

NOTE ON SCREENS
IN
ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

Mr. Wadsworth in his paper on Tombs, etc., in St. Mary's, Nottingham (p. 64 *supra*), calls my attention to an error which I desire to correct. In my account of St. Mary's Church, printed in the Transactions, vol. XX., 1916, I ought not to have used the term *pulpitum* for a screen across the eastern tower arch. A *pulpitum* in this technical sense would only be found in a collegiate or monastic church, where the Epistle, Grail, and Gospel were sung on Sundays and High-days, to a congregation within the choir. In a parish church, such as St. Mary's, these would be sung from the High Altar. The term *pulpitum* was, however, sometimes loosely applied to a rood or other lofted screen, as appears to have been the case in the will of Henry Bewfray, quoted by Mr. Wadsworth (p. 63 *supra*).

But I still think it most probable that in St. Mary's Church there was, in addition to the great rood screen across the nave and aisles west of the tower, some kind of ornamental screen, *cancellus* not *pulpitum*, across the eastern tower arch, for the purpose of enclosing the chancel, covering the backs of the returned choir-stalls, and possibly forming a reredos for subsidiary altars on either side of the entrance to the choir. For the choir-stalls, occupied by the many chaplains and chantry priests, would have been entirely within the chancel, and would not have extended westwards into the open space of the crossing beneath the tower. John Hurte, buried in the chancel, 1477, was not buried at the rood

screen as Mr. Wadsworth suggests (p. 63), but *infra cancellum sub ambone ad gradum chori, i.e.*, beneath the chancel floor, below the "ambo" at the step to the east of the choir-stalls; which I think can only mean that he was buried in front of the desk or lectern at the north side of the high altar, where the Gospel was sung at High Mass in a parish church.

A. D. HILL.

