

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

**Proceedings at the Annual Meeting held at Evesham, 11-13
July 1933, and Report of Itinerary**

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY

at Evesham

11-13 July 1933

The fifty-eighth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at Evesham on Tuesday, 11 July 1933 at 11.30 a.m., Mr Claude B. Fry, *President*, in the Chair. Among others present were Mr R. Holland-Martin, C.B., F.S.A. (*President-elect*), Mr W. H. Knowles, F.S.A., Mr G. McN. Rushforth, F.S.A., Mr J. J. Simpson, Mr Wilfrid Leighton, Mr Roland Austin, F.S.A., Mr Thomas Overbury, F.S.A. Mr H. Stratton Davis, F.S.A. (*General Secretary*).

The report of the Council for 1932-33 was then read.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL, 1932-33

(11 July 1933)

Membership

The membership of the Society is 644, a decrease of 25 compared with the previous report. During the year (1932-33) 27 members have been elected, 11 have died, 37 have resigned, and under rule VII 4 names have been removed from the list.

There are 4 honorary members, 58 life members, 535 subscribing members, and 47 subscribing libraries and institutions.

Obituary

The Council regret to record the loss the Society has sustained by the death of Mr Charles Wells, who was elected in 1901, a Member of Council since 1909, Chairman of the Library Committee, and member of the Finance and Excavations Committees. Mr Wells occupied for more than a quarter of a century a distinguished position in the journalistic world of Bristol, and was universally esteemed. His extensive knowledge of ancient, as well as modern, Bristol, was in constant evidence in the paper he so well served—*The Bristol Times and Mirror*. In addition to contributions to local journals he wrote *Historic Bristol* (1902), and a *History of the Port of Bristol*, 1909. He was always

enthusiastic for the well-being and successful work of the Society.

Others who have died are Sir James Bruton, elected in 1888, a former vice-president; Mr E. P. Little and Mr H. Hamilton Mills, both elected in 1880; Archdeacon Cornwall (1918); Captain H. P. Salmon (1919); Rev. G. T. Ward (1925) of Eastington, who himself printed his parish magazine and made it of special interest by including a great deal of local history in its pages; Miss S. S. Brown (1925); Rev. D. Austin Fisher (1928); Mrs L. S. Mackenzie (1921); Mr E. W. Allen (1932).

Finance

The Society began the year with a balance in hand of £112 9s 9d. Receipts amounted to £483 18s 4d, and payments to £501 12s 9d, leaving a balance of £94 15s 4d; less by £17 14s 5d compared with that brought forward. One life subscription was received during the year. For the first time the increase in the number of subscribers of 21s was not sufficient to meet the loss of income arising from resignations and deaths, and annual subscriptions, amounting to £402 13s 6d, show a decrease of £9 19s 6d. The bonus of £6 10s on Stock Conversion represents the sum received on the conversion of the Society's holding of 5 per cent. War Stock into 3½ per cent. Stock. In future the dividends will be correspondingly less. A surplus on the Spring Meeting of £7 6s 2d was almost absorbed by a loss on the Summer Meeting of £6 9s 9d.

On the expenditure side of the account the cost of volume 53 of *Transactions*, indexing and editing, amounted to £344 10s 8d, being £63 9s 7d less than the corresponding items last year. Printing and distributing the first part of *The Church Plate of Bristol* cost £64 10s. This of course did not include the cost of the plates, so generously borne by Canon Cole. Grants and donations were made to various funds and a special one of £10 to the Bristol evening meetings, the total being £19 3s 3d compared with £33 1s 4d last year, when £25 was granted to the Gloucester Excavations Committee, who this year had a loan from the Society of £10 12s. The other items are—for the library £22 15s 6d, and miscellaneous expenses, including printing, postages, stationery, etc., £40 1s 4d. The balance sheet shows little change other than the conversion of the War Loan already referred to.

Publications

Volume 54 of the *Transactions* was issued on its accustomed date in June.

The Society also published the first part of the Inventory of

the Church Plate of Bristol, compiled by the Rev. Canon R. T. Cole, F.S.A. The Society is much indebted to him for his generosity in meeting the considerable cost of illustrations, as mentioned above.

General Meetings

The Annual General Meeting of 1932 was held at Bristol in July, and is reported at length in *Transactions*. The thanks of the Society are due to Mr J. J. Simpson, Mr W. Leighton and Mr Roy Hudleston, for the excellent arrangements for this meeting.

A visit to Salmonsbury Camp, Bourton on the Water, was arranged in September.

The Spring Meeting of 1933 was held in May, when Standish, Minchinhampton, Avening and Lypiatt Park were visited.

The meeting was very well attended and Mr Thomas Overbury F.S.A., Hon. Secretary for Meetings, again received the thanks of members for providing an interesting programme. Descriptions of the buildings, etc., visited were given by Mr W. H. Knowles, F.S.A., Mr St. Clair Baddeley and Mr Overbury.

Evening Meetings at Bristol

The Hon. Secretary for Bristol, Mr C. Roy Hudleston, arranged an interesting series of evening meetings in Bristol during the winter when the following papers were read :—

St. David's Cathedral, by Dr Alfred C. Fryer, F.S.A.

The Almshouse, the Pipe and the Market of St. Thomas, Bristol, by the Rev. M. Paterson, B.A.

Ancient Man, by Prof. Edward Fawcett, M.D., F.R.S.

Saxon Architecture and Sculpture in Gloucestershire, by Mrs Dina Portway Dobson, M.A., LITT.D.

John Foster's House, Almshouse and the Chapel of the Three Kings of Cologne, Bristol, by Mr Wilfrid Leighton.

Ancient Water Supplies of Bristol, by Mr William T. Sanigar.

Council Meetings

The usual quarterly meetings of the Council have been held.

The Council are taking active steps to ensure the preservation as far as possible of the Grey Friars at Gloucester, and the Cross House, Tewkesbury, both buildings having recently changed ownership. The Office of Works have been approached with reference to the preservation of the Roman road near Coleford and negotiations are in progress. Cooperation with the Office

in connexion with the proper care and occasional excavation of camps and barrows in the county, referred to in the last report, is also proceeding.

Local Secretaries and Members of the Society are asked to report any cases where it is proposed to alter old buildings or where the services of the Society may be of use, as early as possible, and before building operations are commenced. The Council would be obliged if Local Authorities would acquaint them when proposals detrimental to ancient buildings are intended and where their assistance and advice might be of service.

The Council note with satisfaction that the site of St. Anne's Chapel, Brislington, Bristol, is being investigated by the owners, and careful records are being prepared by Members of the Society at Bristol.

A very satisfactory arrangement has been made for the housing of the Bristol section of the Society's Library, which has hitherto been kept at the Red Lodge. It is now placed at the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, where Members can obtain access at all times when the Art Gallery is open.

Last January the Council received with regret the resignation of Mr J. E. Pritchard, F.S.A. as Chairman and Hon. Treasurer of the Excavations Committee. Mr Pritchard has been Chairman of this Committee for many years, and warm thanks are due to him for his services and for his efforts in raising substantial amounts for the Excavations Fund. Mr W. H. Knowles, F.S.A., has been appointed Chairman of the Committee and Mr L. Fullbrook-Leggatt, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

The Council appeal for subscriptions towards the Society's Excavations Fund, and also for the Gloucester Roman Research Committee Fund, both of which may be called upon in the immediate future to undertake necessary investigations at short notice.

The Council note with some concern that the practice of carrying out excavations on important sites by enthusiastic but often inexperienced archaeologists is increasing. This enthusiasm for archaeological research is in many ways a most satisfactory sign, but it cannot be pointed out too strongly that in many cases irreparable damage may be done by inexperienced excavators who frequently neglect to survey and record the work. In all cases work such as this should be carried out under the direction of someone who is thoroughly experienced in excavating and recording. The Society is always ready to arrange for such supervision, provided that it is consulted before the work is commenced. It should not be forgotten that the Society is

recognized by H.M. Office of Works as the proper Authority for dealing with archaeological matters in the County, and that it counts among its members archaeologists of experience and national repute who are willing to advise and assist in properly authorized works. By taking advantage of this assistance less experienced excavators may add considerably to their knowledge and become qualified to undertake such work themselves.

The Council draw attention to this matter in the hope that members will do everything possible to induce owners of the sites of important remains to seek the advice of the Society before consenting to investigations.

The Archaeological Trust

Members are invited to draw the attention of the Hon. Secretary to any case where the services of the Trust may be of use.

Council and Officers

The Council submit nominations for offices of vice-presidents, local secretaries, members of Council and executive officers for the year 1933-34 (*see p. 20*).

THE BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Statement of Receipts and Payments for

RECEIPTS	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d	
BALANCE, 1 JANUARY 1932							112	9	9	
LIFE SUBSCRIPTION							15	0	0	
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS :—										
1931 (1—10s 6d)			10							
(1—21s)			1							
			-----				1	11	6	
1932 (417—10s 6d)			218							
(164—21s)			172							
			-----				391	2	6	
1933 (11—10s 6d)			5							
(4—21s)			4							
			-----				9	19	6	
							-----	402	13	6
ENTRANCE FEES :—										
1932 (33)							17	6	6	
1933 (2)							1	1	0	
							-----	18	7	6
DONATION—Merchant Venturers' Society							2	2	0	
SALE OF PUBLICATIONS							2	7	0	
DIVIDENDS							32	10	0	
BONUS ON STOCK CONVERSION							6	10	0	
INTEREST ON DEPOSIT ACCOUNT							3	11	11	
							-----	42	11	11
MEETINGS :—										
Spring, surplus							7	6	2	
Summer, deficit							6	9	9	
							-----	16	5	
WILFRID LEIGHTON, <i>Hon. Treasurer</i>							-----	£596	8	1
5 January 1933							-----			

BALANCE SHEET

LIABILITIES	£	s	d
SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID IN ADVANCE			9 19 6
ENTRANCE FEES			1 1 0
SURPLUS			869 6 10

			£880 7 4

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
the Year ending 31 December 1932

PAYMENTS				£	s	d	£	s	d
<i>Transactions :—</i>									
VOLUME 53, 1931	..	..	..	307	15	8			
Indexing and editing	..	..	..	36	15	0			
				<hr/>			344	10	8
CHURCH PLATE OF BRISTOL	..	..	..				64	10	0
LIBRARY :—									
Subscriptions for Publications	..	..	..	8	2	9			
Books and Binding	..	..	..	5	6	0			
Rent	..	..	..	8	8	0			
Insurance	..	..	..		18	9			
				<hr/>			22	15	6
GRANTS AND DONATIONS :—									
Haresfield Beacon fund	..	..	..	2	2	0			
Verulamium	..	..	..	2	2	0			
Salmonsbury Camp	..	..	..	2	2	0			
„ Printing circulars	..	..	..	2	17	3			
Bristol Evening Meetings	..	..	..	10	0	0			
				<hr/>			19	3	3
Loan to Gloucester Excavation Committee							10	12	0
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES :—									
Printing and Stationery	..	..	..	22	17	0			
Postages	..	..	..	11	8	4			
Travelling Expenses	..	..	..	1	10	0			
Typing	..	..	..	2	0	0			
Archaeological Congress	..	..	..	1	0	0			
Room for Meetings (Gloucester)	..	..	..	1	6	0			
				<hr/>			40	1	4
BALANCE FORWARD :—									
Deposit account	..	..	..	61	7	1			
Current account	..	..	..	33	8	3			
				<hr/>			94	15	4
				<hr/>					
Examined and found correct							£596	8	1
13 January 1933			J. J. SIMPSON				<hr/>		
31 December 1932									
ASSETS				£	s	d			
INVESTMENTS :—									
£650, 3½ per cent. War Stock at cost (converted from 5 per cent. Stock)	..	..	..	650	0	0			
Savings Certificates as per last Statement	..	..	..	*125	0	0			
LOAN TO GLOUCESTER EXCAVATIONS COMMITTEE				10	12	0			
LIBRARIES (<i>valuation not made</i>)	..	..	..	—		
CASH AT BANK	..	..	..	94	15	4			
				<hr/>			£880	7	4
				<hr/>					
*Value at date of maturity, 22 January 1933				£162	10	0			

COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1933-34

*elected 11 July 1933***President of the Society:**

R. HOLLAND-MARTIN, C.B., F.S.A.

Chairman of Council:

WILFRID LEIGHTON

Vice-Chairman of Council:

ROLAND AUSTIN, M.A., F.S.A.

Vice-Presidents (13):

DR A. C. FRYER, F.S.A.

JOHN E. PRITCHARD, F.S.A.

THE VERY REV. THE DEAN OF
GLOUCESTER (HENRY GEE),

D.D., F.S.A.

ROLAND AUSTIN, M.A., F.S.A.

E. C. SEWELL

SIR F. A. HYETT

W. ST. CLAIR BADDELEY

LT.-COL. SIR RUSSELL J. KERR, B.A.

SIR CHARLES OMAN, K.B.E., M.P., F.S.A.

A. HAMILTON THOMPSON, M.A., D.LITT.
F.S.A.

SIR HAROLD BRAKSPEAR, K.C.V.O.,

F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.

G. McN. RUSHFORTH, M.A., F.S.A.

W. H. KNOWLES, F.S.A.

Members whose term of office has not expired and dates of election:

J. H. ARNOLD (1931)

A. BAKER (1932)

REV. CANON C. O. BARTLETT (1932)

C. E. BOUCHER, B.Sc. (1931)

D. E. FINLAY, M.B., F.Z.S. (1931)

G. C. FRANCIS (1931)

L. E. W. O. FULLBROOK-LEGGATT,

M.C., B.A. (1931)

T. HANNAM-CLARK (1932)

W. SCOTFORD HARMER (1931)

SIR G. H. OATLEY, LL.D., R.W.A.,

F.R.I.B.A. (1932)

T. OVERBURY, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A. (1932)

A. CECIL POWELL (1932)

MISS IDA M. ROPER, F.L.S. (1932)

C. TOLLEMACHE SCOTT (1932)

SIR PHILIP S. STOTT, BART., F.S.A.

(1932)

SIR L. GOODENOUGH TAYLOR (1931)

HAROLD F. TREW, F.R.I.B.A. (1932)

(Members re-elected for 3 years)

N. AVERAY-JONES

MRS E. M. CLIFFORD, F.S.A. SCOT.

REV. CANON R. T. COLE, M.A.

F. W. DUART-SMITH, F.G.S.

PROF. E. FAWCETT, F.R.S.

D. W. HERDMAN

R. W. MURRAY

BRIG.-GEN. A. C. PAINTER, C.M.G.

(Members elected for 3 years)

MRS D. P. DOBSON, M.A., LITT.D., F.S.A.

E. W. LOVEGROVE, M.A., F.S.A.

COLONEL E. S. SINNOTT, C.M.G.

REV. PONSONBY SULLIVAN, M.A.

Hon. Editor and Librarian:

ROLAND AUSTIN, M.A., F.S.A., 24 Parkend road, Gloucester

Hon. Treasurer:

WILFRID LEIGHTON, 7 Kensington place, Clifton, Bristol, 8.

Hon. Secretary for Bristol:

C. ROY HUDDLESTON, The Grove, Winterbourne, nr. Bristol

Hon. Meetings Secretary:

T. OVERBURY, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., Doric House, S. Mark's, Cheltenham

Hon. General Secretary:

H. STRATTON DAVIS, M.C., F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., 12 Queen street, Gloucester

Local Hon. Secretaries:*Berkeley—**Cheltenham—*D. W. HERDMAN*Cirencester—*W. IVESON CROOME, J.P.*Dursley—*R. H. PENLEY, B.A.*Fairford—*REV. CANON R. C. S. JONES*Forest of Dean**Newent**Stroud—**Tewkesbury—*F. W. GODFREY*Wotton-under-Edge—*J. H. ARNOLD*Northern District—*

} E. CONDER, F.S.A.

Mr CLAUDE B. FRY proposed the election of Mr R. Holland-Martin, C.B., F.S.A., as President of the Society for the year 1933-34, and in doing so spoke of the great interest which Mr Holland-Martin took in matters of the arts and antiquities of the Evesham district, of which he had an intimate knowledge. Among other subjects to which he had given attention was the manufacture, distribution and heraldry of the Malvern tiles. In every way he was well fitted to be their President and his name was therefore submitted to the meeting. The proposal was carried with acclamation and Mr HOLLAND-MARTIN thereupon took the chair, and in returning thanks said that it was a great honour to be asked to fill the position of President and it had come to him as a surprise. While most interested in archaeology he had found it impossible hitherto to attend the meetings of the Society though he could say that he made constant use of their *Transactions*, to which he referred more frequently than any others. He was particularly glad to be their President for that meeting as he had close family connexions with Evesham, some of his forbears having been mayors of the town.

The nominations for members of Council and officers were then submitted to the meeting and adopted un-animously. The names are printed on p. 20.

Mr J. J. SIMPSON moved that the warm thanks of the Society be accorded to the retiring President, Mr Claude B. Fry, for his services to them during the past year. This was seconded by Mr G. McN. Rushforth, who recalled the Society's visit to Highworth Manor and to the Address which Mr Fry gave at the Bristol meeting of 1932.

Mr WILFRID LEIGHTON, Chairman of Council, moved that the best thanks of the Society be given to Mr W. H. Knowles for his conduct of the business of the Council during the past three years, over which he had presided with great advantage to the Society. Not only

were they indebted to him for his services in that capacity but they also owed him thanks for the great help he gave in connexion with the Spring and Summer programmes each year and for the valuable papers he had contributed to the *Transactions*. For all these reasons they were deeply grateful to Mr Knowles. The vote was carried with much enthusiasm.

The Annual Meeting of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Trust followed the General Meeting and was presided over by the Chairman, Mr J. J. Simpson. The report and financial statement were presented and auditors were appointed.

REPORT OF ITINERARY

At the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting, the members of the Society entered the church of All Saints, and the President called upon Mr E. A. B. BARNARD, F.S.A., to describe it, referring to his unequalled knowledge of Evesham. Mr Barnard said that the history of Evesham begins in the remote past with Eof or Eoves the traditional Saxon herdsman living in this promontory of Feckenham Forest, and seeing a vision of the Virgin and two other saints, who directed him to found an abbey. He goes to Bishop Ecgwin at Worcester, who has had a similar vision, and so the abbey began to be built, it is said in 701 or 709. The place was bound to become important, and by the 12th century the shrines of the abbey brought many votaries and the town grew, so that it became necessary to enlarge the parish church. The Norman west door is part of this work, probably contemporary with the gateway of Abbot Reginald (1122-49), from whose blind arcading with its cubical capitals the late Comm. Rivoira (as he told him on the spot) drew the inspiration for his *Lombardic Architecture*. The small aisleless Norman church was extended in the 13th century by a new chancel, but a drawing in the

Prattinton Collection¹ shows that it was not large. It has been entirely modernized. The history of the church has little interest till we come to the 16th century when Clement Lichfield, prior of Evesham and afterwards abbot, founded his chantry tomb on the south side about 1513. Here he was buried on 9 October 1546, as the register shows. The brass on the gravestone has disappeared, but in 1817 Dr Prattinton examined the tomb and found the body, with its staff and other relics, now preserved in the abbey manor. Against the arch opening from the aisle the pendant of the fan-tracery vault bears his initials. The windows are filled with appropriate modern glass, including figures of the Virgin, St. Ecgwin, Eoves the Swineherd, Clement Lichfield, Prince Edward, and Simon de Montfort, flanked by angels holding coats of arms.

Mr Barnard also referred to the 17th century vicar, Lewis Bayley, author of *The Practice of Piety*² and afterwards Bishop of Bangor (1616-31), who had a great influence on the church. But in the 18th century it fell into a bad state, from which it was finally rescued by the restoration of 1876 under the Rev. Frederick Whitmore Holland, the President's grandfather. The connexion of his family with the place is also illustrated by the tablet of Thomas Martin, mayor of Evesham in 1652 and 1677, and an efficient magistrate.

ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH

was consecrated, Mr Barnard said, in 1295, when the growth of the town had made a second church necessary. It was known as 'the little church'. By the end of the 15th century it had become a typical town church of the period, rebuilt, apparently, all at once, as one sees it now. The east window is of peculiarly elaborate design. After

¹ In the library of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House.

² 3rd edition, 1613. No earlier one recorded.

the Dissolution it seems to have been little used, and in the latter half of the 18th century it was becoming a ruin. A drawing of about 1810 shows the north arcade fallen, but remains of a chapel of St. Catherine on the north side corresponding to the existing one (St. Clement's, built by Abbot Lichfield) on the south. The latter shows work which is superior to the commonplace south arcade. After a proposal to demolish the fabric and use the materials for an addition to All Saints, the church was restored in 1836. The font is modern, the old one having been taken to Abbey Manor, but in Tindal's *History of Evesham* (1794) it is shown standing in the chantry chapel. The two niches in the east wall of the chapel once had images of St. Clement and St. Jerome. At the entrance to the chapel are set two finely carved stones, recovered in 1931 from the wall of a cottage, evidently belonging to some structure set up by Abbot Newbold (died 1513). One has a leopard's face surmounted by a fleur-de-lis and the words: *dompn(us) T(homas) N(ewbold) abbas*; the other has the abbey arms (a chain in chevron between 3 mitres) and the initials (apparently) of S(anctus) E(cgwinus) and T(homas) N(ewbold).

Luncheon was taken at the Crown Hotel, where members were joined by the vicar of Evesham, the Rev. E. O. Burbidge, after which they proceeded to

BREDON

the chief external features of the church, viewed from the southwest, being described by Mr W. H. KNOWLES, F.S.A. The Norman nave, the Early English south chapel, the 14th century central tower and spire, and the Perpendicular west window of the nave afford interesting examples of their periods, pleasingly grouped together. At the north porch he called attention to the foliage capitals of the vaulting shafts and other details. The Norman nave has a fine gable flanked by pinnacled turrets,

and contemporary side windows, and western, north, and south doors, all with shafted jambs, enriched arches and inner segmental arches. There is a door from the chamber above the north porch, but no apparent means of access to it. The chancel or tower arch is of three orders, the middle one of chevron form, and the details, *e.g.*, the continuous mouldings in the jambs, the keel shaft, and the type of capital, illustrate Sir H. Brakspear's recently stated theory of a West country gild of masons.³ In the 13th century the south wall was pierced with two arches over quatrefoil piers opening into the Mitton chapel, which is lighted by pairs of windows of ornate design, with marble shafts supporting trefoiled rear-arches. In the 14th century the north aisle between porch and tower was added, and the tower remodelled and given a beautiful octagonal spire. Great changes in the appearance of the nave were made in 1842 when the tower arch, previously closed so as to make the chancel a separate church, was opened out, and the rood-loft used as a singing gallery destroyed, and the pews were removed. In the early 14th century the chancel was rebuilt in three bays. Notable are the founder's tomb on the north side, and the stepped sedilia and piscina on the south. In 1842 the latter was pierced to make a window for ventilation, which may be seen outside with trefoiled head, but is now closed again, thus misleading some antiquaries into thinking that it was a low-side window.⁴ There is no priest's door.

The PRESIDENT, standing in front of the altar steps, said that the early 14th century tiles which they display were the finest heraldic collection in Worcestershire, and

³ 'A West Country School of Masons'. *Archaeologia*, 1931, LXXXI, 1-18.

⁴ See Loftus Brock in *Journ. Br. Arch. Assoc.*, 1882, xxxviii, 82; and cf. J. Severn Walker in *Ass. Arch. Soc. Reports*, 1885, III, Worc. Arch. Soc., p. 337, and C. E. Keyser in *Journ. Br. Arch. Assoc.*, 1912, N.S. xviii, 8.

the largest-sized tiles in the district, perhaps made at Droitwich. The arms were those of great families, Berkeley, Despenser, Mortimer, Hastings, etc., and perhaps represent friends of Bishop Trillek (the Trillek arms occur in the set) of Hereford (1344-60) who contributed to the rebuilding of the chancel, as he had previously been rector of Bredon. On the lowest step are remains of a set of tiles of the Months, but only slight traces of the designs and inscriptions remain. A circular tile of just the same size in Colwall church showing a man digging probably represents a similar set.⁵

The President also called attention to the remarkable tomb-slab carved with a crucifix (the attendant doves are unusual) and two portrait heads (man and woman) of the end of the 13th or beginning of the 14th century. They may be Nicholas de Mitton and his wife, for on his death in 1291 he bequeathed many gifts to Worcester cathedral, to Mitton chapel, and to St. Mary's chapel, Bredon. His heart was to be buried in the Friars' church, Worcester. In a 15th century recessed tomb on the same side are small effigies of a gentleman (middle of the 14th century) with his wife and child, which some descriptions have mistakenly connected with the gravestone, recorded by Habington as on the floor below, of William Reed of Mitton (d. 1557). A small tablet above the piscina records the death (1590) of Thomas Copley, who bought the manor and lived at Hall Court, Norton in Bredon.

Mr G. McN. Rushforth, F.S.A., briefly referred to the original decoration of the chancel with wall paintings (of which only some formal patterns remain at the east end) and stained glass. The three windows on either side, though very largely restored, display the original grisaille

⁵ *Transactions*, 1904, XVII, 4; J. Fowler in *Archaeologia*, 1873, XLIV, 169; *Proc. Soc. Ant.*, Ser. 2, 1879-81, VIII, 428.

designs with coloured coats of arms in the traceries. The westernmost window on the north side also has two panels with small figures of St. Mary Magdalene, and St. Mary of Egypt (*Sca. Maria Hecypciana*). The gravestone of Bishop Prideaux of Worcester (d. 1650) was also noticed, and the modern tablet with bronze medallion portrait put up to his memory on the adjacent north wall of the chancel. Finally the magnificent alabaster monument⁶ of Giles Reed (d. 1611) at the west end of the south chapel was admired, and its imagery and heraldry explained. He came of a Gloucestershire family, and married Katherine Greville, from whose nephew Fulk Greville he bought the manor of Mitton, which is in the parish not far from Tewkesbury.

After leaving the church the Tithe Barn was visited under the guidance of Mr Knowles, who compared it with that at Great Coxwell⁷ seen by the Society in 1931, which is longer (156 ft. as against 124 ft. at Bredon). Bredon barn is unusually well designed, with central and side aisles under a continuous roof, and is divided into nine bays by massive wooden posts. It is entered by two tall and imposing porches on either side, those on the north projecting 20 feet, in one of which is an upper room with a fireplace, approached by an external stair. Mr Barnard mentioned another great barn at South Littleton near Evesham, and said that manor courts were sometimes held in these buildings.

OVERBURY CHURCH

After some words of welcome by the vicar, Canon W. Lea, who said that this was one of sixteen dedications to St. Faith, the PRESIDENT spoke about the church and its history. In 875 Ceolwulf king of Mercia gave Overbury

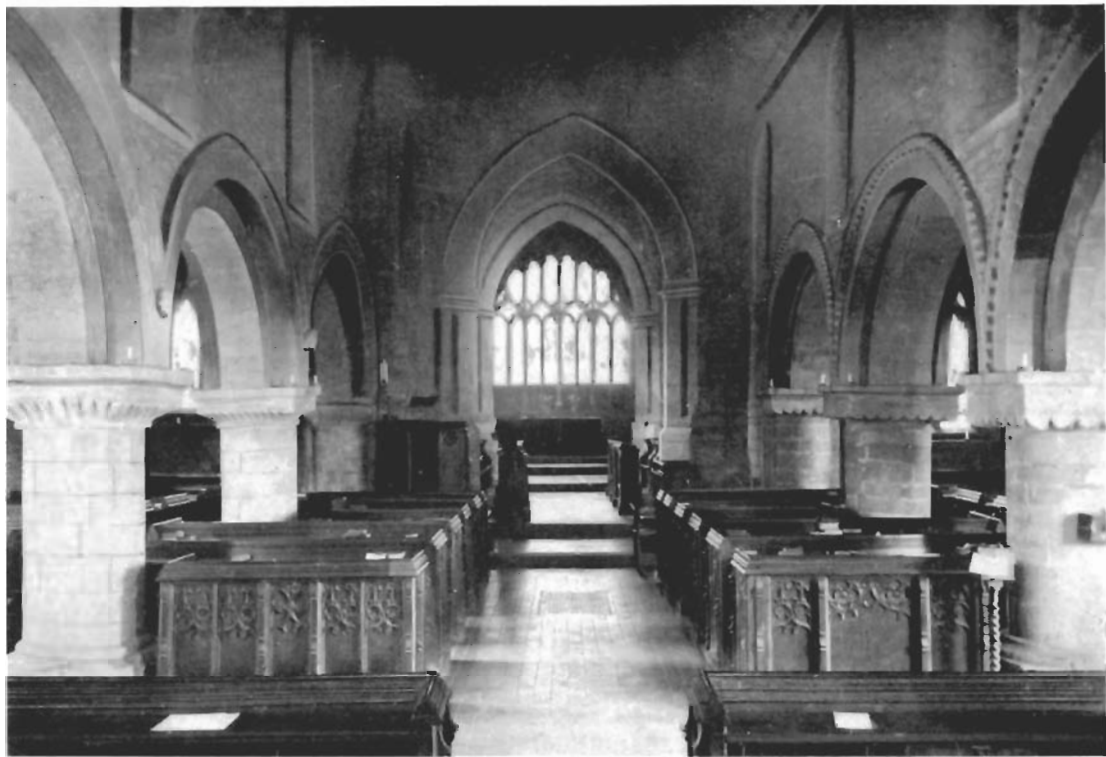
⁶ Illustrated in *Transactions*, xxvii, 4.

⁷ Illustrated in *Transactions*, liii, 60.

and Conderton to the church of Worcester, and it became a favourite residence of the priors. There may have been a church here before, but the present one began to be built in late Norman times. The nave arcades have round arches and cylindrical piers, but the two sides are not quite alike, and the arches are irregular. The difference is original, and the explanation is not obvious. The vaulted 13th century chancel is rather French in design. Notable are the foliated capitals of the vaulting shafts and the two carved vault bosses, the eastern one having a crowned head with long hair (St. Mary or St. Faith?), and the western a female head in a volute of foliage. Above the vaulting was a dove-loft (as at Elkstone), for the prior of Worcester was lord of the manor. In the tower arch may be seen the stone brackets to support the rood beam, part of which is worked into the modern pulpit. The great treasure of the church is the early 12th century font (set on a 14th century base). On it are carved the figures of the founder holding a model of the church, and of another ecclesiastic holding two croziers, but this is partly restored, and there has been considerable re-carving of the rest of the surface.

Mr KNOWLES congratulated Overbury and its vicar on having in Mr Holland-Martin a squire who took such an interest in the church, and could tell its story with such completeness. He thought that the difference in the nave arcades was due to the work proceeding slowly, the south arcade having been built first. It is simpler than the rather more elaborate northern one, which will have followed it. The original aisles would be much narrower than the present ones.

After inspecting the various objects of interest in the church the party adjourned to Overbury Court where they were received by the President and Mrs Holland-Martin, and entertained to tea. Afterwards, in the parish hall, the President delivered his Presidential



OVERBURY CHURCH

Address on Church Monuments of the 17th and 18th centuries (printed pp. 45-53).

Wednesday, 12 July

The party left Evesham at 9.30 a.m. for

BEOLEY CHURCH

where, after a welcome by the vicar, the Rev. H. Sleigh, they were addressed by Mr E. A. B. BARNARD, who said that the chief object of interest in the church was the Sheldon chapel on the north side of the chancel, built by Ralph Sheldon about 1580.

In 1921 it was suffering from damp and neglect, the monuments were in poor condition, and the vault below had water in it from a spring in the ground outside.⁸ He and the late Mr Rees-Price determined to make an effort to save the chapel; they secured the support of Lord Plymouth and Mr John Humphreys, a fund was raised, and the work was begun. A concrete barrage was made to prevent the water entering the vault, and the monuments were restored by Bridgeman of Lichfield under the supervision of Mr Philip Chatwin, F.S.A. Ten years ago a service of thanksgiving in the chapel marked the completion of the restoration. Mr Barnard then sketched the history of the Sheldon family, and of the tapestry factory set up by William Sheldon (d. 1570) at Barcheston, the object of which was to replace Flemish work by an English or national production.⁹ He also described the fine monuments of William Sheldon and of his son Ralph (d. 1613) who built the chapel and erected

⁸ There had been some restoration in 1891. *Ass. Arch. Soc. Reports*, XXI, Worc. Arch. Soc., p. li.

⁹ *Archaeologia*, 1925, LXXIV, 181-202. 'Elizabethan Sheldon Tapestries', by John Humphreys, F.S.A.; 1928, LXXVIII, 255-314. 'The Sheldon Tapestry weavers and their work', by E. A. B. Barnard, F.S.A., and A. J. B. Wace, F.S.A.

the family memorials. It contains a stone altar under the east window, said to have been given to him by Pope Gregory XIII. It may have been used occasionally for private services (the Sheldons being Roman Catholics), for the family was on friendly terms with the church authorities, as may be seen from their gift of bells, and from the fact that Dean Eedes of Worcester wrote one of the epitaphs on William Sheldon's tomb.¹⁰ Among the other memorials the chapel contains one of 'The Great Sheldon', Ralph (d. 1684), a distinguished antiquary and friend of Antony Wood of Oxford. The coffins still remain in the vault, the last burial having been in 1830.

Mr Barnard also called attention to the 13th century font, and the small slab (12th century) carved with the figure of an ecclesiastic holding a crozier, formerly on the exterior of the church, but brought inside in 1923 and set in the wall of the south aisle. It may represent an abbot of Pershore, which owned the manor in the time of Domesday.

Some time was spent in examining the monuments and the chapel. Mr RUSHFORTH said that the story of the altar in it (which looks rather like an Elizabethan Communion Table in stone) being a Papal gift was improbable. Ralph Sheldon may have put it up in anticipation of a possible toleration or recognition of his religion, for in 1580 the religious future of the country was far from certain. If it were ever surreptitiously used for mass, a portable altar would be put on the black marble slab which had no trace of the usual 5 consecration crosses.

WOOTTON WAWEN

Mr W. H. KNOWLES first conducted the party to the north side of the church where the central tower, the

¹⁰ See Habington's *Survey of Worcestershire* (Worc. Hist. Soc.), 1, 72; Nash, *History of Worcestershire*, 1, 69.

only Saxon structural work in Warwickshire, can best be seen. He called attention to the ragwork masonry and the characteristic long and short angle-stones. On the ground floor, besides the tall narrow arches to nave and chancel, there are smaller openings north and south, but nothing to show whether these were connected with transepts. The north side of the nave, with walling 2 ft. 10 in. in thickness, is of the Norman period, retaining one window, and traces of a doorway inside. From the south the church presents a very different appearance with its 15th century clearstory, south aisle and upper stages of the tower, treated in an ornate and well-designed manner with battlements, pinnacles, and vigorously carved gargoyles. The exteriors of the chancel and south chapel retain their 14th century windows, but the large east window of the chancel is of the 15th century, with refined ornament in the jambs, arch and label. Entering the nave Mr Knowles noticed the Saxon long-and-short work of the tower, visible on the east wall, and made comparative reference to contemporary work in Gloucestershire. Pre-Conquest churches were usually small, some with nave and chancel only, others, as here, with a tower between. At Wootton only the tower was left. The present nave was too wide for a Saxon church, and must have been rebuilt in the 12th century. In the 14th century the south aisle was added. The arcade opening out of it is of three pointed arches with chamfered orders over cylindrical shafts. A contemporary window on the north side has intersecting tracery which retains some of its original stained glass. On either side of the chancel or tower arch 15th century parclose screens form two chapels with panelling and image-brackets against the wall, but the whole has been altered and restored. The pulpit is of the same date.

Passing to the chancel, which has old seating with fair bench-ends, Mr Knowles called attention to the original 14th century windows on the north side, and

sedilia on the south. Later in the century a chapel was added on the south of the chancel. In it is a re-chiselled piscina with tracery in the pediment, an east window with unusual tracery, and in the side windows reticulated tracery. The squint is of two square-headed openings. There is an ancient chest with fine iron work.

Mr RUSHFORTH gave a sketch of the history of the place. The Saxon church would be the work of Waga or Wagen, the pre-Conquest owner mentioned in Domesday, whose name is still attached to Wootton. At the Conquest it came to Robert de Tonei, the founder of the Stafford family, with which the manor remained till the fall of Edward Duke of Buckingham (of Thornbury Castle) under Henry VIII. The church had been given to the abbey of Conches in Normandy, and an alien priory was set up here, but on a different site from that of the parish church, and no remains of it exist. It was suppressed, like the other alien priories, by Henry V, and Henry VI gave the property to his newly-founded College of Eton, which is still patron of the living. In 1559 the manor was acquired by the widow and son of Sir John Smith, an Exchequer Baron; and it remained with their descendants till recently. In 1673 Charles Smith (who rebuilt the Hall to the east of the church) was created Lord Carrington,¹¹ but the title became extinct with his younger son. In 1781 the Carrington heiress was married by the head of a different family of Smith, Sir Edward Smythe of Acton Burnell (Salop). In the south chapel is the tomb and effigy of Francis Smith (d. 1626), son of Sir John. His mother was Agnes Harewell, the heiress of another estate in Wootton. On the north side of the chancel is the tomb with brasses of her father, John Harewell (d. 1505) and his wife, and another with alabaster

¹¹ See *The Complete Peerage* (new ed.), III, 65, and H. Round, 'The Great Carrington Imposture' in *Peerage and Pedigree Studies*, II, 134.

effigy in armour of her great-great-grandfather John Harewell (d. 1428). The south chapel also contains 17th and 18th century memorials of two more families, the Somervilles of Edstone—William Somerville the poet, author of 'The Chase', was buried here in 1742—and the Knights of Barrells. Most of the latter are due to Robert Knight, whose father made a fortune out of the South Sea Company, and who became an Irish peer as Lord Luxborough and Earl of Catherlough (Carlow). His wife (from whom he was separated), half-sister to the great Lord Bolingbroke, belonged to the literary circle of Shenstone and Richard Graves. On the south wall of the chapel he erected an immense marble monument commemorating his two children, who both died childless before him. Later the coffins of the family were deposited in a mausoleum in the park of Barrells, but were removed once more in the last century to the vault under the chancel of the neighbouring chapel of Ullenhall.

Mr Rushforth also pointed out some remains of painted glass in the east window of the chancel. All that is left of its original glazing is some quarries in the tracery lights, and in the heads of the main lights half-length angels supporting jewelled canopies above the sacred figures which have disappeared. Lower down have been set some 14th century fragments from the side windows, especially a quatrefoil with a censing angel.

The party returned to Henley in Arden for lunch at the Swan. Afterwards some looked into the fifteenth century church opposite, and the adjacent Gild House, with a fine room upstairs, restored and left to the town by the late Mr W. H. Fieldhouse, F.S.A., a great benefactor to the place and neighbourhood. The members thence walked to

BEAUDESERT CHURCH

standing at the foot of the great mound which marks the site of the castle of the De Montforts, where they were

met by the Rev. W. J. Easterbrook, vicar of Henley, with which the parish is now united.

Mr W. H. KNOWLES said this was a difficult church to describe with certainty. To the small aisleless 12th century church a rather ornate western tower was added in the 15th. The axis of chancel, nave, and tower varied, and the north wall of the nave is built up against the outer members of the chancel arch.¹² The nave is rather longer than usual; otherwise there is all the appearance of an early church, with chancel of normal type, prepared for vaulting. Perhaps the north wall of the nave, in spite of its round-headed windows and door, was entirely rebuilt; or else a larger church was planned, of which only the chancel was carried out, leaving the nave unaltered. The details about the south door and chancel arch of four orders are clumsily built and ill-fitting, possibly restoration work. The chancel has semi-hexagonal shafts in the angles, and semi-circular ones midway in the side walls with capitals extended bracket fashion on either side, but the vaulting was not inserted till last century. In the east gable is a round-headed window with exceptionally refined enrichments. The tower is of three stages, with a niche on the second stage of the south side. The windows have heavy crocketed ogee labels, a feature which (like the niche) also appears at Beoley. Both towers are clearly the work of the same builders.

Returning to Henley the party rejoined the coaches and cars and made its way to

COUGHTON COURT

the residence of Sir Robert Throckmorton, bart., where the members were received by his mother, Lady Throckmorton, who, assisted by Mr Barnard, acted as guide

¹² An illustration in *The Churches of Warwickshire* (Warwick, 1847), p. 152, shows the unvaulted chancel.

over the house and its interesting contents. The house, Lady THROCKMORTON said, was begun on a grand scale by Sir George Throckmorton in the last years of Henry VII, but only the gateway tower with its adjoining rooms was completed. Within was a quadrangle, the wings being added in the time of Elizabeth; and under James II the church was constructed on the fourth side, but demolished later by a mob from Alcester. The moat was filled up about 1796. In the entrance hall hangs a painted cloth, dated 1596, with representations of Ely cathedral and its history, and also the names and arms of recusants (including Thomas Throckmorton of Coughton) imprisoned there and in other places.¹³ In the drawing room and other rooms upstairs are many family and other portraits, among which a fine picture of Sir Robert Throckmorton (1702-91) by Largillière is conspicuous. Some of the members climbed the stairs to the large top room of the tower and leads above it, whence there is a fine view. Mr Barnard called attention to the carved wooden dole-gate or hatch with an inscription showing that it was made for Elizabeth Throckmorton, the last abbess of Denny near Cambridge. On the suppression she retired to Coughton, where she was buried (see below); but it is not likely that she brought the dole-gate with her, and it probably reached Coughton Court through the Sandys of Ombersley.¹⁴ Among the relics in another room is a cope, characteristic English work of about 1500, but said to have been embroidered by Katherine of Aragon, and a chemise worn by Mary Queen of Scots. On it is worked in red thread: 'Camisia sanctissimae martyris Mariae Scotorum reginae quae passa est sub Elizabetha regina Angliae 1587 Feb. 13'. The staircase

¹³ See Sir W. H. St. John Hope in *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, Ser. 2, xxiii, 255.

¹⁴ See Mr Barnard's account in vol. xxix (1928) of the *Cambridge Antiquarian Society*, p. 72.

descending from the first floor to the large hall on the south side of the quadrangle was brought from Harvington Hall (Worcs.).

On leaving the Court the party walked to the adjacent

COUGHTON CHURCH¹⁵

where they were welcomed by the vicar, the Rev. S. C. Aston.

Mr BARNARD said that the building was of uniform style, begun by Sir Robert Throckmorton (d. 1519), and finished by his son Sir George. The family came from the Worcestershire village of the name near Fladbury, and in the 15th century they appear in the service of the Earls of Warwick. At Fladbury is the tomb with brasses of Sir John Throckmorton (d. 1445), sub-treasurer of England, and his wife Eleanor Spiney (de la Spine) the heiress of Coughton. Coughton church contains numerous monuments of the family. In the middle of the nave is a rather plain marble table-tomb intended for the founder, Sir Robert, who according to Leland died on pilgrimage to the Holy Land. In modern times, as the inscriptions show, it has been used for several members of the family. On the north side of the chancel is the tomb with brasses of his son Sir George (d. 1553) and his wife Katherine Vaux; and beyond it another for Sir Robert the 8th baronet (d. 1862), to which is attached the brass epitaph of ' Dame Elizabeth Throckmorton the last abbas of Denye and aunte to Syr George Throckmorton ' who died and was buried here in 1547. On the south side of the chancel is the large canopied monument of Sir John (d. 1580) and his family. The effigies lie on rush mattresses, as in the Bigg monuments at Norton near Evesham. To

¹⁵ A very complete account of Coughton church and its monuments will be found in *The Churches of Warwickshire, Deanery of Warwick*, (Warwick, 1847), p. 133.

the west of this is the plain white marble tomb of Sir Robert (d. 1570), his brother.

Mr RUSHFORTH describing the remains of painted glass said that the will (1518) of Sir Robert Throckmorton (see Dugdale's *Antiquities of Warwickshire*) provided for the glazing of the three east windows of the church, that of the chancel with the Doom for its subject, that of the north aisle with the Seven Sacraments, and that of the south aisle with the Seven Works of Mercy. All this has disappeared, except some fragments of the Doom in the west window of the north aisle; but the tracery of the east window still retained the royal badges and initials of Henry VIII and Katherine of Aragon, as well as fragments which showed that the work was of the Renaissance character favoured by court circles of the period, and resembling that of the windows in the chapel of The Vyne in Hampshire.¹⁶ The tracery lights of the two side windows of the north and south chapels contain the remains of a set of the apostles, with Creed sentences, and evangelists (some well preserved). In the middle lights of the chancel window are full-length figures (of Renaissance character, much restored) of three Sibyls: Europa with sword, Persica with lantern, Samia with cradle. They came from the northeast window of the north chapel,¹⁷ and we may suppose that these side windows had a complete set of the Sibyls, who were believed to have foretold the coming of Christ¹⁸—a most unusual substitute for the Jewish prophets as a complement to the Creed apostles. To judge by fragments in the tracery lights, the nave windows had glass of ordinary late-Gothic character.

¹⁶ *Walpole Society*, xv (1927).

¹⁷ *Notes on the Parish Church of St. Peter, Coughton*, 1933 (sold in the church). The date 1530 was in the window.

¹⁸ Among the fragments in the east window is a tablet inscribed: 'Nascetur puer de pauperula et bestie terre adorabunt eum', the prophecy ascribed to the Cumaean Sibyl.

On the way back to Evesham some of the party stopped to look at

ALCESTER CHURCH

and examine the sumptuous tomb of Sir Fulk Greville (d. 1560).

After tea at the Crown Hotel, Evesham, Mr Barnard conducted a party to various points of interest, beginning with the view from the public gardens across the river (widened in recent times). Here, near the site of the high altar of the abbey where Simon de Montfort was buried, stands the War Memorial with figure of a soldier, by H. Poole, R.A. The De Montfort memorial cross was put up in 1918 by the efforts of Dr Walker. The detached bell-tower is richly decorated except the lower stages on the south side, which were concealed by the great church. From this point there is a good view of the elaborate work of the east end of St. Lawrence's church. Next the great doorway of the Chapter House was inspected, one of the few relics of the abbey buildings. It has two rows of images (the heads lost), the outer ones seated, the inner standing. Thence the party followed the precinct wall which enclosed the whole area of the abbey, and finally reached the Almonry and old Grammar School founded by Clement Lichfield. Here the President proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Barnard, who had to return to Cambridge, for his services during the day, and this was carried with enthusiasm.

Thursday, 13 July

Rain began soon after the party left Evesham, and somewhat interfered with the enjoyment of the first part of the day's outing. The President and a few members made an earlier start in order to visit

LOWER ETTINGTON

and the picturesque ruins of the ancient church standing in the grounds of Ettington Park, which has been the

residence of the Shirley family from Saxon times.¹⁹ The house has been modernized and shows no traces of antiquity. After the church (12th–14th centuries) was dismantled in 1798, the south transept was retained as a family sepulchral chapel. Among the memorials are the effigies of (probably) Sir Ralph Shirley (1327) and his wife, and the large marble monument with statues of the first Earl Ferrers (d. 1717), his wife, and their younger son, the Hon. George Shirley, intended for Staunton Harold church, but set up here in 1776 after it was rejected by his brother, the second Earl. Mr Rushforth pointed out that the most valuable feature of the chapel is the original glass from Winchester College chapel, which fills the two windows. It was acquired in 1825, when the College glass was being remade by Betton and Evans. The figures of kings and prophets came from the great Jesse Tree of the east window, and there is also part of the central Madonna.²⁰

TREDINGTON CHURCH

is an imposing building both externally and internally.²¹ Its importance was due to the manor having belonged to the bishops of Worcester from Saxon times.

Mr KNOWLES said that the church was of special interest owing to the traces of windows of pre-Conquest date, round-headed with irregular voussoirs and deeply splayed on both sides, which are embodied in the walls of the nave above the later arcades. This early nave was unusually wide and lofty, but in the late 12th century its walls were pierced by arcades, which at first opened into narrow aisles. The arches are pointed, over cylindrical

¹⁹ *Lower Ettington: its manor house and church*, by E. P. Shirley. (2nd ed. privately printed, London, Pickering, 1880).

²⁰ Le Couteur, *Ancient Glass in Winchester* (Winchester, 1920), 138. Herbert Read, *English Stained Glass* (London & New York, 1926), pl. 28.

²¹ A full description in *Victoria County History Worcestershire*, III, 547.

piers having scalloped capitals with deep plain faces. In the 14th century the aisles were enlarged, and a new chancel was built with well-designed traceried windows and buttresses. In the interior of the chancel there are stone benches against the side walls, interrupted by low-side windows on both sides. At the same period the fine tower and spire was erected at the west end, the former with good windows and battlemented parapet, the latter divided by string-courses into three stages. The vestry on the north side of the chancel and the porch are 15th century additions.

Part of the wooden rood screen is preserved, on an earlier dwarf stone wall, together with some stall-ends incorporated in the reading desk. The nave is furnished with a fine set of 15th century seats, and there is also a good Jacobean pulpit with sounding board.

The PRESIDENT called attention to the ancient metal finial and weathercock of the spire, now standing in the south aisle.

Mr RUSHFORTH noticed the two fine brasses of 15th century rectors in the chancel: (1) Richard Cassey (d. 1427), chaplain to Henry v, probably (as the arms show) a son of Sir John Cassey, whose brass is at Deerhurst; (2) Henry Sampson (d. 1482), who was Provost of Oriel College and also Dean of Westbury. Part of a third brass has been recovered and set in the floor of the south aisle, where Habington saw it. It commemorated William Barnes of Talton (d. 1561) and his wife Alice Middlemore.

BLOCKLEY

another Saxon manor of the bishops of Worcester, and formerly in the county, but transferred to Gloucestershire in 1931. In the church, after a welcome by the vicar, the Rev. P. Jasper, the members were addressed by Mr E. W. Lovegrove, F.S.A., who said that the building was full of architectural difficulties. It was also important

historically. The manor was bought for 300 shillings in 855 by Bishop Alwine,²² and it became a favourite summer residence of his successors. In the 13th century Bishop Walter de Cantilupe got leave for a fair, which was extended in 1270 by Bishop Godfrey Giffard. The latter made an attempt to turn Westbury into a collegiate church with a secular chapter, virtually a second cathedral, where the bishop would occupy a more independent position than in the monastic cathedral of Worcester. In the same way the twin cathedrals of Bath and Wells, Lichfield and Coventry, were due to the desire of bishops with monastic chapters to have secular ones as well. Giffard's scheme was that nine parishes should provide prebends for Westbury, one of them being Blockley; and in 1291 he appointed the vicar, William Greenfeld, prebendary of Westbury. The Worcester chapter strongly opposed this, went to the king's court, and the bishop was forbidden to alienate the revenues of the see in this way. Hence the scheme fell through, though Westbury remained as a small collegiate church.²³

These facts help to explain the elaborate work of uncommon type in the chancel. Norman churches were usually simple in plan (*e.g.*, Iffley near Oxford), but here we find an ambitious design for the chancel, which was very large for an aisleless church, and of three bays, which was also unusual in Norman work. It was prepared for vaulting, for in the eastern angles are vaulting shafts, and in the next bay on the north side are three engaged shafts with brackets above (the statement in the Victoria County History that these are due to later alteration is not true). In the next bay all this has been cut away for a modern monument, but the outline of the cone brackets can be traced. In the western angle nothing

²² W. Thomas, *Account of the Bishops of Worcester* (London, 1737), p. 28.

²³ See H. J. Wilkins, *Westbury College*, 1917, chap. II.

survives. On the north side one 12th century window remains and enables us to realize the imposing architectural effect of the chancel. The chancel arch is rather elaborate, having foliage capitals of acanthus origin, the work of a skilled mason. In the nave the arcade of the north aisle (14th century) is a little to the north of the old Norman wall. There is no evidence that the original church had a tower, and the present one, dated 1724, is built (with medieval materials) outside the west wall. At the end of the 13th century a two-storeyed vestry was added on the north side of the chancel. It has unusual clasping buttresses outside. The arcade of the north aisle has the appearance and proportions of 14th century work, but the capitals of the hexagonal piers seem to be restorations of the time of Charles II, when the arcade was probably rebuilt. The south porch bears the initials (A.F; A.L) of the churchwardens who rebuilt it in 1625, when the church must have been ruinous. The clearstory, outer wall, and other works were carried out during the Laudian revival in a manner which, for the time, is admirable.

After luncheon at the Crown Hotel, members visited

NORTHWICK PARK

built about 1730, but altered later. Here they were received by Captain E. G. Spencer-Churchill, and his mother, Lady Edward Spencer-Churchill, and under his guidance visited the picture gallery, richly furnished with Old Masters (Italian, Flemish, Dutch, German, French), most of which came from the great collection formed by the 2nd Lord Northwick (1770-1859) at Thirlestane House, Cheltenham. In the middle of the gallery Captain Spencer-Churchill's own collection of Greek vases is displayed in glass cases, and he afterwards took the members to his room upstairs to see his Greek and Roman

bronzes. Before leaving, the President conveyed to him the thanks of the Society.

The last place visited on the day was

WICKHAMFORD

where the small church (13th and 14th centuries) was described by the vicar, Canon W. C. ALLSEBROOK, and Mr OVERBURY. The royal arms of Charles II painted on boarding above the chancel arch possibly conceal a Doom behind the rood, the 15th century crested beam of which exists, and also the panelled canopy in the roof above. On the east wall of the chancel a painting of the Madonna has been uncovered. The 18th century seating, together with the pulpit and reading desk, are enriched with linenfold-pattern and other carved panels, some of French and Flemish origin, which were probably added at the restoration of 1841. The original carved panels of the 15th century pulpit have been discovered, and are now exhibited in the nave. On the north side of the chancel is the sumptuous alabaster monument, coloured and gilt, with effigies of Sir Samuel Sandys and his son Sir Edwyn (both died in 1623) and their respective wives. A grave slab commemorates Penelope (d. 1697) daughter of Sir Henry Washington, whose widow married the above Sir Edwyn Sandys. On it appear the well-known Washington arms: two bars and three mullets in chief, the origin of the Stars and Stripes. Adjoining the church is the picturesque half-timbered manor house, a grange of Evesham abbey, with a large fish pond in front, and circular stone dovecot.

At the Crown Hotel, Evesham, where tea was taken, the President proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Overbury for the trouble he had taken in organizing a very successful meeting, and Mr Knowles proposed one to the President for the happy manner in which he had performed his duties, and for the interest which he had taken in the proceedings.