

A. J. 10027. (4x)

A GUIDE  
TO THE  
ARCHITECTURAL ANTIQUITIES  
IN THE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD OF OXFORD.

PART IV.

Deanery of Cuddesden.

RIDES II. AND III.

PUBLISHED BY THE OXFORD SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE STUDY OF  
GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE.

OXFORD,

JOHN HENRY PARKER:

P. AND J. RIVINGTON, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD AND WATERLOO-PLACE;

G. BELL, 186, FLEET STREET, LONDON.

MDCCCXLVI.







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**PRINTED BY I. SHRIMPTON.**



## ADVERTISEMENT.

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THE principal object proposed in this publication was stated in the outset to be; to assist the Members of the Society in the practical study of Gothic Architecture. This object it is hoped has now been accomplished. The Work comprises an account of eighty Churches and Parishes in Oxfordshire, situated within twelve miles of Oxford; the architectural descriptions are believed to be sufficient as a guide for students to lead them to discriminate the styles and the dates of the different parts of a building, so far as this is practicable without the aid of experience. If these descriptions are found to give the student an increased interest in the pursuit, and make him desirous to investigate carefully the history of every building which comes in his way by the evidence afforded by the building itself, it will have accomplished all that can be expected. The historical notices are not confined to the Churches, but contain all the information that could be collected respecting the history of the respective Parishes also. This part of the work has been considerably extended during its progress; the researches which were originally set on foot with a view to ascertain how far the recorded history of the Churches would be found to agree with their architectural character, and thus either to confirm or modify the received chronology of the art in this country, have led to the discovery of much curious and valuable matter belonging more properly perhaps to a County History than to a work of this limited nature. But the absence of any such History of Oxfordshire rendered it imperative to preserve the information thus collected. These notices do not add materially to the bulk or expense of the work, while to many persons they form the most valuable part of it, and to almost all they will be found interesting. The Society is much indebted to the Rev. John Baron, M.A., of Queen's College, Vicar of Waterpery, for the indefatigable industry and unwearied patience with which he has pursued the investigations connected with this part of the work. Those who have had

#### ADVERTISEMENT.

occasion to consult the manuscripts of the middle ages with very little clue to the object of research, will know how to appreciate his labours. In the earlier part of the Guide the invaluable "Parochial Antiquities of Ambrosden and Burcester, by Bishop Kennett," supplied almost all that was necessary, but in the latter part, being beyond his district, this help was entirely wanting, and Mr. Baron has proved no unworthy follower in the path which he had pointed out, and in which he had so ably led the way. Our Guide comprises that part of the Deanery of Bicester which lies within the limits prescribed, and the whole of the Deaneries of Woodstock and of Cuddesden\*; these are subdivided into seven Rides, each forming a good day's excursion; by starting early from Oxford and returning late, the student would be able to see and take hasty notes of each of the Churches comprised in the Ride. This arrangement was adopted with the double object of attending to the established ecclesiastical divisions, and of bringing together the descriptions of those Churches which are locally situated near to each other. That the arrangement in Deaneries is on the whole the best for this purpose seems to be now generally acknowledged. One part of our plan was to give some notice of every Church in the district, so that the ground should be completely surveyed, and we regret that this plan has not been more generally acted upon in other instances, as it is in this way only that we can ever hope to obtain a complete Architectural Survey of all England, an object much to be desired and encouraged. There are still very many valuable specimens of medieval art and excellent examples for modern imitation remaining unnoticed and unknown for want of such a survey.

Our Guide was originally intended to have included the Deanery of Abingdon in Berkshire, but the limits proposed being already exceeded, and the bulk of the volume as large as is consistent with convenience, it has been found necessary to defer this part of the plan.

\* With the exception of Dorchester, Haseley, and Ifley, of which separate accounts have been published; and Net-

tlebed, which is modern, and beyond our limits.

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# CUDESSEN.

ANNEXED  
TO THE BISHOPRIC  
OF  
OXFORD.

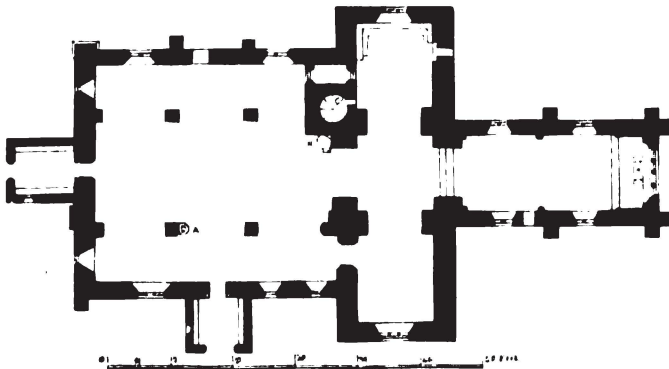
All Saints.

DEANERY  
OF CUDESSEN  
HUNDRED  
OF BULLINGTON.



General View from the South west.

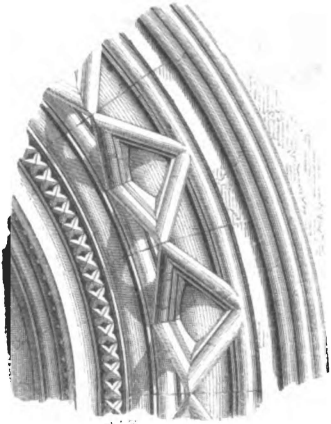
THIS Church, in which many of the most interesting features have been carefully restored, appears to have been originally built towards the close of the twelfth century, on a cruciform plan, with a tower at the intersection, but without aisles.



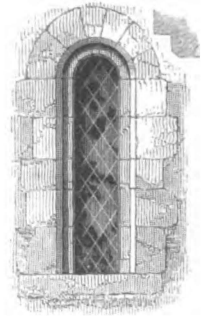
Ground Plan

P p

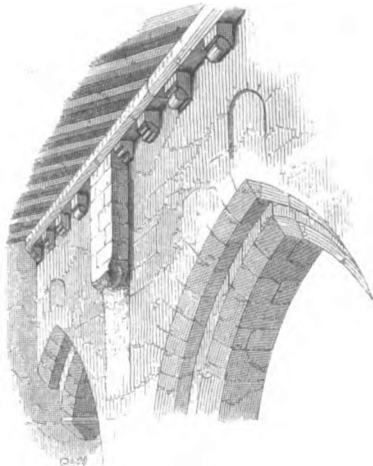
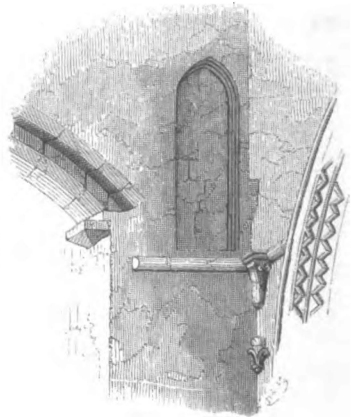
A.D. 1180 circa. To this period belong the following parts: the arches under the tower; the west doorway, which is a very good specimen of the latest Norman work, with the lozenge moulding half detached, and the toothornament, the oak door of which has the original ironwork (see woodcut on p. 294); the south doorway of similar character; the west buttresses; and the walls of the north transept, with one small Norman window, and portions of the corbel-table; the stair-turret at the north-west angle of the tower; the corbel-table on each side of the nave, under the present roofs of the aisles; and the upper parts of pilaster buttresses, of which the lower parts were cut away when the present pillars and arches were built; the opening to the roodloft, with a part of the Norman string under it at the north-east corner of the nave; and the head of one of the original clerestory



Mouldings of Arch of West Door.

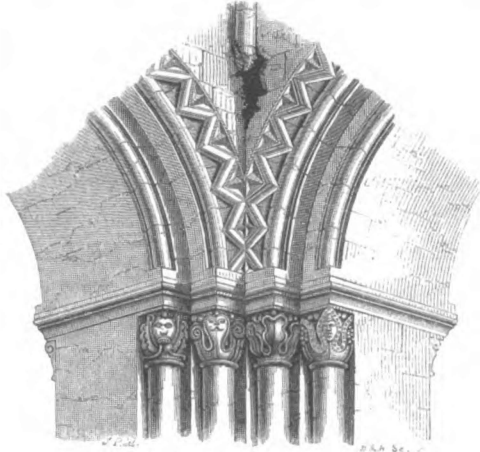


Norman Window in Transept

Upper Section of Wall of North Aisle.  
showing Buttress cut away.Junction of last Arch of North Aisle.  
with opening to Roodloft.

windows over the point of the central arch on the north side. In the north transept are the remains of a stone seat with a step which was continued round both transepts.

The four arches under the tower are pointed and recessed, have the edges moulded by a plain round, and above this the zig-zag ornament. Those to the north and south are of greater span by three feet than those to the east and west. The piers are square, with shafts in nooks at the angles, and moulded imposts running across the spring of the arch. This portion of the Chancel had originally a stone groined vault, with moulded ribs, the situation and design of which is clearly marked out by the masonry in the ringing loft; at the terminations of the ribs in the four corners are the remains of the corbels upon which the groining rested.



South-west corner of Tower Arches.

A.D. 1240 circa. To this cruciform Church, built during the period of transition from the Norman to the Early English style, nave aisles were added about the middle of the thirteenth century, with lean-to roofs, low side walls, and small lancet windows, of which three remain on the south side, and at the west end of each aisle is a taller window of the lancet shape. To this Early English period also belong, the

Cap and Base of Pillar, south side of Nave.



Cap and Base of Pillar, south side of Nave.

piers and arches on both sides of the nave, on the south side the hoodmoulds are of the form called the scroll, and terminated by the peculiar ornament usually called a mask, or by some a buckle; the elegant little corbels on the west side of the Chancel-arch, apparently connected with the roodloft; and on the exterior, the low buttresses of the aisles.

A.D. 1350 circa. The low side walls were raised, and larger windows of the Decorated style, and of two lights, introduced; one small window, of the time of Edward I., was removed and built into the new work over the three small lancet windows on the south side. At this date the south Porch was added, the west Porch having been erected about the beginning of the century.

The west window of the nave is a very singular one, of three lights, cinquefoiled, with quatrefoils in the head, and a transom across at the springing of the arch.

A.D. 1400—1450. The clerestory windows are Perpendicular, single lights, with trefoil heads, the openings inside being square-headed. The window inserted in the north wall of the north transept is Perpendicular, of three lights, cinquefoiled, and retains a few fragments of painted glass.

At the east end of the north aisle of the nave, where it abuts against the transept, is a small window of a single light with a trefoil head, and under this a small square window, divided only by a transom from the one above, but still not part of it; this belongs to the class of low side windows, by some called lych-noscopes, usually found only in the Chancel, it opens at present into a small vestry, but this is a modern arrangement, it is probable that there was originally an Altar close to it.

A.D. 1500. The CHANCEL is late Perpendicular, having a large east window, which has been well restored, of four lights, with a transom. This, and the priest's door on the south side, are the best parts of the design. The roof, now hidden by a



Dripstone of Window in South Aisle of Nave.



Hoodmould of Arch South Aisle of Nave.

plaster ceiling, is of oak, but of a plain character. On each side of the Chancel are two clumsy windows, set within arches which appear to have been made in the prospect of aisles being added, but are not carried through the whole thickness of the walls. There are also two rude openings, with pointed arches, in the usual place of piscina and locker.

In the seventeenth century the upper part of the tower was rebuilt, the south transept repaired, and a debased window inserted in its south wall. The oak roof of the nave also belongs to this period. The fittings of the nave and aisles are mostly of the time of King James the First, and good of their kind. Some of the seats have plain square ends, others are ornamented with poppy-heads, somewhat rudely carved, in the shape of fleurs-de-lis. The replacing of the old oak pulpit, together with the modern desk and letter-n, also of oak and of good design, help to give a uniformity of appearance to this part of the Church, which is one of the most pleasing results of the restoration, commenced A.D. 1842: the crosses on the gables and on the porch are also a judicious restoration. There are still, however, one or two square pews in the aisles, and across the west end extends a gallery, rebuilt A.D. 1830.

The FONT, which is early, is plain, round, and placed on a modern pedestal, to the west of the south door, supposed to be its original position.

There are no early monuments, but among those of later date may be mentioned the following, the first of which recorded by Anthony à Wood has disappeared.

“In an aisle, on the south side of the Church, on a brass plate in the wall, the arms taken away :—Insignia Georgii Barston de Chibbenhurst (qui matrimonium contraxit cum Margeria Doyly de Chiselhampton) armigeri, ex qua genuit filios Johannem; Georgium; Franciscum; Benjamin; et filiam Annam: qui obiit Anno salutis 1607.—There are no arms in the windows.”

On the walls of the Chancel,

James King, departed this life A.D. 1620, the son of a master of the London Company of Clothworkers, whose arms are placed over the monument.

Charles Moss, Bishop of Oxford, A.D. 1811.

William Jackson, Bishop of Oxford, A.D. 1815.

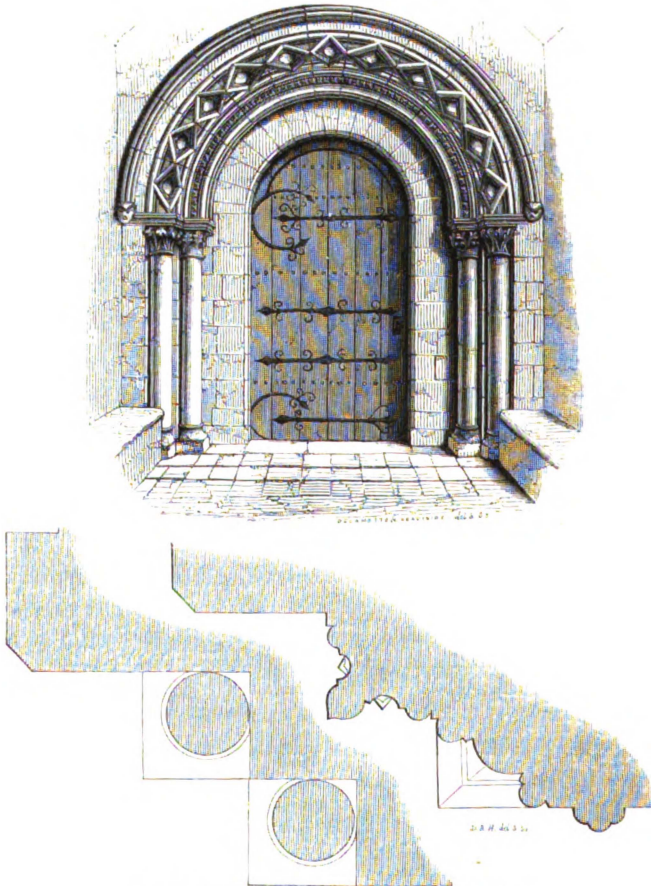
\* Notes taken Feb. 17, A.D. 1658. Wood's MS. B. 15.

In the Church-yard, near the priest's door, is a small tomb of white marble to the memory of Maria, daughter of Bishop Lowth, who departed this life July 5, A.D. 1768.

Of the bells, three are inscribed "Henry Knight made mee Ano. 1617;" a fourth bears the date 1677; a fifth, 1709; a sixth, 1795, the gift of Dr. Smallwell, bishop of Oxford; the seventh is a little bell dated 1748.

Under a tree in the middle of the village is the shaft of a cross with a base of four steps <sup>b</sup>.

<sup>b</sup> In drawing up the foregoing account by E. A. Freeman, Esq., Trinity College, and much assistance has been derived from notes others by S. Rooke, Esq., Oriol College.



West Door, with Section through Jamb and Arch Moulding.

## HISTORICAL NOTICES.

Cuddesden or Cudesdon, with its hamlets Wheatley and Denton, was for nearly six hundred years connected with the Benedictine abbey of St. Mary of Abingdon, and to this circumstance it owes not only the architectural beauties of its Church, but the preservation of many interesting particulars of its early history. A few of these, derived chiefly from two very fine chartularies of the abbey, in the British Museum, are inserted in the following account.

A.D. 956. King Edwy gave to Ælfere, his loyal and illustrious earl, "Cuthenesdune of 20 manses," and he with the consent of the king bestowed it upon the house of the Blessed Mary of Abingdon, and the monks there serving God. After the royal grant to Ælfere follows a statement in Saxon of the boundaries of the land so given, and the whole is thus dated and signed.

Hec carta scriptum est anno dominice incarnationis DCCCCLVI, indictione XXIII.

✠ Ego Eadwius rex anglorum indeclinabiliter concessi.

✠ Ego Eadgar ejusdem regis frater celeriter consensi.

✠ Ego Oda archiepc̃ cum signo sancte crucis roboravi.

✠ Ego Ælsmuf præsul sigillum agie crucis impressi.

✠ Ego Brihtelm ep̃c confirmavi.

✠ Ego Oscytel ep̃c adqueivi.

✠ Ego Osulf ep̃c non rennui.

✠ Ego Alfuold ep̃c subscripsi.

✠ Ego Daniel ep̃c conclusi.

After these follow the signatures of four dukes and eight thanes<sup>c</sup>.

This charter shortly after passed into the possession of the abbey of St. Mary, together with the property to which it gave a title; "hanc itaque terram sanctus pater Æthelwoldus concedente rege ab eodem comite adquisivit cum carta sibi a rege data et sic terra ista ad ecclesiam istam pervenit<sup>d</sup>."

Æthelwold here mentioned, under whose auspices the monastery of St. Mary was rebuilt after its destruction by the Danes, was made abbot of Abingdon, A.D. 954, and translated thence to the see of Winchester, A.D. 963, by King Eadgar<sup>e</sup>.

A.D. 1065. A dispute arose about a mill on the confines of Milton

<sup>c</sup> Cot. MS. Tib. b. vi. f. 50. The titles in this transcript of the reign of Richard I. are "dux" and "minister." The Saxon boundaries are also given,

Claud. c. ix., a transcript of the reign of Henry II.

<sup>d</sup> Cot. MS. Claud. c. ix. f. 112.

<sup>e</sup> Dugd. Mon. N. E., vol. i. p. 506.

and Cudesdon, probably in the same place as that which is still worked by the stream of the Thame which is there the boundary between the two parishes. The men of the bishop of Lincoln, to whom Milton belonged, wished to break down the sluice, an attempt which was resisted by the servants of the abbot of Abingdon. The charge of the bishopric of Lincoln had upon a recent vacancy<sup>f</sup> been placed in the hands of Peter, a chaplain of the king, and sometime bishop of Chester, who came to the mill with many armed attendants and was confronted by the abbot Ealdred<sup>g</sup>, who brought with him a devout company of laymen and monks, together with the reliques of St. Vincent the martyr. The conference ended in an acknowledgment of the abbot's right, which was probably made clear by the production of King Edwy's charter and other indisputable vouchers, although in the account the withdrawal of the adverse claim is ascribed to the terror inspired by miraculous appearances<sup>h</sup>.

A.D. 1080. The following is the return in the Domesday Survey. "Land of St. Mary of Abingdon. The abbey holds Codesdone, there are eighteen hides there. There is land to eighteen ploughs. Of these there are four hides in the demesne, and therein four ploughs and eight bondmen; and twenty-four villanes, with twelve bordars, have eighteen ploughs. A mill there and two fisheries pay twelve shillings. There are sixty acres of meadow. Wood eight quarentens long and half a mile broad. It was worth nine pounds, now twelve pounds<sup>i</sup>."

A.D. 1117. 17 Hen. I. In this year took place the decease of the abbot Faricius; the following extract would therefore seem to prove that Cudesdon must have had a church even before that which was built about A.D. 1180. "Hec sunt que dominus Faricius ecclesie contulit, ecclesiam silicet Sancti Martini de Oxenford, et ecclesiam de Mercham, ecclesiam de Offentuna, ecclesiam de Witteham, ecclesiam de Cudesduna, ecclesiam de Niweham<sup>j</sup>."

A.D. 1146. 11 Stephen. Pope Eugenius the Third, in a privilege granted to Ingulf the abbot, and his convent, takes the monastery of St. Mary of Abingdon under the protection of the Blessed Peter and himself, decreeing that all their possessions should remain to them and their successors, expressly mentioning "Cuthesdonam<sup>k</sup>." The same pope

<sup>f</sup> Bishop Ulf or Wulfin is said to have died A.D. 1067, having been previously banished.

<sup>g</sup> Ealdred, who was chosen abbot of Abingdon, A.D. 1065, appears to have submitted early to King William the Conqueror. In 1071 however he was sent a prisoner to the castle of Walingford, was deposed, and afterwards com-

mitted to the custody of Walcheline, bishop of Winchester, with whom he passed the remainder of his days.—Dugd. Mon. N. E., vol. i. p. 507.

<sup>h</sup> Cf. Cot. MS. Tib. b. vi. f. 119.

<sup>i</sup> Bawdwen's Translation.

<sup>j</sup> Tib. b. vi. f. 157.

<sup>k</sup> Dugdale's Monasticon.



in another like document confirms to the Abbey the Church of Cudesdon<sup>1</sup>.

A.D. 1237. 21 Hen. III. *Institutio vicariæ de Cudesdon*:—*Omnibus etc. Noverit universitas vestra nos auctoritate Gregorii papæ 9. Abbatem et conventum de Abendon in ecclesia de Cuddesdon canonicè rectores instituisse, ipsosque in corporalem possessionem ipsius ecclesiæ induci fecisse, salva vicaria per dilectum filium magistrum R. de Weseham Archid. Oxon. in eadem taxata. Dat. 18. cal. Jan. pont. tertio. Taxatio vicariæ sequitur. Rot. Rob. Grostête. Anno. 3<sup>m</sup>.*

1249. Thomas de Hangrafe, deacon, was presented by the Abbot and Convent of Abingdon to the vicarage. Rob. Grostête 13<sup>n</sup>.

1251. John de Gnatteshall, capellan, by the same. Rob. Grostête 17<sup>n</sup>.

In the reign of Henry the Third, the Templars of "Coffe"<sup>o</sup> held of the Abbot of Abingdon two hides of land in Denton, and one in Wateley. Mathus de Wateley tenet in eadem dimidium feodum militis de Abbate de Abendon et ipse de Rege scilicet de Warda de Wyndelesore<sup>p</sup>.

A.D. 1272. In the Hundred Rolls of the beginning of the reign of Edward the First many particulars respecting the property in this place are preserved, of which the most important appear to be that the manor belonged to the Abbot of Abingdon, together with the patronage and impropriation of the Church, and that the part of the parish still called Chippinghurst farm was held of the Prior of Nugyun.

"*Dicunt jurati quod manerium de Codesdone tenetur in capite de domino rege et est de baronia Abendonie pro qua dominus Abbas de Abendon respondet domino regi de tota baronia cujus membrum Codesdone est. . . Idem Abbas debet sectam hundredo de Bulendon' per attorney suum per litteras suas patentes singulis annis de novo presentatum et hoc per cartam domine Philippe Comitisse Warr' concessum et confirmatum—Item dominus Abbas est patronus ecclesie de Codesdon, et Abbas et Conventus tenent ecclesiam in propriis usus per concessionem et confirmationem sedis Apostolice. Item habet (sc. Abbas) duo molendina aquatica de quibus unum currit per cursum rivuli qui dicitur Cumbe Broke et aliud molendinum currit per aquam que vocatur Thame cum piscaria per eandem aquam sicut per metas et per bundas antiquitus constitutas<sup>q</sup> cum uno gurgite qui vocatur Cliffware.—*

"*Habent etiam unam gravam de corulo que vocatur Cumbegrave—que est extra metas foreste. Et unum boscum qui vocatur Sawe et est in regardo foreste de Sottor . . Et unum clausum quod vocatur La Vente*

<sup>1</sup> Tib. B. vi. f. 167.

<sup>m</sup> Bp. Kennett, Par. Ant., vol. ii. p. 336.

<sup>n</sup> Lincoln Registers.

<sup>o</sup> Now called Temple Cowley.

<sup>p</sup> Testa de Nevill, p. 102. Feoda Abbatis de Abindon, p. 105. Hundredum de Bulinden.

<sup>q</sup> E. g. the Saxon boundaries, Cot. MS. Tib. B. vi. f. 50, and Claud. C. ix. f. 196.

quod continet in se xxiii acr : ex licencia domini Regis Henrici filii Regis Johannis. Dicunt jurati quod Dentone est hamelettum de Codesdone—Hamelettum quod vacatur Watele.”

Rogerus Vicarius de Codesdon, de predicto Thoma tenet dimidiam acram terre et reddit per annum obolum pro omni servicio eidem Thome. Johannes de Chibenhurst tenet villam de Chibenhurst ad feodi firmam de Priore de Nugun reddendo inde per annum lx<sup>s</sup> pro omni servicio—debet sectam hundredo de Bolendon.

A.D. 1291. 19 EDWARD I. TAX. EC. P. NICH.

P. 30. Ecclesia de Cuddesdon', Abbatis de Abyndon	26 13 4
P. 40. Vicaria de Codesdon.	5 6 8
P. 44. Decanatus de Codesdon :—Abbas de Abbingdon	
habet in Codesdon in terris et redditibus	9 19 8
Idem habet ibidem in fructu gregis et animalium	1 4 6
Prior de Nugyun habet in Chibenhurst et in Baldin-	
don in redd'	6 0 0

A.D. 1316. 9 Edward II. At this date Quodesdon, Denton and Whatele are reported as owned by the Abbot of Abyngdon; and Chibenhurst, by “ Domina Benedicta de Chibenhurst’.”

A.D. 1523. Richard Stok, B.D., was presented by the Abbot and Convent to the Vicarage.

A.D. 1341. 14 Edward III. Decanatus de Cotesdon' :—Ecclesia parochialis ejusdem cum omnibus portionibus suis taxatur ad xxvi<sup>li</sup> xiii<sup>s</sup> iiiij<sup>d</sup> &c.<sup>1</sup>

A.D. 1539. Abstract of Roll, 30 Henry VIII. Augmentation Office <sup>u</sup>.

MONASTERIUM DE ABINGDON.

Cuddesdon.—Redd' lib. et cust. xiv<sup>li</sup> v<sup>s</sup>. Redd' in Denton x<sup>li</sup> ix<sup>s</sup> viii<sup>d</sup>. Redd' in Whateley ix<sup>li</sup> xiv<sup>s</sup>. Firma Molendini in Cuddesdon v<sup>li</sup>. Firma vocata la Vente cum decimis iv<sup>li</sup> vi<sup>s</sup> viii<sup>d</sup>. Firma Scitus manerii de Cuddesdon xxix<sup>li</sup> xiii<sup>s</sup> iv<sup>d</sup>. Firma X<sup>me</sup> in Whateley vi<sup>li</sup> vi<sup>s</sup> viii<sup>d</sup>. Firma X<sup>me</sup> in Halton in Cuddesdon vi<sup>s</sup> viii<sup>d</sup>.

A.D. 1542. 33 Hen. VIII. Soon after the dissolution of the religious houses, Robert King, the last Abbot of Oseney, was appointed to the Bishopric of Oxford, with charge over a district which, till that time, had formed part of the diocese of Lincoln. Of the possessions in Cudesdon that had belonged to the Abbey of St. Mary of Abingdon, only a small portion appears to have been re-applied to ecclesiastical purposes, namely the impropriate parsonage. It is probable that at this time the manor and most of the lands passed into the family of Gardiner,

<sup>1</sup> Nomina Villarum, Parl. Writs, vol. ii. div. 3. f. 353.

<sup>u</sup> Lincoln Registers.

<sup>v</sup> Inquisitio Nonarum, p. 133.

<sup>u</sup> Monasticon Anglicanum. N. E. vol. i. p. 529.

<sup>v</sup> See Account of Dorchester Church, Oxon. p. 55—73.

a name which frequently occurs in connection with Cudesdon as early as the reign of Edward the First<sup>v</sup>. Anthony à Wood mentions that Sir Thomas Gardiner during the great rebellion burnt his own house, on the south side of the Church, lest the "Parliamenters" should make a garrison of it; at the same time the Bishop's Palace, on the north side of the Church, was burnt by Col. Legg for a similar reason<sup>x</sup>. From the descendants of Sir Thomas Gardiner the manor and most of the lands of Cudesdon have recently passed by purchase to the Right Honourable the Earl of Macclesfield. The land called la Vente, in the Hundred Rolls, was in the reign of Queen Elizabeth held by Sir Christopher Brome<sup>y</sup> of Holton, to whose property it became permanently annexed.

The history of the Episcopal Palace at Cudesdon cannot be better related than in the following biographical notice of Doctor Bancroft, the seventh Bishop of Oxford.

"John Bancroft was born in a little village called Astell or Estwell, lying between Witney and Burford in Oxfordshire, was admitted a student of Christ Church in 1592, aged 18 years or more, took the degrees in Arts, holy Orders, and became a preacher for some years in and near Oxon. In 1609, he being newly admitted to proceed in Divinity, was by the endeavours of his uncle Dr. Ric. Bancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, elected master of University College, where he continued above twenty years: in which time he was at great pains and expense to recover and settle the ancient lands belonging to that foundation. In 1632 he was, upon the translation of Dr. Corbet to Norwych, nominated Bishop of Oxford; whereupon being elected by the Dean and Chapter in April the same year, he had the temporalities of that see given to him on the 6th of June following, being about that time consecrated. In 1640, when the long Parliament began, and proceeded with great vigour against the Bishops, he was possessed with so much fear (having always been an enemy to the Puritans) that, without little or no sickness, he surrendered up his last breath in his lodging at Westminster, afterwards his body was carried to Cudsden, in the diocese of Oxon, and was buried near to and under the south wall of the Chancel of the Church there, on the twelfth day of Febr. in 1640, leaving then behind him the character among the Puritans or Presbyterians then dominant, of 'a corrupt unpreaching Popish Prelate.' The reader is now to know that before this man's time, the Bishops of Oxford had no house left belonging to their Episcopal See, either in city or country, but dwelt at their parsonage houses which they held in commendam, though Dr. Jno. Bridges, who had no commendam in his diocese, lived for the most part in hired houses in the city. For as I have before told

<sup>v</sup> Hundred Rolls.

<sup>x</sup> Wood's MS., Ash. Mus. B. 15.

<sup>y</sup> Proceedings in Chancery, Q. Eliz.,

vol. i. p. 270.

you in Dr. Rob. Kyng<sup>a</sup>, tho. at the foundation of the Bishoprick of Oxford, in the Abbey of Osney, the king appointed Gloucester Coll. for the Bishop's pallace, yet when that foundation was inspected by K. Ed. VI., & a recital thereupon made of the foundation thereof done by his father, that place was left out of the charter, as being designed then for another use. So that from that time till this man (Dr. Bancroft) came to be Bishop, there being no settled house or pallace for him or his successors, he did resolve by the persuasions of Dr. Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury to build one; wherefore in the first place, the improper Parsonage of Cudsden beforementioned, five miles distant from Oxon, which belonged to the Bishop in right of his See, he let the lease thereof run out without any more renewing, that in the end it might be an improvement to the slender Bishoprick. The vicarage also of his own donation falling void in the mean time, he procured himself to be legally instituted and inducted thereunto. All which being done, he through the power and favour of Dr. Laud beforementioned, obtained an annexation of it to the See Episcopal, (the design of bringing in the appropriation going forward still,) and soon after began, with the help of a great deal of timber from the forest of Shotover, given by his majesty, to build a fair pallace; which with a chapel in it, being completely finished an. 1635 was then out of curiosity visited by the said Dr. Laud; which he remits into his diary thus, 'Sept. 2, an. 1635, I was in attendance with the King at Woodstock, and went from thence to Cudsden, to see the house which Dr. Jo. Bancroft then Lord Bishop of Oxford had there built to be a house for the Bishops of that See for ever; he having built that house at my persuasion.' But this house or pallace (which cost three thousand five hundred pounds) proved almost as short-lived as the founder, being burned down by Col. Will. Legg, during the short time that he was governor of the garrison of Oxford in the latter end of 1644, for fear it might be made a garrison by the Parliament forces, though with as much reason and more piety (as Dr. Heylin<sup>a</sup> observes) he might have garrisoned it for the King and preserved the house. Being thus ruined, it laid so till Dr. John Fell became Bishop of Oxford, and then with monies out of his own purse, and the help of timber which one of his predecessors Dr. Will. Paul, had laid in in his life time for that purpose, did rebuild it upon the old foundation with a chapel in it as before. The outside of which being finished in 1679, the inside followed soon after<sup>b</sup>."

J. B.

<sup>a</sup> Robert King, the last Abbot of Osney and first Bishop of Oxford, built a house near the Cathedral, which he probably intended as an Episcopal Palace for the see of Oxford, some small por-

tions of which now remain. See Ingram's Memorials of Oxford, vol. iii., St. Aldate's Parish, pp. 11, 12.

<sup>a</sup> Cyprrianus Anglicus, lib. iii.

<sup>b</sup> Wood's Athenæ Oxon, vol. i. p. 632.

# WHEATLEY.

PATRON.  
THE BISHOP OF  
OXFORD.  
A CHAPELRY  
TO CUDDSDEN.

St. Mary.

DEANERY  
OF CUDDSDEN,  
HUNDRED  
OF BULLINGTON.

IN the populous hamlet of Wheatley is a large chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, and built at the close of the last century, with diminutive chancel, great round-headed windows, and hipped roof of slate; in fact, having nothing but a tower to distinguish it in outward appearance from a meeting-house.

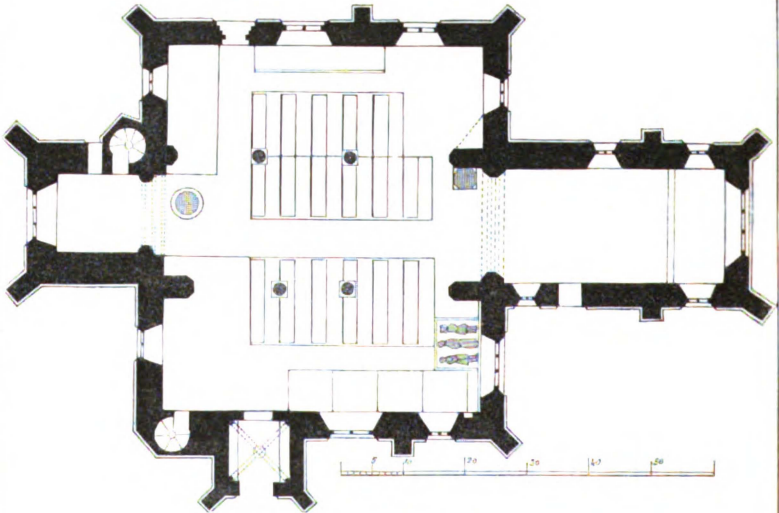
Wheatley has been formed into a separate parish, and is a perpetual curacy in the gift of the bishop of Oxford. There are a few old houses in the village, one of which, called the manor-house, bears the date 1601. Another at the east end of the village has a doorway with good mouldings of the fifteenth century, the windows in the gable ends, and the chimneys are of the same period. Another farm house, opposite to the one last mentioned, and a large barn with good buttresses, appear to have been also built in the fifteenth century.

On a hill, called Castle hill, about a mile eastward of Wheatley, near the footpath to Cuddesden, on a gentle slope toward the river Thame, facing the south-east, are the remains of a Roman villa, consisting of a hypocaust and bath, and some other fragments. A quantity of broken tiles and Roman pottery of Samian ware and the coarser kinds, were dug up in clearing out these remains<sup>a</sup>.

<sup>a</sup> For a further account of these see *Archæological Journal*, vol. ii.



SOUTH WEST VIEW OF THE CHURCH.



GROUND PLAN.

# GREAT MILTON.

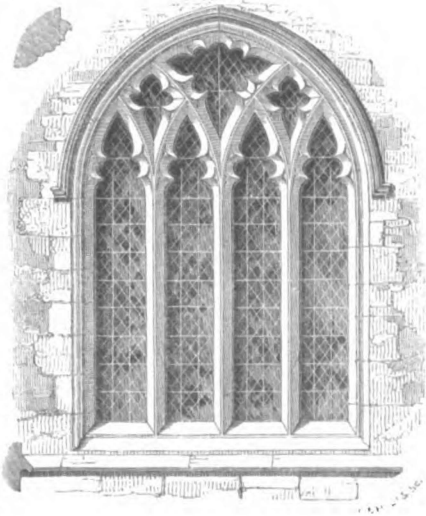
PATRON.  
THE BISHOP OF  
OXFORD.

St. Matthew.

DEANERY  
OF CUDDSDEN.  
HUNDRED  
OF THAME.

THIS Church<sup>a</sup>, the general features of which are Decorated, but succeeding an earlier structure, is one of the most interesting in the Deanery, and would if carefully restored, afford as valuable an example of the fourteenth century work as its neighbour at Great Haseley does of the thirteenth century. The plan is complete having the Chancel, nave, north and south aisles, south porch with parvise over, and a well proportioned tower at the west end of the nave, remaining perfect.

The east window of the Chancel is Decorated, cusped and under a depressed head, the inside splays are moulded on the edges, and low down on both sides are notches deeply cut which were probably to support the framework of a reredos or a tryp-tych. On the north side are two Decorated windows of two lights each, with cusped quatrefoils in the heads, and the splays moulded as the east window. On the south side, the first window is Decorated, of two lights, cinque-foiled, with a spherical six-foiled triangle in the head, the arch recessed and



East Window of Chancel.

<sup>a</sup> In drawing up the architectural account of this Church much assistance has been derived from notes taken by Beckford

Bevan, Esq., of Ch. Ch. Oxford, and Joseph Clarke, Esq., architect, both members of the Society.

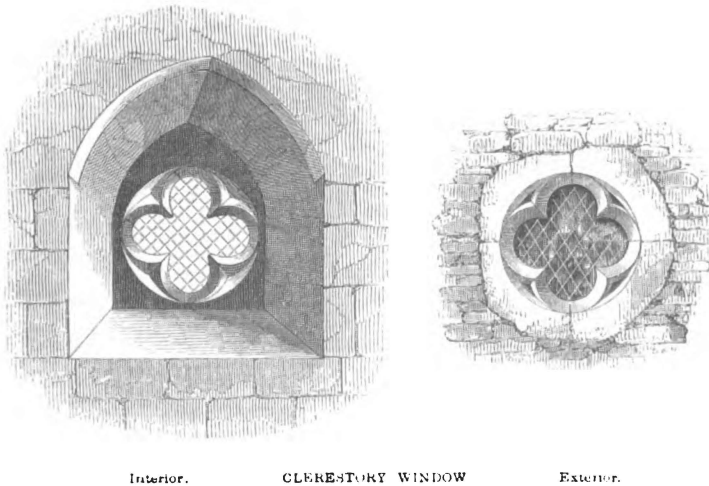
chamfered on the edge: the second window is the same as on the north. Over these four windows are roll hoodmoulds all mutilated at the points, as if for a flat ceiling or other addition of later times. The remaining window on the south is Early English, having the sides plainly splayed, and over it the common chamfered drop-arch; this window contains a mutilated medallion of the original painted glass, representing under an arcade, or canopy, the figure of a king crowned, with his right hand raised authoritatively; under the other compartment of the arcade is the figure of a female also crowned, but kneeling, as if in the act of supplicating: the inner side of the splay is rebated, evidently for a shutter, the hooks remaining. The sedilia and piscina are concealed behind the modern plastering of the Chancel, and appear much defaced: the parish chest of late date is within the Altar rails, but does not contain any documents of interest relating to the parish. Portions of the old side seats remain fixed, those on the north side are probably as early as the reign of Henry VIII., whilst those on the south side are much later, and very rude in construction, though affording an example of the old method of arrangement in our Chancels retained even to a period some time after the Reformation.

The roof over the Chancel is as late as the reign of Mary or Elizabeth; some character is preserved in the short king-posts and tie-beams resting on plain chamfered corbels.

The Chancel-arch belongs to the earlier fabric, the mouldings are Early English, (see p. 311,) dying into the piers and on to angularly cut drop corbels, which are plain, as if left to be afterwards carved; there is a hoodmould on both sides. A rood-screen, put up since the Reformation, and formed of turned ballusters, divides the Chancel from the nave. Above the Chancel-arch is a low three-light cusped Perpendicular window, most likely inserted when the present roof of the nave was put on, which appears to have been A.D. 1592, from an inscription on one of the tie-beams; the roof is well wrought and fairly moulded for the period of its construction.



The aisles are divided from the nave by irregular arches on circular Early English piers, the caps of which are richly moulded. The arch mouldings are similar to those of the Chancel-arch, with one additional member. (See p. 311.) Some of the bases of the piers are circular and some square with connecting mouldings. The westernmost pier and arch on the south side have the same Early English character as the others, but are unfinished in their mouldings, a circumstance which agrees very well with the theory that our old church builders worked from east to west, and would seem to indicate that at this stage of the earlier building some difficulties were incurred from the want of funds or other causes; on the north side the mouldings above the westernmost pier have been left unfinished in a similar manner. Above the nave-arches is a Decorated clerestory having three circular windows on each side, quatrefoiled within the outer mouldings.

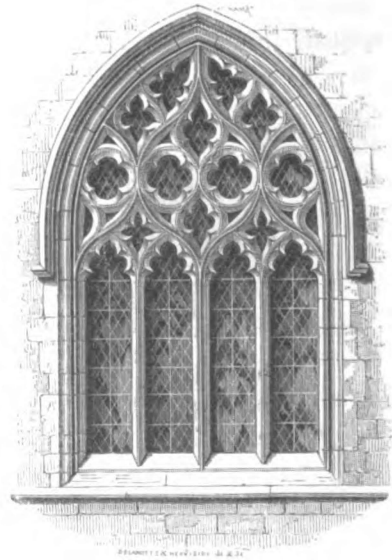


A Perpendicular window, of two lights, cinquefoiled, has been inserted at the east end on the south side, and at the south-west end is a square hole cut in the wall and glazed to light the singers' gallery.

**NORTH AISLE.**—In the north wall are two Decorated windows of three lights with quatrefoils in the heads. In the east wall is a similar window, but much more beautiful in design, and the mouldings exceedingly well cut and grouped. In this window is some painted glass of the Decorated period removed from one of the windows in the north wall. In the quatrefoil to the right is represented a male figure barely clad with a flowing beard, walking with a long staff in his left hand and raising the right in an imploring attitude. In the other quatrefoil are two angels discoursing over a dead body inclosed in a cerecloth as if watching it, or preparing to carry it away. It is probable that the two pieces refer to the story of Lazarus, the first representing him in his lifetime as asking alms, the second as being after death carried by the Angels into Abraham's bosom<sup>b</sup>.

The west window has two lights, and the mouldings are similar to those of the north window of this aisle.

**SOUTH AISLE.**—The east window is a good specimen of the flowing tracery of the fourteenth century, so nearly resembling the Flamboyant which succeeded this period on the continent, being coeval with our Perpendicular work. It is of four lights, with the superior mouldings continuing through the central

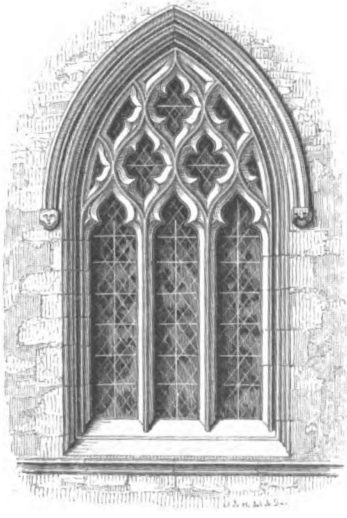


East Window of South Aisle. (Exterior.)

<sup>b</sup> St. Luke xvi. 20—22. The English translation "was laid" by no means implies that Lazarus was too helpless to walk from place to place imploring alms. The Greek *ἑβίβλητο* may reasonably be

considered to be the passive used in a middle sense; and in the Vulgate, which was the version best known to the artist of the day, it is rendered "jacebat."

mullion, and it has a drop arch over it with moulded hood and jambs; two corbel heads remain under the hoodmould but much mutilated. In the south wall are two windows of three lights, one having trefoiled, and the other quatrefoiled, or flowing tracery; the splays moulded and hoodmoulds over. The western window corresponds with the one in the north aisle; a roll and fillet string-course formerly continued round both aisles



Window in the South Aisle. Exterior.

under the windows, but it is much injured in places; below this are some remains of the low stone seat attached to the walls. Both aisles appear to have had altars, and retain some traces of the parcloles.

In the south aisle is a large Piscina partly blocked up and destroyed, and near it, forming part of the floor, is an original altar stone, with the five crosses still visible. The length is 7 ft.



Stringcourse under the Windows.

10 in., and the breadth 2 ft. 11 in. Over the Chancel-arch are the commandments, probably as originally written according



Mullions of Windows in South Aisle

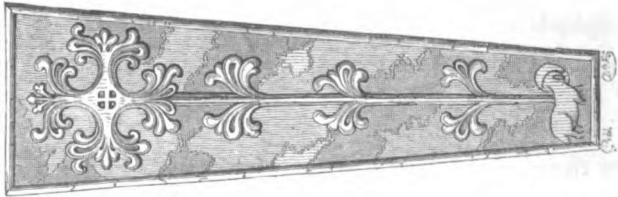
to the injunction of Queen Elizabeth. The entrance to the roodloft is at the south-east of the north aisle, the staircase being concealed by a wall across the corner. A small pointed

doorway in the south aisle leads to the parvise. The room itself is in a sad state of decay, but the small windows lighting it are tolerably perfect. A portion of the original pewing remains, and would serve as a good model for the restoration of the whole.

The Font is quite plain, circular in form, but without any marks to fix the date.

The tower-arch is Decorated, but now closed up.

There are several encaustic tiles in different parts of the Church, and among them one near the roodscreen seems to have upon it the double-tailed lion rampant, of Burghersh, within the wheel (rota) of Roet (p. 313), similar to those at Ewelme.



Flint Grave-stone in the Nave.

The oldest monument now visible in the Church is the one described and engraved by Gough<sup>c</sup>, which is a slab of Purbeck marble, at the east end of the nave, having upon it a cross fleurée, and at the foot of this the Lamb, with a nimbus, supporting it, and looking upwards. This remarkable slab, which probably marks the burial-place of an ecclesiastic, is 6 ft. 9 in. long, by 1 ft. 11 in., decreasing to 1 ft. at the eastern extremity. The next monument is thus mentioned by Anthony à Wood, A.D. 1657.—In the body of the Church at the south-east end is a little marble lying on the ground with the pictures of four children, engraven on a brass plate, with this<sup>d</sup> :—

Of yo charite pray for the soules of Willm Eggerley John Eggerley Willm Eggerley & Elizabeth Eggerley the chyldren of Robt Eggerley and Kateryn his wyfe.

Of this monument, two only of the effigies, namely, John and Elizabeth, are now to be seen with the inscription, and four shields of arms<sup>e</sup> fastened against the wall in the north-east

<sup>c</sup> Sepulchral Monuments. <sup>d</sup> Wood's MS. E.I. Ashm. Mus. <sup>e</sup> See p. 313.

corner of the south aisle. Robert Edgerly, the father of these children, was A.D. 1546, the "farmer" or lessee of the prebend of Milton Manor'. We now come to the *superb* monument which occupies nearly the whole east end of the south aisle. It is a cumbrous load of marble, erected A.D. 1618, by Sir Michael D'ormer, for himself and wife Dorothea, and his father Ambrose, who died A.D. 1566. A canopy on Corinthian pilasters covers the three effigies, in the dress of the period, and there are two long Latin inscriptions, one on the north side in honour of the father Ambrose D'ormer, Esq., who married Jane, daughter of James Burye, Esq., of Hampton Poyle, and on the north side another in honour of Sir Michael, who served under Robert earl of Leicester, and Sir Francis Vere, in the Low Countries. These services are also commemorated by a basso relievo in front of the tomb, representing a fortress and encampment, and Sir Michael himself in the middle of the piece receiving orders from his General. The two inscriptions amount to three hundred and forty-six words, without a single expression from which it could be inferred whether the deceased persons were Pagans or Christians. Every part of the monument abounds with heraldic and mythological devices.

Another monument against the north wall in the Chancel to the memory of the wife of Dr. Henry Wilkinson, Principal of Magdalene Hall, in Oxford, who departed this life A.D. 1654, affords a singular contrast to that of the D'ormers, in the tone of the inscription, but is scarcely less deficient in brevity and humility. The most unbounded religious eulogy is there summed up in this distich :

" Here lie mother and babe both without sins,  
Next birth will make her and her infant twins\*."

The walls of the Decorated part of the Church are formed of very small pieces of stone : the buttresses generally are much ornamented ; that on the exterior of the parvise stair-turret con-

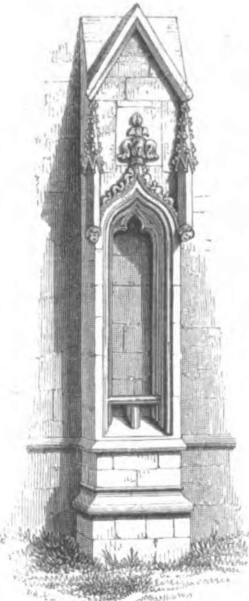
† Valor Eccl. See also p. 316.

\* For the above inscriptions at length, and an account of the later monuments,

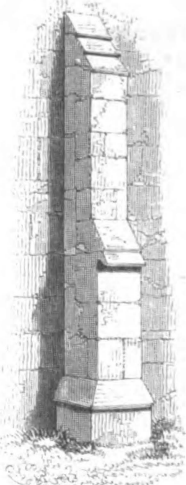
see Account of Great Milton by Rev. T. Ellis, Vicar. Oxford, Baxter, 1819.

tains a niche with a crocketed canopy, and a good finial ter-

mination; two buttresses of the south aisle have similar niches. The parapet of the nave and aisles are perfect, or nearly so, with the gurgoyles remaining on the parvise and south aisle, which are Decorated work. The buttresses of the north aisle are in good condition, of two sets off; the Chancel buttresses are also of two sets off. A bold base-



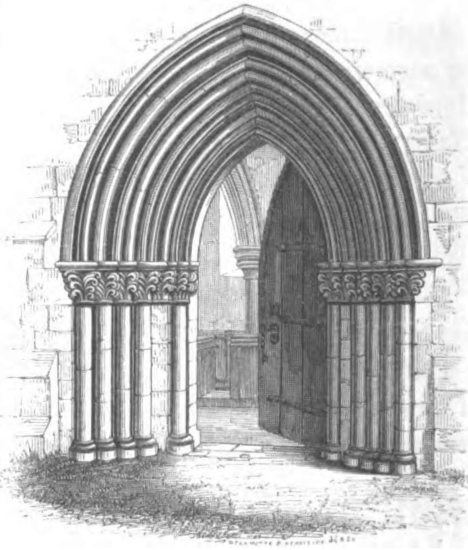
Buttress of South Aisle



Buttress of Chancel

the aisles, but is not continued through the Chancel.

The priest's door is Early English, with chamfered edges to the jambs. The parapet of the Chancel is low and most likely placed on with the later roof. On the east gable of the nave are the mutilated remains of the sanctus bell-cot. In the north wall is a good Early English doorway, with a very rich suit of mould-

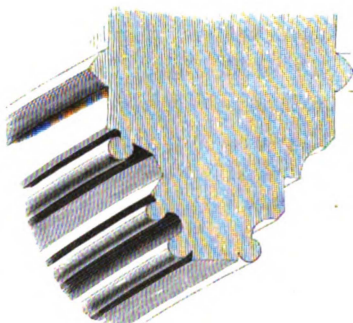


The North Doorway

MOULDINGS.



Arch of the Nave.



Chancel Arch.



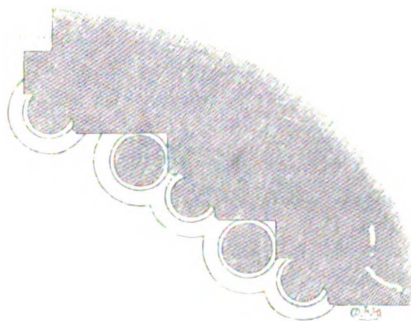
Capital and Base of a Pillar in the Nave



Arch of the North Doorway



Parapet and Ground Table of the South Aisle



Lands of the North Trisway

ings, but it has been sadly mutilated, and the greater part of the ornament defaced. The tower is Perpendicular, square, and solid, rising in three stages, with a stair-turret on the north side. It contains eight bells, all modern. The inscriptions are—

1. "I as treble begin." 2 and 4. "Ellis and Henry Knight of Reading made mee, 1673." 3. "I as third ring, 1631." 5. "Prosperity to this parish, J. R. 1771." 6. "Fear God, Honour the King, 1771." 7. "Thomas Rudall, Gloucester, Founder, 1771." 8. (Great bell) "I to Church the living call, and to the grave do summons." 9. (Little bell.) "1825," and names of C.W.

#### ARMS IN MILTON CHURCH.

THE arms which were formerly in the windows of this Church no longer exist except in the records of the herald and the antiquary. In the note-book<sup>b</sup> of Richard Lee, Portcullis Pursuivant, who visited this Church A.D. 1574, are traced four coats, which, about eighty years later, are thus blazoned by Anthony à Wood<sup>l</sup>.

I. Barry neb. Argent and Gules, a bend Azure.

II. Argent, four barrulets Gules; on a canton of the second, a mullet (six points) of the first.

III. Gules, on a cheveron Argent, three lioncels rampant Azure<sup>k</sup>.

IV. Barry neb. Argent and Gules.

The first of these is the coat of Sir Roger D'Amory<sup>l</sup>, lord of Blechingdon and Woodperry, Oxon, who, upon his marriage with Elizabeth, third daughter of Gilbert de Clare, surnamed the Red, Earl of Gloucester, had a grant from her uncle, King Edward II., A.D. 1319, of the manor of Holton, Oxon<sup>m</sup>.

The second is the coat of William Wace<sup>n</sup>, whose daughter Helen was married to Richard de Louches, and shared with him the privilege of an altar-tomb in Milton Church. (See pp. 314, 315, 317.)

The fourth is in the Roll of Ed. II. attributed to Sir Richard D'Amory, Oxon, nephew to Sir Roger, who was lord of Bucknell, and adhered to the royal party, while his uncle combined with the barons against the two Despensers. He departed this life A.D. 1330<sup>o</sup>.

<sup>b</sup> Wood's MS. D. 14. Ash. Mus.

<sup>l</sup> Ibid., E. I.

<sup>k</sup> Lee mentions that the lions were guttée Or.

<sup>l</sup> Glover's Ordinary, and the quarterings of Power of Blechingdon, Visitat. of Oxon. Q. Coll. MS. See also Roll of Edward II. by Sir N. H. Nicolas, where,

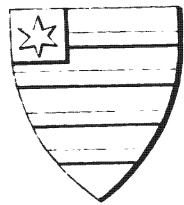
however, the bend is blazoned Sable.

<sup>m</sup> Account of Dorchester Abbey Church, p. 121, Appendix.

<sup>n</sup> See Roll, Ed. II., by Sir N. H. Nicolas.

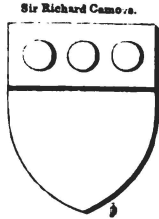
<sup>o</sup> Bp. Kennett sub anno. That the bearing Barr. neb. of Lee and à Wood is the same as Wavy ("Oundée") of earlier

Sir William Wace.





On a corbel at the north-east of the south aisle is sculptured a coat of arms not noticed by Lee or à Wood, and without any traces of colour; but it certainly is that of Sir Richard Camoys, lord of Great Milton, &c., A.D. 1416 (see p. 315), to which date the shape of the shield exactly corresponds. The blazon is Or, on a chief Gules, three plates<sup>p</sup>. These arms are now quartered by the Right Honourable Thomas Stonor, of Stonor, Baron Camoys, who descends from Margaret, Sir Richard's eldest daughter married to Ralph Radmylde, Esq., of Sussex<sup>q</sup>. The encaustic tile near the rood-screen (p. 308) is connected with Thomas Chaucer, Esq., of Ewelme, one of the feoffees of Sir Richard Camoys (p. 315): his mother was a Roet; his wife the daughter of Sir John Burghersh.



Sir Richard Camoys.

The four shields of the Edgerley monument, now much defaced, are—  
I. Argent, on a chevron between three cinquefoils Gules, as many bezants, Edgerley.

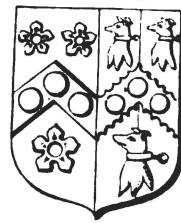
II. Edgerley: *quartering*, Gules, a buck's face cabossed Or.

III. Edgerley: *impaling*, Per pale, Gules and Sable, on a chevron engrailed between three grey-



hounds' heads erased Argent, collared<sup>r</sup> and ringed at the back Gules, three hurts, Belson.

This coat represents the match between Robert Edgerley, of Great Milton, and Catherine, daughter of Thomas Belson, of

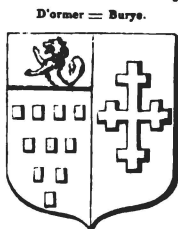


Edgerley = Belson.

Aston Rowant, Oxon<sup>s</sup>, in the reign of Henry VIII.

IV. Edgerley: *quartering*, Belson.

Of the profusion of arms on the D'ormer monument, the two shields which immediately relate to the effigies are—



D'ormer = Burye.

I. Azure, ten billets 4, 3, 2, 1 Or; on a chief of the second, a demi-lion rampant issuant Sable, D'ormer: *impaling*, Vert, a cross crosslet Or, Burye.

This coat represents the match between Ambrose D'ormer, Esq.,



D'ormer = Hawtree.

heralds is proved by the account given in Wood's MSS. E. I. and D. 14. of shield still remaining at Dorchester. See plates of arms, fig. 47, in account of Dorchester Church, Oxon.

<sup>p</sup> See Rolls of Hen. III., Ed. II., and

Ed. III., by Sir N. H. Nicolas.

<sup>q</sup> See p. 316; also Burke's Peerage and Lodge's Genealogy.

<sup>r</sup> Wood says "collared Or."

<sup>s</sup> See Visitat. of Oxon, A.D. 1574, and the inscription, p. 308.

of Great Milton, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and Jane, one of the daughters and heirs of James Burye, Esq., of Hampton Poyle, Oxon<sup>t</sup>.

II. D'ormer: *impaling*, Argent, four lions passant in bend between four cotises Sable crowned Or, Hawtree.

Sir Michael D'ormer, son of Ambrose D'ormer, Esq., married Dorothea, daughter of William Hawtree, Esq.<sup>u</sup>

### HISTORICAL NOTICES.

THE parish of Milton includes the villages of Great and Little Milton, with the hamlets of Ascot and Chilworth.

A.D. 1087. 18 King William I. Milton is reported in the Domesday Survey as part of the lands of the Bishop of Lincoln.

A.D. 1272. 1 Edw. I. The Hundred Rolls of this reign contain several particulars respecting Milton, of which the following appear to be the most important:—Milton. Dominus Johannes de Clifford tenet feodos ij militum de domino Episcopo Lincolniensi in capite de manerio de Thame faciendo inde sectam hundredo et scutagium et habet in domnico iij carucatas terre cum j molendino. . . . Liberi tenentes:—Item, Magister Oliverus prebendarius ecclesie tenet in villa de Milton tres carucatas terre de domino Episcopo Lincolniensi de manerio de Thame quas quidem iij carucatas terre Episcopus Lincolniensis nomine Alexander dedit ecclesie Lincolniensi in puram et perpetuam elemosinam nichil faciendo inde domino Regi neque Episcopo . . . . Item Abbas Dorkecestrie tenet j virgatum terre per servicium scutagii et idem Abbas tenet XX acras terre in puram et perpetuam elemosinam.

1291. 19 Edw. I. In the taxation of Pope Nicholas is the following:

Decanatus de Cudesdon.

Ecclesia de Milton' Prebendalis	-	-	xlii.	} Magistri J. de Mu- nemawe.	
Vicar ejusdem	-	-	-		vj <sup>li</sup> .
Prebenda consistens in Laico feodo ibidem	-	-	xlvi <sup>li</sup> .		xiiij <sup>s</sup> . ivd.

A.D. 1300. 28 Edw. I. Willielmus Ingge tenet de eodem (sc. epō Linc.) tertiam partem ij feod' militum in Milton, fecit homagium apud parcum Stowe.

Ricardus de Louche tenet ij partes duorum feodorum militum, fecit homagium apud Dorcestriam in vigilia Sancti Jacobi anno regni regis Edwardi XXVIII.

John de Fendus tenet 1 feodum militis in Escote<sup>x</sup>.

<sup>t</sup> Inscriptions on the D'ormer monument. ing to the Bishop of Lincoln, A.D. 1300. MS. in the archives of Queen's College.

<sup>u</sup> Ibid.

<sup>x</sup> Leiger Book of the manors belong-

Richard de Louches, here mentioned, is certified, A.D. 1316, as one of the lords of the townships of Milton, Baldon St. Lawrence, Baldon Toot, Baldon Marsh, and Little Baldon, all in the county of Oxford; and in the year 1321, 15 Edw. II., was one of the followers of Sir Roger d'Amory against the Despensers<sup>7</sup>.

A.D. 1343. 15 Edw. III. Decanatus de Cotesdon:—Milton, Ecclesia parochialis ejusdem cum omnibus suis porcionibus taxatur ad xlvi<sup>li</sup>. cujus nona predicta assed' ad xxx<sup>li</sup>.

A.D. 1416. 4 Hen. V. By a deed dated at Great Milton, the Monday next before the Feast of St. John the Baptist, Sir Robert Poynges, Sir William Lisle, Thomas Chaucer, Esq., William, Parson of the Church of Tratton, Sussex, Gilbert Machon, and John Warefield, as feoffees of Sir Richard Camoys, granted and demised to his relict Joan a manor called Ingescourte<sup>a</sup>, in Great Milton, with all lands, tenements, &c. in Great and Little Milton, Great and Little Chelworth, the manors of Kinseye, Tithorp, with appurtenances, the manor of Chakenden, and advowson of the Church of Chakenden, the manor of Chiselhampton, with lands and tenements in Bensyngton, to hold during her life, with remainder to the right heirs of her late husband, Sir Richard Camoys. The deed mentions John, Ralph, and Hugh, as sons of the late Richard. The witnesses are Thomas de Stonore, Reginald Barentyn, John Cottesmore, William Bruly, William Baldyngdon<sup>a</sup>.

<sup>7</sup> Parl. Writs by Sir F. Palgrave, vol. ii. div. 3. p. 1119.

<sup>a</sup> So called from William Inge, or Ingge, who did his homage A.D. 1300, and died seized of a third part of Milton A.D. 1322. See Parl. Writs, by Sir F. Palgrave, vol. i. p. 299, and Esc. 15 Edw. II.

<sup>a</sup> Bishop Kennett sub anno. Ex chartul. de Boarstall. Sir Richard Camoys, by a deed bearing date May 25th, in the same year, had enfeoffed Sir Robert Poynges, and the others in the above, together with other possessions, in Ewelme, Tuffield, Nettibold, Waceswoode, Mongehamwoode, Shephurstes londes. The following document of the reign of Henry VI. shews the descent of most of these possessions, and serves to illustrate the history of Milton and other neighbouring places in several important particulars.

“Linea Ricardi Camoys militis quo-

modo sit rectus heres Gilberti Wace Ch. Memorandum quod anno Domini millesimo CCLXII<sup>to</sup> (Willielmus) Wace armiger et Elena uxor ejus fuerunt seisiti de omnibus terris vocatis Waceslondes in com. Oxon. Qui quidem (Willielmus) et Elena habuerunt exitum inter se. viz. Hugonem Willielmum Johannem Humfridum Thomam Johannem Isabellam Elenam, Radulfum et Thomam. Et predictus Willielmus filius predicti Willielmi supervixit. Et predicta Elena maritata fuit Ricardo Louches militi de Milton. Et predicti Hugo Johannes Humfridus Thomas Johannes Isabella Radulfus et Thomas oberunt sine heredibus de corporibus suis procreatis Et predictus Willielmus filius Willielmi Et Cecilia uxor ejus habuerunt exitum inter se viz. Gilbertum Wace militem Agnetam Matildam Sibillam et Margaretam. Et predictae Agn. Mat. Sib. et Marg. oberunt sine heredibus de corporibus procreatis et predictus Gilbertus supervixit. Et predictus Gilbertus et Nicholaa uxor ejus fuerunt seisiti de terris predictis et nullum habuerunt exitum et dictus Gilbertus supervixit predictam Nicholaam et obit seisitus de

A.D. 1422. 5 Hen. VI. Sir William Dugdale mentions that the manor of Whateley, Oxon, also descended to the Camoys family from the Louches, (see note<sup>a</sup>), and that Hugh Camoys the son of Richard, at length succeeded to the manor of Great Milton, called "Camoys manor," but died soon after within age and without issue, leaving his inheritance to be divided between his two sisters, Margaret the wife of Ralph Redmilde, and Alianore the wife of Roger Lewknore. The said Ralph and Roger accordingly did homage for their respective shares, 5 Hen. VI.<sup>b</sup>

A.D. 1535. 26 Hen. VIII. The following is a brief abstract of the return in the Valor Ecclesiasticus.

Of the two prebends in Lincoln cathedral, derived out of Great Milton, that which was endowed with the appropriation of the church, being held by Thomas Baddell or Bedel, who is called the rector, amounted at that time to the clear yearly value xxxiiij<sup>l</sup>. xvij<sup>s</sup>. vj<sup>d</sup>. The other prebend, consisting of temporal possessions alone, viz. the manor-farm of Romeyns in Great Milton, called Romeyns Courte, with all lands in the aforesaid Milton called copyholds, was held by Dr. London, and upon his decease during the survey, by James Courtop. It was rented under a lease of sixty years granted Feb. 12th A.D. 1517 by Philip Morgan then prebendary, to Robert Edgerley, and amounted to the clear yearly value<sup>c</sup> xxiv<sup>l</sup>. The receipts of John Fyscher, vicar, were xv<sup>l</sup>.

terris predictis cujus propinquior heres est Ricardus Camoys miles filius Thome Camoys militis et Elisabeth uxoris ejus filie et heredis Willielmi Louches de Milton filii et heredis Johannis Louches de Milton filii et heredis predicti Ricardi Louches militis de Milton et predictæ Elene filie predicti Willielmi Wace militis uxoris predicti Ricardi Louches." From the Boarstall chartulary, a transcript of the reign of Henry VI., kindly communicated by Sir Thomas Digby Aubrey, Bart.

Sir Gilbert Wace, above mentioned, departed this life A.D. 1408, and was

buried at Dorchester. See Account of Dorchester Church, p. 133, 134.

<sup>b</sup> Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 768. Thomas Lord Camoys, the father of Sir Richard, deceased, A.D. 1421.

<sup>c</sup> By the above extract, as well that from the Taxation of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291, it appears that Great Milton has from very early times furnished two prebends to the cathedral of Lincoln. The following are the names of some of the earlier Prebendaries:—

Prebendaries of "Milton Church."

1. John de Monmouth	- - - - -	A.D. 1290
2. Gilbert Segrave, Bishop of London	- - - - -	1296
3. Galliard de Mota, Archdeacon of Oxford, and Precentor of Chichester	- - - - -	1312
4. Hugo Cardinalis, Sanctæ Mariæ in porticu	- - - - -	1365
5. Francis Cardinal de Sabina	- - - - -	1372
6. Walter Skirlow, Bishop of Bath and Wells	- - - - -	1396
7. Richard de Scroop, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry	- - - - -	1386
8. Andrew Barret	- - - - -	1389

A.D. 1542. John Leland the great antiquary, who was at this date rector of Haseley, thus records his visit to Great Milton.

“ From Haseley to Miltoun village half a mile, at this place, as I heard say, was many yeres syns a Priorie of Monkes : a selle, as one told me to Abingdon.

The House of the Priorie was by likelihood, wher the Farmer’s House is now, hard by the Chirch yard. For ther appere foundations of great buildinges.

Sum say that Monseir de Louches House was wher the Farmer’s House is<sup>d</sup>.

In the Chirch of Miltun is an Highe Tumbe of Fre Stone with the Image of a Knight and a Lady, with an Epitaphie in Frenche, declaring that Richard de Louches Chivalier and Helene his wife ly buried there<sup>e</sup>.

The Voice ther goith that Louche had the Priorie Land gyven hym. Louches Landes cam to Heires Generalls.

Of later Tymes Davers had this Lordship of one . . . . . Syr Regnald Bray boute it of Davers. The late Lord Bray sold it to Dormer Mair of London.

There is a prebend Land in Miltun longging to Lincoln. The Bishop of Lincoln is Patrone of the Chirch.

Prebendaries of “ Milton Manor.”

1. Richard Hannibal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1330
2. Manuel Flisco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1333
3. William Norwich	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1343
4. Thomas Bembre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1344
5. Hugh de St. Marshall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1345
6. Hugo Cardinalis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1365
7. Raymond Pelegrini	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1375

For the names of later Prebendaries see Account of Great Milton, by the Rev. T. Ellis, whence the above are taken.

<sup>d</sup> The Benedictines of Abingdon had possessions at Milton, Berks, as early as the Conquest, but that they had a cell at Great Milton, Oxon, is a supposition which, in the Monasticon and in Stevens’s Supplement, vol. i. p.127, is made to rest solely on the above passage in Leland, and is not borne out by the Hundred Rolls or Valor Ecclesiasticus. It is much more probable that the foundations hard by the church-yard were those of “ Monsieur de Louche’s House,” and that the only Priorie of Monkes at Great Milton

was connected with Lincoln Cathedral and the prebend “ Milton Ecclesia,” having their house on the site of the present rectorial farm, still called the “ Monkery ” or “ Monk’s Farm.”

<sup>e</sup> This tomb did not exist in Anthony à Wood’s time (1660), and was probably destroyed in the Great Rebellion, as Milton was a favourite residence of Thurloe, the secretary of Oliver Cromwell, and was frequently visited by the usurper himself. See Account of Great Milton, by the Rev. T. Ellis, Vicar, p.22.

There joynith unto Great Miltun, Little Miltoun, and there is a Chappelle of Ease dedicate to S. James<sup>f</sup>.”

No traces are now to be seen of the tomb of Richard de Louches and his Lady, to whom considerable interest is attached, as the persons of most rank and property residing at Milton during the time when the beautiful Church of St. Matthew was built. An altar-tomb with effigies at that early date, would warrant the supposition that they were considerable benefactors to the Church. By documents already quoted, it appears that this Richard de Louches did his homage A.D. 1300, that his wife Helene was the daughter of Sir William Wace, (of Ewelme,) and that the possessions of Louches, Inge, and Wace at length came to Sir Richard Camoys, who departed this life A.D. 1416, leaving a widow and three sons, the youngest of whom at length inherited, but dying soon after left the inheritance to be divided between his sisters Margaret and Alianore. This must nearly fill up the gap in Leland's account between Louches and Danvers, who sold the manor to Sir Reginald Bray. Sir Michael D'ormer who purchased it of the "late Lord Bray" was the son of Geoffrey D'ormer a woolstapler of Thame, Oxon, and was elected Lord Mayor of London in the year 1541. He was succeeded by his son Ambrose D'ormer, who died in the year 1566. Michael the eldest son of Ambrose, served under Robert Earl of Leicester and Sir Francis Vere in the low countries, received the honour of knighthood, and A.D. 1618, erected for himself, his wife, and his father, the monument in the south aisle of Milton Church. He was not however at the time of the erection of this monument, lord of the manors of Milton and its hamlets, having thirty years previously, at the beginning of his military career, sold them to Sir Michael Grene, by whom they were sold to the Lord Keeper Coventry. The manors of Great and Little Milton and Ascot, afterwards became the property of John Blackall, Esq., partly by virtue of family settlements and partly by purchase. They are now possessed by Walter Long, Esq.

John Milton the Poet is said to have descended from the proprietors of Milton, near Thame in Oxfordshire, one of whom forfeited his estate in the times of York and Lancaster<sup>g</sup>. The house which is reputed to have been occupied by the ancestors of the poet is still standing, with mullioned windows and pointed roofs, opposite to the village well. This house, with its original garden wall, and an outbuilding of similar character, affords an interesting specimen of domestic architecture, but cannot be assigned to a date much earlier than A.D. 1600.

In the fields on the opposite side of the road is the rectorial farmhouse, which was completely modernised, and a subterraneous passage

<sup>f</sup> Lel. Itin., vol. ii. p. 10.      <sup>g</sup> Fenton and Dr. Johnson, quoted by Rev. T. Ellis.

destroyed, at the time that Sir John Aubrey, Bart., of Dorton House, Bucks, was lessee, but the premises are still known by the name of Monks Farm. The old manor-farm to the north-west of the Church, still retains the name of Romeyns Court. By the operation of the late Act of Parliament, the two Prebends in Lincoln cathedral, still called Milton Church and Milton manor, to which these belonged, are now deprived of their revenues and patronage, the vicarage has been slightly augmented to its present value £223. per annum, and placed in the patronage of the Bishop of Oxford.

J. B.

## LITTLE MILTON.

PATRON.	St. James,	DEANERY
P. C.	Apostle and Martyr.	OF CUDDSDEN.
THE BISHOP OF		HUNDRED
OXFORD.		OF THAME.

THE Chapel of Ease at Little Milton dedicated to St. James which was standing in Leland's time, after having been completely destroyed for about two hundred years, has happily been replaced by a Church of good design, consecrated by the Right Hon. Richard Bagot, Lord Bishop of Oxford, on the 4th of June, A.D. 1844, to which Little Milton with Ascot is now attached, as a separate district and a perpetual curacy, value £95, in the gift of the Rev. Thomas Ellis, vicar of Great Milton, for life, but afterwards to be in the patronage of the Bishop of Oxford.

Dr. Plot in his Natural History of Oxfordshire, has described a British coin of Prasutagus the husband of Boadicea which was dug up at Little Milton.

Among the notes of the Rev. Thomas Delafield, Vicar of Great Milton, A.D. 1737, are the following statements.

“Mr. Eustace of Little Milton, hath an orchard in Little Milton planted by his father, in all his writings called Abbot's close. . . . The Chappel yard at Little Milton, now called Chappel Heys, hath had even of late some human bones dug up there. And Mr. Paul Wildgoose, in the year 1748, in digging the foundation for a granary, lighted upon the bones of a human skeleton.”

The Abbot's close, belonging to Mr. Eustace, was no doubt part of the lands of the abbot of Dorchester mentioned in the Hundred Rolls, and given to that abbey, A.D. 1272, by William le Sage and Roesia his wife<sup>a</sup>. The statement of Mr. Delafield with respect to the Chapel yard, appears sufficient to determine the ancient site of the House of God in this place, and is confirmed by the discovery in "Chapel Heys," the farm-yard nearly opposite to the present Church, of fragments of a font and piscina, now placed in the north wall of the new chancel. A cross formerly stood in the centre of the village, but has been taken down since A.D. 1825. In the hamlet of Ascot are some ruins of the D'ormer mansion, but every vestige of the neighbouring chapel has been ruthlessly destroyed, and its site is now only marked by a weather-beaten elm twenty-one feet in girth, which stood at the west end, and is still called the "Chapel Tree."



ASCOT CHAPEL. OXON.

We are indebted to the taste and skill of Charles Ellis, Esq., of Great Milton, for the above sketch of this interesting building, taken A.D. 1811, from which time it continued standing entire, with the exception of the roofs, till 1823, when it was pulled down, and the stones, including the foundations, were afterwards fetched away *as wanted*. It would appear that the chapel was built soon after A.D. 1200, and that several additions were made in the Decorated period.

J. B.

<sup>a</sup> Fin. Oxon. 56 Hen III., quoted in Account of Dorchester Abbey Church, p. 139.



# NEWINGTON.

PATRON.  
ARCHBISHOP  
OF  
CANTERBURY.

St. Giles.

DEANERY  
OF CUDESSEN.  
HUNDRED  
OF EWELME.



THE general character of this Church is Decorated, with some portions of other styles. It has a Chancel, nave, and north transept or chapel, with a tower and spire at the west end.

The Chancel.—The east window is Decorated, of three lights, with flowing tracery, the hood and jamb mouldings having much of the Perpendicular character: on the south side are two good Decorated windows of two lights, the tracery trefoiled and cusped: on the north side the easternmost window is Perpendicular, square-headed, of two lights; the western is an Early English lancet, with the original string beneath, but not con-

tinued. In the south wall of the Chancel is an arched recess, probably the tomb of the restorer of the Church in the fourteenth century; the arch is low, foliated and moulded, with open cusps. There is a plainly-cusped piscina, square-headed, of which the shelf and water-drain have been recently restored: the priest's door, on the north side, is pointed, with chamfered edges to the jambs.

The Chancel-arch appears to be of the fourteenth century; the mouldings are plain, and die on the surface of the side piers; it has no hoodmould over. The remains of a good Early Perpendicular rood-screen, repaired and beautified in King George the Third's time, having the royal arms at the top, divide the Chancel from the nave: the latter has, on the south side, one Decorated window of two lights; there are also, with one Perpendicular window of little character, two modern insertions.

The south door, within a modern porch, is Norman, but the jambs or sides have been completely destroyed, and the arch mouldings left as a hoodmould over, with two heads, of Edward the Third's time, supporting them, carved out of the capitals or upper parts of the old Norman work: they give a singular and displeasing appearance to the whole, but shew, perhaps, in the only way that could be adopted, the desire to preserve the upper part of the old door, when the lower was entirely destroyed or defaced. The remains of a Norman door are visible on the north side, but it is now stopped up.



South Door.

The side chapel or transept opens into the nave by a plain arch, recessed on both sides, and was added, apparently, in the fourteenth century: the windows are Decorated, and the whole has the general character of this date.

The Font, which is very large, is of the round form, quite plain, and apparently of the early part of the thirteenth century.

All the roofs inside are ceiled, and there are no windows on the north side of the nave. There are a few scattered remains of painted glass. In the south windows of the Chancel are two small medallions of the fourteenth century. The Per-



Font.

pendicular window on the north side of the Chancel is nearly full of late glass, but the subjects are in much confusion; in the easternmost light between two other figures, nimbed and regally crowned, is a figure of our Saviour, shewing the five wounds, and wearing the crown of thorns, nimbed, and attended by Angels, one of whom supports a regal crown. On either side is a figure, likewise regally crowned, and nimbed. The dresses of our Saviour and the other figures are nearly similar, being tunics of blue with edged alb and offray. Below this group is a figure of an ecclesiastic kneeling on a chequered ground and praying, having on, the amice and scapulary; on a scroll issuing above his head, can be traced "Gloria Æterno Patri et Christo \* \* in perpetuum, Amen." In the other light is represented the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin.

Against the north wall of the Chancel is an alabaster monument, with busts of Walter Dunch and his wife Mary in shrouds, erected A.D. 1650; under these are the arms of Dunch, Sable, on a chevron between three towers, triple-towered Argent, a crescent of the field: *impaling* Hungerford, Sable, two bars Argent, in chief three plates: above the monument is a wooden tablet, ornamented with arms and other devices. There is another monument against the east wall to Henry Dunch,

Esq., who died A.D. 1686. "In a chapel on the north side is a stone on the ground, whereon, in brass, are the pictures of two women, and under them this inscription—Hic jacet Alicia quondam uxor Willielmi Skyrmote, et Maria uxor Johannis Skyrmote filii dictorum Willielmi et Aliciæ quæ quidam Maria obiit duodecimo die mensis Julii Anno Domini MCCCCLXIII quorum animabus propitietur &c.<sup>a</sup>" This monument is not now visible, and is perhaps concealed by the floor of the pew.

The exterior of the Church is covered with roughcast, the work of some churchwarden, A.D. 1776, and some other churchwarden had previously, A.D. 1743, put up a sun-dial on the east gable; it consequently would have a very meagre appearance but for the stone spire, the only one in this part of the Deanery. The Chancel has only buttresses to the east wall; these are angular and low, with the string-course continued round them. The lower stage of the tower is Early English, with the upper part and spire Decorated. From some settlement of the foundations it hangs over considerably, and at the north-west corner a large Perpendicular buttress has been added, corresponding in some measure with the one at the south-west corner. The lower windows are lancet, but those in the bell-chamber are Decorated, of two lights. The spire, which is rather heavy, has a low parapet, and for security has been braced by irons, which have an ugly appearance on the outside. On the east side is a spire-light, which probably served for the sanctus bell, and now holds the small bell. Within the steeple are four bells, bearing the following inscriptions:—

1. "Sancta Maria ora pro nobis<sup>b</sup>."
2. "Oure hope is in the lorde. 1592. R \* E."
3. "Henri Knight made this bell. 1608."
4. "Richard Peploe, William Wilmott, churchwardens. 1719. A.R."

JOSEPH CLARKE.

<sup>a</sup> Wood's MS. Ash. Mus. E. I.

date as the glass in the north window of the Chancel.

<sup>b</sup> This bell is probably not earlier than the sixteenth century, about the same

## HISTORICAL NOTICES.

A.D. 997 Elgive the Queen gave the two manors of Newington and Brightwell to the Church of Canterbury, free from all secular service, except the threefold necessity<sup>c</sup>. “Anno Dominicæ incarnationis Ego Elgiua Ymma regina concedo ecclesiæ Christi terram nomine Niwentune et Brutewell liberam ab omni seculari servitio, exceptis expeditione, pontis et arcis constructione. Ista terra in regione de Oxoneford. Ego quoque contuli eidem ecclesiæ Christi calicem cum patena aurea in quo sunt xij marcæ de puro auro, et duo dorsalia de pallio et duas capps de pallio cum tassellis auro paratis<sup>d</sup>.”

A.D. 1080. 14 William I. The Archbishop of Canterbury holds Newton. It was and is the property of the Church. Robert de Oilgi holds one hide and Roger one hide. In the time of King Edward it was worth xi<sup>li</sup>. now xv<sup>li</sup>.<sup>e</sup>

A.D. 1272. 1 Ed. I. In this reign the Prior and Convent of the Holy Trinity in Canterbury, held under the Archbishop, the manor of Nywenton, with the hamlets Brochampton, Brittwell, and Berewyk<sup>f</sup>.

A.D. 1535. 26 Hen. VIII. The clear receipts of Christ Church, Canterbury, from the manor of Newenton, Oxon, were xxxij*l*. ix*s*. vij*d*.<sup>g</sup>

The living of Newington is now a Rectory, with the chapel of Brightwell<sup>h</sup> annexed, in the gift of the Archbishop of Canterbury, value £360; population, by the last census, 471. It was formerly in the peculiar jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and in the deanery of Monks Risborough, Bucks, the manor of which place was given to the Church of Canterbury and Elfric, Archbishop, A.D. 995, by Escwin, Bishop of Dorchester<sup>c</sup>.

<sup>c</sup> Bp. Kennett, vol. i. p. 61.

<sup>d</sup> Script. R. Twysden, p. 2222. See also Gervase Dorob. sub anno. Dugd. Mon. N. E. p. 83, and Wood's MS. E. I.

<sup>e</sup> Domesday Survey, p. 155.

<sup>f</sup> Hundred Rolls. The Cathedral at Canterbury was dedicated to St. Saviour by St. Augustine, to the Holy Trinity when restored by Archbishop Lanfranc, and afterwards it was called by its present

name, Christ Church. Somner, p. 155—159.

<sup>g</sup> Val. Ecc., vol. i. p. 16.

<sup>h</sup> The chapel at Brightwell Prior is a little Early English building, with some remains of Norman work. It has recently been restored with some care, but unhappily without professional superintendance.

# DRAYTON.

**PATRON.**  
CHRIST CHURCH,  
OXFORD.

**St. Catherine.**

**DEANERY**  
**OF CUDESSEN.**  
**HUNDRED**  
**OF DORCHESTER.**

	FT.	IN.		FT.	IN.
Chancel . . . . .	23	9	by	14	9
Nave . . . . .	45	3	by	17	5
North Chapel . . .	17	4	by	13	10

A SMALL plain Church having a Chancel, nave, a chapel on the north side, and a wooden tower over the west gable. The Chancel is Decorated: the tracery of the east window, which is much mutilated, is of three lights, plain, and not cusped. On the south side the windows are square-headed, of two lights; on the north side is a window of one light, trefoiled and cusped, in which is a fragment of fifteenth century glass, representing a bishop with a staff in the left hand, and a large chain hanging from the right, which is raised as in the act of blessing; this is by village tradition reported to be St. Leonard<sup>a</sup>.

The piscina on the south side with the drain remains perfect, and opposite to this are the traces of an aumbrie, near which are two corbel-heads, probably of the fourteenth century, but defaced.

The Chancel-arch is quite plain. In the nave are the remains of Norman and Early English work. On the north side is a Norman door now stopped, and an early window with very

<sup>a</sup> St. Leonard or Lienard was a French nobleman who in the flower of his age took the religious habit at St. Mesmins in the territory of Orleans, and afterwards became a hermit in a forest four leagues from Limoges. This Saint was most re-

markable for his charity, towards captives and prisoners: he departed this life A.D. 599.—ALBAN BUTLER. See also Catalogue of the emblems of Saints, *Archæological Journal*, vol. i. p. 58.

deeply splayed sill. The south doorway is Norman, quite plain; the door is later, with rounded shoulder inserted. The south windows are square-headed, Perpendicular, of two lights. The west window is Early English, of one light. The chapel on the north opens into the nave by two arches of unequal size, the chamfers dying into the wall, supported in the centre by a circular pier with moulded cap and base of the thirteenth century. It has one small Early English window, and a square-headed Perpendicular window of two lights in the north wall. There is also a corbel-head in this wall similar to those in the Chancel.

The roofs are all concealed by plaster ceilings.

The Font is Perpendicular, but appears to have been altered from its original form.

On the Chancel-arch are now the arms of King George II., which a few years back were placed beneath the arch, as was usual at the time of their being ordered. A few tiles remain, and a portion of the original open seats are perfect.

On the east gable of the nave is the base of a large sanctus bell-turret, against which is now a sun-dial. The present wooden tower is partly carried on the base of the original bell-turret, which must have been made for more than one bell.

There are now three bells. The oldest (broken) bears the inscription *Sancta Katerina ora pro nobis*, with three stamps; one of which consists of a cross fleurée, with the words *Thy mercy lady help*, distributed in the spaces.

The next, (cracked) ✠ *Henri Knight made mee 1603.*

The third bell, *Our hope is in the Lord 1625.*

## . HISTORICAL NOTICES.

This place was formerly the seat of the Draytons, of which family Sir John Drayton, who departed this life A.D. 1411, and Richard Drayton, Esq., (1450,) were honoured with sepulture and brass effigies in the south aisle of Dorchester Abbey Church<sup>b</sup>. Others of the family had monuments in Drayton Church, as appears by two coats of arms, recorded as existing there A.D. 1574, in the note-book of R. Lee, the herald<sup>c</sup>. One of them, Azure, a bend between six cross crosslets fitché Or, Drayton: *quartering* Ermine, two bars, and in chief a demi-lion, Gules, Segrave: Crest a Saracen's head, as in the annexed engraving, is accompanied by the remark "John Drayton very ancient." The other coat consists of the same arms *impaled by*, Ermine, a fess Vairée Gules and Or; within a border engrailed, Sable; Crest the Saracen's head as before.



Drayton was one of the twelve Churches within the jurisdiction or "Peculiar" of Dorchester abbey, to which house the rectory was inappropriate. The value of the rectory of Drayton, A.D. 1536, was xj<sup>li</sup>, and was let to Richard Molyners at will<sup>d</sup>. It is now a perpetual curacy in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, population 327.

The village feast is held on the 24th of November, the eve of St. Catherine<sup>e</sup>, virgin and martyr, new style.

<sup>b</sup> See Acct. of Dorchester Church, p. 131—3.

<sup>c</sup> Wood's MS. D. 14.

<sup>d</sup> Roll 29 Hen. VIII. Augmentation Office, and records in Exchequer quoted

in Acct. of Dorchester Church, pp. 92, 164.

<sup>e</sup> The sign of the village inn at the edge of the river Thame is the Wheel of St. Catherine.



# STADHAMPTON.

PATRON.  
CHARLES PEERS, Esq.

St. John Baptist.

DEANERY  
OF CUDESSEN.  
HUNDRED  
OF DORCHESTER.

	FT.	IN.	by	FT.	IN.
Chancel . . . . .	19	6		12	6
Nave . . . . .	41	0		19	6
North Aisle . . . . .	41	0		8	0

THE Church at Stadhampton is in a debased style, with the exception of the north aisle, which is Perpendicular. The tower is modern.

The Chancel is raised two steps; the east window of three lights exhibits the last ray of that feeling which pervaded the purer styles of Christian architecture, the outer or upper moulding of the head being cusped, whilst the inside form is elliptical. In the north wall is a window of two lights, not cusped at all, and on the south side one of two lights and another of one, similar to the east window, having a priest's door between them. The Chancel-arch is splayed on to plain caps, which appear to have been intended to be moulded, the ceiling is plastered; the nave is divided from the north aisle by three arches on piers with plainly moulded caps; the pulpit and reading desk bear the date "I. P. 1611." Some clumsy seats of "1636" remain in the nave, but placed much closer than originally. The roof is plastered, and tied in by beams. In the east wall of the north aisle is a Perpendicular window of two lights, and near this a bracket for a light, or an image. On the north are three low two-light windows, of the same date. The north door is now stopped.

In this aisle is a brass with the figures of a man and woman, and the following inscription, *Pray for the souls of John & El.*

mot y<sup>e</sup> yonger and Alys his wyfe which John died xxi day of August the yere of oure Lord M. cccc. lviij<sup>o</sup>. There is also a brass plate in the Chancel to the memory of Dorothy Clarke, who died A.D. 1645.

The Font is plain, round, and has the staple holes remaining.

Over the Chancel-arch are the arms of Queen Elizabeth, carved on a wooden tablet, with the motto "Reginæ erunt nutrices tuæ." These however were not originally placed in this Church. There is also an old parish chest. The Church is much disfigured by a raised pew in the north aisle, and a singers' gallery at the west end of the nave. In the latter is a small but remarkably sweet toned organ made by a former curate. In the tower are four bells, each inscribed, "Henry Knight made mee 1621."

## CHISELHAMPTON.

At the close of the last century when the old manor-house near the banks of the river Thame was pulled down in order to be built in a more eligible situation, the Church was also subjected to removal. The present building, consecrated Aug. 22, A.D. 1763, and dedicated to St. Catherine, has a bell-turret such as is usually placed on stables, large round-headed windows in the front toward the road, but none in the back or end walls, and is, notwithstanding its neat and trim appearance, a sad instance of departure from all the proprieties of Church architecture. The vane is pierced with the name of St. Catherine, the patron saint<sup>a</sup>.

The only building of any antiquity now remaining in the village is the bridge over the Thame, with angular buttresses on the upper side to stem the force of the current below, and afford recesses above for the convenience of foot passengers.

<sup>a</sup> The former Church is said to have been dedicated to St. Mary, in Bacon's Liber Regis.

## HISTORICAL NOTICES.

Stadhampton and Chiselhampton, which as early as the reign of Henry VIII. were vulgarly called Stodham<sup>b</sup> and Chisilton<sup>c</sup>, and ecclesiastically united, were formerly within the jurisdiction or "Peculiar" of Dorchester Abbey, to which house the impropriate rectory belonged. At the Dissolution the Rectory and Parish Church of Stodham and Chiselhampton were let on a lease of thirty-one years, beginning from the 2nd of May, A.D. 1534, to Thomas Reade, at a yearly rent of xvij<sup>d</sup> vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> payable at the Feasts of the Nativity of St. John Baptist, Michael the Archangel, Nativity of our Lord, and Annunciation of the Blessed Mary<sup>d</sup>.

From the following notice of Anthony à Wood, it would appear that Chiselhampton is an abbreviation of a still longer name.

"From Sir Robert Chevacheeshull of Hampton near to Dorchester, in com. Oxon. temp. Hen. III. and his ancestors that probably there lived, the said town of Hampton was called Chevacheeshull-Hampton and Chislington<sup>e</sup>." A.D. 1416. Sir Richard Camoys, son of Thomas, Lord Camoys, was lord of the manor of Chiselhampton<sup>f</sup>. In the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries this was a seat of a branch of the ancient family of D'Oyley<sup>g</sup>.

The period when the property changed hands may be inferred from the following singular entry in the parish register.

"Mem. March 20. 174<sup>g</sup>."

I enter this to acquaint my successors that the stipend for Chisleton and Stadham curacy was ever till this day ten shillings a Sunday and a Dinner for myself and care of my Horse. But now Sir John D'Oyley being obliged to sell the Chisleton Estate, in order to make more of it, has refused to give any more than twenty Pounds a year and obliges me to take care of myself and Horse. This is Sir John's own Declaration.

This I attest to be literally true.

John Bilstone

Curate of Chisleton."

From the above-named Sir John D'Oyley, the manor, estate, and advowson of Chiselhampton, with lands in Stadhampton, passed to Charles Peers, Esq., who built a new Church at his own expense, and it is only to be regretted that so liberal an outlay should have taken place at a time when the proprieties of Church architecture were so little understood. By the munificence of this gentleman and his successors, the living has been augmented from £20 to £135, being now in the gift of Charles Peers, Esq., of Chiselhampton House, and styled the "Perpetual Curacy of Chiselhampton with Stadhampton."

<sup>b</sup> Records of Augmentation Office.

Abbey Church, p. 165.

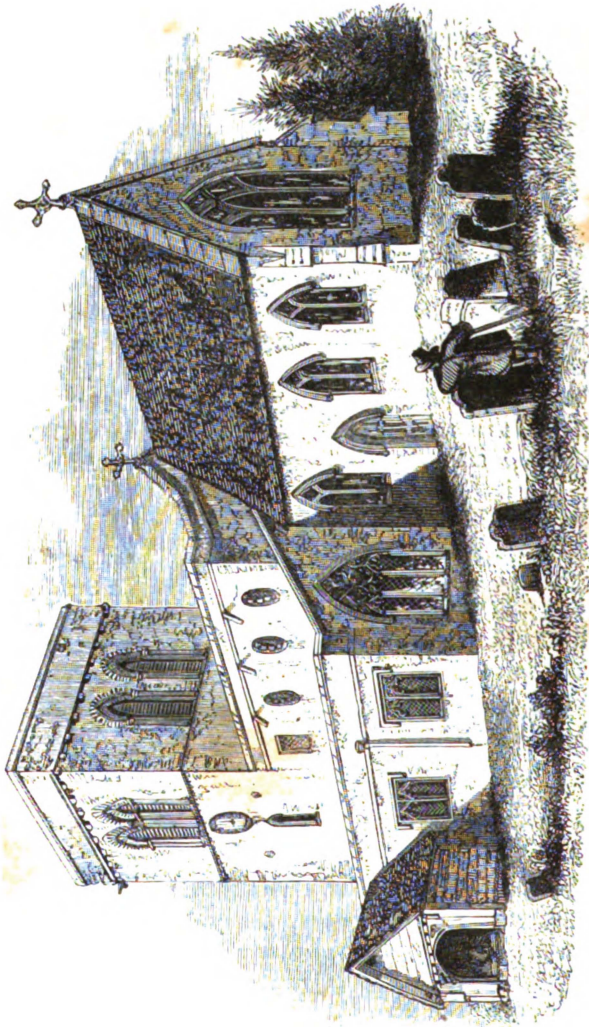
<sup>c</sup> Leland Itin., vol. ii. p. 10.

<sup>e</sup> Wood's MS., E. I.

<sup>d</sup> Records in Exchequer 29 Hen. VIII., quoted in Acct. of Dorchester

<sup>f</sup> Historical Notices of Great Milton.

<sup>g</sup> Visitat. of Oxon., A.D. 1574.



GARSINGTON CHURCH, OXON

[For the use of this woodcut the Society is indebted to the President of Trinity.]

# FARSINGTON.

*St. Mary.*



FARSINGTON CHURCH.

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dow; the label of which has a deep hollow under it, which gives it boldness and distinctness. Beneath each window is a recess, which gives a great appearance of lightness to the Chancel. That under the east window is 7 ft. 6 in. broad, and in this stood the Altar. Those under the side windows were made by the present Rector; who has also filled the five windows of the Chancel with coloured glass, suggested by some fragments of old glass, which served as a pattern for the new. The side windows are of two lights: there were three on each side in the original design, but those in the centre have been blocked up by large mural monuments of the Wickham family in the modern taste. Both the south-west and north-west windows are what Rickman calls "low side windows." Such a window is often found on the south side; but not often on the north. The lower parts of these windows have the original iron bars, and were lately found on examination to be



Low Side Window

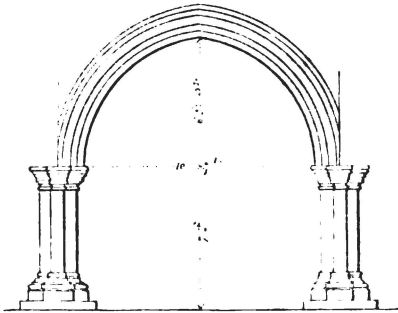
separated from the upper parts by a plain transom. They were before walled up as high as the transom; and now partly so in consequence of pews in the inside.

Close by the south-east window is a piscina with cut spandrels, which makes it look like late Decorated work, and so it will well agree with the date assigned to the rest of the Chancel.

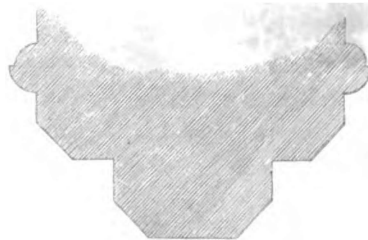
The present credence-table is formed out of the old communion-table. This being much decayed, another of carved oak, somewhat larger, has been substituted in its place. The communion-rails are good of their kind, probably of the age of King Charles II. There are a few encaustic tiles in the Chancel and

some other parts of the Church, apparently of the fourteenth century, or of the beginning of the fifteenth, when considerable alterations and additions seem to have been made, such as the Chancel-screen, &c. The roof is now quite hid by plaster; but it seems to have been of a kind not unfrequently found in the neighbourhood of Oxford, being an open cant roof. A good example may be seen in Ducklington Church, near Witney, and another at Beckley. It is difficult to tell the age of a roof of this description, which has no strongly marked mouldings in any of its timbers. Those at Ducklington and Beckley seem to be of the fourteenth century; this at Garsington may perhaps have been copied from an older one, as the wall-plate has late mouldings, probably of the time of King Charles II., when some considerable repairs were made in the Church. The Chancel has a small doorway on the south side, of similar character, and of the same date as the side windows. The oak door has been lately renewed.

The Chancel-arch, which is large and lofty, seems to correspond in general character with the Early English part of the Church. It has recessed mouldings, which partly die into the wall, and partly are carried by a kind of corbel, but this does not appear to have been the original finish. An examination of that part of the arch near the pulpit, will shew that it was carried by a respond on either side, which had Early English caps: why these were cut away is not so clear; perhaps to make way for the rood-loft and



Nave Arches. South side.



Mouldings of Chancel arch.

screen : and it is not unlikely that this alteration of the arch has contributed to throw it out of place ; for at present, owing to its outward thrust, or to some settlement in the south wall, it has given over on that side, and a buttress has been

- added on the outside to strengthen the wall.

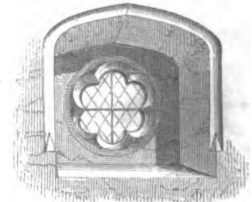
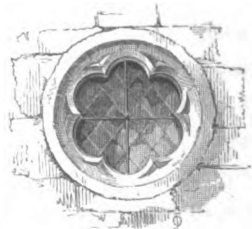
The Rood-screen is of rather late Perpendicular work.

The pulpit now stands on the south side, upon what seems to be the stone base of an older one ; it is of the date of King Charles II., and both it and the reading-desk (which latter is made up of parts of the rood-screen) are furnished with a velvet covering inscribed, "D. D. Gul. Bell, 1779."

Just below the reading-desk are some monumental brasses, with this inscription :—"Here lyeth Thomas Radley gentleman and Elisabeth his wife y<sup>e</sup> which Thomas decessyed y<sup>e</sup> iii day of the month of October y<sup>e</sup> year of our lord God a thousand cccclxxxiiii on whose soules Ihu have m'cy."

The NAVE opens into the north aisle by four arches, and by as many into the south aisle. Its roof is Perpendicular ; the tie-beams are cambered, and both they and the other timbers have been painted : the roof is much spoiled by later additions, for about the time of the Restoration the tie-beams were strengthened by struts and other means of support.

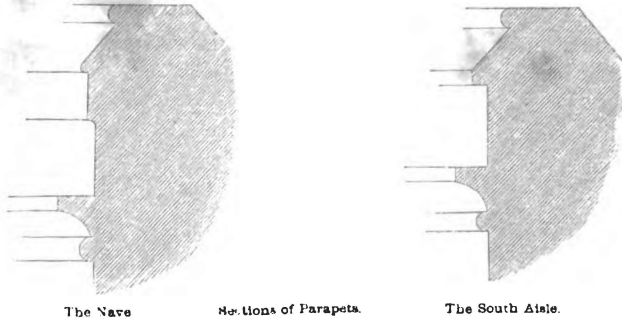
The clerestory windows are three in number on each side : they are foliated circles, of the same character as the south aisle, Decorated ; in the interior they have for a hood-moulding a four-centred arch, which is generally a characteristic of Perpendicular work ; yet it is found occasionally in the earlier styles. The eastern clerestory window on the north side has been replaced by a large square window of the time of Charles II. This was probably inserted by Dr. Bathurst, as it corresponds exactly with those in his new building, at Trinity College,



Clerestory Window

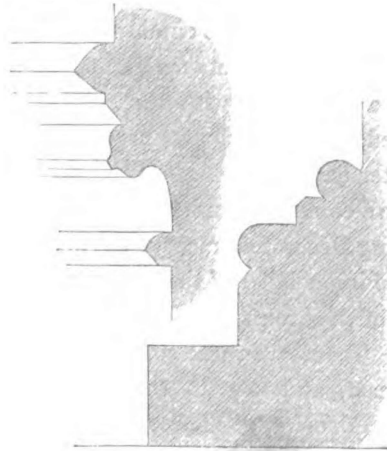


called after his name. The Decorated parapet, together with the



cornice, was taken off at the same time, and put on again as before, only the cornice was made to run round the square window, serving for a kind of label. The cornice of the aisles is the same; the parapet of the south aisle is somewhat different from that of the clerestory, but of the same date. The north aisle has a late parapet.

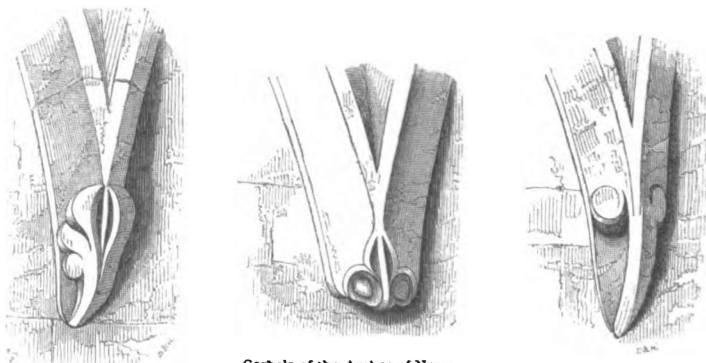
The pillars and arches on the north side are of Early English date. The pillars are cylindrical, short, with bold square bases and caps; they carry low arches with recessed mouldings, which have labels toward the nave, but none toward the aisle.



Cap and Base, north Pillar of Nave.

These labels are carried by corbels of Early English character between the arches; but at the western respond are returned to the west wall of the nave. The pillars and arches on the south side, are partly copied from those on the north, though the variations are considerable; the pillars, for instance, are octagonal instead of cylindrical: they have the same proportions, but the capitals are richer, being very good Decorated: the arches and their mouldings are the same; they have labels

on both sides, toward the nave and toward the aisles: at the western respond these labels were to have been carried by a head, but the stones still remain uncut. This work is evidently later.

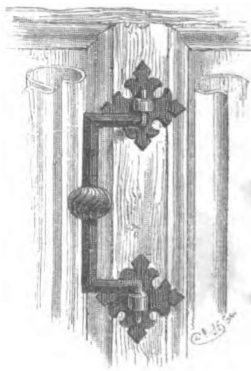


Corbels of the Arches of Nave.

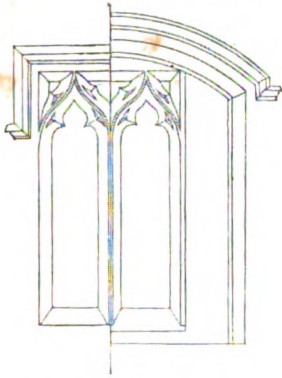
At the west end a cumbrous gallery obscures the tower arch. The plain open seats apparently of the fifteenth century, are of similar character with those in Great Haseley, Charlton, and indeed almost all the country Churches about Oxford; some are of later date.

THE SOUTH AISLE has a three-light east window, with elegant flowing Decorated tracery; the hood-moulding is the same as that of the inner label of the east window of the Chancel. The cornice of the arch stops against its head in a rather singular manner. There are three south windows of two lights each, two to the east, and one to the west of the south doorway. These windows are square-headed, with segmental inner arches, and have the same mouldings as the east window.

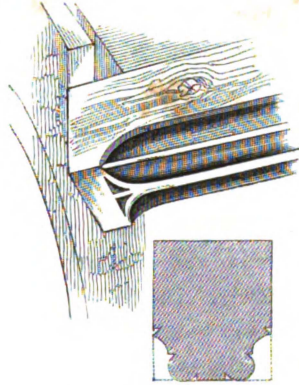
In the south wall is a good Decorated piscina, with an ogee arch. The south doorway has good mouldings of the fourteenth century; over it has been added a wooden porch, in the fifteenth. The west window of this aisle is late



Iron Handle. South Door.



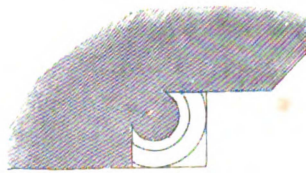
South Window of South Aisle.



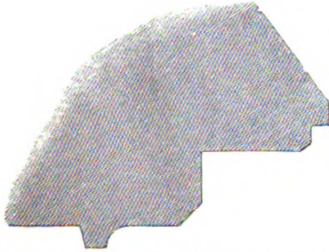
Section of Principal of South Aisle



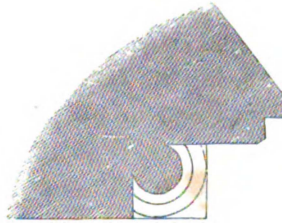
Mouldings of Belfry Window, above Cap.



Mouldings of Belfry Window, below Cap.



Mouldings of Lower West Window, above Cap.



Mouldings of Lower West Window, below Cap.

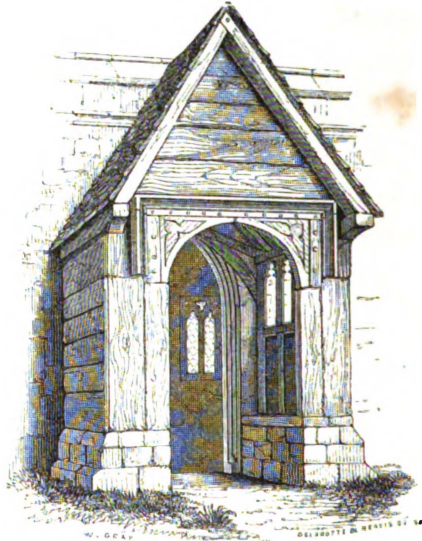


Mouldings of South Door.



Mouldings of North Door

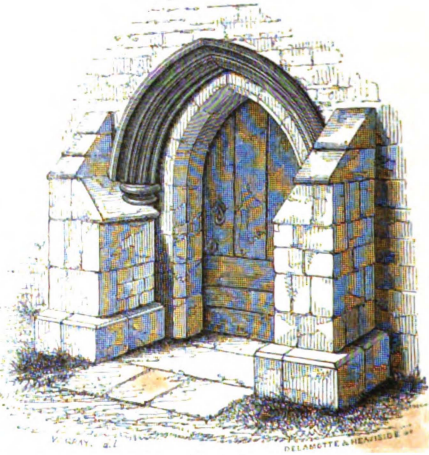
Perpendicular: the wall above this window has been taken down and rebuilt, when the window was inserted, a very poor parapet was put on, and the slope of the lean-to roof was lowered considerably. Inside the roof of this aisle, as well as that of the other, is almost entirely hid by lath and plaster; still the principals stand out boldly with good Decorated mouldings.



The South Porch

THE NORTH AISLE has windows nearly the same in position

and character as the south; with these differences, that inside they have pointed segmental arches, and the mouldings of their labels outside are not the same, but answer to the mouldings of the doorway, and the caps of the pillars of the south aisle. Opposite the south doorway, is another of Early English character, and very singular mouldings, which were at first carried by a shaft on either side, of which only the caps now remain, built into two small buttresses, which were added, together with two other buttresses, as it appears, in the year 1668, to strengthen the side wall, which was then beginning to fall outwards. At the same time it was found necessary to strengthen the roof



The North Doorway.

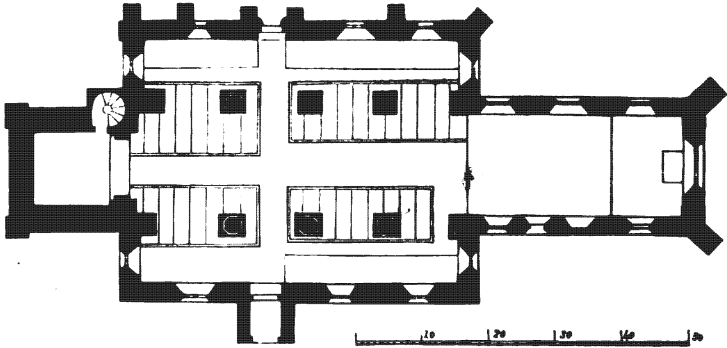
the side wall, which was then beginning to fall outwards. At the same time it was found necessary to strengthen the roof

of the aisle, which was done by inserting large pieces of wood under all the principals, that the ends of the principals and the wall-plate might not come asunder. The date of these alterations in the church is recorded on a stone at the east end of this north aisle [LBFF 1668] : two of the buttresses in this aisle seem to be original, and coeval with the windows, namely, those at the angles. The east window of the aisle is of the same character as the east window of the Chancel. The west window is the same as that of the south aisle; here also the wall has been partly rebuilt in an irregular way, leaving a part of the old wall at the north-west corner standing out beyond it, and looking like a buttress.

Near the west end of this aisle stands the Font, which is of poor design and material, inscribed round, "The gift of Richard Turrill, clerk of this parish, Anno D<sup>ni</sup>. 1782."

The TOWER is about 42 ft. high; the tower-arch is good Early English, pointed, with recessed mouldings; in its general character it is Norman, but its mouldings are quite Early English, as are the capitals of the shafts which carry these mouldings. The date is probably about the year 1200.

The tower has no western doorway. The west window has a semicircular head; but over this on the outside is a rude pointed arch carried by circular shafts: the window is widely splayed inside. At the north-west and south-west angles are small shallow buttresses. On the north side is a buttress of bold projection, in which is the newel staircase leading to the belfry. In the second stage are three small slits with semicircular heads, looking north, west, and south. The belfry stage is pierced with eight pointed windows, two on each side, with returned dripstones and mouldings, carried by shafts with square abaci. Between each window is a small head projecting from the wall. Above the belfry window is a corbel-table; some of the corbels have the tooth-moulding cut in them, others have Norman ornaments. The parapet seems to be original; it consists merely of a slope, surmounted by a beading. w.g.



Plan of the Church

### HISTORICAL NOTICES.

In Saxon and Norman times it was spelt *Gers-ing-dun*, or *Gerse-dune*; signifying a hill that overlooks meadows or pastures abounding in gorse, or coarse grass. The latter orthography is adopted in the Domesday Survey.

The greater part of the land in the parish at the time of the Conquest belonged to the Monastery of St. Mary at Abingdon. Gilbert Le Gand held seven hides and a half, that is, about nine hundred acres, under the Abbat and Convent; and other tenants are mentioned, in the valuable Survey of the Norman Commissioners, as holding inferior portions. One hide of land (120 acres) formed part of the Conqueror's grant to Miles Crispin. In the thirteenth century, the Knights Templars held lands in this parish, which being escheated to the crown were granted to Sir Richard D'Amory, of Bucknill, and by him transferred to John de Bloxham. In the 28th Edward I., John de la Mare was summoned to Parliament as baron of Garsington; the same name appears also in the "Inquisitiones post mortem," in the 9th Edward II. In the Hundred Rolls of Edward I. considerable portions are said to be held by the Hospitallers of St. John beyond the east gate in Oxford, and by the Rector of the Church also, as belonging to the Honour of Wallingford. At that time the Jurors under the Rolls-Commission returned Isabella de la Mare as the Lady of the Manor, which she held by the service of half a knight's fee, when the King was in the army. It is probable that this is the same Isabella who is known afterwards as Isabella de Fortibus, Countess of Albemarle, whose son, by her former husband, in 28 Edw. I., had summons to parliament amongst the Barons of the realm, by the style and title of John de la Mare of Gersyngdon.

She appears to have been interred in Garsington Church, if the following inscription on her grave-stone be correctly stated :

The whole inscription may be thus read :

✠ "Isabele de Fortibus gist ici:  
Deu de sa alme eyt merci:"

The size of the grave-stone, which is nearly a parallelogram, is about 7 feet by 3 feet; and the general character of it, as well as the round form of the letters, corresponding with the date of her death (1293), as given in the additions to Dugdale's Baronage, in the Collectanea Topographica, Part XXVI. 148. There was originally an elegant cross flory, now much defaced, and other sculpture. Sufficient traces, nevertheless, of the letters of the inscription remain to identify the person intended to be commemorated. This is the oldest grave-stone in the Church. There are traces remaining of some of a later date, and a stone coffin has been found in the chancel.

The patronage of the Church appears to have been vested, from a very early period, in the Prior and Convent of the Holy Trinity at Wallingford, which was a cell to the great Benedictine monastery of St. Alban from the time of Paul the Norman, the fourteenth Abbat, who died in 1093. A "Magister de Sancto Albano," or Sancti Albani, is mentioned in the margin of the valor of Pope Nicholas; but perhaps he merely presented to the Rectory *pro hac vice*: for, with one exception only\*, the Prior and Convent of Wallingford presented the Rectors from the first entry in the register of the Diocese of Lincoln till the dissolution of the monastic establishments.

About the middle of the fourteenth century there was a severe contest between the Rector of this Church and the Convent of St. Frideswide, respecting the tithes of the north end moiety of the manor, which after a long process of litigation, and an appeal to Rome, was referred back to the Archbishop of Canterbury, as sole arbitrator, who decided in favour of the Rector, reserving a quit rent of forty shillings for ever to the convent. The Prior was afterwards deprived for avarice and extortion, and a new charter of appropriation was obtained from the crown 15 and 16 Ric. ij, confirming the ancient claims of the Priory of Wallingford to the advowson and emoluments of the Rectory. Hence some writers have erroneously stated, that the Church was then first given and appropriated to the Priory.

Soon after the dissolution of the Priory, the living came into the possession of Sir Thomas Pope, who obtained the patronage for his College by a grant from the Crown in the reign of Philip and Mary, annexing the Church and Parsonage to the headship of the same, to be

\* A.D. 1479. Robert Middleton was presented June 18th by Sir Edward Rede, Knt.—Reg. Rotheram.



Monumental Brass of the Radley family. 1784.

[For the use of this woodcut the Society is indebted to the President of Trinity.



held in free socage for ever. The Founder's intention in this purchase partly was, "to erect a house there for the President, Fellows, and Scholars to repose them in when any plague shall happen within the University;" an object which was confirmed by the sanction of the Crown. The house was erected accordingly, with money provided by the Founder, but not finished till after his death. It was occupied by the members of the College during the plague of 1577; not being finished in 1563, when they were obliged to retire to Woodstock. It is now occupied by the Curate. The situation of this Parsonage, of the Church, and of the School-house, is highly picturesque, and commands extensive views of the surrounding country between the Chiltern Hills and the Wantage Downs.

An inclosure of this parish was attempted in vain in the reign of James I.

It appears from Wood's Annals, that Sir Thomas Fairfax, on the 1st of May, 1646, previous to the siege of the city of Oxford, drew up his army between Garsington and Abingdon, and the same night made Garsington his head-quarters. On the following morning there was a general muster of the army, horse and foot, on Bullingdon Green, whence his forces were distributed to their several quarters at Headington, Marston, and other villages around.

The oldest register in this parish begins in 1562.

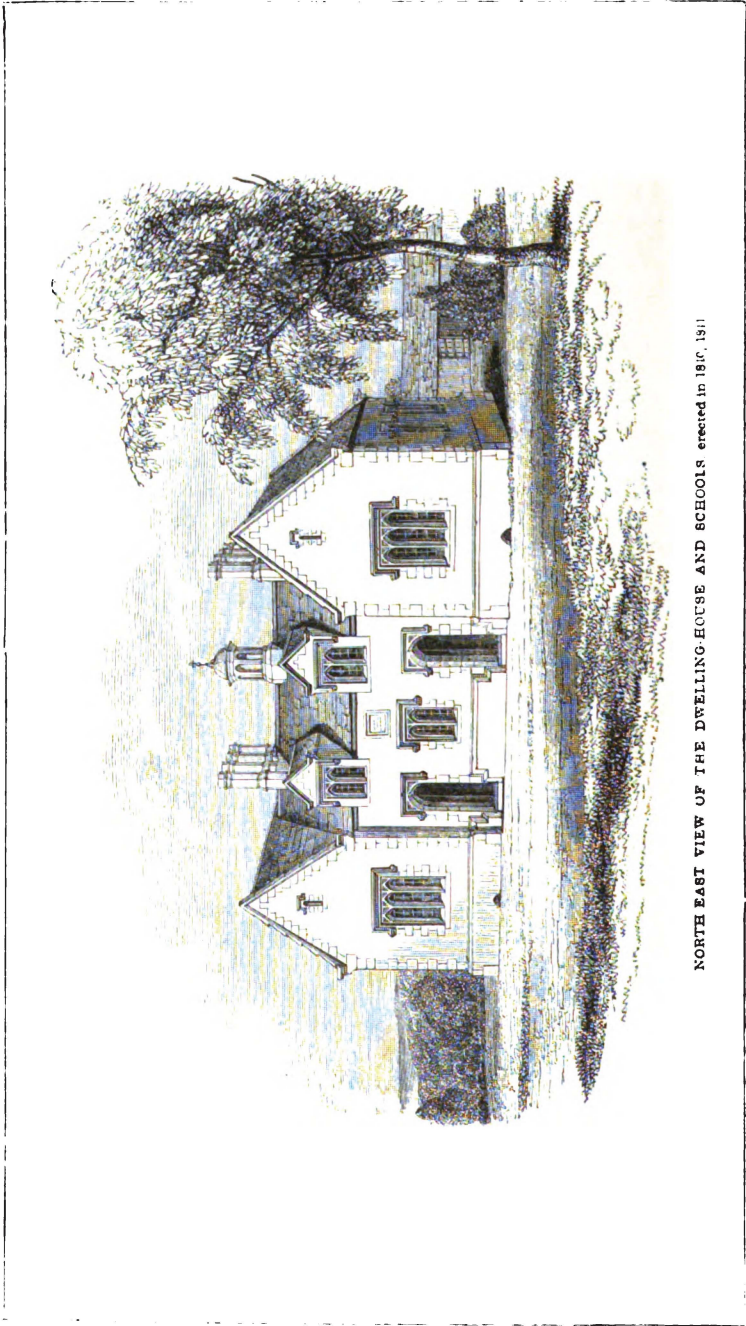
It is a Rectory, valued in the King's books at £14. 19s. 8½d. The present value, according to the Parliamentary return, is £482. The population by the last census was 597.

Several minute particulars respecting the property in this parish, omitted here from want of space, may be seen in Mr. Skelton's Antiquities of Oxfordshire.

Two large Schools, for both sexes, were erected in this parish in 1840 and 1841, with a dwelling-house for the master and mistress. The site was liberally given by Thomas Plumer Halsey, Esq., of Temple Dinsley, in Hertfordshire, consisting of three roods of land on Garsington Green, in the centre of the parish, bounded on all sides by public roads, being an allotment granted to the lord of the North-end manor at the time of the inclosure, in lieu of right to coil of commons and waste grounds. It is demised to the President, Fellows, and Scholars of Trinity College for 999 years, the President for the time being, as Rector, to have the appointment of the master and mistress and the general superintendance of the Schools; the children to be instructed in the tenets and principles of the Church of England as now established, &c.<sup>b</sup> The cost of erecting these Schools amounted to about £1500; about one-third of which sum was raised by a liberal subscription among some of the Colleges and individuals interested in the parish, and the remaining two-thirds were defrayed by the President of Trinity College as Rector of the parish.

<sup>b</sup> Indenture of Demise, 2nd of April, 1840, Coll. Reg.

1. 1.



NORTH EAST VIEW OF THE DWELLING-HOUSE AND SCHOOLS erected in 1840. 1841



SOUTH-WEST VIEW OF THE DWELLING-HOUSE AND SCHOOLS, erected in 1840, 1841.

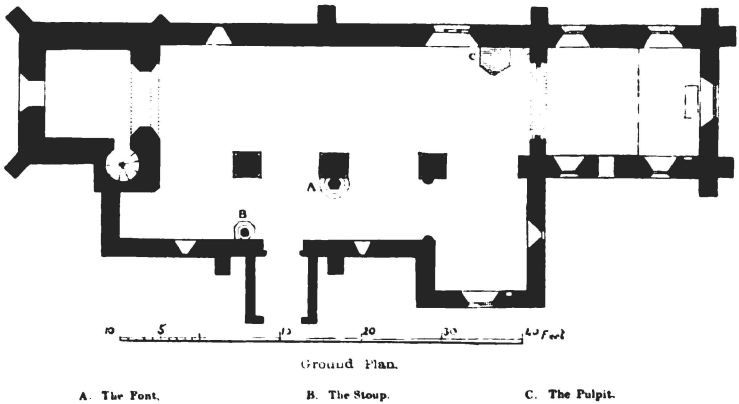
[For the use of these two woodcuts, the Society is indebted to the President of Trinity.]

# HORSEPATH.

PATRON.  
MAGDALENE COLLEGE,  
OXFORD.

St. Giles.

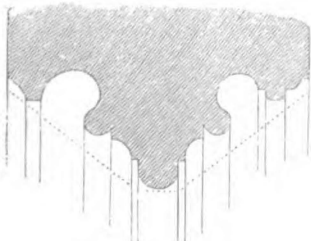
DEANERY  
OF CUDDSDEN,  
HUNDRED  
OF BULLINGTON.



THE Church of Horsepath (called in Domesday Horspadan), is a small edifice—consisting of a western tower, nave, south aisle, south transept, and Chancel.

The tower is rather short, yet well proportioned. It is of Perpendicular work: the buttresses are angular. The western side has a four-centred doorway with a square dripstone, and above it a three-light window, both of good bold work. In the window are some remains of the painted glass, but the colours are faint. These consist of a representation of the Crucifixion, with the Virgin and St. John. Below this is a fragment, which contains some of the emblems of the Crucifixion. On the southern side of the tower is the staircase-turret: the belfry windows are four-centred, with a square moulding running all round. The tower has one of the high pyramidal roofs which seem to have been the usual finish of towers, especially of those which were not lofty, and which give a very elegant effect.

The arch between the tower and nave is the most beautiful feature in the interior of the Church. It is of the same date as the tower. The mouldings are bold, the execution of the whole good. Most unfortunately this is lost to the Church, for just in front of it is a huge singing gallery, which also shuts out the view of the head of the west window.



Mouldings of Tower arch below Cap.

The nave of the Church was built about the end of the twelfth century. One of the original windows remains in the northern wall; it

is pointed, small, and has Early English mouldings of plain character. In the same wall are two late Perpendicular windows. On the south side of the nave, separating it from the south aisle, are four arches. There are three square pillars, and one respond at the east end; the westernmost arch was supported by a corbel in the western wall; but it has been taken down some time, and in its place is a segmental arch which abuts against the wall of the tower. The corbel just mentioned is in fact nothing more than the capital of the pillar that originally supported this arch, which pillar was built round by the walls of the tower. Built into this wall are two curious figures, one with a bagpipe. The tradition is, that they were two deformed persons, who left money to build the tower.



Cap and Base of Shaft. Tower arch



Cap and Base of Pillar in Nave.

The remaining arches are pointed and plain, as well as the pillars, with the exception of a chamfer at the angles. The open seats in the nave are very plain; the bench ends at each extremity of the ranges are finished by poppies.

Above the pier-arches is a modern clearstory, which lights the nave.

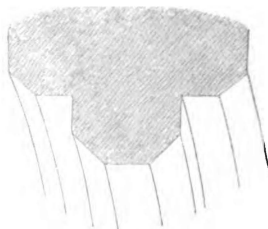
The south aisle is entered by a porch of late work; the doorway inside this porch is of the same character as the pier-arches in the nave. The south wall was rebuilt very late in the thirteenth

century, at which time also the transept was carried out. It is singular that there are no traces of windows in this wall, but there are two small openings, which perhaps were made when the tower was built. The buttresses are very plain



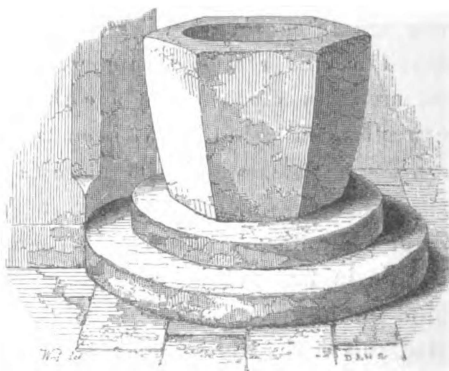
Parapet, South Aisle.

and early. The original pitch of the roof has been lowered very considerably, the present one is open to the interior, and is of late Perpendicular work. Near the south door is the Font; it is hexagonal, lined with lead, and stands on a circular base; it seems to be of the same age as the pillars and arches. But



Section of Arch, South Aisle.

the greatest curiosity in this Church is on the west side of the door. The villagers say that it is a second font; some have supposed it to be the base of a cross, some the upper

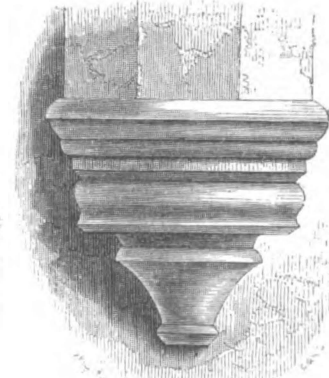


The Font.

part of a shaft: but it is more probable that it is a stoup. If so, it is probably unique, for it is of the same date as the oldest parts of the church. The arch at the east end of the aisle is early Decorated, the corbels which support it are singularly beautiful.

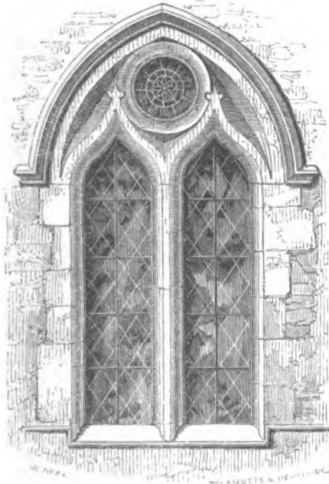


The Stoup.

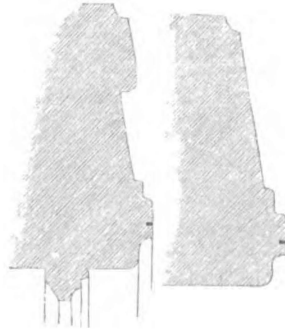


Corbel of Arch. South Aisle.

The south transept was probably built in the latter part of the thirteenth century. At the south end is a very curious



Window. South Transept.

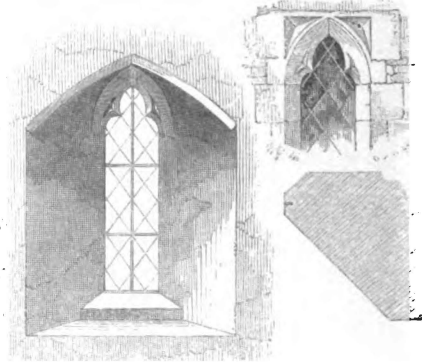


Section through the head

Section of Jamb.

two-light window; the lights are finished on the exterior with a kind of ornament like an arrow-head. The dripstone mould-

ings are Decorated, but the jamb mouldings are completely Early English. There are no foliations, either in the heads of the lights or in the circle above. In the east wall is an elegant piscina, and near it a bracket, both of the same date as the transept: these shew that this transept was a chapel. In this same wall is a small early Decorated window of one light, the mouldings are very simple, but the window is an elegant one.



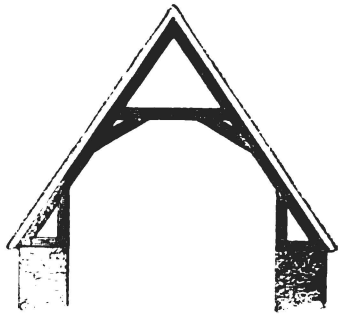
Window, East side of Transept.

Against the north wall of the nave, and opposite this transept, is the pulpit, which is of late work, as is the reading-desk.

The Chancel, which was rebuilt in 1840, had Early English walls, a small south door, and a very curious cross over the east end, which has been preserved. There was a piscina, of the same date, very much like that in the south transept, and a plain, though ancient roof,



The Cross



The old Chancel roof.

closely resembling that of Beckley Church, which has mouldings of the fourteenth century. (See BECKLEY, p. 206.) The side windows were late in the fifteenth century; these have been replaced. The east window was of the same date, but had the dripstone of an earlier window finished by a curious mask.



## HISTORICAL NOTICES.

In the Domesday Survey, Horsepath is mentioned by the name of Horspadan, and the manor was then the property of the King, and was granted to Roger de Ivery. It was afterwards the property of the Knights Templars.

A.D. 1149, 14, 15 King Stephen, Horsepath formed part of the grant to Osney Abbey.

A.D. 1229, 13, 14 Hen. III.. Richard, earl of Cornwall, presented to the Church of Horsepath, and again in 1247.

A.D. 1231. This year mention is made of a suit between Osney Abbey and the Rector of Horsepath, concerning the lesser tithes thereof<sup>a</sup>.

A.D. 1309, 2 and 3 Edw. II., Sir Richard D'Amory computed for lands of the Knights Templars escheated to the king within the manor of Horsepath, &c., &c., and A.D. 1312, John de Bloxam accounted for the same lands. This John de Bloxam was a witness against the Templars<sup>b</sup>.

A.D. 1452. The Church of Horsepath was appropriated to the Hospital of St. John Baptist, in Oxford<sup>c</sup>.

In Browne Willis's volumes of MSS., numbered 45, is a letter of Mr. George Rye, rector of Islip, to Browne Willis, dated Islip, 25 March, 1730, in which he says: "At Horsepath the tower is said to have been built by Thomas London, a bag-piper, and that he and his wife are



there buried; and in the front of the entrance to the tower from the body of the Church are their figures in stone, the man being on the right with his bag-pipes. The Wake is kept on the first Sunday in

<sup>a</sup> In Reg. Osney, in Bibl. Cotton, fol. 116. b.

<sup>b</sup> Bodleian MSS. 494, f. 95.

<sup>c</sup> Vide Pat. 20 Hen. VI. p. l. m. 17.

September, and the Church is dedicated to St. Giles, but Mr. Hearne conjectures it was dedicated to St. John the Baptist."

In the nave near the pulpit is a small window of stained glass, containing the figure of a man holding a boar's head on the point of a spear: probably a representation of one of the lords of the manor of Boarstall. Antony Wood mentions a figure so represented in the beginning of the Leiger Book of Borstall, a manuscript written by Edmund Rede, Esq., lord of the manor in the time of Henry VI.<sup>d</sup> "In the beginning of this book is represented in colours the mannour house of Borstall, with a moat round it, and the lord of the mannour, Joannes Filius Nigelli, issuing out of his house to meet a certain King and his retinew, and at some distance from the house, the Lord kneels down to the King, *and presents him with a boar's head on the top of a sword or speare.* This, as the tradition of the family goeth, is an allusion to the custom of the mannour of Borstall, to present the King with a Boar's Head, because the said mannour was in ancient time, when 'twas woody, a stall or den for wild boars."

In the north window of the chancel are the arms of Magdalene College, and in the south, the figures of St. Mary and St. John, as they are generally represented beneath the cross. These were originally in the east window, with the figure of our Lord on the rood between them.

The stoup is of a very unusual form, but a very similar one from Penmôn, in the isle of Anglesey, is engraved in the Archæological Journal, vol. i. p. 122, and it is there stated that "at Penmon, until within a few years, a *water-stoup* of the same age as the font was used; and at Llandegvan another water-stoup is still employed for the baptismal sacrament."

Horsepath is now a Perpetual Curacy, held with a Fellowship of Magdalene College, not in charge in the King's Book. The present value, according to the Parliamentary return, is £91, and the population 295.

<sup>d</sup> See the Life of Antony à Wood, page lxi.

# SANDFORD.

**PATRON.**  
THE DUKE OF  
MARLBOROUGH.

**St. Andrew.**

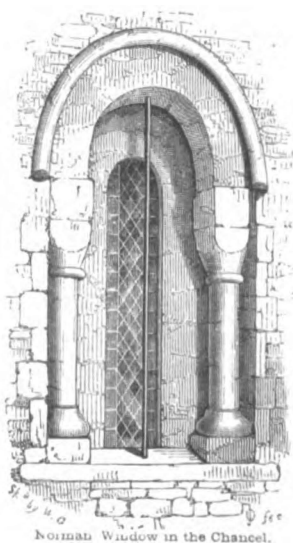
**DEANERY**  
**OF CUDESSEN.**  
**HUNDRED**  
**OF BULLINGTON.**

Chancel	. . .	27 ft. 1 in.	by	11 ft. 9 in.
Nave	. . .	31 10	by	15 10
Tower	. . .	14 7	by	12 3

THIS Church, which is described by the antiquary Hearne<sup>a</sup> as “a small thing and of mean building,” underwent considerable repairs and alterations in the year of our Lord 1840, under the superintendance of Mr. Derick, Architect. A Norman tower of two stages was added at the west end, the roof of the nave was raised to its original pitch, and the arches of the Chancel and Tower were built. A window of two lights with three engaged shafts was made in the south side, in the place of a Perpendicular window, square headed, of two lights, removed to the eastern end of the north wall. In the Chancel, a new Altar was placed at the east end, and a north window was inserted, containing a symbol of the Holy Trinity, and the royal arms. The east window, a trefoiled lancet, is filled with painted glass by Mr. Willement, representing the Crucifixion.

The fittings throughout the Church have been remodelled, preserving a number of seats of the date A.D. 1630, with variously carved poppy-heads. It is to be regretted that the pleasing appearance of uniformity thus produced is somewhat lessened by a raised pew on the north side of the nave, and a gallery at the west end.

The walls appear to be those of the original Church, built by Gerri de Planastre<sup>b</sup>, soon after the Conquest. The earliest features in the nave are the north and south doors, the former of which is still stopped up, and a Norman window. The Font,



Norman Window in the Chancel.

<sup>a</sup> Account of Antiq. near Oxford. Lel. Itin., ii. p. 92.

<sup>b</sup> Hundred Rolls.

which is large and plain, is probably of the thirteenth century, or earlier; it is lined with lead and the drain is still used.

On the south side of the Chancel is a small Norman window, having externally heavy engaged shafts. To the east of this is also a Norman narrow window, corresponding to which is another on the north side. Near the window last mentioned is a plain recess, which may have been the Easter sepulchre; and below this is an altar-tomb, quite plain, now used as a credence. On the south side is a like tomb, but of much later date, with debased Arabesque work on the front. Above this is a mural monument to Sir William Powell, of Tutbury, Staffordshire, brother of Edmund Powell, Esq., lord of the manor of Sandford, erected by his heir, John Powell, Esq., grandson of the latter, in the year of our Lord 1661; the whole is surmounted by the Powell arms, viz. Or, a lion rampant Sable; over all, a fesse Gules.

The curious piece of carving in alabaster fixed against the east wall was dug up in the church-yard after being buried more than a hundred years; the subject is the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, who is represented as surrounded by rays of glory, and attendant angels, two of whom, beneath the figure, hold a reliquary, upon which, as well as on other parts of the sculpture, the remains of gilding are still visible. There are several encaustic tiles at this end of the Chancel of various patterns,



Sculpture in Alabaster.

the most distinct of which are fleurs-de-lis, set lozenge-wise, on tiles four and a half inches square.

The bells, which before the building of the present tower were protected from the weather by a wooden box, are four in number; of these one bears the inscription,

Prayse y<sup>e</sup> lorde. I X C. 1592.

Another, This bell was made 1606, I X C.

The third bell has some letters upon it now illegible, but the fourth, a small bell, has none.

Over the south door is a porch, which tells its own history in the following inscription :

CONDIDIT ME DN̄IA ELIZA · ISHAM

ANNO GRATIÆ 1652.

PORTICVS PATRONÆ.

Thanks to thy charitie, religiose Dame  
W<sup>ch</sup> found mee old & made mee newe againe.

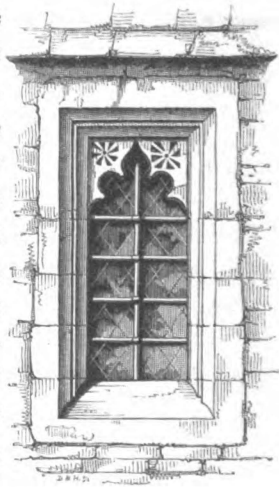
Near this south entrance has lately been dug up a well-wrought Norman capital, which may have been part of the former porch.

The farm-house in a field on the north-west side of the Church has usually been looked upon as the remains of the old Preceptory of Knights Templars in this place, but the only ancient parts of it are some slight traces of Early English work in what was formerly the chapel<sup>c</sup>; these consist of a portion of the east window and a roll-moulded string-course; the doorway is much later, of Perpendicular character. In the garden is a gateway bearing the date 1614, on each side of which there are fragments of architectural ornaments built into the wall, and

<sup>c</sup> The chapel of the Knights Templars at Sandford was dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin. (See Wood's MS. 10. f. 22.) For a notice of this chapel in later times, and the burial there of the remains of

George Napier, a seminary priest who was hanged, drawn, and quartered, A.D. 1610, see Wood's Annals, vol. ii. p. 166 sub A.D. 1568.

among them a reversed shield of late date, having carved upon it a cross pattée, the badge of the Knights Templars, and also of their successors at Sandford, the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. Mr. Hearne, who saw these buildings A.D. 1722, in a much more perfect state, thought they were the remains of a nunnery, principally from "the heads of veiled nuns fixed on divers parts of the outside of the building<sup>d</sup>." The latter supposition agrees very well with the return in the Hundred Rolls, which leads to the conclusion, that besides the well-known nunnery of Sandford or Littlemore, there was (A.D.1272) another nunnery in the parish, founded upon the Templars' land by Robert de Sandford. Upon the whole, however, tradition is so strongly in favour of this having been the house of the Templars, that it seems reasonable to refer to them, rather than to the nuns of the smaller priory, the few traces of thirteenth century work, and to suppose that the additions which belong to the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries were made by their successors, the Knights Hospitallers. About a mile to the east of the Church are the remains of the other and more important nunnery, which, being on the confines of Sandford and Littlemore, takes its name from either. A range of building, running north and south, is still called the "Minchery," a word formed from "myncean," a Saxon word for nun. Mr. Hearne, A.D. 1722, was able to make out the ruins of the church or chapel, on the north side; the refectory, in which the old table was still standing; and several other portions, of which he has given an interesting sketch in the Appendix to the History of Glastonbury<sup>e</sup>. Time has now nearly completed its ravages on this ancient building; even the stone coffins, described by Mr. Hearne, lately fell



Window in the Minchery.

<sup>d</sup> *Lel. Itin.*, vol. ix. p. 118.

<sup>e</sup> See also Preface, xvi—xxiii.

to pieces, when an attempt was made to move them, and although the Minchery must always be an interesting object for a summer's walk, there are no remains either here, or at the farm near the Church, to reward the antiquary for a special visit.



Crest Tiles from the Minchery.



THE MINCHERY

#### HISTORICAL NOTICES.

A.D. 1054. King Edward the Confessor gave to the Abbey of St. Mary of Abingdon four manses on common land at Sandford, the same which had been granted four years previously to Godwin<sup>f</sup>.

A.D. 1084. 18 William I. A portion of the land in Sandford was held by Odo, Bishop of Baieux, and the remainder by the Abbey of St. Mary of Abingdon<sup>g</sup>.

Soon after the Conquest, Gerri de Planastre founded the Church of

<sup>f</sup> Cott. MS. Brit. Mus. Claud. B. vi. f. 114 and 115.

<sup>g</sup> Domesday Survey, f. 156. b. and 2.

Sandford upon his own land. The possessions of Gerri de Planastre descended to Radulphus de Sandford, and the Church became inappropriate to the nuns of Littlemore<sup>b</sup>. This was the parish Church dedicated to St. Andrew.

A.D. 1177. 24 Hen. II. In this year, according to Bp. Kennett, Roger de Sanford gave to the Benedictine nunnery of Littlemore, in the parish of Sandford, still called the "Minchery," and said to have been founded in Saxon times, a third part of his island at Keniton. Among the witnesses are John de Sanford; the King's marshal; Thomas de Sanford, Adam de Sanford, Richard de Sanford, Hugh de Sanford, pages to the King; and Fulcho de Sanford<sup>1</sup>.

A.D. 1216. 1 Hen. III. William Fitz Robert, clerk of Thomas de Sandford, was presented by letters patent to the Church of Sandford then vacant and in the royal patronage, because the lands of Josceus de Baiocis were in the hands of the King<sup>2</sup>.

A.D. 1218. 2 Hen. III. The manor of Sandford, including two hides of land in Denton and one in Wheatley, with the advowson of the Church of Blewbury, Berks, was given to the Knights Templars by Thomas de Sandford, who appears to have filled the office of Chamberlain during the reign of King John, being constantly intrusted with the care of the royal purse, jewels, and wardrobe<sup>1</sup>. In the beginning of the reign of Hen. III. he became a Templar<sup>m</sup>, and therefore it may be supposed that his donation to the Templars took place at this time, although it has been placed somewhat earlier by Bp. Tanner<sup>n</sup>, and Mr. Hearne<sup>o</sup>. The Templars had already a preceptory at Cowley, which place had been given them by the Empress Maud, and they also held Littlemore, in which they were enfeoffed by Roger de St. Andrew, as of the honor of Leicester<sup>p</sup>, but in course of time Sandford became their head quarters in this neighbourhood.

In the beginning of the reign of Hen. III. St. Alban Hall (in Oxford) with another tenement on the west side of it afterwards called "Noone Hall," were given to the nuns of Littlemore by Roger de St. Alban, citizen of Oxford<sup>q</sup>.

A.D. 1244. 28 Hen. III. Pope Innocent IV. in the second year of his pontificate, by a bull directed to all the faithful in the dioceses

<sup>b</sup> Hundred Rolls, tom. ii. p. 723.

<sup>1</sup> Bp. Tanner's Notitia Monastica, art. Littlemore. Dugd. Mon. N. E. iv. 490. and Ingram's Memorials.

<sup>2</sup> Rot. lit. pat. anno 1216, p. 187.

<sup>1</sup> Rot. lit. claus.

<sup>m</sup> Ibid. p. 349.

<sup>n</sup> Notitia Monastica, art. Sandford.

<sup>o</sup> Lel. Itin., vol. ii. p. 91.

<sup>p</sup> Hundred Rolls, tom. ii. p. 723, and Testa de Nevill, p. 112.

<sup>q</sup> Hist. and Antiq. of Oxford, by a Wood (Gutch), vol. ii. p. 654.



of Lincoln, Ely, and Salisbury, granted a relaxation of ten days of enjoined penance to all who should aid the prioress and convent of the Benedictine monastery of Lyteltmore in rebuilding their Church.

The original bull is preserved, among other documents relating to this monastery, in the Ashmolean Museum. The Church thus rebuilt was on the north side of the Minchery, and was styled the Conventual Church of St. Nicholas of Sandford, being also dedicated to St. Mary, and St. Eadmund. It has been destroyed more than a hundred years<sup>r</sup>.

A.D. 1272. 1 Edward I. In Sandford sunt ix hide et dimidia quam preceptor Templi de Covele tenet iij hidas et dim. per servicium dimid. feodi militis ad wardam Castri de Windlesore per xvij septimanas xl<sup>d</sup>.

Heredes domini Radulphi de Sandford tenent v hidas per servicium unius feodi militis ad wardam ejusdem castri eodem modo. Item sunt de baronia de Abendon.

Item Abbas de Osen', tenet j hidam de prebenda Sancti Georgii et est de feodo Doyli. Preceptor et heredes Radulphi de Sandford sequuntur hundredum<sup>s</sup>.

Ecclesia de Sandford quam priorissa de Littlemore et conventus tenent in proprios usus fundata est super feod. Radulphi de Sandford. . . . Item una prioria sanctimonialium fundata est in una pastura que vocatur Cherleyham et pertinet ad manerium de Sandford quod Templarii tenent et fundata fuit per Robertum de Sandford qui illam pasturam sanctimonialibus dedit . . . . Et ille locus qui tunc vocabatur Chirleham nunc vocatur Chaldewelle<sup>t</sup>.

A.D. 1274. 2 Edward I. About this time the preceptory of Knights Templars was moved from Temple Cowley to Sandford, and a transcript was made of their charters, which is still preserved in the Bodleian Library, with the following cotemporary description on the inside of the cover:—

“In isto libro continentur transcripta cartarum et aliorum instrumentorum ballive de Saumford ordinata et coadunata tempore fratris Roberti le Escropp tunc preceptoris ibidem.”

<sup>r</sup> See Dugdale's *Monasticon*, N. E., vol. iv. p. 492. Hearne's *Hist. of Glast.*, Preface, xvi. A.D. 1722.

<sup>s</sup> Hundred Rolls, tom. ii. p. 39. See also pp. 722-3. Radulphus de Sandford tenet in eadem (sc. Sandford) feodum unius militis de feodo Abbatis de Abendon et idem Abbas de Rege in

capite. Testa de Nevill, temp. Hen. III.

<sup>t</sup> Rot. Hund. ii. f. 722-3. Isabella de Henred monialis de Saumford electa per conventum ejusdem loci in priorissam de Saumford. Thoma de Saumford patrono, suum ad id adhibente consensum. A.D. 1229, R. Dodsw. MS. vol. cvii. f. 45. cf. Rot. lit. claus. t. i. f. 357. A.D. 1218.

The book consists of 119 leaves, on the first nine of which are written deeds relating specially to Sandford. Some of the more interesting notices not printed in the *Monasticon* are, 1. A confirmation, by Katerina Paynel, daughter of Adam de Pyriton, the nephew of Thomas de Samford, of the manor of Sandford, and other gifts of her father and great uncle<sup>a</sup>. 2. A like confirmation by William Peverel, nephew of Thomas de Sandford, dated in the land of Syria in the year of the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ mccxli. on the second day of May, witnessed by William Longespee and others<sup>x</sup>. 3. An agreement by which the Knights Templars grant to the nuns of Littlemore three acres of meadow in Sandford, in lieu of small tithes<sup>y</sup>. 4. A covenant of mutual help and counsel between the Canons of Oseney and the Templars<sup>z</sup>.

A.D. 1309. At the suppression of the Knights Templars, the following were among those sent to the Tower from the county of Oxford.

Frater Willielmus de Sautre, preceptor apud Samford.

Frater Willielmus de Warewyk, presbyter, frater apud Samford per tres annos et plus.

Frater Richardus de Colynggham, frater apud Samford per sex annos<sup>a</sup>.

Soon after the above date, Sandford, like the other possessions of the Knights Templars, was given to the Knights Hospitalars of St. John of Jerusalem, who in like manner had a preceptory or commandry here, for the maintenance of which Temple Rockley in Wiltshire was expressly assigned.

A.D. 1512. 3 Hen. VIII. Sir Thomas Lelond, Knt., was sent by the special mandate of Thomas Docwra, Prior of the Hospitalars, to take an account of the rents within the "demesnes of the preceptory of Saumpfurd<sup>b</sup>." Among the notices relating especially to Sandford contained in the rent-book thus made, is the following: "Sciendum est quod dominus prior Sancti Johannis in Anglia debet annuatim soluere Abbati de Abyngdon de Castellwarde pro terris suis infra manerium de Sampforde per annum iijs. viij*d*. ob. et similiter eidem Abbati pro quodam prato vocato Turret jacente super Ripam Thamisie apud Sampforde per annum ijs. viij*d*."

A.D. 1524. 15 Hen. VIII. Littlemore was one of the small monasteries suppressed by the Pope's bull, and given to Cardinal Wolsey toward the erection of his new College in Oxford. Afterwards it

<sup>a</sup> Wood's MS. 10. f. 2. b.

<sup>x</sup> Ibid. f. 3.

<sup>y</sup> Ibid. f. 5. b.

<sup>z</sup> Ibid. f. 17.

<sup>a</sup> Wilkins's *Concilia*, ii. p. 347.

<sup>b</sup> *Rentale de novo renovatum*, &c., in *Bibl. Coll. Corp. Christi*, Oxon. MS. Davis.

became part of the endowment of the King's College there; and in 38 Hen. VIII. was granted, in exchange for other lands, to George Owen, Esq., and John Bridges, M.D.<sup>c</sup> From them it passed to Sir John, afterwards Lord Williams, of Thame, who in 2 Edw. VI. sold the "Minchery" to Edmund Powell, Esq.<sup>d</sup> After remaining in this family for several generations, it passed to that of Walker, from whom it was bought by the Duke of Marlborough.

There belonged to this nunnery at its suppression, in spiritualities 12*l.*, and in temporalities 21*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* In all 33*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum.

The seal of Littlemore nunnery, found by a farmer about A.D. 1762, was shewn by the Bishop of Carlisle in 1765 at the Society of Antiquaries, being a man in a long gown and flowing hair<sup>e</sup>.

A.D. 1542. 33 Hen. VIII. Soon after the dissolution, the house of the Knights Hospitalars was granted to Edward Powell, whose descendants also acquired the Minchery, which, with the site and possessions of this house in Sandford, at length became the property of the Duke of Marlborough.

A.D. 1661, June 29. 1 Charles II. The antiquary Antony à Wood made a visit to the house once belonging to the Templars, which he has thus noted.

"Mr. Francis Napier of Halywell and myself walked over to Sandford, 2 miles distant from Oxon, where we saw the ruins of an old Priory and a Chapel there adjoining . . . this house at the dissolution came to the Powells, who enjoy it to this day; in the hall in a canton window there are these arms belonging to that family, viz.,

Argent, a cheveron Gules, between 3 cootes or ducks Sable; within a bordure Azure bezantée. Vert, 3 stirropps with leathers Or. Argent, on a fess Sable, 3 mullets of the first, between 3 annulets of the second, by the name of Fogge. There is in the same window also a crest of a coate of armes which is a hand brandishing a sword: and Powell's crest<sup>f</sup>.

The living of Sandford<sup>g</sup> is now a Donative, in the gift of his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, and the present value is 15*l.*; the population 304, according to the last return.

J. B.

<sup>c</sup> Dugd. Monast. N. E. iv. p. 491.

<sup>g</sup> Year Books 9 Edw. III., Trin. 24.

<sup>d</sup> Pref. to Hist. of Glastonbury xvii.

Of the advowson of the Church of

<sup>e</sup> Gough, Brit. Top., vol. ii. p. 86, quoted in Monasticon, N. E. iv. p. 491.

Saundford. Bp. Tanner, Not. Mon. art. Saunford.

<sup>f</sup> Wood's MS. Ash. Mus. B. 15.

# NUNEHAM COURTNEY.

PATRON.  
THE ARCHBISHOP  
OF YORK.

All Saints.

DEANERY  
OF CUDDSDEN.  
HUNDRED  
OF BULLINGTON.



THE PRESENT CHURCH.

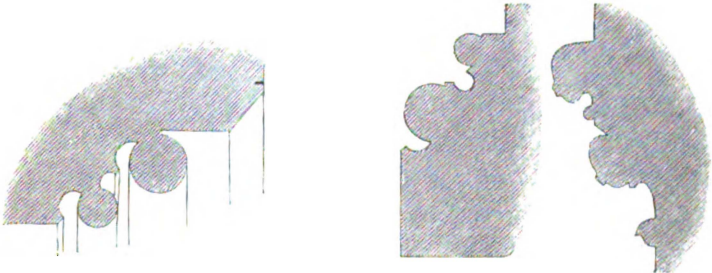
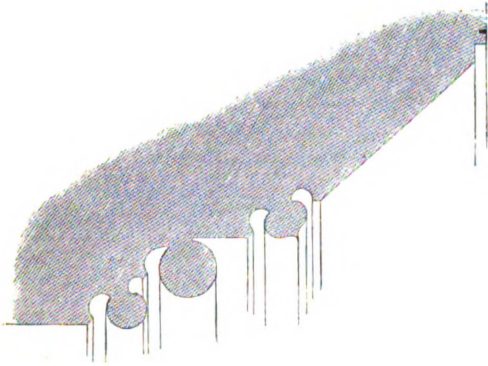
THE old Church was taken down by Simon Lord Harcourt and the present building erected in 1764, after a design of his own, which was slightly corrected by Stuart. It affords a memorable instance of the taste of that age, of which it was the misfortune that those persons who were the most liberal, and desirous to serve the Church, and who, for their private virtues, were most worthy of praise, were precisely those who did the most mischief; the fault was that of the age, not of the individual.

Some fragments of the old Church are preserved in the grounds at Baldon House; they consist of the jambs of a fine Early English window, with the shafts, the section of the mouldings remarkably good; the caps and bases of the shafts are also well moulded. By the side of this is a small plain lancet window, and adjoining to it a splendid tomb of Sir Anthony Pollard, 1577, and Phillippa his wife, 1606; it is in the taste of that age, with Corinthian columns, &c., and the figures of the knight, his lady, and two children; the original colouring remains, though the whole is much mutilated<sup>a</sup>.

<sup>a</sup> For notes of the arms and monuments in the former Church, taken A.D. 1660, see Harl. MS., Brit. Mus., No. 4170.



Remains of the Old Church.



Sections of Mouldings in the Old Church.

## HISTORICAL NOTICES.

In the Domesday Survey Nuneham is recorded as part of the grant of Milo Crispin.

According to Simon Earl Harcourt, at the Norman survey the Manor of Newnham belonged to Richard de Curci, afterwards to the family of Ripargs or Redvers. Mary, youngest daughter of William de Redvers, Earl of Devon, (who, as well as his uncle William, was surnamed de Vernon,) married in 1214 Robert de Courtney, Baron of Okehampton<sup>b</sup>. After these succeeded Sir John Pollard, of Devon. From the Pollards it came to — Audley, of the court of wards, called the Rich Audley : Robert Wright, Bishop of Lichfield, was the next owner of it ; his son, Calvert Wright, sold it to John Robinson, of London, merchant, who was knighted in 1660 by King Charles II., and made lieutenant of the tower. From the Robinsons it descended to David, Earl of Wemys, (who married Mary, daughter and coheiress of Sir John Robinson, Bart. ;) from the said Earl of Wemys it was purchased in 1710 for the sum of £ 17,000, by Simon, first Lord Harcourt, Lord Chancellor of England. It was the first Lord Harcourt who removed the cottagers from their proximity to the mansion and the Church to the situation in which the village now stands on the London road.

The living is a Rectory, in the gift of the Harcourt family, and formerly belonged to the Abbey of Abingdon. It was valued in the King's Books at 16*l.* 6*s.* : the present value is 456*l.*, and the population 514.

<sup>b</sup> Cf. Dugdale's Baronage, Courtney, Earls of Devon.

# CULHAM.

PATRON.  
THE BISHOP OF  
OXFORD.

St. Paul.

DEANERY  
OF CUDDSDEN,  
HUNDRED  
OF DORCHESTER.

		FT.	IN.		FT.	IN.
Chancel	-	33	4	by	14	3
Nave	-	46	8	by	15	2
North transept	-	15	2	by	13	7
South transept	-	7	0	by	13	3
Tower	-	12	10	by	10	7
					Aisle	10 3

A SMALL plain Church ; plan, cruciform, with a tower at the west end.

The CHANCEL, with the exception of the north wall, is modern, and very bad ; on the south side is a door, with a fan-light over it, and a brick chimney ; on the north is a small trefoil recess, probably a locker for the cruets ; a monument of Thomas Bury, of an ancient family of that name, of Bury Hall, in the county of Lancashire, who died in 1624, and married Judith, daughter of Dr. Laurence Humphrey. The communion-table has the date of 1638. The roofs are all ceiled and white-washed. The north transept has a two-light lancet window on each side, and a debased Perpendicular window at the end. The south transept has a Decorated window of two lights on the east side, and another of three lights at the end, the mullions crossing in the head, and foliated. The south aisle has on the south side a Decorated window of two lights, the dripstone partly cut off. The south porch is plain and poor, with the date 1638. On the north side is a single lancet window, and above is a range of four clearstory windows of two lights, square, the heads all cut off by the wall-plate of the roof. The tower is debased, plain, and late ; there is the date of 1710 on the lead ; the south door is Decorated, but of the poorest description.

In the north transept the north window is filled with shields of arms of the seventeenth century, and is curiously made part of the design of a monument of the date of 1638, to the Cary family, erected by the Lady Judith Cary, to the memory of Sir Edmund Cary, Knight, deceased 1637. He was sometime Esquire of the Body to Queen Elizabeth, and Gentleman of the Privy Chamber to King James I. and King Charles I., and was the son of Henry Cary, Lord Hunsdon, Chamberlain to Queen Elizabeth. In the jambs of the windows are chains of shields, with the arms of various families.

The NAVE has on the south side five small arches, pointed and recessed, the edges chamfered, the chamfers continuing nearly to the ground, without caps or bases to the pillars; the chamfer terminations are good Early English. The tower-arch is lofty and well-proportioned, and pointed, but quite plain. It is boarded up, with a singers' gallery in front of it, with the date of 1721.

A stone font has recently been presented to the Church by J. Phillips, Esq., in the place of a mahogany one, which had been used for some years.

Near the Church is an Elizabethan manor house, with the date of 1610.

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#### HISTORICAL NOTICES.

A.D. 821. Coenulf, King of Mercia, gave to the Monastery of Abingdon, at the request of his sisters Keneswyth and Burgevilde, who had selected Abingdon Monastery as their place of burial, fifteen manses in Culham, [*loco, qui a ruricolis nuncupatur Cullanhaunna, cum omnibus utilitatibus ad eam pertinentibus.*] with the meadow called the Otteneyns<sup>a</sup>, so called to this day.

A.D. 940—946. Charter of King Eadmund, confirming to Abingdon monastery the grant of Culham, on condition that Abbot Godescale gave up possession of it to Ælfilda, [*Ælfeda?*] of kin to the royal family, for her life, as Coenulf had granted to his sisters before<sup>b</sup>. As this charter is curious, and we believe has never been printed before, we subjoin it at length.

<sup>a</sup> Dugd. Monast., vol. i. p. 614.

<sup>b</sup> MS. Claud., B. vi. f. 25.



Cotton MS. Claudius B. VI. fol. 25.

Carta regis Edmundi de Culeham.

“Eadmundus Æpelstano fratri succedens confirmavit ecclesie abbend’ þa Chenesfeld cum omnibus ad illam integre pertinentibus, quam predictus Aelfricus de consensu domini sui regis Æpelstani domui Abbend’ in puram et perpetuam contulerat elemosinam; hac tamen dicione, ut Godescall’ abbas abbend’ et conventus eiusdem loci concederent cuidam matrone regal’ progenei, nomine Ælfildæ, Culeham omnibus diebus vite sue liberam et quietam in ea forma et omni eodem tenore quo rex Kenulfus concessit sororibus suis, que eandem villam huic domui Abbend’ contulerunt, ut predictum est, et post decessum ipsius Ælfild villa memorata omni eodem modo ad proprios monachorum usus reuertetur. Quod itaque sic factum est, memorata Ælfilda cedente in fatum; sepulta est Ælfilda matrona ista in capella, quam in honore sancti Vincentii edificaverat.”

Mete de Culēham<sup>c</sup>.

“Ærest on þylfingford on temese. þ of þylfingaford & lang ane smale dic to þapanhæminga londgemære on nia heafdo. þford’ be þon heafdon on fippel<sup>d</sup> beorgas. of fippel beorgon on Culanhema dic & lang dic on æppelford. of æppelforda & lang þære richt temese on butan utan ege. þæt eft on þylsingford.”

TRANS. “First on Wylfingford upon Thames. From Wylfingford along a small dyke to the Nuneham landmarks on the headlands. From the headlands to the five barrows. From the five barrows to Culham dyke. Along the dyke to Appleford. From Appleford along straight to the Thames; and so about the outer stream that leads back to Wylfingford.”

A.D. 1110. A miller of Sutton, by name Gamel, was fined five mancuses for stealing earth from the Culham side of the river, for the repair of the mill. The case appears to have been carried by Faritus, the Abbot of Abingdon, to Hugh de Boclande, at that time Sheriff of Berkshire, who referred it to the justiciary of the hundred<sup>e</sup>.

A.D. 1111. Charter of Henry I. confirming to Abingdon St. Andrew’s Church, Culham, and all grants made by Aubrey de Vere, Beatrice his wife, and their children<sup>f</sup>.

A.D. circ. 1125. Vincent, Abbot of Abingdon, “devised to turne the streme of Isis, and at the last brought it on to the very abbay side, and partly thrwge it. The chefe streme of Isis rane afore betwixt Andersey Isle and Culneham, even where now the southe ende is of Culneham.

<sup>c</sup> It is “Cullanham” in MS. Cot. Claudius, C. ix.

<sup>d</sup> “Fippel” in the Saxon seems to be a corruption of þyjalb. So “fifel-stream” in the Saxon Boethius, quintuplex flu-

men; as the Punjab in Northern India is so called from the five tributary streams of the Indus.

<sup>e</sup> MS. Claud., B. vi. f. 135 b.

<sup>f</sup> Cotton. MS. Claud. C. ix. fol. 155.

The other arme that brekethe out of Isis aboute a quarter of a mile above Culneham, and then cummithe downe thorough Culneham bridge selfe, is now the lesse peace of the hole river<sup>g</sup>."

A.D. 1307. Nicholas de Coleham, Abbot of Abingdon. He is reported to have rebuilt St. Nicholas Church, without the west gate of the Abbey: ob. 1307.

A.D. 1416. Application was made by the fraternity of the Holy Cross, and the commons of Abingdon, to Henry V., and licence granted by letters patent dated Westminster, 20th June, 1416, to John Hutchion, John Brite, and the commons of the same town, to build bridges over Burford and Culhamford<sup>h</sup>.

A.D. 1430. An Act of Parliament was passed in this year to confirm the building of the bridges, with orders that the highway between them should be four perches and eight inches broad between the ditches of the said way<sup>i</sup>.

The circumstances connected with the building of Culham bridge have been very accurately described in the following metrical narrative, still preserved on the original table, set up by the author in the hall of Christ's Hospital, Abingdon, and which has been collated for the present work:—

Henrici quinti regis quarto revoluto  
 Anno, rex idem pontem fundavit utrumque,  
 Supra locum binum Borford dictumque Culhamford.  
 Inter eos namque via regia tendit alta.  
 Annis adjunctis dat inter gradientibus amplum;  
 Principium cujus Abendonie situatur.  
 Annis tunc donum M. quater C. numeratis,  
 Et sexto deno cum fecit opus pietatis.  
 Vos qui transitis hujus memores bene sitis,  
 Et vestris precibus fundator sit relevatus.

Of alle Wonders in this Worlde that ever were brought  
 Holy chyrche is chefe, there children been chersd<sup>a</sup>.  
 For be baptim these Barnes to blisse been i brought,  
 Thorough the grace of God, and sayre refreshed.  
 Another blisshed besines is brigges to make,  
 There that the pepul may not passe after gret showres.  
 Bolc<sup>b</sup> it is to drave a deyd body oute of a lake,  
 That was felled in a fount stoon<sup>c</sup>, and a felow of oures.

<sup>a</sup> Willis's Mitred Abbeys, in Leland. Collect., vol. vi. p. 192.

<sup>b</sup> Cal. Pat. Rot. 4 Hen. V. m. 23.

<sup>i</sup> On one of the windows in St. Helen's church was formerly the following distich,

"Henricus quintus quarto fundaverat anno  
 Rex pontem Burford super undas atque Culhamford."

Stevenson's MSS. Gough. Berks.

<sup>a</sup> Christened.

<sup>b</sup> Grievous.

<sup>c</sup> Washed in the font.

Kyng Henry the fyft in his fourthe Yere,  
 He hath i founde for his folke a brige in Berkeschire.  
 For cartis with carlage may goo and come clere,  
 That many Wynters afore were mareed in the Myre.  
 And som oute of her sadels flette<sup>d</sup> to the grounde  
 Went forthe in the Water wist no man whare.  
 Fyve Weekys after or they were i founde,  
 Her kyn and her knowlech<sup>e</sup> caught hem uppe with care.  
 Then the Commons of Abendon cryed on the kynge,  
 Upon Dukes and lordes that were in this londe.  
 The Kyng had hem begynne upon Goddes blissing,  
 And make it also stronge as they couthe with stone, lyme or sonde.  
 Upon the day of sept Albon they began this game,  
 And John Huchyns layde the firste stoon in the kynges name.  
 Sir Peris Besillis knyght curteys and heed,  
 For his fadir soule and his frendes he dyd as he scholde.  
 He gaf hem stonys i nowhe into the werkyng ende,  
 Also mony as they nedid feche hem if they wolde.  
 Than craft men for the quarry made crowes of yre,  
 Hinges, and wayes, and mony harde howys<sup>f</sup>,  
 Jeffray Barbour had pay hem her hyre.  
 Then must they have moulds to make on the bowys<sup>g</sup>.  
 They cockid for cartes, and cast for her chysyng.  
 They founde oute the fundement and layde in large stones  
 They reysid up the arches be gemeatre in rysyng,  
 With xi. laborers labyng<sup>h</sup> at onys.  
 Ther was water i nowhe, stone, lyme and gravel,  
 Werkemen als wise as they coude fynde any.  
 And eber had the barbour pay for her trabel,  
 Till a .j. Marke he spende eche a peny.  
 Then the strenghe of the streme astoned hem stronge,  
 In labor and labyng moche money was lore<sup>i</sup>.  
 Ther lobed hem a laddie was a water man longe,  
 He helpe stop the streme till the werke were a fore.  
 It was a solace to see in a somer seson,  
 CCC. f. wyse working at onys.  
 iiii. and iiii. reulyd be reson,  
 To wete who wrought best were set for the nonce<sup>k</sup>.  
 The peple prebed her power with the pecoyse<sup>l</sup>.  
 The Statok was man handeled right twele a whyple.  
 With spades and schobells they made suche a noyse,  
 That men myght here hem thens a myle.  
 Wybes went oute to wite<sup>m</sup> how they wrought:  
 V. score in a flock it was a layre syght.  
 In bord clothes bright white brede they brought,  
 Chees and chekenes clerelych<sup>n</sup> A dyght<sup>n</sup>.  
 These weren the wyches i dyged in ful harde grounde,

<sup>d</sup> Fell.<sup>e</sup> Acquaintance.<sup>f</sup> Hoes.<sup>g</sup> Arch-stones.<sup>h</sup> Baling.<sup>i</sup> Lost.<sup>k</sup> For this especial service.<sup>l</sup> Pickaxe.<sup>m</sup> Know.<sup>n</sup> Prepared.

And I cast up to arere with the wey,  
 Seithen they were I set with a quyk motownde  
 To holde in the bunkes for eber and ay.  
 The gode lord of Abendon left of his londre,  
 For the breed<sup>o</sup> of the brige <sup>iii</sup>. sote large.  
 It was a greet socour of erthe and of sonde,  
 And yt he abated the rent of the barge.  
 An C. potownde, and x<sup>li</sup>. was truly payed  
 Be the hondes of John Huchyns and Banbery also,  
 For the waige and the barge thus it must be sayed.  
 Therto witnesse al Abendon, and many oon moo.  
 For now is Culham hithe I com to an ende,  
 An al the contre the better and no man the woorse.  
 Few folke there were coude that wey townde,  
 But they waged a tow<sup>o</sup> or payed of her purse.  
 And if it were a begger had breed in his bagge,  
 He schulde be ryght sooner I bid for to goo aboute,  
 And of the pore peples the hiereward<sup>o</sup> wold hadde  
 A hood or a girdel, and let hem goo withoute.  
 Many moo myschedes there weren I say.  
 Culham hithe hath causid many a curse.  
 I blyssed be our helpers we hade a better waige,  
 Withoute any peny for cart and for horse.  
 Thus acordid the kynge and the cobent,  
 And the commones of Abendon as the Abbot wolde.  
 Thus they were cesed and set al in oon assent,  
 That al the brekynges of the brige the towne bere schulde.  
 This was preved acie also in the Parlement,  
 In perpetual pees to habe and to holde.  
 This tale is I tolde in noon other entent  
 But for myrthe and in memory to yonge and to olde.  
 Now every good body that gothe on this brige,  
 Bid for the Wardour gentil Jeffray,  
 That clothed many a pore man to bed and to rige,  
 And haite holpe to rents to holde up this waige.  
 The witche rentes right trewe men habe I take on honde,  
 And graciously governed hem now a good while.  
 Who so habe hem hereafter withe trewthe but he stonde,  
 It schal be knowen openly he dothe hymselfe begple.  
 I counsel every creature to kepe hym from the curse.  
 For of this treys wil I no more telle.  
 And be not to covetous to youre owne purse,  
 For perill of the pepnes in the pit of helle.  
 Now God gebe us grace to solowe treuthe eben,  
 That we may habe a place in the blypase of Heben. **A M E N.**

r. A. B. I. N. D. O. N. R. F. I.

Take the first letter of youre soure taber with A, the worker of wex, and I and  
 N, the coloure of an asse; set them togeder, and tel me yf you can what it is than.  
 Richard Fannande Fremonger haite made this tabul, and set it here in the  
 pere of Kynge Henry the serte xxxvi<sup>te</sup>.

o Breadth.

p Lest something as a pledge.

q Take for the tolls.

At the time of the dissolution of the Abbey the living of Culham was not in charge in the King's books, probably because it was not of sufficient value. The patronage appears to have been shortly afterwards given to the Bishop of Oxford. The present value is 100*l.* a year, and the population 404.

A.D. 1644. Col. Gage, making an attempt to break down Culham bridge, near Abingdon, where he intended to erect a royal fort, that should have kept that garrison from that side of the country, was shot through the heart with a musket bullet. Prince Rupert was present at the action, having approved and been much pleased with the design, which was never pursued after his death<sup>k</sup>.

A.D. 1666. A note of the sum collected in aid of the sufferers by the great fire of London occurs in the parish register as follows:—"Oct. 10th. Collected for the poore of London, disabled by a dismall and lamentable fiere, £1. 3s. 8d.<sup>l</sup>"

<sup>k</sup> Clarendon's Hist. Rebel, 1826, vol. iv. p. 595.

monumental inscriptions in Culham Church, A.D. 1660, see Antony à Wood's MS. E. I., p. 202, Ashmolean Mus. Oxf.

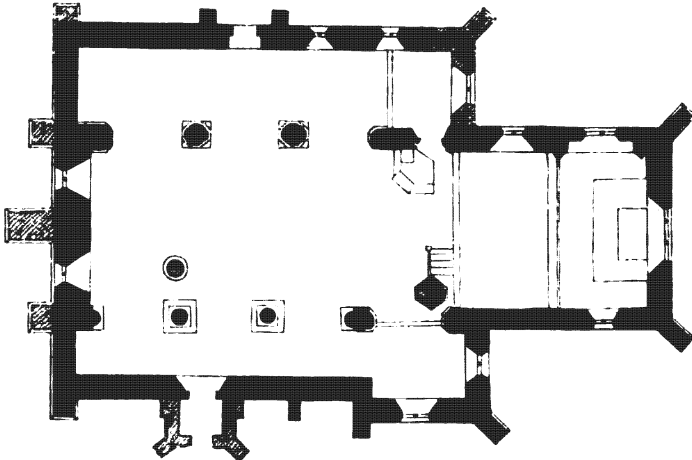
<sup>l</sup> For a full account of the arms and

## CLIFTON HAMPDEN.

PATRON.  
HENRY HUCKS GIBBS,  
Esq.

St. Michael.

DEANERY  
OF CUDESSEN.  
HUNDRED  
OF DORCHESTER.



PLAN OF THE CHURCH.



CLIFTON HAMPDEN CHURCH from the River.

A SMALL Church, of mixed styles, beautifully situated on a cliff at a bend of the river Thames. It has lately been restored, under the direction of Mr. Scott, architect, in extremely good taste, by the present patron, Mr. Henry Hucks Gibbs, in pursuance of the wishes of his father, the late Mr. George Henry Gibbs, with whom the design of restoring the Church originated, and who left by will a considerable sum for this object.

The CHANCEL. The east window is good Decorated, of three lights; the side windows are lancet-shaped. On the south side are two sedilia and a piscina, and on the north side a fine tomb, with the recumbent effigy of the late Mr. George Henry Gibbs, above mentioned, is introduced in the place of the Easter sepulchre.

The NAVE has on the south side three transition Norman arches, pointed, with plain Norman caps and bases to the pillars. On the north side are three Decorated arches, with plain mould-

ings continuous to the bases. The roof is a restoration of the old Decorated one, but with additional ornament introduced; this roof is continued over nave and Chancel, there being no Chancel-arch. The nave is divided from the Chancel by a screen. At the west end are two lancet-shaped windows, with foliated heads; between them on the exterior is a tall buttress to carry the bell-turret, which is very elegant, and terminated by a small spire. The south aisle is transition Norman, with a small Decorated chapel added at the east end; in this aisle there is a transition Norman piscina; a good porch, in the Decorated style, has been added on the south side. The north aisle is Decorated, with a plain lean-to roof. A vestry has recently been added at the east end of this aisle. A handsome lich-gate of carved oak has been erected at the entrance of the Church-yard; this adds considerably to the picturesque beauty of the scene, which, as a whole, is seldom equalled. For notes of the arms and monuments of the Church, taken A.D. 1660, see Harleian MSS., Brit. Mus., 4170.



THE LICH-GATE.

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#### HISTORICAL NOTICES.

Clifton, (cliff town,) so called from its situation as above described, (p. 374,) received the additional name Hampden from Myles Hampden<sup>a</sup>, one of its chief Lords in the reign of King Henry VIII., to distinguish it from Clifton Ferry<sup>b</sup>, which is on the other side of the water, in the parish of Long Wittenham.

<sup>a</sup> "The Monastic of Dorchester — of Clifton yearly for ever, vjd."—Valor  
payde to Myles Hampden for a quit rent Ecc. ii. p. 171.

<sup>b</sup> Ibid., p. 268.

A.D. 1272. Richard de Clifton held of the Bishop of Lincoln, in chief, two knights' fees in Clifton and Baldon<sup>c</sup>, which were soon afterwards held by William de Baldon<sup>d</sup>.

A.D. 1538. 29 Hen. VIII. At the Dissolution the possessions of the Abbey of Dorchester in Clifton, and the adjoining village of Burcot, were,

	li	s	d
Rent and farm, with rent of Assize in Byrcote . . . . .	2	10	4
The farm of the Rectory of Birdcote, with all tithes and oblations pertaining to the said Rectory, let at will to John Drabayn . . . . .	4	13	4
Rent of Assize, with rent of customary tenants in Clyftonne . . . . .	7	2	10
The Rectory of Clyftonne, let to William Yong by indenture under the seal of the Convent, dated 15 March, 17 Hen. VIII., for a term of sixteen years, at a yearly rent of <sup>e</sup> . . . . .	9	0	0

A.D. 1546. 37 Hen. VIII. The Rectories and Churches, with the Vicarages, Advowsons, &c., of Clyfton and Byrdcomte, which, after the suppression of Dorchester Abbey, had been granted to the Abbey of Oseney, in Oxford<sup>f</sup>, on the occasion of its being made (A.D. 1542) the Cathedral Church for the Diocese of Oxford, were, on the 22nd of November in this year, granted by the King to George Rythe, Gentleman, and John Pollard, Esq. On the 18th of December following, George Rythe made over all his share in the said Rectories, Churches, Vicarages, and Advowsons, to John Pollard, from whom these rights descended to his heirs. Burcot is no longer a benefice, and all traces of its Church are lost, except perhaps a mutilated piece of stone sculpture, which may have been the top of a church-yard Cross, representing on one side the Blessed Virgin and Holy Infant, and on the other a crucifix, with figures of the Blessed Virgin and St. John the Evangelist. The Rectory, under a commission of enclosure, A.D. 1775, was valued at 76*l.* per annum, and lands assigned in lieu of tithes. The living of Clifton Hampden, late in the peculiar of Dorchester, is now a perpetual Curacy, value 107*l.*; population by the last return 297.

<sup>c</sup> Testa de Nevill, p. 120.

<sup>d</sup> Hundred Rolls, ii. p. 749.

<sup>e</sup> Records in the Exchequer, 29 Hen. VIII., printed in Appendix C to "Some

Account of the Abbey Church of Dorchester." J. H. Parker, Oxford, 1846, pp. 79, 92, 157, 166.

<sup>f</sup> MS. of H. J. Hannam, Esq., of Burcot.



# WARBOROUGH.

PATRON.

*St. Laurence.*

DEANERY

P. C.

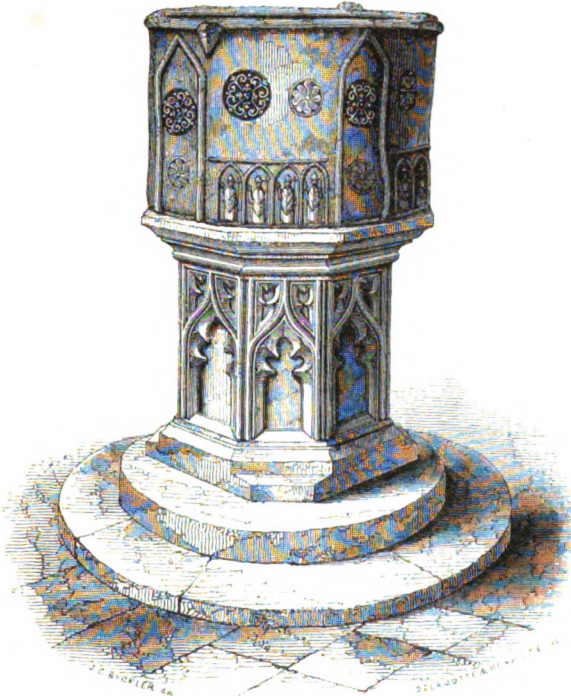
OF CUDDSDEN.

CORPUS CHRISTI COLL.

HUNDRED

OXFORD.

OF EWELME.



THE FONT, WARBOROUGH.

A CHURCH retaining but few of its ancient features, with a modern tower at the west end; the walls of the Chancel are Early English, the strings under the windows remain, and the inner arch of the east window, but the window itself is an insertion of the Decorated period, of three lights, with flowing tracery; a shaft with foliated cap remains on the angle of each side: the side windows are also insertions, some Decorated, some Perpendicular, and there is a small Decorated piscina with the wooden shelf. On the south side is a small doorway of Early English character, on the wooden door of which is some of the original iron-work of the thirteenth century.

The Chancel-arch is destroyed, as are also the last remains of a rood-loft: on the eastern side of the partition remaining between the nave and Chancel is painted the plume of feathers which forms the badge of the Prince of Wales, with the initials C. P. (Carolus Princeps.)



Hinge on the Chancel Door

The walls of the nave are Decorated, with a doorway of the same date, but the windows are insertions of the Perpendicular style.

The Tower is modern, rebuilt in 1666, with some old work.

The Font is of lead, and worthy of particular notice: the figures under the arcade round the base are repetitions of one type representing an archbishop raising the right hand in the attitude of blessing, and holding in the left a crozier. (See the woodcut on the preceding page.) There is one very similar to it at Long Wittenham, most of the ornaments are identical; it is Early English work, but the pedestal is of stone with Perpendicular panelling, similar to that at Dorchester.

On the south side of the Church is a small chapel projecting, of Decorated work; the arch is of wide span, and plain. The south window is of two lights; on the east side of this, in the south wall, is a piscina, and a single seat beside it. The east window is filled up and the Altar removed.

The pewing is quite recent, all open, with poppies, but painted, and otherwise not in good taste, the backs of the pews being too high, and the poppies ill-executed. In the Chancel all the pews are turned with their backs to the Altar. The walls are wainscoted, and ornamented with rows of hat-pegs. The pulpit, reading-desk, and clerk's seat, are in the regular modern gradation. At the west end is a singers' gallery, with garret windows at each end to light it; these are disguised outside with barge-boards.

There is a fine tower-arch, erected in 1666, now boarded up, and the interior of the tower is appropriated to the ringers, for

whom a west entrance was made, A.D. 1844. The south porch is of modern boarding, very bad. In the Church-yard there is the tall shaft of a Perpendicular cross.

#### HISTORICAL NOTICES.

A. D. 1272. 1 Edw. I. The Church of Warborough, Wardburg, or Warberewe, was originally a chapel to the Church of Benson<sup>a</sup>, and belonged to the Abbot of Dorchester, to whom the mother Church was given by the Empress Matilda<sup>b</sup>.

A.D. 1538. 29 Hen. VIII. At the Dissolution the possessions of the Abbey of Dorchester in this place were,

The Rectory of Warborowe, with all and singular tithes and profits belonging to it, let to John Holmes, by indenture, under the seal of the Convent of Dorchester, dated 4th day of May, 25 Hen. VIII., for a term of 21 years from the decease or resignation of Roger Smith, Abbot of the said Monastery. The lessee, at his own proper cost, to find bread and wine; and at the feast of Easter, two wax lights on the High Altar, . . . . . £24. 0s. 0d.

Redd' assis' et cust' ten' in Warborowe<sup>c</sup>, . . . . . £11. 17s. 4½d.

Warborough was one of the twelve Churches in the late peculiar and exempt jurisdiction of Dorchester. The living is now a perpetual curacy in the patronage of Corpus Christi College in Oxford. The value is £350, and the population, according to the last return, 737.

A.D. 1588. A suit was at this time carried on between Richard Spyer, William Hobbes, and other inhabitants of Warborough, plaintiffs, and the President and scholars of St. John's College in Oxford, defendants, respecting the "Burylands" in Warborough. There is a collection of several documents relating to this suit in the parish chest, and among them are letters patent, granted 24th July, (29 Q. Eliz.,) rehearsing an inquisition, (16 King Hen. VI.,) from which it appears that Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, (11 King Edw. I.,) gave to the chapel of St. Nicholas in his castle of Walingford 40*l.* annual rent in Warberewe and Scillingford, which was parcel of the manor of Bensinton, and in the reign of Queen Elizabeth was reduced to the yearly value of 24*l.*

The rectory, parsonage, and chapel of Warborough, belonging to the late monastery of Dorchester, came into possession of Corpus Christi College by grant from King Henry VIII. in 1537, by way of exchange and purchase, the Crown reserving the tenth part of a knight's fee, viz., 3*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*, in lieu of all other services, rent, and demands, and discharged of first fruits and tenths.

J. B.

<sup>a</sup> Hundred Rolls, vol. ii. p. 751, quoted in Historical Notices of Benson.

<sup>c</sup> See *ibid.*, pp. 92, 142-3, 145, 150,

<sup>b</sup> Abbey Church of Dorchester. Ox- 155.

# BENSON.

PATRON.  
P. C.  
CHRIST CHURCH,  
OXFORD.

St. Helen.

DEANERY  
OF CUDDSDEN.  
HUNDRED  
OF EWELME.



EAST VIEW OF THE CHANCEL OF BENSON CHURCH.

A PLAIN Church, of mixed styles; plan oblong, with aisles to the nave, and a tower at the west end.

The CHANCEL.—The original part is late Norman; two small round-headed windows and a round-headed doorway remain, they are quite plain, with the original dripstones.

The Chancel-arch is transition from Norman, pointed, the edges chamfered, springing from imposts ornamented with a cluster of Norman mouldings, and a head for a corbel. In the fourteenth century the Chancel was lengthened; the east window of three lights, and the buttresses at the eastern angles, belong to that period.

The NAVE has three pointed arches on each side, recessed, with the edges chamfered, the pillars round, with Early English caps and bases. Of these caps, three are moulded with deep

hollow mouldings, and three sculptured with the stiff-leaf ornament. The aisles are both Decorated. The windows on the south side are of two lights, with quatrefoils in the head, lately well restored; those on the north side have had their tracery cut out, but the dripstones remain. The south door is of the fourteenth century, but quite plain. The tower is modern, substantially built, but a very bad imitation of Gothic. The Font is plain, round, Early English; the pewing is all modern, and very bad, and the Church is much spoiled by galleries.

Under the stove in the middle of the nave is a monumental slab, defaced, but retaining the following portions of the inscription in brass:—

Vivimus incerti, nec spes est carcere clausis  
 An vitam aut mortem labilis hora dabit.  
 Dum proavum juvenis gressus colit, inde severa  
 Mors sequitur juvenem, nec sinit esse senem.

ON THE VERGE OF THE SLAB.

(Freman filius atque heres Gulielmi Freman nuper de Preston-Cro-marsh,) qui quidem Gulielmus nupsit (unam filiarum Johannis) Bigge generosi, (et obiit sexto die mensis Junii anno<sup>a</sup>.)

The bells, eight in number, are modern.

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HISTORICAL NOTICES.

Benson, or Bensington, to which belongs the hamlet of Crowmarsh Battle, was a place of importance in very early times. The river Thames was here crossed by the old Roman road Akemanstreet, some remains of which are mentioned by Dr. Plot as running west of the Church, and still known by the name of "Medlers-bank." The town was taken and retaken in the Saxon period, and was a long time the court of the Mer-  
 cian kings.

A.D. 571. This year Cuthwulf (third King of the West Saxons) fought with the Britons at Bedford and took four towns, Lenbury & Aylesbury & "Benningtun" & Eynesham; and in this same year he died<sup>b</sup>.

<sup>a</sup> The words in brackets are supplied from Wood's MS., E. I. Ash. Mus. f. 205, where will also be found the inscriptions, formerly in Bensington church; of Stephen Smith, of Turner's court, A.D.

1606; Elizabeth wife of Wm. Stompe, of Crommarsh Battell, A.D. 1590: also of Ralph and Jane Welch, A.D. 16 . .

<sup>b</sup> Saxon Chronicle, sub anno. See also Dr. Plot's Nat. Hist. of Oxon., p. 348;

A.D. 775. This year Cynewulf King of the West Saxons and Offa (King of the Mercians) fought near "Bynsingtun," and Offa took the town<sup>d</sup>. In a passion for its long defence, Offa dismantled the place; and for the reward of his victory was again possessed of this whole county.

A.D. 1084. 18 William I. At the time of the Domesday survey the manor of "Besintone" belonged to the King, including the socage of the four hundreds and a half<sup>e</sup>, which are still called the "Chiltern hundreds," consisting of Pirton, Binfield, Langtree, Lewknor, and the half hundred of Ewelme or Benson. These being by privilege annexed to the Crown, and having their own courts, a steward of those courts is appointed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with a salary of 20s., and all fees, &c. belonging to the office: this is deemed an appointment of sufficient profit to vacate a seat in Parliament.

A.D. 1205. 6 John. By a charter dated at "Denecastre" the first day of March, King John confirmed to Eustace, Abbot, and his successors, and the Canons of Dorkecestre, the Church of Besinton, which had been given to that house by his grandmother, the Empress Matilda, confirmed by his father King Henry the Second, and by his brother King Richard the First<sup>d</sup>.

A.D. 1244. 28 Hen. III. The manor of "Bensenton," which, with the four hundreds of "Ciltre," being of the value C<sup>ll</sup>, had been given by King John to John de Harecurt<sup>e</sup>, and had afterwards been held by Engelard de Atye, who died without heirs, was now bestowed by King Henry upon his brother Richard, Earl of Cornwall, on the occasion of his marriage with the Lady Senchia, sister of the Queen Consort<sup>f</sup>.

A. D. 1272. 1 Edw. I. Dicunt etiam juratores quod advocacio matricis ecclesie de Bensington' una cum capellis subscriptis scilicet Henlee, Netelbedd, et Wardburg' spectant ad predictum manerium de Bensington et quod Abbas de Dorkecestr' tenet matricem ecclesiam de Be'sinton' cum capellis de Netelbedd et Wardburg. Et dominus Henricus de la More tenet ecclesiam de Henlee de dono domini Ricardi quondam comitis Cornubie<sup>g</sup>.

A.D. 1308. 1 Edw. II. The King granted the manor of Bensington, with all other lands which Edmund earl of Cornwall held at his death, as well in reversion as possession, to Piers de Gaveston<sup>h</sup>.

A. D. 1416. 4 Hen. V. Lands and tenements in "Bensynton"

Bp. Kennett, i. 23, 33, 44, 46; and p. 118.

Camden, Mag. Brit. com. Oxon.

<sup>f</sup> Hundred Rolls, vol. ii. pp. 30-3, and

<sup>d</sup> Domesday Book, vol. i. f. 154 b.

43.

<sup>e</sup> See the charter at length, "Abbey

<sup>g</sup> Ibid., p. 751.

Church of Dorchester," p. 89.

<sup>h</sup> Bp. Kennett, sub anno, from Dugd.

<sup>c</sup> Testa de Nevill, p. 107; see also

Bar., vol. ii. p. 42 b.

were held by Sir Richard, son of Thomas, Lord Camoys<sup>1</sup>. Other possessions in Benson belonged to the Abbeys of Oseney and Thame, and to the Nunneries of Godstow and Littlemore<sup>2</sup>.

A.D. 1538. 29 Hen. VIII. At the Dissolution, the Abbey of Dorchester, besides divers messuages in Benson and Walynford, possessed the Rectory of Bensingtonn, with tithes and all profits, let to Henry Reybone, by indenture, under the seal of the Convent of Dorchester, dated 9th day of July, 4 Hen. VIII., for a term of thirty-one years<sup>1</sup>, at a yearly rent of 21*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.*

The Rectory of Netelbed<sup>m</sup>, originally a Chapel to Benson Church, was let to Roger Hatcheman, at a yearly rent of 13*s.* 4*d.*

The Parsonage of Benson, value 15*l.*, was given by King Henry VIII. to the College which he founded in Oxford<sup>m</sup>, and the living, which was one of the twelve in the late peculiar and exempt jurisdiction of Dorchester, is now a perpetual Curacy in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, value £180. Population, according to the last return, 1254.

J. B.

<sup>1</sup> Borstall Chartulary, quoted in Historical Notices of Great Milton. 1845, pp. 142-3, 147, 163-4.

<sup>m</sup> Ibid., p. 168.

<sup>2</sup> Hundred Rolls, ii. p. 31.

<sup>n</sup> Dugd. Mon. N. E. ii. p. 170.

<sup>1</sup> "Abbey Church of Dorchester,"

## TOOT BALDON.

PATRON.

*St. Laurence.*

DEANERY

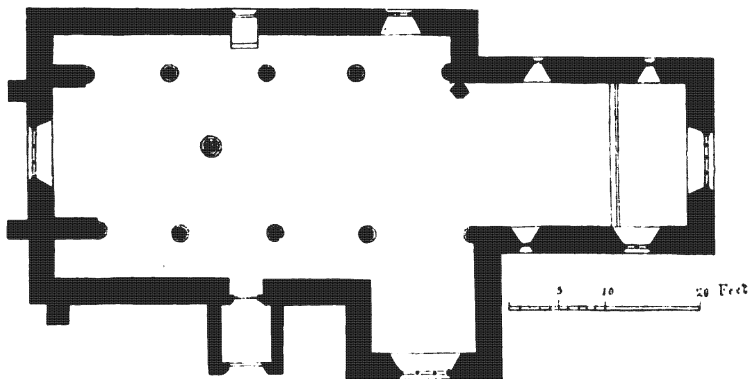
SIR H. P. WILLOUGHBY,

OF CUDDSDEN.

BART.

HUNDRED

OF BULLINGTON.



PLAN OF TOOT BALDON CHURCH



WEST VIEW OF THE CHURCH.

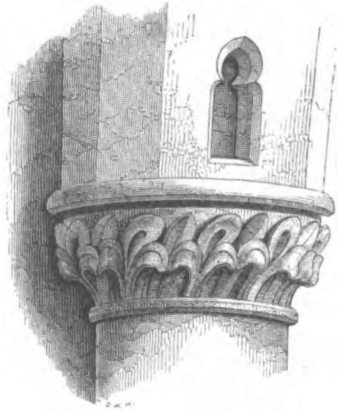
A SMALL Early English Church, plan oblong, with aisles to the nave, and a bell-gable for two bells at the west end.

The CHANCEL on the north side has two lancet windows, small openings widely splayed within, and a small square locker close to the east end. On the south side another lancet window, and a Decorated window of two lights, without cusps; the outer arch is pointed, with the roll-moulding for a label, inside there is a segmental arch; this window is very clumsy work. There is another small square locker close to the east wall on this side also. The east window, inserted in the course of some repairs of the Chancel A.D. 1800, is extremely ugly, being of wood-work, with a shutter outside.

The NAVE has four Early English arches on each side, pointed, not recessed, but the edges chamfered off; the pillars on the north side have the caps sculptured with the stiff-leaf ornament bold and good, very early in the style. The eastern respond, which is of this character, has a small trefoil-headed niche immediately above the cap, supposed to have been for the holy oil used in baptism by the Roman Church, and therefore to mark



the original place of the font. The caps on the south side have mouldings also of very early character; the hood-moulds of the arches are very simple, almost Norman. The north aisle has a Decorated two-light window, square-headed, with a dripstone, the lights have trefoil heads. At the west end of this aisle is a very small lancet window, not more than eighteen inches high, widely splayed within. The north door is Norman, round-headed, with plain impost.



Cap on the North Side

On the south side a small chapel has been thrown out in the fourteenth century, with a Decorated window of three lights, the mullions crossing in the head, without cusps, containing, in painted glass at the top, a head of our Saviour. The south door is very plain, with a segmental head of wood, which seems to be work of the fourteenth century: the porch is modern, a fair imitation of the transition from Norman.

The west window of the nave is Decorated, of two lights, without cusps. At this end there are two Early English buttresses, and a double bell-gable of very early character. The roofs are wide spreading, covering over nave and aisles under one span; they are all hidden by ceilings, except the tie-beams and wall-plates, which are quite plain.

The Font is plain round, Early English, standing on two round steps in the centre of the Church, towards the west end, nearly opposite the south door. There are a number of encaustic tiles in this Church, but they are much worn.

In the Church-yard is the shaft of a Perpendicular cross, with part of the shaft remaining.

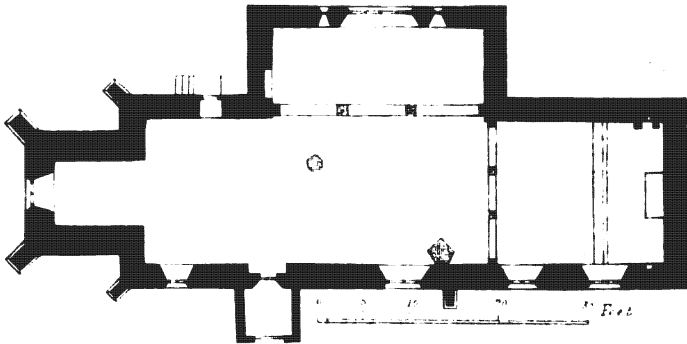
The situation of this Church is very good, on the top of a small hill.

# MARSH BALDON.

PATRON.  
SIR H. P.  
WILLOUGHBY,  
BART.

St. Peter.

DEANERY  
OF CUDDSDEN.  
HUNDRED  
OF  
BULLINGTON.

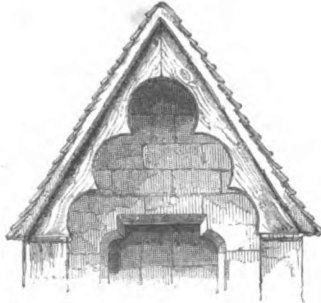


PLAN OF MARSH BALDON CHURCH

A SMALL Church, which has a Tower at the west end, so much overgrown with ivy that little can be known of its style, but it appears to be Decorated, with a west window of two lights: the lower part is square, and the upper part octagonal.

The CHANCEL. The east window has been removed to the north aisle, and its place occupied by a copy of a fine painting, representing the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, the gift of Sir Christopher Willoughby (A.D. 1794), whose arms are painted on a shield above it. On the south side is a good Perpendicular piscina, and the window adjoining to it, of the same age, has a seat formed in the sill. In this window are some bits of old glass mixed with modern, the latter consisting chiefly of the armorial bearings of the families of Danvers and Pollard, successively connected with Baldon. The other window on the south side is also Perpendicular, with remains apparently of a low side opening, under it.

The NAVÉ has on the south side one Perpendicular window, and two unsightly insertions of modern days. The south door is small and plain, of the form called the square-headed trefoil; it is probably of the fourteenth century, and the barge-boards of the porch appear to be of the same age. On the north side is an aisle, the pillars and arches of which are modern, of wood, and very bad; they appear to have been cut out of deal board. The window on the north side, removed from the east end, is filled with fragments of painted glass, of various ages. In the centre, under a canopy of Decorated work (temp. Ed. III.), is a figure of St. Ann, in the costume of the fourteenth century, teaching the Blessed Virgin: the figures on each side of this subject are much later, one representing a female saint, and the other St. John the Evangelist. Above these are two coats of arms, early in the fourteenth century: the first, (of which the wrong side is exposed to the weather,) Gules, three lions passant Argent, being the coat of the Giffards, Earls of Buckingham, whose ancestor, Walter Giffard, a follower of the Conqueror, held nine lordships in Oxfordshire<sup>a</sup>: the other coat is Gules, two lions passant gardant Argent, name De la Mare. The family of De la Mare<sup>b</sup> were lords of Marsh Baldon, and patrons of the Chapel and Vicarage, in the thirteenth and fourteenth



The South Porch



Wall plate in the Porch



<sup>a</sup> See Domesday Survey, f. 157 b, and Dugdale's Baronage. <sup>b</sup> Dugd. Bar., ii. p. 28.

centuries<sup>c</sup>. The next coat in the order of time is one at the bottom of the window, of the Royal Arms of England in the time of King Henry the Eighth. The arms above and to the right of the figure of St. Ann, which belong to the seventeenth century, are, Argent, a cheveron Azure, between three scallops Gules (Pollard): quartering Argent, a cheveron Sable between three mullets Gules, pierced (Danvers). To the left is another coat of the same date.

The Font is modern and diminutive; and there are two very bad imitation Gothic monuments against the north wall of the Chancel, one to the memory of friends of Sir Christopher Willoughby, Bart., the other to the memory of relations. On the opposite side is a monument with twisted columns, figures of cherubs, and a long Latin inscription, to the memory of Ann, daughter of John Pollard and Susanna Danvers, of Baldon. This lady was the wife of John Crawley, D.D., and deceased A.D. 1701: above are the arms of Crawley; impaling, Pollard.

On the floor of the Chancel are two less ostentatious monuments, consisting of stone slabs inlaid with brass; one of which, marking the burial-place of John Danvers, has above the inscription the following coat, quarterly, 1. a cheveron between three mullets of six points (Danvers); 2. on a bend, three martlets; 3. chequée, a chief guttée; 4. fret-tée of six: in fess



"HERE LYETH ENTERED YE BODY OF IOHN DANVERS LATE OF MARCH BALDEN, IN YE COVNTY OF OXON, ESQ., WHO DECEASED THE 26 OF APRIL, A<sup>o</sup> 1651."

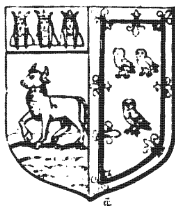
<sup>c</sup> A.D. 1241-4. Petrus de la Mare presentavit ad capellam de Mershe Baldington et ad vicariam de Merke baudinton anno vj<sup>o</sup>. et ix<sup>o</sup>. Rob. Grostète. R. Dodsworth, MS. Bodl. Lib., vol. 107. f. 78 b.

A.D. 1294. Magister Will. de Monteforti decanus Sci Pauli London, ratione

custodie terrarum et heredis quondam Domini Petri Delamare, presentavit ad ecclesiam Mersbaldindon, anno xiiij<sup>o</sup>. Oliver Sutton. Ibid., f. 163 b.

A.D. 1305. Robertus Delamare presentavit ad capellam de Mersbaldindon, anno v<sup>o</sup>. J. Dalderby. Ibid., f. 200.

point a mullet of difference. The other monument, to the memory of Bishop Bridges, has a shield, upon which are engraved the arms of the Bishopric of Oxford, impaling three owls within a tressure counter-fleurée<sup>d</sup>.— (Bridges.)



"HERE VNDER LYETH BVRIED Y<sup>e</sup> BODY OF Y<sup>e</sup> REVEREND FATHER, IOHN BRIDGES, LATE BISHOPP OF OXON, WHO DEP'TED THIS LYFE Y<sup>e</sup> XXVI DAY OF MARCH, AN<sup>o</sup> D'NI 1618."

### HISTORICAL NOTICES.

The name Baldendone, Baldington, or Baldon, has from very early times been common to several townships lying within the boundaries of Baldon *field*, consisting chiefly of Toot Baldon, with its hamlets Baldon St. Laurence, and Little Baldon; and Marsh Baldon, which is a separate parish without any hamlet annexed.

The Roman road called Akemanstreet, says Dr. Plot, passed by the two Baldons in the way from Shotover to Wallingford<sup>e</sup>. From the mention of "beald dun" (bold down) in the boundaries of Sandford, A.D. 1050, it would appear that the shorter form of the name prevailed even in Saxon times<sup>f</sup>.

A.D. 1084. 18 William I. At the Norman survey the principal land-owners here were, in Baldendone, within the half hundred of Besenton, Svain, the sheriff (vicecomes), who held six hides of the King and Hugh of him<sup>g</sup>. In Baldendone, within the hundred of Dorchester, the Bishop of Lincoln, under whom Iseward held five hides, and Bristeuia two hides and a half<sup>h</sup>.

A.D. 1255. 9 Hen. III.<sup>1</sup> Bullenden'. In Baudendon sunt xxx hide terre quarum Willielmus de Baudendon' tenet v hidas et dimidiam de Episcopo Lincolnienisi per servicium unius feodi militis et sequitur hundred'.<sup>k</sup>

<sup>d</sup> See Harleian MS., 4170. The upper part of the dexter side of the shield being now defaced on the brass plate, the engraving has been completed from the obituary window of Robert Kynge, first Bishop of Oxford, put up in Christ Church Cathedral by his descendants, A.D. 1630. See also the engravings of bishops' arms prefixed to Bishop Sparrow's collections, and those in Guillim's Treatise of Honour, p. 124.

<sup>e</sup> Nat. Hist. Oxf., ch. 10. § 27, 28, quoted by Bishop Kennett, vol. i. p. 23.

<sup>f</sup> Cot. MS. Brit. Mus. Claud. B. vi. f. 114, 115.

<sup>g</sup> Domesday Book, vol. i. p. 160.

<sup>h</sup> Ibid., 155 b. See also 156 bis, 157, 159 b.

<sup>i</sup> Hundred Rolls, vol. ii. p. 39.

<sup>k</sup> These five hides were in Little Baldon, (Parva Baldindon'.) See *ibid.*, p. 724.

Item Robertus de la Mare tenet x hidas per servicium unius feodi militis tent' de domino Ricardo comite Cornubie et est de honore Walingford non sequitur hundr'.<sup>l</sup>—Item dominus Episcopus Lincolnensis tenet ij hidas et dimidiam pertinentes ad baroniam de Dorkecestre non sequitur hundr'.<sup>m</sup>—Item Johannes de Mortayn tenet unam hidam et dimidiam terre de Burghfond per servicium quarte partis unius feodi militis et sequitur hundr'.<sup>n</sup>—Item Georgius de Luches tenet iij hidas terre de Priore de Nuiun ad feodi firmam pro lxs. per annum et sequitur hundr'.—Item Robertus de Luches tenet unam hidam et dimidiam per servicium trium parcium dimidii feodi unius militis de baronia sci Walerici non sequitur hundr'.<sup>o</sup>—Item Johannes de Scaccariis, Walterus filius Rogeri, Willielmus de Scropes tenent vi hidas pro equalibus porcionibus de Ada Dispensatore per servicium unius feodi militis et seq' hundr'.—Dominus Robertus, Persona capelle de Baldindon', (sc. Marsh Baldon) tenet unam virgatam terre de eodem feodo (sc. Petri de la Mare) que pertinet ad predictam capellam faciendo inde servicium domini Regis quantum pertinet<sup>p</sup>.

A.D. 1316. 9 Edw. II. By a return made in this year it appears that the lordship of the Baldons was shared as follows<sup>q</sup>:—

Hundredum de Bolinden est Domini Regis.

Villa de Baldinden sci Laurentii cum Totbaldinden, Mershbaldinden, et Parva Baldinden.	}	Dni	{	Ricardus de Louches <sup>r</sup> Lucia de la Mare Jo' Bradele.
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A.D. 1437. 15 Hen. VI. Thomas Baldington, and his wife Agnes, besides Baldyngdone's manor, and various other possessions in Thame, North Weston, Aldebury, Ruycote, were seized of one messuage, one virgate of land, two acres of meadow, and two acres of feedings in Baldyngdone<sup>s</sup>. The lady here mentioned was the daughter of Sir John Danvers of Banbury, Cothorp, and Ipwel, Oxon, by his first wife. Their daughter and heir Agnes, was married to William Brome<sup>t</sup>, Esq., the restorer of Holton church in the fifteenth century, and founder of the

<sup>l</sup> These ten hides are the same which were afterwards held by Peter de la Mare in "Mersbaldindone." See *ibid.*, p. 724.

<sup>m</sup> These two hides and a half are mentioned *ibid.*, p. 724. Hence, perhaps, arose the name "Bishop's Baldon," a part of St. Laurence Baldon. See Rayner on Tithes, p. 597.

<sup>n</sup> Sir John de Mortoyne held in Baldindon' sci Laurentii. See *ibid.*, p. 724.

<sup>o</sup> G. and R. de Louches held in Bal-

don St. Laurence, as did also the tenants of Despenser. *Ibid.*, pp. 724, 725.

<sup>p</sup> Hundred Rolls, vol. ii. p. 724.

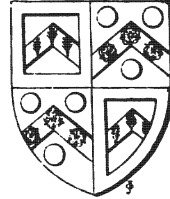
<sup>q</sup> Parl. Writs, vol. ii. div. 3. p. 351.

<sup>r</sup> For further particulars of Richard de Louches and his family, see the historical notices of Great Milton.

<sup>s</sup> Esch. 15 Hen. VI., No. 28.

<sup>t</sup> Compare Bp. Kennet, *Par. Ant.*, vol. ii. p. 414, with Esch. 21 Ed. IV., No. 36.

south chapel, where his brass effigy still remains (A.D. 1461), which was formerly accompanied<sup>u</sup> by a coat of arms similar to that cut in stone on the east gable of the nave at Holton, viz. (Sable,) on a chevron within a border (Argent) 3 broom-slips (Vert) (Brome); quartering (Argent,) on a chevron (Sable,) between 3 pellets, as many roses (of the field.) (Baldington.) This coat of the Baldingtons of Baldington was quartered for several generations by the Bromes of Holton, and after them by the Whorwoods<sup>x</sup>.



A.D. 1509. 24 Hen. VII., April 2. The manor of Baldington St. Laurence, Oxon., with all its appurtenances, whether they be in the villages of Baldington St. Laurence, Tutbaldington, Marshbaldington, Parva Baldington, and Garsingdon, &c. were given to Queen's College, in Oxford, by Edward Hilton, Fellow, and Edward Rigge, Provost of the College. The manor of Tutbaldington was within two days afterwards given to the same College, by Christopher Bainbrige, sometime Provost of Queen's College, and afterwards Archbishop of York<sup>y</sup>.

A.D. 1538. 29 Hen. VIII. At the time of the Ecclesiastical Survey, the clear receipts of Queen's College were,—From the manor of Baldington St. Laurence, and its appurtenances, in Marsh Baldington, Tot Baldington, and Garsington, per ann. 17*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* From the manor of Tot Baldington and its appurtenances, and parcells in Marshebaldington, and Stanton St. John, 10*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

The manors of Toot Baldon, and Baldon St. Laurence<sup>z</sup>, still belong to

<sup>u</sup> Wood's MS. Ash. Mus. E. 1. and D. 14.

<sup>x</sup> See monuments in Holton Church.

<sup>y</sup> Wood's Hist. and Antiq. Oxon. ed. Gutch, vol. iii. p. 144.

<sup>z</sup> It is remarkable, that all the Baldons keep as their feast of dedication the festival of St. Laurence. And there is much reason to suppose that originally the only parish of Baldon was attached to a Church of St. Laurence, built at Baldon under the care of the bishop and convent of Dorchester. The name Tot, Tut, or Toot, at first used to distinguish a small part of it, was derived from some early proprietor, or possibly from Tota, whom Bp. Godwin mentions as bishop of Dorchester about A.D. 787. In the thirteenth century (see above, pp. 388, 390) Peter de la Mare, or Mere, built and endowed

a chapel, dedicated to St. Peter, in a part of the parish which, from its being the residence of his family, was called Mersbaldindon, Mare's Baldon. This chapel, as early as A.D. 1341, (Inquisit. Nonarum, p. 135,) was called a parish Church, and is said not to have been subject to Toot Baldon as the mother Church. For a full view of the ecclesiastical history of the Baldons, see "Cases at large concerning Tithes," by John Rayner, of the Inner Temple. London, 1783; Mich. term, 11 Geo. III., A.D. 1770, pp. 574—621. At the Dissolution, A.D. 1538, the rectory of Baldon was let at will to Thomas Byasseley, at a rent of £7, and the king, by letters patent, granted a lease of the said rectory to Dionysius Toppis. "Account of Dorchester Abbey Church," pp. 92. 168.

Queen's College, Oxford, and that of Marsh Baldon is possessed by Sir H. P. Willoughby, whose predecessor, Sir Christopher Willoughby of Baldon House, Oxon., was created a Baronet, Dec. 8, 1794<sup>a</sup>.

Toot Baldon, formerly in the peculiar of Dorchester Abbey, to which house the Rectory was impropriate, is now a Vicarage, the advowson belonging to Sir H. P. Willoughby, who is the lay rector. Value, £30. Population 270.

Marsh Baldon is now a Rectory, also in the gift of Sir H. P. Willoughby: Value, £93; population, 300. J. B.

---

## COWLEY.

*St. James.*

PATRON.  
DEAN AND CHAPTER  
OF CHRIST CHURCH,  
OXFORD.

DEANERY  
OF CUDDSDEN.  
HUNDRED  
OF BULLINGTON.



SOUTH-EAST VIEW OF COWLEY CHURCH.

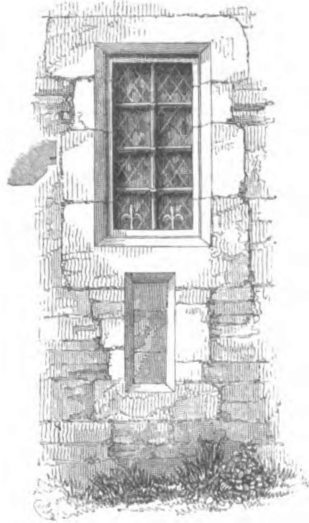
THE Church of Cowley consists of a Nave and Chancel, with a very low western tower and a south porch, rebuilt in a debased style. The structure comprises several dates and styles, the Chancel being of Early English, and the tower of Perpendicular character, with Decorated windows in the nave.

<sup>a</sup> Betham's Baronetage, iv. p. 262.



Both the north and south doors of the nave, and the priest's door in the north wall of the Chancel, are round-headed.

In the east wall is a good window, of three lancet-lights, which have dripstones on the exterior, terminated by the ornaments called masks, so characteristic of this period. The side windows are long and narrow like the usual lancet windows, but are square at the top, a very unusual feature in work of the 13th century, as these evidently are, and at the south-west of the Chancel is one of those singular openings, called by Rickman *low side-windows*, of which the object, though often discussed, is not yet ascertained. The one at Cowley is square-headed and divided by a transom, the part below the transom (which as usual is blocked up) being somewhat narrower than that above it.



Low Side-Window.

The Chancel-arch is a handsome one of Early English or transition date. In the north and south walls of the Chancel are niches (perhaps aumbryes) with square trefoil heads, and a pointed trefoiled piscina on the south.

On the east gable are the remains of a good cross: and under the windows is a very good string of the form called the roll or scroll moulding.

The Font is plain and rude, the plug and chain remain-

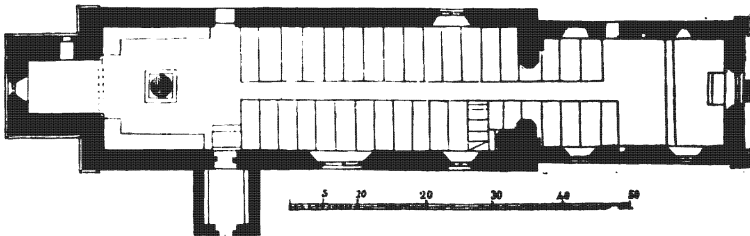


Tower of Cowley Church

ing. The bench-ends and poppies in the nave bear the date of 1632, and are very creditably carved for that period.

A stone bench runs round the greater part of the Church. A north and west gallery (the former of which has scarcely any visible support) produce a very unsightly effect.

The Tower is Perpendicular, and bears so much resemblance to that of Horsepath in design, situation, proportion, and detail, that there can be little doubt this was copied from it. That of Horsepath is perhaps somewhat earlier. (See wood engraving on previous page.)



PLAN OF COWLEY CHURCH

### HISTORICAL NOTICES.

Temple Cowley and Church Cowley have been so called from a very early period<sup>a</sup>. The former was, at the time of the Conquest, held by Eustace, Earl of Boulogne, whose daughter, the Empress Matilda, gave it to the Knights Templars, and the grant was shortly afterwards confirmed by King Stephen<sup>b</sup>. The Preceptory established here was removed to Sandford at the beginning of the reign of Edward I.<sup>c</sup>, and upon the suppression of the Knights Templars, A.D. 1312, their possessions in this place were given to the Knights Hospitalars of St. John of Jerusalem<sup>d</sup>. Church Cowley, so called from its having a parish Church, while the other Cowley only had a Church or Chapel attached to the Precep-

<sup>a</sup> Hundred Rolls, ii. A.D. 1272, and Lieger Book of Sandford, A.D. 1274. Bodleian Library, MS. Wood 10.

<sup>b</sup> See the Charters at length in Dugdale's Monasticon, N. E. vol. vii. p. 842,

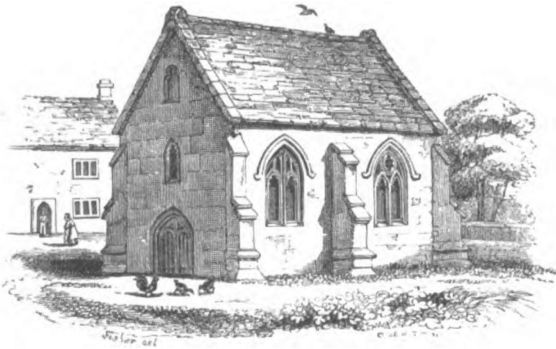
from Wood's MS. 10.

<sup>c</sup> See Historical Notices of Sandford.

<sup>d</sup> See the Rent Book of the Knights Hospitalars of St. John, A.D. 1512. C. C., Oxon., MS. Davis.

tory of Knights Templars<sup>e</sup>, was given to Osenev Abbey, in Oxford, by Robert D'Oyley the founder<sup>f</sup>. At the Dissolution of the Abbey the advowson of the Church was given by King Henry VIII. to his new College, now Christ Church, in Oxford<sup>g</sup>. The living is now a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, value 64*l*; population by the last return 606.

## ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHAPEL AND HOSPITAL.



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHAPEL.

In the parish of Cowley are the remains of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, situated about half a mile from Magdalene Bridge, on the borders of Cowley Marsh, with the small desecrated chapel of transition character between Decorated and Perpendicular, dedicated to St. Bartholomew. In form it is a parallelogram,

<sup>e</sup> A.D. 1143, 8, 9 King Stephen. Robert de Oiley and Edith his wife granted to the Knights Templars (besides what they had before given to them) land to the value of 6*s*. 4*d*. per annum, toward the dedication of their Church of Covele or Cowley, near Oxford, which was now consecrated by the Bishop of Hereford, with consent of the Bishop of Lincoln.

Bp. Kennett, *Par. Ant.*, vol. i. p. 136. See also *ibid.*, 91, 197, 275, 519, 511; ii. 140, 252.

<sup>f</sup> Dugdale's *Monasticon*, art. Osenev Abbey. Prior de Osen. presentavit ad vicariam de Cowley. *Ext. Linc. Reg. An.* 22, Hugh Wells, 14 K. Hen. III. Doda-worth, *MS. CVII. f. 42 b*.

<sup>g</sup> *Ibid.*, art. Christ Church, in Oxford.

without tower or bell-gable: the opening for the bell in the west gable is now blocked up, and has the appearance of an upper window; it is marked more distinctly on the woodcut than it really appears. At the west end is a door and over it a small window and niche; on the north side a smaller door and one elegant window; an inferior window at the east without hood-moulding, and two windows on the south, of which the hood-mouldings are very good.

Two altar-steps remain in the interior, and an oak roodscreen, bearing the late date of 1651, and the letters O. C., probably for Oriel College, to whom this Hospital was attached from a very early period, and at whose expense the domestic buildings of the Hospital were rebuilt in 1649, after their destruction in the civil wars. The roof is plain, of open timber-work, probably of the same age as the screen.

On each side of the west door is a cross patée in a circle, painted in dark fresco, and traces of painting may be found in other parts of the Chapel.

It appears from an estimate lately taken, that a chapel may be built on the model of St. Bartholomew's at the small cost of 280*l.*, not including the fittings, and supposing materials to be as abundant as in this neighbourhood. It would be well suited for a chapel to be attached to a burial ground, and working drawings of it have lately been published by our Society with a view to that object.



The East Window.

## HISTORICAL NOTICES.

A.D. 1128, or 1132—3. King Henry I., induced by its vicinity to his palace at Beaumont, erected a Chapel on this site to the memory of S. Bartholomew, and an edifice adjoining for leprous folk, with a house for a friar or chaplain who should govern them, and for his pains receive yearly six marks; and both he and they should daily pray for the health of the King and Queen's souls: which Hospital, raised by the overplus of the materials necessary for the King's building his palace at Beaumont, was finished about 1126, from whence, at the times of the Royal abode at the palace, with alms and broken meat from his table, it sufficiently sustained itself<sup>a</sup>.

A.D. 1279. "Domus Sancti Bartholomei extra Oxon, fundata fuit a Domino Rege Henrico veteri, qui bonam Reginam Matildam duxit in uxorem, et assignata fuit ad hospitacionem et sustentationem infirmorum leprosurum, et constituit conventum, viz., 12 Fratrum et unius Capellani ad quorum sustentationem assignavit idem Dominus Rex 23 libras argenti et 5d. de redditu Oxon, de Maiore et Ballivis Oxon, etc."<sup>b</sup>"

Various benefactions to this Hospital are recorded, for which it may be sufficient here to refer to Ant. Wood's History of the City of Oxford, published by Sir John Peshall, 4to. p. 274.

A.D. 1329. King Edward III., in the second year of his reign, granted to Oriel College this Hospital and all that belonged to it, on certain conditions, for the use of wholesome air in times of pestilential sicknesses<sup>c</sup>.

"The Chapel, originally erected by King Henry I., and dedicated to St. Bartholomew, being in a manner run to ruin in King Edward the Second's time, was then rebuilt; for which pious end, John, the son of Lawrence Serthe, a person of a religious turn, gave 18 marks, upon this condition, that though at that time he lay under no bodily infirmities, he might be elected to the Hospital on a vacancy. This condition was accordingly observed, the King himself peremptorily, and by a charter, commanding it<sup>d</sup>."

A.D. 1336. "H. Burghwersh, Bishop of Lincoln, by his writing dated at Cudelington (Kidlington,) in this county, 2 cal. Jun., granted 40 days' indulgence to all who would devoutly come to the Chapel of

<sup>a</sup> Wood's History of the City of Lond. anno 6, 7, Edw. I. Oxford, by Peshall, p. 273.

<sup>c</sup> Vide Mon. Ang., vol. ii. p. 437.

<sup>b</sup> Rot. Hund. de Bolendon in turre

<sup>d</sup> Peshall, p. 278.

## 398 ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHAPEL AND HOSPITAL.

S. Bartholomew's Hospital, on the feast of the said Saint, or eight days after, and then with prayers, oblations, and gifts, worship him; and also of their charity contribute relief towards the leprous almsfolk thereof. Upon the publication of which, multitudes of people resorted there, and performed that which the Bishop required, to the great benefit of the priests and poor; and to honour this Saint the more, they set up his image in the windows, and on the wall of the Chapel, which was celebrated also for the relics of Saints, afterwards removed to St. Mary's in Oxford. A procession was afterwards made annually to this Chapel, and this custom was continued until the Reformation of religion: when Queen Elizabeth's act against Images, &c., appeared, this image was pulled down. Whence this custom for a while slept, and the alms-folk were by degrees reduced to poverty, and became the objects of compassion. But the worthy Fellows of New College principally, among others, changing the former day to May-day, and Holy Thursday, used the same way as before; and this was in A. Wood's time their laudable and constant custom, till the Presbyterian times totally abolished it."

In the time of Ant. à Wood, "Divine service was performed in this chapel a few times in the summer, when the almsmen could walk thither; a Presbyter of Oriel College was appointed to officiate, at 40s. per annum\*."

If we are to believe the present Chapel to be in its main features the same with that erected in 1336, it affords a remarkably early instance of the change from the Decorated to the Perpendicular style. That the repairs after the civil wars did not affect the main fabric is clear from the account of Wood, who was an eye witness. He says, "This Chapel was formerly covered with lead, but in the late rebellion it was torn off for making bullets. It suffered greatly, having been put *by the saints* to base uses. They stole also the bell, which used in those times to be rung to call the members of the Hospital to prayers."

"In 1643 the Hospital House was occupied by people who had the plague, and became a pest-house; but about the time of the siege of Oxford was quite demolished. It was re-edified by the College anno 1649." The Chapel is not here included, but the Hospital-house only.

\* Peshall, p. 279.

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