

From the *Transactions* of the
Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society

**Proceedings at the Annual General Meeting, 8-10 July 1930,
and Report of Itinerary**

1930, Vol. 52, 21-78

© The Society and the Author(s)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY
AT THE FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

8, 9, 10 *July* 1930

The fifty-fifth annual general meeting of members of the Society was held at the Guildhall, Gloucester, on Tuesday, 8 July 1930. In the absence of the President, His Excellency Lord Bledisloe, Governor-General of New Zealand, the chair was taken by Mr J. J. Simpson, Chairman of Council. Others present included Mr W. H. Knowles, F.S.A. (*president-elect*), Mr G. McN. Rushforth, F.S.A., Mr J. E. Pritchard, F.S.A., Miss Roper, Mr Roland Austin, F.S.A. (*editor 'Transactions'*), Mrs E. M. Clifford, Mr Wilfrid Leighton (*treasurer*), Mr Charles Wells, Mr H. Stratton Davis (*general secretary*), and Mr Thomas Overbury (*meetings secretary*).

The report of the Council for the year 1929-30 was read by the general secretary.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL, 1929-30

(July 1930)

Membership

The membership of the Society is now 718, an increase of 19 since the last Annual Meeting. During the year 49 members have been elected, 14 have died, and 16 have resigned. There are now 4 honorary members, 63 life members, 608 subscribing members, and 43 subscribing institutions.

Obituary

The Council record with regret the death of several well-known members.

Mr George Sheffield Blakeway had been a member of the Society for 45 years and had served on the Council continuously

since 1888. He was appointed vice-president in 1925. As Town Clerk of Gloucester for 44 years he acquired a very intimate knowledge of the history and records of the City and was closely concerned with the preparation of the calendar of its charters and deeds which was published in 1893. He was at all times ready to be of use to the Society and particularly on the occasion of meetings held at Gloucester. In 1924 he published a study of the administration of the City entitled *Gloucester and its varying Fortunes*.

Lt.-Col. T. M. Carter, O.B.E., M.D., elected in 1901, served on the Council and only a few months ago undertook the duties of hon. secretary for Bristol.

Mr Alfred E. W. Paine (1903) had served on the Council since 1927. He was particularly interested in prehistory and formed a large collection of flint implements.¹ He took part in the excavations at Leckhampton Hill in 1925 and assisted in preparing the report on the pottery and other finds.

Other members who died during the year, and the dates of their election, were Mr H. Napier Abbot (1902), Mr J. Gardiner (1911), Sir Ashton Lister (1920), Mr W. G. Gurney (1893), Col. A. W. Tuke (1926), Miss A. M. Cowling (1926), Mr S. H. Healing (1915), Miss G. Fryer (1905), Miss K. Watt (1923), Mr James Ellis (1920), Mr Rees Price, F.S.A., (1915).

Finance

The receipts for the year ending 31 December 1929 amounted to £501 19s 3d (£491 10s 5d in 1928) and the payments to £487 16s 9d (£449 16s 5d in 1928). The balance in hand at the end of the year was £238 0s 5d. Annual subscriptions amounted to £375 18s, as against £390 12s in 1928, there having been more than the usual decrease in the number of members. Two life subscriptions (£30) were received. The surplus on meetings account was £29 14s 7d, after allowing for a donation of £25 to the Caerleon Fund. The increased expenditure of nearly £40 was entirely due to the *Transactions*, which cost £383 1s 10d, compared with £340 10s 4d for the preceding volume. The Society continues in a sound financial position, the surplus of assets over liabilities shown in the balance sheet amounting to £991 9s 11d exclusive of the libraries at Gloucester and Bristol, which are not valued, and accruing interest on savings certificates (£100, purchased in 1923).

¹ Since the date of this report Mr Paine's collection has been presented to the Cheltenham museum by his sister.—ED.

During the year a claim was made on the Society for income tax on dividends and interest received, extending back to 1926. Your Council have contested this assessment and the matter has been referred to the Board of Inland Revenue for a ruling.²

Transactions

Volume fifty-one, recording the proceedings of the Society in 1929, has just been published. A general index to volumes 41-50 of the *Transactions*, prepared by the editor Mr Roland Austin, has also been issued, making the third of its kind. Few Societies are so fortunate in this respect.

General Meetings

The Summer Meeting of 1929 was held at Chepstow during September, and was most successful. Members are indebted to the President, Lord Bledisloe, for his generous hospitality at Lydney Park, and for the great interest and enthusiasm that he gave to the proceedings. A full report was printed in the *Transactions*.

The Spring meeting of 1930 was held on 5 May, when Winchcombe, Teddington, Hayles and Sudeley were visited.

The work that falls to the Meetings Secretary in organizing these visits is perhaps not fully realized, and the Council wish to record the warmest thanks of the Society to Mr Thomas Overbury for the most efficient and carefully considered manner in which he arranges for the meetings.

Evening Meetings at Bristol

Several very interesting evening meetings were held in Bristol during the Winter, when the following papers were read:—

- 4 November 1929. Tyndalls Park, Bristol and the Royal Fort. By Dr George Parker.
- 9 December 1929. Pre-Norman Crosses. By Dr George Norman.
- 20 January 1930. St. James' Priory and Church. By Mr J. J. Simpson.
- 17 February 1930. The Craft of Bristol Monumental Imagers in Somerset Churches. By Dr A. C. Fryer, F.S.A.
- 17 March 1930. Bristol Archaeological Notes 1924-29. By Mr John E. Pritchard, F.S.A.

² The Society has now been declared exempt from payment.—ED.

The Council wish to record their appreciation of Lt.-Col. T. M. Carter's services while local secretary for Bristol. On his death Mr J. J. Simpson and Mr Wilfrid Leighton acted jointly in carrying on the work. The thanks of the Society are due to the Bristol 'Savages' for permitting the evening meetings to be held at Red Lodge.

Archaeological Trust

The Council strongly urge members to take up membership of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Trust. Less than one-third of the Society have, as yet, done so, and the Council feel that this is a somewhat disappointing response, bearing in mind the valuable services such a Trust renders to the cause of Archaeology.

Council Meetings

The usual quarterly meetings of the Council have been held and a considerable amount of work accomplished.

The question of the trusteeship of the Society's property has been considered and the Council recommend that it should be vested in the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Trust. A resolution giving effect to this recommendation will be submitted at the annual meeting.

At the request of the committees concerned, representatives of the Society have been appointed to serve on the Gloucestershire Town Planning Committee and the Forest of Dean National Park Committee.

Your Council have been consulted with regard to the custody and preservation of the Winchcombe Church Museum, and have nominated Mr D. W. Herdman as one of the trustees. The Council welcome the formation of local museums of this character and hope that the example of Winchcombe will be followed elsewhere.

Successful appeals with reference to the care and preservation of sites of interesting monuments have been made in several cases to their owners. The question of the future care and upkeep of the Romano-British villas at Spoonley Wood and Wadfield is receiving attention.

Your Council are glad to report that Sir James Berry has consented to complete his investigations at Belas Knap and will be engaged on this work during July (1930).

The question of holding evening meetings in Gloucester and Cheltenham has been under consideration. The Council would

welcome the organization of such meetings if sufficient support is forthcoming.

The Cheltenham Borough Council, in preparing their district town planning scheme, have paid particular regard to the Society's request that the sites of important archaeological remains should be preserved. A list of scheduled monuments has been supplied by the Society, and at the request of the Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments the more exact areas of the sites have been defined. The Council wish to thank Mr W. H. Knowles, F.S.A., and Mr D. W. Herdman for undertaking this work.

The Council regret to report that Mr E. A. B. Barnard, F.S.A., who has acted as chief correspondent for Gloucestershire to H.M. Office of Works since 1922, has found it necessary to resign this office, and they wish to express their appreciation of his work in this connexion.

Your Council has supported the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle on Tyne in their protest against the threatened quarrying in the neighbourhood of Hadrian's Wall and a resolution to this effect adopted at the April council meeting appeared in *The Times* and local press.

Lord Bledisloe's valuable services as President, an office that he filled with characteristic energy and enthusiasm, were lost to the Society during the latter half of the year owing to his appointment as Governor-General of New Zealand. The congratulations of the members on his appointment to this high office have been forwarded to His Excellency, and their best wishes will follow him in his new sphere of national service.

Nominations are submitted for office as vice-presidents, local secretaries, members of council and executive officers for the year 1930-31. The Council regret to announce the resignation of the Rev. Dr Irwin on his leaving the county.

At the June meeting of the Council it was unanimously agreed to recommend that honorary membership of the Society be conferred upon Mr Jesse James Simpson in recognition of his valuable work and constant service in connexion with the Society, of which he has been a member for almost fifty years. The Council are sure that this proposal will receive the unanimous assent of members.

The Chairman said that it was gratifying that representatives of the Society had been elected upon Town Planning Committees. There were in the county many buildings and sites of archaeological value which might be

preserved by the action of their representatives on such committees. The provision of a museum in Winchcombe would promote an interest in local antiquities. There were in Gloucestershire many things of archaeological interest which ought to be preserved where they could be seen by interested visitors. He hoped the museum at Winchcombe was only the first of many which would be established. With regard to the work of Sir James Berry he hoped members would show appreciation of his efforts by visiting Belas Knap during the excavations.

The Chairman explained that certain difficulties arose from time to time by the vesting of the Society's property in the names of individual trustees and if the proposed resolution printed in the notice of the meeting was adopted these would be avoided in the future. He then moved

That the Society's property be transferred to, and legally vested in, the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Trust.

The resolution was approved and adopted unanimously.

In proposing the election of Mr W. H. KNOWLES, F.S.A., as President of the Society for the year 1930-31, Mr J. J. Simpson said it was really not necessary to say anything as to his fitness for such a position: this was evident to everyone. Mr Knowles had come to them from the North, where he had been an active member of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle on Tyne. From the first he had been interested in their own work and was always willing to impart to them the wide archaeological knowledge which he possessed.

Mr J. E. Pritchard seconded the proposition, which was carried with acclamation.

In thanking the Society the President said he was sensible of the honour they had conferred upon him and he was proud of the position. Eminent men had preceded him; others equally eminent would follow. The only justification he felt in being their President would be

the pleasure he had in the aims of the Society. He recognized that when called upon one should carry the burden of office, for the Society occupied a prominent position among others of similar purpose, and the standard must be maintained. Their Society stood for the preservation and protection of ancient buildings and was doing good work in moulding public taste.

A vote of thanks to the retiring President was carried unanimously, both the President and Mr Rushforth speaking of the pleasure that Lord Bledisloe had given to the Society by his interest in their summer meeting of 1929. All felt that his presidency had been a happy choice and they had the knowledge that Lord and Lady Bledisloe had looked forward to being at the present meeting but their strong sense of duty in accepting office in New Zealand had of course prevented. It was a great honour that their retiring president had been chosen as Governor-General of New Zealand.

The nominations for office as vice-presidents, members of Council, local secretaries, and executive officers of the Society were adopted. (List overleaf).

COUNCIL AND OFFICERS FOR 1930-31

CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL : W. H. Knowles, F.S.A.,
F.R.I.B.A. (ret.)

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL : Wilfrid Leighton.

VICE-PRESIDENTS : Roland Austin, M.A., F.S.A., W. St. Clair Baddeley, H. Brakspear, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., Dr A. C. Fryer, F.S.A., The Dean of Gloucester (Henry Gee, D.D., F.S.A.), Sir F. A. Hyett, Lt.-Col. Russell J. Kerr, B.A., Sir Charles Oman, K.B.E., M.P., F.B.A., F.S.A., John E. Pritchard, F.S.A., G. McN. Rushforth, M.A., F.S.A., E. C. Sewell, J. J. Simpson, A. Hamilton Thompson, D.LITT., F.B.A., F.S.A., F. W. Waller.

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL (*for re-election*) : Rev. Canon R. T. Cole, M.A., F. W. Duart-Smith, F.G.S., Averay N. Jones, E. N. Witchell, D. W. Herdman, R. W. Murray, Col. A. B. Lloyd-Baker, D.S.O.

(*For election*) : Mrs E. M. Clifford, F.S.A. (Scot.), Rev. F. Kennen, Rev. Thomas Veal, Prof. E. Fawcett, F.R.S., Brig.-General A. C. Painter, C.M.G.

HON. EDITOR AND LIBRARIAN : Roland Austin, M.A., F.S.A.

HON. SECRETARY FOR BRISTOL : J. J. Simpson ;

ASSISTANT HON. SECRETARY : Eric P. Baker.

HON. TREASURER : Wilfrid Leighton.

HON. SECRETARY FOR MEETINGS : Thomas Overbury,
F.R.I.B.A.

HON. LOCAL SECRETARIES :

Berkeley :

Cheltenham : Col. J. C. Duke.

Cirencester : E. C. Sewell.

Dursley : R. H. Penley, B.A.

Fairford : Canon R. C. S. Jones.

Forest of Dean : }
Newent : } E. Conder, F.S.A.

Stroud : Rev. R. Jowett Burton.

Tewkesbury : F. W. Godfrey.

Wotton under Edge : H. Goldingham.

HON. GENERAL SECRETARY : H. Stratton Davis, M.C.,
F.R.I.B.A.

The agenda of the meeting included a notice that the Council would submit, under rule IV, the nomination of an honorary member of the Society, as follows :—

That JESSE JAMES SIMPSON be elected to honorary membership of the Society in recognition of his long and continuous services in connexion with its work.

In moving the resolution Mr J. E. Pritchard said he had no hesitation in doing so. Honorary membership of their Society was not conferred unless deserved and in the present instance there was no doubt that this was so. Mr Simpson had been a member of the Society for nearly fifty years, and had always taken the greatest interest in their affairs. He had been a member of Council since January 1903, and had served on every one of its committees. He had just completed three years as Chairman of Council, during which many changes had occurred in the official personnel, and vital matters had to be dealt with. He had for many years seen that their finances were kept in order and after so many services he was even now adding another, having consented to be their honorary secretary for Bristol.

Mr Roland Austin seconded the motion, and speaking with particular knowledge as a former general secretary for 12 years he reminded members how much they owed to Mr Simpson for his unceasing interest in all they did, and particularly during his chairmanship of Council. The establishment of the Archaeological Trust was entirely due to him and he had carried this to completion under many difficulties.

The motion was then formally put and carried with acclamation.

Mr Simpson expressed his warm thanks for the great honour he had received, and said he was deeply grateful for the references made to his work. He hoped to be of further service to the Society.

THE BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR

1929	RECEIPTS	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD						223	17	11
LIFE SUBSCRIPTIONS (2)					30	0	0
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS :—										
1928 (1)					10	6	
1929 (515 at 10s 6d)	..	270	7	6						
(81 at 2Is)	..	85	1	0						
					355	8	6			
1930 (29 at 10s 6d)	..	15	4	6						
(2 at 2Is)	..	2	2	0						
					17	6	6			
1931 (5 at 10s 6d)		2	12	6			
ENTRANCE FEES :—								375	18	0
1929 (33)	17	6	6			
1930 (3)	1	11	6			
DONATIONS :—								18	18	0
Merchant Venturers' Society				..	2	2	0			
Mrs Bowly		9	6			
MEETINGS :—								2	11	6
Spring	4	0	8			
Summer	50	13	11			
					54	14	7			
Less Donation to Caerleon Excavation Committee	25	0	0			
								29	14	7
SALE OF PUBLICATIONS				5	11	6
DIVIDENDS				32	10	0
INTEREST ON DEPOSIT ACCOUNT				6	15	8
W. LEIGHTON, <i>Treasurer</i>								£725	17	2

BALANCE SHEET, 31

LIABILITIES	£	s	d	£	s	d
SUBSCRIPTIONS IN ADVANCE :—						
1930	17	6
1931	2	12
ENTRANCE FEES IN ADVANCE	1	11
					21	10
SURPLUS	991	9
					£1013	0
					5	

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 1929

1929	PAYMENTS			£	s	d	£	s	d
<i>Transactions :—</i>									
VOLUME 50 (1928)	383	1	10			
Editor	26	5	0			
				<hr/>			409	6	10
LIBRARY :—									
Subscriptions to Societies	7	1	9			
Books and Binding	9	16	6			
Rent	8	8	0			
Insurance		18	3			
				<hr/>			26	4	6
MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS :—									
Printing and Stationery	22	0	3			
Postages	13	5	8			
Travelling expenses	5	6	0			
Archaeological Congress	1	0	0			
Room for meetings, etc.	5	8	6			
Durham Castle Preservation Fund	5	5	0			
				<hr/>			52	5	5
							487	16	9
BALANCES :—									
Lloyds Bank : Deposit account	181	16	0			
" " Current account	56	4	5			
				<hr/>			238	0	5

Examined and found correct
10 January 1930 J. J. SIMPSON

£725 17 2

DECEMBER 1929

ASSETS			£	s	d	£	s	d	
INVESTMENTS :—									
£650 War Stock, 5%	..	..	..			650	0	0
Saving Certificates	..	..	..			125	0	0
CASH AT BANK :—									
Deposit account	..	..	..	181	16	0		
Current account	..	..	..	56	4	5		
				<hr/>			238	0	5
							£1013	0	5

REPORT OF ITINERARY

Tuesday, 8 July, 1930

On the conclusion of the business meeting the party, which ultimately numbered about 80, started in motor coaches and private cars, and reached Stow on the Wold for lunch at 'The Talbot' at 1 p.m. Thence passing the wooded domain of Daylesford, the home of Warren Hastings, Oxfordshire was entered, and a halt was made at the Rollright Stones¹, the only prehistoric circle in this part of England. They stand close to the road on high ground, and are now fenced in and looked after by the Office of Works. By a cross road through Sibford Ferris

SWALCLIFFE

was reached, the first church to be visited. The place is connected with the Wykeham family, which has owned Swalcliffe Park from an early period, and is still represented by Mr H. W. Wykeham-Musgrave of Barnsley Park, Cirencester. The great bishop, William of Wykeham (1367-1405), though he also owned land here, was probably not connected with this family; and it was Bishop Buckingham of Lincoln (1363-98), in whose diocese Oxfordshire then was, who in 1388 gave New College, Oxford, the advowson and some property here.

The PRESIDENT described the fine large church (SS. Peter and Paul) to the members assembled in the nave. He said that, unlike the majority of Oxfordshire churches, which are chiefly of the Decorated period, Swalcliffe embodies all the styles, extending over a period of four centuries. The present plan comprises an aisleless

¹ See Sir Arthur Evans, 'The Folklore of Rollright' *Folklore*, 1895, vi, 18-33; O. G. S. Crawford, *Long Barrows of the Cotswolds*, 1925, pp. 176-7.

chancel, a nave of four bays, a western tower, and north and south aisles which extend to the western face of the tower. The first church, of 11th century date, was aisleless, and its nave and chancel were contained within the area of the present nave. The angles at the west of the nave gable are incorporated in the tower piers, and high in the nave walls are windows mutilated by the later arcade arches. The first addition to the church was made in the second half of the 12th century when the north aisle was added, the arcade arches being semicircular on cylindrical piers with scalloped capitals. The south arcade with pointed arches followed at the end of the century. Afterwards the lower portion of the tower was added, the aisles were extended eastwards, the chancel was erected, and the south porch built. Many of the details are interesting, including the windows which exhibit a variety of design, very graceful triple sedilia and piscina combined (13th cent.), and a low-side window with a seat within a deeply recessed arch. The nave clearstory was a subsequent addition, and still later the tower was heightened.

Mr G. McN. RUSHFORTH mentioned some of the contents of the church. At the east end of the north aisle is the imposing monument of Richard Wykeham (d. 1635) and his wife Anne (1649), whose coloured life-size effigies are kneeling under an arch with black marble columns. An inscription on the pulpit and reading desk shows that she gave them (with a cushion and cloth) in 1639, and she was probably responsible for the characteristically carved seating throughout the church, and for the fine door (1637) inside the porch. All this, together with Communion rails and boldly designed cresting of strapwork surmounting the 15th century rood-screen², both now relegated to the west end, forms

² Beesley's *History of Banbury* (1848) mentions remains of old painting and gilding on the screen, and 'some running scroll work of the time of Charles 1' added to it (1, 140). The church was restored in 1855.

a remarkable and rare example of Caroline church fittings. On the south side of the chancel arch is an elegant mural tablet to Richard Wykham of Swalcliff (1751), whose marriage with Vera Alicia Fiennes connected his family with that of the great bishop of Winchester. At the east end of the south aisle is the tomb of John Hawten of the Lee (1598), and between two windows an elaborate mural monument frames the coloured half-length portraits of John Duncomb and his wife Elizabeth, who both died in 1645. In front of the communion rails an interesting Latin epitaph describes the character of John Loggin (1731), Fellow of New College, rector for 34 years, 'numerosae prolis pater' (17 are recorded on an adjacent slab).

Miss IDA M. ROPER describes the effigies in the church as follows :—

At the east end of the north aisle is a large mural monument commemorating Richard Wykeham, died 1635, and his wife Anne who according to the inscription died 'issueless' in 1649. The figures in colour kneel *vis-à-vis* before a faldstool and are shown in the characteristic costume of the time of Charles I :—the buff coat, knee breeches and high top boots, and handsome lace used by the lady to decorate her muslin kerchief and hood. Bracelets are shown, a rather unusual adjunct at this period.

Another monument in the south aisle, ten years later, is that of John Duncomb, armiger, and his first wife, facing outwards from an oval recess with their hands meeting over a skull.

BROUGHTON CASTLE

rising from within its moat in beautiful woodland and garden surroundings, was reached about 4 p.m. Built by the de Broughtons about 1300, it was bought from their representatives by William of Wykeham, bishop of

Winchester, in order to leave it to his great-nephew, Thomas Perrott, who took the name of Wykeham. His grand-daughter and heiress, Margaret Wykeham, married William Fiennes, Lord Saye and Sele; and with this family and title the place has remained to the present day.

The castle is a notable example of an exceptionally fine fortified house of the 14th century—its plan can be easily traced—which was admirably adapted and enlarged in Elizabethan times to the new mode of living then coming into fashion consequent on the settled and prosperous condition of the people.

The site is surrounded by a moat and was approached by a bridge and two-storied gathouse. The original house was of two stories built by the de Broughtons, and a century later occupied by Wykeham's grand-nephew, who had permission to crenellate it.³

The medieval house comprised the usual hall (the present one but open to the roof) and at the west end the kitchen and butteries—now the boudoir and withdrawing room. At the east end were the solar and other chambers, including the chapel, all built over sub-vaults and approached by a fine vaulted passage and stair. The windows and other architectural details of this block are good specimens of the Early Decorated period.

The 16th century alterations and additions are the work of Richard Fiennes, 6th Lord Saye and Sele, who gave to the home the appearance of an Elizabethan mansion. They comprise the addition of an upper story, the removal of the kitchens from the west to the east end, the beautiful rooms with oak panelling and plaster ceilings, and the projecting oriels.⁴

Lord Saye and Sele met the members in front of the castle, and divided them into four parties to be conducted over the house by himself and other members of his

³ 19 March 1406. *Cal. Patent Rolls*, 1405-8, p. 161.

⁴ A finely illustrated account of the Castle by Mr H. Avray Tipping will be found in *Country Life*, 11-25 January 1930, pp. 50, 84, 126.

family. But in the great hall, before separating, he called attention to its architecture, the family portraits and relics (including the 1st viscount's Privy Seal bag and Oliver Cromwell's buff coat), and a large modern picture representing James Lord Saye and Sele arraigned before Jack Cade, as described in Shakespeare's *Henry the Sixth*. Upstairs the great drawing room has fine panelling, and on the top story is the room where the first viscount and his associates conspired against the Government of Charles I. Passing out on to the leads a birdseye view was obtained of the gardens, moat, and surroundings, all looking their best on a lovely afternoon. Thence the party descended to the great solar (above the drawing room) which has a fine ceiling of 1599, but is at present disused. The long gallery has many portraits (notable is an equestrian one of Prince Rupert by Cuyp). In the old drawing room (now a bedroom) is a curious stone mantelpiece carved with the Dryads dancing round the sacred oak destroyed by the impious Erisichthon, as described by Ovid.⁵ One of the most impressive and untouched parts of the castle is the 14th century chapel, with its altar, tiles, and heraldic glass in the tracery of the window. Finally the vaulted passages and dining room on the ground floor were visited. After leaving the castle grounds the members entered the adjoining

BROUGHTON CHURCH

the main architectural features of which were described by the PRESIDENT. The plan comprises a chancel, a nave with a south aisle only, a west tower with a broach spire, and a south porch. Excepting the clearstory to the nave, and the unusual similar feature to the aisle, the church was substantially erected during the reign of Edward II.

⁵ *Metamorphoses*, VIII, 742 ff. 'Quercum Erisichthoniam Dryades cinxere Choreis' is inscribed on the panel, an adaptation, not a quotation from Ovid.

The general proportions and the details of the structure are refined and interesting :—the nave arcade, the chancel with its excellent traceried windows and its elaborate sedilia and piscina. The beautiful stone screen has trefoil cusping within crocketed ogee arches and buttresses. The fine east window to the aisle with tracery which includes a double triangle within a circle, the graceful tower with its broach spire, and a west door enriched with ball-flower ornament, are all characteristic of Oxfordshire churches, but unusual and without parallel in Gloucestershire which possesses so little work of the Decorated period. The nave and aisle clearstories with square-headed windows and flat roofs are of the Perpendicular period.

Mr F. E. HOWARD of Oxford now joined the party, which had the advantage of listening to his remarks on this and other churches, and enjoying the results of his prolonged study of the medieval architecture of the district. He said that the church was mostly about one date (late 13th and early 14th cent.), but the font was a relic of the Norman church which preceded it—probably an aisleless nave and chancel, the former of the same size as the present one, which would be raised on the old foundations. In the 13th century a south arcade and aisle were made, much narrower than the present one, which was rebuilt 1290-1300. The chancel, with flowing tracery in the windows, would be a little later. The east window of the south aisle has interesting tracery and the cusped rear-arch which frames it is an Oxfordshire feature. The date of the tower and spire was roughly 1300. To the 15th century belonged the inevitable addition of a clearstory to the nave, and the less usual clearstory to the aisle. The easternmost window in the south wall of the aisle was probably the work of Richard Winchcombe, the builder of the Divinity School at Oxford (1420-40), traces of whom we shall find elsewhere in the

district.⁶ The stone chancel screen (about 1340), was a very exceptional feature, and quite genuine.

The two alabaster effigies on a tomb against the south wall of the chancel do not belong to one another. The lady has a horned head-dress, and may be of about 1440-50. The knight, probably her son, is forty years later. The tomb originally had some sort of canopy or chapel, but its form is doubtful. It is probably another example of Winchcombe's work, and may have been made for the lady, though possibly it has no connexion with either effigy.

Attention was called to the canopied monument of Edward Fiennes (d. 1528), recalling that of his mother-in-law, Anne Danvers, at Dauntsey.⁷ In the floor of the aisle is the brass of Lady Philippa Byschoppesdon (1414), with good effigy.⁸ In the chancel is the table tomb of the first Viscount Saye and Sele (1582-1662). The later memorials of the family are on the wall of the south aisle. Nothing is now to be seen of the mural paintings on the north wall of the nave (Michael weighing souls and St. Christopher), mentioned in the Rev. C. F. Wyatt's description of the church in the *Archaeological Journal*, 1884, xlv, 443 ff.; but some of the subjects (Mary adoring the infant Jesus, and her Assumption) in the chancel (north wall) can still be made out. There is some heraldic glass of Elizabethan date in the tracery of the east window of the south aisle.

Miss Ida Roper contributed the following note on the effigies in the church:—

The effigy in the south aisle commemorates Sir John

⁶ Our information about Richard Winchcombe is derived from a valuable note by Mr Howard, printed in vol. VIII—*Adderbury 'Rectoria'*, edited by Mr T. F. Hobson—of the Oxfordshire Record Society's publications (1926). He was evidently a Gloucestershire man, and Mr Howard believes that he served his apprenticeship in the new works of Gloucester Cathedral (*op. cit.* 34-41).

⁷ *Transactions B.G.A.S.* L, 336 ff.

⁸ Illustrated Boutell's *Monumental Brasses of England*.

(not Thomas) de Broughton died 1306, and lies under a richly cusped and crocketed canopied recess. He is shown cross-legged in mail armour from head to foot, a linen surcoat—in this instance painted a brilliant blue—and shield charged with the Broughton arms, *azure, a cross engrailed argent*. The drooping sword belt is fastened to the weapon by a ring and two short chains.

A later de Broughton effigy (about 1340) is placed on a table-tomb belonging to the Fiennes family at the east end of the aisle. The knight is also in mail but with the addition of a flat topped metal bascinet, laminated gauntlets, and gardes to protect the elbow carved with a lion's face. The *cyclas*, a garment more convenient for horseback, takes the place of the flowing surcoat, and the sword is supplemented by an unusually long misericord on the right side. The carving and the details are poor imitations of the effigy of Sir John de Lyons (c. 1346) in the neighbouring church of Warkworth, Northants.

In the chancel are handsome but mutilated effigies of Sir Thomas Wykeham, died 1470 and his mother Elizabeth (Wilcotes), died 1441. The knight is in the heavy but picturesque plate armour of the time of Edward IV with a standard of mail at the throat, on which rests the Yorkist collar of suns and roses placed far apart on a leathern strap with the pendant Lion of March. His mother was attached to the Lancastrian party and wears the collar of SS, also mounted on a strap but with no pendant. Her costume of a sleeveless *côtehardie* over a flowing kirtle with sleeves closely buttoned to the elbow is elaborately decorated with embroidery of flowers and fern fronds, and the same design is noticeable on the wide embossed circlet which keeps in place the veil of the crespine head-dress with its cauls of rich reticulated gold work. The fingers are covered by no less than eleven rings of varying size.

The party then proceeded to Bloxham, and after tea, which was provided in a village hall, visited

BLOXHAM CHURCH

a building to which architectural students are early introduced on account of the general beauty of the structure, and the excellence of its Early English and Decorated details. It is certainly one of the finest churches in the county, the tower and spire being exceptionally rich and beautiful and deservedly famous. It consists of an aisleless chancel, nave of four bays, unusually spacious aisles, a south chapel, north and south porches, the latter having three stories, and a western tower with spire 198 feet in height. A shallow transept projects from the east end of the north aisle, into which it opens by two arches carried on a moulded pillar having a deep capital carved with figure sculpture.

A 12th century church first occupied the site, the materials of which have been strangely re-used and combined with later work, as may be seen in the arch of the south door, the responds of the chancel arch, and the 14th century windows of the chancel, where Norman voussoirs with beak-head ornament actually form the containing arches within which is the tracery. The nave arcades are of the 13th century, with cylindrical piers on the north side and clustered ones on the south. The windows generally are excellent progressive examples of the Decorated period, particularly those at the west end of the aisles. The tall south porch, vaulted in its lower story, groups admirably with the adjoining (Milcombe) chapel, which is the work of Richard Winchcombe, in the early 15th century. The mullions of its fine windows are continued to the floor, on the south side to form wall panels, and on the east side a reredos. The west doorway of the tower is surrounded by sculpture representing the Doom.

The grandeur of the church is no doubt due to the fact

that the manor in Norman times belonged to the Crown (Stephen endowed a chantry for his mother), and from the time of Henry III to various great personages of royal or noble origin (St. Amand, Beauchamp, Beaufort, etc.). The advowson and a smaller manor belonged to the Benedictine nuns of Godstow, and were given to Eton College by Edward VI.

Mr HOWARD said that Bloxham may be regarded as a sister church to Adderbury, for the two parishes were rivals in architectural emulation, and employed the same master-masons. But Bloxham has an additional interest in the Norman fragments which have been preserved, *e.g.*, in the south doorway and voussoirs of the chancel windows. The Norman jambs of the chancel arch were probably moved to make the arch wider. We may suppose that the Norman church had a long aisleless nave and chancel. In the 13th century the arcades were opened in the Norman walls of the nave, the first aisle to be added being probably that on the south side. Both were about 9 feet wide, but the north aisle was widened later in the century, and at its end the (much restored) chancel was rebuilt, and extended eastward, in the Decorated style. The re-used Norman voussoirs in the windows may have come from the chancel arch. In the 14th century both aisles were widened at about the same time. The west window of the south aisle is like the east window of the south aisle in Broughton church, but has not got the cusped rere-arch. Next came the tower and spire, the outstanding feature of the church, which must have taken some time to complete. To the 15th century belongs some of the most interesting work in the church, especially the south or Milcombe chapel. At first sight it seems quite late, but the details of the windows are very like those in the Divinity School at Oxford built by Richard Winchcombe about 1430-40. Owing to the porch, the west window (in which 14th century moulding is re-used) could not be in the centre: the porch itself was raised to correspond

with the height of the chapel. Under the east window of the chapel are the remains of the reredos, with small images on brackets in the panels ; now restored and almost all modern, but quite convincing. At the same time Winchcombe inserted the east windows of the aisles. In confirmation of the date it may be noted that some of the corbel heads supporting the roofs of the chapel and south aisle show the horned head-dress which is characteristic of the first half of the 15th century. The roof of the nave is modern, but may reproduce the old pattern. That of the north aisle has good bosses, and much of the work is old. Remarkable are the two arches at the east end of the aisle, opening into the transept. We shall see the same feature at Adderbury. The pillar between them probably stands on the foundation of the original aisle, so that it has been exactly doubled in width. The large heads with which the capital of the pillar is carved are rather characteristic of Oxfordshire. The fine chancel screen has lost its vaulting, and has been tastelessly redecorated, but the paintings on the panels, though much damaged, have fortunately not been restored. Figures of the Doctors and four orders of angels may be recognized. Outside the church, the north doorway has lovely 14th century work, contemporary with the aisle. Finally the tower is easily the most distinguished one in Oxfordshire. It should be noticed how successfully it blends with the spire, the two parts being bound together by the elaborate traceried parapet.

Mr RUSHFORTH called attention to the painted panels of the screen, a feature commoner in the east and west of England than in the Midlands. The remains are very slight, but it can be seen that the figures were in pairs—a saint and a feathered angel. St. Andrew can be recognized by his cross on the north side, and on the south was possibly Apollonia holding her tooth and a palm. The four middle pairs (including the doors) represented the Evangelistic Creatures, each accompanied by one of

the Doctors of the Church. Scrolls once inscribed with texts are above their heads. At Fairford, it will be remembered, a window of the Evangelists corresponds to one of the Doctors, and the idea is found elsewhere ; but there was no settled connexion for the pairs, and here it is impossible to identify the Doctors because the remains suggest that they were all dressed alike in academical red gowns and tippetts or hoods. The last one on the south, however, has a large red hat, and is therefore presumably Jerome. He accompanies the eagle of St. John. The first Evangelist (on the north side) is the lion of St. Mark. The second is Matthew, and the third (now quite vanished) will have been the ox of Luke.

On the wall above the chancel arch was a painted Doom, but only the south side survives, with the lost entering Hell's mouth. More remarkable are the remains of a 15th century painting on the wall between the windows of the Milcombe chapel, still brilliant in places. The subject is evidently the story of some youthful martyr, who first appears arraigned before a king or emperor, next standing between two men holding a long rope which is attached to him, and thirdly undergoing some martyrdom, but the details are not clear.

There is a little of the original early 14th century glass in the tracery of a window in the north aisle, east of the door (heads of Christ and two others in rounds, on grisaille with coloured borders).

BANBURY

The party reached Banbury after their long day in time for dinner. The headquarters of the meeting was the Whateley Hall Hotel, and as it was a lovely evening seats were arranged in the spacious garden where Mr RUSHFORTH read some notes on the principal families of the Banbury district. (See appendix to report of meeting).

Banbury, lying in a hollow by the Cherwell, is a typical

country town. The bishops of Lincoln were lords of Banbury till 1547, and Bishop Alexander (1123-48) built a castle and church, the former of which was demolished after the surrender of the Royalist garrison in 1646. The famous cross was destroyed about 1602. The town contains a number of picturesque old houses, among which is the Reindeer inn, formerly noted for the panelling and ceiling of its Globe room, which are no longer there though they have not left England. But the finest building in Banbury was the parish church, a cruciform building, the Norman nave and arches of the central tower being, doubtless, due to Bishop Alexander, while the aisles and transepts (which had eastern chapels) were of the 13th and 14th centuries, and the chancel and tower were remodelled or rebuilt in the 15th. In the 18th century the Norman portions showed serious signs of weakness. After much discussion and some protests it was decided to build a new church. An Act of Parliament was obtained in 1790, the old church was demolished, and the present structure in the Roman style, designed by Robert Cockerill, was opened in 1797, but the tower and portico were not finished till 1822.⁹

⁹ The story is fully told in A. Beesley's *History of Banbury* (London, 1848), where much information about the place and neighbourhood is to be found.

Wednesday, 9 July 1930

An early start was made, but a few adventurous spirits were already off, in order, by a short detour, to get a glimpse of the surviving tower (still inhabited) of Sir John Cope's castle at Hanwell, and the Cope monuments in the church, also notable for the capitals of the arcades carved as half-length human figures, a characteristic feature in this part of Oxfordshire (cp. Bloxham and Adderbury). By 10 a.m. all were assembled in

CROPREDY CHURCH

The village stands above the Cherwell and its bridge (rebuilt 1780) was the centre of an indecisive engagement between Charles I and Waller on 29 June 1644.

The church is pleasantly situated in the small picturesque village situated on sloping ground on the west side of the Cherwell valley. It is an imposing structure of unusual size for its hamlet-like surroundings.

The PRESIDENT described the building as follows :—

The nave is of four bays, a chancel with side chapels in continuation of the aisles, a vestry with a priests' chamber over at the northeast angle, a west tower and south porch. The church was largely rebuilt in the 14th century and possesses numerous interesting features. The lofty arcade arches, and those opening to the tower and chancel are of moulded orders continued to the floor without capitals, a cheap method, not uncommon in the north of England. The chancel with a reticulated east window and double piscina, and the lower stage of the tower, the geometrical and curvilinear windows in the south aisle, and the south porch with a cornice of ball flower ornament are all more or less contemporary. The chapels are 15th century additions, and their windows and the arches between the chapels and chancel are Perpendicular. The north aisle has also pointed 15th century windows and the upper stages of the tower is debased Perpendicular.

The vicar, the Rev. R. W. SHARPLEY, gave some interesting local information. The list of vicars begins in the 12th century, and some ancient customs are still kept up. The 6 a.m. (Angelus) bell is rung every morning, winter and summer, also at noon, and at 8 p.m. the curfew. All are mentioned in a deed of 1512 by which Roger Lupton left land to endow the bell-ringing. The 15th century brass eagle lectern is important. Various stories are told about it, *e.g.*, that it was used for Peter's Pence, put in at the beak, and taken out through an orifice in the tail. It is said to have been thrown into the river in the Civil War, and so lost one of its lion feet, which is now replaced in a different metal. A very rare object, perhaps unique, is a tin pyx, found in the old church chest some years ago. It is kept at the vicarage, where the members later were able to inspect it. It is a small shallow oval box with its lid, and an opening at either end for removing the wafer.¹⁰ There is some Cromwellian armour and other relics of the battle, and on the vestry floor is a stain, said to be the blood of Edward Wool (buried in the churchyard), killed here, whither he had fled wounded from the battle.

Mr RUSHFORTH pointed out the remains of the Doom painted over the chancel arch (central colossal Christ, with the dead rising below: on the left the entrance to heaven). There is only one fragment of old glass, the head of a crowned virgin-saint (15th cent.) in a window of the north aisle. Of special interest after the Society's visit to Dauntsey in 1928 are the memorials of the Danvers family,¹¹ for Cropredy is the parish church of Prescot, their old home. The south chapel belonged to them, and on the western face of its parclose screen may be seen the initials of Anne Danvers (d. 1539), who furnished the chancel at Dauntsey. A brass in the floor marks the grave of John Danvers (d. 1721), the last of the Dauntsey

¹⁰ J. T. Evans, *Church plate of Oxfordshire*, 1928, p. 48.

¹¹ *Trans. B.G.A.S. L.*, 333 ff.

line,¹² but his marble monument is now to be found on the wall of the north aisle. The eastern chapel on this side is partly enclosed by the remains of the 14th century rood-screen, removed from its original position about 1840.¹³

The party next made its way through Byfield to

CANONS ASHBY

so called from the Augustinian priory founded in the time of Henry II. At the Dissolution (1536) the site of the priory was acquired by John Cope, who made a residence out of the cloister and conventual buildings on the south side of the church. About the same time John Dryden or his father (of a Cumberland family), who had acquired land in the parish, began to build the present house to the north of the church, but not in contact with it.

The buildings, of various dates, are arranged about a courtyard, and with the old world gardens and great cedars by which it is surrounded present a charming picture. We learn from Mr J. A. Gotch¹⁴ that a large part of the house (the west front with a square squat tower) was built between 1551-1554 by the John Dryden who married the daughter of Sir John Cope. The great hall and other portions were added later by a Dryden whose arms appear in the spandrils of the old door from the hall to the green court now blocked up. The beautiful pilaster ceiling of the drawing room, covered with strapwork, is of Elizabethan date, but Sir John Dryden between 1632 and 1658 imposed his arms upon the original escutcheon. Edward Dryden, who died in 1717, modernized the house in the years 1708-1710, and gave it the

¹² *Trans. B.G.A.S.* I, 348-9.

¹³ Beesley, *History of Banbury* I, 128.

¹⁴ From report of the meeting of the Royal Archaeological Institute in *Arch. Journ.* LXIX. See too the excellent illustrated description of Canons Ashby by Mr Gotch in *Country Life*, 1921, XLIX, 246, 278, 306.

appearance which it retains today. It was he also who built the garden walls and the various stone piers, which give character to the interesting layout.

The two MISSES DRYDEN, in the absence of their brother, Sir Arthur, received the party, which was divided into two for inspecting the house under their guidance. It need scarcely be said that it is full of objects of interest—portraits, china, furniture (especially of the 18th century). From the leads of the tower a charming view was obtained of the garden and surroundings, and here Miss Dryden said that it was now believed that the house was acquired by the Drydens before the Dissolution. The monastic property began at the priory gateway, the foundations of which could still be seen between the house and the church. On leaving the house the party entered

CANONS ASHBY CHURCH

which was described by the PRESIDENT, who took the opportunity to make some preliminary remarks on monastic establishments and arrangements.

Canons Ashby church is the remaining fragment of an Augustinian priory. It is the western half of the nave of the priory church (which comprised five bays and was 96 feet in length from the existing west gable to the crossing), together with a portion of the north aisle enclosing two bays and including a doorway now blocked. This and the fine tower at the northwest angle is all that is left of what was once a well-to-do house, ranking fifth among the religious houses in the county.

The tall arcade with moulded arches or circular and octagonal piers, the west gable with its richly decorated door and wall arcade, and the aisle are excellent 13th century features. The tower on the north side of the north aisle was erected a century later. The great west window was inserted in the 15th century.

The late Sir Henry Dryden made some excavations,

and on a plan now in the church suggests that the priory choir was aisleless, and that there was a north transept. The cloister garth on the south side measured 83 by 77 feet, and opening off the east alley was the chapter house approached by a vestibule. On the south side of the cloister was a range of buildings, with presumably an undercroft with vaulting springing from a centre row of pillars.

Before leaving, some of the members were conducted through the walled kitchen garden on the south of the church to see the remains of the monastic stew-ponds, and a grass terrace known as the Monks Walk. Finally the President expressed the thanks of the Society to the Misses Dryden for their most friendly reception and guidance, which had enabled the members to enjoy to the full a house of such unusual charm and interest.

SULGRAVE

was reached about 1.30 p.m., and lunch was welcome in the picturesque and well-managed Manor House tea rooms. Afterwards the party gathered to see over the Manor House built by Laurence Washington, of a Lancashire family, who made a fortune in Northampton as a wool-stapler, became its mayor, and at the Dissolution bought the manor of Sulgrave which had belonged to St. Andrew's priory. He died in 1584. His son Robert in 1610 sold it to his cousin Laurence Makepeace, but was buried here in 1619. On leaving Sulgrave the Washingtons went to live at Brington near Northampton, which belonged to their connexions the Spencers of Althorp. John Washington, great great grandson of the purchaser, emigrated to Virginia in 1657, and George Washington (1732-99), President of the United States, was his great grandson. The house, which was never finished, is a simple but charming example of a late 16th century manor house, admirably restored and furnished by the Sulgrave Manor Board, which now controls the property purchased by

English and American subscribers in January 1914. It has become a place of pilgrimage. On the doorway may be seen the Washington arms (*argent 2 bars gules, in chief 3 mullets of the 2nd*), supposed to be the origin of the Stars and Stripes.

A pleasant and appropriate garden has been developed round the house. The interior was visited under the guidance of the very competent steward, Mr F. CARTER. Notable objects in the hall are the original escutcheons of arms in the windows, recovered in 1929, recording alliances of the Washington family; a fine oil portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart; and a 17th century marqueterie court-cupboard containing miniatures and relics relating to him. Through the panelled 'Queen Anne Parlour' the kitchen is reached, where the fireplace is filled by a complete set of antique hearth and cooking apparatus from Weston Corbett (Hants.). Upstairs, the chief bedroom has a fine 17th century bed and a sampler signed by Elizabeth (Lighte of Radway), wife of Robert Washington of Sulgrave. It now frames a later painting on silk of Adam and Eve. The other rooms contain many portraits, prints, and drawings. A move was then made to

SULGRAVE CHURCH

where the party was received by the vicar, the Rev. W. S. PAKENHAM-WALSH, M.A., who explained that it was moved from the old site, to the north, where it served Culworth as well as Sulgrave, in the time of Edward III, to whose period most of the architectural features belong. The chief objects of interest are the Washington pew and grave at the east end of the south aisle. The woodwork of the pew has been restored to the church, after being ejected, and though some of the brasses of the grave-slab of Laurence Washington and his wife Amee (Pargiter) have disappeared, the two groups of sons and daughters, stolen in 1885, were recovered in 1924, and have been

replaced.¹⁵ Older than the church is the so-called Washington chest, a solid piece of oak with iron bands, said to have come from the monastic manor house.

The next church to be visited was

MIDDLETON CHENEY (NORTHANTS)

so-called from the corrupted name of Ralph de Chenduit, the Domesday tenant. The party was received by the rector (the Rev. R. W. PEDDER), and the building was described by the PRESIDENT, who said that the architectural details of Middleton Cheney are of superior and uniform quality throughout. The proportions of both plan and elevation are excellent, and with its lofty and graceful spire the church is one of the finest 14th century edifices in the district.

The plan consists of nave with aisles, chancel with side chapel, a vestry with priests' room over, a west tower and spire and a south porch.

The piers to the nave arcade are of clustered shafts, separated by a hollow member, with well moulded capitals. The arches are of two orders with hood moulding and terminations on both sides. The windows throughout are of good design. The clearstory windows and those to the chapel are of later character. The porch is built entirely of stone, its high pitched roof being formed of stone slabs supported on the interior with a pointed arch over which is open tracery. The tower, of later date, is well proportioned and with its spire reaches to 150 feet in height. The pointed west door has carved bosses in its casement moulding below a square hood, and in the spandrels are small niches with figures of the Virgin Mary and the angel Gabriel.

The nave roof is much painted, but portions of it are old. The chancel screen, the wood pulpit and several of the seat ends are excellent specimens of carpentry.

¹⁵ *Antiquaries Journal*, 1924, IV, 272.

After tea most of the party proceeded to

KING'S SUTTON

which as its name implies belonged to the Crown from Saxon times till Henry II granted it to Richard Camvil, after which it was held by various families. Connected with it was the legend of St. Rumbald (or Rumwold), a 7th century Saxon prince whose cult existed in this district and at Buckingham. A wide shallow font of primitive appearance, recently brought into the church, has been associated with his name.

The party was met at the church by the vicar, the Rev. F. J. BOSS, M.A.

The PRESIDENT said that this church comprises an aisleless chancel, an aisled nave of three bays, a west tower enclosed by the aisles, a north and south porch, and—a most unusual feature—a porch or galilee with a vaulted roof projecting from the tower.

The tower and spire are particularly graceful and effective. It is one of the three linked together in the popular rhyme: Bloxham for length, Adderbury for strength, King's Sutton for beauty. In point of beauty Bloxham may be preferred by some. In point of date King's Sutton is later than the other two. Its early Perpendicular details justify careful examination. The earliest portions of the church belong to the last quarter of the 12th century and include the south arcade with a single plain pointed order with an indented hood moulding, over large square capitals. The north arcade is more than a century later in date with pointed arches of two orders over piers quatrefoil on plan. The windows are reticulated and flamboyant in character.

The tower and spire belong to the end of the 14th century. On the exterior the tower gains in height because of the very slight projection of its angle buttresses. The rolls at the angles of the spire are crocketed, and the pinnacles at the parapet level are linked together with

flying buttresses. The parapets have sunk and pierced quatrefoils. The vaulted porch of the west end has flat pointed arches under square hood-mouldings.

The church contains hardly any objects of interest. A rather perished wood tablet is painted with the arms and epitaph of Robert Kenwick (d. 1616), who in 1598 bought the manor from William 6th Earl of Derby. In the chancel is an elaborate monument by the sculptor John Bacon to Thomas Langton Freke of Bristol (d. 1779), a relation of the Willes family which had bought the manor from the Kenwicks in 1735, and remained here till recently.

Meanwhile a small detachment of the party, attracted by the account of Warkworth and the Holmans which they had heard the previous evening, made its way to Overthorpe, where Mrs Scott kindly allowed them to pass through her garden into the fields through which they reached the site of the now vanished ' Castle ' and

WARKWORTH CHURCH

The building, mostly 15th century, with a chancel rebuilt in modern times, is not remarkable; and the interest is confined to the sepulchral memorials and the remains of the 15th century seating. Beesley (*History of Banbury*, II, 612) describes the devastation wrought in 1841, when the medieval floor-tiles and most of the ancient seating ' with inscriptions and other beautiful carvings ' were ejected. The Chetwode brasses were only saved because the builder ' much to his credit ' buried them beneath a flagstone in the nave. Some fragments of the carved woodwork remain, *viz.*, two bench-ends representing the Annunciation and a group of donors invoking the Virgin, and part of a seat-back carved with texts from *Genesis* xxv, 16, and *Psalms* xv, 1. The most important monument is the tomb of Sir John de Lyons (about 1350), with fine recumbent effigy in armour of the period, ornamented with lion-faces at the elbows.

Round the tomb, which stands under the easternmost arch of the arcade between the nave and north aisle, are characteristic male and female 'weepers' representing relations, in attitudes of grief. They are separated by shields of arms of the family and its connexions, one being that of Sir Nicholas Chetwode (d. 1369) who married the daughter and ultimate heiress of Sir John. At the head of the tomb is a small carving of the Madonna. Nearby, under recesses in the wall of the aisle, are two earlier de Lyons effigies, a cross-legged knight in mail, and a lady, perhaps for Sir John de Lyons (d. about 1312) and his wife; and in the floor are several 15th century brasses (see above) of the Chetwode family.¹⁶ In the floor at the east end of the nave are set (no doubt removed from the chancel at the rebuilding) a series of fine white marble slabs with epitaphs of members of the Holman family, from Philip Holman (d. 1669), who bought the Warkworth estate from the Chetwodes, down to William (d. 1740), who is also commemorated by a large marble monument in the south transept. Through his sisters and coheiresses the property passed to the Eyres of Hassop in Derbyshire (their mural tablets are uninteresting), who in 1805 sold it and demolished the house.

In the evening the PRESIDENT read his Presidential Address in the dining room of the Whateley Hall Hotel, expounding his scheme for a permanent Committee to watch over the antiquities of Gloucester. The scheme was criticized, with characteristic caution, by Mr J. J. Simpson, but was supported by (among others), Dr Baker, Mrs Clifford, and Mr Overbury who mentioned cases where rebuilding in Gloucester had led to discoveries of Roman work which were not recorded. The usual votes of thanks closed the proceedings.

¹⁶ Mill Stephenson, *Monumental Brasses*, 1926, p. 391.

Thursday, 10 July 1930

An early start was made for

DEDDINGTON

which in the 14th century was a town sufficiently important to send members to Parliament. Now, the chief object of interest in the village is the parish church (SS. Peter and Paul), which the PRESIDENT described as follows:—

The church is of fair size and is best seen when viewed from the southeast corner of the churchyard. The interior appears too open and gaunt. The details generally lack refinement, but it contains several unexpected and very interesting features. The plan is a simple one of an aisleless chancel, a nave of four bays with wide aisles, north and south porches, a west tower, and at the east end of the south aisle a vaulted crypt.

Originally an Early English structure, as appears from the north and south doorways, it was apparently rebuilt in Decorated times. The arches of both arcades are pointed, of two orders, over circular and octagonal piers resting on clumsy bases of unequal height. The windows range from simple intersecting patterns, with and without cusping, to the superior 15th century easternmost window in the south aisle, whose mullions are continued to the floor to form wall panels. Mr Howard has little doubt that it is another example of Richard Winchcombe's work. The large four-light windows above the chancel arch, such as appear at Chipping Campden and Fairford, should be noted. Under the second window from the east in both aisles are the remains of steps in the wall, perhaps giving access to some sort of loft across the chapels. The north porch is small and quaint with its quatrefoil parapet and vaulted ceiling. The sedilia and piscina are good, and the low-side window with a seat in a deeply recessed arched opening is exceptional. The nave clearstory windows are pointed and more

ornate than usual; those to the aisleless chancel are square-headed.

The tower fell in 1635, and was afterwards rebuilt with huge projecting buttresses which detract from its height. On the west face is a medley of parts, including a re-erected 15th century door above which is a classical cornice, a debased window, and yet higher, three panels, two of them containing statues of Peter and Paul from the old tower.

In the north aisle is an altar tomb with an upright slab in which are 16th century brasses.¹⁷ Portions of the roof are ancient. There is a good restored rood screen and pulpit, and a late font (1635).

Mr Overbury thought that some of the capitals of the circular pillars of the nave arcades might be of 17th century date, suggesting that the western part of the nave had been seriously damaged by the fall of the tower, so that the arcades had to be rebuilt. The arches themselves, with their chamfered mouldings, would be re-used. He also called attention to some charmingly carved cartouches of 17th and 18th century tablets,¹⁸ the work of local masons. Examples of such hereditary craft in good trained work were to be seen all over the Cotswolds.

Miss Ida Roper said that the 14th century effigy in the south aisle seemed to be that of some legal dignitary (coif, tippet, sleeveless gown, long undergarment), and resembled that of John de Stonore, chief baron of the Exchequer (1329) in Dorchester Abbey (Oxon), seen by the Society on its visit in 1910.

Mr Rushforth noticed the small tomb near the east end of the north aisle, formerly inlaid with brasses of William Byllyng, merchant of the staple at Calais

¹⁷ List in Stephenson, *op. cit.* 404.

¹⁸ One of these is for Samuel Belchier, apothecary (*pharmacopola*), d. 1688, and his wife Beata, with arms (*paly of 6 or and gules, a chief vair*). Close by is a tablet to the wife of his son and successor, Thomas Belchier.

(d. 1523), and his wife, kneeling on either side of a crucifix ; but only part of the (English) epitaph survives.¹⁹ Fixed to the respond of the arcade opposite is a good brass of a bearded man (half length), of about 1370.²⁰

Immediately to the north of the church stands

CASTLE HOUSE

where the party was received by the owner, HERBERT LONG, Esq. This unfinished 16th century building, described by Skelton as the rectorial farm house, consists of a tower on the north flanking a lower structure, intended, no doubt, to be completed by another tower on the south. The exterior is striking, with its banded ashlar, and fine bay windows looking east into the garden. The spacious rooms on each storey, opening out of the fine staircase, have been fitted up with old panelling, pictures, and furniture, and present an attractive appearance. On the other side of the staircase the chapel is reached, a fragment of the original rectory house, consisting of a small square room, with a piscina in the wall opposite the window, and pointed-arched recesses in the other walls for seats, like sedilia.

ADDERBURY

Adderbury, is a well-kept and attractive village with fine old houses, the residence in the past of Earls of Rochester and Dukes of Argyll and Buccleuch. The bishops of Winchester were lords of a manor here till the last century, and in 1385 William of Wykeham gave the rectory and vicarage to his foundation of New College, Oxford. There was also a royal manor, held from the 15th to the 18th century by a branch of the Danvers family.

There are several points of strong resemblance between the churches of Bloxham and Adderbury, and it is evident

¹⁹ Stephenson, *op. cit.* 404.

²⁰ *Ibid.* cp. *Gent. Mag.*, 1795, ii, 737.

that there was a keen rivalry between the two parishes in their enlargement and beautification. The development of both churches proceeded on similar lines, and at each period the same craftsmen must have been employed.

At the church, where the Society was welcomed by the vicar, the Rev. C. F. CHOLMONDELEY, Mr F. E. HOWARD rejoined the party, which had the benefit of listening to his account of it as follows:—

Adderbury is a sister church to Bloxham, but its plan and development were slightly different. Here there is no trace of Norman work. The original nave may have been of the same width as the present one, but perhaps it was not so long. The arch of the westernmost bay of the arcades is narrower than the rest, so that the Norman nave may not have extended further east than the first pillar from the west. The whole church seems to have been rebuilt in the first half of the 13th century. The aisles were fairly narrow, with lean-to roofs. North and south were fine transeptal chapels, the end walls being decorated with blank arcades, of which only the outer arches remain. It is improbable that the church then had a clearstory. Quite early in the 14th century the tower was added, and rather later the aisles were doubled in width, as at Bloxham, though this was part of a general movement. Each aisle had a chantry chapel. The nave roof is 14th century work,²¹ and the principals are original, though the rafters are modern. The roof was replaced when the clearstories were added in the 15th century. The transept roofs are entirely modern, and the aisle roofs partly so. Large windows were inserted in the north and south walls of the transepts, and the walls were raised.

We now turn to the 15th century chancel. In 1926 the Oxfordshire Record Society published the building accounts of the chancel, carried out for New College, the patrons, by the master-mason Richard Winchcombe,

²¹ Illustrated in Bloxham's *Gothic Architecture*, 1882, 11th ed., I, 197.

between 1408 and 1419.²² At this period there were no architects, as we understand the term now, *viz.*, a designer who works with a building contractor. Normally, in the Middle Ages, the man who designed the building was also the builder. He was a practical man, closely in touch with his material, and therefore never proposing anything theoretical or ridiculous. As a matter of fact, the artistic and business qualities required of a modern architect are not easy to find together. The chancel is a lovely piece of work of its date, and illustrates Winchcombe's choice of fine details (*e.g.*, in mouldings), and beautiful sense of proportion. It recalls his work in the Divinity School at Oxford (about 1430), and also that in the Wilcotes chapel of North Leigh church (Oxon), which was being carried out at the same time as the chancel of Adderbury.

The chancel had suffered in the 18th century, when the tracery of the windows was destroyed, and the great reredos niches were mutilated. It received extensive and careful restoration at an unusual period, *viz.*, by J. C. Buckler in 1831-34. The reredos is largely old, except for the figures and projecting canopies. The vestry on the north side (*vestibulum* in the accounts), with a chamber over it, was of the same date as the chancel. Its bow window on the east contains an altar slab, not, perhaps, intended for ordinary use.

The wooden rood-screen is not of an Oxfordshire type, and is probably the work of a craftsman from Kent. It recalls one in the Lady Chapel of Winchester cathedral. The modern loft is an incorrect restoration, the marks of the original position having been neglected. Above the rood door the end of the rood beam projects from the

²² Vol. VIII, *Adderbury 'Rectoria'*, edited by T. F. Hobson, who has a section on 'Ricardus Wynchecombe Lathamus' (pp. 26-34), while Mr Howard contributes another (pp. 34-41) on 'Richard Winchcombe's work at the Divinity School and elsewhere', and also a plan of the chancel.

wall. The hooks in the arch in front were, perhaps, for the veil hung in front of the rood during Lent.

The Jacobean panelling against the transept walls comes from two family pews, on either side of the entrance to the chancel, which, no doubt, represented the enclosures round the altars belonging to the manors with which the pews went. There is a small 14th century altar slab in the south transept, on modern stone legs. The lion-head corbels at the east end of the nave perhaps supported a straining beam which met the thrust of the arches across the ends of the aisles. Mr Howard called attention to the remarkable 14th century sculptured stringcourses on the exterior of the aisles; mainly grotesques, imaginative or frolicsome.²³ In the 15th century the subjects were more human and domestic, as was illustrated by the fine carved corbels, etc., inside the chancel, including heads of the king, bishops and other personages, and scenes of everyday life (husband and wife over the kitchen fire, a pedlar and a shepherd).

NOTE ON ROOD-LOFTS

The PRESIDENT having thanked Mr Howard for his most interesting and illuminative description of the church, asked if he would give a brief explanation of the purpose of the rood-loft, and the use to which it was put.

Mr HOWARD said these parish rood-lofts began to be copied from those in cathedral and monastic churches in the 13th century, when the imitation of their ceremonies was popular. The great churches had a solid stone screen enclosing the quire, and from it the Epistle and Gospel were chanted, looking eastward. In the 13th and 14th centuries this was copied in parish churches, the screen being transparent, but with a loft. However, it was not practical for the Gospel procession to ascend to the loft

²³ Among them is a reminiscence of William of Wykeham in the form of W ensigned with a crozier on a shield.

because the stairs were too small, and the custom generally died out, but the loft remained popular as a music gallery, especially with the introduction of harmonized music towards the end of the 15th century, and the building of larger organs.²⁴ Moreover the loft gave access to the rood figures, and enabled the rood lights to be attended to. It may be said that by the end of the 15th century every church, except the smallest, had a rood-loft. In Devonshire some of the lofts are very wide, and occasionally there is evidence of their use as a chapel. At Deddington there is a small niche in the wall just to the south of the chancel arch, about the level of the loft ; but if it was meant for a piscina, it must have held a bowl as there is no drain. Some of the finest and richest rood screens are in Wales (*e.g.*, Patricio, Brecknock), where they sometimes form a striking contrast to the small and plain churches which they furnish.

The church contains some interesting memorials. In the south transept are good brasses of a gentleman in armour and his wife (mid 15th cent.), but the names are lost. In front of the screen is the brass of Jane sometime wife of George Smyth of Adderbury, ' which dyed the xxx day of February ' 1508. In the south transept is an unusual memorial in the form of a painted wood tablet with portraits of Thomas More (d. 1586) and his wife Mary kneeling before a tomb, on which is inscribed :

So far is ought from lasting aye
That tombes shall have their dying day.²⁵

Mrs More was a Bustard, a Devonshire family which had

²⁴ As an example of what went on in the larger churches as late as the eve of the Reformation, compare Roger Martyn's (1526-1615) statement that in Long Melford church (Suffolk) there was a rood-loft extending all the breadth of the church, with the rood figures in the centre, and ' a fair pair of organs standing thereby . . . and on Good Friday a priest then standing by the Rood sang the Passion '. Sir W. Parker, *History of Long Melford* (London, 1873), 70 ff.

²⁵ From Juvenal, *Sat.* x, 146: *Quandoquidem data sunt ipsis quoque fata sepulchris.*

migrated to Oxfordshire, and had a monument in the south transept, now represented only by its epitaph (16th century dates).²⁶ In front of the communion rails are grave slabs of the Cobb family (baronets) of the 17th and 18th centuries,²⁷ and also of Dr William Oldys, vicar of Adderbury, who was shot by Parliamentary soldiers when trying to escape from the place in 1645. In the churchyard, under the east window, is the plain tomb of Bishop William Beau of Llandaff, the last bishop who inhabited Mathern Palace, visited by the Society last year,²⁸ who resided here as vicar till his death in 1705.

The party returned to Banbury for lunch, and in the afternoon visited

GREAT TEW

a picturesque and attractive village lying in a valley embosomed in trees, below the church and great house. The old house where Lucius Carey, Viscount Falkland (1610-43), lived was near the church, but it was pulled down in 1790, and only its walled gardens remain. John Aubrey's words may be quoted: 'My lord lived much at Tue, which is a pleasant seat and about 12 miles from Oxford; his lordship was acquainted with the best wits of that University, and his house was like a Colledge, full of learned men'.²⁹ After his death at the battle of Newbury (20 Sept. 1643) he was buried here in an unknown grave.

The church is reached through one of Lord Falkland's garden gates and a laurel walk; and the beautiful surroundings form a charming setting to a building which

²⁶ See the Visitations of Oxon, *Harleian Soc.*, vol. v, 196.

²⁷ *Ibid.* 320. Their 'interesting monument' in the chancel mentioned by Skelton, *Antiquities of Oxfordshire* (Oxford, 1823), seems to have disappeared.

²⁸ *Transactions B.G.A.S.* LI, 46-7. On p. 47, line 2, for Thomas read William.

²⁹ *Brief Lives* (ed. A. Clark), I, 151.

possesses a certain distinction in its agreeable proportions and superior detail. The south door, and the corresponding smaller one in the north, are Norman, but the church as we see it begins with the 13th century, and is largely of the Decorated period. The aisleless chancel has good traceried windows of the form general in the district. The north arcade of the nave (which has the four bays usual in these parts) is the earlier, its moulded arches being lower and flatter than those on the south side. The tower at the west end is of four stages: the belfry windows are effective under an embattled parapet with quatrefoil panels. At the east end of the south aisle are two doors and part of a rood stair, suggesting that the screen was the whole width of the church. Perhaps part of it, with unusual tracery and tall linenfold panels, survives in that which now encloses a vestry at the east end of the north aisle. Some of the seating is old, and there is a good 15th century font.

Mr HOWARD said that it was obvious that there was a 12th century church on the same site, as shown by the surviving south and north doors. The masonry of the spandrels between the arches of the 13th century arcades (between which there is slight difference in date) will be Norman work, and possibly also the walls of part of the chancel. The 13th century aisles, with leanto roofs, were widened in the early 14th, to which also the chancel arch belongs. The clearstory was added in the middle of the 15th century by a Gloucestershire master-mason, with windows of a type common in Cotswold churches. The tower, not later than 1360, has beautiful belfry windows recalling those at King's Sutton, and must be the work of some Northamptonshire master-mason. The 13th century porch stands 5 or 6 ft. to the south of its original site, having been moved when the aisle was widened. The doorway was then adorned with 14th century cusping. Both doorways belonged to the aisleless Norman nave, and have therefore been moved twice. At the east end

of the north aisle was the chapel of a knight whose effigy, cross-legged in mail with ailettes on his shoulders (rare in sculpture), of about 1320, lies under a recess in the wall (now inside the vestry). Further west is the more or less contemporary effigy of a lady.

The rood stairs are in an unusual position at the east end of the wall of the south aisle, so that the gallery must have crossed the east window of the aisle. The north side has been too much altered and covered with paint and plaster to allow one to say how it ended there ; but it is unlikely that the early 16th century vestry screen is in its original position. The pulpit is modern, but the traceried panels are old.

In the middle of the chancel floor is the magnificent brass of Sir John Wilcotes (d. 1422) of Great Tew and his wife Alice (d. 1410).³⁰ Mr RUSHFORTH said that Sir John was an important figure in the county and the state. He was the brother of William Wilcotes (d. 1412) who is buried in Richard Winchcombe's beautiful chapel at Northleigh (see above, p. 60). Sir John's wife Alice was probably a De Prewse, or a representative of the De Prewses, the old owners of Great Tew ; hence their eagle displayed appears among the arms on the brass. The metrical Latin epitaph (imperfect³¹) in the margin shows that the brass was made for the death of Alice. Its verses alternate with the English motto : *in on(e) is al(l)*, which is also repeated on the canopies. Sir John's daughter and heiress Elizabeth by her marriage carried Great Tew to the Reynesfords, and on the south wall of the chancel are fragments of the brass of her son, William Reynesford (d. 1487) including the Trinity (Father with arched crown holding the crucifix),

³⁰ Haines, *Manual*, no. 152, p. 55. *Oxford Univ. Brass-Rubbing Soc.*, pt. 1 (1898), 5. For other references see Mill Stephenson, *Monumental Brasses*, 422.

³¹ One mutilated line reads : . . . *avit alicia fata*, not *tata* as sometimes stated.

a shield (quarterly a cross and an eagle displayed, the impaled coat is lost) and part of the inscription.³²

On the north side of the chancel is a marble monument with reclining effigy by Chantrey of Mary Anne (d. 1829) wife of Matthew Robinson Boulton, who bought Great Tew Park. On the south side is an alabaster tablet in 17th century style to commemorate Lord Falkland, erected by Mr M. P. W. Boulton in 1885. The register records his burial on 25 September 1643.

On leaving the church the party, by kind permission of Miss Boulton, passed through the three brick-walled enclosures connected by gates, which represent the gardens of Lord Falkland's house. The modern house below is of no special interest, but a good 18th century gateway, with stone piers and ornamental iron work, leads to the stables.

CHIPPING NORTON CHURCH

was reached about 3.30 p.m., and the party was received by the Vicar, the Rev. H. H. ARKELL. The church (now St. Mary, but originally St. Thomas of Canterbury)³³ consists of chancel with vestry and chapel to the north, nave with north and south aisles, and on the north side an outer aisle, from which projects the burial place of the Dawkins family.

At the east end of the chancel is an early buttress, and the arcade on the north side of the chancel is of late 12th century or very early 13th century date. These being the oldest features in the building it may be assumed that the church originally comprised a chancel with north aisle, nave, western tower and probably north and south aisles. It is known that a church existed at Norton in

³² See F. N. Macnamara, 'The Wilcotes Family' in *Berks, Bucks and Oxfordsh. Archaeological Journal*, III, 1898, 97 ff, as corrected by W. F. Carter in XII, 1906, 107 ff, and XIII, 1907, 18 ff.

³³ Oxfordshire Record Society, vol. II.

the time of Henry II,³⁴ but whether this early work in the chancel is part of that building is problematical. In the 14th century the chancel was transformed, north and south aisles rebuilt and the outer north aisle added. During the reign of Henry VII (c. 1500) the nave was rebuilt and the clearstory formed, the roofs of both the north aisles raised and flattened, and the windows inserted in the outer aisle. The present tower was built in 1823.

Under the vestry was formerly a groined crypt, a 'springer' stone of one of the ribs remaining beneath the floor at the northeast angle, and a lancet window lighting the chamber still exists in the external eastern wall. Above the vestry was another room with a main window in the east wall, and a small trefoil-headed single-light slit on the north and south sides. Although having the appearance of early work it is doubtful whether this three-storied structure was part of the original church.

The chancel, which is not central with the nave, has a priests' door in the usual position on the south side, a cinquefoil cusped piscina, and a much restored triple sedilia similar to that at Northleach.

The nave of 4 bays of clustered columns has a clearstory almost entirely of glass, the mullions of the windows being continued as wall panelling down to the apices of the arches of the nave. At the east end over the chancel arch is a seven-light window, and the double planes of tracery should be noted. The wall panelling with niche on each side of the window forms a more satisfactory treatment for the east wall than is the case at Northleach and Cirencester. Against the eastern respond of the nave arcade on the north side are three niches and canopies very much restored. It is possible that they formed

³⁴ Charter of Confirmation, *Historia et Cartularium*, St. Peter's, Gloucester, (Rolls Series, ed. Hart 1863), 1, 351.

the east end of a chapel, the remaining sides being enclosed with screenwork. Such an arrangement still exists in Burford church.

At the east end of the north aisle is the Lady chapel, and its piscina, three-light traceried squint and canopy on the window jamb remain. The stone altar slab now at the west end of the south aisle formerly stood in this chapel.³⁵

Both the north aisles extend further westward than the nave and the outer aisle appears to have been prolonged eastward in the Perpendicular period. The chapel of St. John the Baptist was in this outer aisle³⁶ and its piscina remains.

At the east end of the south aisle is the cornice of what was formerly a wide reredos, and on the south side is the piscina, with a curious wall recess adjacent. The six-light Decorated window in the east wall is obviously too large for its position and is said to have come from Bruerne abbey. The fine series of roof corbels and the Decorated font should be noted.

One of the chief features of the church is the beautiful porch with room over. An irregular hexagon in plan, the porch is finely groined with grotesque and other bosses, and a richly moulded and carved doorway gives access to the church. The external doorway has its arch framed inside the rectangular hood-mould so typical of the Perpendicular period.

Mr OVERBURY said that at Winchcombe we had seen the development of the plan of the English parish church as built at one time, late in the 15th century, for a prosperous wool town. The church of Chipping Norton, a town of similar type, presents a great contrast in its plan, and shows a different way of treating the problem of

³⁵ Bloxham, *Ecclesiastical Architecture*, 11th edition, 1882, II, 180.

³⁶ Oxfordshire Record Series, vol II. Four chantry chapels existed dedicated to St. Mary, St. James, St. John the Baptist, and the Trinity Guild.

providing for increased accommodation and importance. At Winchcombe the old church was pulled down, and a new one built. At Chipping Norton the old church was kept, and developed. The chancel (about 1200) represents the early church, which will have had a nave with aisles. In the 14th century the aisles were widened, and the chancel windows inserted, and an outer aisle was added on the north. In the time of Henry VII the present nave was erected. It is not central with the chancel, and the reason is not obvious. The two-storied vestry is an Oxfordshire feature, of which there are hardly any other examples in Gloucestershire. The sedilia are very similar to those at Northleach.

Mr HOWARD said that at the west end of the nave there were probably traces of the Norman arch opening into the tower. The arcade (about the middle of the 13th century) between the two northern aisles presented a problem for which he was unable to find a solution. A second or outer aisle when added generally belonged to the period from the 14th to the 16th century. Here it may be a very early example of the addition of an outer aisle in the 13th century. The nave piers were advanced in design and very substantial, while the arches were very thin. The details have not got the refinements of Richard Winchcombe's work, and recall that at Northleach, but it is not certain that the same master-mason was employed. The great east window of the south aisle was original, and its apex was lost when the roof was flattened. The windows of the outer north aisle have cuspled tracery and heads of the lights, a feature which is rare in this part of England, and occurs only just before the Reformation. The plain flowing tracery of the west windows of the northern aisles may be compared with that in some Oxford 17th century college chapels. The vaulted hexagonal porch is unusual.

The church has two notable monuments. At the

east end of the north aisle is the alabaster tomb, with effigy in plate armour, of Sir Richard Croft (d. 1502), a cadet of the well-known Herefordshire family to whom Henry VII granted the manor after the fall of Richard III.³⁷ His wife Alice lies beside him, and round the sides, under elaborate tabernacles, are figures of weepers and shields of arms, that on the south still retaining its original painted blazon (3 lions passant or), a rare survival. At the west end of the same aisle is the tomb with fine but damaged alabaster effigies of Thomas Rickardes (d. 1570) and his wife Elizabeth, who was a Fiennes of Broughton Castle and grand-daughter of Anne Danvers of Dauntsey. Her descent is emphasized by her feet resting on the Fiennes muzzled wolf or dog. On the north wall is displayed a large collection of 15th and 16th century brasses of merchants and other inhabitants of the town, some of which have been recovered recently.³⁸

The party then adjourned to tea at the White Hart. Before separating, Mr W. Leighton proposed a vote of thanks to the President for his successful conduct of a most interesting meeting, which was carried by acclamation. After acknowledging this the President went on to propose votes of thanks to Mr Overbury, to whose organization the success of the meeting was largely due, to Mr Rushforth for the information he had contributed, and to Mr F. E. Howard, whose descriptions had given such reality to the buildings they had seen, the result of long local study such as only an Oxfordshire man was capable of. His assistance, in fact, had been the outstanding feature of the meeting.

APPENDIX

The following notes on the chief families of the Banbury district, whose ancient homes or memorials were seen

³⁷ For his pedigree and will see Robinson, *Mansions of Herefordshire*, 81-83.

³⁸ Mill Stephenson, *Monumental Brasses*, 402.

during the meeting, were read by Mr RUSHFORTH to the members on the first evening. It has been thought that it may be useful to reprint them here.

LORD SAYE AND SELE

The owner of Broughton Castle is Lord Saye and Sele. What is the origin of this unusual double title? Though it sounds like a proverb, and, has provided the title of a novel,³⁹ both parts are territorial. There is more than one Sai in Normandy, but the episcopal city of Séez (Orne) is said to be the source of the Barons de Say whose representative may have come to England with the Conqueror. In 1599 John son of Geoffrey de Say died leaving no son but three sisters (or their descendants), among whom, to use the language of later times, the barony would have been in abeyance. One of them married Lord Clinton, and their son William assumed the style of Lord Clinton and Say. Another sister Joan married Sir William Fiennes, of an important Sussex family. One of the Kent manors of the old Lords Say was Seal near Sevenoaks, and when Sir James Fiennes, grandson of Sir William, was summoned to Parliament as a peer in 1448 it was by the style of Lord Say and Sele, apparently in order that he might have an English title. His elder brother Roger Fiennes (the builder of Hurstmonceaux Castle) was thus passed over, and moreover his kinsman John, Lord Clinton, by deed of the same year, confirmed to James 'the name and style of Lord Say, relinquishing all interests therein for himself and his heirs'.⁴⁰ The peerage was the reward of important public service in England and France beginning under Henry v and continued under his successor. Lord Say and Sele was Warden of the Cinque Ports, and in 1449

³⁹ E. Warner (Wetherell), *Say and Seal*, 1853.

⁴⁰ J. H. Round, *Studies in Peerage and Family History*, 1901, p. 454; *The Complete Peerage* (new ed.), III, 314, 315.

became Lord Treasurer. But he belonged to the Duke of Suffolk's party, fell with him, and was a prisoner in the Tower in 1450 when Jack Cade and his insurgents reached London. Lord Scales who was in command gave him up to them as a scapegoat, and he was promptly beheaded. The plea for his life which Shakespeare puts into his mouth well indicates the charges that were made against him.⁴¹ His son William, who was killed at the battle of Barnet (1471), married Margaret, the heiress of the Wykehams, and so acquired Broughton Castle, which had been bought from the old De Broughton owners by the great bishop of Winchester as a seat for the family he founded in the person of his great nephew Thomas Perrot, who took the name of Wykeham. The most prominent of the later Lords Saye and Sele was William (1582-1662), who was created a viscount by James I in 1624, but became one of the most determined opponents of Charles I. He was an important member of the Parliamentary Government during the Civil War, but took no part in the ultimate measures against the King's life and so was able to make his peace with Charles II at the Restoration, and even became Lord Privy Seal. With the death of Richard 6th Viscount Saye and Sele in 1781 the viscounty and the Fiennes male line became extinct, but the ancient barony of Saye and Sele was successfully claimed by Thomas Twisleton, descended from Elizabeth daughter of the second viscount who had married Thomas Twisleton from Yorkshire, and already the owner of Broughton Castle. The present Baron (the 15th), Geoffrey Cecil Twisleton-Wykeham-Fiennes is his direct descendant.

WYKEHAM

When William of Wykeham, the famous Bishop of Winchester, bought Broughton Castle in 1377 he came in contact with a family of Wykeham long seated as squires

⁴¹ HENRY VI, part ii, Act iv, scene 7.

at Swalcliffe.⁴² It was a mere coincidence of name, for the owners of Swalcliffe Park took theirs, apparently, from Wykeham in Oxfordshire, not far off, between Broughton and Banbury; while the bishop was called after his birthplace, Wickham in South Hampshire, where his father John Long seems to have belonged to the yeoman class.⁴³ There is no indication that the bishop claimed to belong to the gentle family of Swalcliffe. They on the other hand, were evidently impressed and attracted by his great political and ecclesiastical position; and realized the advantage of claiming kinship with the magnificent and munificent prelate. We find them adopting the coat of arms which he had assumed (argent two chevrons sable between three roses gules), and dropping the one (inherited from the Tankervilles) which they had hitherto used (ermine a bordure gules charged with 8 mullets or). They also succeeded in getting young members of the family admitted to Winchester College as founder's kin, even in the bishop's lifetime. The claim in fact seems to have been acquiesced in without serious examination. The bishop himself in such a matter may have been indulgent towards neighbours with whom he was in personal and friendly relations. But when it came to the legal settlement of the estate which he had bought in order to found a family, he provided for successions and remainders so as to include all his sister's descendants and then those of his father's sister and his grandmother's sister, and after that stops with his 'right heirs'. It never occurred to him to mention the highly respectable Wykehams of Swalcliffe. Obviously he did not regard them as relations.⁴⁴

⁴² Now represented by Herbert Wenman Wykeham-Musgrave, Esq., of Barnsley Park (Glos.) who still owns Swalcliffe Park.

⁴³ G. H. Moberly, *Life of William of Wykeham* (2nd ed. Winchester and London, 1893), p. 5.

⁴⁴ The point is well brought out by Dr Macnamara, *History of the Danvers Family*, 320-323.

Their claim, put forward and acquiesced in up to a point in the time of the bishop, was raised later in the practical form of a demand that members of the family should be admitted to Winchester College and New College, Oxford as founder's kin. Two attempts were made, in 1572 and 1635, and both failed, in spite of the early entries in the College Registers. It was noted on the other hand that in 1405 John Wykeham of the Swalcliffe family was admitted as a probationer fellow, whereas he would have been entitled to be admitted as a full fellow if he had been of the kin of the founder. Evidently the College authorities were becoming more particular. The dispute ceased to have any practical importance after the marriage in the 18th century of Richard Wykeham of Swalcliffe with Vere Alicia, sister and co-heiress of the last Viscount Saye and Sele (see above), who brought the blood of the Wykehams of Broughton into the family. In the middle of the last century Mr C. Wykeham Martin attempted to prove the old contention of the Wykehams of Swalcliffe, but he really failed to produce any fresh evidence, and did not convince those best qualified to judge in the matter.⁴⁵

DANVERS

We made acquaintance with the Danvers family at Dauntsey in 1928,⁴⁶ but now that we are in the district from which came John Danvers who married in 1487 Anne Stradling the heiress of Dauntsey, and where the main branch of the family had its home, it may be well to say something about their history and possessions, as we shall be coming across them frequently. Without going into the question of the Norman origin which is claimed for the family let us begin with the statement

⁴⁵ *Topographer and Genealogist*, 1858, III, 49 ff. Compare Macnamara, *History of the Danvers Family*, 318 ff; Moberly, *William of Wykeham*, 299, App. A, Wykeham's alleged nobility of birth.

⁴⁶ *Transactions*, 1928, L, 325, 'The Story of Dauntsey'.

that in the 12th century a Danvers held land at Little Bourton, two miles north of Banbury.⁴⁷ His descendants prospered, and by a series of purchases and marriages with heiresses acquired various estates, *e.g.* in South Oxfordshire, through the heiress of Chevalchesul, Chiselhampton (near Dorchester) and Tetsworth (near Thame), and in the Banbury district property at Swalcliffe and Epwell. About the middle of the 14th century Richard Danvers of Epwell married the daughter and heiress of Sir John Brancester of Banbury (Colthorpe House still represents the ancient residence) whose arms (ermine on a bend gules three martlets or winged vert) he took over in place of the old Danvers coat (gules a chevron between three mullets pierced or), which, however, was resumed by Sir John Danvers of Dauntsey in the 17th century.⁴⁸ With his son John the importance of the family began, as is shown by his representing Oxfordshire in Parliament (1420-23). He bought the St. Amand manor in Adderbury, and also in 1419 the manor of Prescot near Cropredy,⁴⁹ and married two heiresses. His eldest son, Sir Robert, rose still higher as a successful lawyer. He was member for the City of London in 1442 when he also became Recorder, in which capacity he sat on the Bench before which Lord Saye and Sele was arraigned in 1450, but from whose jurisdiction mob law carried him off.⁵⁰ He added the manors of Culworth and Netherbury in Sulgrave to the family possessions, but after his death (1467) and that of his son without issue, these were bought in 1476 from the heirs by his younger brother Richard who had been settled at Prescot. His son John's marriage with Anne Stradling made Dauntsey henceforward the chief residence of the family, but Prescot remained, and it may be remembered that,

⁴⁷ Macnamara, *History of the Danvers Family*, 37, 39, 65.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 87, 286.

⁴⁹ Macnamara, *op. cit.*, 135, 256.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* 108.

after the catastrophe of the Dauntsey branch by the attainder of Sir John Danvers the regicide at the Restoration, his son John succeeded in recovering Prescott and died there in 1721, the last male of the Dauntsey line.⁵¹ He more or less rebuilt the old house in 1691, and it may still be seen, in a modernized form, standing in the meadows by the Cherwell above Cropredy bridge.

The Culworth and Sulgrave manors were left to William, the younger son of Sir John Danvers and Anne Stradling, who by the way, married Elizabeth Fiennes daughter of the lord of Broughton Castle, while his sister Margaret Danvers married Lord Saye and Sele's younger brother Edward. William's descendant Samuel Danvers was created a baronet in 1643, but the line became extinct with Sir Michael Danvers who died unmarried in 1776, after which his heirs (Rich) sold Culworth, which still retains various memorials of the family.⁵² Daniel Danvers, a younger son of the Culworth family, in 1583 married Susan daughter of John Pope of Wroxton Abbey (brother of Sir Thomas Pope the founder of Trinity College, Oxford), from whom the present Lord North is descended. In 1617 Daniel bought the manor of Horley, the next village to Wroxton on the north,⁵³ but his son Anthony sold it in 1663 and settled in London. From him came the existing members of the Danvers family.

John Danvers of Epwell, the founder of the family's great prosperity, who died about 1450, left the Adderbury manor and other property to his sons by his second marriage with Joan Bruley of Waterstoke (Oxon). Their descendants lived at Adderbury, but had died out before the end of the 17th century.⁵⁴

⁵¹ Ibid. 137, 297; cf. 211.

⁵² For description of Culworth manor and church see Macnamara, pp. 335, 387, 482.

⁵³ Macnamara, 408 ff.

⁵⁴ Ibid. 528-532.

THE DRYDENS AND CANONS ASHBY

The Drydens were an old Cumberland family, but David Dryden came south, and he or his son seem to have settled at Canons Ashby, perhaps before the Dissolution, and began to build a house on the north of the priory church. The son John married a daughter of Sir John Cope who owned a good deal of the monastic estate and lived in the priory buildings. In 1664 the Drydens, who by this time were baronets, bought the Cope estate, and the latter's house being superfluous was ultimately demolished (1710), which meant the destruction of the remains of the monastic buildings and cloister. The first baronet was Sir Erasmus (d. 1632), so named no doubt after his uncle Erasmus Cope, Erasmus being the name of a saint who was very popular at the end of the Middle Ages on account of his supposed efficacy in curing internal complaints, an idea based on the traditional form of his martyrdom, constantly represented in the church art of the period. To illustrate how quickly legends grow up, it may be noted that John Aubrey was told by John Dryden the poet laureate, great nephew of Sir Erasmus, that his great grandfather's father was a friend of the famous Erasmus who became godfather to one of his sons, 'and the name of Erasmus hath been kept in the family ever since . . . And at the seate of the family is a chamber called Erasmus's chamber'.⁵⁵ Unfortunately Erasmus, who had been in England in 1497 and 1510, died at Basel in 1536 some twenty years before his supposed namesake was born. Both the father and the son of the poet bore the name of Erasmus. The latter succeeded as 5th baronet, but died unmarried in 1711, and was followed by his uncle, another Erasmus. With Sir John the baronetcy and male line became extinct, and the present representative of the family, Sir Arthur Dryden, is descended from Sir John's niece

⁵⁵ Aubrey, *Brief Lives* (ed. A. Clark), 1, 240.

Elizabeth Dryden, wife of John Turner of Ambrosden (1752-97) who assumed the name and arms of Dryden, and was created a baronet in 1795. The Turners of Ambrosden had a baronetcy of their own, and as in 1874 the late Sir Henry Dryden succeeded his kinsman Sir Edward Page-Turner as 7th baronet of Ambrosden the present Sir Arthur is twice a baronet, the 9th of Ambrosden and the 6th of Canons Ashby. After the poet no member of the family seems to have attained much distinction till the late Sir Henry Dryden (1818-99), who was one of the leading archaeologists of his day.⁵⁶

THE COPEs OF HANLEY

Sir John Cope, whom we found settled in the Priory buildings at Canons Ashby, was the youngest son of Sir William Cope of Banbury (1450-1513), who was cofferer to Henry VII. His elder son Antony founded a more important line at Hanwell, 2 miles north of Banbury, which his father had acquired. Here he built a grand castellated mansion of brick, in the style of the time of Henry VIII, of which Hampton Court is the finest specimen. Leland noted it about 1540 as 'a very pleasaunt and gallaunt house'.⁵⁷ Sir Antony was vice-chamberlain to Queen Katherine Parr, and died in 1551. His descendants took the same side as the Fiennes of Broughton in politics and religion, and were the heads of the puritan party in Banbury. The fourth baronet (the first was Sir Antony in 1611) bequeathed Hanwell to a cousin, to the exclusion of his own brother who succeeded to the title. The cousin's line is now represented by Earl De la Warr, the present owner of Hanwell.

Meanwhile Sir John Cope, the 6th baronet, in 1699 bought Bramshill the beautiful Hampshire house built about 1610 by Edward Lord Zouche of Harringworth.

⁵⁶ His collection of drawings, plans, notes on churches, etc., is now in the Northampton museum, to which it was presented by Miss Alice Dryden. A catalogue, pp. viii, 130 was published in 1912.

⁵⁷ *Itinerary*, (ed. Toulmin Smith), II, 40.