The Twenty-third Annual Meeting of the Society was held at Fairford on the above-mentioned dates, and as the weather was beautifully fine it proved to be most successful and enjoyable. Upwards of a hundred members were present. That comfortable angling hostelry, "The Bull Hotel," was made the headquarters, and Mr. and Mrs. Busby's excellent arrangements and unremitting exertions for the comfort of the large number of guests committed to their care gave complete satisfaction. The meeting was admirably organised by the General Secretary, the Rev. W. Bazeley, whose comprehensive illustrated Guide to the places visited was highly appreciated; while the necessary and multifarious local arrangements were excellently planned and carried out by Mr. F. B. Bulley, who kindly undertook the arduous duties of Local Secretary. Mr. Gardner S. Bazeley, as President for the year, entered on his duties in the course of the first day of the meeting, and his notable Presidential address on the subject of stained glass—a peculiarly appropriate topic to be selected for treatment at Fairford—was one of the not least striking features of a highly interesting and enjoyable meeting. The following were the Local Committee, and most of them were present during the whole or a portion of the meeting: Rev. F. R.

On Wednesday morning, starting from Fairford, or Cirencester, as the railway service was to each most convenient, the party assembled at Ampney Crucis, where they were received at the Church of the Holy Rood by the Vicar, the Rev. J. C. JOHNSON. The following account of Ampney Crucis, as well as of the other places visited, is taken mainly from the Archaeological Notes which had been prepared by the General Secretary, the Rev. William Bazeley, for this meeting:—

"The present parish of Ampney Crucis is made up of no fewer than seven manors called Omenie at the time of the great survey, A.D. 1086. There was a priest with a church possessing half a hide of land and four
acres of meadow here at that time, and the Church of the Holy Rood is mentioned a few years later. Three manors in Omenie were held by Turstin Fitz Rolf, Humphry the Chamberlain, and Baldwin, which had been held in the days of the Confessor by Tovy, Elwy, and Alwyn respectively. Humphry's manor and the church were conferred by William II. on Tewkesbury Abbey, and this grant was confirmed by Henry I. At the Dissolution the manor was obtained by the Pleydells who held it till the 18th century, when it passed by marriage to John, Viscount Downe. He sold it in 1765 to Samuel Blackwell. The church, which is cruciform, without aisles, may be called a 13th century building, though it contains portions of an earlier one. The chancel arch with its zig-zag moulding and a walled-up doorway and deeply splayed window on the north aisle of the nave are Norman. In the 13th century the nave, transepts, and chancel appear to have been rebuilt. The south door, the western tower, the arches of the transepts, with their dog-tooth moulding, and the transept windows all belong to this period. In the 15th century the pitch of the nave roof was lowered, as may be seen by the drip on the east side of the tower, and embattled parapets were added to the nave and tower. The east window of the south transept is a good example of Perpendicular architecture. In the angle between the south transept and the chancel is a projection which once contained the stairs of the rood loft. The entrance to these in the transept is now walled up. There is a sanctus bell-turret on the east gable of the nave.

The church contains several memorials of the Pleydells, and a monument to Viscount Downe, who commanded the 25th Regiment of Foot at the battle of Minden, and who was mortally wounded at the battle of Campen in 1760. There is also a freestone monument with the figures of a man, his wife, and sixteen children, which Atkyns, relying on an heraldic coat of arms, assigns to George Lloyd, once lord of the manor, ancestor to the Lloyds of Whitminster.

The Churchyard Cross, of which we give a view from Savory's Visitors' Guide to Cirencester, was restored thirty-five or forty years ago, under the superintendence of Canon Howman, Rector of Barnsley. It has a gabled head, octagonal shaft and base and square steps. It is not clear that all these parts belonged originally to one and the same cross. The total height is 13 ft. 8 in. The head has four sides, those on the east and west being wider than those on the north and south. In the trefoiled niche on the east side is a complete rood, i.e. a figure of the crucified Saviour with St. Mary on His right hand and St. John on His left. The feet of the dead Saviour are crossed and fastened by a single nail. The only garment is a loin cloth.

On the west side are St. Mary and the Holy Child. St. Mary, who holds the Child on her right knee wears a closely-fitting kirtle, laced in
front, and over this a long mantle fastened by a brooch. A small portion of her crown remains.

On the north side on a pedestal stands a headless soldier in plate armour, with a lance in his right hand. He wears a breast-plate, quatrefoil pallettes, a skirt of taces with a baldrick or tranverse belt, gauntlets, genouillières or knee-plates, and sollerets. He holds in his left hand a
round object that may be the handle of a dagger, but it would be the wrong hand for it. Around his neck is a collar of roses. He probably wore a bascinet. Pooley suggests that this figure represents Robert Fitz Hamon, founder of Tewkesbury Abbey, in the beginning of the 13th century; Sir Henry Dryden thinks it is the donor of the cross. Perhaps it is Longinus, who pierced our Lord's side with a spear, and, so tradition says, became a Christian.

The baldric or transverse belt, Haines says, does not appear on monumental effigies after 1418, whereas the skirt of taces was introduced about that time; so the date of the cross should be about 1410.

The figure on the south side, which Pooley calls Geraldus, the first abbot of Tewkesbury, is undoubtedly St. Lawrence, for he holds in his right hand a gridiron and wears a deacon's robes, an alb, and a dalmatic:"

A bird's-eye view of Ampney Crucis, given by Atkyns, includes the church and a fragment of the cross. Ampney House, the residence of E. W. Cripps, Esq., contains a fine Elizabethan chimney-piece.

At the adjacent manorial residence, Ampney Park, the party were received by Mr. William Cripps, and inspected with much interest the handsome mantelpiece in the drawing-room, erected by Robert Pleydell in 1625, and also the beautiful ceiling in the same room. the work of the French and Flemish plasterers brought over by James I.

Leaving Ampney Crucis, the party had a peep at the well-nigh deserted Church of St. Mary, Ampney, which consists of a nave and chancel, with a bell-cot on the east gable of the nave, and a priest's door on the south side of the chancel. The chief object of interest is the doorway on the north side of the nave, now blocked up. A sketch of it and some notes by Sir Henry Dryden are given in our Transactions, vol. xvi., p. 131.

The Domesday representative of this church must have been served by the priest of Reinbald's manor of Omenie, but almost all the land of this manor must lie in Ampney Crucis. Durandus' manor of Esbirc and Humphrey's manor of Estbroce represent Ashbrook or Ampney St. Mary.

Meysey Hampton

was the next stopping place, and at the church the party was received by the rector, the Rev. J. A. Ford, and one of the churchwardens, Mr. J. L. Burgess, being welcomed with a peal on the bells. This manor was held in the time of Edward the Confessor by Leueric. In 1086 (D.S.) it was the only Gloucestershire possession of Roger de Montgomerie, the great Earl. His son Hugh being banished for treason, his lands were seized by Henry I. Hampton Meysey then became part of the honour of Gloucester. The Knights Templars appear to have farmed the manor in the time of Henry III., since they held Court Leets. They were also patrons of the living.
Sir Richard Atkyns tells us that Robert de Meysey, Sheriff of the County in 1255, was then lord of the manor. His son and heir, William, was succeeded by a son, John, who died leaving an only daughter, Eva or Eleanour. This Eva was married to Nicholas, son and heir of Lawrence de St. Maur, of Rode, Somerset, who was summoned to Parliament as Baron St. Maur in 1315, and died in the following year, leaving by his first wife, Eva de Meysey, a son, Thomas, and by Helen de la Zouch, his second wife, a son Nicholas. Thomas died (s.p.) and his half-brother, Nicholas, was summoned to Parliament as Baron St. Maur from 1350 to 1360. He married Muriel, daughter and heir of Lord Lovel of Kari, and was succeeded by his son Richard, who married Ela, daughter of Sir John de Loo, and died about 1400.

His son and heir, Richard, married Mary, daughter of Thomas Peyner, and, dying in 1408, was succeeded by his only daughter, Alice, born posthumously. She married William, 5th Lord Zouche of Haynsworth, and their son William became 6th Lord Zouche and Baron St. Maur. He died in 1466, leaving John, his son and heir, 7th Lord Zouche. He sided with Richard III. against Henry VII., and was attainted after the battle of Bosworth Field. Atkyns tells us that the manor of Meysey Hampton passed by the marriage of the daughter of William, Lord Zouche, to William Saunders, who was lord of the manor in 1534, and levied a fine of it to Edmund, Lord Chandos.

In 1608, Sir John Hungerford held the manor, and, late in the 17th century, Mr. Barker, of Fairford, obtained it from Sir Matthew Hale in exchange for the manor of Alderley. Amongst the principal residents have been the Jenners of Marston, the Bedwells, and Forshews.

The plan of the church, which is dedicated to S. Mary, is cruciform, and comprises a nave with south porch, a central tower, north and south transepts, and a chancel. The church was probably built by the Knights Templars or the de Clare family early in the 13th century, and the chancel was altered and greatly beautified in the 14th century by the Meyseys or St. Maurs, two of whose tombs are still preserved, and one has been only recently destroyed.

On the left side of the doorway of the porch is a bracket for the figure of a saint. We should have expected to find it above the arch, but the porch seems to have been built with a view to placing it where it is.

There is a good Early English window at the west end of the nave, having two lower trefoiled lights and a quatrefoil above.

The windows of the nave and transepts are single or double lancets with dripstones or hood mouldings, and a string course below. There is an entrance to the tower staircase on the outer east wall of the transept, which was made for the use of the ringers about 1850.

The chancel has a two-light window on the north side and a modern
vestry. The geometrical east window is a beautiful example of 14th century work. The double border of ball-flower ornament gives it a very rich appearance. It would seem, from a sketch taken by Mrs. Lee, daughter of the Rev. W. Holmes, a former rector of this parish, that this window has been recently shortened, which is truly to be deplored. Bigland says the window in the chancel is of curious architecture, of the Norman style, ornamented with nail-head moulding. I do not know that any window of the chancel has been destroyed since 1786. Can he be speaking of the east window? Mrs. Lee's sketch, which she has kindly allowed us to reproduce, shews a little low window close to the two-light window on the north side of the chancel. This we shall find when we

enter the chancel has been removed farther east. The buttresses of the east wall, which are similar to those of the tower, have simple slopes as set-offs, and are characteristic of 13th century, or Early English, masonry. On the south side of the chancel are three 14th century windows, a priest's door, and a projection, the object of which will appear when we enter the chancel.

The tower has a round-headed two-light window on each side. The plain embattled parapet was probably added in the 15th century. The Jacobean lectern and a chain for securing the Bible which rested on it, with the inscription "Christian Jackets, 1622," is more curious than beautiful. We were unable to find the name of Jackets in the register, so
probably he was the maker. Perhaps James Vaulx was the donor. The
tower has four plain chamfered arches resting on octagonal caps, shafts,
and bases, and is supported by massive buttresses.

In the south transept is a handsome Jacobean monument with the
effigies of James Vaulx, his wives, Edith Jenner and "Philip" Horton,
and sixteen children. This monument was formerly in the chancel affixed
to the north wall. Rudder tells us that Doctor Vaulx's reputation was so
great that King James I. thought of making him his own royal physician,
but wisely enquired how he had obtained his knowledge of the healing
art. The reply being "By practice," his majesty re-
joined: "Then by my saul
thou hast killed mony a
man, thou shalt na' practise
upon me." In the south
transept there is or was a
memorial stone to Margaret
Griswold ("a pearl of
price") who died at Mar-
ston, whither she had gone
for Dr. Vaulx's advice!

On the north side of
the Chancel, where the
founder's tomb should be,
is a beautiful altar-tomb,
of the same date as the
east window, with a tre-
foiled canopy, ball-flower
ornament, and seven shields
from which the heraldic
bearings have been obli-
terated. This tomb I am
inclined to assign to Eva
the last of the Meyseys,
first wife of Nicholas, Lord
St. Maur. If so, its date is about 1310. The arms of St. Maur were Argent,
two chevrons gules, a label azure. The arms of Meysey were, I believe,
Argent a fesse between three cinquefoils sable, pierced of the field. The arms of
de la Zouche are argent bezante. The slab which covered the tomb has
been removed and the dust of the noble dead has been swept away. In
1860, another tomb occupied the place of the founder's tomb, and was then
described as being "much altered and cut off at the top and now a plain
arch." In another sketch of Mrs. Lee's, which we give, this second tomb
him in 1414. At the dissolution of the monasteries the
manor was granted to Andrew, Lord Windsor, who sold it to
the Sheppards."

Before the members left the church, it was mentioned by
the Rev. W. Bazeley that the building was in a somewhat
dangerous condition, and that it was proposed to undertake
certain repairs, but he was convinced that nothing would be
done to destroy its ancient features.

The Rector said that the parishioners were proud of this
old church, and the necessary repairs would be carried out
in a very conservative spirit. They did not aim at such a
restoration as was carried out in some churches, where very
little was left of the old building.

The party then proceeded to the grounds of the New
Rectory to visit, by the kind permission of Mrs. Selby, some
pre-historic stone chambers. They were removed there in
1806 from a long barrow, 165 ft. long and 59 ft. wide, which
then existed in a field near Avening Court. Two chambers
were discovered, in one of which were eight and in the other
three skeletons. The circular entrance roughly cut in the
two front stones of one of the dolmens is very similar to that

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VIEW OF CHAPEL AND PRIEST’S HOUSE, NAILSWORTH.

Niches with crocketted canopies, one of which, that furthest east, contains a piscina and a credence: the three others are sedilia. Next to these is an altar-tomb, somewhat later than that on the north side, but of the same date as the sedilia. As the wall was not thick enough for a recess, the projection, we saw outside, was constructed when the tomb was made; it may be the dust of one of the St. Maur's still rests here. Next to the tomb is a priest's door, and on its right, inserted in the wall, is a very ancient poor's box roughly hewn out of a tree and bound with iron hoops. Mrs. Lee's sketches are of great help in ascertaining the architectural history of this interesting church. Would that such existed of every church in the country which has been similarly restored."

The next move was made to Fairford, which Cobbett, in his Rural Rides, described in his usually outspoken manner. He said: "Fairford is a pretty little market town, and has one of the prettiest churches in the kingdom. It was, they say, built in the reign of Henry VII., and one is naturally surprised to see that its windows of beautiful stained glass had the luck to escape not only the fangs of the ferocious good Queen Bess, not only the unsparing plundering of the minions of James I., but even the devastating ruffians of Cromwell." Before, however, the church was inspected, there were two important functions demanding observance. First luncheon was laid out at "The Bull Hotel," and after the morning ride and visits to several villages, the fare provided was duly appreciated. Luncheon over,

The annual meeting

of the Society was held in the Crofts Hall, kindly lent by Mr. W. C. Arkell. Sir John Dörington presided, and called upon the Rev. W. Bazeley to read the Report of the Council, as follows:—

Report of the Council of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society for 1899

The Council of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society present the following Report for the year ending August, 1899.

There are at present 321 annual members, 83 life members, and 3 honorary members on the Society's list, giving a total strength of 407.

The income for the year ending December 31st, 1898, including a balance of £414 10s. on the 1st of January, 1898, was £637 14s. 2d., and the expenditure £244 4s. 8d., leaving a balance of £393 9s. 6d., in the Treasurer's hands on the 1st of January, 1899. From this sum must be deducted the cost of the Transactions for 1898 and the Index to Vols. I.—XX., which is drawing near completion and ought to be in the members' hands before the close of this year.

The Society held its Summer Meeting for 1898 in London, under the presidency of Sir John Dörington, Bart., M.P. The programme included
visits to many places of national interest in and near the metropolis and to many others to which, except on such occasions as these, few persons obtain access. The attendance of members was perhaps greater than at any previous meeting, and the weather was all that could be desired. Marked courtesy and kindness were extended to the Society by the Lord Mayor of London, by the Masters and Wardens of the following City Guilds—the Brewers, Armourers and Braziers, Drapers, and Barbers; by the Library Committee and Librarian of the Guildhall; by Mr. G. W. Birch, Custodian of the Soane Museum; by the Master of the Temple, and many others.

Amongst those who acted as guides and described the places visited the Council would mention especially Mr. G. W. Birch, who was indefatigable in his exertions on behalf of the Society, although far from well; Mr. Welsh, the Librarian of the Guildhall; Mr. Aston Webb, the Rev. H. V. le Bas, Mr. Ernest Law, the Rev. A. Povah, D.D., Viscount Dillon, Mr. S. W. Kershaw, Mr. Guy Dawber, Mr. J. D. Micklethwait and Mr. St. John Hope.

To Mr. W. H. Seth Smith and Mr. G. M. Currie, who acted conjointly as Local Secretaries; to Mr. Charles Bathurst, Mr. R. A. S. Macalister, the Rev. J. W. Robbins, and Mr. C. Turnor, who acted as stewards, the hearty thanks of the Council are justly due. Indeed, without such able assistance it would have been impossible to carry out, without a hitch, the somewhat ambitious programme which had been prepared. The only drawback to the pleasure of the members was the absence of the President, Sir John Dorington, during the earlier days of the meeting, owing to a family bereavement. His place was, however, ably filled by Mr. G. B. Witts, President for 1897–8.

On May 24th, 1899, the Society held a meeting at Nailsworth, and visited Beverston Church and Castle, Chavenage House and Avening Church. No less than 112 members attended this meeting, a number far exceeding any previous record.

The thanks of the Council are due to Mr. Lowsley Williams for his kind permission to visit his interesting residence, Chavenage House, and to the Rev. E. W. Evans, Mr. Garlick, the Rev. E. W. Edwards, and Miss Tabrum for receiving the members at Beverston, Avening, and the Bannut Tree, Nailsworth, respectively.

The following works have been presented to the Society's library during the past year: Memorials of London and London Life, Calendar of Letters from the Mayor and Corporation of London, The Guildhall of London: Its History and Associations, London and the Kingdom, Roll of Fame of London. All these were presented by the Library Committee of the Guildhall. The Perverse Widow was presented by Sir Brook Kay, and a second copy by the author, Mr. Crawley-Boevey. A very interesting MS. of Archdeacon Furney's, by
Mr. J. Norton; 15 vols. of *Archaeologia*, by the Rev. S. E. Bartlelet; and various valuable works by Mr. Mullins, of Cirencester.

The Council has presented copies of the Berkeley MSS., 3 vols. 4to, edited by Sir John Maclean for this Society, to the Library of the Guildhall, London, to the Master and Wardens of the Drapers' Company, to Mr. G. W. Birch, and to the Bureau of Ethnology, Washington. Offers of copies have also been made to the Corporation of Bristol, to the British Museum, and to the Bodleian Library, Oxford, but it was found that they already possessed the work.

The Council would be glad to receive for the Society's Library works of reference on the various branches of Archaeology.

The Congress of Archaeological Societies was held at Burlington House, on July 12th, 1899, under the auspices of the Society of Antiquaries, London, and the presidency of Viscount Dillon. The Congress was attended by delegates from nearly all the Archaeological Societies of Great Britain and Ireland. Of the two delegates from this Society, Mr. J. E. Pritchard and the Rev. W. Bazeley, only the latter was able to be present.

The following subjects were discussed:—

*The General Index of Archaeological Papers, 1632—1801*, edited by Mr. Gomme.—The Council have subscribed for this useful work, which will be published by Messrs. Constable.

*The Safe Custody of Wills, Parish Registers, and other Records.*—The Congress resolved to recommend the Government to appoint a Royal Commission to enquire into the subject of the better preservation and arrangement of such Records, with a view to rendering impossible such practices as have been lately revealed in the Shipway trial. This Council are opposed to any suggestion to remove Parish Registers and other Records from the parish to which they belong, but they are of opinion that transcriptions should be made, deposited in a central County Registry, and be available for research; and that the need of carefully preserving the originals against loss, fire, and unprincipled searchers should be impressed on the parochial clergy, churchwardens, and other parochial authorities.

A *National Catalogue of Effigies.*—This Council has obtained promises of help in cataloguing the effigies of Gloucestershire; but the work is being sadly delayed by the fact that the directions to be drawn up under the auspices of the Congress are not yet forthcoming. In the meanwhile, the Council will gladly accept through the Secretary photographs, drawings, and descriptions of Gloucestershire effigies, and will preserve them in portfolios with a view to a catalogue.

*The National Portrait Catalogue.*—This Council regrets that so few members, possessing family portraits, have applied to the Secretary for
the forms provided by the Congress for cataloguing such treasures. The Congress propose to petition the Government to lower or forego the death duties on collections of family portraits as long as they remain unsold.

*The Victoria Series of County Histories.*—The Congress passed the following resolution: "This Congress is glad to hear of the project of a complete series of County Histories, and hopes that every assistance will be rendered by the various Archaeological Societies." This Council on their part will gladly render assistance in promoting the excellent work taken up by the publishers, Messrs. Constable and Co. They will also endeavour to learn what is being done in the matter by kindred societies.

The Council considers that the hearty thanks of this Society are due to Mr. Ernest Hartland, who for many years past has skilfully controlled the finances of this Society as Treasurer, and has lately resigned. Mr. G. M. Currie, who has already done much good service to the Society as Local Secretary for Cheltenham and as Local Treasurer for several General Meetings, has consented to act as General Treasurer.

During the year the Council issued the following Circular with regard to the ruins of Hailes Abbey:

**Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society.**

*An Appeal for Funds to Explore the Site of Hayles Abbey, and Preserve the Ruins from further Destruction.*

This Abbey was founded by Richard, Earl of Cornwall, in 1246, and dedicated on November 5th, 1251, in the presence of King Henry III., and his queen, Eleanor of Provence, together with a vast assembly of ecclesiastics and barons.

In 1271, fire consumed a large portion of the monastic buildings, and Earl Richard, then King of the Romans, devoted 8,000 marks to its restoration.

Again, in the 15th century, it would seem, from internal evidence, that the monastery once more fell a prey to an extensive conflagration, and a restoration became necessary which transformed the cloisters from Early English to Perpendicular. In 1539 the Abbey, with all its possessions and buildings, was surrendered by the last abbot, Stephen Seager, and his monks, to the commissioners of Henry VIII., and all but the Abbot's House, standing on the west side of the cloisters, and the kitchen, butteries, and larders, on the south-west, were condemned as useless. For the third time there came a devastating fire; and the cloisters and the chapter house, with their beautiful vaulting, became a prey to the flames.

From this time forward, until the close of the 17th century, the Abbot's House was used as a residence by the Viscounts Tracy, and the Abbey Church and monastic buildings, with the exception of the cloisters, lay concealed below the surface.

For three hundred years Hayles Abbey has been treated as a quarry. Most of the ashlar work has been stripped from the walls, and the arches
which once led from the cloisters into the church and conventual buildings have been crumbling to decay. The Abbot's Lodgings, portrayed by Kip, Buck, and Lysons, have well-nigh disappeared, and a mere heap of stones marks the site of the lordly abode of the Tracys. Much, however, remains that is full of interest for students of history and architecture. Within the entrance to the chapter house has been found evidence that the whole of the Early English vaulting, dating from 1271–1277, although prostrate on the ground, remains fairly intact. Two richly-carved bosses, with conventional foliage, have been extracted uninjured, and there is good reason to believe that several more of these lie amidst the heap of moulded and carved stones.

The Council of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society have obtained permission to excavate the site of the Abbey, with a view to making a plan of its buildings and of saving the remaining cloister-arches from collapse. When this is done, the owners will construct a fence to protect the ruins. Under the direction of the Secretary of the Society and St. Clair Baddeley, Esq., a member of the Council, the cloister-walks are now being cleared, and the walls are being excavated to their bases, revealing many architectural features which have been hitherto concealed. The arches and other parts of the buildings, which have been in imminent danger of falling, are being rendered secure.

The fact that this Abbey was built at a period when English architecture was most beautiful in its simplicity, and that few other Cistercian abbeys of the same date remain, will render a study of its ground-plan and details exceedingly interesting.

The Council of this Society desire to raise a fund of about £200, so as to be enabled to excavate the site in the following order: (1) the cloisters and claustral buildings; (2) the church; (3) the infirmary; (4) the gateway and other detached buildings.

It has been suggested that a local museum should be formed on the spot in order to contain objects of interest found during the exploration of the ruins. The lavatory lends itself to this purpose temporarily, if it is not found necessary to erect a special building.

An Autumn Meeting of the Society will be held at Hayles, on Thursday, September 7th, the programme for which will be sent to the members of this Society and to any others who may desire to attend.

In addition to the Society's grant of £20, the following contributions have been already given or promised: Mrs. Dent, £10; The Rev. W. D. Stanton, £3; St. Clair Baddeley, Esq., £10; Miss Whalley, £1 15s.; T. Dyer-Edwardes, Esq., £5; The Right Rev. The Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, 10/-; Mrs. Wedgwood, £2.

To this appeal is attached a form, which should be filled in and sent together with any contribution to the Treasurer of the Society and of the Excavation Fund, G. M. Currie, Esq., 26 Lansdown Place, Cheltenham.

MATSON RECTORY, GLOUCESTER,
August 9th, 1899.

WILLIAM BAZELEY,
Hon. Gen. Sec.
The Society has sustained a very serious loss by the death of Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B., whose papers on the Berkeleys of Dursley and Coberley, on Testa de Nevill, and Kirby's Quest are amongst the most valuable and interesting that the Transactions contain. Sir Henry Barkly was President of this Society in 1886, at the Dursley Meeting, and won all hearts by his courtesy and learning.

The Council would also record their regret at the loss by death of Mr. C. R. Baynes, of Minchinhampton, who hospitably received the Society in 1880; of the Rev. A. W. C. Hallen, an eminent genealogist; and Major-General Vizard, always a welcome attendant at the meetings of the Society.

The Council, in accordance with the powers conferred on them by the scheme for holding the property of the dissolved Corporation of Chipping Sodbury, have appointed Mr. F. F. Fox one of the Trustees.

The Council proposes for re-election, the President of Council, the Vice-Presidents of the Society, and the Local Secretaries; and for election as Vice-President, The Right Rev. the Bishop of Bristol.


The Council has held six meetings during the past year, and desires to express its acknowledgments to the Mayor and Corporation of Bristol for the use of a room at the Guildhall, Bristol.

The Council cannot close this Report without recording their high estimation of the very valuable services of their Hon. Secretary, Mr. Bazeley, who has always been indefatigable in carrying on the work of the Society, and arranged most admirably the different meetings of the Society, especially the London Meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Lloyd Baker, seconded by Mr. Leigh, the Report was adopted.

The retiring members of the Council having been re-elected, on the motion of the Rev. F. E. Broome Witts,

The President proposed the re-election of the President of the Council, Sir Brook Kay, Bart., the Vice-Presidents, and the Local Secretaries, with the addition of the Bishop of Bristol to the list of Vice-Presidents, and this was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Christopher Bowly moved a vote of thanks to Sir John Dorington, the retiring President, remarking that he had discharged the duties with his usual ability and diligence, and he was an exemplification of the fact that if they wanted work done they must go to the busiest man to do it.

This was seconded by Mr. Tuckett, and carried with applause.
Sir John Dorington briefly acknowledged the compliment, and said he would make way for the new President and the most entertaining address which he believed he had prepared.

The President then read his address, which is printed separately.

Mr. Hyett, in moving a vote of thanks to the President, said two things were evident—first, that Mr. Bazley's claim to indulgence was superfluous, and, secondly, that Sir John Dorington, when he beforehand described the address as "most interesting," must either have had a private look at the notes or else he occupied the unusual rôle of a true prophet. He was sure that the great majority in that room would now appreciate much more thoroughly and intelligently the Fairford windows which they were about to inspect than they would have done had they not heard Mr. Gardner Bazley's admirable address.

Mr. de Sausmarez, in seconding the vote, said Mr. Bazley was like Mrs. Malaprop's "Cerberus"—"several gentlemen at once"—for he was an apt student, an accomplished artist, and an admirable lecturer.

Mr. Bazley briefly replied, and a move was then made to the church, and

**The Fairford Windows**

were inspected under the direction of the Vicar, the Rev. F.R. Carbonell, who probably knows the windows better than anyone else now living; and therefore a more accomplished guide could not have been desired. Mr. Carbonell prefaced the tour of the windows with some interesting general observations, dealing first with the inevitable and apparently insoluble problem, "By whom were the windows designed and painted?"—as to which, he said, they must come to the conclusion that nothing whatever was certainly known. He reviewed Mr. Holt's well-known arguments in favour of the Durer authorship, and pointed to many conclusive reasons and proofs against that theory. Another tradition he also effectively combated; viz., the theory that John Tame, the founder of the church, in 1501 or 1502, took the windows from a Flemish ship on the high seas, and then built the church to fit them. He remarked that Tame was a Cotswold wool merchant, and not a privateer; and it was absolutely certain that the glass was designed for windows and tracery exactly similar to that in Fairford Church, and for a church of exactly that size and form, which size and form corresponded identically with the older church which Tame's church replaced. The general plan of the windows was then indicated, and they were afterwards examined in detail. Mr. Carbonell was cordially thanked for his able address and explanation of the windows.

The following Notes on Fairford were written for the programme by the General Secretary:

"Fairford derives the latter part of its name from a ford over the Colne."
Its position gave it an importance in Saxon times, and the discoveries of
Mr. Wylie in 1852 prove that there was an important colony here soon
after the conquest of Britain by our English forefathers. Many beautiful
objects discovered in the Fairford graves—glass vases, fibulae, drinking
vessels, weapons of bronze, and amber beads—may be seen in the Ash-
molean Museum, Oxford. The earliest mention of the place is in a
Charter of Confirmation, purporting to have been granted by Burgred,
King of the Mercians, in 872, which, however, in its present state, cannot
be genuine, in which it is stated that Burgred gave the land of ten cassates
at Fagranforda to the Church of St. Peter at Gloucester.

In the days of the Confessor, Fairford formed one of the many
manors of Brictric, son of Algar. The story of Queen Matilda's early
love for him and her subsequent hatred because he refused her has been
too often told to need re-telling; but, in fairness to the queen, let us
remember that E. A. Freeman, one of our best historians, throws discredit
on the whole tradition. Brictric suffered only as well-nigh every other
Saxon landowner suffered the loss of all his heritage to enrich his
rapacious conquerors. Fairford had belonged to Queen Matilda, but in
Domesday it appears as a possession of the King. It descended to
William II., by whom it was given to Robert Fitzhamon, as part of the
endowment of the Honour of Gloucester. And thus it shared the fortunes
of Tewkesbury, passing from Robert Fitzhamon to the de Clares, the
Despencers, the Beauchamps, and the Nevilles, till it came into the hands
of Henry VII. He granted it to John Tame, a London merchant, and in
his time and his son's, Sir Edmund, it flourished as it had never done
before. John Tame found here a noble 14th century church built on the
site of one far more ancient, and he levelled it almost to the ground that
he might construct a sacred picture gallery, where the highest mysteries
of the Christian faith might be set forth (much as they are in the Ober
Ammergau Passion Play), by representations of our Lord's life on earth,
and future judgment; by scenes from the Old Testament symbolical of
the Gospel History; and by the likenesses of holy men who, before and
since the coming of the Saviour, have written or contended for the faith.
By way of contrast, twelve Christian martyrs and confessors in the
clerestory windows face twelve of their persecutors. It is this marvellous
series of painted windows that makes Fairford so attractive to those
interested in medieval art: but apart from these, the church has many
attractive features; and churchmen of to-day may well revere the spot
where Keble was born and spent his early years. His parents' tombs are
in the churchyard. His own noblest monument, The Christian Year, may
have derived its first inspiration from the windows with which he was so
familiar.

The plan of S. Mary's Church comprises a nave with clerestory, two
North Aisle

Nave

South Aisle

Tower

Chancel

Lady Chapel

Corpus Christi Chapel

Vestry

Sanctuary

Porch

Scale: 20 feet to 1 inch

From the Rev. Carbonell's Guide
aisles, which extend to within 14 feet of its easternmost limits, a central tower, chancel and vestry. It will be seen on examining the walls and buttresses of the chancel that they rest on the plinths of an earlier church. There are, moreover, remains of early 14th century work, with the characteristic ballflower, embedded in the two western piers of the tower. Mr. Joyce seems to think that John Tame, when he removed the transepts, allowed the lower tier of the tower to remain.

The south porch has a flat arch of three members, with quatrefoils and trefoils in the spandrels and a square hood terminating in the figures of angels. Above the arch is a niche with font-like pedestal on which once stood a statue of our Lady. There is a sameness about the windows such as we might expect in a church built all at one date. They are of three, four, and six lower lights, with many quatrefoils in their heads, and round-headed arches. The embattled parapets are rich with gargoyle, and the tower is covered with heraldic arms and devices, amongst which will be noticed the Despencer fret, the Beauchamp chevron on a ground chequy, the lion and dragon of the Tames, and such well-known cognisances as the chained bear and ragged staff of the Earls of Warwick, and the Yorkist fetterlock.

The general style of the church may be compared with such contemporary buildings as Henry VII’s Chapel at Westminster, the Lady Chapel at Gloucester Cathedral, and Bath Abbey—some of our latest examples of Gothic architecture. It was stated by Dr. Parsons, Chancellor of Oxford, at the close of the 17th century, that John Tame built the church as a receptacle for some Flemish glass which he had previously obtained. Many treatises have been written to prove or disprove the assertion, said to have been made by Vandyck to Charles I., that Albert Dürer had designed the paintings.

Mr. Joyce, in his superb monograph on the windows, came to the conclusion—for reasons which will no doubt be given us on the spot—that the windows were made for the church, and he is decidedly opposed to the Dürer theory. The glass fills 28 windows, and may be divided into three principal groups: I. The Gospel History, in eight windows within the chancel-screen, introduced by four typical studies from Old Testament History in a window just outside; II. The History of the Faith, in sixteen windows of the nave, aisles, and clerestory; III. The Last Judgment, in the three windows at the west end. The order of the history is somewhat disturbed by the insertion of the Assumption of the Virgin over the altar of our Lady in the chapel at the east end of the north aisle, and by the insertion of the Transfiguration over the altar of the Corpus Christi Chapel, in the chapel formerly used for the reservation of the Holy Sacrament, in the corresponding chapel on the west side,
Let us then commence with the window in the north aisle just outside the screen.

1. Four Old Testament Symbols, i.e., The Fall, Moses at the Burning Bush, Gideon and the Fleece, and the Queen of Sheba's visit to Solomon.

The history of our Lord's mother in the three windows of the Lady Chapel:

2. Joachim and Anna at the Golden Gate, the Birth of the Virgin, the Self-dedication of St. Mary and her Espousal to Joseph.

3. The Annunciation, the Nativity, the Adoration of the Magi, and the Presentation in the Temple.

4. The Assumption of St. Mary, the Flight into Egypt, the Massacre of the Infants, Christ in the Temple with the Doctors.

5. East Window. The Passion and Death of our Lord.

6. The Descent from the cross, the Entombment, Christ in Hades.

7. The Appearances of our Lord to Mary Magdalene and the other women, the Transfiguration.

8. The Supper at Emmaus. The Unbelief of St. Thomas.


The twelve Apostles reciting the Creed:

10. St. Peter, St. Andrew, St. James, St. John.

11. St. Thomas, St. James the Less, St. Phillip, St. Bartholomew.

12. St. Matthew, St. Simon, St. Thaddaeus, St. Matthias.

The Fathers of the Church:


15. The Last Judgment.


Twelve of the Prophets, adducing proofs of the Creed from their own writings:


20. Hosea, Amos, Sophronias, Joel.

In the windows of the Clerestory, south side, beginning from the west:

21. A Pope between two Cardinals.

22. An Emperor between two Kings.

23. Fragments, St. Margaret, a Bishop.

24. St. Dorothy, St. Sebastian, St. Agnes.
On the north side of Clerestory, beginning at the west:
25. Annas, Judas Iscariot, Caiaphas.
26. A King, an Emperor, Herod the Great.
27. Herod Antipas, a figure in armour.
28. An Archer, two armed figures sadly mutilated.

In the Lady Chapel is a good brass with the effigies of Sir Edmund Tame and dame Alice, his wife. Between the Chancel and the Lady Chapel is the altar tomb of the founder of the church and donor of the glass, John Tame, and his wife, Alice, with their effigies. The altar tomb of Roger Ligon and his wife is also in the chancel. The monument of Sir William Oldisworth, who died in 1689, reminds us of the debt of gratitude we owe this worthy knight for taking out and concealing the glass when the Puritan soldiers were marching upon Fairford and would have destroyed it. Of course, when it was replaced, after the Restoration of Charles II., some mistakes were made and many pieces were lost, but when the glass was relaid a few years ago, the present vicar, with much ability and untiring zeal, replaced, sought out, and restored to their proper places all the pieces which had been wrongly placed.


See also papers on the Dürer controversy by Messrs. Russell, Waller, Holt, Planché, a list of which is given in The Manual of Gloucestershire Bibliography, by F. A. Hyett and W. Bazeley, a few copies of which remain and may still be subscribed for."
After dinner at "The Bull Hotel," at which there was again an over-flowing attendance, so that one party at least had a pleasant *al fresco* meal in front of the hotel, a

**CONVERSAZIONE**

was held in Crofts Hall, the ladies of Fairford having very kindly received the Society to tea in the grounds attached to Mr. W. C. Arkell's residence, a tent being erected for the purpose. Hailes Abbey, Winchcombe, which, as already noted, is now affording such a pleasant field of exploration for the Society, occupied a large share of attention at the conversazione, Mr. ST. CLAIR BADDELEY reading an exhaustive paper on "Richard, Earl of Cornwall," its founder, and the Rev. W. BAZELEY giving an interesting account of the discoveries already made, and constructing therefrom a conjectural description of the great abbey and conventual buildings. Sir JOHN DORINGTON mentioned that the roof of Bisley Church, which had to be removed some years ago, and which obviously was not made for the church, was traditionally said to have come from Hailes Abbey. It had to be pulled down, as it had become unsafe, but some of the timbers were preserved in a keeper's lodge which he erected about the same time.

The Rev. W. H. T. WRIGHT read a paper on the connection of East-leach Martin with Great Malvern Priory, and gave an attractive account of the beauties of the secluded parishes of Eastleach Martin and Turville, and of the two interesting churches of SS. Michael and Martin and S. Andrew, but a hundred yards apart, and separated but by the river Leach and the roadway. He mentioned that both of those parishes were for a time served by John Keble, whose signature frequently appeared in the registers, and it was said that his beautiful evening hymn was composed in the Rectory garden of Eastleach Martin. Mr. GUY DAWBER afterwards read a paper on old Gloucestershire houses.

On Thursday, in beautiful weather, a four-mile drive brought the party to Lechlade. "This place derives its name from a lode or ford that flows into the Thames below St. John's Bridge. Two other tributaries join that river near Lechlade: the Coln and Barker's Brook. It is stated in Domesday Book that Siward Bar held the manor of Lechlade in the time of the Confessor. Siward was apparently a great-nephew of King Edward. He took part in the rebellion of Hereward the Wake in 1071, and was imprisoned till September, 1087, when on his deathbed the Conqueror released him. William I. conferred the manor on Henry de Ferrars, and his descendants held it till the time of Henry III. It formed part of the vast estate of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, King Henry's brother, founder of Hayles Abbey, who was succeeded by his son, Edmund. Later on it followed the fortunes of Barnsley and was held by the Despencers, by the Earls of Kent and of March, and by Richard, Duke of York, and the Duchess, Cecily. It formed part of the dower of Queen Elizabeth of York and of Queen
Catherine of Arragon. Then it was granted to Dennis Toppes and Dorothy, his wife. At the close of the 16th century it passed into the Bathurst family, who retained it for two centuries. About 1220, Isabel de Ferrars and her husband, Peter Fitz Herbert, founded a hospital near the river, and dedicated it to St. John the Baptist. A few years later St. John's Bridge was built over the Thames. This is one of the oldest stone bridges we have, for though it has often been repaired it still retains much of the original design and work. Richard, Earl of Cornwall, and his wife Sancha enlarged the hospital and made it a Priory of Augustinian Canons. In 1472 the Duchess Cecily obtained permission to dissolve the Priory and use its endowments for the foundation of a chantry dedicated to S. Mary in the parish church, which about this time, Bigland says, was being rebuilt by the vicar, Conrad Ney. When Leland paid Lechlade a visit in 1534, he saw a chapel at the very end of St. John's Bridge, on the right hand, in a meadow, and a great enclosure of stone walls. He also mentions "a pretty pyramis" at the west end of the parish church. Soon after this, William Kyrbee was ordered to pull down an old church and use the materials in repairing the bridge. This was probably the chapel Leland saw near the bridge.

It was a tradition many years ago that the curious sculpture, on the south wall of Inglesham Church, of our Lord and His Mother came from the Priory Church.

The church of St. Lawrence consists of a nave, north and south aisles and north porch, a western tower, a choir with aisle of the same width as those of the nave, a chancel, and a vestry. The church looks as if it had been built, or rather rebuilt, at one period. I could find no traces of anything earlier than the 14th century, not a sculptured fragment of Norman or Early English work.

The west stage of the tower has a fine vaulted roof of stone. At the
intersection of the ribs are four shields, parted per pale. Two are charged with a lozenge voided. The west windows, like the Tudor windows at the east end of the church, appear to be later than the rest. The graceful hexagonal spire, with its ribbed work and double band of quatrefoils, seems to have been added to the tower early in the 16th century. The north and south doorways with square hood-moulding have excellent oak-leaf carving in the spandrels of their arches. The north porch blocks up one of the windows of the nave. It has a groined ceiling; I do not think that there was a parvise. The windows of the nave, aisles, and chancel are all alike, with three lower lights and eight-foiled heads.

The battlement of the chancel is pierced with trefoils and has crocketted finials. On the middle finial at the east end is a figure of the patron saint, St. Lawrence, robed as a deacon with alb and dalmatic, and holding in his hands a book and a gridiron, the symbol of his martyrdom. A finial or turret at the east end of the nave has been at one time pierced for a sanctus bell.

The vestry on the north side is of the same date as the chancel, and has a highly decorated battlement of similar character.

The nave has two arcades of four arches each and a clerestory containing eight 15th century windows of four lights. There are three arches at the east end of the nave, those on the north and south sides separating the aisles from the chantry chapels. On the north wall of the
nave is a sculptured stone, much defaced, representing a bishop baptizing a child, and behind him an animal of some kind and a Norman Church. On a scroll which issues from his mouth are written the words "In Nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti, Amen." The pulpit has a 14th century base. The entrance to the roodloft remains. The altar of St. Blaise stood at the east end of the south aisle. The altars of St. Mary and St. John the Baptist stood respectively in the north and south chapels of the choir.

The chancel has a flat 15th century roof with carved bosses, resting on six large and twelve smaller corbels. There are two almeries and a piscina in the chancel. In the north chapel of the choir will be found eight steps of the staircase leading up to the roodloft.

Bigland gives a view of Lechlade Church from the north-east, and drawings of the two brasses which still remain. On the south side is the brass effigy of John Twinyhoe, merchant, founder of the Chantry of St. Blaise, and on the north side are two figures—a merchant and his wife.

The effigy of John Twinyhoe's wife is gone; it was missing in 1786. John Twinyhoe died about 1510. His arms were Argent a chevron between three lapwings sable, or, as some read them, 3 poppinsas proper.

The second brass has lost its inscription, but Dr. Parsons, who made some valuable notes in the 17th century, has handed down to us the fact that it was in memory of John Townshend, merchant and woolman, who died in 1458. There are some fragments of stained glass in the Clerestory windows, with the badges of Edward IV. and his mother, the Duchess.
of York. There is also one of the Twinyhoe poppingjays. Shelley's beautiful poem, "A Summer Evening, Churchyard, Lechlade, Gloucestershire," was written in 1815. The late Mr. Achin Williams wrote a history of Lechlade which was excellently printed by E. W. Savory, of Cirencester. The frontispiece, giving the upper bridge, and Lechlade in the distance, has been produced in this programme by Messrs. Savory and Cole's kind permission. The brasses have been well described by one of our members, Mr. Cecil Davies, Librarian of the Wandsworth Public Library, and also by the late Mr. Haines. Mr. Hichin says that in the rectory garden is the statue of a woman wearing a crown with a sword piercing her breast. It is probably an image of our Lady of Pity. There is a fine brass Georgian Candelabra in the nave.

The ancient parish church of S. John the Baptist, Inglesham, in the adjacent county of Wilts, was next visited. The vicar, the Rev. G. W. Spooner, received the party. On January 25th, 1205, King John gave the Manor and Church of Inglesham to the Cistercian Abbey of Beaulieu, in the New Forest, which he had founded. At the Dissolution the estates of the abbey were granted, in the 30th year of Henry VIII., to the Earl of Southampton; in the reign of William III. they passed by marriage with the heiress of the Wriothesleys to Ralph, Lord Montague, and have since passed by marriage to the Duke of Buccleugh.

"The church possesses a nave with north and south aisles, a south porch, and a chancel. It is very small, being only 49 feet long and 36 feet wide. The anti-restorer will find little to complain of here; all that has been done in the present century has been to restore the roof of the nave and to put a drain at the feet of the walls. A fund is now being raised to restore the roof of the chancel, under the guidance of J. T. Micklethwaite, Esq., and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Monuments, and it deserves support. I am indebted to Mr. Micklethwaite's Report, made in 1886, which he has kindly sent me, for much information about this interesting little church.

The porch, the floor of which is far below the level of the churchyard, looks as if it had been rebuilt; but it contains a 13th century niche. The south aisle has been extended to half the length of the chancel, and the walls of both aisles have been raised and covered with flat roofs. The chapel at the east end of the south aisle contains a little Norman window, probably brought from another part of the church; all the other windows of the aisles are 15th century insertions. The chancel has a 13th century east window of three lights. The bell-cot at the west end of the gate of the nave is pretty, and looks like 14th century work.

But the chief interest of the church lies in its interior. We enter it by a very early 13th century south doorway. The church was evidently commenced late in the 12th century, for the south arcade of the nave, the
pillar of the north arcade, and the lower part of the north wall of the chancel are of this date. In the early part of the 13th century the east and south windows of the chancel were constructed. Mr. Micklethwaite considers that at least half a century elapsed between the commencement and completion of the church, say from 1180 to 1230.

INGLESHAM CHURCH.
Taunt, Oxford, ph.

The chancel roof is an early example of 13th century timberwork. It is of plain trussed rafters, and the eastern half over the sanctuary has a boarded ceiling with light transverse ribs.

The wall-plate cuts into the drip and inner arches of the earlier windows on the north side, but fits the east and south windows.

The eastern part of the aisles has been screened off for chapels. There is a good 15th century font and a Jacobean pulpit. The cill only of the rood screen remains. An hour-glass is affixed to the pillar of the north arcade. The pews, cumbersome as they are, should not be removed, as they are interesting relics of the 17th century. There is the matrix of a late 14th century military brass in the chancel. The colouring on the walls is not later than the 17th century. Some original 13th century glass remains in the south window of the chancel. A curious piece of sculpture has been imbedded in the south wall, representing St. Mary and the Holy Child. St. Mary wears a kind of turban. From the right corner a hand appears pointing to the Child (S. Matt. iii. 17). Below the figure of our Lord's Mother are the remains of a sundial, showing that this sculpture
was long ago, as now, on the outer south side of some building. The figures are badly drawn, and appear to be very ancient—earlier, Mr. Micklethwaite thinks, than any part of the existing church. There is a 15th century churchyard cross, with steps, base, and shaft. It is to be hoped that the head of this cross will be found and restored, as at Ampney Crucis and Ashleworth."

Proceeding to the village of Little Farningdon, the quaint church was inspected under the guidance of the Rector, the Rev. W. F. Adams.

The village of Little Farningdon, formerly in the county of Berks, is now in Oxfordshire. It was granted by King John to the Abbey of Beaulieu at the same time with Inglesham. The dedication of the church is not known. The plan comprises a nave, with north aisle and south porch. There is a gabled bell-turret, with two bells, at the west end. The nave had formerly a south aisle, but this has been destroyed. The clerestory remains, and also one of the arches of a 14th century arcade, into which has been inserted a window of perhaps 17th century date. In this window is some Flemish glass with "Ia Cornelis Vanden Berch, 1605" and a trade mark. There is also some good Early English glass, with white conventional flowers on a ruby ground. The Early English north arcade consists of three round arches, with octagonal capitals and bases, and round shafts. The conventional foliage on the capitals is well carved. Over the centre of each arch, and between every two arches at the junction.
of the hood-moulding, is a small round head. The roof of the nave rests on plain corbels, on several of which appears a shield bearing three annulets, and on one a lion rampant. A north doorway has been stopped up.

At the west end of the nave is a round-headed window, deeply splayed, and above it a square-headed 15th century window, with two lower lights and six quatrefoils. It has some old glass.

The chancel arch is late 12th century. The chancel has two deeply-splayed lancet windows at the east end, and two round-headed windows on either side. There is a 14th century piscina on the south side, with an almery in the east wall.

There is a holy-water stoup on the east side of the south door."

At Langford, where the party were received by the Rev. C. G. Wodehouse, the Rector, another interesting church, St. Matthew's, was visited.

"The plan of the church comprises a nave, with north and south aisles (which extend eastwards half the length of the tower), a central tower, and a chancel.

In the outer wall of the porch, above a plain doorway with segmental arch and hood-moulding, is a recess into which has been inserted a carving of the Crucifixion. It will be seen that the arms of the dead or dying Saviour have been reversed, and are inclined downwards. I doubt whether the recess is high enough to allow them to be placed in their proper position. If so, we may conclude that this rood was originally above the eastern arch of the nave, and was removed when roods were ordered to be taken down or destroyed.
The attendant figures of St. John and St. Mary have also been reversed, for instead of gazing upon the Crucified One, they look outwards.

The principal figure is in high relief, and is carved on four separate stones. The head inclines towards the right shoulder, and behind it is a nimbus, with a cross in relief. The loins are clad in a kilt which only reaches the knees. SS. Mary and John have each a nimbus.

On the east side of the porch has been inserted another crucifix, the head of which is missing. The Crucified One is dressed in a long cassock, which is girt around with a cincture. The artistic treatment is one which

![CRUCIFIX AT LANGFORD.](image)

belongs to the pre-Norman period, and is very uncommon in England. The figure is perfectly upright, as though alive, and there are no wounds in hands, feet, or side. The feet are separate. It is probable this sculpture may have been removed hither from behind the high altar of a Saxon chancel.

In the two crucifixes here and the crucifix on the churchyard cross at Ampney Crucis we have examples of the treatment of this most sacred of all subjects by the sculptors of the 10th or 11th, 12th, and 15th centuries. They should be compared with the early sculpture at Daglingworth, so

Inserted in the middle pilaster of the tower, on the south side, is a projecting block on which are carved the figures of two men, with bare heads, clad in short kilts and close-fitting tunics. They support over their heads a disc or sundial, of which the gnomon is gone. They appear to be contemporary with the crucifix above the porch.

In the porch are two portions of a coped coffin-lid with floriated cross.

If we pass round the church outside it will be seen that the roofs of the nave and chancel have been raised many feet, thus dwarfing the fine Norman tower and hiding its lower windows on the east and west sides.

The west end of the nave has two tower-like pinnacles crowning the Norman buttresses and an inserted window of a debased character. On the north side the wall is supported by two flying buttresses, bearing the inscription — "Anno Dmi. 1574 Ao Regni Elizabeth Regine Decimo Septimo." I cannot remember any similar Elizabethan buttresses. In the north wall is a 15th century window, an Early English doorway, a 14th century window of flamboyant character, and a little square-headed window.

The Norman tower has two large round-headed windows on each side, two smaller ones in addition on the south side, and one on the north side. On the north side is a gabled staircase turret leading to the belfry, which is both picturesque and uncommon. The tower is strengthened by pilasters or flat buttresses on the north and south aisles.
The chancel has been unmercifully treated by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners' architect, Mr. Christian, and has lost its former simple religious character. The addition of a diamond-shaped light to each pair of lancet windows is, I venture to think, no improvement. The Early English doorway on the south side must have been placed in its present position by restorers. It is too far east to have served as a priest's door.

On entering the church we see that the nave is separated from its aisles by arcades of three wide and lofty arches with circular shafts and bases. The upper part of the capitals is cruciform and the lower part round, with conventional foliage deeply undercut. The west arch of the centre tower is semi-circular, with plain chamfered abaci. Above the arch is a doorway which led from the belfry into the chamber above the flat roof of the nave. A similar doorway led into a chamber above the chancel. The easternmost window of the south aisle of the nave has a beautiful inner frame. There is a Jacobean pulpit. There are no tower arches on the north and south sides, showing that the so-called transepts are merely prolongations of the nave aisles. The chancel contains an almery of six compartments of unusual character, a 13th century credence, and the remains of a piscina. In the south wall are remains of the staircase which led up to the parvis. This church possesses a pre-Reformation chalice." Some property in Langford was granted by King John to the Abbey of Beaulieu.

Leaving Langford, where luncheon was served, Southrop was visited, where, under the guidance of the Vicar, the Rev. C. E. Squire, the Church of S. Peter was inspected.

"There were four manors described in Domesday Survey, 1086, under the name of Lecce: Northleach, Eastleach Martin, Eastleach Turville, and Southrop, the south village.

Walter Fitz Ponz, who with his four brothers, Drogo, Simon, Richard, and Osbert, took part in the Conquest of England, held ten hides at Southrop, which belonged, in the time of the Confessor, to Earl Tosti. On Walter's death, s p., the heirs of his brother Richard succeeded to his estates. The de Clares, Earls of Gloucester and Hereford, seem to have been subsequently the chief lords of the manor, for we find Earl Richard confirming a grant of the church by Alice de Clermont to the Knights Hospitallers in the 13th century. Various families in succession held the manor, none of them greatly distinguished, till the reign of James I., when it was acquired by Wadham College, Oxford. Rudder says that the two effigies, now in the chancel of the church, without an inscription, represent Sir Thomas Conway, once lord of the manor, and his lady, the arms being sable on a bend cotised argent a rose proper between two annulets gules. The costume is Elizabethan. The manor house adjoining the church contains the remains of a very early dwelling, perhaps that of the Fitz-
Ponzes, or of the parish priest, early in the 12th century. The cellars have deeply splayed narrow lights, and there is a Norman doorway with zigzag moulding, in a good state of preservation.

The Church of S. Peter consists of a nave (without aisles), north porch, south transept and chancel.

A priest is mentioned in 1086, so probably there was a church at that period. The north doorway, the two round-headed lights deeply splayed, and the eastern arch of the nave are all Norman. The herring-bone work in the north and south walls is evidence of their great antiquity. Two pseudo-Norman windows have superseded in modern times an original Norman light on the north side and a large square-headed window, similar to that in the transept, on the south side.

The chancel and south transept were built in the 13th century. Probably there was a small Norman apse previously. I cannot guess the purpose for which a small light was inserted below the westernmost window on the south side of the chancel. No one in the churchyard could see through it the high altar. There is another low window in the west wall of the transept, opposite the site of an altar. This may have been a so-called leper window or hagioscope of an anchorite’s cell. The north doorway of the nave is Early English.

Interior. — The abaci of the chancel arch are ornamented with rope moulding, and on the south side with a lozenge pattern; otherwise the arch is quite plain, and has no shafts or bases. Steps have been inserted in the church, raising the floor of the chancel far above its original level, as may be seen from the position of the 13th century piscina — the arch and bowl of which remain, though separated.

As at Langford, there is a diamond-shaped recess above the two 13th century east windows of the chancel. This was pierced some fifty years ago to make a quatrefoil light. There are the Conway effigies alluded to above, an altar-tomb on the north side of the chancel, and a monument to the Keble family, dated 1670, the arms being: argent, a chevron
engrailed gules, on a chief azure three mullets or. The Keble family, descended from Sir Henry Keble, Lord Mayor of London in 1510, held the manor of Eastleach Turville for many generations.

There are three almeries in the chancel. High up in the chancel arch is a square opening with six quatrefoils pierced in its ceiling.

The most interesting fitting of the church is an early 13th century font somewhat similar to the font of Stanton Fitzwarren, drawn for Paley's Fonts. The upper part is ornamented with beaded interlacing and the acanthus leaf. Within eight trefoil-headed arches, above the shafts of which are eight conventional churches, castles or towers, are eight figures:—(1) Moses, with horns on his head, holding the two tables of stone and stretching out his right hand; he turns his back on (2) Synagoga, who holds a broken shaft, the pennon of which has knocked off her crown and blinded her eyes; her crown is falling off, and the jar or lamp which she holds upturned is losing its contents; but he looks approvingly at (3) Ecclesia, who holds upright a staff with pennon and Maltese cross in her right hand and a chalice in her left. The remaining five figures—soldiers with heater-shaped and round bossed shields alternately—represent five virtues trampling on five vices:—(4) Pity on Envy, (5) Temperance on Luxury, (6) Benevolence on Avarice, (7) Patience on Anger, (8) Modesty on Drunkenness."

Driving through the villages of Eastleach, and glancing at their churches already mentioned, Hatherop was reached, and at his stately residence, Hatherop Castle, the President and Miss Bazley received the members to afternoon tea, and later on Fairford was reached in time for dinner.

"In the days of Edward the Confessor, Dunning and Ulward held the two manors of Hatherop. Dunning's manor was given by the Conqueror to Roger de Laci, and he held it of the King in 1086. Ulward's manor was given to Ernulph de Hesling, who, in the time of Serlo the first Norman Abbot of Gloucester, gave the advowson of the Church of Hatherop, &c., to that Abbey. Atkyns thinks that later on Hatherop was held by Walter d'Evreux, a grandson of one of the Conqueror's companions, of the same name. Walter d'Evreux and Sybilla de Chaworth his wife, founded the Priory of Bradenstoke, in Wilts, and were buried there. Their son, Patrick, the first Earl of Salisbury, slain 13 Henry II., was succeeded by William the 2nd Earl. Ela, his daughter and heiress, married William Longespe, son of Henry II. by Fair Rosamond. She survived her husband, and bestowed the manor on the nuns of Lacock Abbey, who held it until the Dissolution. Edward VI. granted it to Sir W. Sherington, and in 1559 it came into the possession of the Blomers. Mary, the daughter and last surviving heir of John Blomer,
who died in 1640, married Sir John Webb, the 2nd Baronet of that name, of Canford, Dorset, who died in 1700. Sir John Webb, 3rd Baronet, married Barbara, daughter of John, Lord Belasyse, and died in 1745. Sir Thomas, 4th Baronet, died in 1763, leaving Sir John Webb, 5th Baronet, son and heir. He had an only child, Barbara, who married in 1786 Anthony, 5th Earl of Shaftesbury, by whom she had an only child, Lady Barbara Ashley. This lady married, in 1814, William Francis Spencer Ponsonby, who in 1838 was created Baron De Mauley by revival of a title in his wife’s family. In his time the old house, of which a bird’s-eye view by Kip is given in Atkyns’ History, and reproduced here, was partly taken down, and rebuilt, as Hatherop Castle.

Amongst the traditions of the place, for the truth of which we will not vouch, are (1) the visit of Charles I. and his queen, Henrietta, who are said to have held a court here, and (2) the affecting farewell of Lord Derwentwater and his wife, Anna Maria, daughter of Sir John Webb, the 3rd Baronet, before he joined the Pretender in 1715. This, however, must certainly be placed at Dilton, near Hexham. Lord Derwentwater lost his head on Tower Hill, on February 24th, 1716.

In connection with the old Yew Tree Avenue, there are tales of a white lady seen at midnight.

Hatherop Castle was purchased by the trustees of Maharajah Dullee Singh in 1862, and by the present Sir Thomas Sebastian Bazley in 1867."

A concluding meeting of the Society was held at Fairford on Friday, August 11th, under the presidency of G. S. Bazley, Esq.

The following votes of thanks were unanimously passed:—

1. That the thanks of this Society be given to the Chairman and Members of the Local Committee for the assistance which they have given to the General Secretary in drawing up the programme for the Meeting.

2. To Mr. F. P. Bulley, the Local Secretary, for his untiring energy in carrying out the arrangements.

3. To Mrs. Carbonell and the other ladies of Fairford and the neighbourhood, who so kindly entertained the members of the Society and their friends at the Conversazione on the 9th.

Compton), and Cirencester (The Rev. J. Sinclair); and to the Churchwardens of Ampney St. Mary (R. Darboney, Esq., and H. Cole, Esq.), for so kindly receiving the members at their interesting churches.

5. To E. W. Cripps, Esq., the President (G. S. Bazley, Esq.), Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, R. B. Cooper, Esq., Mrs. George Gibbs, W. Wykham Musgrave, and Wilfred T. Cripps, Esq., C.B., for their courteous invitations to Ampney Park, Hatherop Castle, Coln St. Alwyn Manor House, Bibury Court, Ablington Manor, Barnsley Park, and the Walnut Trees, Cirencester, respectively.

6. To the Rev. F. R. Carbonell, who so lucidly described to the members the beautiful series of stained-glass windows in Fairford Church.

7. To the Ladies and Gentlemen of Fairford and the neighbourhood who have so hospitably received the members of this Society at their houses during the meeting, and also to Mrs. Carbonell, F. Bulley, Esq., and A. Hitchman Iles, Esq., who have acted as a Hospitality Committee.

8. To the President for his able address; St. Clair Baddeley, Esq., the Rev. W. H. Wright, Guy Dawber, Esq., and the General Secretary, for the excellent papers prepared by them and read at the Conversazione.

9. To the Rev. G. Wodehouse, for allowing the Lunch Tent to be erected in his field at Langford, and to the Rector, Churchwardens, and Bellringers of Meysey Hampton for the merry peal of welcome on their arrival in that picturesque village.

10. That the selection of a place of meeting for the Annual Meeting of 1900, and the election of a President, be left in the hands of the Council.

11. The Society wishes to record their entire satisfaction with the way in which Mr. Busby, of "The Bull Hotel," Fairford, has carried out his contract for luncheon, dinner, and carriages; Mr. Coombes, of "The New Inn," Lechlade, his contract for lunch. They feel sure that the same was felt with regard to Mrs. Woodman's arrangements for lunch at "The Swan," Bibury; and also of the Motor Car Syndicate's conveyance of passengers and luggage under exceptional difficulties.

The excursion which followed was fully as successful and enjoyable as its predecessors. It was pleasantly occupied with a carriage excursion through some of the most charming of the Cotswold country—that part, in fact, to which the late Mr. J. A. Gibbs has so delightfully introduced the public in his book, A Cotswold Village. The route lay along the course of the Coln, and the first stop was at the little village of Quenington, where the Rev. F. R. Steavenson, the Rector, showed the party over the interesting little church of St. Swithin.

Rudder thinks that the name was formerly written "Colnnington" and signifies a village on the river Coln.
"At the time of the Survey, A.D. 1086, "Quenintone" was held by Roger de Laci, son of Walter de Laci, who, taking part in the conquest of England in 1066, and in the defeat of Earl Roger in 1074, was rewarded by William I. with a vast fief of 116 manors, including 27 in Gloucestershire. Walter died from a fall, at Hereford, in 1085, and was buried in the Chapter House at Gloucester.

He was succeeded by his son Roger, who was banished by William Rufus for siding with Duke Robert, and his possessions were conferred on his brother Hugh, who in the time of Abbot Serlo, 1072—1104, gave the Church of Quenington to Gloucester Abbey. This is the earliest mention of the church, but, as there was a priest in 1086, in all probability there was a Saxon church.

QUENINGTON.
From a Drawing by Lysons, A.D. 1792.

In the present fabric we have the remains of an early 12th century church, probably built by Hugh de Laci or the monks of S. Peter's, Gloucester. The county histories tell us that the de Laci family, assisted by the de Maras and the de Leys, founded and endowed a preceptory of Hospitalers here. We should expect to find that the manor was in the first place given to the Templars, and that at their suppression it passed into the hands of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, known as the Hospitalers. They were seized of it in the ninth year of Edward II. At the Dissolution the manor was granted to Sir Anthony Kingston, and passing through the families of Vachell, Powell, Ireton, Forrester, Mackworth Praed, and Blackwell, it came at last to the ancestors of Sir Michael Hicks-Beech.
The Court Farm, which stands on the site of the Preceptory, retains its ancient entrance gate and a portion of the moat which once surrounded it and the church. At the end of the 12th century the Preceptory, Chancellor Parsons says, was still standing.

The Church of S. Swithin consists of a nave and chancel. If we compare the present building with the drawings of it made by Samuel Lysons in 1792, we shall realise how much it has been altered in this century. The nave appears to have been lengthened westwards, while the west window and the bell-turret are modern. Atkyns says that there was formerly a spire between the nave and chancel. If so, it must have been a small Early English campanile or bell-turret. The north and south doorways, the most interesting features of the church, several pilasters, a string course, two deeply-splayed windows, and various parts of a chancel arch and a corbel table similar to that at Elkstone, and carefully preserved by being built into the wall of the nave, are all relics of the 12th century church.

The chancel arch has been rebuilt in the style of the 13th century. The east window was inserted in the 15th century. I am of opinion that for three hundred years previously there was no window in the east wall, as was the case in so many Gloucestershire churches before the restorations of modern times. The floor of the chancel appears to have been on a level with that of the nave, as in many Norman churches. It has been lately raised by four steps. The position of the almery shows this. There are two corbels, one on either side of the modern reredos, which probably held statues of saints—St. Swithin and another.

The north doorway, which is the more richly carved of the two, has for the subject of its tympanum the Triumph of Christ over Death and Satan. Three souls are rising from Hades, symbolised by a whale, and are adoring their Saviour. Satan lies on his back, bound hand and foot, pierced through the mouth by the staff of our Lord's cross. The figure of the sun may represent the First Person of the Holy Trinity; more probably it is simply the sun, which, with the moon, frequently appears in representations of the Crucifixion. Above the doorway is a ram's head much mutilated.

The subject of the tympanum of the south doorway is the mythical Coronation of the Virgin Mother, which, when thus treated, was considered to be symbolical of the Church Triumphant. The Second Person of the Holy Trinity is placing a crown on the head of His mother, who holds a dove, the symbol of purity and also of the Third Person. On either side are two symbols of the Evangelists: on the right the Angel of St. Matthew and the Lion of St. Mark, on the left the Bull of St. Luke and the Eagle of St. John. There are, moreover, two angels, one with

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1 Reproduced from his paper on Quenington, in *Archaeologia*, vol. x., pp. 128—130.
two and another with four wings, representatives of the denizens of heaven above whom Mary is exalted. On the extreme right is a Norman building of three stories, with a square tower and a gable, representing the Church militant here on earth, or perhaps more probably the Holy Jerusalem, as on the tymanum at Autun and elsewhere.

At the east end of the church is a stone which I thought might be the pedestal of a crucifix, but archaeologists have declared it to be a "treasure-stone," signifying the concealment or discovery here of something of great value."

Proceeding onwards, the party arrived at the picturesque village of Coln St. Aldwyns. Here, in addition to the nicely-kept church, the party were able to view the beautiful old Manor House, now the residence of the Lord of the Manor, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, which contains a fine old oak staircase, and many other relics of the Elizabethan age. Sir Michael has recently restored it for his own occupation, the family mansion at Williamstrip being let.

"This parish derives its name from the river Coln, and from Aelhun or Aldwyn, Bishop of Worcester, A.D. 844; or perhaps more probably from Aldwine, Bishop of Lichfield, 716—727.

In 1086 the manor was held by S. Peter's Abbey, Gloucester, to which church it had been given, according to the Abbey Chartulary, by Aldrer, Subregulus of the Huiccians, 757—780, and it continued in the possession of the monks till 1540, when it was granted to the new Dean and
Chapter of Gloucester. They still hold the manor and the advowson of the living.

There is, however, another manor of which Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is lord, consisting of lands in Coln St. Aldwyns and Williamstrip. This was held in the 14th century by the Handelos, and in the 15th by the Applebys. In the time of Charles II. and William III. it was held by Henry Powle, Speaker of the House of Commons. His only daughter married Henry Ireton, who was lord in 1712. Williamstrip House was built in the time of George I., and came to the family of the present owner in 1784.

Mr. Gibbs, in *A Cotswold Village*, says: "The beautiful gabled house close to the Norman Church of Coln St. Aldwyns is the old original manor house."

Next the party proceeded to the still prettier village of Bibury, with whose beauties, together with those of the adjacent hamlet of Ablington, readers of Mr. Gibbs' *A Cotswold Village* must be familiar. In addition to the striking church, with its remains of Saxon work and many interesting architectural problems, the visitors were able to inspect the beautiful manor house, Bibury Court, built in 1623, and now occupied by Mr. R. B. Cooper, and also the manor house at Ablington, where Mr. Gibbs spent the last five years of his life, and of which he speaks with such rapture. It was built by John Coxwell in 1590. Luncheon was served at the "Swan Hotel" by Mrs. Woodman.

Between 721 and 743, Wilfrith, Bishop of Worcester, granted five cassates out of fifteen cassates by the river Cunuglæe or Colne to the Earl Leppa for the term of his life and that of his daughter Beaga; the five cassates were afterwards known as Beaganbyrig or Bibury, the remaining ten cassates as Eadbaldingtun or Ablington.

It is likely enough that Beaga founded a minster on her estate, the site of which is now occupied by the parish church.

"In 1086 (p s) the manor of Bibury, then called Bechberie, was held by St. Mary's Priory, Worcester, and contained 21 hides of land. There was a priest, and, no doubt, also a church. In 1130 John Pagan, Bishop of Worcester, assigned the tithes to the monastery of Osney, founded at Oxford for secular canons by Robert d'Oily. From this time until the Dissolution the monks of Osney presented to the living of Bibury and supplied clergy to perform the services. The church was formerly a peculiar, before the Dissolution under the Convent of Osney, since that time under the lord of the manor. Concerning this matter, it is stated in Ecton's *Thesaurus*, ed. 1742, p. 187: "The jurisdiction of Biberie contains Biberie with Winston Chap. Barnsley R. and Aldsworth Chap., which, as to Visitations, are only subject to the chief Officer of their Peculiar; the Bishop and the Archdeacon having no more to do with them
ABLINGTON MANOR HOUSE.
Kindly lent by Mr. Murray from "A Cotswold Village."
after their admission." After the Reformation, this peculiar jurisdiction was disputed by some of the Bishops of Gloucester, but the ground on which they rested their contention is not clear.

In the time of Edward VI., the manor was alienated from the See of Worcester and granted to John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, who was tried, and, being found guilty of treason, was beheaded.

In 1608 W. Westwood was lord of the manor. In 1708 Henry Sackville, then high sheriff, held it. The manor is now vested in Lord Sherborne. The beautiful manor house, known as Bibury Court, of which, through the courtesy of Mr. Murray, a view is reproduced from Mr. Gibbs Cotswold Village, was built in the time of James I. by Sir Thomas Sackville. The date, 1623, appears on the front of the Manor House.

The plan of the parish church comprises a nave, 75 ft. by 24 ft.; a south aisle, half the length of the nave and 14 ft. wide; a north aisle with a tower at its west end; a chancel, 44 ft. by 15 ft., and a south porch. The original Norman church had probably a nave and short apsidal chancel. Late in the 14th century the south wall was taken down and a Transitional arcade of three arches and a south aisle were constructed. Later on, the north side was treated in the same way. In the 13th century the nave was lengthened westward from the point where the 12th century arcade comes to an end. At the west end of the nave and on the south side are lancet 13th century windows, one being lower down than the others;
above which is a circular window, splayed inside and out like the windows thought to be Saxon or even British at Abury. It has been a matter of considerable doubt to what period this window belongs. Was it part of the church of 1086? Its position is very unusual and requires explanation. Was there at one time a chamber above the nave which it lighted?

The chancel was rebuilt or enlarged in the 13th century. There is some stonework in the wall, just where the earlier church would have ended eastward, which may be Saxon.

The windows of the north aisle are Decorated or 14th century, and there is a Perpendicular window in the south aisle.

There are two piscinæ with credence shelves, and four almeries or cupboards for communion table, &c., in the chancel.

This church is exceedingly interesting, but full of architectural difficulties.

The village of Bibury runs parallel with the river Coln, and is a favourite haunt of fishermen.

In the neighbourhood a Norman villa was discovered a hundred years ago, and many antiquities were taken out of it."

"ABLINGTON

was a manor in the time of King John, when a moiety of it was purchased by Ralph de Willington and Olympias, his wife, of Willington Court Sandhurst, near Gloucester. This good couple built and endowed the Early English Lady Chapel of the church of Gloucester Abbey, now the Cathedral. Their descendants held Ablington till the 15th century, when the Beaumonts possessed it. Lord d'Aubeney died seized of it in 6 Henry VIII., and Edward, Duke of Somerset, in the reign of Edward VI. In the reigns of Mary and Elizabeth the Bassets held it. When Atkyns wrote his History of Gloucestershire Mr. Coxwell owned the manor and dwelt in the Manor House.

Over the doorway of the porch is the following inscription:

"PLEAD THOU MY CAUSE O LORD
BY JOHN COXWELL ANO DOMENY 1590."

This was evidently the name of the lord of the manor who built the house, and the date when he built it. Underneath this inscription are five heads, which, Mr. Gibbs thought, were representations of Queens Mary and Elizabeth and Kings Henry VIII., James I., and Philip of Spain. Over the solid oak door are the words—

"PORTA PATENS ESTO, NULLI CLAVDARIS HONESTO."

The old oak in the hall, Mr. Gibbs says, was brought here when it was turned out of Bibury Church. The house contains portraits of the Coxwells, amongst others of John Coxwell, who employed Cornelius

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BIBURY COURT.

Kindly lent by Mr. Murray from "A Cotswold Village."
Jansen to build the house. Over one of the windows is "Post tenebras lux." The garden, with the river Coln running through it, is delightful; and we can realise, when we see it basking in the August sunshine, how Mr. Gibbs loved it, and how he looked forward with delight to the prospect of spending many years in this charming hermitage. But it was otherwise ordered. In the spring of this year, after a brief illness, he was taken away from his many friends amongst rich and poor, leaving as a legacy, not only to us, but to Anglo-Saxons everywhere, his delightful notes on country life and pursuits in the Cotswolds. We are greatly indebted to

Mr. Murray for allowing some of the charming illustrations from his work 1 to be reproduced here."

It was intended that a halt should be made at Barnsley, where the church would have been shown by the Rector, the Rev. D. G. Compton, and permission had been obtained to visit also Barnsley Park, belonging to Mr. Wykeham-Musgrave, built by Henry Perrot, early in the 18th century in the Italian style, but this was found impossible.

"Barnsley was part of the Bishop of Worcester's Manor of Bibury, and was held in 1086 (d.s.) by Durand and Eudo. In the time of King Stephen it formed part of the possessions of Milo, Earl of Hereford, and it passed in moiety with Margery and Lucy, his daughters, to the De Bohuns and Fitz Heriberts. Subsequently, it was held by the Despencers, by the Earls of Kent, one of whom was beheaded at Cirencester in the

first year of the reign of Henry IV., by the Earls of March, by Richard Duke of York and his widow the Duchess Cecily. Henry VII. granted it to Thomas Merton, and it passed with his grand-daughter, Dorothy, to Ralph Johnson, who sold it to William Bouchier. This family still held it in 1712. Soon after this it came by marriage with an heiress of the Bouchiers to Henry Perrot, of Northleigh, Oxfordshire, who built Barnsley Park, in the Italian style prevalent in England during the reigns of George I. and George II. His two daughters were unmarried, the survivor, Cassandra, leaving the manor by will to James Musgrave, who held it in 1807.

The arms of Bouchier are: azure a chevron or between three martlets argent, a crescent for difference. The arms of Perrot are: gules, three pears or; on a chief argent a demi-lion rampant sable.

The plan of the parish church comprises a nave with north aisle and porch, western tower, and choir with vestry and organ chamber. The upper part of the tower appears to be later than the rest, and was perhaps rebuilt in the 17th century. The chancel has a good corbel table with heads of men and beasts. The nave contains a small Norman light which was brought from Daglingworth. The Norman horse-shoe chancel arch is probably of two dates. The chancel has two good 14th century windows and a new east window.

The font is an exact copy of one which was turned out of Broadwell Church, Oxfordshire, which lay desecrated in a builder's yard for some ten years, and was then bought and given to Barnsley. After a time the parishioners of Broadwell awoke to a sense of their loss and begged to have their font back again. Canon Howman, then rector of Barnsley, very generously acceded to their request on condition that he might have a copy made of it for his church."

Cirencester was reached in the afternoon. Here Mr. Wilfred Cripps, C.B., and Mrs. Cripps (Countess Bismark) very kindly received the members to tea at the Walnut Trees; and Mr. Cripp's museum was inspected, where much attention was directed to the recent valuable finds in Ashcroft."

Mr. Cripps contributed the following notes to the programme of the Meeting:—

"The museum contains all that has been found of Roman remains of recent years, and is carefully arranged and labelled to make its contents of general interest. It is opened to the public on certain occasions, and always on proper application. The cases contain a large collection of Samian ware, and also of Anglo-Roman pottery from Durobrivae, Upchurch, and other potteries in England; also mortaria, some of them inscribed with the names of the makers. The Samian ware gives the names of some 200 potteries, many of them identified with the potteries
at Arles and other places in the South of France. Other cases contain bronze implements and ornaments, enamelled fibulae, rings, keys, styli, a perfect series of bone pins, bodkins, counters, and other objects made of the horn of the red deer, coins, iron objects, horns of red deer sawn into lengths for making handles—architectural fragments, columns, capitals, reliefs, &c., &c.

The altar and reliefs found in April, 1899, at Cirencester, are of special interest owing to the curious way in which they connect themselves with a similar altar previously found at Bath and described in Hübner and by other authors.

The altar at Cirencester is dedicated to the Sulevæ, goddesses like the Deæ Matres—and, by some antiquaries, thought to be the same—but to

![Sulevæ or Deæ Matres, in Mr. Cripps' Museum.](image)

whom few inscriptions have been found in England. Only two have hitherto been published, and of these one is dedicated by the very same individual as this recently found at Cirencester.

The Sulevæ were seldom called "mothers," but usually Sulevs only; and it is, in point of fact, not known for certain whether they were the
usual goddess mothers under another name, or were cognate divinities, distinct though somewhat similar. About a century and a half ago a votive altar to the Sulevæ was found at Bath, known as well in Roman times as in our own for its famous medicinal springs; this altar had been erected in their honour by one Sulinus, the son of Brucetus, who described himself upon it as a scullor, or carver in stone. Nothing was then known about these Sulevæ, and nothing has been known, till the discovery of the stones we are now describing, of their worshipper, Sulinus son of Brucetus. But in the course of building operations conducted by Messrs. Saunders and Co., at Ashcroft, in Cirencester, the present stones have been found, throwing, after this lengthened interval, some little light upon the older discovery. They consist, to mention the more important pieces, of an altar and two sculptured reliefs, the former bearing an inscription which identifies the unknown Sulinus of Bath as an inhabitant of Cirencester. The inscriptions are almost identical, for both at Bath and at Cirencester describing himself as Sulinus the son of Brucetus, he adds at Bath, where he perhaps would be less well known, that he was a sculptor by profession. The large quantity of carved stone, pedestals, reliefs, portion of statues, and the like found near and around the altar justifies the belief that they were part of his stock-in-trade and of his own workmanship. And it is more than probable that the similar dedication at Bath to the one found at Cirencester owed its origin to the simple fact of the honest stoneworker of Corinium receiving relief from his gout, rheumatic pains, or what not at Bath, and erecting there to the divinities who had so blessed the Bath waters to his use a similar altar to the one he maintained to their honour at his own home. No doubt at Bath he found it convenient to add a note of his occupation to that of his parentage, being comparatively a stranger there, but it is a very interesting addition, especially from the point of view of those who had already imagined that they had discovered a Roman stonemason's yard, before the coincidence of finding the owner actually describing himself as such. There can be no mistake in the identity of the dedicator. The inscription is as follows:—

**S V L E I S**

**S V L I N V S**

**B R V C E T I**

**V S L M**

"Dedicated to the Sulevæ by Sulinus, the son of Brucetus." The Bath inscription is:—

**S V L E V I S**

**S V L I N V S**

**S C V L T O R**

**B R V C E T I F S A C R U M**

**F L M**.

The slight difference of the spelling of the names of the divinities honoured as **S V L E A E** and **S V L E V A E** is of no importance; sometimes
the spelling is **SULEVIÆ**. The two reliefs of the goddesses which we now proceed to describe are in many ways even more interesting than the altar itself. There is nothing actually to prove what divinities the reliefs represent—they would be well described as Deæ Matres—but it is fair to conclude from their being found with an altar such as that discovered with them in Cirencester that they represent the Sulevæ rather than the Deæ Matres or any other similar triads. One of these reliefs represents the goddesses, if goddesses we can call them, sitting on a sort of bench in a row under a canopy, and holding the baskets of fruit and other gifts to men, with which they are usually represented. The stone is from the local oolite, and notwithstanding its crumbling nature the figures are in wonderful, indeed perfect, preservation, as fresh as when left by the hand of the artist, and it may be doubtful whether any example of Romano-British work is in a similar state of perfection at the present day. The other relief is of a different character, but even more interesting in its way. It represents the divinities as seated in various attitudes on a bench, accompanied by three children grouped with them, and the centre figure has a small animal, either lamb or kid, reposing in her lap, together with some fruit. The whole represents the attributes of fertility and bounty. This relief is not so stiff and conventional as the other, and is carved in an altogether higher style of art, but it is less perfect, the canopy which had once covered the figures in a kind of alcoved seat being wanting, and with it the upper part of the heads of each of the adult figures, which had been formed out of the missing stone. The tops of these heads are therefore cut off in a straight line, together with the missing arches of the canopy.

We may gather from these reliefs confirmation of the opinion that though distinct from the Deæ Matres the attributes of the Suleva were almost exactly the same; but it does not solve for us the natural query as to how they ever came to be distinguished from each other. Mr. F. Haverfield inclines to the belief that the Suleva were first confused with the Deæ Matres, rather than that they were at first identical and subsequently distinguished. Mr. Haverfield has also pointed out how plainly both reliefs, though in different degrees, show an attempt to rise above the conventional. Even the more stiffly treated relief shows a careful difference in the treatment of the dress of each figure and of the fruit in each different lap; whilst the freedom of design shown in the less perfectly preserved relief places it on quite a high level of art and one worthy of a classical origin, although there is nothing to show that it is necessarily of a different period to that of the more conventional example. It may be added that there is no good reason for connecting the Suleva specially with Bath. The prevailing god at Bath had the somewhat similar sounding name of Sul-Minerva; but there is no known connection
between them, except the perhaps accidental similarity in the sound of the name. There is only one example of a dedication to them found at Bath, and one at Colchester, whilst there are some twenty on the Continent of Europe, of which no less than eleven are found in Rome itself. It may be mentioned in passing that these eleven seem to have been dedicated by soldiers coming from the Rhine, and not by natives of the capital. It is probable that Sulinus adopted these Sulevæ as his patron divinities owing to his name, just as in later days a child would be named after one or more saints of the church, whom he would naturally venerate and specially invoke; and just as an altar to the above-mentioned god Sul-Minerva dedicated by another Sulinus, this last Sulinus being the son of one Maturus, would be equally suggested by the similarity of name.”

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, CIRENCESTER,

FROM THE EAST.