From the Transactions of the
Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society

Proceedings at the Annual Summer Meeting at Oxford and
Fairford

1911, Vol. 34, 11-39

© The Society and the Author(s)
PROCEEDINGS

AT THE ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING,
AT OXFORD AND FAIRFORD,

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, July 11th, 12th and 13th, 1911.

The annual meeting was held at St. John’s College Hall at a quarter past two, the chair being occupied by Dr. Warren, the retiring President. Amongst those present were the Rev. W. H. Hutton (President-elect), Professor Oman (Vice-President), the Rev. Canon W. Bazeley (President of the Council), the Rev. C. S. Taylor (Editor of the Society), Mr. Lewis J. U. Way (Hon. Secretary for Bristol), Mr. Arnold E. Hurry (Hon. General Secretary). General regret was felt at the absence of Mr. John E. Pritchard, and the cause—the death of his father.

The retiring President (Dr. T. H. Warren, President of Magdalen College, and Professor of Poetry) said it gave him great pleasure to receive his friends of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society once more, and he felt they were more friends than ever, partly through the honour they conferred upon him last year, and partly on account of the exceedingly pleasant day he had in his native county in May last. He only regretted that owing to important college business he should not be able to give as much time to be with them during their summer meeting as he would have liked.
He was looking forward to welcoming the members to Magdalen College that evening.

Mr. ARNOLD E. HURRY (Hon. Secretary) read the annual report, which ran thus:—

The number of Members of the Society is 520, as against 517 at the time of last report. The Accounts have been audited up to December 31st, 1910, and will be printed in the Transactions. The Composition payable by Life Members instead of Annual Subscriptions now stands at 7 guineas as against 5 guineas.

Since the last report the Honorary General Secretary, Mr. Michael Lloyd Baker, has been compelled by pressure of other duties to resign the post which he has held for some four years. The Council feel that the Society is greatly indebted to Mr. Lloyd Baker for the energy and unfailing courtesy which he has at all times shown in the discharge of his duties. His place has been taken by Mr. Arnold E. Hurry. The Council reports with great regret the heavy losses it has sustained during the year by reason of the death or resignation of some of its members. It desires especially to recall the eminent services of three of its former Presidents who have recently died, viz. the Right Hon. Sir John Dorrington, Mr. R. J. Kerr, and Mr. Gardner Bazley. They were prominent men, to whom this Society as well as many others owed a great debt of gratitude for constant help and guidance, and their places will be difficult to fill. The Districts of Local Secretaries have not varied much during the year, but it is hoped that a more active share of the work of the Society will in future be taken by those who represent the Society locally.

Since the last report the Society has held its Summer Meeting at Oxford, and its Spring Meeting at Bristol. Both were well attended, and an attractive programme was successfully carried out on each occasion. The attendance at Oxford was about 135 and at Bristol about 80.

The Council regrets that the negotiations for removing part of the Society’s Library at Eastgate to more suitable quarters have fallen through for the present. They fully realise the defective nature of the present arrangements, and are not without hope that some scheme may yet be evolved to improve the accommodation. The question of the re-opening of the Roman Villa at Witcombe is receiving the attention of the Council. There is no doubt that the tesserae on the floors have suffered considerable disturbance at the hands of visitors, and in their present loose condition there is considerable fear of further damage to the designs. The Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose
have submitted a report and scheme for their permanent preservation, and an attempt will be made to raise, by means of subscriptions, the requisite funds (about £65). During the autumn and winter of 1910–11, by the kind permission of Mr. C. de Lisle, owner of the Noake estate, Churchdown, the remains of a Roman villa in one of his fields near the Ermin Street at Hucklecote were excavated under the auspices of this Society. The President of Council, Canon Bazeley, who superintended the work, was kindly assisted by three members of the Council, Mr. C. J. Cade, Mr. F. C. Cullis, and Mr. H. Medland. The part of the villa excavated consisted of three groups of rooms stretching from north to south, with a corridor twelve feet wide extending along the whole eastern front for about one hundred feet. Several of the rooms—two containing remains of tessellated floors, and others floors of a rougher and more unusual kind, i.e. pieces of oolite, stones set up on edge—were found to have been artificially heated. About a dozen kinds of bronze coins were found, of which six were legible. These were of the Emperors Constans, Valentinian I, Valens, Valentinian II, and Honorius, and of the date say from 360 to 390 A.D., showing that the villa was not finally destroyed till nearly the end of the Roman occupation of Britain. And what is of far more importance, tiles were discovered with twenty-three inscriptions, several of which were previously unknown. These throw light on the internal government of Roman Gloucester, and on the manufacture of tiles by Romano-British trade guilds. An account of these inscriptions was communicated to The Times newspaper on February 22nd, 1911, by Canon Bazeley, and a full account of them and of the excavations will appear in the Society's Transactions. The Council authorised the expenditure of £5 from a balance remaining in the Treasurer's hands from the Hayles Abbey Excavation Fund. The thanks of the Council are due to Mr. F. J. Cullis for the kind loan of his employes, Messrs. Kilbey and Davis, who showed intelligence and zeal in the work, to Mr. Thomas Barnett for a generous donation of £3, and to Mr. Crump of Gloucester for the loan without charge of a useful corrugated iron shed.

Stokeleigh Camp, Leigh Woods.—A portion of the Leigh Woods, containing the Stokeleigh Camp, has been made over by Mr. George Wills to the "National Trust" for the enjoyment of the inhabitants of Bristol and the neighbourhood. Before doing so he gave permission to certain members of this and other kindred Societies to make excavations in the camp. These have lately been made under the direction of Professor Lloyd Morgan, Mr. A. E. Hudd and others. The results appear to have been somewhat disappointing. An account of the camp will be found in the Proceedings of the Clifton Antiquarian Club, vol. v., p. 8 et seq.
The Hon. Librarians have in hand a new Catalogue of the Society's Books and Papers. It is hoped that copies will be in the hands of members before the close of this year. Since last summer meeting the Council have met five times, thrice at Gloucester and twice at Bristol. They again express their acknowledgments to the Lord Mayor of Bristol and to the Mayor of Gloucester for the use of the Old Council Chamber in Bristol and the Guildhall in Gloucester for the purpose of their meetings.

About three years ago, during a search for material for local history, one of our members, Mr. F. S. Hockaday, F.R.Hist.Soc., was fortunate in discovering the whereabouts of the Act Books of Gloucester Consistory Court, and the records of episcopal and other visitations of the diocese, comprised in about 340 volumes, together with a large number of documents and papers, the existence of which was unknown to any living person. These having been recovered and restored to their home in the Gloucester Diocesan Registry, proved to contain so much interesting and important matter necessary to the writing of any complete county or parochial history, that the Lord Bishop, with the consent of the Registrar, Mr. F. Hannam-Clark, entrusted the task of sorting and arranging the whole of the diocesan records to Mr. Hockaday, with a view to their publication in English. He has arranged in chronological order the volumes of record and about 300,000 documents, and has also prepared indexes of names, parishes and subjects, etc., for the first thirty years, commencing A.D. 1541, as a necessary preliminary to transcription and translation. During the past year a good start has been made on the translation of the earliest record by Mr. Hockaday, Rev. Leonard Wilkinson, M.A., and Mr. R. J. Kerr, B.A., members of our Society. Several of the county clergy and laity have undertaken portions of the work; but additional help is required, and Mr. Hockaday will be very glad to hear from members of the Society whose acquaintance with mediæval Latin and handwriting of the sixteenth century may qualify them as helpers. The work is very interesting, embracing every parish in the diocese of Gloucester, and many of those in that of Bristol. Helpers are also desired in sorting, arranging, indexing and transcribing Bristol diocesan records for inclusion in the scheme for publication, with the sanction of the Lord Bishop of Bristol and his Registrar, Mr. W. Sefton Clarke. Unfortunately Bristol records suffered severely by fire and pillage during the riots of 1831. The Honorary Secretary for Bristol has reported to the Council that the thanks of the Society are due for gifts of books made to the Bristol Library by the following members Mr. F. F. Fox, Mr. A. E. Hudd, Mr. John E. Pritchard, and Mr. F. F.
Tuckett; also for a detailed plan of a mediæval roof discovered in Quay Street, received from Messrs. Oatley and Lawrence, Architects. Special thanks are due to Mr. Francis F. Fox for privately printing *Adams' Chronicle of Bristol*, a collection which comprises a number of MS. Calendars relating to the City of Bristol, of considerable interest, written in 1623.

The evening meetings in Bristol, as usual six in number, were fairly well attended. The papers read were as follows: (1) By Rev. C. S. Taylor, M.A., on "The Parochial Boundaries of Bristol." Mr. Francis Were also gave a description of the Tiles on Joan Acton's grave at Barrow Gurney. (2) By Mr. Roland Paul on "Some Notes on the Abbey of St. Augustine, Bristol." (3) By Mr. Lewis Way on "The Owners of the Great House, Henbury, Gloucestershire." (4) By Mr. J. E. Pritchard, who read his "Bristol Archaeological Notes for 1910." (5) By Mr. Lawrence Weaver, F.S.A., on "English Leadwork: its Art and History." (6) By Miss Ida M. Roper on "Some Notes on a Brass in the Church of Wotton-under-Edge," and by J. B. C. Burroughs, Esq., on "Some Ancient Deeds relating to the Westbury-upon-Trym Charities." Evening meetings have also been held during the past winter in Gloucester, and papers have been read before members and their friends by the following gentlemen: (1) By Mr. Roland Austin on "Some Gloucestershire Books and their Authors." (2) By Rev. Canon Bazeley on "The Recent Discovery of a Roman Villa on the Estate of C. de Lisle Wells, Esq., near the Ermin Street, Hucclecote (near Gloucester City)." (3) By Mr. John Sawyer on "The Making of Gloucestershire." (4) By Mr. C. H. Dancey on "The Stained Glass of the Gloucester Cathedral." (5) By Mr. E. A. B. Barnard on "The Incorporation of Evesham: the Story of the Formation of a Municipal Borough in the Seventeenth Century." These evenings were much appreciated, there being a fair attendance on each occasion.

The Hon. Local Secretary for Newent (Mr. Edward Conder) reports that nothing has yet been done with the proposed restoration of Kemble Church. He has written a short article on the church, with two illustrations in the *Gloucester Diocesan Magazine* for June, 1911. The General Committee for the work of restoration have not yet received the report from their architect. During the year the rule absolutely prohibiting members in motors from accompanying the spring and summer meetings has been abrogated, as in the case of outlying villages, such as Burford and Fairford, existing railway facilities are obviously inadequate for members who can give but a limited time to the meetings. Every care will, however, be taken to prevent motors from inconveniencing members travelling in horse-brakes. The Council
# Balance Sheet, 31st December, 1910.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions Paid by Members in Advance—</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For 1911</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry Creditors</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Due to Bankers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liability in Respect of 99 life Members—</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Not estimated.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liability in Respect of &quot;Transactions&quot; for 1910, not issued—</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Not estimated.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus at Date—</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As last account</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add Surplus for the year</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>£694</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investments—</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consols at 86</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property—</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries and Equipments</td>
<td>Not</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>estimated.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions Unpaid—</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For 1909</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Subscriptions Unpaid</strong></td>
<td><strong>52</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in Hand</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>£768</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I certify that I have examined the foregoing Accounts with the Books and Vouchers, and have found the same to be correct.

F. W. SMITH, Auditor,
Incorporated Accountant.

New Inn Chambers,
Gloucester,
4th February, 1911.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Subscriptions</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Life Subscription</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Entrance Fees</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Donation — Merchant</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Income from Investments —</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividend on Consols</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Sale of Publications —</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transactions</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Surplus from Meetings</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£278</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By Expenses of Publications—</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transactions, Printing and</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illustrating</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record Society’s Publications</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulating</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>202</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Library Expenses —</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Binding, etc.</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Miscellaneous Expenses —</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Secretary</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Treasurer</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postages and Stationery</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidental Stationery</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Surplus for the Year</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£278</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
gratefully acknowledges the following gifts to the Library: *Adams’ Chronicle of Bristol*, 1910, from Mr. F. F. Fox. *Wooden Monumental Effigies*, by Dr. A. C. Fryer, from the Author. *Ancient Crosses and Holy Wells of Lancashire*, by H. Taylor, from Mr. H. Medland. *Reading Abbey*, by Dr. J. B. Hurry, from Mrs. A. L. Hurry. *The Rise and Fall of Reading Abbey*, by Dr. J. B. Hurry, from the Author.

The Council desire to nominate for election or re-election the President of Council, the Vice-Presidents, the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Editor, the Honorary Secretary for Bristol, the Honorary General Secretary and the Local Secretaries. The following members of Council retire by rotation, but are all eligible for re-election: Mr. W. St. Clair Baddeley, Mr. Oscar Clark, Mr. F. Were, Mr. A. E. Hudd, Mr. F. J. Cullis, Dr. A. C. Fryer, Rev. W. Symonds, Mr. J. McMurtrie.

They desire also to nominate for election as a Vice-President Professor C. W. C. Oman, M.A., M.B.A., F.S.A., All Souls’ College, Oxford.

Dr. Warren, in moving the adoption of the report, said it was most satisfactory as to the work done. There was one sad circumstance which they naturally deplored, and that was the death of three of their former Presidents, who had recently passed away.

Dr. J. Ellis (Gloucester) seconded the resolution, and the report was adopted.

The retiring members of Council were re-elected.

Dr. Warren then introduced the President, and said the Archdeacon-elect of Northampton was well known for his position at the University, in the Church, and by his writings.

The Rev. W. H. Hutton then took the chair and delivered his address, which is printed in this volume of the *Transactions*.

The President was thanked for his address on the motion of Professor Oman, seconded by Dr. T. H. Warren.

After the meeting the party drove to Isley, and inspected the church, where Mr. James Parker most kindly gave an interesting address on the history of the church and parish.

The Church of St. Mary Isley, consists of a nave, low central tower, and chancel.

All the church, except the easternmost bay, is Norman work of the twelfth century, and is amongst the finest examples of the architecture of that period.
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, IFFLEY.

WEST FRONT OF IFFLEY CHURCH.
The west front contains a deeply-recessed doorway, the outer moulding of which is enriched with figures representing the Signs of the Zodiac, with birds, winged lions, and cherubim, the next two with beak-heads, and the inner moulding with zig-zags only. There are no shafts or capitals. The circular window is of recent construction.

The south doorway contains an arch of four orders of mouldings, the two middle orders springing from shafts with carved capitals. The inner order is ornamented with flowers and birds, and the second and fourth with zig-zags. One of the capitals represents a mounted archer (sagittarius), which is said to have been a badge of King Stephen.

The tower arches are richly decorated.

The corbel table is specially worthy of attention.

The chancel was originally apsidal, and consisted of one bay only, with stone groined vaulting. Late in the thirteenth century the east end was taken down, and the present Early English bay was added. Most of the Norman windows have had tracery inserted in them, those in the chancel in the time of Edward I or II, and the nave windows in the fifteenth or sixteenth century. The west window remains in its original condition.

The Manor of Ifley was given by Juliana de St. Remi to the monks of Kenilworth in the reign of Henry II, and they probably built the church about 1160.

Mr. E. J. Swann has kindly contributed the following notes on the Manor of Ifley:

"It may be of interest to briefly trace the descent of this Manor of Ifley, and especially its connection with the Hospital of Donnington, near Newbury.

Passing over, for the sake of brevity, the descent of the manor between its gift to the monks of Kenilworth by Henry II and 1393, this manor in 1393 belonged to Sir Richard Abberbury, who was also the owner of the Castle of Donnington, which castle he had built by royal license of Richard II, 1385-6.

Sir Richard Abberbury founded a hospital at Donnington, to which, by Letters Patent of 26th April, 1393, he obtained the king's permission to assign the Manor of Ifley, with two acres of land at Donnington.

These Letters Patent inter alia state:—

"Whereas our faithful and beloved Richard Abberbury Knight, remembering the end of his days and looking forward to things above hath purposed newly to found make and establish a certain Hospital or House of certain poor men, at his Manor of Donnington there perpetually to attend upon God, and specially for the healthful state of us, and the same Richard, while we shall.
live and for our souls when we shall depart out of this life. We
to the pious intent and wholesome purpose of the aforesaid
Richard and in order that we may become partakers in the
rewards of so great and perfect a work of piety and merit; of our
special favour, and at the prayer of the said Richard, have granted
and given license to the same Richard, to found and establish at his
said Manor of Donnington a certain perpetual House of poor men,
of whom one shall be over the others, and be named the Minister of
God's Poor House of Donnington and we grant and assign the
Manor of Yefeley with its appurtenances for their maintenance."

On the dissolution of the monasteries in 1539, Donnington Hospital
was resigned to Henry VIII, its revenues then being of the annual
value of £19 3s. 6d.

It remained with the Crown until 1576, when the hospital had its
foundation perfected and completed by Charles Howard, Baron of
Effingham (created Earl of Nottingham in 1596), and in 1602 Letters
Patent of Queen Elizabeth were granted recreating Donnington Hospital,
and attaching to it the Manor of Ifley.

These Letters Patent, under the Great Seal, in perfect condition, are
in existence, and in the custody of the Trustees of Donnington Hospital.

The hospital was a foundation of twelve poor men and one entitled
"minister" (a layman), and the Manor of Ifley and the estates and
revenues attached to the hospital were administered by this body of
poor men and minister, who were entitled to equal division of the net
income (except that the "minister" had a double portion), and they
acted as a corporate body with a corporate seal.

The lordship of the Manor of Donnington, subsequent to the death
of Sir Richard Abberbury, became the property of William de la Pole
(Duke of Suffolk) and John de la Pole.

This ownership by the de la Poles of the Manor of Donnington
and the patronage of Donnington Hospital, to which the Manor of
Ifley belonged, probably accounts for the arms of John de la Pole and
his wife—Elizabeth Plantagenet, sister of Edward IV—being in a window
in the south aisle of Ifley Church.

In 1600 the Hospital of Donnington was granted to Charles Howard,
Earl of Nottingham, and on his death the Manor of Donnington, with
the right of presentation to the hospital, was sold by his successor to
the Parker family, to whose descendants, the Hartley family, the Manor
of Donnington subsequently passed.

The Manor of Donnington, and the right of presentation to the
hospital and election of pensioners, still remains with a member of the
Hartley family; but the administration of the Manor of Ifley and of the
estates and revenue of the manor are now dealt with under a scheme made in 1896, of the Charity Commissioners by a body of eight trustees, of whom the Archdeacon of Oxford, who is the patron of the living of Ifley, is one, and the writer is another.

The hospital at Donnington is still occupied by twelve almsmen and a minister, Mr. G. J. Watts; but in addition there are some twenty-nine pensioners, selected from the parishes of Shaw-cum-Donnington and Bucklebury in Berkshire, and Ifley, Cowley and Littlemore in Oxfordshire.

The revenues of the Manor of Ifley, which in 1539 were £19 3s. 6d., now amount to £2,000 per annum.

In connection with this Manor of Ifley, the history of which I have thus briefly traced, it may be stated that there is an inferior Manor of Ifley in addition to and inside the original manor. This inferior manor, known as Little Ifley Manor, existed independently of the principal manor, and is possessed by Lincoln College. It may be added that the twenty-nine pensioners are drawn from the following parishes: from Bucklebury, Berks, eight women and three men; from Shaw-cum-Donnington, Berks, two women and two men; from Ifley, four women and one man; from Littlemore, four women; from Cowley, three women and two men, those being the five parishes from which, under the present scheme, pensioners have to be chosen. All the inmates of the hospital at Donnington have rooms rent free. Five on the old foundation receive 25s. weekly, seven on the new foundation receive 6s. 6d. weekly, and an allowance for firing. All the out-pensioners receive 7s. a week.”

From Ifley the drive was continued to Nuneham Courtenay. The Manor of Nuneham, at the time of the Survey, belonged to Richard de Curci, and later on to the Redvers (de Ripariis). Mary, daughter of William Redvers, Earl of Devon, married Robert de Courtenay in 1214. It is assumed that they held this manor and gave it its second name. It passed through various hands till it by came marriage to David, Earl of Wemyss, and he sold it in 1710 to Simon, Lord Harcourt, Lord Chancellor. He destroyed the old village, which lay near the manor house, and rebuilt it near the high road. His grandson, who was Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, was created Earl Harcourt, but the title died out with the third Earl. The Nuneham estate then came to Edward Vernon, Archbishop of York, who took his mother’s name of Harcourt, and from him to the present owner, the Right Hon. Lewis Vernon Harcourt.

In the evening a reception in the hall of Magdalen College was given by the ex-President, Dr. T. H. Warren, Mr. F. Madan (of the
Bodleian Library) read a short paper outlining the history of Gloucester College in Oxford (now Worcester College). Dr. Warren also gave an address, but it was informal in character, as the speaker had not much time at his disposal. He gave a short account of the history of Magdalen College, and pointed out some of the interesting features connected with it, making special mention of the portraits in the hall.

On Wednesday morning the members travelled by train to Witney, from whence they drove to Minster Lovell.

This parish takes its present name from the Anglo-Saxon _mynster_, a monastery or monastic church, and from the Lovels, a family who came from Ivry in Normandy, and were lords of Kari (Castle Cary) and Harpetre in Somerset. Lovel is really a nickname derived from _Lupellus_, a little wolf; hence the crest of the Lovels, a wolf sejant ermine. William of Ivri, the son of Ascelin Goel, who first bore this nickname, was born about thirty years after the Norman Conquest, and from all we know of him he seems to have well deserved it. He was the first of his name to be lord of Minster, and during the reign of King John his descendants gave the advowson of the church and some lands to the Benedictine Abbey of St. Mary, Ivri, and a cell was founded here. Probably the eastern limb of the church was set apart for the monks, and dedicated afresh to St. Mary, whilst the parishioners retained the use of the nave, dedicated in earlier times to St. Kenelm. This cell was dissolved by Henry V in 1414, and its possessions were leased to the Lovels.

In 1442 Henry VI bestowed the advowson of the living and the endowments of the priory on his new foundation, Eton College, which retains them still.

The present church at first sight appears to be all of one date, the middle of the fifteenth century; but Mr. Brakspear has found traces of fourteenth-century work in the lower part of the south and east walls of the south transept.

The church is cruciform, having a nave, without aisles, a central tower, north and south transepts, and a chancel. The north porch and the crossing beneath the tower have stone-vaulted roofs. As the transepts, and nave are of different widths, the tower has been constructed so as to be independent of them all, and rests on four oblong piers with clustered columns and stone bench-tables. Mr. James Parker, however, thinks that the arrangement of the detached piers does not depend so much on the unequal width of transepts and nave as upon the circumstance that in following the foundations of a previous

1 Planché's _The Conqueror and his Companions_, vol. ii., pp. 210-4.
2 _Archaeological Journal_, vol. lxvii., p. 350.
CROSSING, UNDER THE CENTRAL TOWER,
MINSTER LOVEL.
GROUND PLAN OF
MINSTER LOVELL CHURCH, SHEWING PECULIAR
ARRANGEMENT OF TOWER ARCHES.
very large church the erection of a tower extending to the outer walls would have been very costly, and unless carried to a great height very disproportionate, and so unsightly. Built by the Govel family (afterwards Lovel), who held large property at Ivry, some fifteen miles south-east of Evreux, as well as at Minster, the priory was founded here as a cell to the important Abbey of Ivry, and the present church is no doubt on the same site as that respecting which a suit was raised in the King's Bench in 1206 by William Lovel, direct descendant of the Count of Ivry, respecting the advowson which the Abbot of Ivry claimed on the ground that Maud, William's mother, had granted it to the abbey with the confirmation of William of Blois, Bishop of Lincoln (1203–9). No doubt the thirteenth-century church was a large one, and there is reason to suppose the foundations were followed when the fifteenth-century church was erected. On the other hand, inequality of width of transepts and nave is not at all exceptional, and the disparity is usually got over by an extra order of mouldings to the tower piers to fit the narrower opening. In Oxford Cathedral there is the remarkable instance where the builders in the reign of Henry II got over the difficulty by keeping a round arch over the nave and choir, and inserting a pointed arch for the narrower space of the transepts. The outer measurement of Minster Lovell tower is 17 feet; had it been carried out to the walls it would have required at least 24 feet, so the architect ingeniously put his tower as it were upon "four legs," and then to strengthen them he carried out the unequal arches from them to the walls. The pair of piers on the west are connected with the nave walls by two diagonal arches, and between the two eastern piers and the chancel walls are hagioscopes, or squints, through which the worshippers in the transepts can see the officiating priest standing in front of the altar.

There is also a squint inserted diagonally in the north wall of the chancel, and a low window in the north-west corner of the vestry wall, evidently constructed for the same purpose. Mr. James Parker states that in 1850 the Oxford Architectural Society had very accurate plans made of the church by Mr. John Prichard, architect (a pupil of the elder Pugin). He shows in the west wall of the sacristy a square recess. The outer portion had been blocked up, and a coalshed erected against it, so Mr. Prichard could not see the marks of an external window. When the church was restored the idea that this window was connected somehow with the squint in the chancel, pointing to the high altar, led the architect to make the sides of it slope towards the squint. Otherwise anyone looking through it could scarcely see the squint, much less the altar. Why there was a squint (hagioscope) from or
into what was supposed to be a sacristy is another matter involving many considerations. There has always been some doubt as to the use of these low windows: they have been thought to have been provided for the use of lepers, but leprosy was dying out in England in the middle of the fifteenth century. There was also, it is thought, a chantry chapel dedicated to St. Cecilia in the churchyard. Perhaps it stood in the now vacant space between the north transept and the vestry, or possibly there was an anchorite's cell here as at Mickleton and elsewhere. In the south-east corner of the nave is a staircase which led to the tower and also to the rood-loft. The pews are ancient. There is a good Perpendicular font with octagonal bowl and shaft. The reredos was given by Lady Tauntz, widow of the lord of the manor, in 1878. There is some stained glass in the window, nearly as old as the church, with figures of Isaac, Daniel, St. Lucy, and St. Agnes, and the names and attributive arms of Edward the Confessor and Oswald, king and saint. Any credit that the church restorers of the middle of Queen Victoria's reign may deserve for their enthusiasm and generosity they will run the risk of forfeiting through their careless or wilful destruction of church furniture and historical ornaments. In 1868 the chancel screen, with its heraldic shields, was removed and probably destroyed. From Symonds and from Richard Lee's Gatherings of Oxfordshire, 1574, Harl. Soc., vol. v., we learn that these bore az., seme of fleur-de-lis, a lion rampant arg. (Holland); arg., a lion rampant sa., crowned or (Lord Burnett); Barry nebulee of six or. and gu. (Lovel) impaling Barry of six arg. and az., a bend gu. (Grey of Rotherfield); 4th (1) Loveli, (2) Az., a fess dancettee between 10 billets (Deincourt); (3) Grey; (4) Holland; over all on a shield of pretence argent, a lion rampant sable crowned or within a bordure azure (Burnell); Lovel impaling Deincourt; or, a fess between two chevrons sable (? Lisle); a buck's head cabossed argent (?). Richard Symonds, in his Diary of the marches of the Royal Army during the Great Civil War, tells us that he saw in the east window of the chancel the upper part of a shield bearing sa., two locks or (Sydenham); and quarterly (1) gone; (2) a chevron az. between three chaplets gules (Holme); (3) gules, a lion rampant ermine (?); (4) arg., a chevron between three lions passant sable impaling quarterly (1) sa., a chevron between three covered cups or (Botiller); 2, 3, and 4 gone; and Lee gives 4th 1 and 4 Fess nebulee (? Lovell), 2 and 3 (Holland). There was, moreover, a collar of SS. (a Lancastrian badge), with portcullises and roses about it.

The Gentleman's Magazine of 1825, in giving an account of Minster Lovel Church, mentions inscriptions to H. Powell, Vicar, Anna Clay,
John Wheeler and his wife, and a splendid monument in the chancel to Henry Heylin. This last, perhaps, was destroyed at the restoration of the church.

The most beautiful relic of the fifteenth century is the tomb of one of the last three Lord Lovels, presumably John, Lord Lovel, who died in 1465.

On an altar-tomb of alabaster reclines the effigy of a knight in the armour worn at the close of the reign of Henry VI or the beginning of Edward IV, such indeed as was worn at the Battle of Tewkesbury, in 1471. The hair is closely cropped, and the head, which is uncovered, rests on a tilting helm surmounted by the Lovel crest, (Lee says) a wolf or, or (Symonds says) a dog. The body is protected by pauldrons, elbow and knee plates, a skirt of laces with escalloped tules, gauntlets, etc. An ornamented baldric or belt passes round the waist, and the knight has a chain round his neck with a wolf's head. On his left side is a long sword and at his feet a lion.

The altar-tomb has eight shields suspended from the centres of the panels, four on each side, and two at the west end. On the north side of the tomb are two female weepers with the low-horned hairdress of the period (Symonds calls them bishops). At the west end is St. Christopher, and on the south side are Our Lady and the Holy Child and St. Margaret of Antioch piercing the dragon with the foot of her cross.

The heraldic bearings cannot be depended on as correct, for previous to the time of their restoration by Lord Egmont the shields are said to have been quite black. The restored bearings may be compared with the descriptions given by Richard Lee (1574) and Richard Symonds (1644). North side:—I. Quarterly: (1) Lovel, (2) Sydenham, (3) Grey of Rotherfield, and (4) Zouch, gules, 10 bezants 4, 3, 2, & l. Symonds says (1 & 4) Lovel, (2) Sydenham, and (3) 2 bars debruised by a bend= (? Mountford). II. Quarterly of six: (1) Lovell, (2) Deincourt, (3) Holland, (4) Grey of Rotherfield, (5) Burnel, (6) Per fess Sydenham and Zouch. Symonds says II. (1) Lovel, (2) Deincourt, (3) grey, (4) Two bars debruised by a bend, (5) grey, (6) same as (1). III. Same as II. IV. Sydenham. West end:—V. Lovel. VI. Sydenham. South side:—VII. Burnell. VIII. Lovel impaling Sydenham. IX. Grey of Rotherfield. X. Zouch.

The following marriages of the heads of the Lovel family are mentioned by Dugdale and Sir T. C. Banks:—

John Lovel of Mynster d. 15 Ed. I=Maud d. & h. of — Sydenham. John Lovel, s. & h., d. 4 Ed. II=Isabel de Bois and Joan d. of Lord Ross.
John Lovel, s. & h., d. 3 Ed. II = Maude sister & h. of Edward, Lord Burnel.
[John Lovel, s. & h. d., 35 Ed. III s.p. aged 19.]
John Lovel b. & h. d. 9 Hen. IV = Maud d. of Robert, Lord Holland.
John Lovel, s. & h., d. 2 Hen. V = Alianora, d. of William, Lord Zouch.
William Lovel, s. & h., d. 33 Hen. VI = Alice, sister & cou. of Wm. Lord Deincourt, by Joan, d. & h. of Robert, Lord Grey, of Rotherfield.
John Lovel, s. & h., d. 4 Ed. IV = Joan, sister of Wm. Visc. Beaumont.
Francis Lovel, created Viscount Lovel I Rich. III, said to have been slain at the Battle of Stoke, 3 Hen. VII, d. s.p.

The manor house of the Lovel family, built about the same time as the church, after the destruction of the priory, early in the fifteenth century, is in ruins. It retains the four walls of the hall, which was lighted by two large windows on the south side and two smaller ones high up on the north wall. The hall was entered by a porch, vaulted in two bays. At one end of the hall were the kitchens, and at the other a chamber with a fine fireplace. From this a range of buildings ran westward, ending with a fine tower. The house was figured by Buck, and again by Skelton, A.D. 1823. It was dismantled about 1730, and some of the materials were used for the roof of Ducklington Rectory. In the eighteenth century a secret chamber was discovered in the manor house in which was a skeleton seated at a table. This was thought to be Viscount Lovel, who ended his career as an adherent of the impostor, Lambert Simuel. Perhaps he fled from the Battle of Stoke to his own house, and was imprisoned here by some misadventure. Minster Lovel is also said to have been the scene of "the mistletoe bough" and the death of the beautiful lady in the old oak chest.

At Abbotsford, however, there is an inlaid chest from Modena about which a similar story is told in Rogers' Italy, pp. 96-100. Probably the mistletoe bough tradition is found in other countries besides England and Italy, and is attached to many ancient houses.

Mr. F.Were rendered kind help with regard to the heraldry at Minster Lovel.

The party then drove on to Swinbrook, where the Church of St. Mary consists of a chancel, nave, north aisle, and west tower. The north doorway and chancel are Early English, the north arcade of the nave is transitional Norman. The flat-headed windows of the north aisle,
with their characteristic ball-flower ornament, and the clerestory are Decorated. The east window of the chancel is Perpendicular. It has five lights, and contains some original stained glass with heraldic shields. On the south side of the chancel are Perpendicular stalls with grotesque misericors.

The tower at the west end of the church, built in 1822, is supported in an unusual manner by two side walls, north and south, and rests on the west wall of the church. Some forty-five years ago a rood-loft and screen vanished under the restorer's hand. 1

The principal interest of the church lies in the Fettiplace monuments. The earliest, a brass effigy of an esquire in a tabard in front of the altar, on the floor, represents Anthony Fettiplace, who died in 1510. Almost the whole of the north side of the chancel is occupied by two monuments, each containing three shelves on which rest uneasily on their right elbows the effigies of six members of the Fettiplace family, lords of the Manor of Swinbrook.

In Elizabethan or Jacobean armour are Sir Anthony, d. 1504, William, d. 1562, and Sir Edmund, d. 1613. In the costume of the last quarter of the seventeenth century are Sir John, d. 1657, his nephew, Sir John, d. 1672, and Sir Edmund, d. 1706. An illustration of these monuments is given by Skelton, and also by W. J. Monk in Walks and Drives around Burford. A marble monument, with a bust commemorates the last Baronet, Sir George Fettiplace, who died s.p. 1743, aged 75. He left his estates to his sister's son, Thomas Bushell, who took the name of Fettiplace and died and was buried in this church in 1767. His eldest son, Robert, died in 1799, and was succeeded by a brother, Charles, who died in 1805 and was buried here. His nephew, Richard Gorges, died in 1806, leaving his estates to be divided between five sisters. If any descendants of these ladies exist they will naturally be pained at reading an article in the Church Family Newspaper of June 21st, 1911, by Mr. A. C. Benson, in which he speaks disparagingly of the Fettiplaces, quite, it seems, unwarrantably. From the notices of their family in Skelton's Oxfordshire, and Kennett's Parochial Antiquities, vol. II., p. 496, it seems that the members were of "good account" both in Berks and Oxon., serving as sheriffs and taking part in their country's wars when it was demanded of them. He suggests that they were lacking in love and sympathy for their poorer brethren. The following extract from Skelton proves exactly the contrary: "The village and neighbourhood felt for many years the benefit resulting from the family of the Fettiplaces residing on their hereditary estates.

1 An illustration of this rood-loft, etc., is given in Remains of Ecclesiastical Woodwork, by T. Talbot Bury, 1847.
for several charitable foundations were by them endowed for the benefit of the parishioners."

Then follows a list of Fettiplace charities: A free school, founded in 1716. A rental of £16 a year to apprentice poor children. Another of £10 a year for maternity cases. £13 a year for bread. Seven green coats a year for as many poor men, together with a quantity of linen. Moreover, in 1743 Sir George Fettiplace gave a large donation to Christ's Hospital, that he and his successors might for ever send two poor boys there from this parish. Each boy on leaving school was to have £15 as an apprentice fee.

It is manifestly unfair to the Fettiplaces, to our ancestors generally, and to charitable donors of the present day to suggest that love and sympathy for the poor are virtues "which have been developed of late out of pure terror at the rising forces of democracy."

The mansion of the Fettiplaces, said to have been built c. 1490, occupied a site on the south of the church, but has now almost disappeared. Its windows were full of heraldic glass, a description of which has been preserved in the Rawlinson MSS. Hugh Curwen, Bishop of Oxford, lived and died here. He was buried at the east end of the north aisle in 1568. When the house was deserted by the Fettiplaces it was let to a Mr. Freeman, of London, who was arrested as the leader of a gang of highway robbers. After this it was allowed to go to rack and ruin.

Many of the members walked across the fields to Widford, which parish was formerly in Gloucestershire as belonging to St. Oswald's Priory, but is now in Oxfordshire.

The Church of St. Oswald consists of a thirteenth-century chancel and a nave of a rather earlier date. The east window of three lights is fourteenth-century work. The north and south walls of the chancel contain three single-light thirteenth-century windows.

The chancel arch is Early English. The fifteenth-century bellcote on the chancel gable contains a bell dated 1777.

The font and north doorway of the nave are Norman in character.

Wall paintings have been uncovered within the last few years.

During the restoration in 1904 portions of a Roman pavement were found beneath the stone paving of the chancel, showing that the church stands on part of the site of a Roman villa. The living is a rectory, and is annexed to Swinbrook.

The rector states that the wall paintings contain portions of a St. Christopher, six kings (three alive and three dead), and some martyrs being slain with arrows.

From Widford the members went on to Burford, where the Church
of St. John the Baptist consists of a chancel, with vestry and two side chapels, a central tower with north and south transepts, a nave with north and south aisles and a south porch with chapels attached to its east and west sides.

The Perpendicular south porch is richly ornamented with panelling, statues, and crocketed pinnacles. Above the graceful doorway with its three orders of moulding and clustered shafts, are two rooms, now used for the custody of muniments, but no doubt formerly occupied by the priests who served the church. Above the windows of the upper chamber is a frieze of eight angels bearing heraldic shields. The groined roof of the porch is a good example of fan tracery.

The nave, reconstructed in the fourteenth century, has two arcades, each of five bays, and a clerestory. Above every pier is a sculptured head.

The easternmost bay of the north arcade is occupied by a chapel with oak screen-work, said to be dedicated to St. Peter.

At the west end of the north aisle is a fourteenth-century font, with figures of saints and an inscription by a Commonwealth prisoner.

The north transept, known as Bell-founder’s or Pinnock’s Aisle, contains some Early English work which shows that the transept at one time extended farther north. Here are buried Speaker Lenthall, and various members of his family. The Norman belfry and lantern tower are the oldest part of this grand church, and, as well as the exterior of the porch, have been figured by Skelton. The lower part of the chancel, the sedilia, piscina, and credence are all Early English.

In the north wall is an aumbry or cupboard for the safe custody of the sacred vessels. On either side of the high altar is a pedestal, on which stand the figures of Our Lady and St. Gabriel.

The priest’s door had a holy water stoup.

The north chancel aisle, called the Tanfield Chapel, contains a reliquary at the east end and a pretentious Jacobean tomb to the memory of Lord Chief Justice Tanfield, who died in 1625. At the east end of the tomb is a figure of his grandson, Lord Falkland. The south chancel aisle contains three fine altar-tombs and several monuments to the Bartholomew family. The south transept, known as the Leggare Chapel, contains the fine altar-tomb of John Leggare, its builder. Round the south window of this chapel, on the exterior, is the following inscription, “Orase (sic) pro animabus Patris et Matris Johannis Leggare De Borford per quem ista fenestra decoretur.” There are also memorials in this chapel to Christopher Kempster, Clerk of the Works to Sir Christopher Wren during the building of St. Paul’s Cathedral, and to John Prior, who was murdered in the grounds of Burford Priory in 1697.
The next chapel westwards, dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury, contains two Early English arches and a fine Perpendicular window. It was formerly the chantry chapel of the local Guild of St. Thomas. A doorway and spiral staircase lead from this chapel to the chambers above the porch.

To the west of the porch is Sylvester's Aisle, with the fine altar-tombs of the Sylvesters and Obaldestons. The western end of this chapel possibly formed the Lady Chapel of the original Norman church. Two lancet windows may be seen on the south side.

The Rev. W. Emeris, Vicar of Burford, very kindly stated that since the visit of our Society to Burford in 1897, the following work has been done in connection with the church.

Windows by C. E. Kempe have been inserted at the west end of the south aisle, and in the north aisle, one of them being in memory of the Rev. W. A. Cass, vicar of the parish for thirty-five years. The glass above the Harman monument was the gift of Mr. Kempe's firm in memory of the joint work of the Rev. W. A. Cass and Mr. C. E. Kempe for the adornment of the church. The south window of the Leggare Chapel has been filled with glass by W. Whall, the fragments of old glass which had been placed there being moved to the north window of the north transept. The tracery of this same window has been filled with fragments of old English glass and a shield, with arms of St. Edward the Confessor. Old glass, but not originally in the church, has been placed at the bottom of the window. On the east wall of the chancel the defaced niches on either side of the altar have been restored, and figures of the Angel Gabriel and the Blessed Virgin placed in them.

At the present time a reredos is being erected against the east wall of the Lady Chapel, with open stone screen in the easternmost bay of the north arcade of the chapel. The design of the reredos has been suggested by the defaced reredos in the Lady Chapel of Gloucester Cathedral. The generous donors, who prefer to remain anonymous, will provide the altar and fittings of the chapel, as well as relaying the floor and fixing an inner door. The architects for this work are Messrs. Hoare and Wheeler.

In the course of alterations to a house in Sheep Street, two stones were discovered in an inner wall, carved with birds' heads and beaks exactly like those to be seen over the west door of the church. These may have been taken from the original Norman south door of the church.

These stones, and a model of the church, are now placed in the priest's room above the porch.

After lunch the members were most kindly received at Burford Priory by the owner, Colonel de Sales la Terrière. Burford Priory,
a few years ago falling to hopeless ruin, was built by Lawrence Tanfield at the end of the sixteenth century, on the site of an Augustinian monastery. Here was born in 1610 Lucius Cary, afterwards the gifted Lord Falkland. Lord Falkland sold the Priory to William Lenthall, the famous Speaker of the Long Parliament, and he died here in 1662. In 1868 the Elizabethan mansion was much reduced in size, but it still retained much of its former beauty and magnificence. It was restored by Colonel de Sales la Terrière in 1909, and is again inhabited. The chapel, consecrated by Bishop Skinner of Oxford in 1662, has been repaired, but it is not yet in use. The owner read a paper describing the restoration recently carried out, which is printed in the present volume.

The party then drove across a typical tract of Cotswold to Fairford, partaking of afternoon tea at Williamstrip.

Fairford derives the latter part of its name from a ford over the Colne. Its position gave it an important 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 Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. The earliest mention of the place is in a charter of Burghred, King of Mercia, A.D. 862, in which he made a grant of ten hides of land in Fairford to the Abbey of St. Peter, 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, as part of the Honour of Gloucester, shared the fortunes of Tewkesbury, passing from Robert fitz Hamon 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 fourteenth-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,
TRANSACTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1911.

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. In the aisles and clerestory we find figure and canopy work, and the scheme of the windows is so arranged that each light exhibits a figure which has a companion facing it on the opposite side of the church. Thus we have in the north aisle the prophets, each bearing over his head a prophecy which refers to the article of the faith displayed by the apostle opposite to him in the south aisle. To the west of these are the four evangelists on the north (the Historians of the Faith) facing the four Latin Fathers (Defenders of the Faith), and in the clerestory twelve Persecutors of the Faith with demons over them; in the tracery lights are facing twelve martyrs and confessors with angels over them. There is sound evidence to show that each of these figures had its special companion as a vis-a-vis, but the order has been deranged, and it was found impossible to replace the twenty-four lights in their original positions, more especially as only nine of the figures can be identified. It is this marvellous series of painted windows that makes Fairford so attractive to those interested in mediæval art; but apart from these, the church has many interesting 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 St. Mary's Church comprises a nave with clerestory, and two aisles, 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 fourteenth-century work, with the characteristic ball-flower embedded in the two western piers of the tower. John Tame, when he removed the transepts, allowed the lower tier of the tower to remain. The spring of the old arcades embedded in masonry of tower piers prove this.

The south porch has a flat arch of three members, with quatrefoils and trefoils in the spandrils 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. The embattled parapets are rich with gargoyles, and the tower is covered with heraldic arms and devices, amongst which will be noticed the Despencer fret, the chevron on a ground chequy, for Guy, Earl of Warwick, 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 of 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 seventeenth 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 that the windows were made for the church, and he is decidedly opposed to the Dürer theory. The glass fills twenty-eight 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, formerly used for the reservation of the Holy Sacrament, on the east 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 Transfiguration. The Appearances of our Lord to Mary Magdalene and the other women.
8. The Supper at Emmaus. The Appearance of our Lord to St. Thomas.

The twelve Apostles reciting the Creed:
10. St. Peter, St. Andrew, St. James, St. John.
12. St. Matthew, St. Simon, St. Thaddeus, St. Matthias.

The Fathers of the Church:
15. The Last Judgment.

Twelve of the Prophets adducing forecasts of the Creed from their own writings:
18. Obadiah, Daniel, Malachi, Micah.

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 the 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.

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 which, according to Bigland, 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 reloaded 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.¹

The President of the Society has sent the following additional note as to the history of the Fairford glass.

"1. I think it should be observed that there is evidence which seems to point towards the conclusion that the glass was not removed from the church during the period of the Civil Wars.

Abraham Wright published in his Parnassus Biceps (1658) a poem on "The Fairford Windows." In it he explains the preservation of the painted glass there, which in every other place had been destroyed. He says to the Puritans:—

Tell me you anti-saints why glasse
With you is longer lived than brasse,
And why the Saintes have seaped their falls
Better from windows than from walls.

He wonders whether it is because these Puritans were interested in the glass trade, and he adds:—

Faireford boast
Thy church hath kept what all have lost
And is preserved from the bane
Of either war or Puritan,
Whose life is coloured in the paint
The inside dross, the outside saint.

This shows certainly that the glass was in the windows when the poem was written, which must have been before 1658: Mr. H. A. Evans (Oxford and the Cotswolds, p. 311) says "at least as early as 1656."

William Strode, a noted Royalist divine, Canon of Christ Church, and Vicar of Black Bourton, only a few miles from Fairford, who died in March, 1645, wrote a descriptive poem on the windows, which contains these lines at the conclusion of a description of Christ hanging on the cross:—

The wondrous art hath equal fate
Unfenced and yet unviolated;
The Puritans were sure deceived,
And thought those shadowes movde and heavde,
So held from stoning Christ.

This seems plainly to show that while there was great fear lest the Puritans should destroy the windows, they had not done so, and the glass was still in situ.


Finally, against the view that Sir William Oldisworth took them down is his own interview with Antony Wood on July 20th, 1660, when the former showed in situ to the latter "the most curious painted windows set up in the raigne of K. Hen. 7," and no reference is made to their ever having been removed.

2. It should also be observed that the artist of the windows—or rather of the main series, for I do not think they are all of one design—may be with substantial certainty be identified as the Fleming Aeps, whose floruit is 1480–1528. His emblem, an ape, appears in the west window of the south aisle, and in the same window his monogram, "A. V." (Aeps Vitrifex).

The best thanks of the members of the Society are due to Canon Carbonell, Vicar of Fairford, for the great kindness with which he received us, and explained, so far as time would allow, the meaning of the beautiful glass under his care. It was, however, a matter for deep regret that the shortness of the time which remained before the departure of the train for Oxford prevented him from giving a complete account, and indeed it is to be feared that few of those who had not visited the church before could have carried away any really definite idea of either the beauty or the meaning of this famous glass.

On Thursday morning the members divided into two parties, one of which, under the guidance of the President of the Society, visited New College, St. Peter's in the East, Magdalen College, and Christ Church, which are described in the account of the visit to Oxford last year; the other party, under Professor Oman, visited Worcester, Balliol, Exeter, Wadham and University Colleges, the Divinity School and St. Mary's Church.

Balliol College was founded c. 1263 by John de Balliol, father of John Balliol, King of Scotland, and by Devorgilla, his wife, daughter of Alan of Galloway. The college, thus established, grew as time went on through additional benefactions. The Statutes were finally settled in 1504. The south or principal front was built in 1867–9. West of this is the Master's lodging, and beyond are Fisher's buildings, erected in 1769 and refaced in 1876. Part of the west front, opposite St. Mary Magdalene Church, was built in 1825, and the part nearest the Martyrs' Memorial in 1852–3.

Entering the front quadrangle, we have on the north side the Library (1430–80), on the east the chapel (1856–7), and on the west the old dining hall (1432).

A passage leads to the garden, on the north side of which is the new dining hall (1877) with butteries, etc., below.

Amongst the many notable men who have studied at Balliol we may
mention John Wycliffe, Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, John Evelyn, Bradley the astronomer, Adam Smith, and more recently Archbishop Manning and Archbishop Temple.

Exeter College was founded by Walter de Stapleton, Bishop of Exeter (1308–26), and subsequently endowed by Edmund Stafford, Bishop of Exeter (1395–1419), and Sir William Petre, 1566.

The west front was rebuilt in 1595 and 1703, and refaced in 1833. The quadrangle has the hall on the south, the chapel on the north, and students’ rooms on the east and west. The chapel, which is the finest in Oxford, was designed by Sir Gilbert Scott, who took Sainte-Chapelle, Paris, as his model. The hall was built in 1618 by Sir John Acland, and restored in 1818. Exeter has always been considered a west country college, and a large proportion of its more celebrated alumni have been Devonshire and Cornish men.

At the north-east corner of the quadrangle is the old entrance gateway (1404), now forming part of the Rector’s house, built in 1837, on the east side of the new quadrangle. The library was rebuilt in 1856. John de Trevisa, Chaplain of Berkeley Castle, and Samuel Wesley, were connected with this college.

The Divinity School was originally the basement of Duke Humphrey’s Library. When completed in 1480, its windows were filled with magnificent stained glass, exhibiting the figures of saints. During the reign of Edward VI it was pillaged and terribly damaged. In 1625 the Commons met here when driven from London by the plague. In 1669 it was restored under the direction of Sir Christopher Wren. The groined roof is rich in heraldry, and nearly 100 shields can still be deciphered. A frequent bearing—the See of Canterbury impaling gules, three wheetheafs or, within a bordure engrailed argent—shows John Kempe to have been the principal contributor to the building fund. He was successively Bishop of Rochester, Chichester, and London, and Archbishop of York and Canterbury (1452–4). He was, moreover, Lord High Chancellor of England. He also built the ante-chapel of Merton and part of the Church of St. Peter-in-the-East. There are also the arms of William of Waynflete, who at this time was directing the building at Eton and Windsor, Archbishops Chichele and Nevill, Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, Sir Richard Wydvylle, and many other patrons.

Wadham College was founded by Nicholas Wadham and his wife Dorothy on the site of the monastery of the Austin friars, 1610–13. Passing through the central gateway of the fine west front, we enter a quadrangle, having on the east side the chapel, hall, library, and kitchen, the remaining sides being occupied by rooms for the warden, fellows
and students. The chapel contains stained glass made by Bernard Van Linge in 1621. The screen and the rest of the woodwork are Jacobean. Over the steps leading to the hall are the figures of James I and the founders.

Amongst the many portraits in the hall are those of Sir Christopher Wren, Dr. Ironside, Bishop of Hereford (1691–1701), William III, etc.

The library contains portfolio editions of Shakespeare and a rare Saxon MS. of the tenth century, and the Common Room a portrait of Mother George, painted by Sommers in 1690, when she was 117 years old.

University College owes its foundation to William of Durham, who is said to have died at Rouen in 1249. No part of the present building, however, is older than 1634. There are two quadrangles. Over the gateway leading to the greater is a statue of Queen Anne, and inside one of James II. The east side of the lesser quadrangle is occupied by the Master's lodging, built in 1719 from a bequest by Dr. Radcliffe, whose statue may be seen inside the archway. Outside is Queen Mary, consort of William III.

The chapel, restored in 1862, contains carvings by R. Barker, 1695. The north and south windows are by Van Linge, 1641. The east window, given by Dr. Radcliffe, was painted in 1687 by H. Giles.

The Hall contains portraits of Archbishops Abbot, Bancroft, and Potter, Dr. Radcliffe, Lord Chancellor Eldon, etc.; but perhaps the striking memorial of the poet Shelley, once a student of this college, will interest the visitor most of all.

The most striking features of St. Mary's Church are the spire with its pinnacles, c. 1300, restored 1850; the panels and gables are enriched with a profusion of pomegranates in honour of Queen Eleanour of Castile.

The tower arches form an inner porch, on the west side of which is Adam de Brom's chapel. The chancel bears the rebus of Walter le Harte, who died in 1472. It was completed about 1484. In the beginning of the reign of Henry VII the rest of the church was rebuilt, the architect being Sir Reginald Bray. On the north side of the chancel is a chapel formerly used as the University Library before Duke Humphrey built the nucleus of Bodleian's.

And thus ended our second most enjoyable visit to the University and city of Oxford. The best thanks of our members are due in the first place to the President of the Society and the ex-President for so kindly receiving us at their colleges, to Professor Oman for kind guidance, and to the authorities of the colleges, the clergy of the
churches, and the owners of the houses which we were so courteously permitted to visit; to Mr. James Parker for much kind help, as well as for the Tables of Oxford History which he provided for our use, and for the loan of the blocks of Ifley and Minster Lovel Churches; and to Canon Carbonell for his goodness to us at Fairford; but most of all to Mr. T. Gambier Parry, who now for two years in succession has so kindly and ably fulfilled the onerous duties of Local Secretary of our summer meeting.