

The Proceedings of the Bucks Architectural and Archæological Society,

FOR THE YEAR 1899.

THE Annual Excursion of the Bucks Archæological Society took place on Thursday, the 20th July, 1899. For the last few years the Society has confined its attention to districts in the northern and central parts of the Connty, and the Committee on this occasion decided that South Bucks should be visited. The members who came by train arrived at Taplow Station. Here brakes were in readiness, and the party set out on their journey towards Hitcham, which was the first stopping place.

HITCHAM.

The following account of the Manor and Church of Hitcham is from the pen of Mr. James Rutland, of Taplow :—

At the Domesday Survey, Hitcham was the land of Milo Crispin, and it was reckoned a parcel of the Honour of Wallingford. Dugdale says that the lordships of Miles Crispin at the time of the survey numbered eighty-eight—seven in Berkshire, twelve in Wiltshire, two in Surrey, three in Gloucestershire, three in Bedfordshire, thirty-three in Oxfordshire, and twenty-eight in Buckinghamshire; and, he adds, having wedded Mand, the daughter and heir of Robert Doiley, he had the Honour of Wallingford, and made the Castle of Wallingford his principal seat. Bishop Kennett says:—"Milo Crispin lay sick in his Castle of Wallingford, and having many good offices done to him by Faritus, Abbott of Abbendon, as a reward he gave to his Abbey a public inn and half a hide of land at Colnbrook. This great Baron, Milo Crispin, died without issue at the end of the year 1107, upon which his own estate reverted to the Crown, but the Castle and Honour of Wallingford remained, in right of birth, to Maud, his widow." In an inquisition after the death of Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, in 1300, it is stated that Milo de Bello Campo held of him three Knights' fees belonging to the Honour of Wallingford, in Hitcham and Marlow, in Bucks. In an inquisition after the death of Edward the Black Prince, Hitcham is stated to be held of him, as of the Honour of Wallingford, by Isabella, heir of Milo Beauchamp. This Manor descended (6 Ric. II.) to the family of Ramsey, the first of whom, recognised as Lord of Hitcham, was Nicholas, son of Adam Ramsey. His great grandson, Thomas Ramsey, died in 1509, seised of this Manor. His son Thomas Ramsey died seised of the Manor in 1524, leaving an only daughter, Elizabeth.

The following is from the Hitcham Register:—"Nicholas Clerke, Esq., son and heir to Syr John Clerke of Weston, that tooke the Duke of Longevyll prisoner, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas Ramsey; Nicholas Clerke died of the sweet in Moneth of Julye, 1551" (i.e., the plague or sweating sickness). Mrs. Elizabeth Clerke, widow, afterwards (1561) married Mr. Roger Alford, who died 1580. During her widowhood she purchased the perpetual advowson of Hitcham of Mr. Thomas Stephens, of Inglesham, Berks. In the reign of Henry VIII. the Manor of Hitcham, a large part of which is included in the grounds of Dropmore, was the property of Lord Chief Justice Baldwin: his granddaughter carried it in marriage to Nicholas Clerke whose son, Sir

William Clerke, was visited there in 1602 by Queen Elizabeth. The old mansion, which stood a short distance east of the church, has been demolished. By an inquisition at Wycombe 3rd April (14th Chas. I.), John Page, Esq., was returned to have died 15th Jan., 1638, seised of one capital messuage, &c., in Burnham, and divers lands, &c., in Hycham, Taplow, and Dorney. In 1660 the Manor was purchased by Sir Charles Dor. In 1681 it came to Edward Nicholas, whose father, Sir Edward Nicholas, was Secretary of State to Charles I. and II.; he is buried on the north side of the chancel. The Manor passed in 1700 to Dr. John Friend, the celebrated physician and eminent scholar; he died 1728. He was Physician to the Prince of Wales and Queen Caroline. Friend was in such repute that he had 300 guineas for a journey from London to Ingestrie in Staffordshire, to attend Mr. Pulteney, who lay dangerously ill. Mrs. Friend died in 1737; her son succeeded to the property, by whose representatives, who died in 1780, it was sold to William Wyndham, Lord Grenville, in 1792, and is now owned by John Bevell Fortescue, Esq., of Dropmore.

Dr. Friend was the son of the Rev. William Friend, Rector of All Saints, Croughton, Northamptonshire. He was an elegant writer, and one of the most eminent physicians of his day. He was born at Croughton Rectory in 1675. He was Professor of Chemistry at Oxford, and published his lectures in Latin under the title of "Prælectiones Chymicæ," with a dedication to Sir Isaac Newton. He also wrote and published "The History of Physic, from the time of Galen to the beginning of the 16th century," the first volume in 1725, and the second in 1726. This work was reprinted in 1727, and again in 1750, and has been translated into the Latin and French languages. He was an adept at composing those fulsome epitaphs so much in vogue about his time, and Pope, in his half witty, half sarcastic style, hit off his long-winded inscriptions in the following epigram:—

Friend! for your epitaphs I am grieved,
Where still so much is said,
One half will never be believed,
The other never read.

The Church of St. Mary is a small building, consisting of an Early Norman nave, chancel of the Decorated period, and an Early English south porch. The western tower, 16th century, was probably erected by the Clerkes. The chancel windows are of elegant proportions, with slender columns and richly-carved capitals, and, by the fragments of ancient glass still remaining in the upper compartments, must have contained subjects of a most interesting description. Probably the two-light windows north and south were filled with figurative emblems of the four Evangelists. It would appear that the window in the south of the nave was inserted at or about the time the chancel was erected. The window opposite, on the north, is of much later date, and of very inferior construction. The window over the western door in the tower, I presume, was taken from the west end of the nave and placed in its present position when the tower was erected. It was also made wider than when in its original position, as the arch stones indicate by the joints, or bed, and sharper contour. In 1865-6, under the supervision of W. J. Grover, Esq., C.E., son of the then Rector, W. M. Grover, A.M., I carried out considerable alterations. These alterations consisted of re-flooring and re-seating the Church, re-building the south porch, taking out the tower arch and raising it three feet, taking down the gallery at the west end, and throwing the floor of the tower into the

nave to obtain extra seating accommodation, fitting a new oak door in the chancel, also supplying the porch with new lock and hinges and porch gates. The ancient key of the Church was discovered at Eton College, to which was made the present lock. Several very interesting features were discovered during the progress of the works, viz. :—In taking down the gallery, two small (original) lancet window openings, north and south, were opened out; upon further research two other windows were discovered but not opened. These four small openings—there being no frames or any indications of their having shutters or glass, as the wide internal splay ran through the outer line of flints which composed the jambs—were probably the only lights originally in the body of the Church. In removing the floor in the chancel we came upon the foundation of the Norman apse (which had been disturbed by recent interments); this most probably gave place to the present chancel. In the south wall of the nave was opened out a piscina, near the chancel arch. The low window west of the Priest's door, which had been closed up, was opened, and a new stone frame put in, also a new stone door-case to the Priest's door, which is secured from the inside with a wooden lever. Very interesting sedilia and piscina, which had been blocked up for a length of time not known, were carefully restored. The altar tomb to Nicholas Clerke and his wife under the south wall of the chancel was taken down, and the ledger stone placed as now seen with its brasses. Roger Alford's monument I removed from the south-east window seat, and re-erected it upon the south wall of the chancel, its present position. It has the legend upon the frieze: "Trye trust and mistrust not." On the north side of the chancel is a noble monument in alabaster to Sir William Clerke, who died Feby. 1st, 1624. There are brasses to Thos. Ramsey, 1510; Nicholas Clerke, 1551; Jane Clerke, 1563; and Sir Francis Clerke, 1631. There are mural monuments to John Friend, died July 26, 1728, aged 52 years; Robert Walpole, Esq., nephew to Horatio, 4th Earl of Orford, died 15 day of August, 1811, aged 49 years; also of Elizabeth Walpole, relict of the above, died 19 March, 1815, aged 43 years; Louisa Hammett, who died at Florence on the 16th November, 1814, aged 70 years; George Cruickshank, died Sept. 1st, 1765, aged 56 years; the "best of wives, the best of parents, and the most excellent of women," Anne Delme, Lady Ravensworth, died Nov. 12th, 1794, aged 82 years. There are also several sepulchral slabs in the pavement. Some of these are to the Clerkes; one to Sir John More, Bart., who died Jan. 16th, 1780, aged 26 years; one to Susanna Jane Dickson, only daughter of Sir Henry Moore, who died 15th April, 1821; one to John Grey Bennet, second son of Charles, Earl of Tankerville, who died Aug. 23rd, 1753; one to three infant children of the Rev. Geo. Gretton, D.D.; also one to his son Edward Thomas Gretton, who died 9th October, 1800, aged 8 years. Beneath the floor of the porch, during the taking down and re-building, a chalk cist or grave was discovered, composed of upright slabs of chalk round the sides, and covered with slabs of the same material about four inches in thickness; two others have been discovered on the south side of the church. The south, east, and west walls of the churchyard were built by Edward Nicholas, Esq., in 1681. The north wall was built by the parishioners in 1686. The earliest rector on record is Robert de Aole, presented by the Prior of Merton, Feby., 1269. The present Rector, the Rev. George Frewer, M.A., is the fortieth on the list of Rectors of this parish.

The population in 1801 was 200, and is now nearly 1,000. The old register books date from 1584. The following is an interesting extract

from the overseers' accounts, March 31, 1697 :—"Ed. Nicholas, Esquire, was buried in linnen at Hitcham ye 23rd of May, 1696, p. ye five pound for not being buried in woollen according to law, was thus disposed of, viz., fifty shillings to William Martyn the informer, and fifty shillings to ye poore of ye parish of Hitcham. April 22, 1697. Geo. Evans, rector."

EXTRACT FROM "VETUSTA TESTAMENTA."

Thomas Ramsey, of Hucham, in the County of Bucks, gent., 23rd September, 1509. My body to be buried. To Ann, my daughter, xl. out of my Manor of Crolton; to Jane, my daughter, xl. out of my Manor of Ildesley; to John, my son, to Margaret, my wife, my lands in Bucks, Berks, and Northampton for life; and I appoint her my sole executrix, and William Bulstrode, Esquire, supervisor. Witnessed by Robert Woodford, gent., and Sir Richard Sperman, parson of Hucham. Proved 27th February, 1509-10.

From the State papers, Domestic, of 1637 :—"Hitcham Church. Butteresses of the chancel in decay; ivy to be taken away from the church and chancel; church walls must be plastered; the Minister saith there are no books, except the Bible and Service Book. . . . The high seat of the upper end of the south side standeth a foot into the pace, and that to be taken off. . . . 'No flagon;' the seats on the south side to be of the height of the new seats on the north side (to prov-d); a cover for the font, and it to be lined with lead."

Leaving Hitcham, a short but pleasant drive brought the Members to

BURNHAM CHURCH,

which is dedicated to St. Peter. The Vicar, the Rev. R. F. Rumsey, conducted the party round the building and explained the various points of interest connected with the sacred edifice, and brought for their inspection the Parish Register and a silver cup and paten of the early part of the 17th century. The position of the church is remarkable, as it does not stand on the main thoroughfare of the village nor on its principal cross road, and is reached from the eastern and western districts by footpaths; on the north there is no direct approach at all. From this fact it has been conjectured by some that the village had assumed something like its present form previously to the erection of the church, and that St. Mary Magdalen's, Boveney, was the Mother Church of the parish of Burnham-cum-Boveney. The component parts of Burnham Church are a nave with aisles, a deep chancel, a tower in the angle between the south aisle and the chancel, a transept at the end of the north aisle, north and south porches, a vestry on the north side of the chancel, and a modern porch east of the transept. The western arch and the lancet windows of the chancel are probably coeval with the erection of the Abbey, which was founded by Richard, King of the Romans, in 1265. The arch between the chancel and the tower, now blocked up, is low and massive, with square abaci, and probably dates back from the end of the 12th century. The arches and pillars of the nave are octagonal on the south and circular on the north; and the church, as a whole, is a Decorated edifice. The lower stage of the tower exhibits the most evident marks of antiquity. The east window is of five lights, with elaborate geometrical tracery in the head. A Decorated piscina and a plain sedile are in their usual position on the south side of the sanctuary. In the north wall of the chancel a series of four lancets can be traced. Two are blocked up with monuments, and of the other two, only part of the inner faces are visible on either side of a large Decorated window which has been inserted in their places. On the outside, at the base of this window, are the

remains of a low side window, which apparently indicates the westward limit of the original chancel. The remainder of the present chancel, west of this point, forms a square, which may have been the central portion of a cruciform building. The window at the east end of the south side is a single light Decorated lancet, with ogee head and a good cusped quatrefoil piscina in the sill. It is filled with stained glass to the memory of C. R. Tollemache, Priest, d. 1895. The other three windows in this aisle are fairly good ones in the same style, but of two lights. One of them is to the memory of Evelyn Helen, wife of Lieut.-Colonel L. C. F. Thompson, 1894. The west end of the Church was re-built in the late Decorated style of stone and flint work in small chequers. The west window of the nave is of three lights, with flowing tracery of peculiar design approaching flamboyant forms, filled with stained glass to the memory of S. Christie Miller, his wife Mary, his son William Henry Archibald, 1893. The north window of the transept is one of the finest features of the Church. It is of four lights, with moulded mullions and shafts on the jambs, the capitals of which are well carved; it is very late Decorated, with flowing tracery indicative of transition to Perpendicular. The stained glass with which the lights are filled commemorates William Wyndham, Lord Grenville, 1834; Elizabeth, Countess of Carysfort, 1842; the Right Hon. Thomas Grenville, 1846; and Anne, Lady Grenville, 1864. This window was inserted about a century after the erection of the transept, to which there were originally lateral aisles; the arches and heads of the shafts which carried them can still be traced in the interior. When the church was re-modelled in the early Decorated period, the central portion of the original transepts was thrown into the chancel, a larger north transept was built out from the nave, and the older north transept was left to serve as an eastern aisle to the newer one. The upper stage of the tower was destroyed by fire in the last century, and was re-erected in wood, which is now replaced by flint and stone in chequer work, and surmounted by a slender spire.

In the vestry are three helmets, which formerly hung in the chancel, and on the piers of the south aisle is rudely cut in several places—"The Pope is a Knave." The modern chancel and rood screens are of oak, in memory of Hugh Francis Tollemache, rector of Harrington, d. 1896. On a slab at the west end are an inscription and effigies in brass to Gyles Eyre and Elizabeth his wife, the figures of the children being lost; and on the same slab is a similar brass to William Aldriche and Agnes his wife, with nine sons and fifteen daughters, but the principal figures and the sons are now lost. Brasses to Edmund Eyre, gent., 1563, his wife, three sons, and two daughters, all with effigies, are hidden by the organ, and so are those of Thomas Eyer, gent., of Allards, 1581, with his three wives, the second of whom is accompanied by four sons and three daughters. It has an acrostic inscription, which is now hidden, as follows:—

T he life I lead may witness of my death,
H ope in my Christ, and faith hath saved me.
O happye I whilst yet I haled breathe,
M ore now, yea, happy in the best degre,
A s first I livde full fourscore yeeeres to dye,
S o last I dyed to live eternally.

E nsue that sample which I have Begone,
Y ou that live yet bee fathers to the poore,
E nforce you selves to dooe, as I have dooune,
R emember Jesus allso hath a doore.

Close to this is a plain slab to Thomas Eyre, 1606, a mural tablet in the south aisle to Edmund Eyre, of Allards, 1650, William Eyre, of Huntercombe, 1731. The last representative of this family is commemorated on a mural tablet in the north aisle—Arabella Popple, 1819, daughter of Charles Eyre, of East Burnham, who died in 1786. They had been Lords of the Manor of Allards or East Burnham more than 400 years. On the north side of the chancel is a monument to Paule Wentworth, 1593; at the foot of this is a monument to William Tyldesley, 1563, the first possessor of Burnham Abbey after its dissolution. Within the sanctuary on the south side is a mural monument with a bust in a black gown, with a long inscription in Latin to John Wright, Vicar here from 1561 to 1594. Another Vicar is commemorated at the west end of the north aisle—William Glover, 1707. Another monument, with busts of the persons commemorated, and small figures of their two sons below, is to George Evelyn, of Huntercombe, 1657, and his wife, 1661. In the south aisle is a monument to Mr. Justice Willes, d. 1787. The font is modern, erected in 1863. The living is a Vicarage in the gift of Eton College, and was ordained when the Abbey was founded. There were five Rectors before that time—the first, Geoffrey de Burgo, who was presented in 1202, was afterwards Bishop of Norwich; the third, Thomas Nevill, was Canon of Lincoln; William de Navesby, Vicar in 1374, was afterwards Archdeacon of Chester and Prebendary of Chichester; Richard Davis, presented in 1550, became Bishop of St. David's; Mr. Cole, the antiquary, was Vicar from 1774 to 1780. The Vicarage house near the Church was re-built in 1833 by the Rev. Thomas Carter, Vicar of this parish and Vice-Provost of Eton College. Robert Aldrich, Bishop of Carlisle in the reign of Henry VIII., was a native of Burhnam.

On resuming their journey the party drove to Slough, passing on their way, at Salt Hill, the Eton Montem, to which their attention was directed, and lunched at the Royal Hotel, Slough, opposite the railway station, in a room which contained the half-minute clock formerly belonging to Sir W. Herschel.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

Was held directly after luncheon, under the presidency of the Archdeacon of Buckingham. The first business was the election of officers for the ensuing year. The Bishop of Oxford was re-elected president, and the vice-presidents were re-elected *en bloc*, viz., Lord Cottesloe, the Bishop of Reading, Sir E. L. Lawson, Leopold de Rothschild, Esq., Sir John Evans, the Rev. R. H. Pigott, the Ven. the Archdeacon of Buckingham. The following were elected on the Committee:—The Rev. R. H. Pigott (standing chairman), Colonel Goodall, the Revs. E. D. Shaw, C. O. Phipps, Messrs. T. Horwood, J. Rutland, G. Weller, E. Wilkins, R. H. Russell, W. C. Raffety, R. E. Goolden, S. D. Darby, and J. T. Harrison. The hon. secs., Mr. J. Parker and Mr. A. H. Cocks, were re-appointed, with Mr. J. Williams as treasurer. The latter then gave the financial statement. The receipts were:—Balance from previous year, £16:8:9; subscriptions, £101:4:6; total, £117:13:3. The expenditure had been £94:8:6, leaving a balance in hand of £23:4:9. The number of members was 188, viz., 23 life members, 157 annual subscribers, and 8 honorary members. During the year they had lost six members by death, including Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, who was also a vice-president.

Mr. Parker, in making his report, said the preface to the last number of the *Records* expressed at length his views as to the position and work

and prospects of the Society, which did not require repetition on this occasion. There were some excellent papers in the last issue. Mr. Myres' paper in continuation of the subject of the Church Plate of Bucks was of great value, and the series would in time become an important contribution to County history. Mr. E. J. Payne's paper dealing with Mr. Cocks' work upon the Church Bells of the County had thrown fresh light upon that interesting subject. Mr. Downs' continuation of his History of Wycombe Church, dealing with the Churchwardens' and Overseers' Accounts, was also interesting and valuable; it brought to light ways and doings of a bygone age not always met with in archæological papers. He regretted that the *Records* for this year were not ready; but if they invited able writers to contribute, they must afford them ample time for their researches. In the next issue Mr. St. John Hope would contribute a very important paper on Wycombe Registers and Inventories, relating to both the Parish Church and St. Mary's Corporation Chapel. The paper would deal with a question engaging much attention at the present time. These Inventories would throw light upon the Ornaments Rubric and the use of Vestments, and other stirring questions which were being brought before the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. In reference to the disused Church of Stoke Mandeville, he hoped something would be done to preserve it, at all events from the effects of wind and weather and Bank Holiday people. He had written to the Archdeacon upon the matter, who had recommended that a small committee should be formed to take into consideration how best to preserve the building from further desecration and destruction. He had to thank Mr. S. G. Payne for some excellent illustrations of the Church, which would appear in the *Records*. Mr. Parker called attention to the Church of Great Missenden, and referred to some curious arcading on the north wall of the chancel, and to peculiar frescoes in other parts of the Church. It was a Church well worth a visit, and he trusted none of its ancient features would be removed during the process of its restoration now in progress. He hoped Mr. Payne would be kind enough to photograph the exterior and interior of this Church whilst under restoration for future archæological use. Mr. Parker, in conclusion, referred to the importance of securing archæological talent among the younger generation, a subject which occasioned some anxiety.

Mr. Cocks, who described himself as the "non-resident Curator of the Museum," referring to the Museum, said that it was still in a deplorable condition. They had two cases for antiquities, and had found room for Mr. Rutland's present of flints; but they had not room for Mr. Payne's collection recently presented to the Society. He desired to propose a hearty vote of thanks to that gentleman for his valuable gift of antique objects. They ought shortly to supplement their present accommodation with two more cases. A complete list of what Mr. Payne had given them would appear in the *Records*. He hoped they would be in a position to re-commence operations at the Hedsor Pile Dwelling by the beginning of next month. They had been stopped in their work by the water flooding them out. The researches they desired to continue would cost about £1 per day, or £50 in all. They had secured £30 towards the sum required, including £5 from the Society of Antiquaries. The Pile Dwelling, Mr. Cocks remarked, was one of the most interesting finds ever brought to light within the County.

Mr. Parker seconded the vote of thanks to Mr. Payne, who, in reply, said he had been a collector all his life, and if the articles he had given

were of value to the Society he was only too happy to place them at their disposal.

The following were then elected Members of the Society :—The Rev. A. K. Hobart-Hampden, of Great Kimble, Mr. Frank Haddock, of High Wycombe, and Mr. Coles, of Loudwater.

Mr. Williams suggested that next year's excursion should be to places of interest on the River Thames, taking the journey by water.

Mr. Spragge, of Slough, brought some old documents one 600 years old—for the inspection of the Members, and Mr. Rutland said he had a copy of the assessment of the three Chiltern Hundreds, made in 1624, which he would be pleased to let the Society have, if it were of any use for publication in the *Records*. Mr. Parker accepted the offer with thanks, and the proceedings terminated.

The party then drove to

LANGLEY CHURCH,

which is dedicated to St. Mary. It consists of a nave and chancel, with a north aisle extending the whole length of both, a south chapel and library, and a west tower at the end of the north aisle, in which are five bells and a clock. The nave was erected about the year 1200; the chancel is rather more than a century later, and was probably built in the time of Edward I., the arms of that monarch still remaining in the east window of the aisle and also the arms of the Clares, Gilbert de Clare having married a daughter of Edward I. The floor of the chancel was formerly higher than at present, as shown by the masonry remaining at the bases of the pillars and also by the sedilia. There is a curious Perpendicular window in the south wall of the nave, now blocked up. The tower was built by Sir John Kiderminster in 1649. The Kiderminster chapel and vault were built by Sir John in 1626; the paintings on the doors and panels are interesting and of considerable merit. They represent scenes in Windsor, Eton, and Langley Park. A portrait of Sir John remains on a cupboard door; that of his wife has been painted out. There are a number of monuments and hatchments of the Kiderminster, Hubert, Swabey, and other families. The conspicuous monument in the chancel commemorates Edmund Kiderminster, 1607, and his wife Anna, 1618; John Kiderminster, 1558, and Elizabeth his wife, 1590. The brasses commemorate (1) Elizabeth, daughter of Roger Giffard, 1434; (2) John Boteler and his wife Matilda, cir. 1440; (3) John Bowsare, 1570; (4) Juliana, wife of Edward Higgins, 1603; (5) John Bowsare, 1608. The almshouses north and south of the churchyard were built by Sir John Kiderminster and Sir Henry Seymour.

Having spent some time in examining the various points of interest in the Church, the party were then driven to

ST. LAWRENCE'S, UPTON.

This is a very ancient edifice, and in the north wall there are fragments of an early arch still visible, from which it has been conjectured that the first Church here was erected in Saxon times. It may be concluded that the building is of different dates, from the fact that its component parts are not of the same dimensions. The tower is only 12ft. 5in. wide, whereas the chancel is 15ft. 7in., and the nave 19ft. 9in. The Norman Church erected during the latter part of the 11th century was constructed of flint with conglomerate, and consisted

of a diminutive chancel, with a roof supported on groined arches, a central tower surmounted with a conical roof, and a small nave, much shorter than the present one. The only communication between the nave and the chancel at that time was by a small rounded archway in the wall of the tower. This old arch was removed in 1850, and may be seen between the two pointed arches against the eastern wall of the south aisle. On the south side of the chancel is a piscina, which is almost unique in its structure, there being but two or three others of the same shape now remaining in England. The Norman font still remains in the nave, and there is a Norman doorway on the north side. In the churchyard is a venerable yew tree, so old that it may be coeval with the earliest portions of the Church. About the middle of the 13th century the nave was lengthened, and the present roof erected; two beautiful wooden arches were placed one on each side of the chancel arch, forming a kind of reredos to small side altars, which stood there in early times. One of these arches is preserved, and is considered by some the greatest archæological curiosity in the County. Towards the end of the 14th century a beautifully-carved rood-screen of oak was erected, and about the same time the old Norman tower was raised nineteen feet in brickwork. Much later a square-headed debased Perpendicular window was inserted above the north door. For many years the Church was greatly neglected, and in 1835 had become ruinous, and would have been pulled down had it not been for the intervention of Mr. Pocock, who then held the farms at Upton and Willow Brook, and who gave £50 to the authorities that it might be left standing. In 1837 a new Church was erected at Slough, and Upton Church was despoiled of its bells and internal fittings to furnish it. In 1851 the Church was restored under the direction of Mr. B. Terry, architect, and re-opened by Bishop Wilberforce, December 2nd of that year. The brickwork was taken off the tower and a new roof placed upon it; a new aisle was added; the old piscina was restored to its proper position; the ribs of the groined chancel re-coloured; the chancel arch and the belfry thrown open and the huge galleries swept away; the ceiling of the nave was removed and the Early English roof brought into view once more. In removing the south wall a representation of the Holy Trinity in tinted alabaster was discovered. The cost of the restoration exceeded £4,000. The register commences in 1538 and is well preserved.

The Church contains memorial brasses to several members of the Bulstrode family dated 1472, 1517, 1599, and 1614. In the tower there is a long inscription in Latin to the memory of Sir W. Herschel, the astronomer. In the churchyard, under the north wall, a broken flat stone commemorates Sarah Bramstone, of Eton, who died in 1765, and "dared to be just in the reign of George II." There are modern brasses to Maria Dolores Stevenson, who died in 1864, and Mr. W. G. Nixey, 1870; and stained glass windows of recent insertion to members of local families.

On leaving Upton, the party drove through Chalvey and Salt Hill, and thence along the Bath Road to Maidenhead, where they took the train for their different destinations.

[The account of the Churches of Burnham, Langley, and St. Lawrence, Upton, is by Mr. R. S. Downs.]

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