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Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society

**Transactions At Cirencester**

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TRANSACTIONS OF THE  
Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society  
1892-1893.

PROCEEDINGS AT THE ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING AT  
CIRENCESTER,

*On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 23rd, 24th, and 25th  
August, 1892.*

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PART I.

It had been arranged that this year a joint Meeting of this Society, and of the "Wiltshire Natural History and Archaeological Society," should be held at Cirencester under the Presidency of General Pitt-Rivers, F.R.S., F.S.A. (the eminent President of the latter Society). Accordingly a large and influential local Committee was formed, of which Wilfrid Cripps, Esq., C.B., was Chairman, to make the necessary arrangements. The Meeting was numerously attended by members of both Societies. Among the members of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Society present were Sir John Dorington, Bart., M.P., Mr. Wilfrid Cripps, C.B., Major-General Vizard and Colonel Archer, and E. Smyth; the Revs. A. W. Ellis Viner, W. H. Sylvester Davies, E. A. Fuller, D. G. Lysons, D. Lee Pitcairne, Rev. C. Smyth, W. Bagnall-Oakeley, E. L. Bagnall-Oakeley, J. E. A. Fenwick, W. T. Allen, F. J. Poynton, J. M. Hall, C. S. Taylor, C. S. Chamberlayne and others; Messrs. C. Bowly, W. Leigh, W. J. Stanton, R. Taylor, G. S. Blakeway, W. H. Bruton, G. W. Keeling, jun., and numerous ladies; and the Rev. W. Bazeley (Hon. General Secretary).

Unfortunately General Pitt-Rivers was unable to be present on account of ill health, and in his absence, and that of Mr. Freeman-Mitford, C.B., M.P., the retiring President, and Sir Brook Kay, Bart., the President of the Council, the Chair was taken by Sir J. E. Dorington, Bart., M.P., one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, who called upon the General Secretary to read

#### THE REPORT OF THE COUNCIL, 1891-2.

THE Council of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society presents to the members its Seventeenth Annual Report. There are at the present time 369 annual members, 74 life members, and two honorary members, on the Society's list, giving a total strength of 445 members. The income for the financial year ending April 21st, 1892, including a balance at the Society's bankers on April 21st, 1891, was £245 8s. 3d. The expenditure amounted to £260 19s. 4d., leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £271 8s. 8d. From this balance must be deducted the cost of the Society's Transactions for 1891-2. The Society has a funded capital in consols of £432 3s. 8d., representing compositions paid by life members. Moreover, a rapidly increasing stock of Transactions and other works printed by the Society for subscribing members must be included in the assets. The Society has held three general meetings during the last year :

(1) On July 14th, 1891, many of the members visited Moreton-in-Marsh, Chipping Norton, and Oxford. A full account of this meeting will appear in the annual volume of the Society's Transactions; but the Council would take this opportunity of expressing its gratitude to all who took part in arranging and carrying out a most excellent and successful programme.

(2) On Thursday, October 8th, 1891, a business meeting of the Society was held at the Tolsey, Gloucester, and a visit was paid to the cathedral, where the members were courteously received by the Dean. A paper, read by the General Secretary, on a former Lady Chapel, and followed by an interesting discussion, in which the Dean and Mr. F. W. Waller took part, led to the confirmation of an important statement by one of our earliest and best antiquaries. It would appear that some of our county historians, ignoring the evidence of Leland in his "Itinerary," that "Osric founder of Gloucester Abbey, first lay in St. Petronell's Chapel, was thence removed into the Chapel of our Lady, and was again removed from thence of late days and laid under a fair tomb of stone on the north side of the high altar," have asserted that the effigy of the Northumbrian King rested on a *Cenotaph*. By order of the Dean the tomb was carefully and reverently opened in February of this year, when the General Secretary of this

Society had the privilege of being present. The bones of Osric were found lying in a leaden coffin, as Abbot Parker, or one of his predecessors, had left them, apparently undisturbed by the hand of man, but with no insignia to mark the kingship of the pious dead.

(3) On Tuesday, May 31st, upwards of 50 members of the Society met at Bourton-on-the-Water, and drove to the magnificent church of Burford, and Burford Priory, the birth-place of Lucius Cary, Viscount Falkland, and the residence of William Lenthall, Speaker of the Long Parliament. On their return they visited the Church of St. Mary, Great Barrington, and were hospitably entertained by E. Rhys Wingfield, Esq., President of this Society in 1882.

During the last year two sessions of the Archæological Congress have been held at Burlington House. On each occasion two delegates from this Society have been present and have taken part in the proceedings. At the Congress held in July, 1891, special reference was made by General Pitt-Rivers, Her Majesty's Inspector of Ancient Monuments, to the excellent manner in which the Uley Tumulus, better known as Hetty Peglar's Tump, had been restored and protected under the supervision of Colonel Forbes and the other members of the committee appointed by the Council of this Society.

The attention of Her Majesty's Inspector was called by one of the delegates of this Society to the dangers which threatened the "Four Shires Stone," which, from very ancient times, has marked the conjunction of Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, Worcestershire, and Gloucestershire, and General Pitt-Rivers expressed a wish that, like the Rollright Stones and Uley Tumulus, it might be scheduled under the Act for the protection of Ancient Monuments. The Council will confer with the Archæological Societies of the neighbouring counties with a view to this being effected.

The Council is of opinion that the example of Hertfordshire and Cumberland should be followed by Gloucestershire in preparing an archæological survey of this county on the lines laid down by the Archæological Congress. The work has to a great extent been already accomplished by Mr. G. B. Wits, a member of this Council, and it only remains to adapt his excellent map to the requirements of the Society of Antiquaries. A classified index to the papers which have appeared in the proceedings of the Archæological Societies of Great Britain and Ireland during the last year has been prepared under the supervision of the Congress, and the Council gladly avails itself of the opportunity of obtaining copies and presenting them to the members.

The Council gladly unites with the members of the Congress in issuing them with the Transactions, protesting against the wanton destruction that

has been wrought in our parish churches under the name of restoration, against the removal of monuments and tables of benefactors, and the sale of old and curious church plate. It is hoped that every member of this society will bring all possible influence to bear upon the guardians of our sacred edifices to induce them to preserve every object and feature of historical interest. When repairs or additions are necessary, no attempt should be made by scraping the old or staining the new work, to blot out the record of the past, and confuse the minds of those who shall come after us.

The Council is of opinion that a descriptive list of church plate should be made in this county, as in Dorsetshire and Wiltshire. Such a list might form a part of the Society's Transactions, or be printed separately by subscription. With a view to this list being made, the Council has asked and obtained the sanction of the Bishop, and has invited Mr. Wilfrid Cripps, the author of "Old English Plate," and a Vice-President of this Society, to be responsible for the work. Mr. Cripps has expressed his willingness to give his assistance and advice; and, acting on his recommendation, the Council has appointed certain gentlemen and ladies (with power to add to their number) who will examine, describe, and sketch or photograph, the church plate in their immediate neighbourhood, and act conjointly as a committee for the completion of the list.

The Council has much pleasure in reporting that there is every prospect of Bristol being represented at the Columbian Exhibition by the reproduction at Chicago of two beautifully carved oak panelled rooms, in the occupation of Messrs. Franklyn, Morgan, and Davy, on the Welsh Back, which will be stored with objects of antiquarian interest connected both with Bristol and America. This exhibit will illustrate the history of Bristol in the 16th and 17th centuries, and will call attention to the important part which the inhabitants of that city have taken in the discovery and colonization of the United States. Several members of this Council, including the Honorary Editor and the General Secretary are acting on the Bristol Committee, and will do all in their power to further the wishes of the American Consul, and of those who are acting with him in this matter.

The Council has thought it right to contribute £10 from the Society's funds towards the repair of the parish church of Fairford; but wishes it to be understood that this donation must not be taken as a precedent. Fairford Church, with its stained-glass windows of surpassing interest, is a national monument of mediæval art, having special claims upon this Society possessed by few besides.

The Council feels confident that the 15th volume of the "Society's Transactions," which has been issued to the members during the last year,

will be found in no way inferior to the preceding volumes of the series, nor indeed to the proceedings of any other local society; and it desires to express its hearty recognition of the editor's valuable services for the past fifteen years. The Council, however, appeals to the members generally for original papers on the archæology of the county. It is altogether unfair to Sir John Maclean that all the materials for the "Transactions" should be provided by him and a few enthusiastic assistants.

The Council issued, with vol. 15, part 2, a catalogue of books, pamphlets, and manuscripts, in the Society's Library at the Gloucester Museum, and the conditions on which they may be borrowed by the members. The Council begs to acknowledge the following donations of books and objects of interest to the Society's Library and Museum:—By Major Hawkins Fisher: "Notes and Recollections of Stroud," by Paul Hawkins Fisher, 2nd edition; London and Stroud, 1891, 8vo. By E. C. Sewell, Esq.: "Old Stone Crosses of Somerset," by C. Pooley, 1877, 8vo.; "Notices of Castle Acre, Norfolk," by J. H. Bloom, 1843, 8vo.; "History and Description of Town and Castle of Warwick," 1813, 8vo.; "Memoir of Rev. Samuel Warneford," by V. Thomas, Oxford, 1855, 8vo. By Mrs. Shipley: "The Re-Discovery of America," 1892, 8vo. By F. A. Hyett: "The Painswick Register for 1891." By Robert Taylor, Esq.: "The Pedigrees and Early Heraldry of the Lords of Alnwick," by G. Tate, Alnwick, 1866, 4to. By J. Macpherson, Esq.: "Two flint instruments from New Zealand and America." By C. A. Witchell, Esq., and W. B. Strugnell, Esq.: "The Fauna of Gloucestershire." The Council has subscribed for "Landoc, sive Registrum Monasterii de Winchumba" (the Winchcombe register), edited by the Rev. D. Royce, M.A.; and congratulates him and the Editors of the "Fauna of Gloucestershire" on the production of these very valuable and interesting contributions to Gloucestershire scientific and antiquarian lore.

The Council has given much consideration to the state of the Berkeley Manuscript Fund, and to the disposal of the surplus copies of the "Lives of the Berkeleys" and "The Hundred of Berkeley." It was unanimously decided to close the long standing account in the Treasurer's books by transferring the so-called debt to the general fund, and to offer the remaining copies of these works of the great Berkeley antiquary to the members at the original subscription price, *i.e.*, £3 for the three volumes.

The Council begs to acknowledge the services of the Hon. Treasurer, Ernest Hartland, Esq., and the satisfactory condition of the Society's finances under his management.

At the annual summer meeting of this Society, held at Moreton-in-Marsh, on the 14th of July, 1891, it was resolved on the proposition of F. A. Hyett, Esq., to amend the rules of the Society by inserting the

following words between Rules V. and VI. V-a., members who have held the post of Hon. Treasurer or Hon. General Secretary to the Society for a period of 5 years shall be eligible, on nomination by the Council, for election as honorary members. Rule V-b., The subscribing members may at any general or special meeting, on recommendation by the Council, and by resolution of which notice has been given, confer on any hon. member or members all the rights and privileges in the Society which they themselves possess, any provision to the contrary in Rules IV., VII., or XIV. notwithstanding. This resolution was confirmed at the autumn general meeting of the Society, held at Gloucester, on the 8th of October last. The Council has much pleasure in showing its appreciation of the services of the two gentlemen who have held those offices for upwards of five years by nominating them as honorary members. It also recommends that all the rights and privileges of subscribing members be conferred upon them; a resolution will be proposed at the next general meeting of the members of this Society on Thursday next, August 25th.

The Council now nominates for re-election the President of Council, the Vice-Presidents of the Society, the General Secretary, the General Treasurer, and the Local and Sectional Secretaries. The Council also nominates as Vice-President in the room of R. S. Holford, Esq., deceased, F. A. Hyett, Esq. The following members of Council retire by rotation, but are eligible for re-election:—Major Hawkins Fisher, and Messrs. E. A. Hudd, R. T. Martin, S. H. Swayne, P. D. Prankerd, T. S. Pope, C. Bowly, and H. W. Bruton.

In accordance with a resolution passed at the concluding general meeting of the Society at Oxford on the 17th of July, 1891, the Council invited General Pitt-Rivers to act as President of this Society for 1892-3, and that gentleman kindly consented to do so. The Council has now to report with the deepest regret that General Pitt-Rivers, acting on the advice of his physician, was compelled a few days ago to give up his intention of being present to-day. The President has asked Wilfred Cripps, Esq., C.B., to act as President of this meeting, but trusts that General Pitt-River's health will be soon restored, and that he will be able to preside over this Society at an autumn or spring meeting.

The Council deplores the death of the Right Hon. the Earl Bathurst, Sir George Jenkinson, R. S. Holford, Esq., V.P., and other valued members of this Society. The Council has met seven times during the last year: once at Oxford, once at Cirencester, twice at Bristol, and three times at Gloucester, and begs to acknowledge its obligations to the Mayor and Town Clerk of Bristol, the Mayor and Town Clerk of Gloucester, and the Archdeacon of Cirencester, for the use of the Grand Jury Room at Bristol, the Tolsey and Guild Hall at Gloucester, and the Town Hall at Cirencester respectively.

Proposed by Mr. Robert Taylor, seconded by Mr. A. J. Stanton, that the report of the Council be adopted. Carried *nem. con.*

Mr. C. A. Witchell hoped the Society would accept a copy of his book as a presentation and not as a subscription copy.

The Rev. E. A. Fuller said in reference to the suggestion that the tables of benefactors should be preserved, those hanging on the walls before them contained two historical untruths.

The Chairman expressed a hope that at other places such tables are not so inaccurate. He gave notice that on Thursday a resolution would be proposed to confer on the hon. members, Messrs. Bazeley and Hartland, the rights of subscribing members.

Proposed by the Rev. W. Taprill Allen, seconded by Mr. Fenwick, that the retiring members of the Council, mentioned in the report, be re-elected, and the name of Mr. E. S. Hartland be added. Carried.

The Chairman suggested that the time had now arrived when it would be convenient to issue a general index to their Transactions. They had now 17 volumes.

The Secretary thought it would be well to defer it till the 20th volume was issued.

Mr. Cripps said the Kent Archæological Society, of the Council of which he was a member, had just adopted that course.

No decision was arrived at.

On the motion of the Rev. W. Bagnall-Oakeley, seconded by Mr. Cripps, the meeting closed with a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman, Sir J. Dorington, for presiding.

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#### JOINT RECEPTION OF THE TWO SOCIETIES.

The officers and members of the Wiltshire Society having now joined those of the Gloucestershire Society, Mr. Wilfred Cripps, C.B., as Chairman of the Local Committee, gave both Societies a very cordial welcome to Cirencester. The Local Committee hoped they would have a very satisfactory meeting, for they thought they had enough at Cirencester to interest both Societies, and they had endeavoured to lay out a programme (which he briefly sketched) which he thought contained Archæology of a kind to suit the tastes of all.

Sir John Dorington, on behalf of the Gloucestershire Society, thanked Mr. Cripps and the Local Committee for the kindly welcome which they had given them to their old town. Owing to circumstances known to them, the distinguished Wiltshire Archæologist, who was to have been

their President, could not be present, and they had thought they could not do better than ask Mr. Cripps to preside over that meeting in the place of General Pitt-Rivers. He had reason to believe that that proposal would not be unacceptable to the members of the Wiltshire Society, and he begged to propose that Mr. Cripps be asked to be the President of the meeting.

Mr. Medlicott, on behalf of the Wiltshire Society, also acknowledged the welcome and seconded Sir J. Dorington's motion. It was a matter of great regret to the members of the Wiltshire Society that General Pitt-Rivers was absent. He was a distinguished archæologist, who had conferred great archæological benefits upon their county, and they had looked forward to his presence—and he was sure the members of the Gloucestershire Society had done the same,—with the greatest satisfaction. In the absence of General Pitt-Rivers, however, he was sure they could not do better than elect as the President of the meeting Mr. Cripps, who had so cordially welcomed them to Cirencester. As a Wiltshire Society of course they did not desire to trespass beyond their own borders, but he believed it was a line of action which might be pursued, occasionally, from time to time, with very great advantage and pleasure to the members of both Societies.

The motion having been carried by acclamation,—

Mr. Wilfred Cripps returned thanks for the honour done him. He heartily re-echoed the expressions of regret at the absence of so distinguished an Archæologist as General Pitt-Rivers, whom they had so much hoped to see amongst them. General Pitt-Rivers was more than an archæologist in the ordinary sense of the word—he was an interesting personality—and he had devoted his great means and his great ability to archæology not only as a personal matter, but to benefit and instruct those of his own generation amongst whom he lived. And not only had he done this at home, for at Oxford he had founded a museum of national importance, while by his most interesting local museum at Rushmore he was carrying archæology into the minds of those who until now had not had an opportunity of enquiring into those matters. Therefore their regret at General Pitt-Rivers's absence was more than ordinary regret, and his own regret was the greater because he felt how unworthy he was to occupy that Chair. However, he would do the best he could to welcome them to the old town with which he and his family had been identified for many centuries. Cirencester was fortunate in being able to boast of an immense and interesting extent of Roman remains. In fact they could hardly excavate any portion of the town without finding some relics of the Roman occupation. And that was only natural, for Cirencester was the junction—to use a railway expression—where four—or rather

five—great straight Roman roads crossed each other or intersected, and therefore the town was predestined to become an important Roman centre. The town was inhabited up to the extreme end of the Roman occupation, as shown by the series of coins found there. The town also contained much to interest those who preferred mediæval archæology; of which the Rev. E. A. Fuller had made a special study, which constituted the subject his own. As he should have to speak to them later on he would not now detain them further, and only again thank them for the honour they had done him in electing him to the Chair.

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#### PRESENTATION TO THE REV. W. BAZELEY.

At the close of the joint meeting of the two Societies an interesting ceremony took place, which the members of the Wiltshire Society also remained to witness, viz.: the presentation of a testimonial to the Rev. W. Bazeley, the General Secretary of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society, in recognition of his valuable services for thirteen years. The present took the form of a handsomely embossed two-handled silver bowl, on an ebony stand, date 1756, together with a cheque.

Colonel Forbes, who, in the absence of Sir Brook Kay, made the presentation, said: Mr. Bazeley, on behalf of 128 members of our Society I have great pleasure in presenting to you this handsome bowl of ancient date, as a memento of the appreciation of your most valuable services as Hon. Secretary of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society. In that bowl you will find two enclosures. The larger one contains the letters which accompanied the subscriptions of those 128 members, arranged alphabetically—and which you will find on perusal at your leisure to contain many very gratifying remarks, gratifying not only to yourself, but also to me as the original proposer of the testimonial. In the smaller you will find an obligation to pay over to you a purse containing £82, odd, and I feel that the whole is but a very small recognition of your services to the Society for a period of thirteen years.

The Rev. W. Bazeley said: Colonel Forbes, ladies, and gentlemen, I cannot hide from myself, or from you, that I have listened with a great deal of pleasure to all the kind words that have been spoken, nor can I regret, when I find how generously you appreciate my exertions on your behalf, that I have devoted a considerable part of the last thirteen years, the happiest years of my life, to the work of this society. I am not altogether blind to my faults and shortcomings, and I think it most kind of you to have overlooked and pardoned them on this and so many other occasions. Moreover, I owe to this Society more than it can ever owe to me. It has been jokingly said that two of your secretaries owe their wives

to the pursuit of archæology. If this is not strictly correct, at all events I owe many of my kindest and dearest friends to my connection with this Society; and one such friend fully repays me for all my secretarial labours. This very handsome bowl which you have given me will ever be reckoned by Mrs. Bazeley and myself as amongst our dearest possessions, and will be passed on by us to our children as a precious heirloom. It will remind us and them of the many happy years we have spent in this lovely county, and of your appreciation of your secretary. This well-filled purse will enable me to procure other memorials of my happy connection with this Society, and will lighten the educational anxieties which accompany the pleasures and responsibilities of parentage. When I see so many kind friends around me, and all of them generous donors, I shrink from expressing my gratitude to one, to the seeming exclusion of the rest. I know, however, that Colonel Forbes proposed the subscription, and spared no time or labour in collecting the enormous sum represented by this bowl and purse. Let me assure him that I appreciate his kindness and friendship most sincerely, and all the more because he has not hesitated, when he has thought that any proposition of mine was unwise, to say so, and oppose it. I love a friend who can thrust as well as parry, can give and take too, and be a friend still. I am also most grateful to those gentlemen who have acted as the Testimonial Committee, and especially to Sir Brook Kay, their Chairman. I deplore his absence to-day, and its sad cause. Our friendship commenced a quarter of a century ago when, as a young layman, I was teaching a class in a Sunday School which he superintended. Our friendship went on growing whilst I was acting as Curate in his parish of Charlton Kings, and lapse of years and our work together in this Society have, I trust, made it immortal. I cannot forget that some 22 years ago, long before this Society was formed, I received another such testimonial as you have given me to-day, and that your President of Council and your Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Hartland) took a leading part in its presentation to me. Ladies and gentlemen, accept my sincerest thanks, and forgive me if the expression of them is altogether inadequate to the occasion. Believe me that, in the future as in the past, whether as Secretary or as an Honorary Member, I shall ever do my best to promote the interests of this Society, and prove myself worthy of your kindness.

The members of the two Societies then assembled at the "King's Head Hotel," where luncheon had been provided, after partaking of which, they visited the grand Parish Church, where, in the absence of the Vicar (the Ven. Archdeacon Hayward), they were received by the Rev. S. Cooper, one of the assistant priests, by whom the church plate had been arranged for inspection, as also the remains of an ancient Cope.

The Rev. E. A. Fuller, who for many years has devoted much time to a

careful study of the antiquities of this very ancient town, as also of the mediæval church, very kindly acted as guide, and gave a most interesting sketch of its history and antiquities, as also of the Grammar School and Hospitals. Mr. Fuller's remarks will be printed *in extenso* further on.

#### RECEPTION AT THE WALNUT TREES.

On leaving the Church, the party were led by Mr. Fuller through the Abbey grounds to St. John's Hospital, and also inspected the Roman Wall and Moat, as well as the Grove-lane Arch, and the fine Roman Pavement at the Barton. Some of the members paid a visit to the Corinium Museum. At five o'clock, Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Cripps (Countess Bismark) received the two Societies at "The Walnut Trees" at afternoon tea in a tent erected on the charmingly picturesque lawn, just within the course of the Roman wall. Going through the house in parties, the visitors had the pleasure of inspecting Mr. Cripps's large and interesting collection of objects, including some relics of Corinium which have lately been found, and which were described by their possessor at the subsequent *Conversazione*.

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#### THE ANNUAL DINNER

took place at the King's Head Hotel, at seven o'clock, Mr. Wilfred Cripps presiding. Besides that of the Queen there was only one toast honoured, and the President prefaced that with a short story. He said not long ago he was dining with one of the City Companies on a very interesting occasion. In mediæval times the Worshipful Company of Skinners had a long standing feud with the Worshipful Company of Merchant Taylors, and they fought in the streets of London with great bloodshed. At length matters arrived at such a pitch that the intervention of the Lord Mayor was invoked to compose their differences, and his decision was worthy of Solomon. It was that the two companies should dine with each other every alternate year for ever. He was dining lately with the Merchant Taylors on one of those interesting occasions, and the toast of the evening took this form: "Merchant Taylors and Skinners, Skinners and Merchant Taylors, root and branch long may they flourish together." And he proposed as the next toast that evening: "The Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society and the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society; the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society and the Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society, root and branch long may they flourish together."

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#### THE CONVERSAZIONE

was afterwards held in the Town Hall, which was completely filled. Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley read some interesting notes, illustrated by drawings

and diagrams on ancient ecclesiastical carvings, contrasting the different treatment of the same subject by Anglo-Saxon workmen (giving illustrations from examples to be found in Daglingworth Church) with the treatment by Celtic workmen as observed by her during a recent sketching tour in Ireland. She also briefly traced the history and development of the treatment of the Crucifixion as a subject of sacred art from early times to the present.—Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley having been thanked for her interesting paper, which will be printed *in extenso*, with illustrations, in this volume, the President laid before the meeting a description of

#### RECENT ROMAN FINDS IN CIRENCESTER.

THE President, Mr. Wilfred Cripps, said that he had offered to describe the Roman remains recently found in the course of various building operations in Ciceter, and now in his collection. In the absence of any more important matters they seemed of some interest, at all events locally. The site upon which many of them had been found was known as

##### ASHCROFT;

and was situated near the western boundary of the Roman town—in the north-west *insula* of the four great divisions of a Roman town. It had been for generations in the occupation of the speaker's ancestors, some of whom attached the paddocks to a residence, and it had probably never been built over since Roman times. Certainly it had been open ground as far back as any modern recollection or even records go, and from its situation in the interval between two now old streets and removed from the frontage to either, it had probably been so for a very long period. Some half-century ago it was sold, but had been a year or two ago purchased by a member of his own family for developing as a building speculation. Its destination had prevented its being systematically and thoroughly searched, as much of it was sold off in small lots to persons who did not, necessarily, take much interest in antiquities, and who wished to cover the ground with cottages and other buildings as quickly as possible. The comparatively high price of modern labour also stood in the way of delaying work for the better care of antiquities. In the course of digging foundations, which were often, however, not very deep, and in getting out the gravel, of which there was a good bed, a large number of objects came to light. It may be said at once that no discoveries of great topographical interest were made. The situation was not sufficiently close to the centre of the Roman town, but the position of

##### A NEW STREET

was ascertained, running nearly north and south, and parallel to the present Cricklade street. It would be better to say parallel to the Ermin Way, which passed through the town along Dollar and Gosditch streets,

then crossing the westernmost part of the Parish Church and the Market-place in a straight line for Tower street and the southern gate leading out upon the Watermoor road, not far from where it is now crossed by the railway bridge. This new street could be traced wherever it was cut into, by the arched formation of its section; the arching indicating the surface of the metalling which had been raised in the middle of the roadway to throw off the water. The foundations of a certain

#### NUMBER OF BUILDINGS,

always square with the direction of the Roman street which ran through and by them, were laid open, but all showed that the whole ground had been dug over in the search for the ready-cut building stone which the footings of the Roman buildings supplied so cheaply. Tessellated pavements, one of them hypocausted, but none of them of any grandeur or importance, were discovered in two places, and the tessellated floor to a passage in a third. One of the pavements, or rather another portion of it, had been dropped upon many years ago. This was situated under the boundary wall between the Ashcroft land and the yard occupied by Mr. John Lock, and another with the hypocaust above mentioned was under new premises built by Messrs. Saunders in the new street formed between the Great Western Railway goods station and Cricklade street. Besides these the only building discovered was a short length of an underground passage, perhaps a sewer, running under this new street in an oblique direction. This was under a lot purchased and built upon by Mr. Crook.

#### THE PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE OF THE REMAINS.

All but a few yards of this, like the house foundations, had been got out for building purposes at some earlier period; and it would seem that the *tesseræ* of the pavements remain *in situ* only because those who had taken out the footings of the adjacent walls had no use for them. In this respect modern explorers in Cirencester are at a great disadvantage compared with those who have archæological access to such sites as Silchester, where the remains of Roman occupation have been less disturbed, though even there some disturbance, more than perhaps could have been anticipated owing to its rural situation, has taken place. In Cirencester, occupied as a town, after an interval following the Roman period in which it was possibly quite deserted, at all events through Saxon and later times down to the present, successive generations of house builders have saved themselves trouble by going to the nearest supply of ready-fashioned stones; and the result is that what is now chiefly found are the smaller and more indestructible of Roman implements and objects, and these scattered through the soil from the present surface down to the Roman level. Objects of stone are therefore, as will be now understood, rather rare, two portions of small columns and

of a stone slab rounded at the top, and bearing three very rude female figures with short petticoats, standing in a row, and perhaps intended for *Deæ Matres*, but certainly very peculiar looking young ladies, are all which have come into the speaker's possession. It is otherwise with

#### OBJECTS OF BRONZE AND IRON,

of which the collection represents almost everything that would be expected—the bronze, as would be natural, being in the better preservation as less affected by rust and decay. This portion of the collection comprises *Fibulæ* of all the known shapes, some of them with the safety-pins in position and almost in working order. One of these, of diamond shape, and with the hinged pin in working order, though broken rather too short off to catch in the socket intended to receive its point, shows the remains of enamel. *Armilla*, some of twisted wire, some plain, and pins of all sizes, some of them with mouldings round and near the heads, some with the heads as plain knobs. A *statera* or steelyard is another of the more interesting objects. It is rather longer, and adapted for weighing rather heavier matters than the smaller one in the Cirencester Museum. On each side of the bar are cut notches by which to adjust the counterpoise correctly, the notches on one side of the bar being placed at longer intervals than on the other; the two suspensory thumb rings or hooks to be used, the one or the other according to which scale is to be brought uppermost, are complete, and the sliding ring of the ounce weight which travelled along the bar is still on the bar, but the heavy portion of the weight itself has perished, as have the hooks for holding the object to be weighed. Another interesting object is a *stylus* or writing pen for inscribing wax tablets with the missive of the period. This is of iron, and in sufficiently good order to show the writing point and the small flat chisel at the opposite end used for erasing purposes.

Spoons of one or two sizes: *liquilæ*, or long scoops, for getting unguents out of narrow-necked bottles, some with charming little bands of moulding, and those small objects which Roman ladies seem to have worn chatelaine-fashion, consisting of tweezers very like modern dressing-case accessories, finger-nail cleaners, &c., are all found in the collection. A *spatula* with long handle is almost the only object of silver. Two bronze keys are also included, one of them with wards of very modern fashion indeed. A large number of bone pins, some of them pierced so as to form them into bodkins, are in excellent preservation. They are probably most of them made of red-deer (*arvus elephas*) horn. Of bone, too, are several round objects, like counters, used perhaps for marking at games. Glass is always in a very fragmentary state, but one neck of a bottle with its handle is in a whole state, and the bottom and sides of another bottle of

the same blue-green glass is a more important fragment than usual. We may now turn to the

#### CERAMIC WARE,

of which there is an immense quantity of every known Roman manufacture. First in importance comes the well-known Samian ware, of which a few specimens are in a fairly complete state, showing the high glazing which was given to this favourite ware. Upon some of the best finished and most highly glazed specimens, the ornamentation is the simple and universally found woodbine-leaf pattern of which an engraving is given in Buckman and Newmarch's work on *Corinium*. The Samian fragments show every kind of device from the animal and vegetable world stamped upon the articles—sometimes hunting scenes occur, or figures in various attitudes, whilst some, and those not the least beautiful, bear arabesques of the most chaste and elegant design. Some 80 pieces bear the potter's mark, of which between 50 and 60 have not been before recorded at Cirencester. Domestic utensils, and amphoræ of every shape and colour, some quite white, some quite black, some of brick colour, appear, many in excellent preservation, and representing what are called the Castor and Upchurch potteries, as well as the work of the Cranham potteries which are in work at the present day.

#### THE COINS

cover the whole period of the Roman occupation, more or less adequately. More than 1,000 have come into the speaker's possession; over 500 being in sufficiently good order to be worth cataloguing and preserving. They range from Claudius to Arcadius, the earliest in date are of course the large brass, and these are in the worst order. From about the time of Tetricus many Emperors are represented by a large number of specimens, especially the members of the Constantine family. Amongst the best coins are some of the British Emperors Carausius and his successor and murderer Allectus, whilst Tacitus, who only reigned three months, is represented by a single coin. A late but interesting specimen is a small silver *denarius* of Julian called the Apostate.

#### A CURIOUS OBJECT IN JET.

Last of all we come to an object which is perhaps the most curious of all. It is what remains of a small human figure, or rather two figures conjoined, formed of this substance, which was well known in Roman times as it is now. It consists of the conjoined trunks of two figures, all the limbs and the heads being missing; one of the trunks, that of a male, is undraped, and the muscles are well rendered in the fashion of classical statuettes generally; the other figure is draped in a cloak entirely covering it, the cloak having a pointed hood hanging down the back from the collar, and laced down the middle, the stitches of the lacing being

shown. No one has been able to suggest to the possessor what this unique group is intended for, not even Mr. A. W. Franks, who has had it in his possession at the British Museum for some time and has taken drawings of it. It was found on a tessellated pavement which was uncovered for a time in 1890, but which had to be covered in again as it underlay the boundary wall between two owners. It was lying upon the larger fragments of fallen plaster which is commonly found immediately upon pavements, and which probably fell upon them from the surrounding walls, as the buildings to which they belonged fell into disrepair, and eventually into ruins.

Following Mr. Cripps, Mr. Christopher Bowly, the Honorary Curator of the Corinium Museum, described a very interesting Roman Inscribed Stone, recently discovered in Cirencester. This description will be printed *post*.

The Rev. E. A. Fuller, in concluding the proceedings of the Society for the day, said that he began two years ago a correction of the errors that had crept into current histories of Cirencester, and he had now prepared a paper concerning the illegal merchant guild granted by Henry IV. to the town and neighbourhood. The whole story as to the establishment of a staple at Cirencester by Henry IV.'s Charter was due to the loose phrase used by Atkyns. The historian could not have meant what had since been attributed to him, for he referred to the Statute Merchant of Edward I., and not to the Ordinance of the Staple of Edward III. The Acts of Parliament, if carefully read, shewed that Mr. Kenneth Beecham's suggestion as to Cirencester being a staple town was erroneous. The Staple Rolls of the end of the 14th century contained entries about the port of the city of Chichester, and of course none about the town of Cirencester. So, in the reigns of Henry IV. and V., there were recognitions of debts taken before the Mayor of the Staple of the city of Chichester, and of course none before a Mayor of the Staple of the town of Cirencester. Nor did the charter of Henry IV. in any way create a Corporation. The people had asked for a Merchant Guild, with power to choose a mayor, bailiffs, and sergeants-at-mace; to have power to sell and bequeath their houses, &c., as free men in a free borough; to be free of the Abbot's Hundred Court; to have their own coroner, and to have the control of markets—in fact that all which the King had given to the Abbots should be taken away and given to themselves. Of course it was illegal for the King to give anything they asked for, and what he did give was taken away by the Lord Chancellor in the next reign. But although Henry IV. did give illegally a charter for a Merchant Guild with a Master or Governor—not a *Mayor*—with control of the markets, and made them free of the Abbot's Hundred Court, it did not touch the governance of the town, and had no relation to the limits of the township or the town officers. The bailiff, constables,

and wardsmen were the same now as they were in the centuries previous to Henry IV.'s Charter, and, much as Cirencester folk wished it, they never escaped from the control of the Lord of the Manor. And the partial subordination of the town still to the manorial, Earl Bathurst, is the continuance of what has always existed from the time of the earliest historical record, though formerly it was enforced with greater stringency.

The authors of the several papers were cordially thanked.

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#### WEDNESDAY, 24TH AUGUST.

THIS morning an excursion was made to various places of interest in the neighbourhood of Cirencester. The first place visited was the interesting church of Fairford, so famous for its painted glass, so admirably described by its former Vicar, the Rev. J. G. Joyce, F.S.A., being the last paper written by that talented and lamented gentleman. It is printed in Vol. II., p. 53, of the Transactions of this Society in 1887-8. Unfortunately he died before it was printed, and it was passed through the press by the present editor. The present Vicar, the Rev. F. R. Carbonell, to his great regret, was unable to be present on this occasion, the postponement of the meeting, in consequence of the general election, having disturbed his arrangements.

#### FAIRFORD CHURCH AND WINDOWS.

Mr. F. W. Waller, of Gloucester, the Diocesan Architect, read a paper on the Architectural Features of the Church, in order that the visitors might learn something about the frame before inspecting the famous windows forming the picture. He said that the church was, even apart from its windows, interesting in itself as a complete example of late Perpendicular work. The church consists of a nave 50 feet by 20, with north and south aisles 12 feet wide, and these aisles go past the central tower and extend nearly the whole length of the church, the corner on the north side being occupied by the vestry, while on the south side it is vacant. In addition to the vestry and central tower, there is a chancel and large south porch. Although from its appearance it might be thought that the church was first erected towards the end of the 15th century, such was not the case, for a critical examination of the structure revealed stone work of as early periods as certainly the 13th and 14th centuries, favouring the assumption that, as in the case of the majority of old churches, a church had existed here from quite early times, and that the building had been altered and added to according to the views and tastes of the builders for the time being. Evidences of the earlier work are present in the north-west and south-west piers of the tower, where half-piers and parts of arches of former arcades still exist, and are embedded in the later masonry. What further early work might be encased in the four large

lower piers it is impossible to say, but it is fairly open to conjecture whether more remains do not exist therein than are now exposed on the surface. Some further indication of early work has come to light recently, and these are particularly valuable as showing, in a measure, the extent of the former church in an eastward direction. In the construction of a gutter-course round the outside, some small portions of the plinth of an earlier building were found beneath the east wall of the chancel, and at a depth of 18 inches below the ground level. These have been carefully preserved and are open to examination. A more careful examination might reveal other evidences of the older church, but possibly such an examination would meet with little success, as the 15th century masons appeared to have dressed the surface of the whole of the old stone work they then used in putting on the present ashlar face. Into the question of whether the church was built for the windows or the windows designed for the church he would not enter. The present building, said to be built by John Tame, was dedicated in 1493. John Tame died in 1500, and his son, Sir Edmund Tame, completed certain portions of the work. The design and arrangement of the south porch are similar to those of Cirencester and Burford. The moulded timber roofs of the nave and aisles are particularly fine, that of the nave being very handsome. Although not economical, as containing a prodigious amount of timber, they gave a fine effect to the Church. The oak screens forming the divisions of the north-east chapel (dedicated to the Virgin), the south-east chapel (dedicated to the Blessed Sacrament), and the chancel are also very fine. The whole of the upper part of the tower is a very interesting illustration of the decline of the Perpendicular work. Mr. Waller also directed attention to the monuments of John and Edmund Tame, and others, to the excellent work in the brasses, and to the good stone work outside the west door, in some of the pinnacles, parapets, &c. Sketching briefly the restoration which the roofs and windows have lately undergone, he paid a high tribute to the great care and thoroughly conserving spirit displayed by the Vicar, who had insisted on the use of every available bit of old timber, and had regained several pieces of glass that had been removed.

*The following notes prepared by the REV. F. R. CARBONELL, chiefly from some chapters on the Fairford Windows, by the late REV. J. G. JOYCE, in Mr. CARBONELL'S absence were read by the REV. R. H. WILMOT:—*

FAIRFORD is an old Saxon town, retaining its original Saxon name. It is mentioned in the Domesday Book, together with its Priest and his holding; and, no doubt, a Priest implies a Church.

A grant by Robert Fitzhamon [circ. 1090] to the Abbey of Tewkesbury of those Churches "which Robert the Chaplain held, when he put off his secular habit," mentions that of "ffeorfort" among them.

The "Ecclesia de Fairefort cum pertinentiis suis" is also mentioned in a charter of Robert Fitzhamon, bearing date 1125, and confirming certain rights of the Abbey of Tewkesbury.

But the earliest existing remains of any Church are those now embedded in the masonry of the tower piers. The old plinth and the N.E. coin of an earlier chancel can also be seen below the eastern wall of the present building.

The remains partially visible in the two western piers of the tower are dated about 1400 A.D. The junction of the transepts of this earlier Church, with the north and south walls of the tower, are quite conspicuous on the exterior.

Certain sculptures also still remain in their original positions, where the ridge of the transepts met the tower; among them the "Wyvern," the heraldic monster on which the feet of the King-maker rest in St. Mary's, Warwick. The "Bear and Ragged Staff" also stands on the eastern face of the tower, below the line where the more modern work begins, and probably it is very near its original place at the junction of the chancel roof with the tower.

This earlier Church then was cruciform; was built about 1400 A.D.; and bears upon it the cognizances of the House of Warwick. The Manor of Fairford became the property of the Beauchamps very early in the 15th century. The inference is obvious that the immediate predecessor of the present Church of Fairford was built by the Earl of Warwick soon after he became Lord of the Manor.

The original form of the tower has been somewhat obscured by Perpendicular additions, but in its present state it is still sufficiently remarkable. The relief of all flat surfaces by panelling and mouldings, the quaint character of the figures, carvings, and ornamental devices, the curious breaking of the square into the octagonal form in the upper tiers, the enormous quarterfoils in the parapet, are all worthy of notice.

Around this old centre the present Church was built by John Tame and his son, Sir Edmund, about the year 1490 A.D. So says Leland, who visited Fairford during the lifetime of Sir Edmund's widow, and is not therefore likely to have been mistaken. His testimony, at any rate, is not invalidated by Mr. Holt's astounding series of conjectures and inferences in the *Journal of the British Archæological Association* for 1871

The style is "late Perpendicular," with its depressed arches, square-headed doorways, and characteristic window-tracery, here seen to the best advantage as the framework of a magnificent series of pictures.

The Church is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, and consists of a nave

and two aisles, continued through, and on either side of, the tower, so as to form a chancel and two side chapels. These latter are partitioned off by magnificent open screenwork of the same date as the Church.

The Manor of Fairford formed part of the "Honour of Gloucester," and shared in the eventful and romantic history of those vast estates; passing from Brictric, its earliest known possessor, into the hands of William the Conqueror, Robert Fitzhamon, Robert Fitzroy, the De Clares, the De Spencers, and the Beauchamps successively.

The armorial bearings of these three families were inserted by the Tames along with their own, on the parapets of the tower. From the Beauchamps the Manor passed to Henry VII., who let it to John Tame, some time woolstapler, and perhaps clothfactor of Cirencester; but now become an Esquire, a J.P. for his county, and by far the wealthiest and most important person in Fairford; which little town, Leland informs us, "never flourished afore the cuming of the Tames onto it."

With regard to the origin of the wonderful windows, there are two traditions of some antiquity which tell (1) where they came from, and (2) who painted them.

First we have the tradition which cannot be traced back earlier than the unpublished MSS. of Dr. Parsons, Chancellor of Oxford, 1669 to 1711:—

"John Tame, Esq., Merchant, was ye first founder of this Church, whose son, Sir Edmund Tame, finish'd the same. He, being a merchant, took a ship that attaqued, in which was excellent paynted Glasse." And having in this way acquired the glass, the worthy merchant proceeded to build windows and walls to match it. This story has been repeated in almost every Gazetteer and History of the County; but it is at least remarkable that it is not mentioned by Leland in 1545, or by Anthony-a-Wood, who visited Fairford more than once early in the 17th century.

The second tradition is a statement ascribed with some little probability to Vandyck, viz.: that Albert Durer was the painter of the windows. It may be well to set down the evidence for and against the authorship. In favour of it we have:—

1. The old tradition of uncertain origin, ascribing the windows to Durer.
2. The mannerisms of drawing, posture, and movement; particularly in the Grisaille figures of the tracery lights.
3. The peculiar truncated trees in III. 2 and 3.\* [but ?]
4. The ornament in the moulding of III. 4.

\* The Roman numerals refer to the number of the window, the Arabic to the Light counting from the left.

5. The "stump" tracery in I. 4, VIII. 1 and 2, IX. 1 and 2.
6. The round-headed windows, without mullion or tracery, but glazed with diamond quarries. [See the figure and canopy lights in the nave.]
7. The Flemish character of the canopy in VIII. 1 and 2.
8. St. Thomas with a lance instead of a mason's square. [See Mrs. Jameson's Sacred and Legendary Art, vol. I. page 250.]

There are undoubtedly these and other traces of German and Flemish work; but on the other hand we find:—

1. The Circular Nimbus which Durer never used.
2. The English Royal Badges:
  - a. Of Edward IV., in XVI. 4. [Above the transom.]
  - b. Of the Prince of Wales in XI., XII., XIII., and XV. [In the Tracery.]
3. The absence of the crumpled angular folds in the drapery, characteristic of the Flemish School.
4. Perpendicular work in the canopies and backgrounds of many windows which is considered to be distinctly English in character.
5. The absence of Durer's monogram.

Mr. Joyce, after an elaborate review of the evidence on both sides, comes to the conclusion that the glass was made in England, under an English contract, but that both German and Flemish workmen were employed in its execution.

Further, the considerations which follow make it all but certain that the glass was designed for this particular church.

1. The glass was originally made to fit window-tracery of this particular form. It has not been cut down to fit it. Notice especially the adaptation of the canopies to the cinquefoil heads of the lights, and the exact fitting of the demi-figures throughout, into the openings of the tracery lights.
2. Certain subjects are compressed in such a way as to show that the artist was limited by dimensions given him; for example, the horses in V., the Calvary in VI. 2, the Hill of Ascension in IX. 3, and the group of figures in IX. 4.
3. The circles of the great west window are so arranged as to cut the tracery in as few places as possible. The artist who designed the picture intended it to fill this stonework, or stonework exactly like this.

4. The pictures in the Lady Chapel all have reference to the Blessed Virgin, and those in the Corpus Christi Chapel all (except perhaps two) illustrate the Blessed Sacrament, and the presence of our Lord's sacred Body; and yet they are all in chronological order. This would not have occurred unless the windows had been designed for a church of exactly the same plan as Fairford, with three altars, and three windows in each side chapel.
5. Window No. IV. is some four feet less in height than its companion No. VII. The artist has himself made it so, and for this very obvious reason, that the roof of the vestry is outside the east wall of the Lady Chapel. The design for the glass must therefore have been made after the church was built and the vestry placed in this particular angle.

All these considerations point to the conclusion that the glass was designed for the church. and make the story of John Tame's capture of the "excellent paynted glasse" and subsequent erection of a church to hold it, not a little improbable. But whenever and by whomsoever executed, the series of windows is the design of one mind. The glass is arranged in twenty-eight windows. They may be divided into three groups.

1. The Gospel History, in a consecutive series of pictures within the screen. In this group there are eight windows in all, introduced by four typical subjects from the Old Testament (and because from the Old Testament, therefore placed just outside the screen) in No. 1.

Two lights in this series are inserted out of their chronological order, and for very obvious reasons. Over the Altar of the Lady Chapel is the assumption of the Blessed Virgin, and over the Altar of the Corpus Christie Chapel (used for the Reservation of the Blessed Sacrament) is the picture of Christ in Transfiguration, bearing a circular wafer of the Sacramental bread upon His breast.

2. The History of The Faith, in the 16 windows of the aisles and clerestories.

Here we have

{ Twelve Prophets who told beforehand of The Faith.  
 { The Twelve Apostles, the Preachers of The Faith.

{ The Four Evangelists, the Historians of The Faith.  
 { The Four Latin Fathers, the Defenders and Expositors of The Faith  
 and in the clerestories.

{ Twelve Persecutors of The Faith.  
 { Twelve Martyrs and Confessors of The Faith.

The members of this series were all so arranged that each had his

*vis-a-vis* on the opposite side of the church. Each prophet bears over his head words [usually] from his own book relative to that portion of the Creed which is inscribed on the scroll of the apostle opposite. Thus, to give one example, Isaiah bears the familiar evangelical prophecy, "Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;" while St. James, opposite to him, declares the mystery of the Incarnation, "Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary." And so on, throughout the Creed.

Opposite to the Four Evangelists are St. Jerome, St. Gregory, St. Ambrose, and St. Augustine.

Similarly in the clerestories, Judas Iscariot between Annas and Caiaphas [a traitor Apostle between the Apostate Priests] faces a sainted Pope between two sainted Cardinals. Then, a persecuting Emperor between Herod the Great and another crowned persecutor is opposite to a Christian Emperor between two Christian Kings. And in the Tracery lights of the clerestories, demons over the persecutors are opposed to angels over the martyrs.

3. The third group of subjects is placed in the three western windows, which form a triptych. All three are illustrations of Judgement. On either side, and corresponding in many details to each other, are the Judgement of David [Justice] and the Judgement of Solomon [Truth]. In the centre is the last Judgement. It should be noticed that this picture of Our Blessed Lord coming in His glorious majesty to reign, is opposite to the representation of Him in His lowest humiliation on the Cross. And St. Michael, weighing the souls, stands facing Pilate on his Judgement Seat.

At one time or another the glass has been removed from the windows, for the original arrangement was in several instances disturbed, as Mr. Joyce has pointed out in his great work. Also much of the glass was inside out and upside down or otherwise out of place. These irregularities have been set right as far as possible in the process of re-leading, which the windows have recently undergone. But beyond this necessary rectification of obvious errors, there has been no "restoration." Fairford has suffered far too much from that already.

Tradition accounts for the displacement of lights and panels and pieces in this way. It is said that "during the commotions when the Republican Army were on their march to Cirencester, William Oldysworth, Esq., the Impropiator, fearing its destruction, caused the whole to be taken down and concealed." [Bigland.] This would be in 1643, when Cirencester fell into the hands of the Parliamentary soldiers under Essex. In 1656, however, the same Mr. Oldysworth did "with great courtesie" show Anthony-a-Wood the beautiful Church and

Windows. Therefore they were not long removed from the stonework, But the damage done in removing and replacing them was as nothing compared with what has been done since, in the "restoration" which has destroyed the whole upper half of the west window and the two western lights of No. XII.

We may hope that the windows are now safe for the next two centuries. by which time the glass will have been in many places eaten through by atmospheric influences

From that, alas, no care can save them, but everything that could be done has been done to preserve these unique works of art for the admiration and study of future generations.

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#### KEMPSFORD CHURCH.

This noble, and well kept building, dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, was the next place of interest visited, and the beauties of this charming Thames-side village was much admired. Canon St. John, the Vicar, received the party at the Church.

Mr. Waller said the Church was of Norman origin, and a considerable portion of Norman masonry still remains, though much has been removed, and many additions and alterations have taken place at different periods. The Church consists of a nave 59 feet by 23 feet 6 inches, a north, and a south porch, a fine tower at the east end of the nave and between the nave and chancel, a chancel 37 feet 6 inches by 19 feet, and a modern chancel aisle. The evidences of Norman work in the nave are very clear. Externally, there is the flat buttress at the west end, the two string courses passing entirely round the building, except where cut through by the insertion of later windows, the north and south doorways, and the small semi-circular headed windows with their deeply splayed reveals and sills high up on either side of these doorways, and also in the unmistakable Norman walling. Internally, the Norman work was shown in the string course about 9 feet from the floor, and the work of the north and south porches, though the Norman work here is not so rich as in many churches. Nearly all above the external Norman string course is of later, viz., Perpendicular work, that is to say the clerestory windows, the parapet, and roof, the last-named being a quite new structure in substitution of one greatly decayed. The west window of the nave and the windows in the north and south walls west of the tower are insertions in the old Norman walls, the two latter being Perpendicular work, probably of about the same date as the tower. Above the arched head of each of these latter windows, on the east side, is a corbel which evidently carried the timber of the roodloft, to which there was apparently access from the tower stairs. The tracery of the west window belongs

to the Decorated period. Against the exterior of the tower on the west side is a string course which evidently protected an earlier roof of a steeper pitch than the present one. The north porch appears to have been much altered and mutilated. The south porch—now used as a vestry—is very plain, but there is a good Early English window in the west wall. Coming to the chancel, as the next in order of time, on the north side westward is a good Early window and door well worth examination, and in the south wall eastwards is a similar window with a piscina in the splay. Opposite is a Decorated window. The tower is a fine specimen of late Perpendicular work, probably belonging to the end of the 15th century. An interesting problem presents itself with regard to this tower. On the west side are the remains of a complete Norman nave with a Perpendicular clerestory and roof; on the east side is a chancel of early date; and between them is a 15th century tower. The question is what existed here previous to the erection of this tower? Was there a Norman tower where the present tower stands? Such an arrangement of plan is frequently to be met with in both large and small churches of Norman origin—Gloucester Cathedral, Tewkesbury Abbey, and a good example of a village church is that of Coln St. Dennis.

After a walk round the Church, and a peep at Lady Maud's walk, a charming spot, with the remains of a shot tower belonging to the old house of the Thynnes, the party drove to

#### CRICKLADE.

Here there were two churches to visit, and the Vicar of St. Sampson (the Rev. H. J. Morton), and the Rector of St. Mary (the Rev. J. McKaye), kindly entertained the party to tea. At

#### ST. SAMPSON'S CHURCH,

the Rev. H. J. Morton read a letter from Mr. R. Kinneir, and some notes of his own, giving an account of the history of the Church and of the families who had been its benefactors, while Mr. C. E. Ponting, of the Wiltshire Society, pointed out the architectural features of the building. It is a striking cruciform Church, with nave arcades partially *circa* 1180, and partially re-built *circa* 1250. The south aisle and transept have been almost entirely re-built, but the thirteenth century door, piscina, and windows (with tracery of peculiar type) were re-used. The north aisle is thirteenth century work, with three windows and rich altar-tomb inserted *circa* 1360. The north transept is of the same date, with Perpendicular window, parapet, and buttress, and Decorated piscina. The west door and window of the nave (the latter containing good glass by Kemp) are late thirteenth century. The chancel is *circa* 1360, with additions of fifteenth century buttresses and modern east window. The south chapel was erected in the fifteenth century by the Hungerford family; it has rich

work, with well-preserved niches in the east wall and piscina on the south. A curious detached buttress was erected in 1569, with flying arch carried across to the south-east angle of the chapel. The nave and south aisle retain the old corbels, but all the roofs are modern. The central tower is a remarkable specimen of Gothic work, with features of almost every period, said to have been erected in 1553: it is bold and good in proportion, but coarse in detail, and contains much heraldry and carved symbolism. There is clear evidence of a rood screen having existed, and on each side of the arch facing the nave is what looks like a reredos for a side altar. There is an octagonal font of the fifteenth century. Over the doorway in the north porch are two early stones bearing Saxon interlaced ornament—one apparently the end of a coffin lid. In the churchyard is a fifteenth century cross which formerly stood in the town, also the base of another cross of slightly earlier date.

#### ST. MARY'S CHURCH

is more interesting than at first appears. A striking feature is the rich Norman chancel arch. The two lower stages of the western tower are *circa* 1260, with buttresses and upper stages added in the fifteenth century. The walls of the north aisle and chapel are coeval with the tower, with Perpendicular windows. The south aisle was probably erected in the sixteenth century, nave arcades *circa* 1450, with deep eastern responds cut away to admit of squints looking into the chancel. There is an old trussed rafter roof to the nave, also principals and carved cornices in the aisles. The north chapel is remarkable for its small dimensions and good fifteenth century roof. The font is a thirteenth century bowl on a modern base; the pulpit is Jacobean. There is much modern work, including nearly the whole of the chancel. A good specimen of a Perpendicular churchyard cross with carved head is preserved.

On the return journey to Cirencester, a call was made at

#### SIDDINGTON,

and the first stoppage took place at Siddington House, where the party were received by Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Bowly. In the lower part of the grounds Mr. Bowly showed his visitors a thick stone slab, about two feet out of the ground, in a slightly raised circular mound beneath a clump of elms. Mr. Bowly said the stone was a Roman tomb taken from outside the boundary of old Cirencester, and put here some 130 or 140 years ago. Rudder mentions it, and recorded that near it were found bones and implements. Among other objects inspected was the large inscribed stone recently found in Mr. L. Adamthwaite's garden, as described by Mr. Bowly in his paper printed, *post*, in our report of the conversazione. A conversational discussion followed as to the meaning of the inscriptions, a portion of which Mr. Bowly thought went to show that at a

remote period, the stone being of the second or third century, Cirencester was the capital of the Province. A small household Roman altar and a double altar were also shown, and viewed with interest.

After a short visit to the parish Church of St. Peter, where Norman, early English, and Perpendicular features were pointed out by Mr. Bazeley and Mr. Bowly, Cirencester was reached about 7.30.

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THURSDAY, 25TH MAY.

THE members of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Society assembled at the Town Hall at 9 a.m. to hold the final business meeting of the Society, some members of the Wiltshire Society, by invitation, being present. The President, Mr. Wilfred Cripps, occupied the Chair and moved a resolution expressing the pleasure it had given the Gloucestershire Society to welcome the members of the Wiltshire Society to Cirencester; and said he hoped on some future day that joint meeting would be considered a good precedent to follow. The motion was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Medlicott, on behalf of the Wiltsire Society, expressed their thanks for that resolution and for their hearty welcome to Ciceter, remarking that one result of their visit to the town had been that they had learnt to pronounce its name, though whether they should be able to accomplish it he did not know. He also thanked Mr. Cripps, as President of the meeting and Chairman of the Local Committee, Mr. Whatley as Local Secretary, and Mr. Bazeley as General Secretary, for their kind and courteous assistance to Mr. Goddard, his own Co-Secretary, and himself.—The Wiltshire members then withdrew.

On the motion of Mr. C. Bowly, seconded by Mr. W. Leigh, the privileges of subscribing members were unanimously conferred on the Rev. W. Bazeley (General Hon. Secretary) and on Mr. E. Hartland (Hon. Treasurer), who had been elected hon. members of the Society.—Mr. Bazeley returned thanks.

A general resolution of thanks was heartily passed, on the motion of the Rev. W. Bazeley, to all who had assisted at the meeting, viz.: to Mr. Wilfred Cripps and the members of the Local Committee, Mr. Ernest Whatley (the zealous and efficient Hon. Local Secretary), the Archdeacon of Cirencester for the use of the Town Hall, the custodians of the Corinium Museum; the clergy of Cirencester, Fairford, Kempsford, Siddington, and Avebury, for permission to inspect their interesting churches; Mr. Wilfred Cripps for his inaugural address and able conduct as President, and for his paper; Mrs. Bagnall-Oakley, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Bowly, Mr. Waller, the Rev. H. J. Moreton, the Rev. J. McKaye, Mr. Ponting, and Mr. Bryan King for their papers and addresses; the Rev. R. H. Wilmot for his able description of Fairford windows; and to Mr.

and Mrs. Wilfred Cripps, the Rev. H. J. and Mrs. Morton, and the Rev. J. and Mrs. McKaye, for their generous hospitality at Cirencester and Cricklade.

The President suitably acknowledged the resolution.

#### SIDDINGTON STAINED GLASS.

At the suggestion of the Secretary, the President moved: "That the members of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Society having seen the ancient stained glass commemorating certain members of the Langley family in the care of Mr. Churchwarden Timms at Siddington, which was years ago transferred to Cirencester Parish Church and has some time since been sent back to Siddington, desire to express their opinion that it should at once be re-inserted in the windows of that Church: and they also venture to hope that the remainder of the stained glass, portrayed by Lysons in his *Antiquities of Gloucestershire* and removed many years ago to the Parish Church at Cirencester, may be restored to its original position."

In reply to Mr. Fuller, Mr. Bazeley said the glass now lay on the floor of Mr. Timm's attic.

The President said he had proposed the resolution on general principles, but the glass had been so long at Cirencester that it had become their property, and had been given to Siddington on condition that it should be reinstated. If it was not used he should do all he could to get it back to Cirencester, which was as much interested in the Langley family as Siddington.

Mr. Fuller: The Langleys were Lords of the Manor of Chesterton.

The motion was carried and the subject dropped.

#### EXCURSION TO ABURY.

AT 10.15 the members of the Gloucestershire Society left by special train on the Midland and South Western Junction Railway for an excursion arranged for them by the Wiltshire Society, by a carriage drive from Marlborough to Abury and Silbury, where the British remains were described by the Rev. William Bazeley; and a visit was paid to the ancient parish Church, under the guidance of the Rev. Bryan King, M.A. Luncheon was provided at the Red Lion Inn. On the return to Marlborough, a visit was paid (by the kind permission of the master) to Marlborough College Chapel.

AN EXCURSION TO WILTSHIRE VILLAGES, most of which had never before been visited by the Wiltshire Society, occupied the members of that Society for the day. The route was to Shorncliffe, Somerford Keynes, Leigh, Ashton Keynes (luncheon at the White Hart Inn), Mincty, Oaksey, and Kemble. We append some notes by Mr. C. E. Ponting on the churches visited:—

## ALL SAINTS, SHORNCOTE.

An interesting little Church, consisting of a Norman nave and chancel, remodelled, and north chapel and south porch added late in the fourteenth century. North, south, and east walls and doors of the nave, the north wall of the chancel and the chancel arch (only 2 feet 7 inches wide) remain of the earlier work. The later work of the transitional period includes the charming double bell-cot on east gable of the nave, all the windows and the priests' door in the chancel, the remarkable arched recess in the centre of the north wall, and the west wall, the south window, and the roof of nave; also part of the rood screen, adapted as doors in the chancel arch, and parts of the stalls made up as a prayer-desk. There is a piscina in the chancel, another in the chapel. The recess of rood-loft stairs on south side, with wood arch over. Font, thirteenth century, and a coffin slab of similar date built into north wall of the chapel. Traces of thirteenth century colouring on west and north walls of the chancel remain, as do pieces of Norman arcading in the wall of a cottage near.

## ALL SAINTS, SOMERFORD KEYNES,

Is a "restored" but interesting Church, retaining a large piece of Saxon wall and a coeval doorway on north side of the nave. A short north aisle added *circa* 1200 (has been recently re-built); the chancel arch is of the same date. The three windows in the south wall of the nave are an interesting study of the advance of tracery from *circa* 1240 to 1360. A Jacobean hour-glass stand still remains fixed to the jamb of the window, by the pulpit, as do an early lancet in the north wall of the chancel, and a later one of two lights on the south, with the sill carried down as a sedilia and coeval piscina adjoining. The porch is of the fourteenth century, with an original gable cross. The tower is a debased type of Perpendicular. The font bowl is of early form.

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, "THE LEIGH."

A small Church—nave, chancel, south porch, and western tower—of special interest. The walls of the nave, chancel arch, and opening in the gable for the sanctus bell are of thirteenth century work. The porch *circa* 1380, retains its original roof and niche, and the oak door is stowed away under the gallery; a coeval window remains in the south wall of the nave. The tower is a charming timber erection of the fifteenth century, when the west window, two north windows, one south window, and north door were inserted in the walls of the nave, and the chancel rebuilt, probably replacing one *temp.* Edward I., the east window of which was reinstated. Quaint sedilia and piscina in reveals of south window. Traces of rood-loft remain. The nave roof is very remarkable. It was constructed in 1638, with a curious blending of Gothic and Renaissance detail. There is

some coeval oak seating. The font and pulpit with sounding-board, early eighteenth century, still remain, as do fragments of old coloured glass.

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, ASHTON KEYNES.

This Church possesses many points of unusual interest. The two eastern bays of the north arcade of the nave erected *circa* 1150, continued two bays westward *circa* 1180. The south arcade *circa* 1200. The chancel arch has been re-built of wider span, but the old stones are used in. The south aisle of late fourteenth century, with the original roof remain, as do the south door and two windows, and an inserted window, *circa* 1450, retaining some coeval glass. The nave roof of fourteenth century trussed-rafter type, clerestory is modern. The north aisle of fourteenth century date, with original roof and remarkable window tracery; a later window is inserted in west wall. There is an archway in the east wall leading into chapel, and over it a charming reredos of three bays under a flat pointed arch. The rood-loft appears to have existed here only, and the staircase remains. The early English chancel walls, piscina, and south window of sanctuary, with buttresses added, and two windows and doorway inserted in the fifteenth century, and since modernized. On the north of the chancel is a remarkable double chapel, each division of which had its separate altar, and retains its separate piscina, and an archway opening into the chancel. The chapel was erected *temp.* Edward I. The east window was inserted *circa* 1450, and the roof is probably Elizabethan. The tower and north porch is late Decorated, the inner door of latter twelfth century, south porch Perpendicular with original barrel roof. The font is late Norman of the early " tub " shape. There are remains of six early coffin-slabs in the churchyard, also a good base of the churchyard cross. There are also remains of four other crosses about the village.

Facilities were kindly afforded by the Rev. M. J. Milling for inspecting a collection of Battersea enamels at the vicarage.

ST. LEONARD'S, MINETY.

Nave and north aisle of five bays and south porch of the same date (*circa* 1420, with chancel added shortly after, and tower erected at the west end of aisle *circa* 1460.) The original roof remains over the porch, but the roofs of chancel, nave, and aisle are (the latter of oak dated 1800) resting on old corbels. Good Perpendicular chancel screen with door, much mutilated; and there is more screen-work at east end of aisle; and the south door of nave with its ironwork is coeval with the building. A good brass candelabrum dated 1748, and oak pulpit with sounding board dated 1627; some coeval benches. The west window contains good specimens of fifteenth century glass. A brass of Nicholas Poulet and family, *circa* 1620, exists in the aisle. The font is coeval with the

Church. There are parts of a thirteenth century coffin-slab in the walls of the porch.

The Rev. J. Melland Hall submitted some interesting notes on this Church from the MS. of Sir Stephen Glynné, Bart., dated April 26th, 1858, which described it as entirely Perpendicular of rather late work, the external masonry being very good and the material very fine stone. In the course of other details, most of which are sufficiently indicated above, the MS. describes the fine Jacobean woodwork pulpit of 1627, the sounding board of which is thus inscribed: "Fides ex auditus, auditus autem per verbum Dei;" also, "We come to God by the prayers of our hearts." The panels bear the date, the initials "W. G., R. P., churchwardens," and "Preach the Word," "Be instant in season."

See Sir John Maclean's remarks on this Church and Parish further on.

#### ALL SAINTS', OAKSEY,

is an early English Church, consisting of nave and south aisle of three bays, south porch, chancel, and western tower, much altered at later periods, with the additions of north porch and chapel on south of chancel. The principal remaining features of the original work are the two lower stages of the tower, the nave arcades, the walls and one window in the south aisle, much of the chancel, including the two windows in the north wall. A somewhat later window (*circa* 1290) was inserted near the east end of south aisle. The north wall of the nave and the north porch were re-built late in the fourteenth century, and a clerestory added "*circa* 1450" to both sides of nave, giving the unusual feature of two stages of windows in the north wall. A chapel was added at this time, and the tower raised one stage and rood loft inserted—the staircase of which remains. Modern chancel arch and east window. Valuable remains of rich screen work exist in the chapel, and made up in the choir stalls. Much fifteenth century glass remains in the windows, although the pieces are curiously intermingled. The font is modern, but the old thirteenth century font exists in the churchyard.

#### ALL SAINTS', KEMBLE.

The ancient plan consisted of nave, chancel, western tower, south porch, and north and south chapels—all erected, apparently, between 1200 and 1250. With the exception of the tower, all was re-built in 1877, when the north aisle was added, and the many interesting old features were replaced in their former positions. The nave doorway has the twelfth century chevron, with Early English mouldings. A large porch of the Salisbury type, with coeval niche over on the outside. There is a double doorway in the east wall opening into the south chapel. This chapel (called the Ewen aisle) was, with the porch, probably the part last erected. In the

south wall is a recessed altar tomb, under a segmental arch and a two-bay sedilia. The trussed-rafter roof and the south and east windows are Perpendicular; the latter was taken from the east wall of the chancel at the restoration. In the north chapel is a modern recessed arch, containing the Purbeck effigy of a knight, coeval with the Church, and said to have been taken from an altar tomb in the south chapel. The east window of the chapel is a charming triplet contained under a single arch. The stairs were of unusual width to the rood-loft led up from this chapel. The font is a plain one of fourteenth century date. The tower of three stages is a fine example of the work of the thirteenth century, and is surmounted by a spire, added nearly three centuries later. The archway into the nave has long been built up. Many twelfth century coffin-slabs are used in the construction of the tower. One of the bells is of pre-Reformation date. Westward of the tower is a fine yew tree, hollow, and with a smaller one growing up the centre of the cavity.

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BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Dr.

Balance Sheet for the Year 1892-3.

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Vol. XVI.  
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1892.	£	s.	d.	1892.	£	s.	d.
April 22—By Balance including Berkeley MSS. Debt to General Fund .. ..	348	4	7	April 22—To Berkeley MSS. Debt (written off) ..	76	15	11
„ Annual Subscriptions, viz.: £ s. d.				„ Miscellaneous Printing .. ..	10	19	4
1888-90 .. ..	1	1	0	„ Cost of Transactions .. ..	154	18	9
1889-90 .. ..	1	11	6	„ Purchase of Books for Library .. ..	0	15	0
1890-91 .. ..	3	13	6	„ Petty Disbursements .. ..	24	10	4
1891-92 .. ..	22	11	6	Balance at Bank .. ..	£294	12s.	7d.
1892-93 .. ..	127	11	6	Subscriptions in arrears .. ..	£51	19s.	0d.
1893-94 .. ..	11	11	0				
1894-95 .. ..	0	10	6				346 11 7
			168 0 6				
„ Subscriptions in Arrear .. ..	51	19	0				
„ Entrance Fees (16) .. ..	8	8	0				
„ Life Subscriptions .. ..	10	10	0				
„ Dividend on £432 3s. 8d. Consols ..	11	12	0				
„ Donations .. ..	2	2	0				
„ Sale of Transactions .. ..	3	13	0				
„ Balance of Spring Meeting at Bourton	0	17	0				
„ Balance of Summer Meeting at Cirencester .. ..	8	14	10				
			£614 0 11				£614 10 11

Examined and found correct—F. A. HYETT,  
H. W. BRUTON, } AUDITORS.