

Upon leaving the Court Hall, the members adjourned to a schoolroom close at hand, in which they partook of light refreshments provided by Canon Scott Robertson.

The following syllabus of a PERAMBULATION of the town of Sandwich was placed in the hands of every member present, and was used by many before the Meeting and during the day as they found time and opportunity :

PERAMBULATION OF SANDWICH, JULY 29TH.

On leaving the railway station yard and road, we turn to the right, and soon the earthen walls of Sandwich are seen, extending at right angles to the road, on both sides. We pass between the two ends of the wall, at the spot where the New Gate of the town formerly stood (the Sandwich Arms Inn now stands beside the site). Upon our right runs a stream, from Northbourne, called The Delf, which supplies the town with fresh water. A church tower, seen but for a moment looming in the distance on our right, is St. Clement's. The street we walk along is New Street, and has no very ancient houses. A second church tower, of poor character, visible for a moment on our right, is that of St. Peter.

New Street emerges into the Cattle Market Square, in which stands the Court Hall, facing us, slightly on our left. In the farthest corner on our left are three Caroline gables of red brick. Behind the Court Hall, and behind a chapel dated 1706, some new cottage-dwellings represent the old Hospital of St. John.

From a corner of the square, transversely opposite to that by which we enter the market from New Street, runs a street called Mote Sole. In it on the right hand we come at once to the Old Workhouse of St. Mary's parish, bearing the date 1582 on the right of the doorway; the Red Cow Inn and a chimney-sweep's nameboard mark the site. At the farther end of Mote Sole we find a new building called Ellis's Hospital of St. Thomas, with an arched gateway of the ancient Hospital standing in front. At the end of Mote Sole, near the house of G. Hooper, corn merchant, formerly stood the Wodensboro gate of the town. Any who here turn to the right and walk thence along the earthen wall of the town will traverse the ancient Butts, and cross the site of the Canterbury Gate. Near it is an old building founded by Sir Roger Manwood in the reign of Elizabeth as a Grammar School; it has stepped gables of brick, coloured drab.

On leaving the Court Hall, to proceed to St. Mary's Church, we see at the corner of Market Square and Delf Street a saddler's shop, with good carving over the door and window, bearing the date 1601 with initials and the arms of Sandwich. We proceed along Delf Street and notice the old house fronts; one on the right bears in iron the date 1616 and initials W.O. Church Street (second turning to the right) brings us to the S.W. corner of St. Mary's Church. Its Norman arcades were destroyed by the fall of its central tower in A.D. 1667.

Leaving St. Mary's Church by its north door, we see on our left the King's Arms Inn, with its well-emblazoned coat of the royal arms of Elizabeth, and with a good angle bracket dated 1592. Turning back and passing along the north wall of St. Mary's Church, we go down Strand Street until we enter a street on our right called The Butchery, and pass down Market Street to St. Peter's Church (the south aisle of which was destroyed by the fall of its central tower in 1661). At the S.E. angle of St. Peter's Church there is a crypt of some size, beneath the rooms formerly occupied by the three priests of Ellis's Chantry.

Those who have leisure, by taking their way through a narrow passage beside the north wall of St. Peter's Churchyard, called Church Gap, and through Seven-post Alley, will on turning to the left pass under a modern gateway called The Barbican, and see the bridge over the river Stour. Far away to the left is Richborough Castle. Turning to the right along the quay, we come to the only ancient town gate now in existence. It is called Fisher's Gate, and is said to bear the date 1581. Passing under it, we proceed up Quay Lane. At the left-hand corner of this lane, with its front door in Strand Street, is a Jacobean cottage with handsome ceilings of plaster, and a good mantelpiece bearing the royal arms of James I. (Mrs. Wanstall occupies this cottage). Hence passing up Fisher's Street and turning into Church Street we reach the N.W. corner of St. Clement's Churchyard.

From St. Peter's Church, we pass through St. Peter's Street, Short Street, and Church Street into St. Clement's Churchyard. This handsome building, with its fine Norman central tower, is the only church in Sandwich that has not been ruined by the fall of a tower. Paternoster Row ran outside the churchyard, S.E.

Emerging from the south door of St. Clement's Church we make our way towards the earthen wall of the town (here called Mill Wall from the mill near it). It lies straight before us, and we pass to it between the back gardens of some newly built houses. As we mount thence to the wall we look upon the site of Sandwich Castle, which stood outside the earthen wall, S.E. of St. Clement's Church. The remains of its foundations still cause yellow lines in the corn, although they have mainly been grubbed up.

On the wall, turning to the right, past the mill, we walk to the site of New Gate (Sandwich Arms Inn), and, passing over the railway, by the level crossing, we reach the Early English Chapel and the dwellings of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Mr. Dorman's researches shew that the actual house occupied by Henry VIII. and by Queen Elizabeth, called the "King's Lodging," was destroyed long ago. It stood opposite the King's Arms Inn.

W. A. SCOTT ROBERTSON.

At ST. MARY'S CHURCH the Society was welcomed by the Vicar, Rev. A. M. Chichester, and the following paper was read by the Secretary, when he had assembled the members within the west end of the church, so as to face the west wall :

## ST. MARY'S CHURCH, SANDWICH.

BY CANON SCOTT ROBERTSON.

This ancient church was ruined by the fall of its central tower in 1667, and those who see it for the first time to-day cannot conceive what it looked like twenty years ago. The greatest praise is due to the Vicar (Mr. Chichester) and to his parishioners and other helpers for the change they have wrought in its interior. In the vestry you may see photographs of the church as they found it. The area covered by it is said to be 5716 square feet (1100 more than St. Peter's and 900 less than St. Clement's occupies). What the interior was, before 1667, one witness, close beside us, could tell if it might speak. Unhappily, however, this picture of the royal arms of Charles II., which came into the church spick and span new in 1660, cannot speak.

More eloquent far are the stone piers and fragments of Norman arches, that stand near the royal arms in the west wall of the church. They tell us very plainly that an arcade of grand Norman arches separated the nave from its two aisles. One fragment on the north side also suggests that the aisles may have been vaulted. A Norman stringcourse, springing from the northern fragment, suggests the line of the base of the Norman west windows. Some *à crochet* work high up, on the south side of the southern fragment, seems to shew that the roofs of the nave and aisles may have been lofty—so lofty that even a clerestory may have existed in the Norman church.

The careful investigation of the site which was made by Mr. Chichester and Mr. Clarke, when the church was restored, brought to light the bases of the Norman piers, not only of the nave arcades, but of the central tower. It also revealed traces of walls, north and south, which suggest that the aisles of the Norman church were narrow, far narrower than the present aisles. Bases of piers found in these ancient north and south walls encourage the idea already suggested that there was a vaulted roof over the narrow north aisle, if not over the southern one also.

The Norman nave was short. About 30 feet intervened between its west wall and the tower's western piers. Whether the north and south arcades of the nave had three arches within this length, or whether they had only two arches each, still remains a doubtful question.

The width of the nave's northern arch, west of the tower, was slightly more than 8 feet in the clear. The pier west of it had a foundation 4 feet wide.

In the Norman central tower, each of its four round-headed arches had about 12 feet span. The open area beneath the tower was about 18 feet by 16 on the floor. The tower itself occupied a large area; something like 27 feet from east to west, by 24 from north to south.

The choir, if it commenced beneath the tower's eastern arch, extended about 40 feet eastward from it.

The total length is, roughly speaking, about 97 feet. All these dimensions are derived roughly from Mr. Clarke's plan of the church. Much of the Norman squared stone remains in the fabric, as it was used again, in the time of Charles II., when the church was set in order after the fall of its tower. Some small arches were built entire into the west wall, on its exterior.

Following analogy we should suppose that some enlargement of the Norman church was made in the thirteenth century; but subsequent changes have obliterated all traces of it.

In the fourteenth century, probably in the reign of Edward III., the western window of the north aisle, and two windows in the north wall (one on each side of the north porch), were inserted. These may be ascribed to the liberality of Thomas Loverick, who is said to have been buried under the canopied tomb beneath the easternmost of these windows. The same benefactor founded here a chapel dedicated to our Lady, at the east head of this church. As the church itself was dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, the foundation within it of a chapel to Saint Mary is remarkable.

The description of this chapel, however, shews that it was not fully and properly *within* the church. It is always called the chapel of our Lady *at the East Head* of this church; and it was dedicated in honour of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin.

We can understand therefore that it stood outside, but close beside the east wall of this church. This singular situation of the chapel explains some curious entries of the churchwardens in their accounts. They mention an annual settlement with the vicar, called "*schyftyn of silver with the vicar,*" and they classify the money received under three heads: 1st, "*yn the body of chirche;*" 2ndly, "*at the est hede;*" 3rdly, "*at the chapel of St. James or St. Jacob.*" We know that the chapel of St. James was a separate building in another part of the parish; and we see the fitness of this classification, when we know that the chapel at the east head was also a separate building, although close to the east end of the church. These entries in the churchwardens' accounts occur in 1444 and subsequent years.

Forty years later a chaplain here, named Thomas Norman, a native of Sandwich, by his will bequeathed a missal and a silver cup to this chapel of St. Mary at the Esthede, which he described as being next to or beside this church (*juxta dictam ecclesiam*). Thus the position of the chapel is clearly stated to be not exactly within, but close to, the east end of this church.

Later on, from 1511 to 1526, we find in the Archbishop's Registers records of the institution of chaplains to an endowed chantry here, called Cundy's chantry. Their benefice is described as the chantry of John Cundy, founded in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and as being situated in the chapel of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in St. Mary's Church. About 1444 the churchwardens paid "for a kay to y<sup>e</sup> chauntry chapell dore iij d."

Whether Cundy's chantry was *always* served in the external yet

adjacent chapel at the Easthead does not appear, but its chaplain served there from 1511 to 1526. The foundations of that chantry and of the chapel at East Head are also recorded in closest connection in the ancient Bede Roll preserved here.\* For the image of St. Mary in this chapel of the Annunciation at the East Head, the church possessed a crown of silver gilt, weighing four ounces.

The Decorated windows in the north wall have flint masonry around them, which is worth looking at, outside. It is unlike anything else in this fabric; and it has no external stringcourse, although all the rest of the building is encircled by a string. Perhaps this part of the church was less injured by the fall of the tower than other portions were.

At the north-west angle of the chancel we see an engaged round shaft of the Perpendicular style. Possibly this was part of the work inserted after the French had destroyed some of the building in the time of Richard II., when another member of the Loverick family is said to have rebuilt what was destroyed.

Much was done here in the fifteenth century. A rood screen stood beneath the central tower; and a new rood loft was made in or about the year 1444. In the rood loft here we know that organs were placed, and the parish paid various sums to musical priests for playing these organs.

In the year, *circa* 1444, during which the new rood loft was constructed, we find that a certain anomalous window, called the procession window, was taken down and newly set up. There is also mention of a procession porch. These most unusual terms (possibly unique) are very puzzling.

The coincidence of date suggests some connection between the new rood loft and these processional adjuncts. All processions issued from the choir, through the central door of the rood screen, which was surmounted by the rood loft. Possibly the organ loft, or projecting canopy over the central door of the rood screen, may have been porch-like, and have been called the Procession Porch; a window in it may have given additional light at this spot, which, being beneath the Norman central tower, must from its position have been dark and obscure.

The vicissitudes of the church were great and numerous. In 1448 the tower partly fell down. In 1456 the French robbed the town and carried off the account-books of St. Mary's Church.

After them all, however, we find that in the last quarter of the fifteenth century its southern chancel, dedicated to St. Laurence and St. Stephen (two martyrs), was richly adorned and well cared

\* The first entries in the Bede Roll are these:—For the sawlys of John Condy and Wyllyem Condy, the whyche weryn the *fyrst begynneris of the fundacion of this chauntry*, and for all othyr that havyn gevyn thereto more of ther goodys where thorough that hyt may be the better mayntenyd. Also for the sawlys of Thomas Loueryk and of hys wyff, the whyche foundid the chapell of oure lady at the est hede of this chyche, and of iij wyndowys of the north syde of this chyche. (Boys, *Hist. of Sandwich*, p. 372.)

for. Thomas Norman, the native chaplain, bequeathed his Portifory to be chained to the upper desk in the south part of the church, for the use of chaplains saying masses, and the canonical hours in the chapel of Saints Laurence and Stephen. He directed that he should be buried beneath the women's seats opposite the south window of the church, and opposite his parents' burial-place.

The Jesus altar and Jesus mass are often mentioned in wills of parishioners. In 1476 William Brewster, mariner, bequeathed to the altar of Jesu one towell of diaper. For this altar there were in 1473 three special chasubles, one being of red and green baudekyng. I believe it was also called the morn mass altar, for which a priest (Sir John Stephen) gave a chalice weighing  $15\frac{1}{4}$  ounces. This altar seems to have stood at the east end of the south aisle. Sir Edward Ringley, in his will, dated 24 July 1543, desired to be buried in the Jesus Chapel, and he ordered that 40 yards of black cotton stuff should be purchased to hang from the church door round about the chapel at his funeral. In 1551 his widow, Dame Jane Ringley, desired also to be buried on the north side of Jesus Chapel. She bequeathed 10s. and a dinner to a clergyman that "a godly sarmon" should be preached "for the edyfieng of the congregation that shalbe gathered together at my funerall daye;" "the preacher shall have in remembrance to require the congregation . . . . to praye for my soule, my father's and my mother's soules, and for the soule of my husband John Langlye and my husband Sir Edward Ringley, Knt., my brother Sir Robert Payton, Knt, and my sister Dame Elyzabeth Payton his wyff, my brother Edward Payton, Esquere, and all Christien soules."

The chancel of St. John (probably the north chancel) was also popular, and over it were organs.\* In it were aumbries that were much used, and for service at its altar there were special altar cloths and vestments, one being a white chasuble powdered with flowers and daisies.

The remarkable fact that not a single piscina remains in the church is easily accounted for, when we know that the destruction of the arcades, by the fall of the tower, must have caused much of the walls to be rebuilt in the time of Charles II. Mr. Chichester, however, differs from me about the rebuilding; he thinks the walls were only refaced.

The remarkable niche in the north wall of the chancel seems to have been a receptacle for the "best cross of silver gilt, with a staff of latten," which cost £25, when money was worth much more than it is now.

There are many relics of brasses in the church, but not one of them remains entire. In the middle aisle a stone, 6' 9" by 3', has had upon it brass effigies of a man and his two wives, surrounded by what heralds would call an orle of children, twelve in number, each placed separately. I have never seen anything like it elsewhere.

There was in the church an altar dedicated to St. Christopher,

\* About 1449 the churchwardens received "for the old organs over seynt John's chaunsell vj s. viij d." (Boys, *Hist. of Sandwich*, p. 360.)

for which a new frontal and also a new altar cloth were made in A.D. 1444.\* At this altar mass was celebrated for the Brotherhood of St. Christopher, which in 1473 possessed a little chalice, weighing 6 ounces, for use in such celebrations.

An altar here, dedicated to St. Ursula, was also furnished with a new cloth in 1444.\*

Among the more valuable possessions of this church was a relic, called St. Bride's heart; it was enclosed in a silver shrine, having four pinnacles, and weighing 18 ounces. Another relic was enclosed in a silver reliquary, weighing  $8\frac{1}{2}$  ounces. A relic of St. Katherine, in a silver case, weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  ounces, was kept at St. James's Chapel. The beryll hafte of St. Edmond's knife was another relic here.

The tower, or steeple, was much repaired in or about the year 1448, when part of the tower fell. Upon this reparation were used more than 6 tons of Folkestone ragstone, costing vij s.; 4 tons of Bere stone, costing xx s.; and 5 tons of Caen stone, costing xxv s. The masons were paid £1 6s. 8d. for rough-casting the outside, or "y<sup>e</sup> castyng of ye stepill without with mortar, fro y<sup>e</sup> iiij square of y<sup>e</sup> olde work unto y<sup>e</sup> uppyr ende of y<sup>e</sup> viij square of y<sup>e</sup> olde worke."† On top of the steeple a spire of wood was made by the carpenters (at a cost of £16 13s. 4d.) from 459 feet of oaken board, costing 2s. 4d. the hundred feet. The steeple had four pinnacles, each surmounted by a cross. Upon these crosses "the ravouns did stonde theron to soyle y<sup>e</sup> stepyll goteris, with bonys and other thyngs;" consequently twenty-three iron pikes (or sharp points) were made to be fixed upon the points of the crosses, to prevent the birds from standing on them. Probably two sharp iron points inclined at acute angles were placed on each of the three upper limbs of each cross.

On dedication day a banner was hoisted upon the steeple; and during the fifteenth century the bells were rung, not only on such festival days, but whenever there was "a gret thundering," or thunder-storm. On the floor of the central aisle there is the matrix of a brass which bore one effigy; it lies to the west of the stone which had an orle of children on it. Eastward of the latter is a stone, 8' 9" long by 3' 6" wide, with inscription in Lombardic characters, around the matrix of an elaborate cross formerly filled with brass. The remaining letters seem to be "[d]ie Novembris mens . . . M.C.C.C.XXXI. cujus. . . ."

In the north-west corner of the nave there are three slabs, dated 1712 and 1750, to the memory of members of the family of Hayward.

On a loose fragment of a cross is an inscription in English, but in small black-letter writing: . . . o' of lo'do': gros: ge'tylma: vsher.

In the chancel there lie in the floor memorial slabs for (i) Edward Kelk, gentleman, with coat of arms; (ii) a man and his wives and two sets of children, formerly represented in brass (query, Roger Manwood, 1534); (iii) a man, formerly represented in brass, and around him four ejaculatory prayers and four shields of arms (query, T. Norman, 1484); (iv) Elizabeth Emmerson, died 1781; (v) man and

\* Boys, *Hist. of Sandwich*, p. 363.

† *Ibid.*, pp. 363, 364.

his wife, once represented at half length in brass; (vi) another person, formerly shewn in effigy in brass, long since gone.

On the north wall of the chancel is a fine mural tablet, in memory of Joseph Stewart, who died in 1828; and on the south wall another for Mary Stewart, his wife.

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At ST. PETER'S CHURCH the Rev. H. Gilder described the traces of Norman work, the crypt at the east end of the south chancel, the beautiful Decorated window bricked up on the north of the chancel, the lost south aisle which has never been rebuilt since the fall of the tower ruined it, and the remarkable tombs in the north aisle.

ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH, large, and in admirable order, with its Norman central tower, and its portions illustrating almost every style of architecture, its ancient *miserere* stalls, and easily dated font of A.D. 1402-8 were succinctly and clearly described by the Rev. A. M. Chichester, the Vicar.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL CHAPEL having been visited, the company entered a special train and were conveyed to Richborough, where Mr. C. Roach Smith, F.S.A., described the Roman *Castrum*.

#### RICHBOROUGH.

It will be my endeavour during our brief visit to say, if possible, what has not been said before, and to make my remarks worthy your attention and consideration. Most of you must know that much has been written on the great *castrum*, or walled fortification in which we are assembled. Archdeacon Battley published an elaborate essay on it in choice Latin, which has been well circulated in translation. Long since I endeavoured to record discoveries made, and also the architectural details; and latterly, in your *Archæologia Cantiana*, you possess records of subsequent researches; so that my labours to-day will necessarily be light, and they will have one merit at least, that of not exhausting your patience.

But, although from the ravages of time and man enough has been saved to shew the vast importance of the place to Roman Britain, from the earliest to the latest days of the province, yet the history of the construction and management of the great civil establishment, which must necessarily have existed and flourished, has yet to be learned. As the chief of the three great ports of the south-east of Britain, Rutupiaë must have been the focus of traffic from and to the Continent; and in what that traffic mainly consisted must be shewn by the motives which induced the Romans, at the continual sacrifice of men, money, and labour, to retain in subjugation a province so remote from the imperial headquarters. The mineral productions of Britain were chief among the incentives; and then the agricultural riches of various kinds. When the Emperor Julian was straitened for corn to supply his army in

Germany, he had but to send ships to Britain to be promptly supplied. This naturally indicates stores ready at hand, granaries at various ports, such as we may recognise in ruins at Hartlip and other parts of Kent. Richborough must also have been a focus for such exports, and still more so for the metals; of the oyster fisheries and their exports to Italy we have abundant historical evidence.

Into the admirable system of provincial civil administration we have a good insight in that invaluable work the *Notitia Dignitatum* of the Roman Empire, in which is evidence, nowhere else afforded, of the transfer of the Second Legion from *Isca Silurum*, Caerleon, to Rutupiaë, when the great fortress became a main bulwark on the Saxon shore, at a late period of the Roman domination. From the abundance of coins of Carausius and Allectus found in and about the castrum, the port must have been well garrisoned during the long interregnum, while the fleets of the British emperors entirely controlled access in everyway from the Continent.

The architectural features of the castrum denote an early origin. They may be compared with those at Verulam and Colchester, both early, for a great similarity of construction, while the other castra on the Saxon shore, such as Reculver and Lymme, as clearly by comparison denote a much later date. They have been so minutely described in print that I need only remark to-day that I shall be ready when we walk round the walls to answer to the best of my power any questions on the subject. But I must here anticipate, what will doubtless arise, some inquiry on the subterranean masonry which has so long resisted every attempt at explanation.

That an extent of masonry of 144 feet by 104 could have been a mere foundation for any structure I think is an untenable supposition. The great solidity and strength of Roman architecture did not demand foundations. The Pharos at Dover has no deep foundations; and we see how the walls around us stand upon a very superficial foundation, if it can be called a foundation at all. I still adhere to my old notion that the interior is hollow, and that there is an opening to it, as yet undiscovered; an opening, probably at the top, now closed up.

That the castrum and its surroundings were tenanted by a dense population may also be decided by the numerous discoveries of works of art of various kinds, and of coins of great number from Augustus to the third Constantine, gathered together in a short space of time, and exceeding numerically those recorded as found on the sites of other Roman large establishments. Marble was also used, in one building at least, and the walls were tastefully painted. Of the later discoveries the most interesting are the leaden seals of Constantine, with the imperial effigies and titles, as on the coins, well engraved.\* They must have been attached to letters or edicts, or to merchandise; more probably to the latter, as many have been found in military stations in the north of England bearing the names of legions and cohorts.†

\* *Collectanea Antiqua*, vol. vi., p. 120.

† *Idem*, plates xvi and xvii.

I come now to speak of what is not. Richborough has not supplied us with a single lapidary inscription. Of the many thousands who, from three to four centuries, lived and died here, not a record has been revealed to us; not even the barren information of a name! From analogy, from logical inference, we may be assured that stone memorials were erected; and we may safely assume that they have not all perished. Many, I believe, lie buried beyond the walls too deep to be disturbed by the plough, but not deep enough to evade the friendly spade and pickaxe of the adventurous antiquary; and I suggest that the Kent Archæological Society, so well represented to-day, should undertake, with the consent of Mr. Solly, to whom we are already so much indebted, to trench the adjacent fields.

Mr. Roach Smith concluded his lecture by stating that a few years since he, Mr. John Harris, and Mr. George Payne had satisfactorily traced the Roman road from Dover to Richborough, so far as opposite Sandwich. At Betsanger, where it is absorbed in the park, they were assisted by Mr. Godley, and recruited by the hospitality of Lord and Lady Northbourne.

Here the noble President, the Earl Sydney, joined the company, with the Hon. Robert Marsham, his Lordship's place having hitherto been kindly supplied by Lord Northbourne.

The special train conveyed the members back, through Sandwich, to DEAL, where dinner was served in St. George's Hall, the Earl Sydney in the chair; about 150 sat down.

After dinner members were admitted to inspect Deal Castle, and mount to the tops of the bastions and central tower, for which privilege they were much indebted to the Earl Sydney.

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#### THURSDAY, JULY 30TH.

Carriages drawn up outside the entrance to DEAL CASTLE received the members and conveyed them to Walmer Castle, kindly opened to them by the Earl Granville. Others who came by rail were brought from Walmer station. For the sight of this historic castle and its beautiful grounds, rich with memories of Pitt and Wellington, the Society was grateful to the Earl Granville.

At GREAT MONGEHAM CHURCH the Rev. J. Branfill Harrison welcomed the Society, and read the following paper:—

#### GREAT MONGEHAM CHURCH.

BY THE REV. J. BRANFILL HARRISON.

Before attempting to tell you anything about this church in its present state, it may be well perhaps if we endeavour to discover from the evidences that we still have something of its early origin.

The church is dedicated to St. Martin, and it would appear from wills still extant that there were lights and images in it in honour of St. Anthony and St. Osyth.

It would seem to have been originally a Norman church, evidence of which remains in one Norman window in the north chancel; and it was probably about the year 1200, or a little later, that it was considerably enlarged; the south arcade being of about that date, and the small window, now unglazed, between the north and high chancel being likewise of that period.

In the fourteenth century, the clerestory windows would appear to have been added and the north chancel prolonged eastwards.

The tower seems to have been of a somewhat later date, and was probably built about the time of Richard II. or Henry V.

In the course of years this venerable structure, upon which large sums must have been expended in its early years, was allowed to fall into a most dilapidated condition, and it was not till my immediate predecessor, Mr. Penny, was appointed to the living, about thirty-five years ago, that any active steps were taken to effect a restoration.

He very soon turned his attention to this most important object, and having engaged the services of that eminent architect Mr. Butterfield, he by degrees brought the church into the beautiful condition in which you now see it.

I had hope to read to you an interesting paper by Mr. Butterfield, with regard to his recollections of the church when he first saw it, and the steps he took to restore it. I am sorry, however, to say that, having been unusually overworked, and being on the point of starting for his holiday, he could therefore send me only a very few remarks.\* I must therefore, though much disappointed, endeavour to make what use I can of the little he has sent.

\* "My dear Sir,—I had hoped and fully intended to write you a short account of my recollections of Great Mongeham Church. I had thought I might do it in time for the Meeting of the Kent Archæological Society on the 30th, but I have been unusually overworked of late, and am now just starting for a holiday for a little more than three weeks in Scotland, leaving all letters and work behind me. For I absolutely need some change and rest. I will, if you wish it, see what I can do on my return, but that is not I fear exactly what you are wanting. Mr. Penny undertook the work in pieces, the north chancel being the last work of the series. He began with the nave. There was no south aisle. It had been removed altogether, and the south side nave arches were entirely built up. He built the south aisle and porch and unstopped the arches. These arches are peculiar, as they are rather openings at intervals in a wall than the ordinary arcade. The tower was shut off. The west doorway and window were ruinous, but the present ones are a very accurate copy of them, with some of the old work put in. The last window of the chancel was absolutely modern, and is a new one. The arches into the north and south chapels of the chancel were entirely filled in with modern work. Mr. Penny opened them as these chapels were taken in hand, and I built the present stone screens. I *think* there is a Norman window in the western part of the north chancel, and a break in the wall, which seems to imply that that chancel was at first much shorter. This is further shewn by an Early English window which looks into it from the chancel, eastwards of this break. This window was evidently once an external window in the chancel, and must have been open to the churchyard. The windows in the prolonged part of the north

It was early in 1849 that Mr. Penny was appointed rector of this parish, and at that time Mr. Butterfield remarks that it is almost impossible to conceive a church in a more deplorable condition.

The work to be done was very great, and little or no help could be expected from the parishioners; indeed, I believe Mr. Penny received no help from any one, except that the pulpit and font were given by members of the Noakes family, and the north chapel (which is private property) was restored at the expense of the owner.

Under these circumstances Mr. Penny determined to carry out the work in portions, and beginning with the chancel, which was essentially the rector's business, he in 1851-52 re-roofed it and entirely restored it.

In the following year he undertook the re-roofing of the church, and the re-building of the south aisle and the porch, but it was not till the year 1860 that the north chapel was restored by its then owner, the Comtessa di Morella (*née* Richards), and the work was completed in the following year, when the east and west windows, together with the north and south windows of the chancel, were filled with stained glass.

Mr. Butterfield remarks that there is a break in the masonry in this north chancel, which seems to imply that it was at one time much shorter, and this is further shewn by an Early English window which looks into it from the chancel eastwards of this break; this window (which is now unglazed) was evidently once an external one in the chancel open to the churchyard.

The windows in the prolonged part of the north chancel, he says, were of wood only and very bad; there were no details of any old windows to be found in the eastern half.

The chancel arch had been largely destroyed; but enough was remaining to guide to a restoration of it.

When Mr. Penny first began the work of restoration the south chancel was covered with ivy and almost in ruins; there was no communication with it from the church; the only entrance being from the churchyard by a little door in the western arch, which was otherwise stopped up. No signs of a south aisle were visible, but the foundations were discovered by digging, and on them the present aisle was built.

The arches on the south side of the nave were entirely filled up, having common sash windows in them, and heavy outside buttresses. These arches, you may notice, are rather openings at intervals in a

chancel were of wood only, and very bad. There were no details of any old windows to be found in the eastern half. The chancel arch had been largely destroyed, but enough was remaining to guide to a restoration of it. The roofs are all new. They were bad and beyond mending. I am writing very hurriedly and I daresay that I have told you nothing but what you already know. I can only add that you can hardly imagine a church in a more deplorable condition than this church was in when Mr. Penny became rector of Mongeham.—I am, my dear Sir, yours very truly, W. BUTTERFIELD.

“The Rev. J. B. HARRISON.”

wall, than an ordinary arcade. Mr. Penny had them unstopped, and rebuilt the south aisle and its porch as they are at present.

And now, whilst examining the south chancel and aisle, I may call your attention to a small square opening in the former, which was possibly used by lepers; and on the outside you may observe some large stones in the wall which, though not now exactly *in situ*, were no doubt formerly the steps which led up to it.

The piscina in the south aisle was found amongst the rubbish.

The present west doorway and window, Mr. Butterfield tells me, are accurate copies of the old ones, which were in a very ruinous condition, and some of the old work was used in their restoration.

The rood screen, which originally separated the nave from the chancel, was, at the restoration, placed as you now see it in the west tower, and the stone screens now in the chancel were built by Mr. Butterfield.

Let me also direct your attention to the curious double piscina and two sedilia, probably inserted *early* in the thirteenth century.

A tablet in the north chancel was erected to the memory of Edward Crayford, son of Sir William Crayford of this parish, who married a daughter of Sir Rowland Hayward, thrice Lord Mayor of London. He died Sept. 1615. His family owned the property to which this chancel is attached; and had a large house to the west of the rectory, some of the foundations of which lie close to the surface, in the orchard adjoining the school.

The flat tomb in the same chancel is to the memory of Edward St. Leger, who was a surgeon at Deal, where for forty years he took care of the sick and wounded. He was descended from a noble ancestry, and must have been a man of eminent virtues if all that is related of him on the stone is correct. He died Nov. 1729.

I regret very much that at the restoration of this church the gravestones within it were placed under the pews, and as far as I am aware no copies were taken of the inscriptions upon them.

The names of the rectors of this parish were given in Vol. XV. of the *Archæologia Cantiana*; but since that was published, I have discovered that John Sackett was rector in 1634.

NORTHBOURNE CHURCH, which is cruciform without aisles, has a central tower, much Transition work of *circa* A.D. 1180, and a beautiful monument in the south transept for Colonel Sandes, an active Commonwealth officer, was described by the Rev. Thomas Wood.

At BETTESHANGER CHURCH the Society was received by the Rev. J. W. Bliss, Rector and Rural Dean, who described the old tombs of the Boys family, and produced the Parish Register, which contains interesting notices of that family. The church itself was rebuilt several years ago by Lord Northbourne (then Sir Walter James), upon the model of Barfreston Church, but the old tower was preserved, and the monuments carefully re-erected. In the churchyard are seen side by side two yew-trees, planted one by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the other by Viscount Hardinge, the celebrated General. They now meet and form an arbour above a large seat

formed of a slab of slate inscribed with a record of the planting of these trees.

Lord Northbourne and his son, the Hon. Walter James, invited the company to BETTESHANGER HOUSE, and under the trees upon a lawn Lord Northbourne had hospitably caused luncheon to be prepared for all the members (over 200 in number).

After luncheon Lord Northbourne requested Canon Scott Robertson to conduct the company through the reception-rooms of the Mansion. Entering by the dining-room they admired the fine family paintings, especially those representing Viscount Hardinge and his victories. In the drawing-room Turner's picture of Margate and other paintings attracted much attention. They passed on to the library, and thence into the hall, where Lord Northbourne himself described a collection of most interesting objects of historic value. Very hearty thanks were tendered to Lord Northbourne for his most generous hospitality, and with three hearty cheers for the noble Lord the company passed on to their carriages.

At EASTRY many had to leave in order to catch an early train at Sandwich, but the majority visited EASTRY CHURCH, which was thus described by the Vicar, the Rev. W. Frank Shaw :—

#### EASTRY CHURCH.

At what precise time the worship of Almighty God superseded the ancient heathen worship of the goddess *Æástor*, or *Easter*, in this island, anciently dedicated to her, we have no certain record. But from the fact that the kings of Kent had a country seat at Eastry in very early times, on the site of the present Eastry, it is highly probable that a Christian church has existed on or about this spot from the days of the good King Ethelbert (who died A.D. 616), say from the early part of the seventh century.

No remains, however, of any Saxon work have been discovered in or around the church, so far as I am aware. But traces of "Transitional" or even Norman work are not far to seek in the tower itself, viz., in the external arch of the west door, the north and south windows of the ringing-chamber, and the shallow external buttress on the north side. There seems good reason for supposing that in Norman times the tower was somewhat short and squat, reaching only to the stringcourse just above the clock. Then a single roof covered both nave and aisles, the clerestory, if any, was lower than at present, the chancel smaller, whilst access was gained to the ringing-chamber of the tower by an outside door.

Then in the ? twelfth century the tower was raised to its present height, and its west face remodelled and enriched by the addition of the arcading beneath the face of the clock, the recessed buttresses, the carved corbels, the shallow west porch, and the tower-aisles forming a western extension of the aisles proper,—which together give such a marked character to the west *façade*

of this church. To the same period we must assign the present chancel and the clerestory windows of the nave. At some later period—not improbably the early part of the fourteenth century—the north wall of the nave was partially rebuilt; and then the Kentish rag capital on the north, and the octagonal pillar, with its carved capital, on the south side of the nave, were inserted.

In 1687 the roof of the nave was lowered, the pitch being altered, and a flat ceiling substituted internally. The beams of that roof were principally of chestnut. In 1869 the present roof was put on, in which the old high pitch was restored.

Our present church consists of chancel, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, western tower, with north and south tower-aisles, both of which originally communicated with the aisles of the nave, but that on the south is now blocked by a huge buttress, necessitated by an early settlement of the tower. With the exception of the tower, the church is Early English throughout, though one or two windows have been inserted later. The niche for the holy-water stoup on the south side of the west door remains, though the bowl has gone. Passing through the somewhat peculiar and shallow porch,\* the north and south side arches of which were originally open, but were filled up at some period to strengthen the buttress, we descend, as so frequently in Kentish churches, into the tower. Thus there is a similar descent into the tower from the west door in several churches in this immediate neighbourhood, *e.g.*, Great Mongeham, Northbourne, Tilmanstone, Adisham. We are reminded by those somewhat unusual features—the north and south extensions of the aisles—of the Church of St. Nicholas, New Romney, whose tower, like ours, was originally Norman, and subsequently heightened and enriched.

The squinch in the north-east corner of the tower, supporting the staircase, is interesting and good work.

Advancing into the nave we can hardly fail to be struck by its height and narrowness; its proportions reminding us forcibly of a ship inverted.

The chancel arch is low, and the quatrefoil piercings on either side are unusual, but not absolutely unique. It is noticeable that whilst they appear as quatrefoils when seen from the nave, they are square with trefoil heads when seen from the chancel. They serve a double purpose, *viz.*, that of letting out the sound from the chancel which otherwise would be kept in by the low chancel arch, and of breaking the large space of blank wall immediately above and around the arch.

The east corbels which formerly supported the “rood beam” may still be seen. As for the rood loft itself, that has long since disappeared, and indeed so far back as the Visitation of Archbishop Warham in 1512 it was reported as “lacking great reparation,” and the churchwardens were ordered to repair it by Christmas next ensuing under penalty of excommunication.

\* A tradition of which lingered on, and of which the late Captain John Boteler, R.N., told me that he had even seen a sketch:

The chapel at the east end of the north aisle is traditionally said to be dedicated to the Holy Trinity. It has a large aumbry in the north wall, and a credence and piscina in the east wall, in addition to a corbel which formerly carried an image. The corresponding chapel on the south side is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and has a piscina in the south wall.

Immediately over the chancel arch are two rows of medallion frescoes, of which the upper row alone is now visible, the under row having been covered up again with whitewash.\* The remaining medallions are seven in number, circular in shape, and about 18 inches in diameter. They seem to have been drawn with "a free hand and a full brush" on wet plaster, as the colours have apparently sunk into the ground. The medallions are formed of a thin dark outline and two concentric circles of border lines respectively dark and either red or yellow, leaving a space of some 13 inches in diameter clear for the subjects. The colours are chiefly black or very dark brown, red, yellow, and a yellowish red, whilst the ground is buff. The subjects of all fourteen medallions are only four in number differently arranged. Thus in the upper row, still visible, the subjects, as read from north to south, from dexter to sinister, are :

A Lion : A Griffin : Two Doves : The Lily : Two Doves : The Lion : The Griffin.

In the lower row, now covered up, they were :

The Griffin : The Lion : Two Doves : The Lily : Two Doves : The Griffin : The Lion.

Mr. Weston Styleman Walford, who carefully examined these frescoes shortly after their discovery, some twenty years ago, and who communicated a paper on them to the *Archæological Journal*, says "they must belong to the latter half of the thirteenth century, and can hardly be later than the beginning of the reign of Edward I." The object in the central medallion, both of the upper and lower row, is a conventional Lily, the special emblem of the B.V. Mary, to whom the church is dedicated. Those immediately next to the centre medallion, on either side, contain representations of two birds (? doves) with their beaks together and apparently pecking at some central object, such as a bunch of grapes or an ear of corn, now obliterated, and may not improbably be taken to represent the two Covenants, each looking towards that One Figure, the Centre of the Ages, Christ our Lord, who is Himself the Corn of Wheat and the Ripe Grape Cluster. The Lion is probably a symbol of Him who is the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, our B. Lord; whilst the Griffin, as has been suggested to me by a friend who has written on the symbolism of these medallions, may indicate the union of the two natures, the human and divine, in One Christ.

All the glass in the windows of the chancel is by one firm, Messrs. Ward and Hughes.

The will of William Andrew of Eastry, proved in the Consistory Court of Canterbury, 1507, makes mention of our Lady's Chapel in

\* Prior to the commencement of my incumbency in 1867.

*Eastry Churchyard*, whilst an earlier will, referred to by Mr. Boteler, speaks of the Lady Chapel as being in *Eastry Church*. May not this Lady Chapel have been under the high altar, with a separate approach from the churchyard? The window of this chapel may still be traced on the outside of the south wall under the two-light window; and there is ample room for such a chapel, if the floor level were restored to its original height. All the chancel windows apparently were originally lancets, but the most easterly one on the south side was thrown up to admit of sedilia being placed beneath it, and was then altered to a two-light Decorated window. The original string-course was kept intact and utilized for a seat. This may have been done when the Lady Chapel was constructed. The locker or *aumbray* on the north side of the chancel is interesting, as having the head of a mitred ecclesiastic—bishop or abbot—carved above it. The shallow niche, on a level with the old sedilia, on the south side, is not a piscina—at least there were no traces of a drain when we dug into it in 1869—and I am quite unable to explain a little shoulder of masonry which is closely connected with it. The two brasses on the floor of the sanctuary are to the memory of Thomas Nevynson and Sir Roger Nevi[n]son respectively. The helmet, which hangs above, has the Nevynson crest; and there were also formerly a lance and pennon, with the helmet, belonging to the same family.

There were formerly eighteen stalls in the chancel, but when or how they disappeared it is hard to say—possibly when the Lady Chapel was filled in and stopped up. The chancel was ceiled after the death of Vicar Cressener in 1746; probably with some of the money left to the parish by his will for the beautifying of the church. The chancel, as you will not fail to observe, is not quite in a line with the nave; but inclines somewhat to the north, and symbolizes the inclination of our blessed Lord's head upon the cross. Just outside the chapel of St. John Baptist in the south floor of the nave is an old gravestone, belonging to one of the family of Hardindenne, formerly of Harnden in this parish. This had been buried as an old stone, and was only rescued by the enlightened zeal of a lady now deceased, who came in whilst the workmen were laying the tiles, and insisted that it should be found and replaced. The octagonal pillar, which is the second from the west on the south side, bears on its south-west face a curious incised circle, pronounced to be unique by Mr. W. S. Walford, to whom I have before referred. This table, for finding the Sunday letters, consists of three consecutive circles cut into the stone, the outer circle being about 11 inches in diameter. The inner and middle circles are divided into 28 equal parts by radii from the centre, and in each of these compartments so formed between the circles is one of the first seven letters of the alphabet in Lombardic capitals, and above every fourth is another of these letters in a compartment by itself. These seven letters, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, are those known by the name of, and used in the calendar as, Sunday letters; and it is believed that this incised circle exhibits a method for finding the Sunday letter during a cycle of 28 years, after which it repeats itself, and begins again; the years in which two letters

occur, one over the other, are leap years. If the two Sunday letters for any leap year be given, the Sunday letter for any year before or after may be found. The pillar on which this table is incised seems to date from the early part of the fourteenth century, and the table itself is probably not much later.

Inside the south door there is a niche for a holy-water stoup, but the stoup itself is gone. The north door was open some sixty years ago, but, like other north doors in this immediate neighbourhood, Betteshanger, Northbourne, and in other parts of the country, it has been closed up, generally for the sake of warmth, but in our case also to give space for the Harvey monument. This monument, to the memory of Captain John Harvey—part of a larger one, for the whole of which there was not room in Westminster Abbey—shews some admirable sculpture by Bacon. Whilst not far from it, just where the aisle of the nave enters the north tower aisle, are the remains of the old stone bench which ran along under the north wall of the church internally. It only remains for me to say that the font is modern; the former one, being broken, patched with cement, covered with a thick coat of paint, and containing no interesting features, was supplanted by the present font in 1869; the old font eventually found a resting-place in the daughter church of Worth. The Registers are well kept, have few lacunæ, and date from 1559. They are kept in an iron chest with spring lock, the centre key governing three bolts, acting in different directions.

At KNOWLTON HOUSE, Mrs. Narborough Hughes-D'Aeth courteously welcomed the Society and hospitably invited the members to tea prepared upon tables on the lawn. Mrs. D'Aeth and her daughters conducted the members over the mansion, part of which was built by Sir Thomas Peyton at the end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and other parts were rebuilt in the reign of George I. by Sir Thomas D'Aeth, who had married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Admiral Sir John Narborough (whose widow remarried the more celebrated Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovel). Portraits of all these worthies and of other members of the family were much admired, and great interest was taken in the blue silk "jersey" worn beneath his shirt by King Charles I. at his execution.

In the billiard-room were seen the old windows containing the arms of the Peytons, Calthorpes, and their connections. Hearty thanks were accorded to Mrs. D'Aeth and her daughters, who likewise conducted the members into KNOWLTON CHURCH, which contains several interesting monuments, and has been recently restored to a state of perfect repair.

At BARFRESTON CHURCH the Rector, Rev. E. Austen, received the Society and produced plans for erecting a new roof. Canon Robertson described the church and read portions of Mr. Hussey's paper which will be found in this volume on pp. 142—151.

This was the last place visited; many of the members drove to Shepherdswell station, and the rest returned to Deal and Walmer.

Among those who were present on one or both days of the meeting were the Earl Sydney, the Lord Northbourne, the Hon. Robert Marsham, Sir James Fergusson (now M.P. for Manchester), Archdeacon Harrison, Canon Jenkins, Canon Routledge, Canon Welldon, Canon Scott Robertson, Professor the Rev. W. W. Skeat of Cambridge, Wilfred Cripps, J.P., Robert Furley, J.P., G. E. Hannam, J.P., Colonel Hartley, J.P., Captain Prentis, J.P., J. F. Jackson, J.P., H. B. Mackeson, J.P., Henry Curling, J.P., G. M. Arnold, J.P., Josiah Hall, J.P., Judge Laxton, Judge Homersham Cox, C. Roach Smith, F.S.A., General Dixon, Gerard Norman, Philip Norman, the Reverend F. E. Tuke, M. T. Pearman, E. S. Dewick, H. H. Boys, J. Hughes Hallett, F. Haslewood, F.S.A., Leslie Goodwin, W. T. Smallwood, J. Langhorne, J. W. Bliss, F. Shaw, R. Cox Hales, R. S. Hunt, B. St. John Tyrwhitt, J. A. Walter, E. S. Woods, C. H. Wilkie, H. G. Rolt, W. H. Rammell, J. B. Harrison, Dr. Haslewood, R. T. Browne, M. Youngman, W. F. Morgan, Dr. Diamond, Dr. Tayler, Dr. E. Furley, F. Grayling, J. T. Hillier, Joseph Moore, Jun., T. Pearne, J. Broad, R. Clout, R. Hovenden, W. W. Wooder, W. E. Hughes, B. Nathan, W. B. Rosher, W. C. Stunt, G. Simmonds, W. P. Shirley, H. Hinds, W. D. Belcher, H. T. Belcher, W. G. Gribbon, E. J. Wells, C. W. Powell, B. H. Collins, F. G. Gibson, F. C. J. Spurrell, J. D. Norwood, R. Bubb, G. Wilks, G. Clinch, H. G. Hewlett, F. Bunyard, G. E. Elliott, H. Peake, J. L. Roget, F. F. Giraud, R. Smith, H. W. Wilkins, J. Bullard, C. Bullard, T. Dorman, W. P. Southee, J. D. Kiddell, R. W. Cradock, C. Heisch, J. H. Turner, J. H. Oyler, Ed. Bottle, C. K. Worsfold, J. Vinten, P. Sankey, W. V. Lister, J. Pullen, J. F. Wadmore, C. E. Homewood, J. Buckingham, G. Wakeford, G. Dowker, J. P. Streeter, J. E. Mace, J. U. Bugler, Charles Cotton, J. Stilwell, J. F. Streatfeild, G. Meadway, E. Allen, A. Hudson, A. Boissier, D. Prosser, W. M. L. Seaman, W. Fooks, R. L. Hobbes, T. S. Stokes, A. Latham, J. G. E. Sibbald, Lambert Wood, T. Edwards, E. Fry, E. W. Streeter, Dr. Langston, J. T. Perry, A. Styan, Dr. Price, — Frennd, Mrs. Fred Neame, Sen., Mrs. E. Neame, the Misses Godfrey Faussett Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. Mapleton Chapman, Miss Dudlow, Miss Collett, and a large number of other ladies.

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On the 12th of October 1885 the Council met at Canterbury, in the Cathedral Library, by kind permission of the Dean and Chapter; the Earl Sydney presided; ten members were present.

Thanks for hospitality, and help at the Annual Meeting, were voted to Lord Northbourne, Earl Sydney, Mrs. Hughes D'Aeth, Earl Granville, Revs. Walker Flower, J. B. Harrison, J. W. Bliss, W. F. Shaw, A. M. Chichester, T. Wood, and H. Gilder, to C. Roach Smith, Esq., to Thomas Dorman, Esq., and to Mr. Solly.

Nine new members were elected.

It was resolved that the next Annual Meeting shall be held at Rochester,