, where special permission had been obtained to see the marvellous collection of pictures by old masters, originally founded by the grandfather of Sir Herbert Cook, the owner at the time of the visit.

15. EAST BEDFONT CHURCH.—On Saturday, the 20th May, 1939, a visit was made to the parish church of St. Mary, East Bedfont. The chancel and nave were built in the twelfth century, the chancel being extended eastward in the fifteenth century. A wooden belfrey and short spire were added, probably towards the end of that century. The north transept was added in 1829, since which date there have been many changes.

The chancel arch is of twelfth-century date. The east window is partly restored fifteenth-century, with three trefoiled lights. In the chancel south wall there are two windows of fourteenth and one of fifteenth-century date. North of the chancel arch there are thirteenth-century arched recesses, with contemporary paintings, which were discovered during a restoration in 1864.

Two yews in the churchyard are well known. They flank the path to the south entrance, and are so trimmed

as to have at the summit the form of a peacock. Below is the date 1704, and the initials J. H., J. G. and R. T., which are those of the vicar and churchwardens at that date.

On leaving East Bedfont the party proceeded to

16. STANWELL CHURCH.—The Rev. H. F. Gasters, the vicar, welcomed them, and pointed out its characteristic features. The earliest portions of the church are the nave arcades, built in 1260. The south aisle was rebuilt late in the fourteenth century. The north aisle and the west end of the south aisle form part of the rebuilding at the restoration in 1862.

The chancel most probably formed part of the original church but was rebuilt in 1330. The tower arches were built at a later date than the nave arcades, and late in the fourteenth century the tower above the arches was built or rebuilt. The clerestory to the nave was added in the fifteenth century. The roof of the chancel is probably fourteenth-century, with trussed rafters and moulded wall plates, and the nave roof is fifteenth-century. The Parish Registers date from 1632.

17. CAMBRIDGE.—17th June, under the general direction of the Honorary Secretary. A large party of members and friends, divided into six sections, spent a most enjoyable day visiting the famous Round Church (St. Sepulchre) and some of the colleges under the guidance of competent local guides. The only cause for regret was that even a whole-day meeting did not afford sufficient time to see all that one would have liked to see.

18. UXBRIDGE.—The Society, on Saturday, the 24th June, visited Uxbridge, and were cordially welcomed at St. Margaret's Church by the vicar, the Rev. A. Donaldson Perrott, M.A., who is also a member of the Society.

There is evidence to indicate that a church was built on this site before 1245. The arcades of the nave are late fourteenth-century. The eastern end of the north aisle was built in the fifteenth century as a chantry chapel, and the south aisle with its excellent roof was rebuilt as a gild chapel of St. Mary and St. Margaret by a local gild. The chancel during the same period was rebuilt and lengthened.

The church was extensively restored in 1872. The north tower is late fourteenth-century altered and restored, and there is evidence that it was at one time detached from the church. The Registers begin in October, 1538.

On leaving the church the party inspected the Market House, built in 1788, in front of the church, after which Mr. H. T. Hansom, the Chairman of the Uxbridge Library Committee, conducted the members to the Museum at the Uxbridge Public Library. Miss Humphreys, the Librarian, had especially prepared for the occasion an interesting display of old prints and items of local history, among which was a panoramic illustration of all the houses on each side of Uxbridge High Street. The sketches are in two rolls of about 22 feet each, and were given to the Uxbridge Museum by Mrs. Kingsbury about a month before. It is a curious fact that this panoramic illustration was exhibited at a meeting of the London and Middlesex Archæological Society, held at Uxbridge in August, 1861, which led to inquiries for many years as to its ownership, with the result that it is now in the Uxbridge Museum.

At the Treaty House, Mr. Hansom related the story of the Treaty of Uxbridge, explaining that the present building is in reality the right wing of the original house.

19. SOUTHALL MANOR HOUSE.—On Saturday, the 22nd July, 1939, at 2.30 p.m., a visit was made to Southall Manor House, now the property of the Borough

of Southall, and utilised for the Public Health and Infant Welfare Departments. The party was welcomed by Dr. E. Grundy, the Medical Officer of Health, in the room on the first floor, where Mr. Percival, the Council's Chief Librarian, had arranged for photographs to be hung on the walls for the occasion.

Southall Manor House is an excellent example of timber-framed work of the Elizabethan period. Its many gables, tiled roofs and mullioned bay windows produce a picturesque effect. The house was the property of the Awsiter family from the end of the sixteenth century until early in the nineteenth century. It was built by R. Awsiter in 1587, and consists of a central hall, with cross-wings at the north and south ends, and a later wing added to the north and an extension to the west in the eighteenth century. The main western front retains its original work partly restored.

The hall has an interesting fireplace with an overmantel of five bays, the central panel having the Awsiter shield of arms with strapwork and the initials R. A. The walls of the hall are covered with late sixteenth or early seventeenth-century panelling.

On leaving the Manor House the party proceeded to

20. THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY, NORWOOD, being met there by the Rev. G. B. Ince. The chancel and nave roofs were probably reconstructed by Archbishop Chichele in 1439. Possibly the nave contains some work of the twelfth century. The chancel was added to, or rebuilt, in the thirteenth century, but has modern restorations with some fifteenth-century work at the windows. The chancel arch is fifteenth-century, and springs from semi-octagonal responds with moulded capitals. The church was much restored in 1824.

FRANCIS R. TAYLOR.

ALL HALLOWS, LOMBARD STREET.—The progress of the demolition of All Hallows, Lombard Street, was watched, on behalf of the London and Middlesex Archæological Society by Mr. J. W. Bloe, O.B.E., F.S.A., and by Mr. Francis R. Taylor, L.R.I.B.A., Hon. Director of Meetings. Notes, sketches and photographs were taken from early in June, 1939.

Many mediaeval stones were found to have been used in the walls of this church, which was therefore clear evidence that Sir Christopher Wren utilised the stones from the former churches in building the new ones after the Great Fire of 1666.

The stones found were from the thirteenth to the sixteenth century date. These stones were removed by permission of The Ecclesiastical Commissioners for allocation, if possible, to museums; in fact, one of these stones with carved heraldic device upon it has been accepted by The Guildhall Museum and inscribed "Donation arranged by The London and Middlesex Archæological Society with the approval of The Ecclesiastical Commissioners."

The excavation below the floor level of the church was also inspected up to November the 8th when the work was stopped and sandbags were being filled by the workmen as a result of the war.

The excavation is now again being proceeded with and the inspection by Mr. Bloe and Mr. Taylor will be continued.

It is fortunate that Mr. Quintin Waddington and Mr. Oswald of The Guildhall Museum carefully surveyed the excavations immediately they were resumed. They were able to see before removal what is presumed to be the foundations of the Saxon church on this site as well as the indications of the plans of the later churches, including that of the late fifteenth and early sixteenth century church mentioned by Stow.

It may be noted that it is understood that the fittings, monuments and ledgers will be removed to the New Church at Twickenham.

FRANCIS R. TAYLOR.