

The Proceedings of the Bucks Architectural and Archaeological Society

FOR THE YEAR 1913.

THE ANNUAL EXCURSION.

The annual excursion took place on Monday. The party assembled at the G.W.R. Station, Aylesbury, where motor cars were in readiness to convey the members and friends on their journey. A start was made about a quarter to 11, and the first stage of the journey was reached after a pleasant drive of an hour and a half along the old roads known as the Akeman Street and the Icknield Way. The former ran from Verulam to Akemancester, the City of the Waters, now known as Bath; the latter made its way from the country of the Ickeni on the Norfolk coast to the mining districts of the south-west. This part of the journey was across a very pretty stretch of country, pleasingly diversified on one hand, although somewhat flat, and the billowy heights of the Chiltern Downs with their soft rounded outline closing in the view on the other. Unfortunately, the prospect was marred by the misty state of the atmosphere. Some picturesque villages were passed on the way until

IVINGHOE

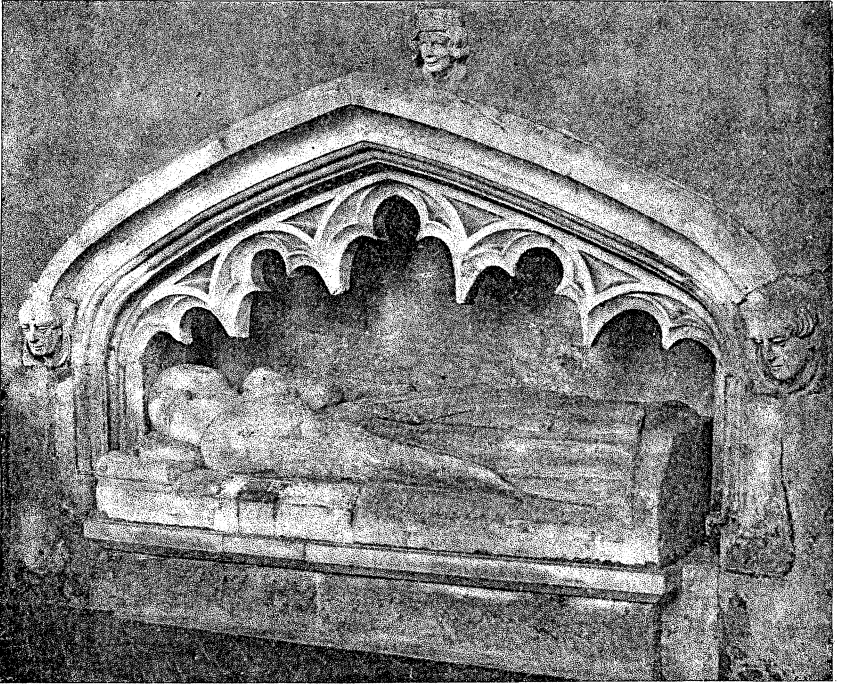
was reached, which was the first stopping-place. Here the party alighted and made their way to the handsome cruciform Parish Church,

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, IIVINGHOE.

The cruciform plan of this tall and striking church is probably the original one, or nearly so, and belongs, like the nave arcades, to the second quarter of the thirteenth century. Of the previous church upon the site, the existence of which is all but certain, not a single recognisable fragment now remains, a fact which is best accounted for by the supposition that the building was of wood. The Chiltern country was emphatically a timber-building region, and although the hard chalk quarries of "Eglemunt"* in Totternhoe had long before been supplying castles and the greater churches with their stone, the use of that material by the neighbouring poor parishes was rare until the thirteenth century or very little before. The stone churches of earlier date generally owe their existence to the presence of beds of stone actually within the parishes, as at Wing, and no doubt the earlier church which gave name to Whitchurch. At Ivinghoe the "Totternhoe" beds are indeed present, but are much harder to reach than at Totternhoe, and have never been worked.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, and is still an exceptionally "faire church of our Lady." It was repaired in 1819—suffered, I believe, a barely-recorded outrage soon after the middle of the century—and finally, in 1871, was *restored* with not less than his usual vigour by Mr. G. E. Street. A thirteenth-century font, the rood (or chapel) screen complete, the large fifteenth-century west window, all the old glass, part of a

* This may just possibly have been the Norman name of the castle there, after the analogy of *Blanchefleur* and *Montacute*, etc.



IN NORTH WALL OF CHANCEL.



IVINGHOE.

fourteenth-century brass, two or three altar-tombs, the fifteenth-century armorial parapet to the west font, with the whole of the other two porches, are the sum of its chief losses.† So short a catalogue, let us admit, argues a commendable restraint, or a fortunate lack of funds among those responsible, or possibly an unusual obstinacy and stoutness in the fabric.

The church, which throughout is of flint rubble, with roughly-snapped flint facings, and parapets, quoins, and bond-stones of Totternhoe stone, consists of an aisled nave of five bays, with north, south, and west porches, north and south transepts, central tower and chancel, the *internal* measurements of which are as follows:—

Nave, 54 ft. 10 in. by 19 ft. 1 in.

N. aisle, 54 ft. 10 in. by 9 ft. 5 in. (an inch more at W. end).

S. aisle, 54 ft. 10 in. by 11 ft. 1½ in.

W. porch, 8 ft. square.

N. transept, 22 ft. 6 in. by 17 ft. 6 in.

S. transept, 22 ft. 5½ in. by 17 ft. 1 in.

Tower, 14 ft. square.

Chancel, 34 ft. 1 in. by 16 ft. 9 in. (17 ft. ½ in. breadth E. end).

There is no external plinth round the church, except about the west porch.

THE NAVE.—The arcade and walling above have usually been taken to be the work of about 1250, and there is a so-called tradition that Peter de Chaceport,* the king's chaplain and one of his lesser favourites from Poitou, was the founder or builder. He was rector here from 1244 to 1255, and of Tring also from 1249, but in both cures non-resident. By what Matthew Paris calls his "noble will," he left funds to found the priory at Ravenstone (afterwards carried out by the king), and money to Merton Priory to buy lands,* but it is not proved that he showed much interest in his own churches. The "tradition," as usual, is nothing but an antiquary's theory, quoted vaguely and not quite honestly by fellow antiquaries of the old school. The Dr. Stukeleys of a former age were nothing if not innocently disingenuous. Naturally, no true tradition whatever about Chaceport remains at Ivinghoe; it would be miraculous if it did. The effigy in the chancel, according to the same tradition, represents Chaceport himself, but true tradition names it "Gramfer (or Grampy) Greyyv,"‡ and has no more to say. Browne Willis was inclined, it seems, to attribute it to Henry of Blois, Bishop of Winchester from 1129 to 1171, but Cole's transcript of his MS. in the British Museum shows that he retracted this opinion in favour of Chaceport. Bishop Henry of Blois, as is well known, was buried in

† Cole's MS. of Browne Willis's *Hundred of Cottesloe*, Add. MS. 5840; An account of Ivinghoe by a writer signing himself J. S. B., in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1812, part I., pp. 315-318.

* For his life and for references v. Dic. of Natl. Biography Paris writes his name Chaceporc (*chasse-porc*) without the particle, but wrongly, I believe; such impolite designations, however, were common enough, e.g. Talbot=sooty or black (—face), hence *brigand*; Mallet=*maudit*; Giffard=*joufflu*, etc. Dugdale, quoting his bequest of 600 marks to Merton, calls him Peter "Chacepor" (Monasticon VI. 245).

‡ RECORDS, vol. IX., p. 143, for remarks on this name. In vol. I., p. 77, there is a paper on the effigy, with a rather rude woodcut.

[The writer also attributes it to Peter de Chaceport, rector of Ivinghoe 1241-1254. The R. Com. Inventory makes no suggestion, merely "probably 15th century."—Ed.]

his cathedral, and Chaceport at Boulogne, where he died in 1255. I think it very probable, for these and other reasons given later, that the effigy represents neither, and that the arcades are earlier than Chaceport's time.

The capitals of the octagonal piers have beautiful "stiff-leaf" foliage, the graceful forms and curves of which thoroughly belie the name. The leaves are generally trilobed, exquisitely finished, and of considerable projection. The design varies, but in most cases the stemmed leaves occur in pairs on the faces, curving away from each other to the angles; at the angles below their meeting lobes is often a flat heart-shaped (ace of spades) leaf lying close to the bell.

Each arcade of five bays has two-centred arches formed on an equilateral triangle; they are of two hollow-chamfered orders without the broach stop, but with the same label on the nave side that occurs in the similar work at Eaton Bray. This is a plain rounded, undercut label, mitred over the piers. The easternmost arch on each side was originally of greater height and span than the rest, but the responds have been moved some two feet or more westward to make room for the fourteenth-century tower, which had either no predecessor, or, more probably, a smaller one.

Work precisely similar to this exquisite arcade is happily not at all uncommon in the neighbourhood, though not on the Bucks side. The south arcade at Great Gaddesden is exactly like it, foliage, abaci, and bases; the same arcade at Eaton has the same abacus, similar foliage, and the same label, but the bases have the "waterholding" form; both arcades at Studham and the north arcade at Chalgrave resemble it extremely closely, but at Studham the abacus has the moulding which at Ivinghoe and Eaton serve for the label, and the necking and base have half-octagons; the south arcade of Flamstead church, of which the north arcade is a rougher imitation, is also identical in every essential feature. In Bucks I know nothing like it except at Mentmore, where capitals of this type serve in a reversed position as bases to the late fifteenth-century piers of the south arcade.

In at least two of these examples the work can be dated with much probability. Under the year 1220 the contemporary annals of Dunstable Priory record that "Stodham" Church, with its five altars and a "cœmiterium amplius," was dedicated by Robert, Bishop of Lichmore. This in its main structural features must have been the church that now exists, with a high altar, two aisle altars, and perhaps two rood altars, one on either side of that narrow chancel arch with its pair of "squints" which was destroyed at the last *restoration*. In the same year the vicarage there was regulated by Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, and a vicar first appointed by the Priory. Again, in the same year, on the day of Holy Cross, Chalgrave Church ("Chagrave") was consecrated by the same Bishop of Lichmore; there is nothing whatever now in the building of that or earlier date except the north arcade already mentioned, and some walling of the same period.

It seems hardly possible that there can be much difference between the dates of the work in these churches and the arcades at Ivinghoe. If there is any difference, Ivinghoe and Flamstead may be a few years later, for the foliage in both churches is just perceptibly the more finished and perfect. In any case I think it earlier than Chaceport's rectorate, and I suspect that Bishop Peter des Roches of Winchester, whose manor here Siward and

his outlaws burnt in 1234,* when Humphrey de Medliers was rector, † may have been more concerned with it than he. Netley choir, begun by his executors in 1239, witnesses that he had at all events a *posthumous interest* in architecture. Siward may possibly have unconsciously helped in the good work by burning the old (? wooden) church, and it seems rather significant that there is no such irregularity of plan here as an already encumbered site so often causes.

CLERESTORY.—The original clerestories at Ivinghoe contained four circular windows on each side like those still remaining in the transepts; there is one over each free pillar of the arcades. The five uninteresting fifteenth-century windows which supplant them are at a higher level and over the arches. The lower halves or quarters of these circular openings still project conspicuously from the plaster within, though they are difficult to trace outside. The earliest roof of the church nearly or just reached the level of the tops of these windows; its gable is still discernible above the west window of the nave, and their corresponding and contemporary roof gables above the north and south windows in the transepts. My own impression is that this first roof (to the nave at least) was made before the existence of the circular windows, but I am not sure of this. The faces of the fourteenth-century tower (west, north, and east) show that it was soon destroyed to make room for a much taller and steeper roof, necessitating somewhat taller walls, less tall, however, than the present ones. The existing circular windows of the transepts have the same label round them (inside and out) as the very late traceried lancets, the contemporary three-light windows and the single geometrical two-light in each transept; it is at least possible that they are of the same date (c. 1300). Other examples of circular clerestory windows are at Ickleford, near Hitchin, and at Anstey, both in Hertfordshire. In these churches they are quatrefoiled; here they are sex-foiled with hollow-chamfered cusps holding each other in position on the soffit, but unfortunately the cusping is nearly all new. The openings have a large hollow chamfer.

About the third quarter of the fifteenth century the clerestory was heightened, and the five plain windows under pointed segmental heads inserted. Their sills cut through the tops of the earlier windows. At this time all the walls of the church were heightened and the present low-pitched roof added, the last of three sets which have covered the church. ‡ That over the nave is an unusually fine and highly-ornamented example of its period. The wall-posts rest on stone corbels carved with grotesque heads, and themselves have large wooden figures of the apostles. Above the moulded wall-plate between them, at the ends of the principal rafters, are even larger figures of angels, with outspread wings and shields bearing emblems. The bay over the site of the rood altar is boarded and has carved bosses at the intersection of its timbers. The roofs of chancel and transepts are similar, but rather more simple, and those in the aisles quite without ornament.

AISLES AND WEST DOOR.—None of the windows and doors in the aisles are as early as the arcades; perhaps the twin lancets which light the aisles below the circular windows of Ickleford clerestories were here also. The beautiful west doorway to the nave is later thirteenth-century work. It has a deeply and elaborately-moulded

* Matthew Paris, or Roger de Wendover, *Flores Historiarum*. (Chron. and Mem.) III. 52, &c. "Ivingeho quoque villam Petri Wintoniensis episcopi, cum domibus et rebus cunctis episcopo damnosis, concremarunt quarto idus Maii."

† Presented by Des Roches in 1221.

‡ Perhaps only two have covered the chancel.



IVINGHOE : ANCIENT LECTERN.

head, the mouldings worked in the faces of soffit and wall, the angle of which was not chamfered, but rounded. The principal of them are rolls and triple or double fillets; the hoodmould, which has short returns, is a large irregular roll and fillet (or filleted scroll) with a bead and a deep hollow below. The whole suit is carried on either side by a detached nook-shaft with circular cap and base. The capitals have foliage more lily-like than like that of the arcades, with a roll and fillet abacus having a bead below, and with round necking.

The western window above this door retains the arch, jambs, and jamb-shafts (with moulded caps and bases) of the original window, which was of the same period as the doorway. Until 1871 it was filled with fifteenth-century tracery of three lights, doubled above, inserted apparently at the same time as the similar east window (in chancel) still to be described. This was cleared away by Mr. Street in 1871, and replaced by the present tracery, which is faithfully Geometrical, but very new. At the same time he probably removed a niche for an image which existed in 1812 over and outside the window.

The windows in the aisles nearest the transept arches are of the same design and date, the second quarter of the fourteenth century. They have good curvilinear tracery under a two-centred arch, consisting of two intersecting ogee arches, with quatrefoiled heads supporting a quatrefoiled vesica. The label is a scroll, and the mouldings of the arch a wave-mould and sunk chamfer. The rear-arch, also two-centred, has a small wave-moulding stopped by the jambs. The two-light in the north aisle west of the door is similar in many details, but the design of the tracery naturally differs, and its moulding is of rather more pronounced character, as befits a smaller window. The corresponding window of the south aisle is of two lights also, and is probably of the same date, but its tracery is geometrical—two cinquefoiled lights supporting a quatrefoiled circle. The western windows of both aisles are like it, but mainly, if not altogether, modern.

NORTH AND SOUTH DOORS.—The north and south doorways are much alike, and of about the same date as the aisle windows. They have a series of wave-moulds and hollows, with quatrefoils and ball-flowers in the principal hollow of the inner order. The north doorway has its label (a scroll with bead below) stopped by knops of naturalesque foliage, that on the right original, the other new. Both retain their old doors. The porches which cover them date from 1871, but that over the west door is of about 1470-80, and retains its old span roof carried by two free and two engaged four-centred arches. The outer doorway has a quatrefoil and a rose in the spandrels. The embattled parapet, which is new (? 1871) had on the merlon over the door, which now exhibits the arms of Earl Brownlow, the crowned shield of Edward IV., supported by his "beastes"—a "Tyger and a Bull," according to Browne Willis, but probably a lion and a bull,* the tiger being a beast of Lancastrian principles.

TRANSEPTS.—Each of the transepts is entered by a two-centred arch of two broadly wave-moulded orders, the inner of the north arch dying into the projecting wall of the tower staircase on one side, and stopped near the floor by a broach stop on the other. That on the south transept is continuous to the stop, but the outer order in each case is stopped by the jambs.

The lighting of both transepts is by two tall traceried lancets in their east walls, the two circular sex-foiled windows already described high up in their west walls, below the outer of which is

* But, according to the writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, the animals are two lions. The Yorkist king sometimes used a second lion instead of the bull.

a small Geometrical window of early type, having two plain chamfered orders and two uncusped lights with a quatrefoiled circle in the head below a two-centred arch. In both north and south walls is a tall three-light late Geometrical window, the flanking lights of which are cinquefoiled lancets with ordinary chamfer cusping; but the taller central light has the traceried head which also occurs in the heads of the single lancets just mentioned, and dates them all pretty exactly. This tracery consists of an open half-trefoil supporting the pointed and long-lobed complete trefoil which occurs so frequently from 1295 or earlier to 1325. A window at Milton Abbey with all three lights traceried in this fashion is known to be of the first quarter of the century, and the west front at Howden (c. 1315) has its four lights headed with it. Nearer home, it occurs at Flamstead and Bierton, but in both has a slightly later character (? 1330). In the east wall of the north transept two trefoiled piscinas of the date of the windows remain, but the corresponding southward piscina in the south transept is in its south wall. In both transepts the southward piscinas are now covered by panelling. They all have a hollow chamfer.

In the north transept, but not in the south, there is a low doorway with a pointed but *nearly* semi-circular head, under the two-light window of the west wall. It is mainly new, but some old stones remain, and show merely a wide hollow sunk in a plain chamfer, stopped by a chamfer a foot from the ground. The rear-arch is segmental, and has, I think, merely a narrow chamfer.

CHANCEL.—There is little remaining but the walls of the thirteenth-century chancel; all the present structural features are fifteenth-century work of the date of the west porch, or possibly later. But in the north wall the blocked outlines of two lancets are still visible from outside, the third nearest the transept having been obliterated by a plain fifteenth-century three-light, the only window now in the wall. Southward there are two such late windows, but between them, partly obscured by a buttress (the only one to the chancel) is another blocked lancet, no doubt also one of three. All these lancets are less tall and less sharply headed than those in the transepts. The present east window is a fifteenth-century insertion of four cinquefoiled lights, divided above by supermullions into eight trefoiled lights under a low four-centred but nearly straight-sided arch. There is a narrow priest's door in the south wall between the windows, blocked in 1871, and of small interest. Its head is four-centred and chamfered.

No trace remains visible of either piscina or sedilia. A low arched recess in the north wall may have been intended for the Easter Sepulchre, but has long contained a rude effigy of a priest, earlier than the arch, and described later. The arch itself is four-centred, and its four main cusps have each foil trefoiled (see illustration); the outer order is a double ogee, the inner a hollow chamfer. The large label is of a plain section fairly common in the fifteenth-century, with a slightly-curved upper surface, diagonally chamfered below, with a wide and shallow hollow in the chamfer reaching the wall-surface. Two recent but well-cut heads of priests serve as drips. The date of the recess is probably but little, if at all, after 1400. Above it, a little east of its apex, a good crowned head of old work projects from the wall, and there is another corresponding to it on the wall opposite. Formerly iron staples remained over them, and together they were possibly designed to carry a beam for lights,* which may have been put

* Cp. entries in the pre-reformation accounts of the church of St. Lawrence, Reading, given in his monograph upon it by the Rev. Charles Kerry (pp. 27, 42)—“Anno 1537 Payd for skowryng the beam hangyng before the Sacrament, viii d.” “1538-9. Paid for makeyng the beam lights *ouer the Sepulchre ayenst easter*, xxi d.”

up at Easter, but removed for the ordinary routine of the church.

The gabled roof of the chancel can be traced on the tower wall between the two minute lancets which on this face occur below the small circular windows. It was less tall than the three roofs which in the fourteenth century covered the nave and transepts, but of nearly the same height as the first thirteenth-century roofs. There is very little by which to date the chancel precisely, but I fancy that its lancets are considerably earlier than those of the transepts, and they may possibly be of nearly the same date as the nave.

Outside the present gable under the stone cross is a small plate of lead, inscribed

T _S		which probably refers to some reparation
HP		the roof. The north transept has a large
GW		oblong panel of stone under its cross (which is the only old
1727		one remaining), but its inscription is quite undecipherable.

THE TOWER.—The tower arches are two-centred, in three chamfered orders, the outermost of which is continuous, the inner two carried by triple half-hexagonal responds with moulded capitals and simple bases of perhaps 1340. The former have a scroll above and a mid-roll with central and under-fillet below, overhanging the bell. In the north-west angle, and projecting from the north and west faces of the pier walling, is the newel staircase, with its original doorway opening into the transept, and a long and very narrow window (query modern) over the tower crossing. The head of the door has a shouldered "arch" with a plain chamfer, and there is another such doorway to the ringing-loft above, which retains its old door. Two small and narrow lancets in the east wall, splayed within, and pierced on either side of the gable-mark of the lost fourteenth-century roof to the chancel, alone light this chamber, and have each a pointed trefoil of tracery in the head, carved upon or resting against a solid blocking of stone which converts them into rectangular openings. Between and below them is a nearly square recess, now blocked outwardly, but formerly opening into the old roof; similar blocked openings remain at a considerably higher level in the north walls. Near the top of this stage, in all faces but the south, are small circular "eyelets," a pair in each face, quatrefoiled with plain cusping; between them, at their level, are the points of the old gables to nave and transepts. They light a low intermediate chamber in this stage which now contains the clock. The bell-chamber, the walls of which are original for three-fourths at least of their height, is divided from the stage below by a broad set-off of stone, chamfered, and has a fifteenth-century two-light window in each face, the lights cinquefoiled with a quatrefoil above between straight sides; the head of the western window is blocked to carry the clock-face. Another clock-face lower down in the south wall tells the time to the fields and the Icknield Way. The stair-turret, occupying the north-west angle, is outwardly oblong in plan, the broader face westward, but at the top the south-easterly faces are multangular; it rises about six feet above the parapet, and now contains an iron beacon-frame or cresset formerly loose in one of the tower chambers. In 1812 it was called the Bushel Tower, from a bushel measure once there, with a fruit-tree in it. A small *flèche* of timber and lead, some 36 feet high, rises from the tower roof, and, as usual, has frequently been a mark for lightning, as well as criticism. A gilt ball and weather-cock vane surmount it. A similar *flèche* once distinguished the fine belfry at Edlesborough, but was destroyed by lightning in 1828, and a few years ago, so I am informed by the parish clerk, "Tom" of Ivinghoe (i.e. the weathercock) fell from the same cause almost through the aisle roof.

THE EARLIER MONUMENTS, &c.—In the floor of the chancel all the brasses of the church are collected together, some not in their

original casements. Those of the Duncombes were formerly on altar-tombs in the inner chapel of the north, and both chapels of the south transept; that of Blackhed on the floor of the outer chapel of the north transept. The French inscription-plate now laid south of the altar, close to the east wall, and partly covered by the reredos of 1896, was formerly in the middle of the tower-crossing. Only about half the slab remains, with the lower parts of the indents for half-figures (each about 10 in. across) of a man in civilian costume and his wife. The woman's figure was lost, and the man already headless by 1812. The inscription of three lines, on a plate 2 ft. 1 in. by 3½ in., is as follows:—

Rauf Fallywolle qe moruff le .iiij. ðe mai lan de gr̃e .m. ccc. xlii.

† Lucie sa f̃me qe moruff le vintifme iour de Ianuer lan de gr̃e
 .m. ccc. lxxiiij. g̃sent ic̃p̃ . dieu de lour almes ait merc̃y.

It is quite possible that the person this brass commemorates, who was a benefactor to the destroyed chapel of Ivinghoe Aston and founder of the chantry there,* was also founder of the tower here, the character of the stage below the bell-chamber with the arches and responds on which it rests all being consistent with his date.

The family seems to have held part of the manor of the Bishop of Winchester at farm; the names of two Ralphs occur fairly frequently in local documents of this century. Ralph "Fallynwolle" of Aston, — with such other neighbouring magnates as Thomas le Botiller of Northall, Matilda de Jarpunville of Mentmore (a lady!), a Tillesworth of "Masseworth," Henry "Jones-bailiff Brokas" of Horton and Cheddington, the Stretleys of Mentmore, a Bosevill from Pitstone [and Edlesborough], Edmund Neyruyt of "Pichelesthorne," the Hays [? of Berkhamstead Castle], another lady, an Inge of Dunstable [kinsman of the Lord la Zouche of Eaton and Houghton], a chaplain, and the parsons of Weston Turville and Pitstone — occurs in the Patent Rolls of 6 Feb., 1339, as one of an armed company of 62 persons named, and others not named, who had attacked John de "Chetyngdon's" house of "Erle" in Pitstone, † and robbed it of £300 worth of live stock and other goods. A Ralph and a William Fallynwoll occur among the names of benefactors to the College of Ashridge (*Todd's History of Ashridge*).

The priest's effigy in the possible Easter Sepulchre already described is rough local work, much like a better finished effigy in a similar recess in the south aisle of Luton. Both are in ordinary mass vestments, which in this figure lack all ornament. The plain amice is extraordinarily large, straight, and stiff. The undulations of the front of the chasuble are treated in a way quite unlike the fourteenth or fifteenth-century convention, and certainly resemble early work. The hair is treated in the fashion of the thirteenth century, and a straight edge over the forehead, as of a skull-cap, passing not over but beneath the hair, fully excuses the description of it by the writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* as "a wig very much like what is called a Welsh wig." The "gown" and "apron" of the same description, the former of which is the "cope" of other descriptions, are simply the chasuble. Neither the maniple nor the stole-ends show either

* Inq. ad quod damnum (10 Edw. III.), file ccxxxvii., No. 27. The name is there written Fallynwoll, and the chapel, dedicated to St. James the Apostle, had been some time in existence.

† Yarley Farm, which gave name to the old hundred of Erlai. The loss was perhaps equivalent to about £5,000 of our money.

fringe or ornament, and the feet have no character or modelling whatever. Beneath the head are two pillows, the upper lozenge-wise upon the lower, and the feet rest on the slope of a half-octagonal and pyramidal base. On the whole, I think so homely a production as unlikely to be the effigy of a king's favourite and a queen's treasurer—who moreover is known to be buried elsewhere—as it is to be that of a bishop. All that can be said is that it is perhaps of the thirteenth century, and represents one of the rectors.

Of the mediæval furniture nothing remains but the oak lectern and bench-ends in the nave. The former is of the fifteenth century, and consists of a gabled double-desk, turning on a hollow-sided hexagonal stem with cap, knop, and richly-moulded base. In each gable-end of the desk is a circular hole, hollow chamfered. Before the restoration the 32 bench-ends, now in the nave, were in the aisles, and have been fitted with new seats and backs. The rough and bold carving of their poppy-heads is nevertheless effective. Most of them have grotesque masks in the middle of the *lis*-shaped "flower," but three have small *popées* which date them. One represents a man in a waisted and long-skirted gown, with the straight pleats, belt, and high open collar of the middle of the century; another is in half-armor, with a globular breast-plate, skirt of taces once marked by paint, and round-cuffed gauntlets of the same period. The absence of *tuilles* to the taces indicate that it is not late in the century. He too wears a high collar with a V-shaped opening; his pointed shoes are turned up and facetiously large. A third has a mermaid holding the usual double comb and round mirror.

In Browne-Willis's time the north windows "of the Body of the Church," *i.e.* of the clerestory, contained "the portraits of several Persons praying, with inscriptions over them." The shield of England, without the French quarters, and therefore before 1340, was then in "the Upper Window of the S. Isle" (query the three-light in the south transept); here, too, was a shield argent with a cross gules. "In the west window of the south Isle" (the Geometrical two-light in the transept) was a shield of "O. 2 cheverons G. in Chief a Lion passant and Canton of the 2d.;" and in the north window of the chancel a quarterly shield which he describes thus: "1. A. a Lion pass. G. 2. O. 2 Lions passt A. 3d. as 2d., 4th as 1st." Possibly the field of the second quartering should be "b." for blue or azure. These arms could no doubt be very easily identified. Not a fragment of all this glass remains.

Most deeply to be regretted of the losses which the church has sustained since 1812 are the font and the chancel screen.* The font, which had an octagonal bowl originally resting on a central stem, and eight shafts standing clear of its base (which were even then missing) was probably of the thirteenth century.† It stood near the south-west pier of the nave. The new font was under the tower in 1862 (Sheahan), and is now in a fenced-off partition with a boarded floor at the west end of the north aisle. The mediæval chancel-screen, of oak, painted and gilt, had painted panels below with "figures of the Apostles, three on each side of the folding-doors." But in an additional note by Thomas Fisher, author of the beautiful book of etchings of Bedfordshire antiquities, it is stated that four of the figures represented a cardinal (? Beaufort) and three bishops. No account of the rood-screen remains, and it is worth notice that there is no trace of a rood-

* The account of 1812 indicates, I find, the rood-screen then no longer existed.

† A similar font remains, or recently remained, at Stubbington, co. Hunts.

doorway from the tower stairs or elsewhere, though a slot for a high beam for hanging the rood remains in the projecting masonry of the staircase, to the north of the arch; this retains a few words of the creed or commandments, once painted in seventeenth-century blackletter on this wall. But there are other indications of the rood altar, a blocked piscina, for instance, behind the pulpit, and the filled-in slots in the caps of the first free pillars north and south, for two screens to flank the altar. Traceried panels from one or other of the old screens now form the sanctuary rail, and are used in the front of the new altar-table and elsewhere. They have a cinquefoiled ogee with trefoiled circles in the spandrels.

Much else remains in the church which should be described, but I have already far exceeded my space with this long and very dry analysis. The Blackhed and Duncombe brasses, and the two wall-monuments (chancel and south transept) are sufficiently described in Lipscomb. But the magnificent Jacobean pulpit with its sound-board and hour-glass frame, the three seventeenth-century chairs, and the unusual framed and carved table of the same date, now used as the altar-table in the south transept,* are all exceptionally good and interesting; the roofs, too, are worth a fuller description.

FREDERICK G. GURNEY.

NOTE.—I have not seen the account of the church in the recently-published *Inventory* for North Bucks. It will, no doubt, corroborate my reading of its history where I am right, and correct me where I am wrong.

The photographs, except one which I cannot identify, I owe to the kindness of Mr. George Heley, of Great Gap, Ivinghoe, to whom I am much indebted.

IVINGHOE DOWNS

form one of the highest groups of the Chilterns, and present a picturesque appearance. Their highest points are Beacon Hill, with faint outline of a camp and a barrow, from which the terminal syllable of the name of the place may have been derived. Other well-known points are Gallows Hill and Steps Hill. A short run, partly along the old Icknield Way and past some romantic spots, brought the excursionists to

EDLESBOROUGH,

the fortified hill of Edulf. The village is chiefly built round an extensive "Green," the folkmoor of the original settlers. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, stands on an insulated hill, and will be found well described and illustrated in the recently-issued "Inventory" of the Royal Commission.

EATON BRAY CHURCH.

Upon the Society's visit here, Mr. W. A. Forsyth, the architect in charge of the restoration, read a most interesting paper upon the church, to which the few remarks which follow may be considered a footnote; the chief excuse being that some of the facts indirectly throw light upon the date of the similar work at Ivinghoe.

Though rather poor in fittings, the building fully compensates for this by the unusual interest of its thirteenth-century structural features. The plan, a common one of that date, consists of an aisled nave with unequal transept chapels, chancel, and small west tower. The last, a late fourteenth-century addition, which

* Formerly used for the chief altar in the chancel.



EATON BRAY.

has lost an equal-sized extension westward made at the end of the fifteenth century, is at present still in an incomplete and ruinous condition. The clerestory was evidently added at the same time as the tower, and contains windows of two ogee-headed lights, like the single lights still traceable in the south and east faces of the tower.

The arcades of the nave, although approximately of the same thirteenth-century period, are extraordinarily unlike—so much so as to cause surprise even to the casual visitor. To the south the piers are octagonal, and the capitals have well-cut trilobed "stiff" foliage, much like the somewhat later one at Ivinghoe. The bases, however, unlike those of the north arcade and at Ivinghoe, have the "water-holding" form. Handsome corbels occur instead of responds at either end of this arcade, the capitals carved much like those of the piers, and the corbels themselves covered with stems and close-lying leaves. Corbels almost exactly like them remain in the presbytery at Ely, the date of which is about 1235. The arches here are of two hollow-chamfered orders with broach stops, sometimes omitted, as at Studham close by. The date of the Studham work is discussed in the previous account of Ivinghoe, and is probably just before the year 1220.

The north arcade is infinitely more elaborate, and its length hardly fits the church. For this and other reasons mentioned below, it is probable that it is not the work of a local mason or school, though the south arcade almost undoubtedly is. The piers are clustered, three of them with their four smaller shafts engaged upon the "core" and their four larger detached; the others have all eight shafts engaged. The main central-niece of the piers is a hollow-sided octagon. At the east end, built against a short piece of walling, the inaccurate half of one of these piers serves as respond. At the west end is a corbel instead, which, however, tells precisely the same tale. It is quite evidently half a pier-capital like the rest, the necking cut away, and the whole finished with downward converging cones, and resting upon a large and rather featureless mask or head. This is plainly the work of some local mason not yet educated out of the "Norman" tradition. The so-called "stiff" foliage of the capitals, and the deep and numerous mouldings of the arches, are work of the finest sort, such as is found nowhere else in the neighbourhood. The abacus is of very rare and early section, with a double curve above, such as is found in work of about 1200 at Dore Abbey, and in work known to have been in progress in 1228 at St. Mary-le-Wigford in Lincoln. In 1221 William de Cantelou (de Cantiluppo, etc.), who had acquired Eaton by exchange with King John in the fifth year of his reign* was busy with a castle here, † desiring a place of strength near "Falcasius" de Bréauté's strongholds of Bedford and Luton, the better to rebel, if necessary. ‡ Rather before this time he had been engaged in a legal dispute with the Prior of Merton about Eaton Church, which long before had been granted

* It was formerly held at farm of the king by his first wife's family, the Bracys, of Meole Bracy, etc.; for the exchange v. *Cal. Rot. Chartarum*, 5 and 6 John.

† "1221. . . . apud Lutune et apud Eitone, castra ædificata sunt in grave periculum Dunstapliæ et viciniae." *Annales de Dunstaplia*. The great rectangular wet-moat still remains half-a-mile north-west of Eaton Church, with the lowered circular mount or *motte* and part of its ditch at the north angle.

‡ He did so, with Ranulph Blundeville Earl of Chester and others, but under threat of ex-communication made his peace at Northampton almost immediately. His discontent was due to jealousy of Hubert de Burgh.

to the Priory by Stephen, while still Count of Boulogne.* For some reason the grant had never or not fully taken effect, for Cantelou's own son Walter, Bishop of Worcester by 1236, held the *rectory* before and after that date.† The dispute was partially settled by a fine of the 12th John ‡ (1210—1211), by which the Prior had Eaton Church, and Cantelou a chapel and chaplain in his "court" at Eaton; but neither he nor William his heir relinquished the right of presentation until the 27th Henry III. (by fine of that date).

It seems a reasonable deduction that the north arcade was provided, if not set up, by Cantelou, who may originally have intended not only to have a fine church upon the present site, but also to build his fortified house here. Having to abandon his claim to the church, he probably abandoned also his beautiful arcade, reserving his efforts for his castle and chapel (of St. Nicholas) away on the edge of the old marsh. The site here had previously boasted nothing better, most likely, than a timber church, like that of Merton itself a hundred years before, § and like the humble frame for wattle and daub shown on the seal of Ankerwycke. Merton or the parish itself finished the present nave in the less ambitious but still beautiful fashion of the local stone-workers.

The font is of the same date and beauty as what may be considered Cantelou's arcade; and the shaft caps in the north wall, belonging to an unfinished system of arched struts and vaulting, are of the same date and design. So, too, is the door-head now over the outer doorway of the fifteenth-century north porch.

There are many other features of the church of very great interest, but the chief problem, and the only one which is of particular interest to our Buckinghamshire Society, is that which I have attempted to solve.

The small but excellent photographs which illustrate these remarks are used by the kind permission of Miss Dorothy G. Sutton (daughter of the Rev. Edwin Sutton, Vicar of Eaton), whose work they are, and to whom my most considered and willing thanks are due. I should like to add that the present good condition of the church, which was formerly all but ruinous, is entirely owing to the Vicar's exertions and to his scrupulous care for the old work. The mutilated tower, which since 1810 at least has *needed support*, still awaits the necessary funds.

FREDERICK G. GURNEY.

The whole of this neighbourhood is covered with places and objects of great antiquarian interest. One of the best known is

TOTTERNHOE CASTLE.

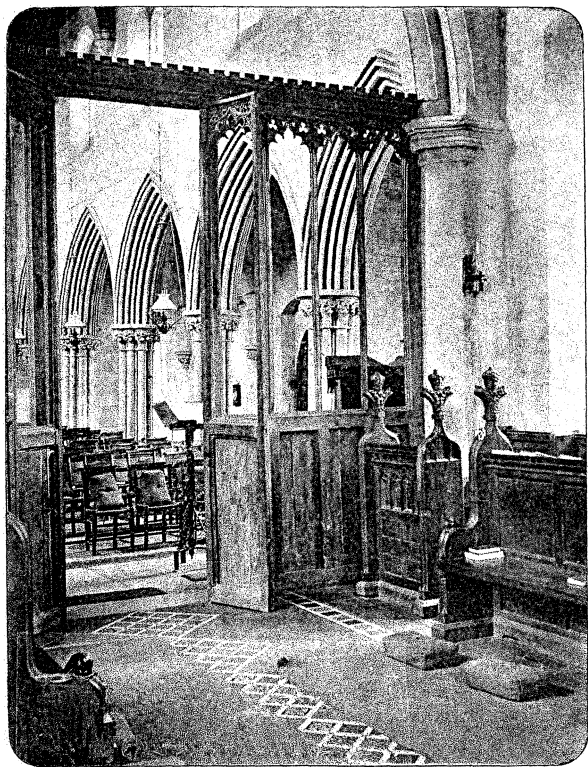
This, the greatest of the many forts of the Norman type in the district, has, like many other such forts even of greater size and strength, no known history whatever. The plan, allowing for the exigencies of the site, is not so unusual as has been thought, though the rectangular form of the outer castle-yard has caused

* For the grant of Stephen, Dugdale *Mon.* vi. p. 247 (old ed. II. 135).

† That the prior of Merton had previously exercised his rights is, however, proved by a fine of 20 Sept., 1197, by which Walter, prior of Merton, acknowledges the right of one Agnes, wife of Richard, and one Sibil, wife of John, to half a virgate in "Eitone."

‡ These fines are incorrectly among those of Bucks, the former Case 14, file 9 (9—16 John) quinzismes of Easter, 12 John. The latter recites this in full.

§ Re-built in stone in 1135.



EATON BRAY : THE ARCADE FROM CHANCEL.

it to be considered by the older school of antiquaries as partly of Roman or Romano-British construction. There is no ground for such an assumption, and the few shards of pottery, etc., which have been picked up on the site have all, as it happens, been of a mediæval type, though had they been Roman or earlier, no evidence of the date of the earthworks could, of course, have been deduced from them, for the surface soil of the whole hill to Dunstable is full of such remains. No exploratory digging has ever been done upon the site.

The plan is the usual Norman one of a ditched castle-mount or motte, which is about 450 feet in circumference at the base, and originally no doubt carried a wooden palisade and *bretasche*. Round it are two courts or baileys, the smaller of the two sufficiently defended by the enormous scarp westward. The other curves about two sides of the mount, and where its northern horn abuts on the smaller bailey is divided from it by a ditch, and the angle further defended by an angular bank. A great rampart, very tall on the outer face, defends it on all sides but the S.W., where again the steep slope of the hill is sufficient defence. A wide and deep ditch runs about it on all sides but this, and divides it eastward from the oblong castle-yard. The large circular pit in this bailey was probably the mouth of a deep well, but I shall return to it in a moment. The castle-yard beyond has been artificially levelled, and the material probably used to heighten the level of the baileys just described. It is defended by the steep slope to the S.W.,—by a long straight ditch on the opposite side,—and is cut off from the rest of the plateau eastward by a very broad and well-preserved ditch at right angles, in which you see the row of beeches. This last ditch has a tall bank on the inside, but with so sharp an edge that it can never have carried anything more formidable than a palisade. It stops short of the long south-western scarp by about 58 feet, leaving this space as the entrance to the castle. In the chalk-pit to the north, part of another ditch has been discovered just recently, perhaps showing that the defence on this side, long since obliterated by the plough, once extended to that very considerable distance.

The height of the mount is 524 feet above ordnance datum, 201 feet above the moated and ruinous house seen to westward. The valley must have been overawed by it in the most effective way. The length of the whole fort is about two-thirds that of Windsor, the plan of which it resembles in some respects. Little more than 100 years ago there existed near Leighton Buzzard a fort of the same date and character, unfortunately quite destroyed at the time of the great enclosures. This has always been described as a circular town-site of the same kind as Maiden Bower, but not long since I found a plan of it which conclusively proves it of Norman construction, with the same ditched mound and rectangular castle-yard as Totternhoe. Other mount and bailey castles of the same race, but of ages varying from the earliest Norman times to the thirteenth century, exist or have existed at Wing, Cublington, Toddington, and Weston Turville; a late specimen is at Eaton Bray, and there are miniature examples at Tilsforth, here, and at Chalgrave.

An antiquary of about 1820, who wrote in a purposely rustic fashion under the pseudonym of "Dunno," but who in the flesh was Mr. Henry Brandreth, of Houghton Regis, found the castle-mount and some of the vallum to be constructed of regular layers of quarry stones without mortar. He also mentions an interesting tradition that the whole site was once covered with houses, but another version enlarges the matter to no less than sixteen churches!

The Domesday tenant of the chief manor was Walter the Fleming, but an undertenant held it of him. The head of Walter's barony

and the castle of his descendants, the Wahulls, was not here, but at Odell. Another part of Totternhoe was held by William the Chamberlain, who also held Luton. It may possibly be significant that he was forcibly dispossessed of two hides out of the seven by no less a person than that turbulent prelate, Odo of Bayeux, owner of Eaton, close by. But my personal opinion, based, I admit, on quite insufficient grounds, is that the castle is the result of the Conqueror's own policy of overawing the country everywhere by such castle-works. In a few years, as soon as its object was accomplished, its wooden tower and wooden pales would be allowed to fall into ruin, for the place was unnecessary as a permanent stronghold, and was extremely bleak and inconvenient as a dwelling for any lord of the village. The Annals of Dunstable, which practically begin in 1201, do not so much as mention it, though twenty years later they are much concerned by William de Cantelon's castle-building at Eaton, and that of "Fawkes" de Breauté at Luton.

Now for the well already spoken of. It is now called by that name, but at one time the people called it the Money-pit, and had a tradition that there was money in it. The children, I believe—and the circular foot-track supports me—still have a ritual to celebrate the belief. They run about the pit nine times and then leap to the bottom; at that impact the chest of treasure within rattles seductively. At Pitstone they used to do the same about a Giant's Grave, and the monster would stir and groan. No surprise need be felt at the position of the well at the top of a dry chalk hill, for at Carisbrooke the old well is 100 feet deep. The Normans were expert well-sinkers.

I should like to mention that a moat in the fields to the south-west, called Hulyam's Moat, still preserves the "Christian" name of its thirteenth-century proprietor, Alelm de Welton.

MAIDEN BOWER, NEAR DUNSTABLE.

The name of this ancient British town site,—which has exercised the ingenuity of many antiquaries since and including Camden, who have all thought it necessary to devise a Celtic etymology for it,—is as old in almost its present form as the middle of the thirteenth century. The oldest known form is *Maydenburie*. I need scarcely add that it is pure English. The word "maiden" occurs in the names of earthworks of *all* periods, and in those of old ways, fields, commons, and even farms. There is a Maiden Common Farm no farther away than Luton. There are Maiden Castles in Durham and Dorset, and a Maiden Bower at Topcliffe, in Yorkshire, which is incontestably Norman work. The word was often used in the middle ages for any earthwork, road, or field which had gone out of use and was covered with turf.

But there is some question whether this is properly the name of the old town-site here. The older peasantry seem to have called it the "Castle," as they still call the Norman work at Totternhoe close by. And a spring at Sewell,—or according to some, a field west of the great circular "pound,"—was more properly entitled to the name of Maiden Bower. But Camden evidently understood it to apply to the town-site, and accordingly was tempted, beyond his strength, to derive it from *Magiovinum* or *Magiovinium*.

To-day all that remains above ground is an approximate circle of chalk bank varying in height from four feet to something over ten, which encloses an area of a little more than ten acres. The five (original) entrances remain, but the plough has levelled up the outer ditch so completely that it cannot be seen at all, though it was still discernible a hundred years ago. The enclosure was once rich in flint implements, but so many antiquaries of all ages from ten upwards have wandered over it that the surface, to

the depth the plough reaches, is now destitute of treasure. From time to time Roman coins and objects of some interest have been turned up. I may instance particularly a faceted intaglio in paste belonging to Mr. Worthington Smith; it bears the radiated head of Carausius the "pirate," who for six years was Emperor in Britain. Himself a Frisian, he was originally employed to put down the Frisian and Saxon pirates who infested the Channel and the North Sea; but finding himself suspected of collusion with the rovers, and condemned by central Rome to execution *more Romano*, by dagger, he proclaimed himself Emperor in self-defence, and maintained himself in Britain so successfully as to extort recognition even from Rome itself. This was an early, but by no means the earliest, anticipation of the final conquest of the island by Saxons and Frisians.

It is said that a hoard of gold and another of bronze implements have been found in the enclosure, but nothing is known of their type or their present whereabouts. There is an almost forgotten tradition related of the place in Britten and Brayley's Description of Bedfordshire of 1810, which was told to me ten years ago by an old labourer of Ivinghoe. He died the year before last nearly a century old, and since he read little literature but "Reynolds' Weekly" at no great speed, he can hardly have received the story except *a majoribus*. It is to the effect that the bounds of the wall were first marked out by strips cut from a bull's hide, a wager having been made between a king and a queen of these regions that the lady would not find it possible to encamp an army within a bull's hide; or alternatively, that she might march her beaten army away with the full honours of war if she could muster them within the hide. The tale is very old and very widespread. Dido and her companions used the same device, we remember, in purchasing Carthage—*Taurino quantum possent circumdare tergo*. But the story is told of other places even in England.

DUNSTABLE,

which was entered near the site of the Eleanor Cross that stood in front of the Rose and Crown Inn, near where the Watling Street crossed the Icknield Way. It was the work of John Battle, who also erected the crosses at Stony Stratford, St. Albans, and the one just outside Northampton. The cross was destroyed by the Parliamentarians in 1643, and no remains exist above-ground, but foundations have been found during alterations to the roadway.

THE LUNCHEON.

The attendance of members and friends this year was a record. Car places had been found for 70, and over 100 sat down to luncheon, which was served in the Town Hall.

THE PAYREY PALL.

At one end of the hall, placed over some chairs, was exhibited a very interesting example of needlework dating from about 1450. This was an object of much curiosity and speculation on the part of the visitors. The pall is said to have been given by Henry Fayrey to the confraternity of St. John Baptist, of Dunstable. This Fayrey, who died in 1516, was a mercer, and the arms of the guild are worked on the pall, and so are several figures of the Fayrey family and others. Altogether it is a very elaborate and handsome piece of work, and possesses a long and varied history.

Leaving the hall, the party made their way from the "High" into Church Street, in order to inspect

THE PRIORY CHURCH,

which is the chief edifice in the town, but the present structure is only a portion of the original 12th century building, the eastern part having been destroyed soon after the Dissolution. The west font is very interesting, displaying as it does some 12th century Norman work side by side with an Early English doorway, deeply recessed. The body of the church is Norman, and the aisles are separated from the nave by arcades supported on massive pillars. The chancel is entered under an oaken screen, and the altar stands on the site of the old altar of the Holy Cross and All Angels. The lower part of the east wall at the back of the altar was originally the choir screen, which separated the people's portion of the church from the choir or monastic portion. It is supposed that the present edifice owed its preservation to the fact that it had been used as a Parish Church, while the buildings that belonged strictly to the Priory were destroyed. The church was consecrated on St. Luke's Day, 1213, and preparations are being made to celebrate the 700th anniversary on 18th October next. The wooden columns in an archway between the chancel and vestry are archæologically of great interest, and are said to show some Spanish characteristics, and to date from the time of Queen Mary. There is much other woodwork of excellent character. The Rector was suffering from a bad cold and loss of voice, but he managed to add a few remarks in reference to some of the peculiarities of the building. The fact may be recalled that it was in the Lady Chapel of the Priory that Cranmer pronounced the divorce of Henry VIII. from Katherine of Aragon.

On leaving Dunstable the party proceeded along the Watling Street, through a deep cutting, towards

TILSWORTH CHURCH.

The earliest work remaining in the church is in the south and east walls of the chancel, which belong to the middle of the thirteenth century or a little later. The present arch of that date into the south chapel was blocked until the recent careful restoration, and the chapel itself had long ago been destroyed. The east window of the chancel is of the last years of the fourteenth century, and was built at the same time as the north wall of the chancel was rebuilt further north.

The caps and bases of the single arcade are unusual and worth notice. The aisle was added to the original aisle-less E.E. church early in the fourteenth century, but its walls and windows were rebuilt more than 100 years later. To the date of these walls and windows the tower also belongs.

The north wall, which one would expect to be part of the original thirteenth century church, seems to have been entirely rebuilt about the middle of the fourteenth century; and its door, as well as that still in the later south aisle, belongs to this date. I should like to draw attention to the shields of arms which some mediæval idler has scratched upon the S. door jambs. One is difficult to make out, but will be found to bear a fesse with three hooded heads in chief. The other is a large formé cross, "fitched" in the foot, probably an early form of the arms of Chetwood. Close beside it is a smaller shield showing the indented chief of the Morteynes who held this manor.

The large window in the N. aisle is a beautiful specimen of flowing tracery. The priest's tomb here is of approximately the same date. The worked pinnacle is old, but the unfinished finial and the top of the right buttress are quite new.

Just within the south door is an incised coffin-shaped slab with an interesting French inscription to Adam de Tullsworth. This

formerly had an incised figure upon it, showing a man in the civil costume of the last years of the thirteenth or first of the fourteenth century. Members of this family occur as jurors for the hundred in taxation matters, and for various inquisitions during the first half of the century. They held land also at Marsworth, and one of their presumable descendants was burnt for heresy at Dunstable by Dr. Smith, Bishop of Lincoln, in Henry VII.'s time. Built into the wall within the new addition to the church is a fragment of another French slab, with an inscription to one of the Morteynes of the castle-mount behind the church and the moated site in front of it. One of the brass or rather *latton* letters remains in the stone. Some old tiles will be found at the east of the aisle.

The porch is mostly seventeenth century work of brick. The windows are merely scraps of old tracery built into the wall. There used to be an old moulded beam here — I don't know exactly where—with *anno dni 1533* (1533) cut in good black-letter upon it. The form of the 5 (like a black letter h) is unusual at so late a date, but not unparalleled. The large tomb N. of the chancel which has no effigy is that of Gabriel Fowler, who succeeded his father Edward in 1540, and died in 1582. The quaint masterpiece opposite tempts one to think it an effort of a Totternhoe mason. The man's figure is that of Sir Henry Chester, one of Charles II.'s knights of the Bath, etc. He died in 1666.

The stone figures along the N. wall were found during the recent restoration. The queer little XIIIth. century knights are perhaps part of a group representing Becket's murder or martyrdom. The others are fragments of very fine sculpture of the same century; one is part of a figure of the Virgin, the other of our Lord's Pity. There are also fragments of foliage work of about 1220, like that at Eaton.

The small Priory of St. Giles in the Wood at Flamstead held this Church.

THE GATEHOUSE AT TILSWORTH.

In a district such as this—immemorially at peace—relics of fortification in anything but earth are very rare indeed. The fifteenth century gateway here, though nothing very formidable, arrests the eye where it is, far more than a whole pele-tower would in the north. With the moat, it is the immediate successor of the little Norman fort of the Morteynes behind the church. I have called it fifteenth century, but the window-head in the south wall may be rather earlier—in fact I think it is, and I should be inclined to date the walls about 1370, though that to the north is of different masonry and evidently later. The roof also and the pigeon-loft belong to a much later date. The original south archway remains, with a segmental inner order and a two-centred outer. Upstairs—the old vice staircase remains but is blocked—there is a stone fireplace with a back of tiles built in the herring-bone pattern. And there is a round-headed doorway, also built up, in this floor.

The manor belonged to Peverel at the time of Domesday, but was acquired later by the Morteynes of Marston Moretaine, etc., a Breton family, who subinfeudated it to a younger branch, holding it until 1373. In this year it passed to their kinsman, Richard Chamberleyn, of Stanbridge, a descendant of a well-known family, and successors of the Gaddesdens there. He it was, or his son, who probably moved from the Norman site to the wider enclosure a moat would afford. From the Chamberlaynes it passed by purchase to the Fowlers in 1528.

The house is not old—at least its outer walls are not old, but I do not know what may remain within. Many apparently modern farmhouses retain much of their old timber construction, and possibly this may.

FREDK. G. GURNEY.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD,

the last stopping place in the day's itinerary. Here Mr. R. Richmond, who has made a study of the building, acted as guide.

The stop at Leighton brought to a close one of the best arranged, most numerous-attended and successful of the many excellent excursions the Society has organised. The afternoon was—from the excursionists' point of view—somewhat marred by a downpour of rain, but notwithstanding that drawback the day was much enjoyed, and it was a remark often heard that it was an exceedingly interesting district which had been traversed. It ought to be mentioned that Mr. W. A. Forsyth, F.R.I.B.A., acted as guide to the churches in the earlier part of the day, and Mr. F. G. Gurney at Tilsworth.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

[This report is extracted from the *Bucks Herald*, Nov. 15, 1913.]

The annual meeting of the Architectural and Archaeological Society for the County of Buckingham was held at the Museum, Aylesbury, on Friday, Nov. 7. In the unavoidable absence of Sir Arthur Liberty, the chairman of the Council, through indisposition, the chair was occupied by Mr. Coningsby Disraeli. Others present were Colonel T. Horwood, Colonel W. Plomer, Lady Smyth, Mr. Julian M. James, Dr. J. C. Baker, Mr. W. Crouch, Mr. A. H. Cocks, Mr. James Berry, Mr. Reynolds, the Rev. J. J. Atkins, Miss Kingham, Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Bell, Mr. W. H. Marsh, Mr. Reeves, Mr. C. G. Watkins (hon. treasurer), Mr. W. Bradbrook (hon. secretary), and Mr. E. Hollis (curator).

Mr. W. Niven, hon. editor, was prevented by illness from attending.

APOLOGIES.

Apologies for their absence were received from Lord Boston, the Archdeacon of Buckingham, Canon C. O. Phipps, Sir Arthur Liberty, Mr. Weller, Miss Keating, Mr. E. Wilkins, Dr. L. H. West, and others.

Sir Arthur Liberty wrote as follows:—

As I cannot come to the meeting to-day I am sending you a present by way of reminding you of my interest in the Society. It is Lipscomb's MSS. of the History of Bucks in twelve volumes.

THE YEAR'S WORK.

Mr. W. BRADBROOK presented the annual report of the Council, which stated that the last annual meeting was held simultaneously with a very successful arts and crafts exhibition in the Aylesbury Town Hall, which was organised by a number of ladies. The organisers, as a result of their work, presented the Museum with a sum of £219.2:5. The lectures arranged by the Council, which were given in the Church House, were much appreciated, and that by Professor Keith on pre-historic matters was so largely attended that some who desired to do so were unable to gain admittance. Major Davenport's lecture was read by the Curator, owing to the absence of the lecturer through illness. Last December several serious defects became apparent in the beams supporting the

ceiling of the large room of the Museum, which were found to be due to old age. Provisional measures were taken with promptitude to prevent collapse and injury to property, and the replacement of the beams and repairs had been carried out with thoroughness at considerable cost, under the supervision of one of their members, Mr. W. A. Forsyth, to whom their thanks were due. That misfortune demonstrated the excellence of their new show cases, for in spite of the dirt and dust unavoidable in urgent building operations, no dust entered the cases, and the exhibits were not injured in the least. Another of those excellent show cases had recently been installed, and was the gift of Mrs. Napier Higgins. The loan collection from South Kensington was changed in July for an exhibit of leather-work and jewellery. The examples of book-binding had already caused the gift to the Museum of a Dutch Bible of 1590 in contemporary binding. During the year there had been 250 additions to the collection, the most important being three electrotype replicas of the Marsworth palimpsest brasses, the gift of Mr. M. Stephenson, and about sixty old prints and maps of Eucks from Mr. P. Wright. The number of visitors to the Museum for the period January to September was 6,541—about 80 more than for the same period in 1912. The increase was more real than apparent, as the Museum had to be closed for three weeks in June, and the large room was closed for repairs during January and February. The total number for 1912 was 7,165, and for 1911 (ten months) 3,663.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mr. C. G. WATKINS presented his report, as follows:—The audited statement of receipts and payments for the year ended 31st December, 1912, showed a total expenditure of £336:2:10, including an overdraft on 1st January, 1912, of £64:14:2. At the close of the year 1912 there was a balance in hand of £171:5:1, being the balance left from the valuable donation of more than £223 received from the lady organisers of the Arts and Crafts Exhibition. With regard to the present year, the receipts from the 1st January to date, inclusive of the balance in hand of £171:5:1, amount to £383:7:4. The receipts also include a special donation of £40 from Mrs. Napier Higgins for purchase of a Museum case, and a donation from a vice-president of £40, for the sixth year, towards the salary of the Curator. During the year 213 subscriptions have been paid, amounting to £129:19:6, as against 208 subscriptions for the corresponding period last year. The payments to date amount to £330:12:11, including about £100 for structural repairs. The balance in hand is £52:14:5. If the Society met all obligations incurred during the present year they would again wind up with a small deficit.

THE KIDDERMINSTER LIBRARY.

Mr. REYNOLDS presented his report on the Kidderminster Library. He said the catalogue of books which they were ordered to make had hardly been completed. The most valuable books were in the possession of Sir Robert Harvey, and as he at the present time was shooting in Alaska he did not have an opportunity of getting at the books. Most of them were theological works of the end of the 16th and the beginning of the 17th centuries, and most of them were in a state of decomposition owing to the dampness of the room in which they were kept. He believed those in the library were of small value.

PICTORIAL SURVEY SECTION.

Mr. W. H. MARSH presented the report on the Pictorial Survey Section, and said that the collection continued to grow, although

the progress was gradual. It now numbered about 820 photographs and 160 prints, and as some 35 or 40 photographs had been promised there was every possibility that the set would include 1,000 pictorial records before the end of the year. They were anxious to make a complete set of photographs of existing windmills and watermills in the county, and they had already obtained negatives of some of them. The old type of mill was disappearing, and any record, especially one showing the mechanism, would be welcomed. They would be gratified if members, if not able to secure photographs, would forward information giving the locality of either kind of mill, so that the assistance of some photographer in the district might perhaps be obtained. As hon. manager of that section he would ask for the co-operation of every member of the Society, either in sending any available material to the Museum as a donation or a loan, and in trying to obtain the interest of amateur photographers and others in that section of the Society's work.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The CHAIRMAN said the position of President was at present filled by Lord Rosebery, and he did not think they could do better than re-elect his lordship. Lord Rosebery had been of considerable value to the Society, and he had much pleasure in moving that he be re-elected.

Mr. A. H. COCKS seconded, and the proposition was carried unanimously.

Dr. J. C. BAKER enquired if anything had been done with regard to the preservation of Eton College railings?

Mr. BRADBROOK said his lordship had intervened actively in the matter.

The CHAIRMAN—Were the railings saved?

Mr. BRADBROOK—Yes.

The CHAIRMAN—That is very satisfactory.

The vice-presidents were re-elected, on the proposition of Mr. WATKINS, seconded by Mr. REYNOLDS.

Mr. JULIAN JAMES proposed the re-election of the following officers:—Hon. Curator, Mr. A. H. Cocks; Assistant Hon. Curator, Dr. J. C. Baker; Hon. General Secretary, Mr. W. Bradbrook; Hon. Editor of the RECORDS, Mr. W. Niven; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. C. G. Watkins; Hon. Auditors, Colonel T. Horwood and Dr. L. H. West.

The Rev. J. J. ATKINS seconded, and the proposition was carried.

The following members of the Council were suggested for re-election:—Mr. G. Weller, Mr. E. Wilkins, Canon C. O. Phipps, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. F. Skull, Mr. Tyler, Dr. L. H. West, and Mr. T. Thurlow.

NEW MEMBERS.

Mrs. Lawson (Great Missenden) and Miss Eckstein (Little Missenden) were elected members of the Society.

ALTERATION OF RULES.

Mr. W. BRADBROOK, in the absence of Sir Arthur Liberty, proposed that in Rule VI. the words "on the second Thursday" should be deleted. That rule, he said, dealt with the days of the meetings of the Council. At present it was laid down that the Council should meet at the Museum on the second Thursday in June, July, and October, and the proposal was to delete the words "on the second Thursday," so that the Council would not be tied down to any particular day.

Mr. JULIAN JAMES seconded.

Mr. COCKS thought that the alteration should not be made by that meeting, but by the Council, whom it directly concerned.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that any alteration of rule had to be sanctioned by the general meeting, and he understood the object of that alteration was to free the Council from a bond which was galling.

The proposition was carried.

SIR ARTHUR LIBERTY'S GIFT.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not think they ought to allow to go unrecognised the very valuable gift of the unpublished autograph manuscript of George Lipscomb, the historian of the county. It was in a perfect state of preservation, and was a very valuable interesting, and unique gift. He proposed that the best thanks of the Society be accorded to Sir Arthur for his gift. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. CROUCH seconded, and the proposition was carried.

REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

The CHAIRMAN referred to the completion of the report of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments, and expressed the opinion that that ought not to be allowed to pass without the warmest recognition on their part of the work of the Commission, which was of great interest to the county. The Commission had in both prefaces been very warm in their thanks to several members of that Society, and the Society generally, for the assistance they had received at their hands. He proposed "That this meeting of the Architectural and Archæological Society for the County of Buckingham desires to express its warm approval of and great satisfaction with the inventory of ancient monuments of Bucks lately compiled and published under the auspices of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of England. It offers its sincere congratulations on the successful termination of this work in the county." (Applause.)

Mr. REYNOLDS seconded, and the proposition was carried unanimously.

A proposition that the unpublished material collected by the agents of the Commission should be deposited, not in London, but in the County to which it referred, was passed.

RUINS OF BURNHAM ABBEY.

The question of purchasing the ruins of Burnham Abbey was raised, and the offer of Mr. Reynolds to obtain full particulars was accepted.

COMPLIMENTARY.

At the instance of the CHAIRMAN a comprehensive vote of thanks was passed to the honorary officers of the Society; and a similar compliment was accorded those who had given specimens to the Museum during the year, on the proposition of Mr. REYNOLDS, seconded by Mr. REEVES.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

ACQUISITIONS TO MUSEUM.

[Only a selection of some of the more interesting can be noted.]

6 RUBBINGS OF BRASSES (1469—1524) from Chenies. (Mr. P. C. L. Thorne).

1 ditto (1641) from Mentmore. (Mr. E. Hollis).

TOKEN of S. WARE, Chesham, 1658, found near Marlow. (Mr. W. Niven).

2 TOKENS (Wendover and Tring, 17th century). (Purchased).

Portion of Upper Stone of ROMANO-BRITISH QUERN, Asylum Burying Ground, Stone. (Lady Smyth).

2 TOKENS (Chesham 1671, Wycombe 1653), both found in garden of 17, Easton Street, Wycombe. (Mr. H. S. Wheeler).

SCARAB of Roman Workmanship from Egypt, inscribed NVB. HETET. (Miss Chandler).

18 TRACTS and PAMPHLETS of 17th and 18th centuries, relating to Bucks. (Presented by subscription).

A large number of COINS found near Great Missenden, including a 1st BRASS of VESPASIAN in exceptionally fine condition; a BRONZE GREEK COIN bearing head of Demeter; token of R. LUCAS, Wycombe, 1653; and one of R. WARE, Chesham, 1653. (Mrs. Callow).

PURPLE KALEEGE (= Pheasant), (*Euplocamus horsfieldi*). ♂ Introduced. Killed at Little Brickhill, 27th November, 1912. (Lieut.-Colonel Finlay).

SHAG (*Phalacrocorax graculus*) ♀. Killed at Saunderton, 4th December, 1912. (Presented anonymously).

12 PROOF ETCHINGS from donor's own plates. (Mr. W. Niven, F.S.A.).

75 BUCKS PHOTOGRAPHS. (Mr. W. H. Marsh).

7 BUCKS BOOK PLATES of 18th century; 17th century TOKEN of R. BARNES, Ivinghoe; 16th century DAGGER, found at Aylesbury; LEADEN BULLA of POPE EUGENIUS IV., found at Ivinghoe; Pierced LEADEN VENTILATOR for lattice windows; etc. (Mr. F. G. Gurney).

BRASS RUBBING, Wooburn, 1642, and Reproductions. (Mr. W. J. Hemp).

HORN DRINKING MUG. (Miss L. Kingham).

Fragment of Ro. Brit. UPPER QUERNSTONE and fragment of MORTARIUM from sandpit in Eythrop Road, Stone. (Dr. T. G. Parrott).

Various Iron IMPLEMENTS and PHOTOS. (Miss Payne).

3 17th century TOKENS, Aylesbury, Olney, Winslow. (Mr. W. Crouch).

12 Small Brass ROMAN COINS (much worn) found at Dropshort, Fenny Stratford (site of Magioventum). (Mrs. Hammond).

- BRASS RUBBING, Weston Turville, c. 1580. (Mr. R. Richings).
 17th century WINE BOTTLE. Dug up at Oxford. (Mr. F. Harbridge).
- CORES FROM DEEP BORINGS (for coal) at CALVERT STATION. (Messrs. A. M. Davies and J. Pringle).
- EARTHENWARE BOTTLE, yellow glaze, mottled green. (Mrs. Nunn).
- COLLECTION OF BUCKS PRINTS, etc. (Aylesbury Urban Council).
- ELECTROTYPES of the PALIMPSEST BRASSES at Marsworth. (Mr. M. Stephenson, F.S.A.).
- 17th century TOKEN of ANDREW BAROWES, of Amersham, 1652, an earlier variety of No. 1 in Williamson's Edition of Boyne. (Mr. W. Crouch).
- DUTCH BLACK-LETTER BIBLE, dated 1590, in original binding. (Miss Redden).
- 17th century TOKEN of E. COPE, Aylesbury. (Mr. H. Plater).
- RUBBINGS of BRASSES at Dunton. (Mr. E. Hollis).
- MS. ASSESSMENT for WINDOW TAX, Steeple Claydon, 1727. (Mr. W. Bradbrook).
- ROYAL COMMISSION REPORT, BUCKS, Vol. II. (Purchased).
- STONE ADZE, New Zealand. (Dr. J. A. Bell).
- 17th century TRACT and SERMONS by Bucks Incumbents. (Dr. J. C. Baker).
- THRUSH (*Turdus musicus*) ♀. Variety; white ground, with markings which are usually dark, a pale ash grey, Harlington, Middlesex. (Mr. G. O. Fox).
- COLLECTION of MEDALS (Willm. III., 1688; Chas. P. of Wales, 1745; etc.; enamelled copper bowl and salver, etc.). (Lord Temple).

A. H. C.